



# **Continuous Joint**

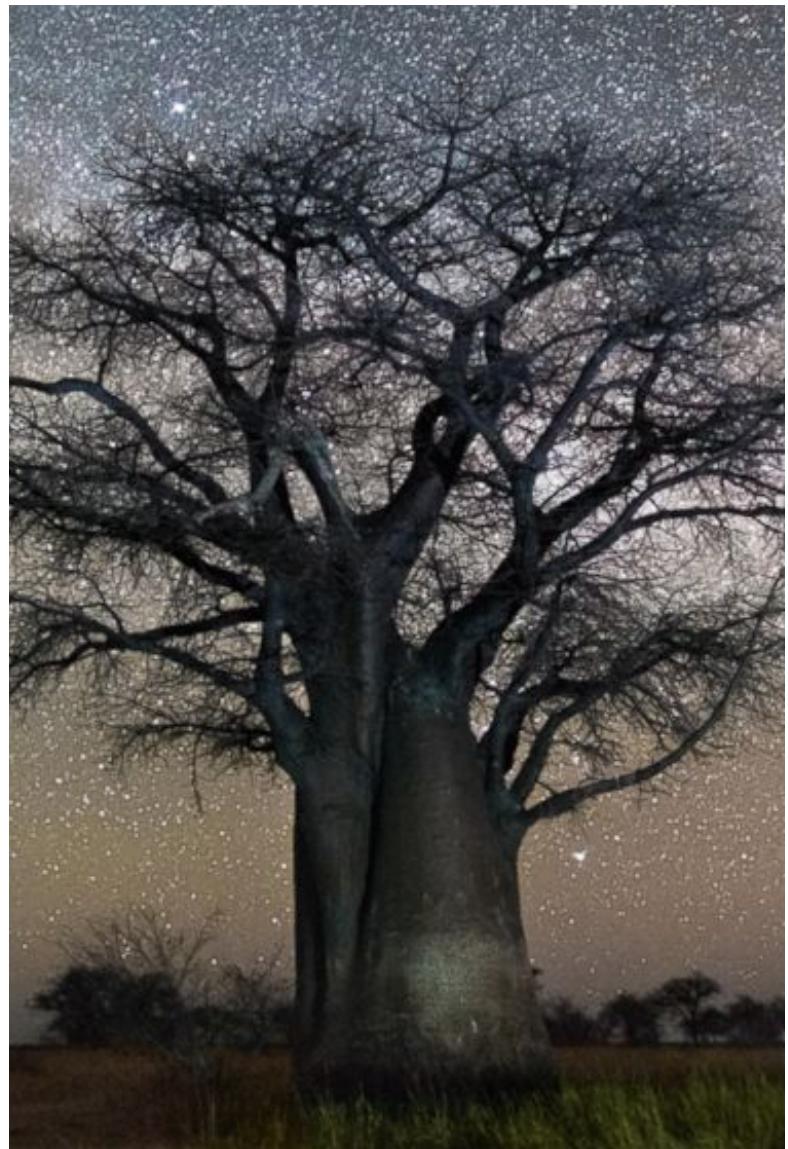
**Chris Piech + Jerry Cain  
CS109, Stanford University**

**GO PLACIDLY** amid the noise and the haste, and remember what peace there may be in silence. As far as possible, without surrender, be on good terms with all persons. Speak your truth quietly and clearly; and listen to others, even to the dull and the ignorant; they too have their story. If you compare yourself with others, you become vain or bitter, for always there will be greater and lesser persons than yourself.

Enjoy your achievements as well as your plans. Keep interested in your own career, however humble; it is a real possession in the changing fortunes of time. Exercise caution in your affairs, for the world is full of trickery. But let this not blind you to what virtue there is; many persons strive for high ideals, and everywhere life is full of heroism. **Neither be cynical about love; for in the face of all aridity and disenchantment, it is as perennial as the grass.**

Nurture strength of spirit to shield you in sudden misfortune. But do not distress yourself with dark imaginings. Many fears are born of fatigue and loneliness. Be gentle with yourself. You are a child of the universe no less than the trees and the stars; you have a right to be here.

And whether or not it is clear to you, no doubt the universe is unfolding as it should. Therefore be at peace with God, whatever you conceive Him to be. And whatever your labors and aspirations, in the noisy confusion of life, keep peace in your soul. With all its sham, drudgery and broken dreams, it is still a beautiful world. – Desiderata, Ehrmann







## What is Gaussian blur all about?

<Review>

# Probability Density Function

$$\mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

Annotations pointing to parts of the equation:

- A purple arrow points from the label "probability density at x" to the  $f(x)$  term.
- A purple arrow points from the label "a constant" to the term  $\frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}}$ .
- A purple arrow points from the label "sigma shows up twice" to the  $\sigma$  terms in both the denominator and the exponent.
- A purple arrow points from the label "the distance to the mean" to the term  $(x-\mu)^2$ .
- A purple arrow points from the label "exponential" to the base  $e$  in the exponential term.

# Cumulative Density Function

$$\mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

CDF of Standard Normal: A function that has been solved for numerically

$$F(x) = \Phi\left(\frac{x - \mu}{\sigma}\right)$$

The cumulative density function (CDF) of any normal

# Sum of Independent Normals

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Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be independent random variables

- $X \sim N(\mu_1, \sigma_1^2)$  and  $Y \sim N(\mu_2, \sigma_2^2)$
- $X + Y \sim N(\mu_1 + \mu_2, \sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2)$

Generally, have  $n$  independent random variables  $X_i \sim N(\mu_i, \sigma_i^2)$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ :

$$\left( \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \right) \sim N\left( \sum_{i=1}^n \mu_i, \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i^2 \right)$$

# Sum of independent Normals

$$X \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_1, \sigma_1^2),$$

$$Y \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_2, \sigma_2^2)$$

$X, Y$  independent



$$X + Y \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_1 + \mu_2, \sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2)$$

(proof left to [Wikipedia](#))

Holds in general case:

$$X_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_i, \sigma_i^2)$$

$X_i$  independent for  $i = 1, \dots, n$



$$\sum_{i=1}^n X_i \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\sum_{i=1}^n \mu_i, \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i^2\right)$$

# Back for another playoffs game



What is the probability that the Warriors win?  
How do you model zero-sum games?

$$P(A_W > A_B)$$

This is a probability of an event involving **two** random variables!

We will compute:

$$P(A_W - A_B > 0)$$

A sum of Normals! Stanford University 10

# Motivating idea: Zero sum games

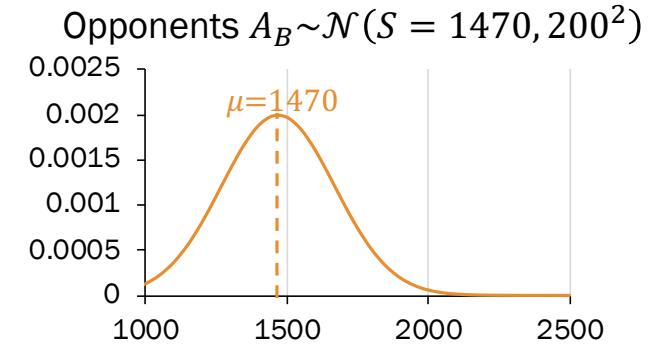
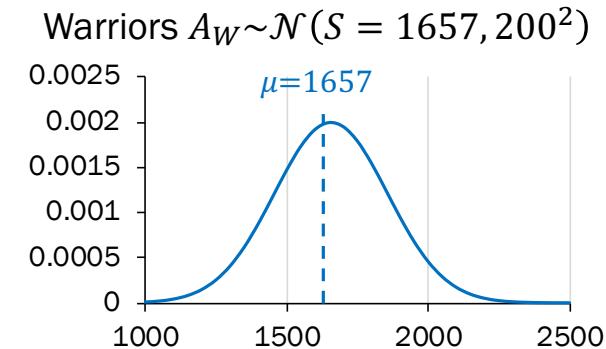
Want:  $P(\text{Warriors win}) = P(A_W - A_B > 0)$

Assume  $A_W, A_B$  are independent.

Let  $D = A_W - A_B$ .

What is the distribution of  $D$ ?

- A.  $D \sim \mathcal{N}(1657 - 1470, 200^2 + 200^2)$
- B.  $D \sim \mathcal{N}(1657 - 1470, 200^2 - 200^2)$
- C.  $D \sim \mathcal{N}(1657 + 1470, 200^2 + 200^2)$
- D. Dance, Dance, Convolution
- E. None/other



# Motivating idea: Zero sum games

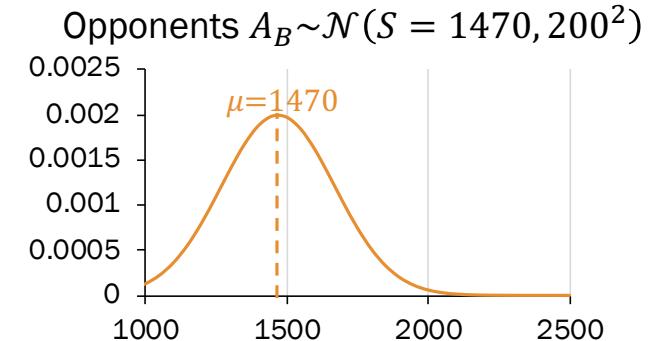
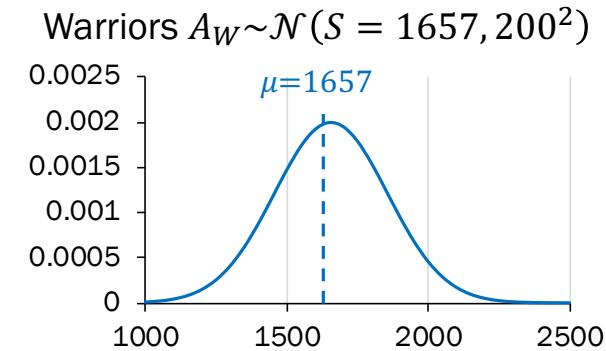
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- D. Dance, Dance, Convolution
- E. None/other



If  $X \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_1, \sigma^2)$ ,  
then  $(-X) \sim \mathcal{N}(-\mu, (-1)^2 \sigma^2 = \sigma^2)$ .

# Motivating idea: Zero sum games

Want:  $P(\text{Warriors win}) = P(A_W - A_B > 0)$

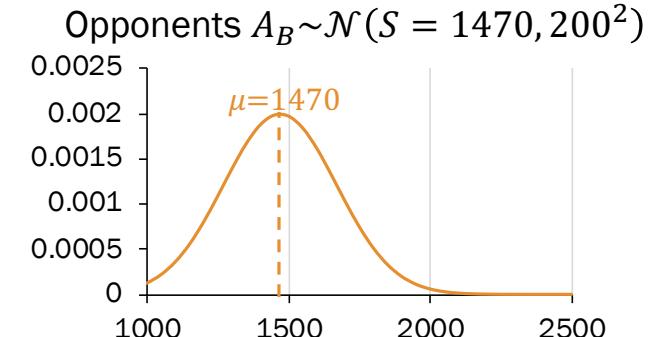
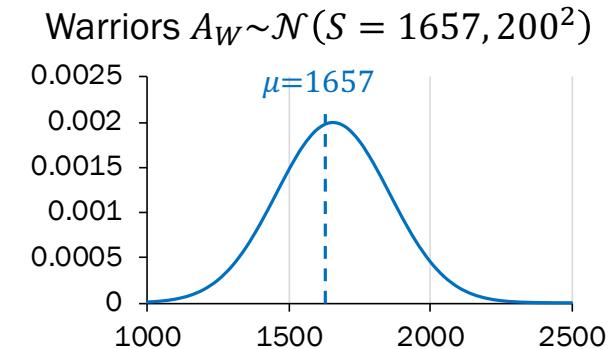
Assume  $A_W, A_B$  are independent.

Let  $D = A_W - A_B$ .

$$D \sim \mathcal{N}(1657 - 1470, 200^2 + 200^2)$$
$$\sim \mathcal{N}(187, 2 \cdot 200^2) \quad \sigma \approx 283$$

$$P(D > 0) = 1 - F_D(0) = 1 - \Phi\left(\frac{0 - 187}{283}\right)$$
$$\approx 0.7454$$

Compare with 0.7488, calculated by sampling!



# Sum of Normal Approximations

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Say you are working on getting volunteers to sign up for your day of action

- Advertise to two groups
- P1: 50 people, each independently join with  $p = 0.1$
- P2: 100 people, each independently join with  $p = 0.4$
- Question: Probability of more than 40 join?

# Sum of Normal Approximations

- Two groups
- P1: 50 people, each independently infected with  $p = 0.1$
- P2: 100 people, each independently infected with  $p = 0.4$
- $A = \# \text{ join in P1}$      $A \sim \text{Bin}(50, 0.1) \approx X \sim N(5, 4.5)$
- $B = \# \text{ join in P2}$      $B \sim \text{Bin}(100, 0.4) \approx Y \sim N(40, 24)$
- What is  $P(\geq 40 \text{ people join})?$
- $P(A + B \geq 40) \approx P(X + Y \geq 39.5)$
- $X + Y = W \sim N(5 + 40 = 45, 4.5 + 24 = 28.5)$

$$P(W \geq 39.5) = P\left(\frac{W - 45}{\sqrt{28.5}} > \frac{39.5 - 45}{\sqrt{28.5}}\right) = 1 - \Phi(-1.03) \approx 0.8485$$

Chris Piech and Jerry Cain, CS109, 2021

Stanford University

# Great Question: Linear Transform or Sum?

$$X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

$$Y = X + X = 2 \cdot X$$

$$Y \sim N(2\mu, 4\sigma^2)$$

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$$Y = X + X = 2 \cdot X$$

$$X + X \sim N(\mu + \mu, \sigma^2 + \sigma^2)$$



$$Y \sim N(2\mu, 2\sigma^2)$$

*X is not independent of  
X*

</Review>

# Quick slide reference

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17     Continuous joint distributions

37     Joint CDFs

50     Independent continuous RVs

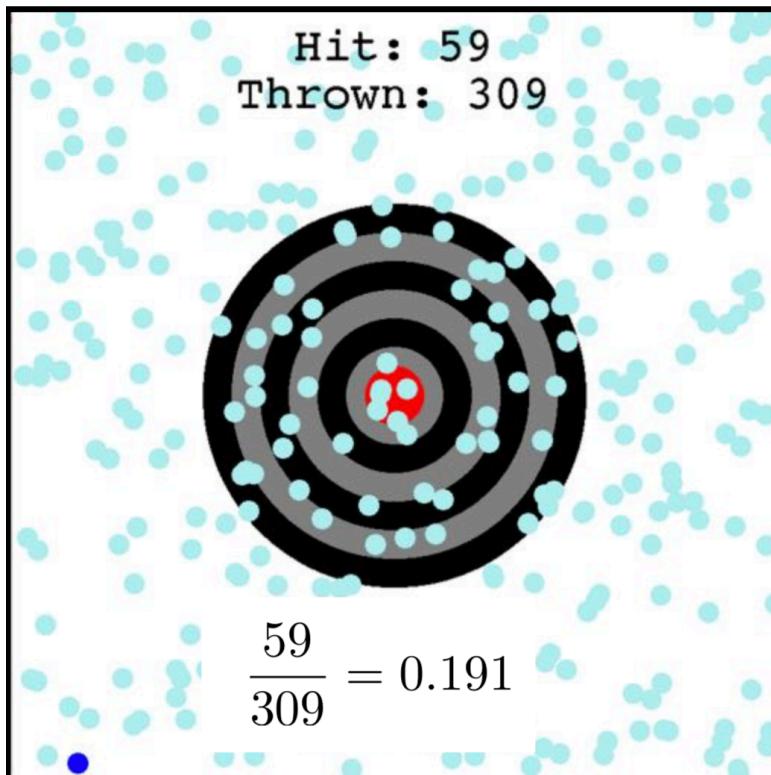
55     Multivariate Gaussian RVs

71     Extra: Double integrals

# Continuous joint distributions

# Remember target?

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Good times...

# CS109 logo with darts

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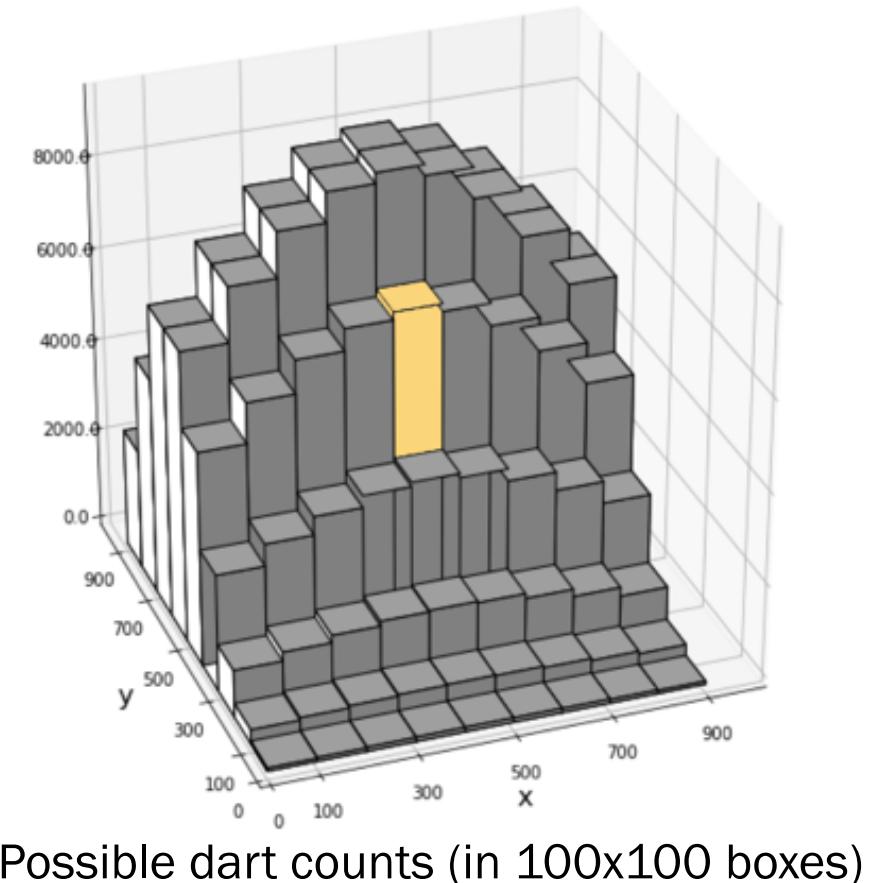
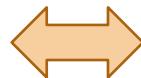
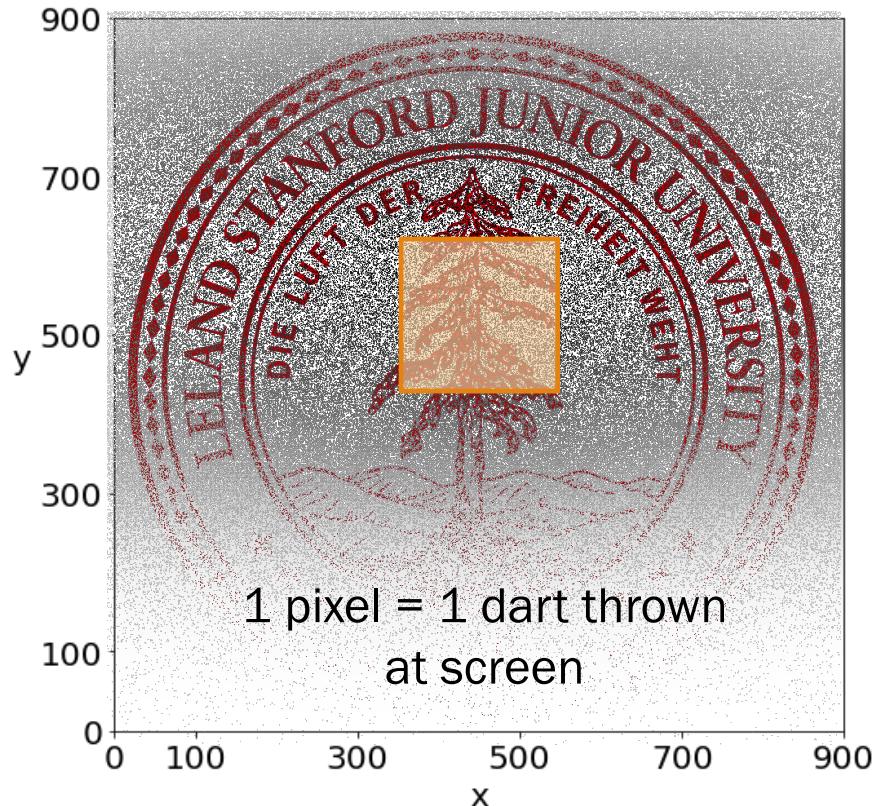
The CS109 logo was created by throwing 500,000 darts according to a joint distribution.

If we throw another dart according to the same distribution, what is  
 $P(\text{dart hits within } r \text{ pixels of center})$ ?

Quick check: What is the probability that a dart hits at (456.2344132343, 532.1865739012)?

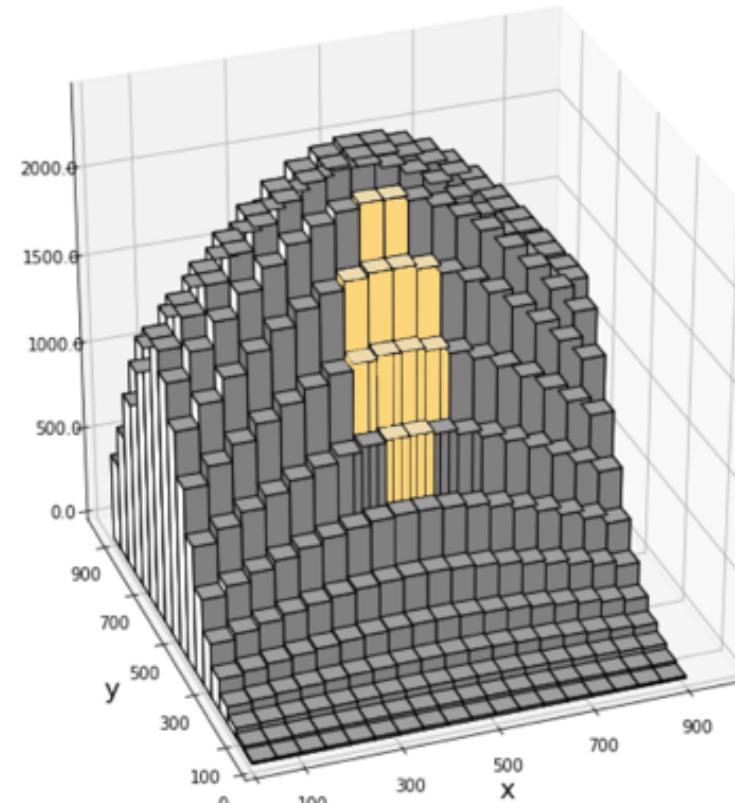
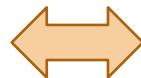
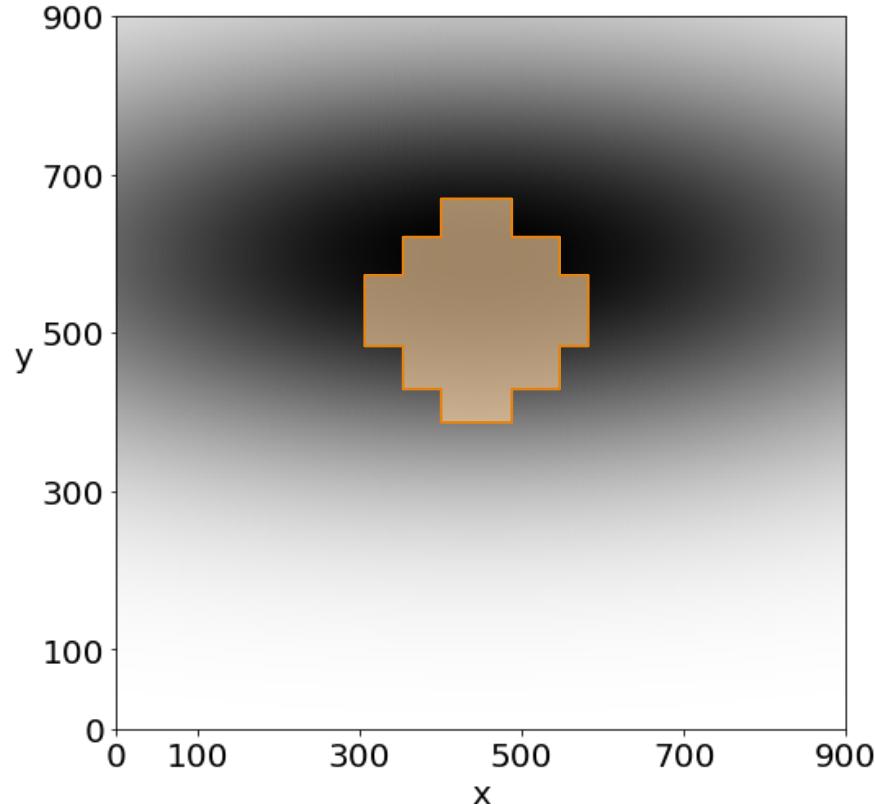
# CS109 logo with darts

$P(\text{dart hits within } r \text{ pixels of center})?$



# CS109 logo with darts

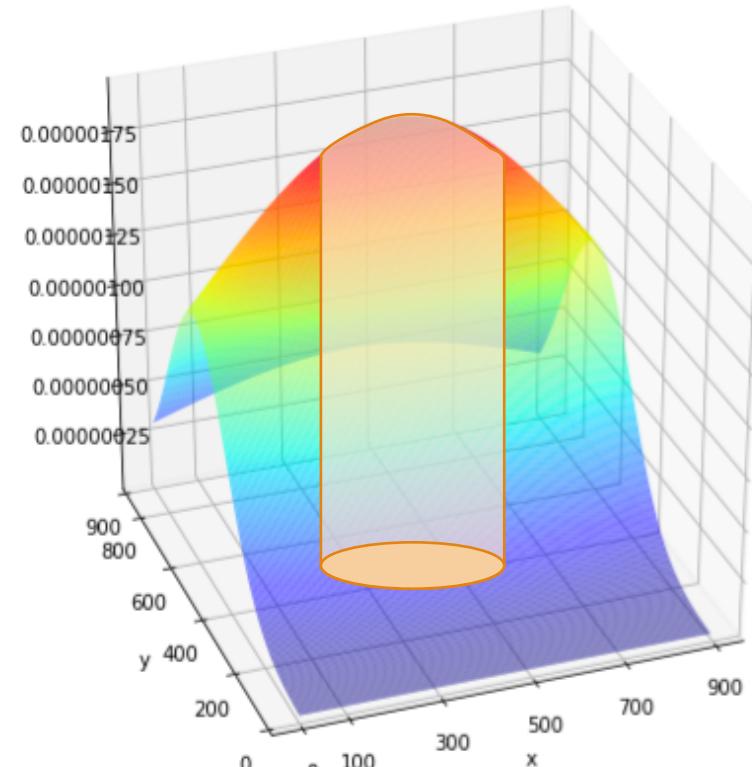
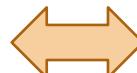
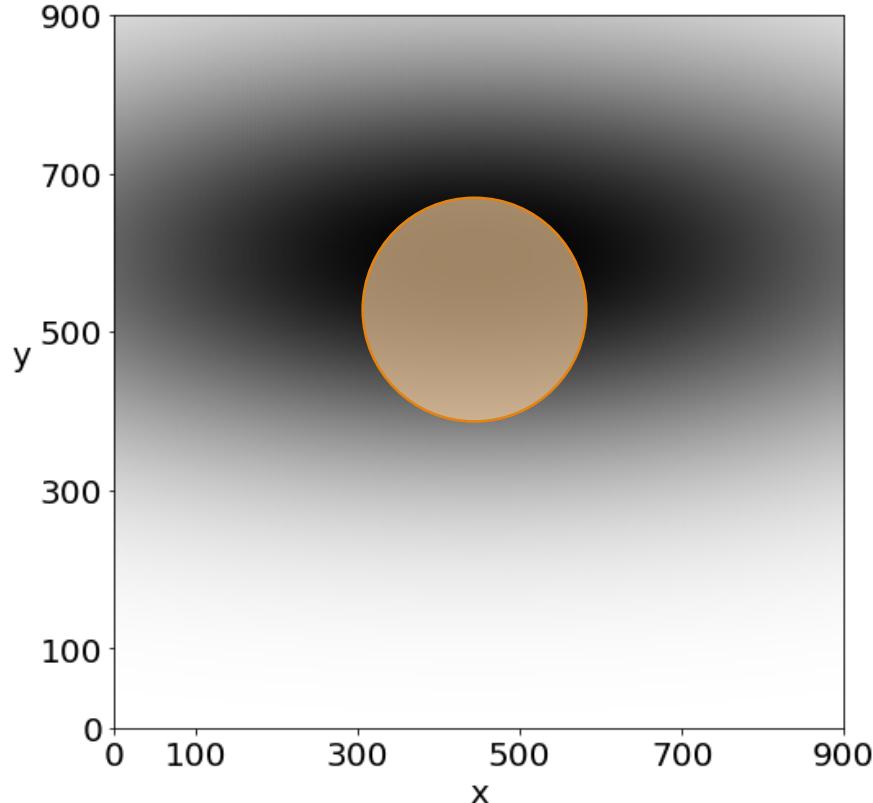
$P(\text{dart hits within } r \text{ pixels of center})?$



Possible dart counts (in 50x50 boxes)

# CS109 logo with darts

$P(\text{dart hits within } r \text{ pixels of center})?$



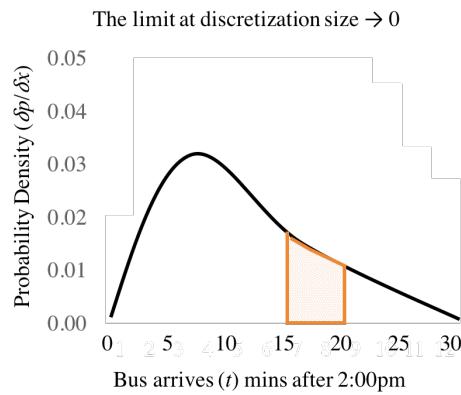
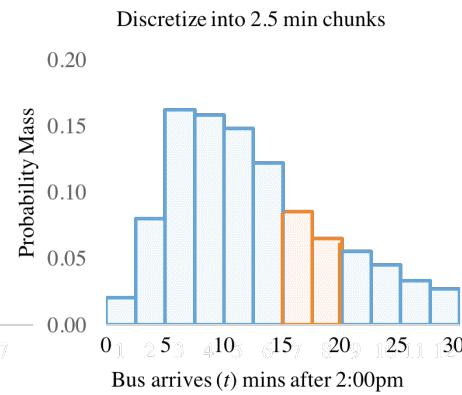
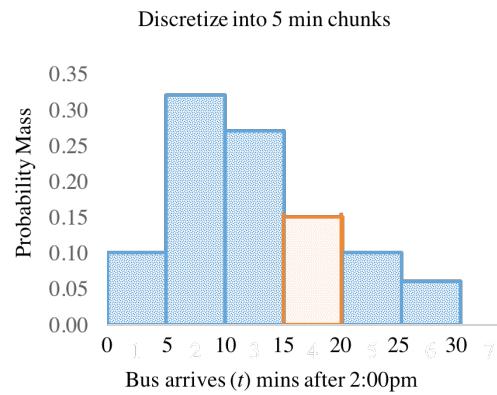
Possible dart counts  
(in infinitesimally small boxes) **i**versity 24

# Riding the Marguerite



*You are running to the bus stop.  
You don't know exactly when  
the bus arrives. You arrive at  
2:20pm.*

What is  $P(\text{wait} < 5 \text{ min})$ ?



Chris Piech and Jerry Cain, CS109, 2020

Stanford University

# Continuous joint probability density functions

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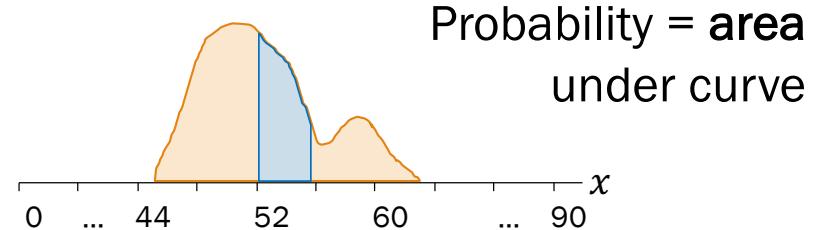
If two random variables  $X$  and  $Y$  are jointly continuous, then there exists a **joint probability density function**  $f_{X,Y}$  defined over  $-\infty < x, y < \infty$  such that:

$$P(a_1 \leq X \leq a_2, b_1 \leq Y \leq b_2) = \int_{a_1}^{a_2} \int_{b_1}^{b_2} f_{X,Y}(x, y) dy dx$$

# From one continuous RV to jointly continuous RVs

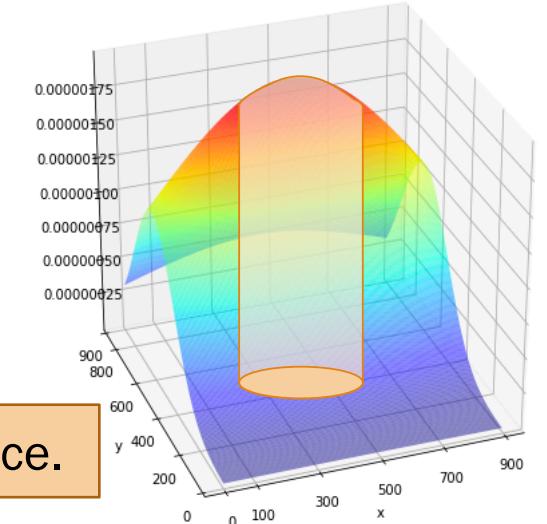
Single continuous RV  $X$

- PDF  $f_X$  such that  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_X(x)dx = 1$
- Integrate to get probabilities



Jointly continuous RVs  $X$  and  $Y$

- PDF  $f_{X,Y}$  such that  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X,Y}(x,y)dy dx = 1$
- Double integrate to get probabilities



Probability for jointly continuous RVs is **volume** under a surface.

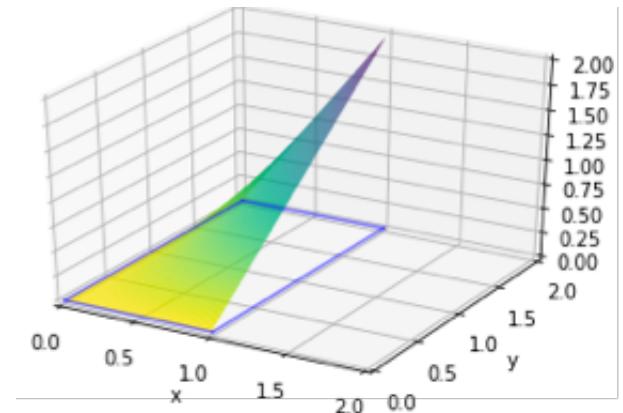
# Double integrals without tears

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two continuous random variables.

- Support:  $0 \leq X \leq 1, 0 \leq Y \leq 2$ .

Is  $g(x, y) = xy$  a valid joint PDF over  $X$  and  $Y$ ?

Write down the definite double integral that must integrate to 1:

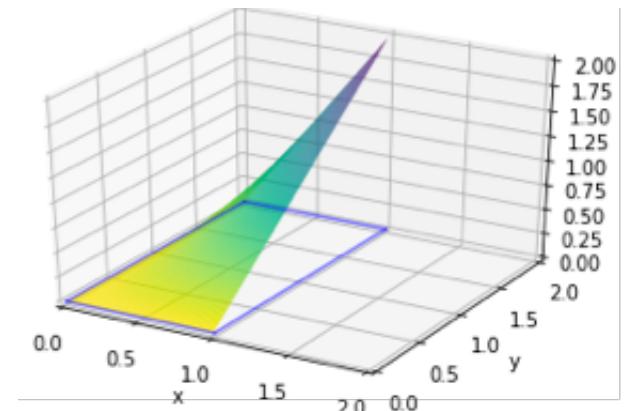


# Double integrals without tears

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two continuous random variables.

- Support:  $0 \leq X \leq 1$ ,  $0 \leq Y \leq 2$ .

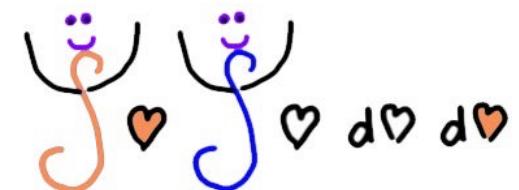
Is  $g(x, y) = xy$  a valid joint PDF over  $X$  and  $Y$ ?



Write down the definite double integral that must integrate to 1:

$$\int_{y=0}^2 \int_{x=0}^1 xy \, dx \, dy = 1 \quad \text{or} \quad \int_{x=0}^1 \int_{y=0}^2 xy \, dy \, dx = 1$$

  
(used in next slide)



# Double integrals without tears

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two continuous random variables.

- Support:  $0 \leq X \leq 1, 0 \leq Y \leq 2$ .

Is  $g(x, y) = xy$  a valid joint PDF over  $X$  and  $Y$ ?

0. Set up integral:

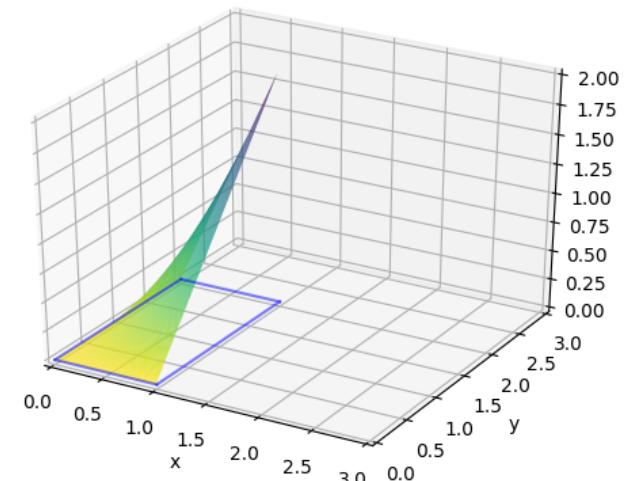
$$1 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x, y) dx dy = \int_{y=0}^2 \int_{x=0}^1 xy dx dy$$

1. Evaluate inside integral by treating  $y$  as a constant:

$$\int_{y=0}^2 \left( \int_{x=0}^1 xy dx \right) dy = \int_{y=0}^2 y \left( \int_{x=0}^1 x dx \right) dy = \int_{y=0}^2 y \left[ \frac{x^2}{2} \right]_0^1 dy = \int_{y=0}^2 y \frac{1}{2} dy$$

2. Evaluate remaining (single) integral:

$$\int_{y=0}^2 y \frac{1}{2} dy = \left[ \frac{y^2}{4} \right]_{y=0}^2 = 1 - 0 = 1$$

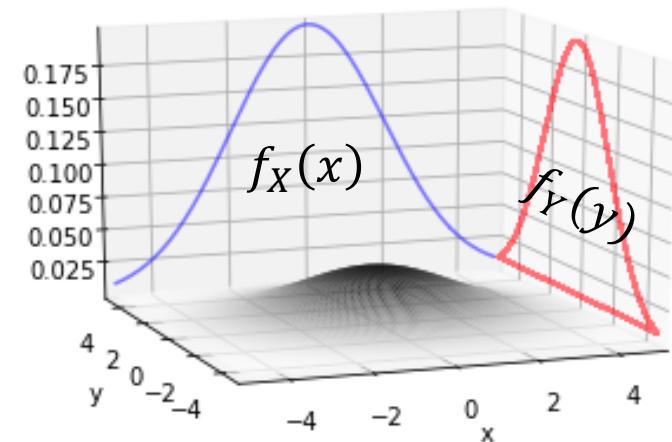


Yes,  $g(x, y)$  is a valid joint PDF because it integrates to 1.

# Marginal distributions

Suppose  $X$  and  $Y$  are continuous random variables with joint PDF:

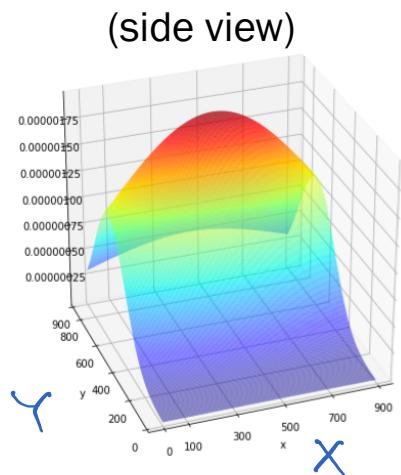
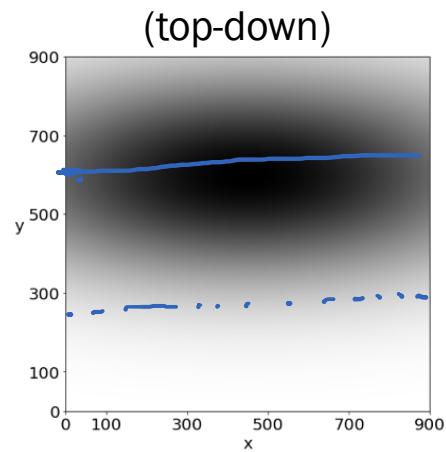
$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X,Y}(x,y) dy dx = 1$$



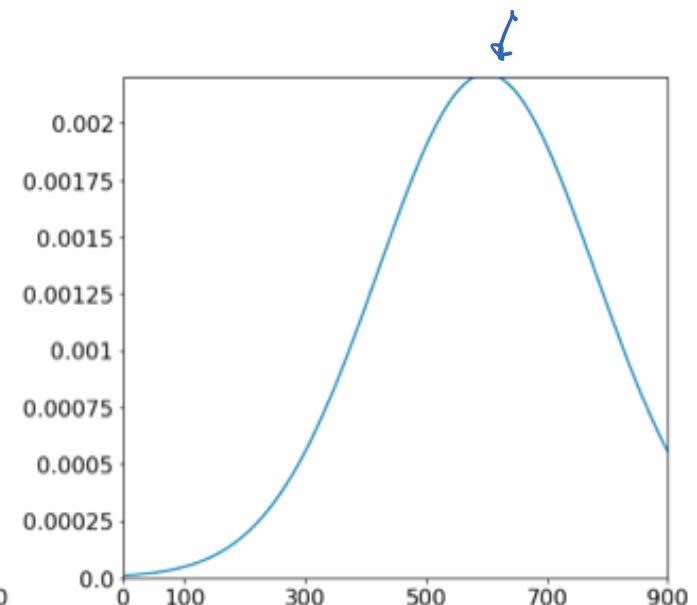
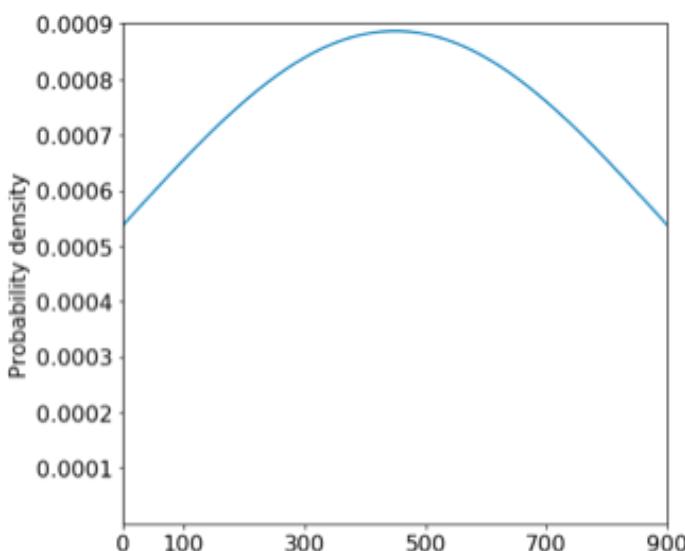
The marginal density functions (**marginal PDFs**) are therefore:

$$f_X(a) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X,Y}(a,y) dy \quad f_Y(b) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X,Y}(x,b) dx$$

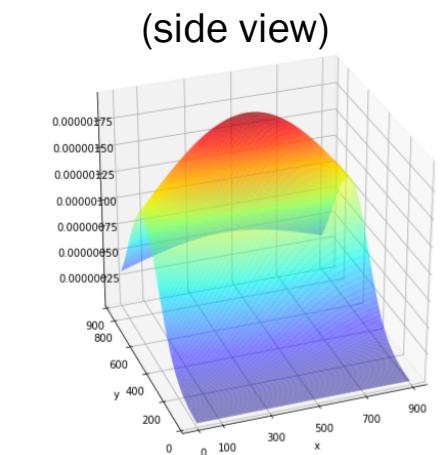
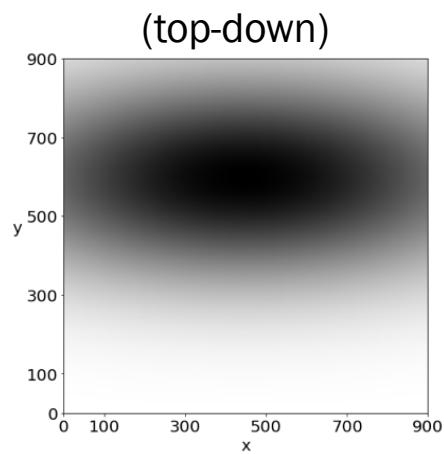
# Back to darts!



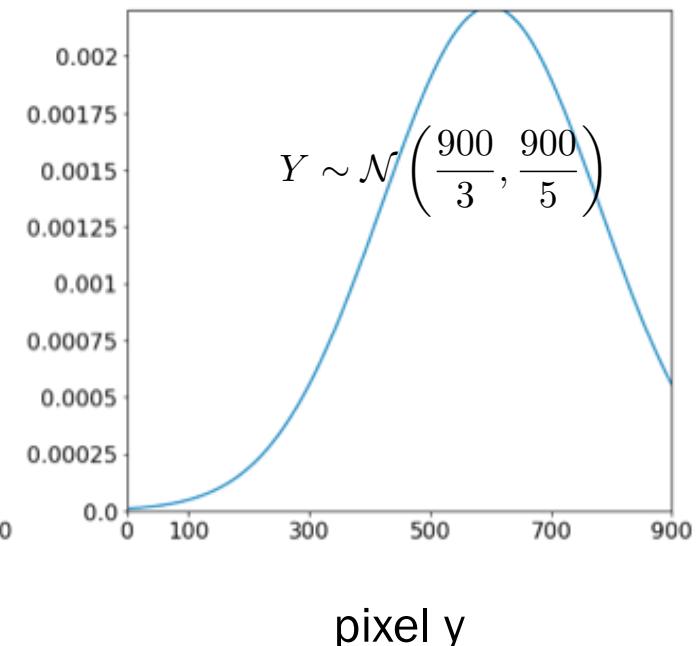
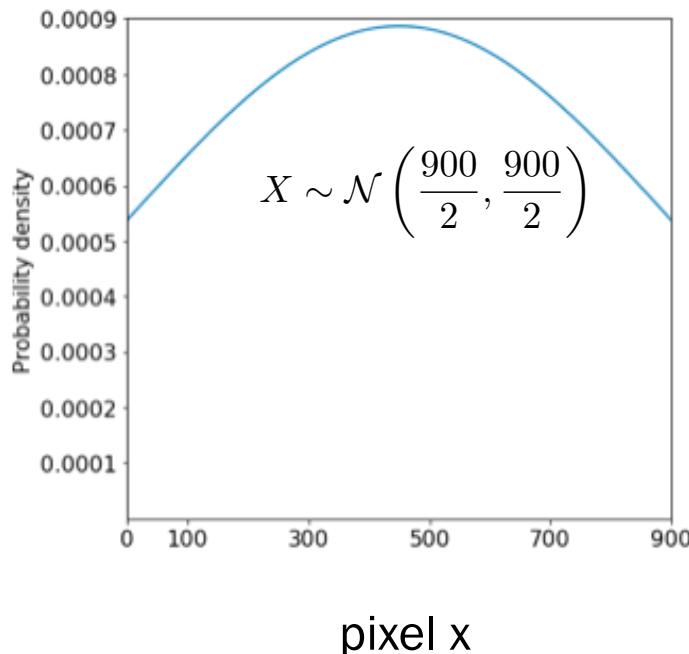
Match  $X$  and  $Y$  to their respective marginal PDFs:



# Back to darts!



Match  $X$  and  $Y$  to their respective marginal PDFs:

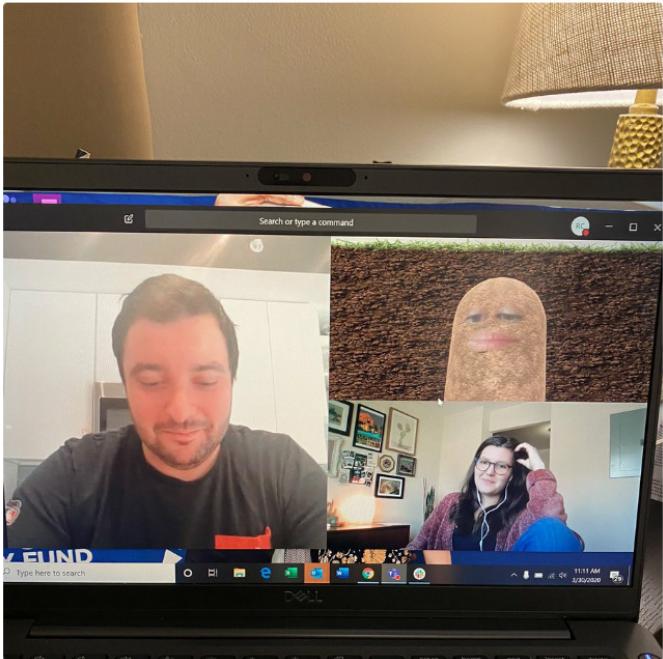




Rachele with an e but pronounced Rachel  
@PettyClegg



my boss turned herself into a potato on our Microsoft teams meeting and can't figure out how to turn the setting off, so she was just stuck like this the entire meeting



♡ 945K 3:35 PM - Mar 30, 2020

230K people are talking about this

boredpanda.com

# The Joy of Meetings 😊

# The joy of meetings

---

Two people set up a meeting time. Each arrives independently at a time uniformly distributed between 12pm and 12:30pm.

Define       $X = \# \text{ minutes past 12pm that person 1 arrives. } X \sim \text{Uni}(0, 30)$   
                 $Y = \# \text{ minutes past 12pm that person 2 arrives. } Y \sim \text{Uni}(0, 30)$

What is the probability that the first to arrive waits >10 mins for the other?

Compute:  $P(X + 10 < Y) + P(Y + 10 < X) = 2P(X + 10 < Y)$       (by symmetry)

1. What is “symmetry” here?
2. How do we integrate to compute this probability?



# Double integrals: A guide

From last slide:

$$2P(X + 10 < Y) = 2 \cdot \iint_{\substack{x+10 < y, \\ 0 \leq x, y \leq 30}} (1/30)^2 dx dy \quad (\text{by symmetry, independence})$$

Steps:

1. Draw a picture.
2. Set bounds “from outside in.”

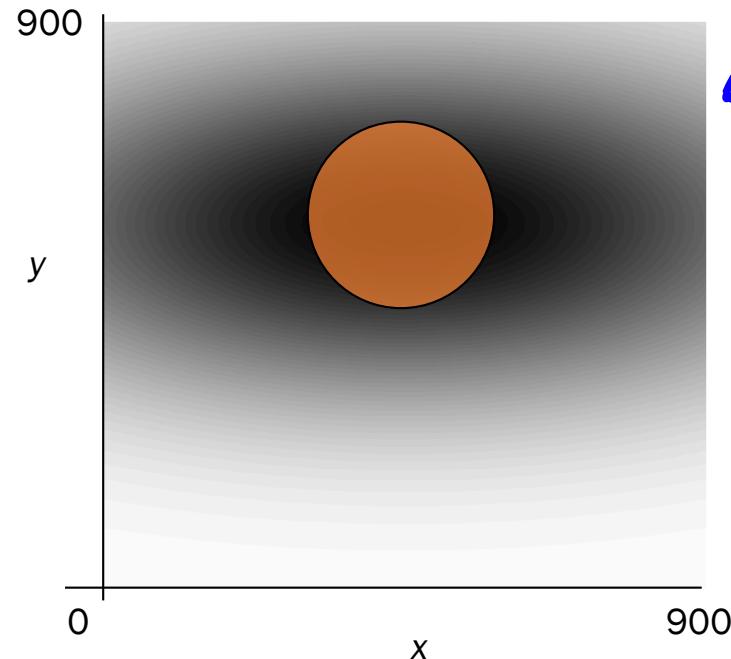
- Outer integral bounds should be full range possible
- Inner integral can depend on integration variable of outer integral

$$= \frac{2}{30^2} \int_{10}^{30} \int_0^{y-10} dx dy$$

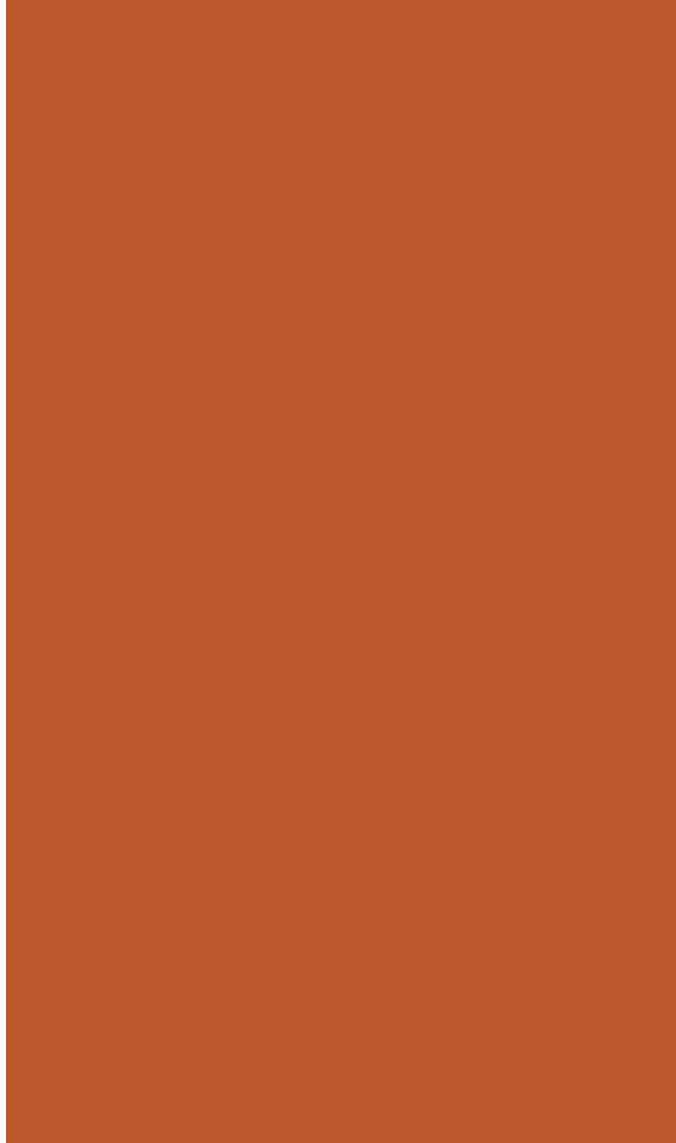
$$= \frac{2}{30^2} \int_{10}^{30} (y - 10) dy = \dots = \frac{4}{9}$$

# Extra slides

If you want more practice with double integrals,  
I've included two exercises at the end of this lecture.



$$f(X = x, Y = y)$$



16b\_joint\_cdfs

# Joint CDFs

## An observation: Connecting CDF to PDF

---

For a continuous random variable  $X$  with PDF  $f$ , the CDF (cumulative distribution function) is

$$F(a) = P(X \leq a) = \int_{-\infty}^a f(x)dx$$

The density  $f$  is therefore the derivative of the CDF,  $F$ :

$$f(a) = \frac{d}{da} F(a)$$

(Fundamental Theorem  
of Calculus)

# Joint cumulative distribution function

---

For two random variables  $X$  and  $Y$ , there can be a **joint cumulative distribution function**  $F_{X,Y}$ :

$$F_{X,Y}(a, b) = P(X \leq a, Y \leq b)$$

For discrete  $X$  and  $Y$ :

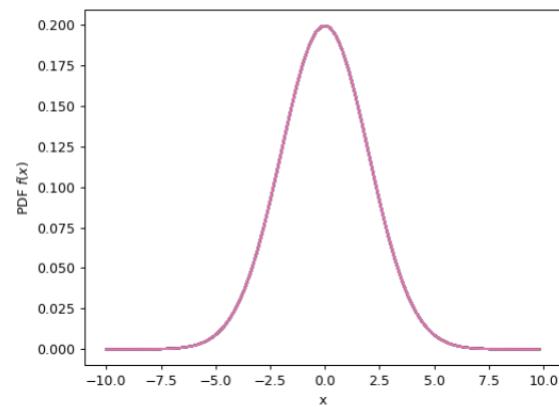
$$F_{X,Y}(a, b) = \sum_{x \leq a} \sum_{y \leq b} p_{X,Y}(x, y)$$

For continuous  $X$  and  $Y$ :

$$F_{X,Y}(a, b) = \int_{-\infty}^a \int_{-\infty}^b f_{X,Y}(x, y) dy dx$$
$$f_{X,Y}(a, b) = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial a \partial b} F_{X,Y}(a, b)$$

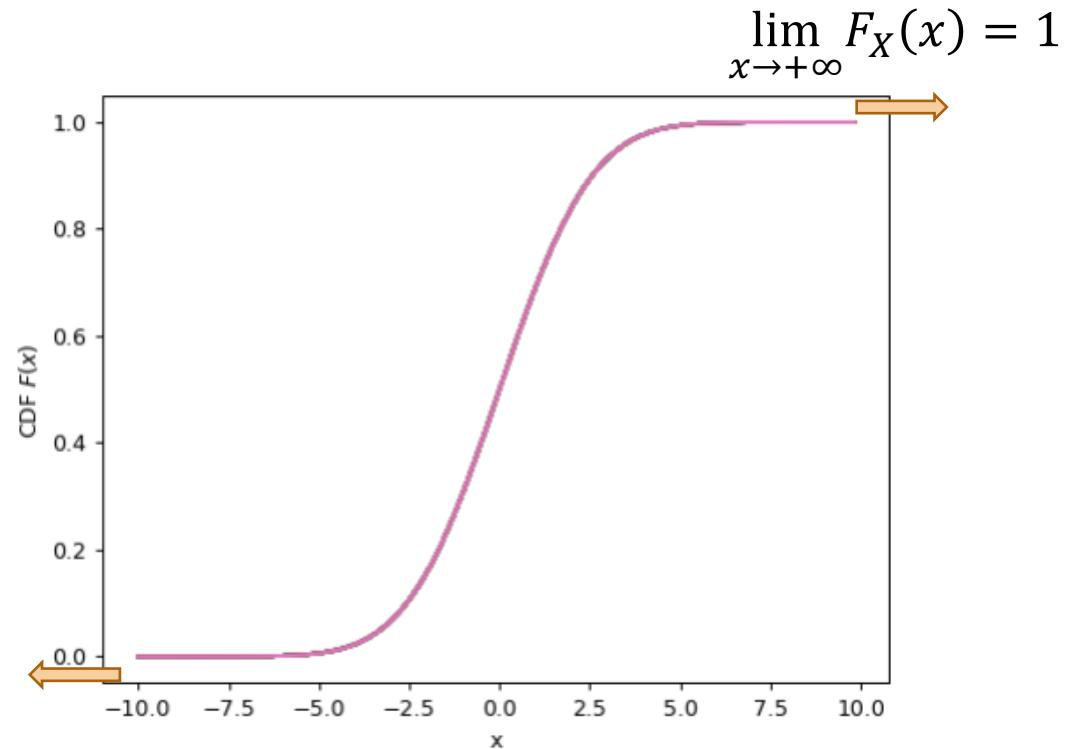
# Single variable CDF, graphically

Review



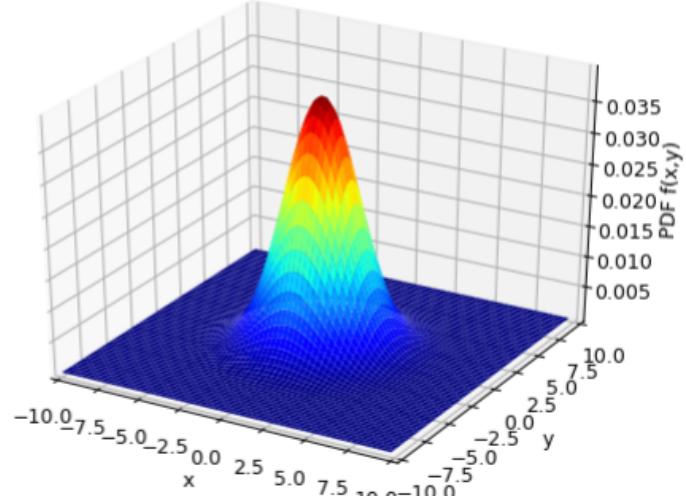
$$f_X(x)$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} F_X(x) = 0$$



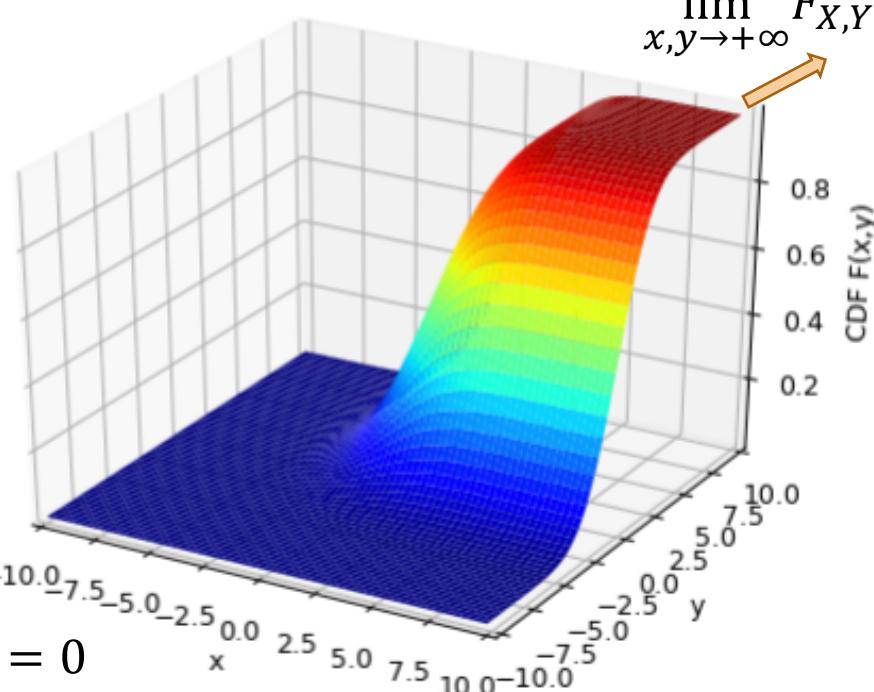
$$F_X(x) = P(X \leq x)$$

# Joint CDF, graphically



$$\lim_{x,y \rightarrow -\infty} F_{X,Y}(x,y) = 0$$

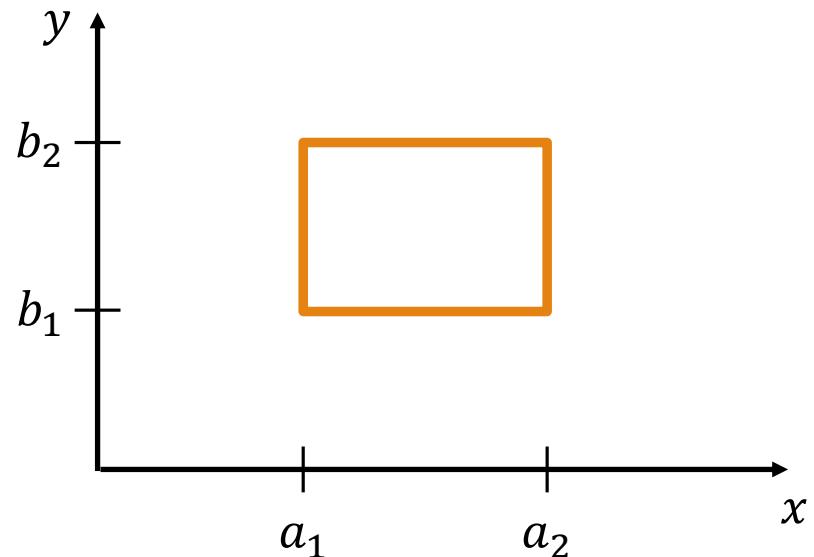
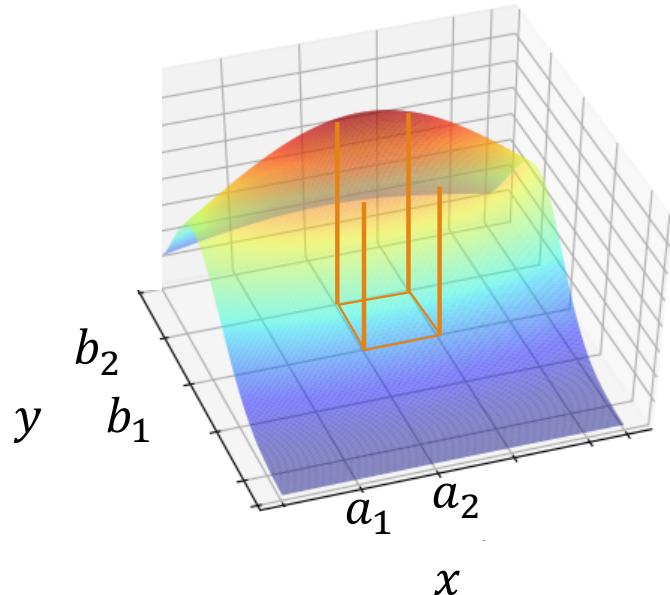
$$f_{X,Y}(x,y)$$



$$F_{X,Y}(x,y) = P(X \leq x, Y \leq y)$$

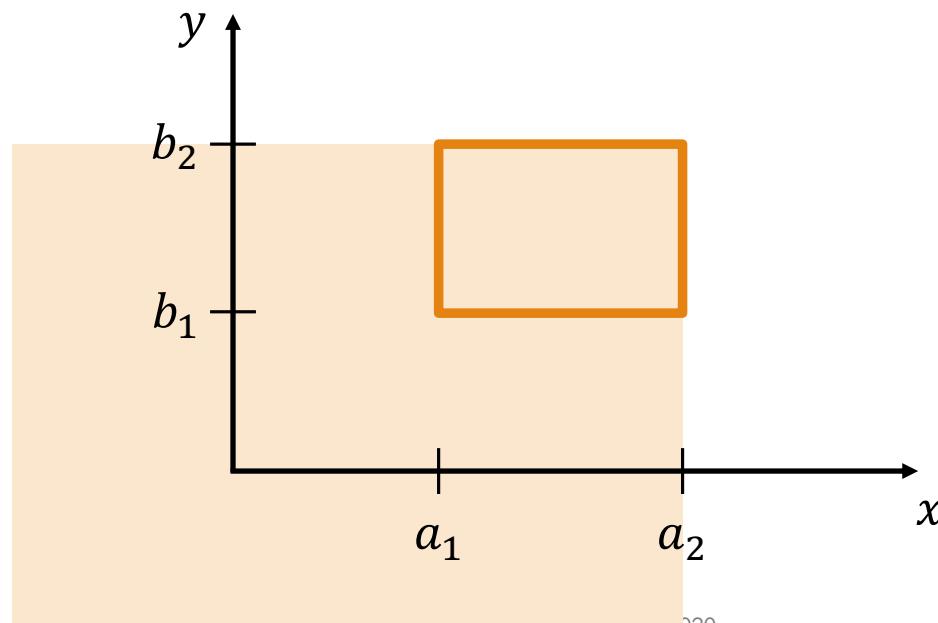
# Probabilities from joint CDFs

$$P(a_1 < X \leq a_2, b_1 < Y \leq b_2) = \\ F_{X,Y}(a_2, b_2) - F_{X,Y}(a_1, b_2) - F_{X,Y}(a_2, b_1) + F_{X,Y}(a_1, b_1)$$



# Probabilities from joint CDFs

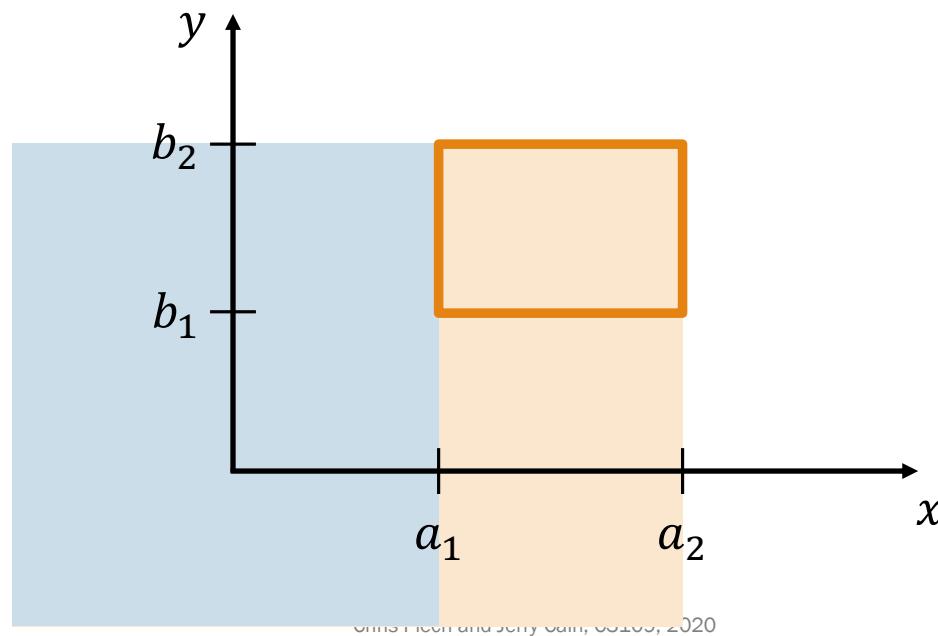
$$P(a_1 < X \leq a_2, b_1 < Y \leq b_2) = \\ F_{X,Y}(a_2, b_2) - F_{X,Y}(a_1, b_2) - F_{X,Y}(a_2, b_1) + F_{X,Y}(a_1, b_1)$$



Chris Pocock and Jerry Cain, CS109, 2020

# Probabilities from joint CDFs

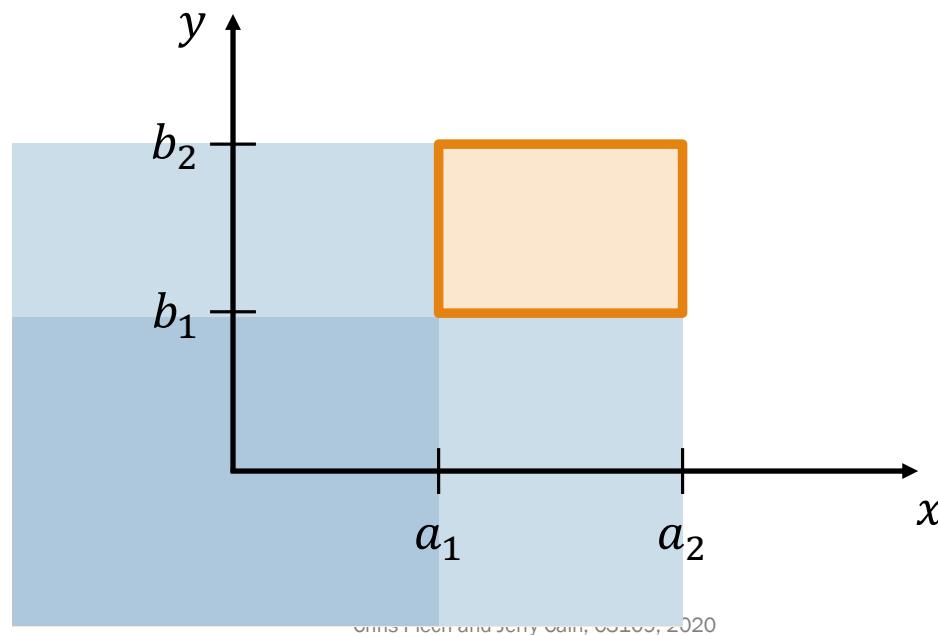
$$P(a_1 < X \leq a_2, b_1 < Y \leq b_2) = \\ F_{X,Y}(a_2, b_2) - F_{X,Y}(a_1, b_2) - F_{X,Y}(a_2, b_1) + F_{X,Y}(a_1, b_1)$$



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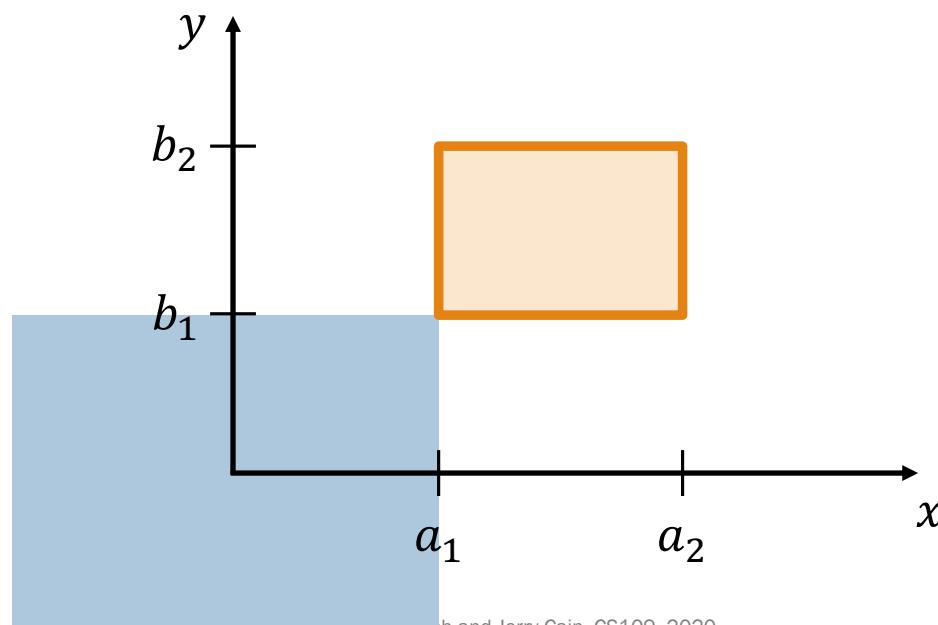
# Probabilities from joint CDFs

$$P(a_1 < X \leq a_2, b_1 < Y \leq b_2) = \\ F_{X,Y}(a_2, b_2) - F_{X,Y}(a_1, b_2) - F_{X,Y}(a_2, b_1) + F_{X,Y}(a_1, b_1)$$



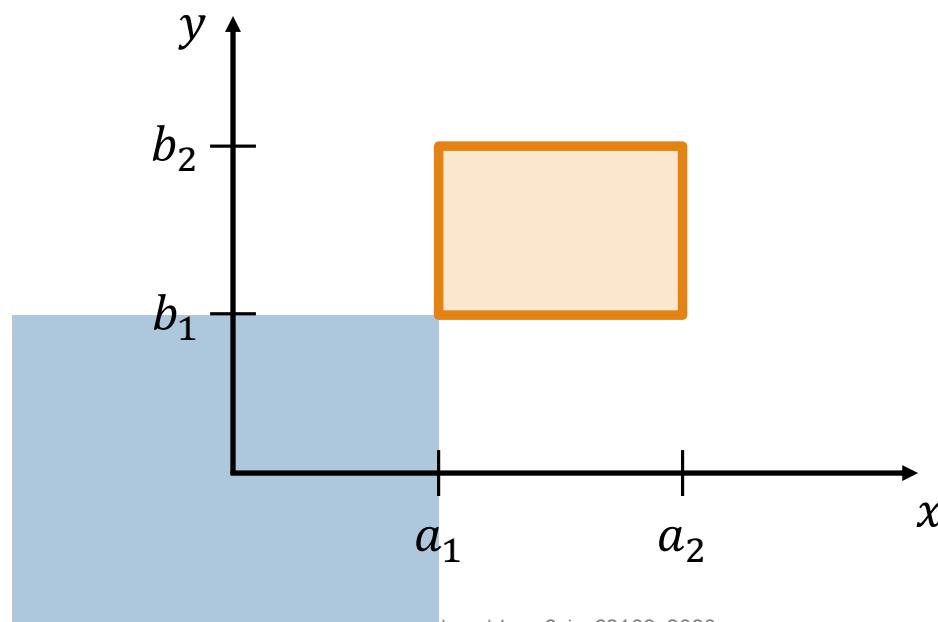
# Probabilities from joint CDFs

$$P(a_1 < X \leq a_2, b_1 < Y \leq b_2) = \\ F_{X,Y}(a_2, b_2) - F_{X,Y}(a_1, b_2) - F_{X,Y}(a_2, b_1) + F_{X,Y}(a_1, b_1)$$



# Probabilities from joint CDFs

$$P(a_1 < X \leq a_2, b_1 < Y \leq b_2) = \\ F_{X,Y}(a_2, b_2) - F_{X,Y}(a_1, b_2) - F_{X,Y}(a_2, b_1) + F_{X,Y}(a_1, b_1)$$

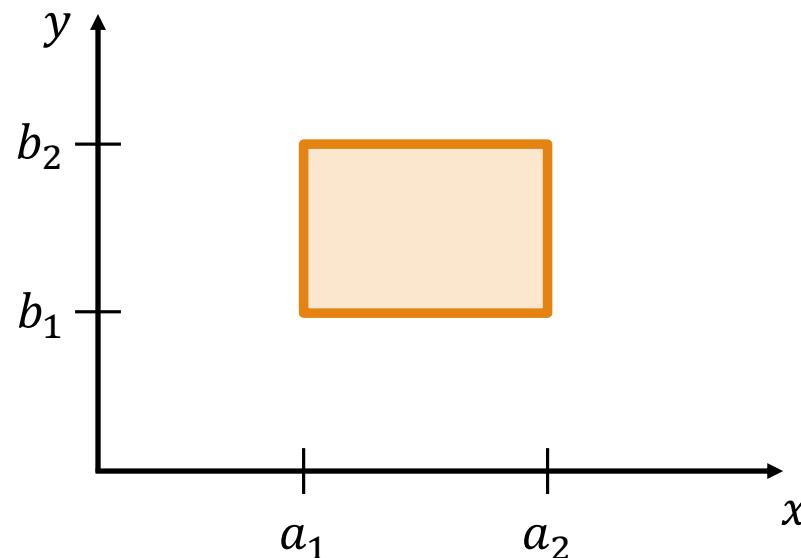


Chris Piech and Jerry Cain, CS109, 2020

# Probabilities from joint CDFs

---

$$P(a_1 < X \leq a_2, b_1 < Y \leq b_2) = \\ F_{X,Y}(a_2, b_2) - F_{X,Y}(a_1, b_2) - F_{X,Y}(a_2, b_1) + F_{X,Y}(a_1, b_1)$$



# Probabilities from joint CDFs

Recall for a single RV  $X$  with CDF  $F_X$ :

$$\text{CDF: } P(X \leq x) = F_X(x)$$

$$P(a < X \leq b) = F_X(b) - F(a)$$

For two RVs  $X$  and  $Y$  with joint CDF  $F_{X,Y}$ :

$$\text{Joint CDF: } P(X \leq x, Y \leq y) = F_{X,Y}(x, y)$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(a_1 < X \leq a_2, b_1 < Y \leq b_2) &= \\ F_{X,Y}(a_2, b_2) - F_{X,Y}(a_1, b_2) - F_{X,Y}(a_2, b_1) + F_{X,Y}(a_1, b_1) \end{aligned}$$

Note strict inequalities; these properties hold for both discrete and continuous RVs.

# Independent Continuous RVs

# Independent continuous RVs

Two continuous random variables  $X$  and  $Y$  are **independent** if:

$$P(X \leq x, Y \leq y) = P(X \leq x)P(Y \leq y) \quad \forall x, y$$

Equivalently:

$$\begin{aligned} F_{X,Y}(x, y) &= F_X(x)F_Y(y) & \forall x, y \\ f_{X,Y}(x, y) &= f_X(x)f_Y(y) \end{aligned}$$

Proof of PDF:

$$\begin{aligned} f_{X,Y}(x, y) &= \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x \partial y} F_{X,Y}(x, y) = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x \partial y} F_X(x)F_Y(y) \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} F_X(x)F_Y(y) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} F_X(x) \frac{\partial}{\partial y} F_Y(y) \\ &= f_X(x)f_Y(y) \end{aligned}$$

# Independent continuous RVs

---

Two continuous random variables  $X$  and  $Y$  are **independent** if:

$$P(X \leq x, Y \leq y) = P(X \leq x)P(Y \leq y)$$

Equivalently:

$$\begin{aligned} F_{X,Y}(x, y) &= F_X(x)F_Y(y) \\ f_{X,Y}(x, y) &= f_X(x)f_Y(y) \end{aligned}$$

More generally,  $X$  and  $Y$  are **independent** if joint density factors separately:

$$f_{X,Y}(x, y) = g(x)h(y), \text{ where } -\infty < x, y < \infty$$

# Pop quiz! (just kidding)

$f_{X,Y}(x,y) = g(x)h(y)$ ,  
where  $-\infty < x, y < \infty$   independent  
 $X$  and  $Y$

Are  $X$  and  $Y$  independent in the following cases?

1.  $f_{X,Y}(x,y) = 6e^{-3x}e^{-2y}$

where  $0 < x, y < \infty$

2.  $f_{X,Y}(x,y) = 4xy$

where  $0 < x, y < 1$

3.  $f_{X,Y}(x,y) = 24xy$

where  $0 < x + y < 1$



# Pop quiz! (just kidding)

$f_{X,Y}(x,y) = g(x)h(y)$ ,  
where  $-\infty < x, y < \infty$   independent  
 $X$  and  $Y$

Are  $X$  and  $Y$  independent in the following cases?

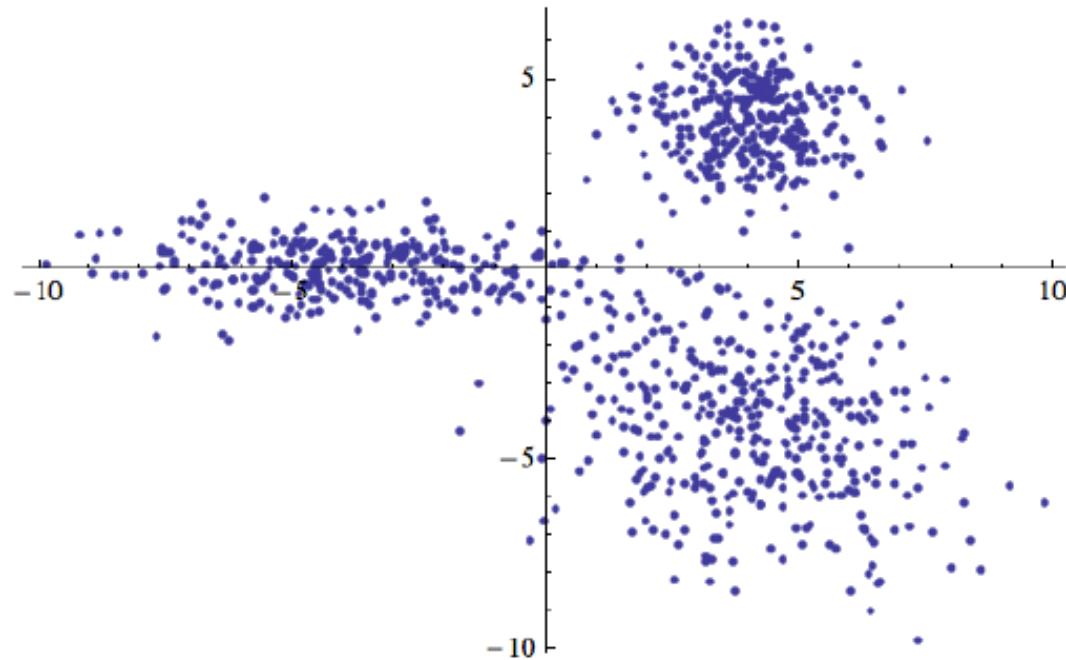
- 1.  $f_{X,Y}(x,y) = 6e^{-3x}e^{-2y}$  where  $0 < x, y < \infty$  Separable functions:  $g(x) = 3e^{-3x}$   
 $h(y) = 2e^{-2y}$
- 2.  $f_{X,Y}(x,y) = 4xy$  where  $0 < x, y < 1$  Separable functions:  $g(x) = 2x$   
 $h(y) = 2y$
- 3.  $f_{X,Y}(x,y) = 24xy$  where  $0 < x + y < 1$  Cannot capture constraint on  $x + y$  into factorization!

If you can factor densities over all of the support, you have independence.

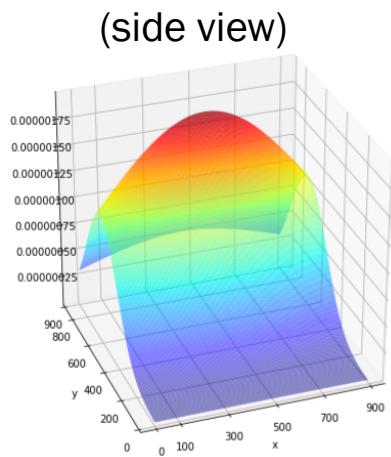
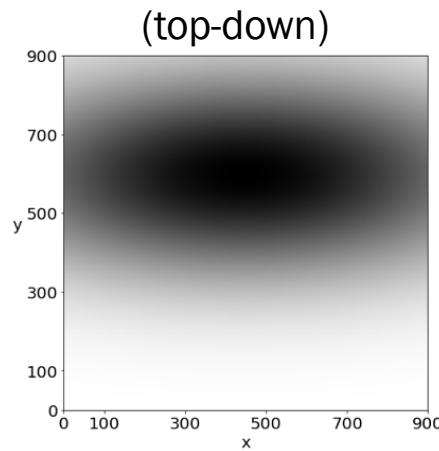
# Multivariate Normal Distribution

# How could you model this data?

---



# Back to darts



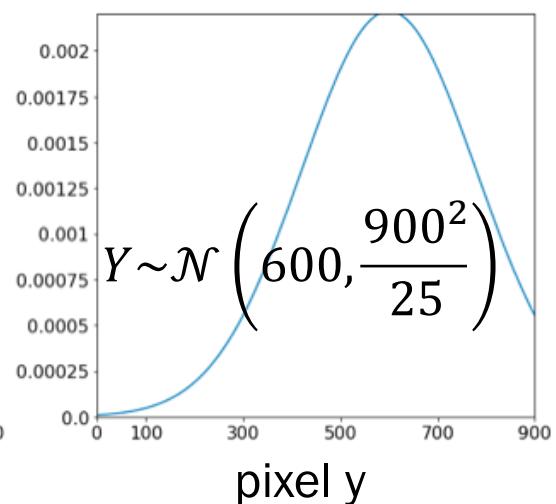
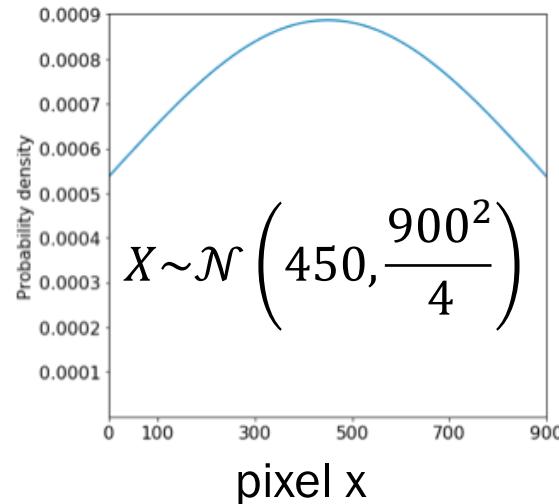
These darts were actually thrown according to a bivariate normal distribution:

$$(X, Y) \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$$

$$\boldsymbol{\mu} = (450, 600)$$

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \begin{bmatrix} 900^2/4 & 0 \\ 0 & 900^2/25 \end{bmatrix}$$

Marginal  
PDFs:



# (Bi)-variate Normal Distribution

$X_1$  and  $X_2$  follow a bivariate normal distribution if their joint PDF  $f$  is

$$f(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma_1\sigma_2\sqrt{1-\rho^2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2(1-\rho^2)}\left(\frac{(x_1-\mu_1)^2}{\sigma_1^2} - \frac{2\rho(x_1-\mu_1)(x_2-\mu_2)}{\sigma_1\sigma_2} + \frac{(x_2-\mu_2)^2}{\sigma_2^2}\right)}$$

Can show that  $X_1 \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_1, \sigma_1^2)$ ,  $X_2 \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_2, \sigma_2^2)$

Often written as:

$$\mathbf{X} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$$

- Vector  $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, X_2)$
- Mean vector  $\boldsymbol{\mu} = (\mu_1, \mu_2)$ , Covariance matrix:  $\boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1^2 & \rho\sigma_1\sigma_2 \\ \rho\sigma_1\sigma_2 & \sigma_2^2 \end{bmatrix}$

Recall correlation:  $\rho = \frac{\text{Cov}(X_1, X_2)}{\sigma_1\sigma_2}$

We will focus on understanding the **shape** of a bivariate Normal RV.

# $(X, Y)$ Matching (all have $\mu = (0, 0)$ )

recall this purple term is:  $\rho\sigma_1\sigma_2$



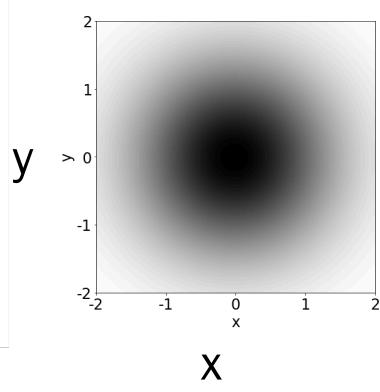
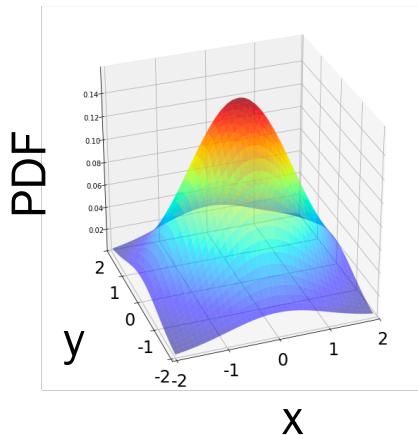
A.  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

B.  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$

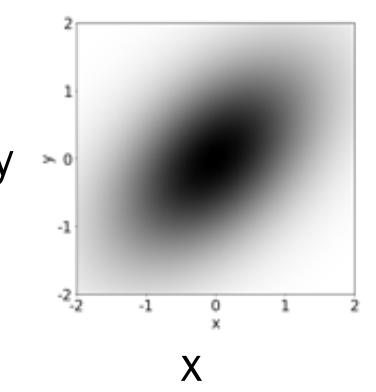
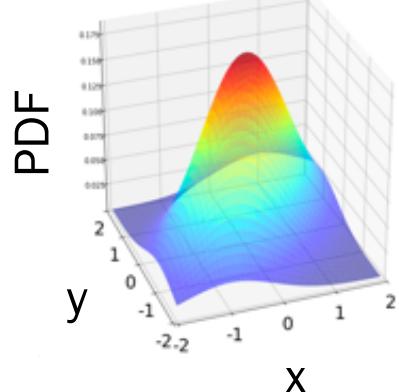
C.  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0.5 \\ 0.5 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

D.  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -0.5 \\ -0.5 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

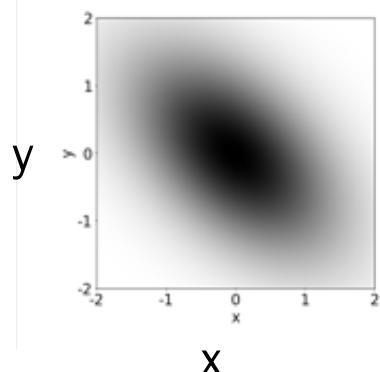
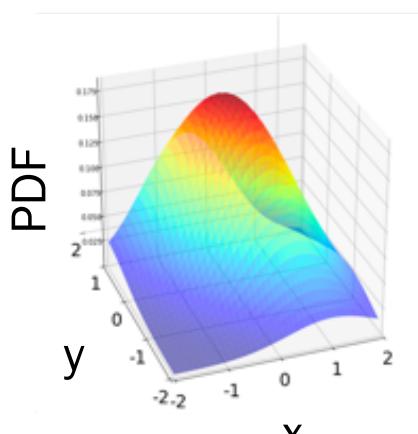
1.



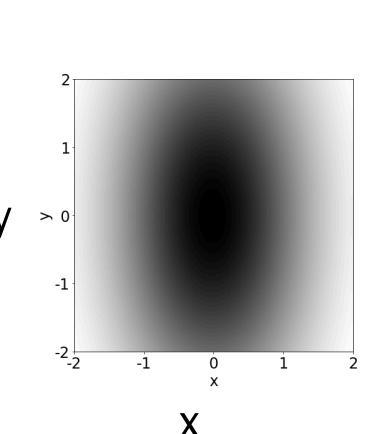
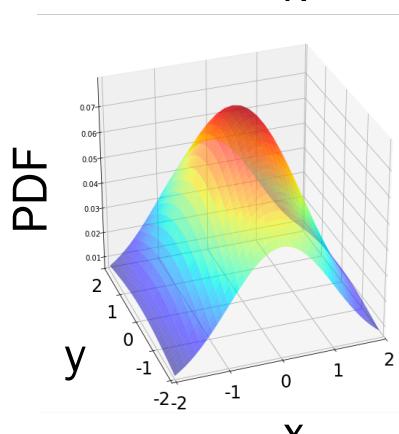
2.



3.



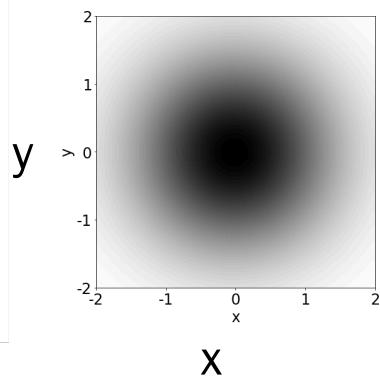
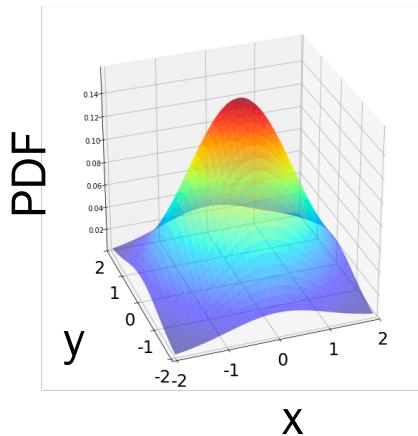
4.



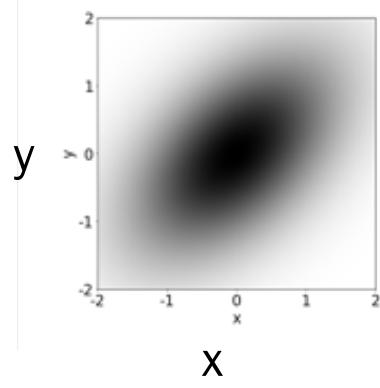
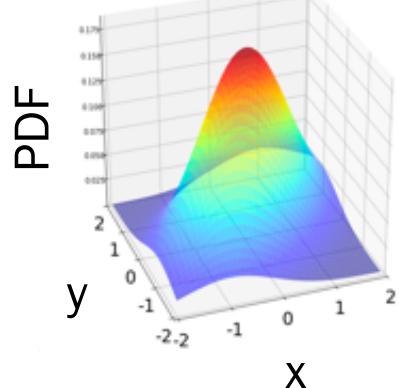
# $(X, Y)$ Matching (all have $\mu = (0, 0)$ )

recall this purple term is:  $\rho\sigma_1\sigma_2$

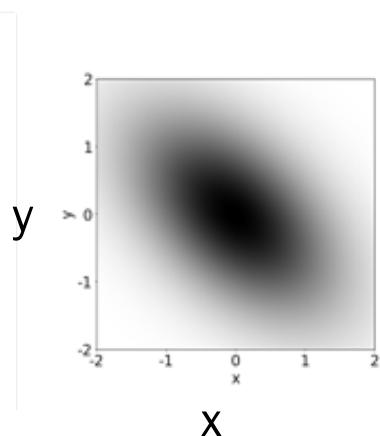
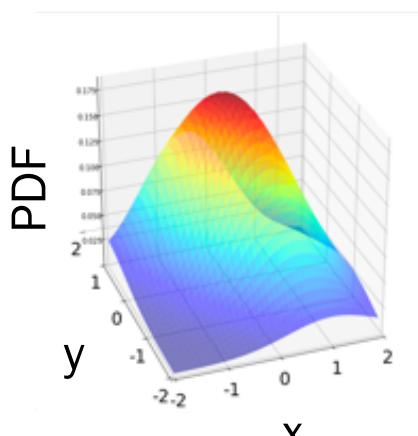
1.



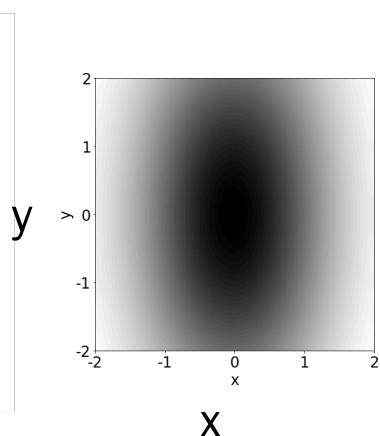
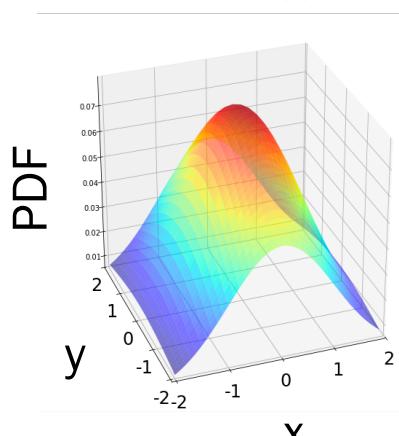
2.



3.



4.



A.  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

B.  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$

C.  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0.5 \\ 0.5 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

D.  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -0.5 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

# Independent Multivariate Gaussian

Let  $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, X_2)$  follow a bivariate normal distribution  $\mathbf{X} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$ , where

$$\boldsymbol{\mu} = (\mu_1, \mu_2),$$

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1^2 & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_2^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

recall this term is:  
 $\rho\sigma_1\sigma_2$

Are  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  independent?

$$\begin{aligned} f(x_1, x_2) &= \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma_1\sigma_2\sqrt{1-\rho^2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2(1-\rho^2)}\left(\frac{(x_1-\mu_1)^2}{\sigma_1^2} - \frac{2\rho(x_1-\mu_1)(x_2-\mu_2)}{\sigma_1\sigma_2} + \frac{(x_2-\mu_2)^2}{\sigma_2^2}\right)} \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma_1\sigma_2} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{(x_1-\mu_1)^2}{\sigma_1^2} + \frac{(x_2-\mu_2)^2}{\sigma_2^2}\right)} \quad (\text{Note covariance: } \rho\sigma_1\sigma_2 = 0) \\ &= \frac{1}{\sigma_1\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-(x_1-\mu_1)^2/2\sigma_1^2} \frac{1}{\sigma_2\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-(x_2-\mu_2)^2/2\sigma_2^2} \end{aligned}$$



$X_1$  and  $X_2$  are **independent**  
with marginal distributions  
 $X_1 \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_1, \sigma_1^2), X_2 \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_2, \sigma_2^2)$

# Independent Multivariate Gaussians

$X_1$  and  $X_2$  are **independent** with marginal distributions  
 $X_1 \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_1, \sigma_1^2), X_2 \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_2, \sigma_2^2)$

Joint PDF

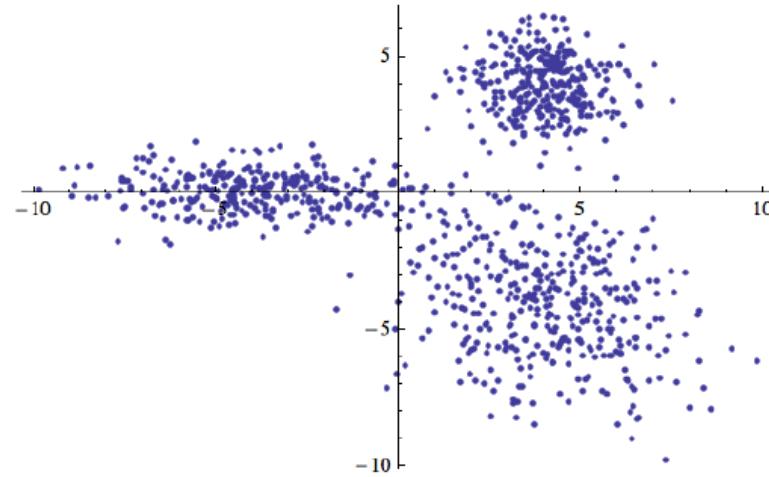
$$f(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma_1\sigma_2} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{(x_1-\mu_1)^2}{\sigma_1^2} + \frac{(x_2-\mu_2)^2}{\sigma_2^2}\right)}$$

Joint CDF

$$F(x_1, x_2) = \Phi\left(\frac{x_1 - \mu_1}{\sigma_1}\right) \cdot \Phi\left(\frac{x_2 - \mu_2}{\sigma_2}\right)$$

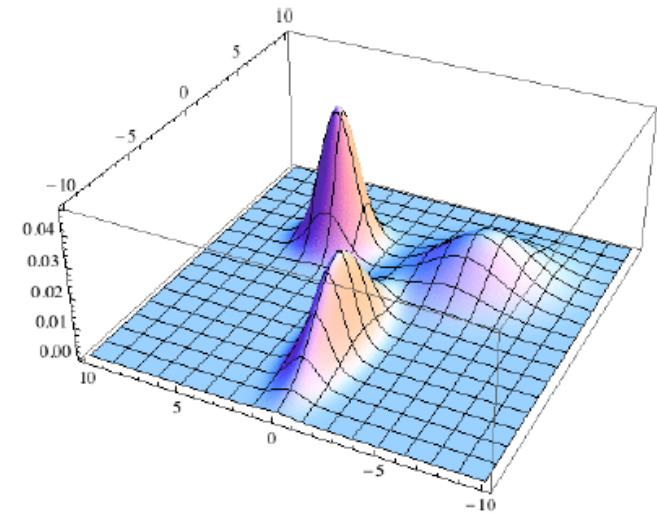
# Multivariate Normal Distributions are Rad ☺

The Data



A 2D scatter plot with three  
"clusters"

The Joint Model



A mixture of 3 bi-variate  
Normal distributions

See you in CS221

Stanford University

# Probability with Instagram!



In image processing, a Gaussian blur is the result of blurring an image by a Gaussian function. It is a widely used effect in graphics software, typically to reduce image noise.

$$P(a_1 < X \leq a_2, b_1 < Y \leq b_2) = F_{X,Y}(a_2, b_2) - F_{X,Y}(a_1, b_2) - F_{X,Y}(a_2, b_1) + F_{X,Y}(a_1, b_1)$$



# Gaussian blur

(for next time)

In a Gaussian blur, for every pixel:

- Weight each pixel by the probability that  $X$  and  $Y$  are both within the pixel bounds
- The weighting function is a Bivariate Gaussian (Normal) standard deviation parameter  $\sigma$

Gaussian blurring with  $\sigma = 3$ :

$$f_{X,Y}(x,y) = \frac{1}{2\pi \cdot 3^2} e^{-(x^2+y^2)/2 \cdot 3^2}$$

$$P(a_1 < X \leq a_2, b_1 < Y \leq b_2) = F_{X,Y}(a_2, b_2) - F_{X,Y}(a_1, b_2) - F_{X,Y}(a_2, b_1) + F_{X,Y}(a_1, b_1)$$

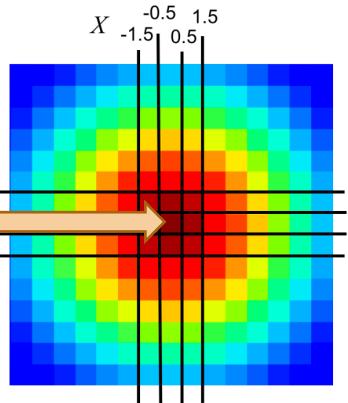
Weight matrix:

Center pixel: (0, 0)

Pixel bounds:

$$-0.5 < x \leq 0.5$$

$$-0.5 < y \leq 0.5$$



→ Independent  $X \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 3^2), Y \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 3^2)$

→ Joint CDF:  $F_{X,Y}(x, y) = \Phi\left(\frac{x}{3}\right) \Phi\left(\frac{y}{3}\right)$

What is the weight of the center pixel?

$$P(-0.5 < X \leq 0.5, -0.5 < Y \leq 0.5) =$$

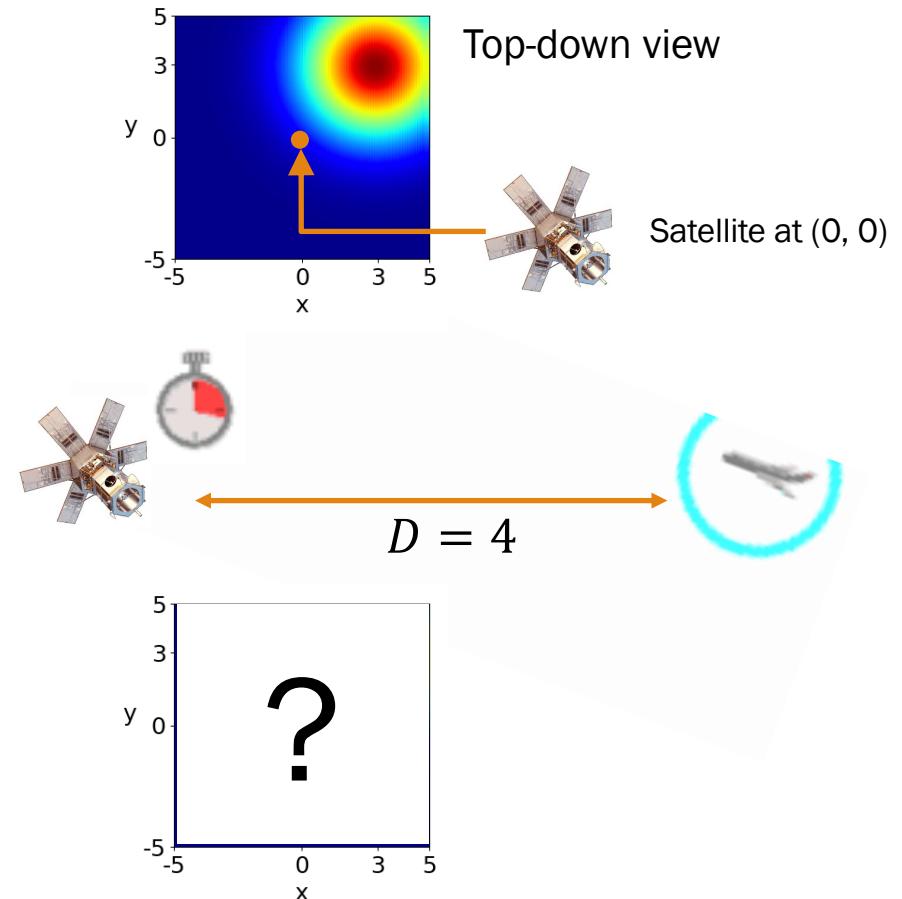
$$= 0.206$$



Give this a try!

# Tracking in 2-D space

- Before measuring, we have some **prior belief** about the 2-D location of an object,  $(X, Y)$ .
- We observe some noisy **measurement**  $D = 4$ , the Euclidean distance of the object to a satellite.
- After the measurement, what is our **updated (posterior) belief** of the 2-D location of the object?

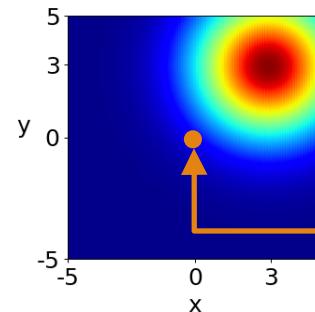


# Tracking in 2-D space

- Before measuring, we have some **prior belief** about the 2-D location of an object,  $(X, Y)$ .

$X, Y \sim \text{Independent Bivariate normal}$

$$f_{X,Y}(x, y) = \frac{1}{2\pi 2^2} e^{-\frac{[(x-3)^2 + (y-3)^2]}{2(2^2)}}$$



Top-down view



Satellite at  $(0, 0)$

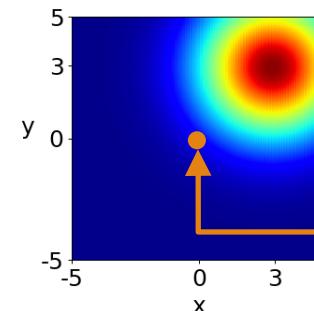
# Tracking in 2-D space

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$X, Y \sim \text{Independent Bivariate normal}$

$$f_{X,Y}(x, y) = \frac{1}{2\pi 2^2} e^{-\frac{[(x-3)^2 + (y-3)^2]}{2(2^2)}}$$

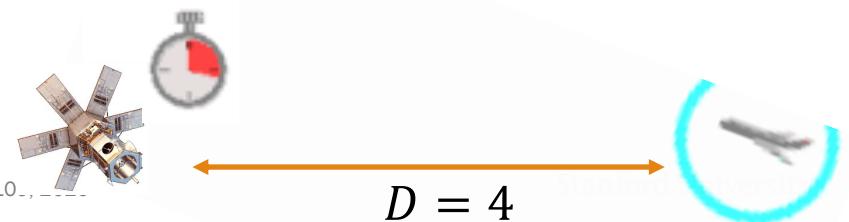


Top-down view



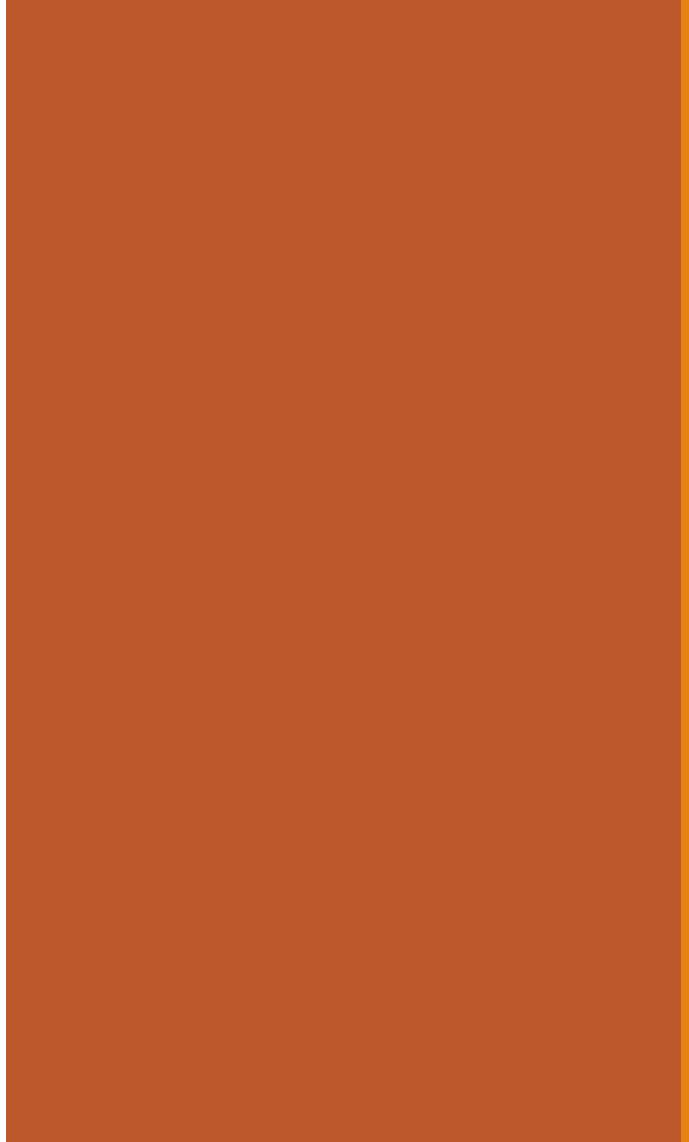
Satellite at  $(0, 0)$

Let  $D$  = observed distance from the satellite.  
Observed distance is true distance plus noise.  
Noise is a **standard normal**.





Give this a try!



16f\_extra

# Extra

# 1. Integral practice

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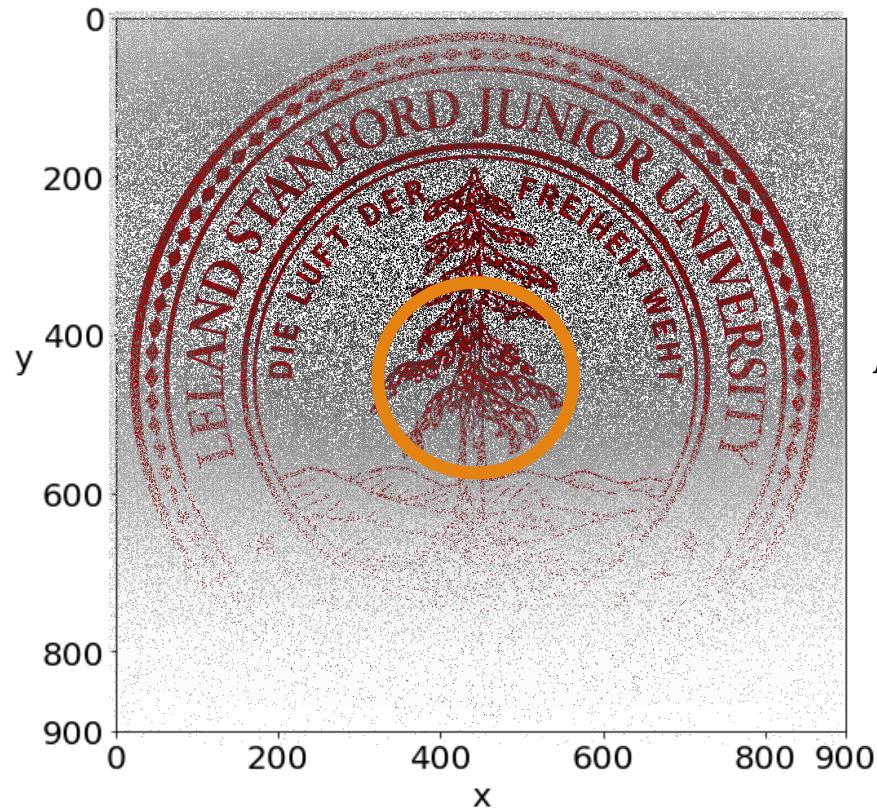
Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two continuous random variables with joint PDF:

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} 4xy & 0 \leq x, y \leq 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

What is  $P(X \leq Y)$ ?

$$\begin{aligned} P(X \leq Y) &= \iint_{\substack{x \leq y, \\ 0 \leq x, y \leq 1}} 4xy \, dx \, dy = \int_{y=0}^1 \int_{x=0}^y 4xy \, dx \, dy = \int_{y=0}^1 \int_{x=0}^y 4xy \, dx \, dy \\ &= \int_{y=0}^1 4y \left[ \frac{x^2}{2} \right]_0^y \, dy = \int_{y=0}^1 2y^3 \, dy = \left[ \frac{2}{4} y^4 \right]_0^1 = \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

## 2. How do you integrate over a circle?



P(dart hits within  $r = 10$  pixels of center)?

$$P(x^2 + y^2 \leq 10^2) = \iint_{x^2 + y^2 \leq 10^2} f_{X,Y}(x, y) dy dx$$

Let's try an example that doesn't involve integrating a Normal RV  
😊

## 2. Imperfection on Disk

You have a disk surface, a circle of radius  $R$ . Suppose you have a single point imperfection uniformly distributed on the disk.

$$f_{X,Y}(x,y) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\pi R^2} & x^2 + y^2 \leq R^2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

What are the marginal distributions of  $X$  and  $Y$ ? Are  $X$  and  $Y$  independent?

$$f_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X,Y}(x,y) dy = \frac{1}{\pi R^2} \int_{x^2+y^2 \leq R^2} dy \quad \text{where } -R \leq x \leq R$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi R^2} \int_{y=-\sqrt{R^2-x^2}}^{\sqrt{R^2-x^2}} dy = \frac{2\sqrt{R^2-x^2}}{\pi R^2}$$

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{2\sqrt{R^2-y^2}}{\pi R^2} \quad \text{where } -R \leq y \leq R, \text{ by symmetry}$$

No,  $X$  and  $Y$  are **dependent**.  
 $f_{X,Y}(x,y) \neq f_X(x)f_Y(y)$