

1179: Probability

Lecture 16 — Expected Values of Continuous  
Random Variables and Joint Distributions

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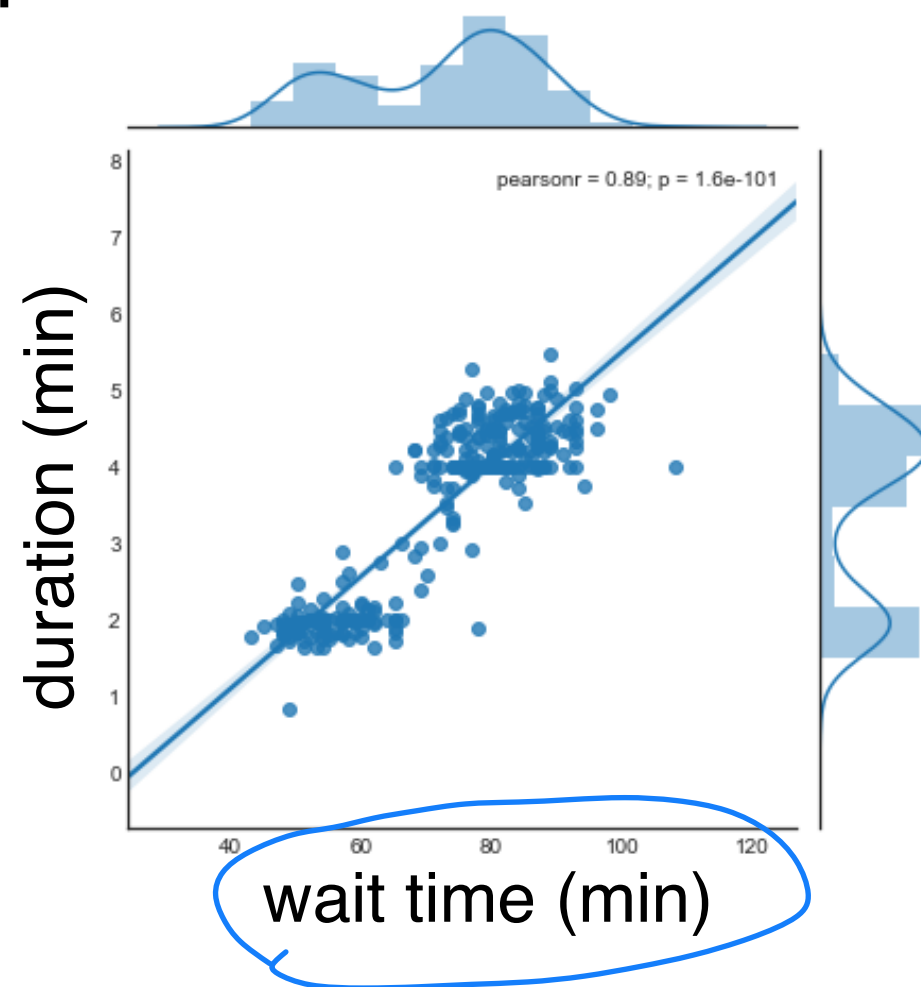
November 5, 2021

# Announcements

- ▶ TA Hour: 11/5 (Fri.), 6:30pm-8pm @ EC513 and Google Meet
  - ▶ <https://meet.google.com/nap-bwvz-fft>

# Why Jointly Study 2 Random Variables?

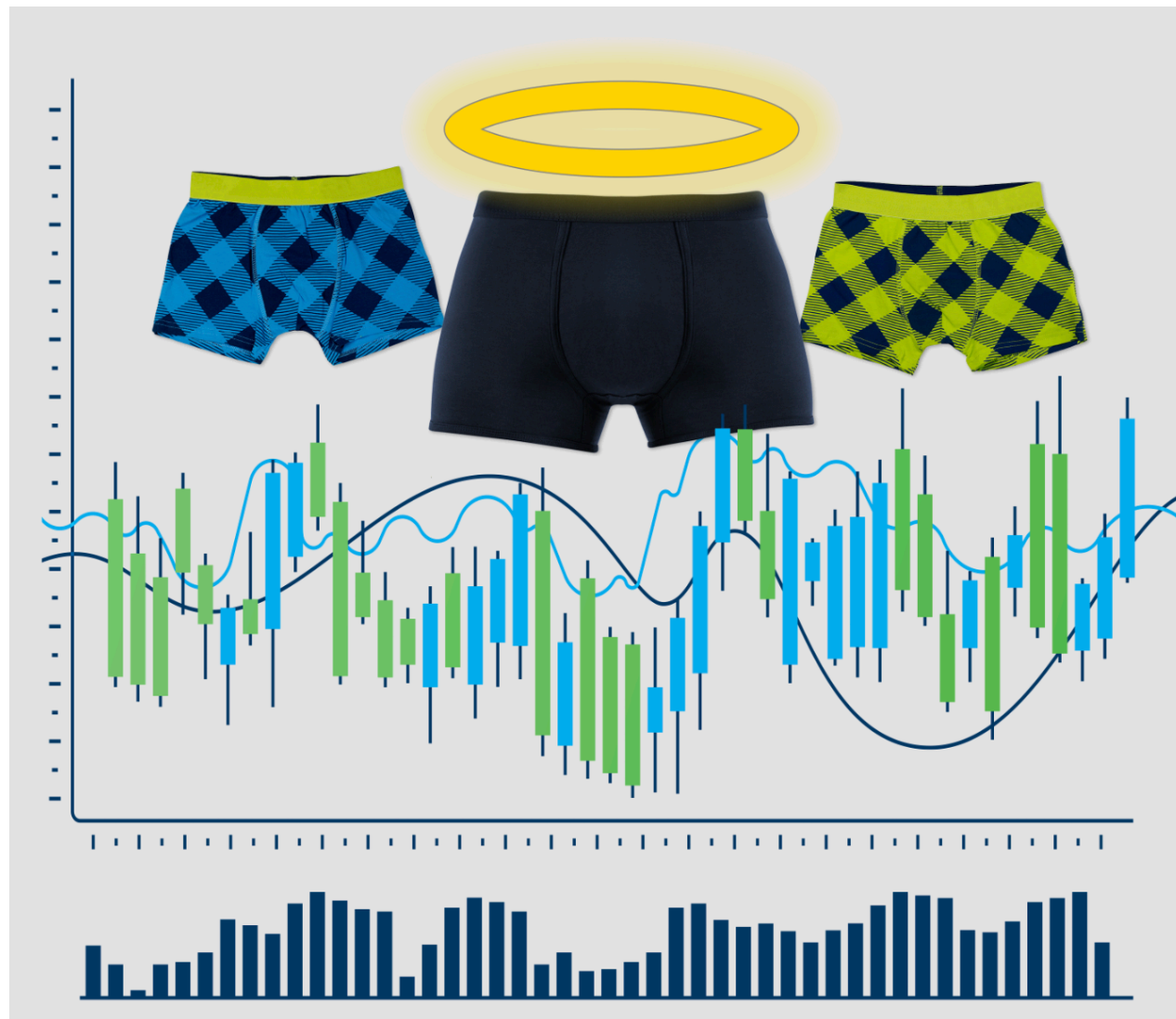
- **Example:** Old Faithful Geyser



- Eruption duration could help predict the next wait time

# Men's Underwear Index (MUI)

- ▶ “MUI is an **economic index** that can supposedly detect the beginnings of a **recovery** during an **economic slump**”... (Wiki)



# Hemline Index

- ▶ “...hemlines on women's dresses rise along with stock prices.”



# This Lecture

1. Expected Value and Variance of Continuous Random Variables


2. Joint Distributions of Two Random Variables


- Reading material: Chapter 6.3 and 8.1

# Review: Expected Value and Variance of a Continuous R.V.

Let  $X$  be a continuous random variable with a PDF  $f_X(x)$ . Then, we have

$$1. E[X] := \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x \cdot f_X(x) dx$$


$$2. E[g(X)] := \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} g(x) \cdot f_X(x) dx$$


$$3. \text{Var}[X] := \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} (x - E[X])^2 \cdot f_X(x) dx$$



# Exponential: Mean and Variance

► **Example:**  $X \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda)$

► What is  $E[X]$ ?

► How about  $\text{Var}[X]$ ?

$$E[X] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x \cdot f_X(x) dx$$

$$= \int_0^{\infty} \underbrace{x}_{f'} \cdot \underbrace{\lambda \cdot e^{-\lambda x}}_{g'} dx$$

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \bullet \lambda = \text{rate} \\ \bullet \frac{1}{\lambda} : \text{"mean lifetime"} \end{array} \right.$

$$\int_a^b f(x)g'(x)dx = f(x)g(x) \Big|_a^b - \int_a^b f'(x)g(x)dx$$

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} \lambda e^{-\lambda x} & , \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ 0 & , \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \left( x \cdot -e^{-\lambda x} \Big|_0^{\infty} \right) - \int_0^{\infty} 1 \cdot -e^{-\lambda x} dx \\
 &= (0 - 0) - \left[ \frac{-1}{\lambda} \int_0^{\infty} \lambda e^{-\lambda x} dx \right] \\
 &= \frac{1}{\lambda}
 \end{aligned}$$



$$\text{Var}[X] = \underline{E[X^2]} - (E[X])^2$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 E[X^2] &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x^2 f_X(x) dx = \int_0^{\infty} \underbrace{x^2}_f \cdot \underbrace{\lambda e^{-\lambda x}}_{g'} dx \\
 &= \left[ \underbrace{x^2 - e^{-\lambda x}}_{\text{red line}} \right]_0^{\infty} - \int_0^{\infty} \underbrace{2x \cdot -e^{-\lambda x}}_{\text{blue}} dx \\
 &= (0 - 0) - \left[ \underbrace{-\frac{2}{\lambda} \int_0^{\infty} x \cdot \lambda e^{-\lambda x} dx}_{\text{red}} \right] \\
 &= \frac{2}{\lambda^2} - \frac{1}{\lambda} \left[ \underbrace{E[X]}_{\text{red}} \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Therefore, } \text{Var}[X] = \frac{2}{\lambda^2} - \left( \frac{1}{\lambda} \right)^2 = \frac{1}{\lambda^2}$$

# Properties of Discrete R.V. Still Hold for Continuous R.V.?

1.  $E[\alpha X + \beta] = \alpha \cdot E[X] + \beta$ ? ( $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ )

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} (\alpha x + \beta) \cdot f_X(x) dx = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \alpha x f_X(x) dx + \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \beta \cdot f_X(x) dx$$

2.  $E[g(X) + h(X)] = E[g(X)] + E[h(X)]$ ?  
( $g, h$  real-valued functions)

(LOTUS + linearity of integration)

# Properties of Discrete R.V. Still Hold for Continuous R.V.?

3.  $\text{Var}[X] := E[X^2] - (E[X])^2$  ?

4.  $\text{Var}(X + c) = \text{Var}(X)$ ?

$$\text{Var}[X+c] = E[(X+c - E[X+c])^2]$$

5.  $\text{Var}(aX) = a^2 \cdot \text{Var}(X)$ ?

(follows directly from the def. of Var)

# Recall: Expected Value of a Discrete Random Variable Using CDF

## Expected Value (or Mean / Expectation):

Let  $X$  be a non-negative discrete random variable with

- the set of possible values  $S = \{x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots\}$
- CDF of  $X$  is  $F_X(t)$

Denote  $x_0 = 0$ . The expected value of  $X$  is

$$E[X] = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} (x_i - x_{i-1}) \cdot \left(1 - \underline{F_X(x_i^-)}\right)$$

- How about continuous cases?

# Alternative Expression for Expected Value of a Continuous Random Variable Using CDF

## Expected Value via CDF:

Let  $X$  be a continuous random variable with CDF  $F_X(t)$ .

The expected value of  $X$  is

$$E[X] = \int_0^{\infty} (1 - F_X(t)) dt - \int_0^{\infty} F_X(-t) dt$$

- ▶ What if  $X$  is a non-negative random variable?

$$F_X(t) = 0, \text{ for all } t < 0 \quad E[X] = \int_0^{\infty} (1 - F_X(t)) dt$$

- ▶ How to prove this?

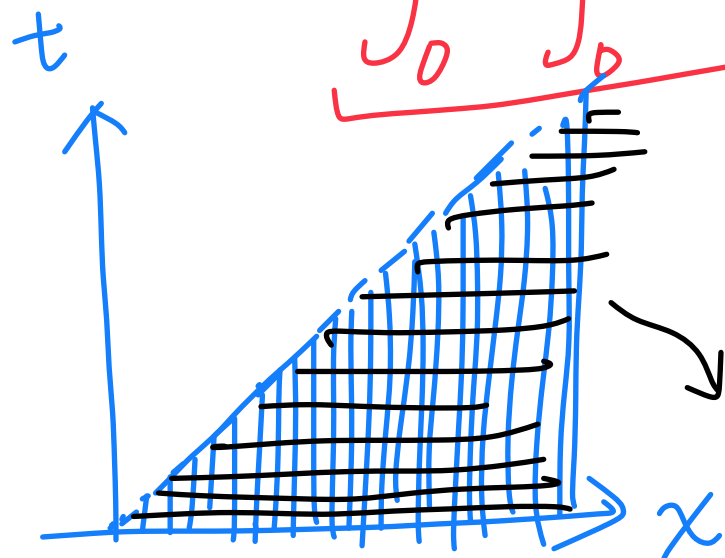
# Proof: Expected Value of a Continuous Random Variable Using CDF

$$E[X] = \int_0^{\infty} (1 - F_X(t)) \underline{dt} - \underbrace{\int_0^{\infty} F_X(-t) dt}_{\text{change of variables}}$$

① change of variables  
② double integration

$$E[X] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x \cdot f_X(x) dx$$

$$= \int_0^{\infty} \int_0^x 1 \cdot dt \cdot f_X(x) dx + \int_{-\infty}^0 \int_0^x 1 \cdot dt \cdot f_X(x) dx$$

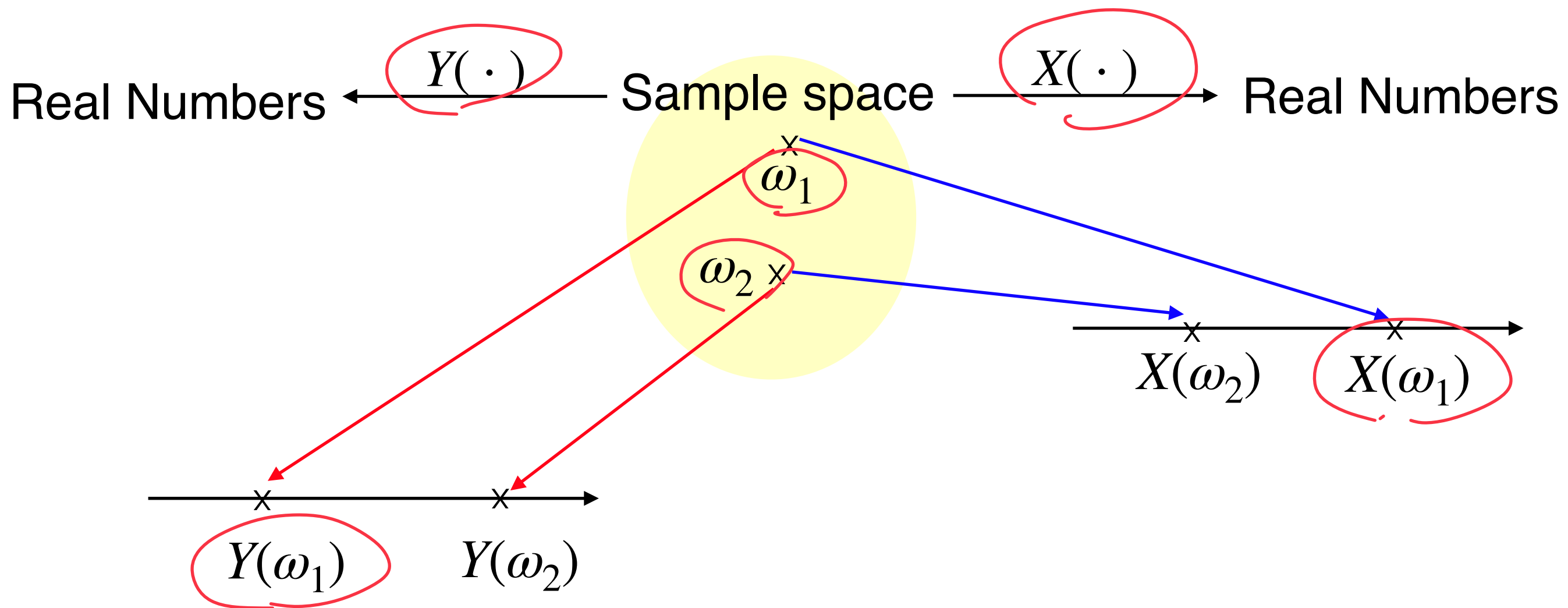


$$\int_0^{\infty} \left( \int_t^{\infty} f_X(x) dx \right) dt = \int_0^{\infty} (1 - F_X(t)) dt$$

# Joint CDF of Two Random Variables



# Recall: Random Variables Defined on $\Omega$



- Could we study the <sup>y</sup>CDF<sup>//</sup> regarding both  $X$  and  $Y$ ?

# Joint CDF

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

**Joint CDF:** Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two random variables defined on the same sample space  $\Omega$ . The joint CDF  $F_{XY}(t, u)$  is defined as

$$F_{XY}(t, u) = P(X \leq t, Y \leq u), \quad \forall t, u \in \mathbb{R}$$

►  $0 \leq F_{XY}(t, u) \leq 1$ ?

$$P(\{\omega: X(\omega) \leq t \text{ and } Y(\omega) \leq u\})$$

(Axioms of probability)

► Suppose  $t_1 \leq t_2$  and  $u_1 \leq u_2$ , then  $F_{XY}(t_1, u_1) \leq F_{XY}(t_2, u_2)$ ?

Yes!

► What is  $F_{XY}(\infty, \infty)$ ? How about  $F_{XY}(-\infty, -\infty)$ ?

$$P(\Omega)$$

$$P(\emptyset) = 0$$

# Event Probabilities and Joint CDF (I)

$$F_{XY}(t, u) = P(X \leq t, Y \leq u), \quad \forall t, u \in \mathbb{R}$$

- ▶  $P(X \leq t) = ?$

- ▶  $P(Y \leq u) = ?$

# Marginal CDF

**Marginal CDF:** Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two random variables defined on the same sample space  $\Omega$ , and the joint CDF is  $F_{XY}(t, u)$ . The marginal CDF of  $X$  and  $Y$  are

$$F_X(t) = P(X \leq t) = F_{XY}(t, \infty)$$

$$F_Y(t) = P(Y \leq t) = F_{XY}(\infty, t)$$

# Event Probabilities and Joint CDF (II)

$$F_{XY}(t, u) = P(X \leq t, Y \leq u), \quad \forall t, u \in \mathbb{R}$$

- ▶  $P(t_1 < X \leq t_2) = ?$

- ▶  $P(u_1 < Y \leq u_2) = ?$

# Event Probabilities and Joint CDF (III)

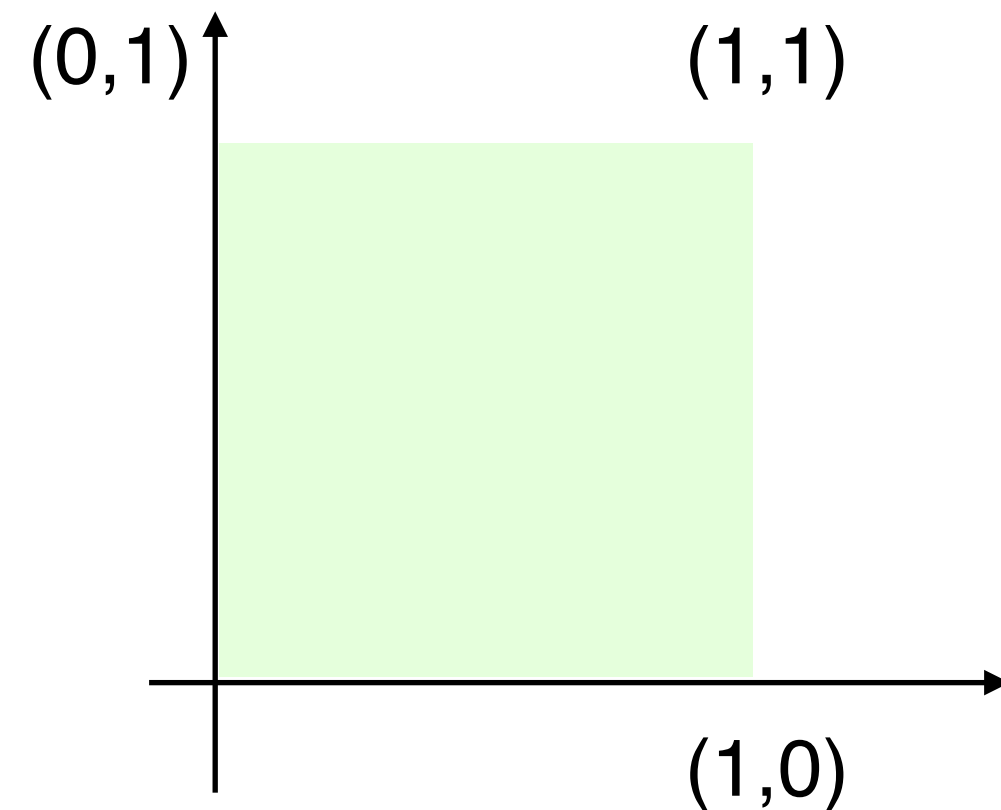
$$F_{XY}(t, u) = P(X \leq t, Y \leq u), \quad \forall t, u \in \mathbb{R}$$

- ▶  $P(t_1 < X \leq t_2, u_1 < Y \leq u_2) = ?$

- ▶  $P(t_1 < X < t_2, u_1 < Y \leq u_2) = ?$

# Example: A Random Point in a Unit Square

- ▶ **Example:** Suppose a point  $(X, Y)$  is selected randomly from the unit square  $D = \{(x, y) : 0 \leq x \leq 1, 0 \leq y \leq 1\}$ .
  - ▶ What is the joint CDF of  $X$  and  $Y$ , i.e.  $F_{XY}(t, u)$ ?





# 1-Minute Summary

## 1. Expected Value and Variance of Continuous Random Variables

- Mean and variance of exponential r.v.s
- Alternative expression of expected value via CDF

## 2. Joint Distributions of Two Random Variables

- Two random variables defined on the same  $\Omega$
- Definitions of joint CDF and marginal CDF