

1179: Probability  
Lecture 20 — Conditionals, Expected  
Value, and Bivariate Normal

Ping-Chun Hsieh (謝秉均)

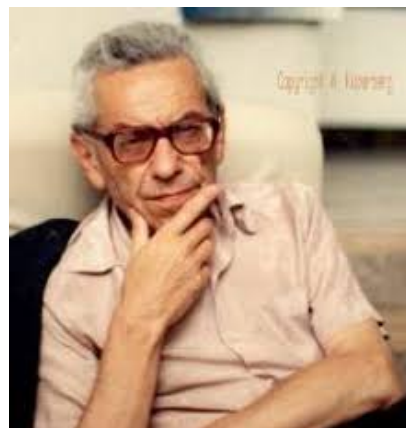
November 24, 2021

# Announcements

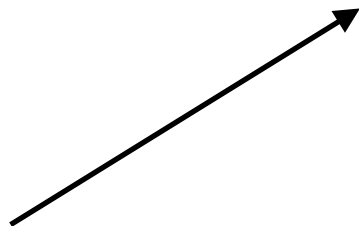
- ▶ Midterm exam booklets will be returned to you on 11/25 (Thu.)
  - ▶ 6:30pm - 8pm @ EC345
- ▶ No class next Wednesday (12/1)

# Erdős Number

- ▶ Six degree of separation?
- ▶ In math, Erdős Number embodies a similar principle



Paul Erdős



Richard Bellman  
(Erdős number = 1)



Noga Alon  
(Erdős number = 1)



Nick Duffield  
(Erdős number = 2)

(the most prolific mathematician: 1500+ papers)

# Quick Overview

► Given 2 random variables  $X, Y$ : what have we learned so far?

1. Joint CDF

2. Marginal CDF

3. Joint PMF / PDF

4. Marginal PMF / PDF

5. Independence

6. Conditional distribution

$$\rightarrow P(Y=2 | X=1)$$

7. Expected value involving both  $X, Y$

$$E[X+Y] \quad E[XY]$$
$$E[\log X + e^Y]$$

8. Bivariate normal

9. Distribution of  $X + Y$

10. Covariance and correlation

# This Lecture

1. Conditional Distributions

2. Expected Value Regarding 2 Random Variables

3. Bivariate Normal Random Variables

- Reading material: Chapter 8.3~8.4 and 10.5

# Example: Using Joint PMF to Find Conditional PMF

► **Example:** Bus #2 (NCTU - Mackay - Train Station)

- $X$  = traveling time from NCTU to Mackay
- $Y$  = traveling time from Mackay to Train Station
- $P(X = 10 | Y = 15) = ?$



Joint PMF	X=10	X=15	X=20
Y=10	0.1	0.1	0.05
Y=15	0.1	0.3	0.1
Y=20	0.05	0.1	0.1

$$P(X=10 | Y=15) = \frac{P(X=10 \text{ and } Y=15)}{P(Y=15)} = \frac{0.1}{0.5}$$

$$= 0.2$$

$$P(X=15 | Y=15)$$
$$P(X=20 | Y=15)$$

# Conditional PMF (Formally)

- **Conditional PMF:** Let  $X, Y$  be two discrete random variables with joint PMF  $p_{XY}(x, y)$ . When  $P(Y = y) > 0$ , the conditional PMF of  $X$  given  $Y = y$  is

$$p_{X|Y}(x|y) = \frac{p_{XY}(x, y)}{p_Y(y)} = \frac{P(X=x, Y=y)}{P(Y=y)}$$

- **Question:** Conditional PMF of  $Y$  given  $X = x$ ?

$$p_{Y|X}(y|x) = \frac{p_{XY}(x, y)}{p_X(x)}$$

- **Question:**  $\sum_{\text{all } x} p_{X|Y}(x|y) = \sum_{\text{all } x} \frac{p_{XY}(x, y)}{p_Y(y)} = 1$

# Conditional CDF of Discrete Random Variables

- **Conditional CDF:** Let  $X, Y$  be two discrete random variables with joint PMF  $p_{XY}(x, y)$  and marginal PMFs  $p_X(x), p_Y(y)$ . When  $P(Y = y) > 0$ , the conditional CDF of  $X$  given  $Y = y$  is

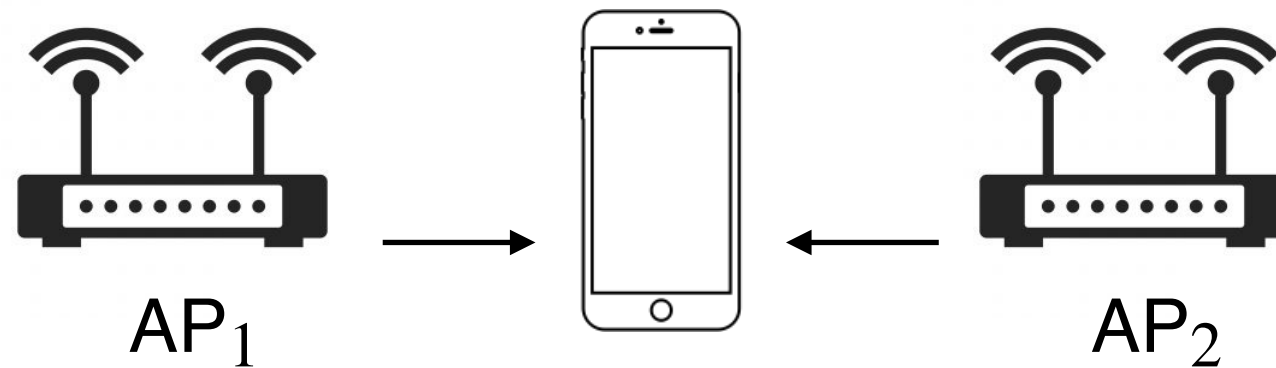
$$\boxed{F_{X|Y}(x | y)} := P(X \leq x | Y = y) = \sum_{t \leq x} p_{X|Y}(t | y) = \sum_{t \leq x} \frac{p_{XY}(t, y)}{p_Y(y)}$$

$\downarrow$   
 $P(X \leq t)$

$\downarrow$   
Conditional PMF

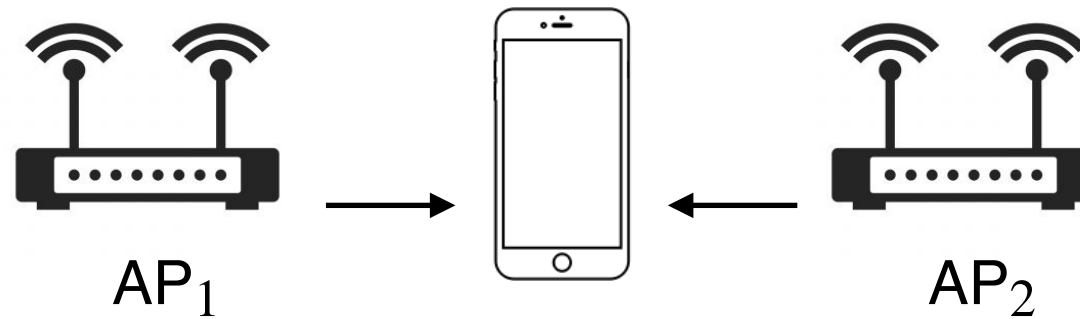


# Example: Conditioning and Sum of Poisson



- ▶ Let  $N_1$  and  $N_2$  be the # of bits transmitted by  $AP_1$  and  $AP_2$  in a time interval  $T$ , respectively
  - ▶  $N_1$  and  $N_2$  are Poisson with rates  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$ , respectively.
  - ▶ Moreover,  $N_1$  and  $N_2$  are independent
  - ▶ Define  $M = N_1 + N_2$
  - ▶ **Question:** Conditional PMF  $p_{N_1|M}(n | m) = ?$

# Example: Conditioning and Sum of Poisson



► Conditional PMF  $p_{N_1|M}(n|m)$

$$P_{N_1|M}(n|m) = \frac{P(N_1=n \text{ and } M=m)}{P(M=m)}$$

$$(m \geq 0, n \geq 0, m \geq n)$$

$$P(N_1=n \text{ and } N_2=m-n)$$

$$M = N_1 + N_2$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$N_1 \sim \text{Poi}(\lambda_1 T)$$

$$N_2 \sim \text{Poi}(\lambda_2 T)$$

$$N_1, N_2 \text{ independent}$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$M \sim \text{Poi}(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2, T)$$

$$= \frac{P(N_1=n) \cdot P(N_2=m-n)}{P(M=m)}$$

$$= \frac{\frac{e^{-\lambda_1 T} (\lambda_1 T)^n}{n!} \cdot \frac{e^{-\lambda_2 T} (\lambda_2 T)^{m-n}}{(m-n)!}}{e^{-(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2) T} \cdot \frac{(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 T)^m}{m!}}$$

$$= \binom{m}{n} \left( \frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2} \right)^n \left( \frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2} \right)^{m-n}$$

$$= \frac{m!}{n!(m-n)!} \cdot \frac{\lambda_1^n \lambda_2^{m-n}}{(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)^m}$$

Binomial  $\left( m, \frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2} \right)$

# Conditional Expectation: Discrete Case

- **Conditional Expectation:** Let  $X, Y$  be two discrete random variables with joint PMF  $p_{XY}(x, y)$ . When  $P(Y = y) > 0$ , the conditional expected value of  $X$  given  $Y = y$  is

$$\underline{E[X | Y = y]} = \sum_{\text{all } x} x \cdot \underline{P(X = x | Y = y)} = \sum_{\text{all } x} x \cdot \frac{p_{XY}(x, y)}{P_Y(y)}$$

- **Question:** Conditional expectation of  $Y$  given  $X = x$ ?

$$E[Y | X=x] = \sum_{\text{all } y} y \cdot P(Y=y | X=x)$$

# Useful Property: Law of Iterated Expectation

► **Question:** Define  $g(y) = E[X | Y = y]$

► What kind of object is  $g(Y)$ ? *Random variable*

►  $E[g(Y)] = ?$

$$E[E[X|Y=y]] = E[E[X|Y]] = \sum_{\text{all } y} g(y) \cdot P_Y(y) \quad \dots \text{outer expectation}$$

*Handwritten notes:  $g(y)$  under the first  $E$ ,  $g(Y)$  under the second  $E$ .*

$$= \sum_{\text{all } y} \left( \sum_{\text{all } x} x \cdot P_{X|Y}(x|y) \right) \cdot P_Y(y)$$

$$= \sum_{\text{all } x} \sum_{\text{all } y} x \cdot P_{X|Y}(x|y) \cdot P_Y(y)$$

*Handwritten notes:  $P_{X|Y}(x|y)$  and  $P_Y(y)$  are boxed together in the second equation.*

► **Law of Iterated Expectation (LIE):** Let  $X, Y$  be two discrete random variables with joint PMF  $p_{XY}(x, y)$ . Then,

*"divide-and-conquer"*

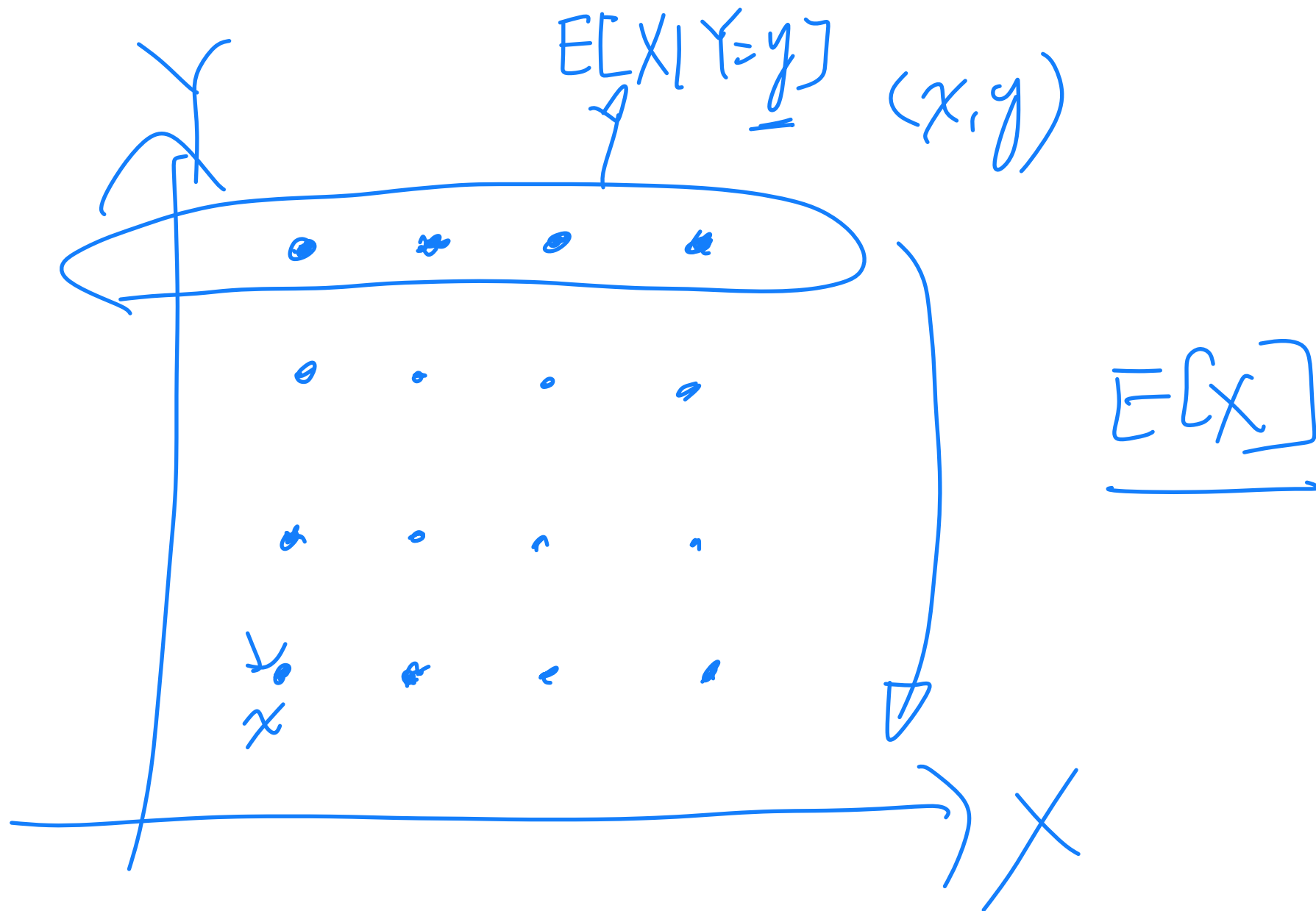
$$E[E[X|Y]] = E[X]$$

$$= \sum_{\text{all } x} x \cdot P_X(x)$$

*Handwritten notes:  $P_{XY}(x, y)$  is written above the sum, and  $P_X(x)$  is written below the sum.*

► **Remark:** This still holds for continuous cases

$$= E[X]$$

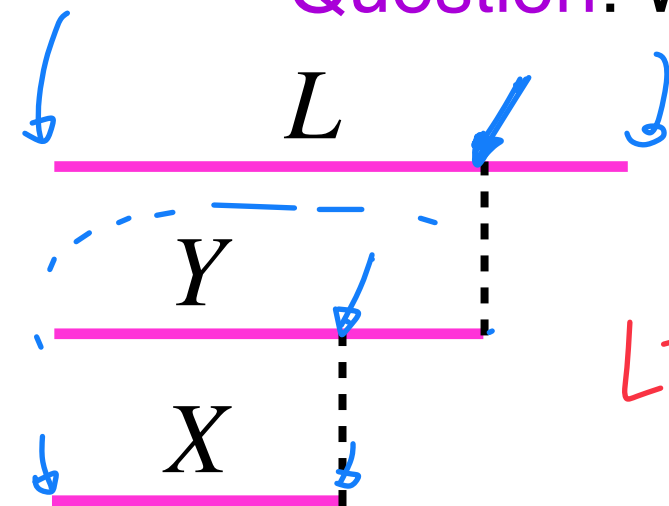


# Example: Breaking A Stick

$$g(y) = E[X | Y=y]$$

- ▶ **Example:** We are breaking a stick of length  $L$  at a point which is chosen uniformly over its length and keep the piece that contains the left end. Next, we repeat the process with the piece we have.

- ▶ **Question:** What is the expected length of the remaining stick?  $E[X]$ ?



$$E[X] \rightarrow \textcircled{1} f_{XY}(x,y) \rightarrow f_X(x)$$

$$\rightarrow \textcircled{2} E[E[X|Y]]$$

$$E[X] \stackrel{LIE}{=} E[\underbrace{E[X|Y]}_{g(Y)}] = E\left[\frac{1}{2} \cdot Y\right]$$

$$Y \sim \text{Unif}(0, L)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} L$$

$$= \frac{L}{4}$$

# Conditional PDF (Formally)

- **Conditional PDF:** Let  $X, Y$  be two continuous random variables with joint PDF  $f_{XY}(x, y)$ . When  $f_Y(y) > 0$ , the conditional PDF of  $X$  given  $Y = y$  is

$$f_{X|Y}(x|y) = \frac{f_{XY}(x, y)}{f_Y(y)}$$

- **Question:** Conditional PDF of  $Y$  given  $X = x$ ?

$$f_{Y|X}(y|x) = \frac{f_{XY}(x, y)}{f_X(x)}$$

# Example: Find Conditional PDF From Joint PDF

► **Example:**

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} 2 & , \text{ if } 0 < y < x < 1 \\ 0 & , \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

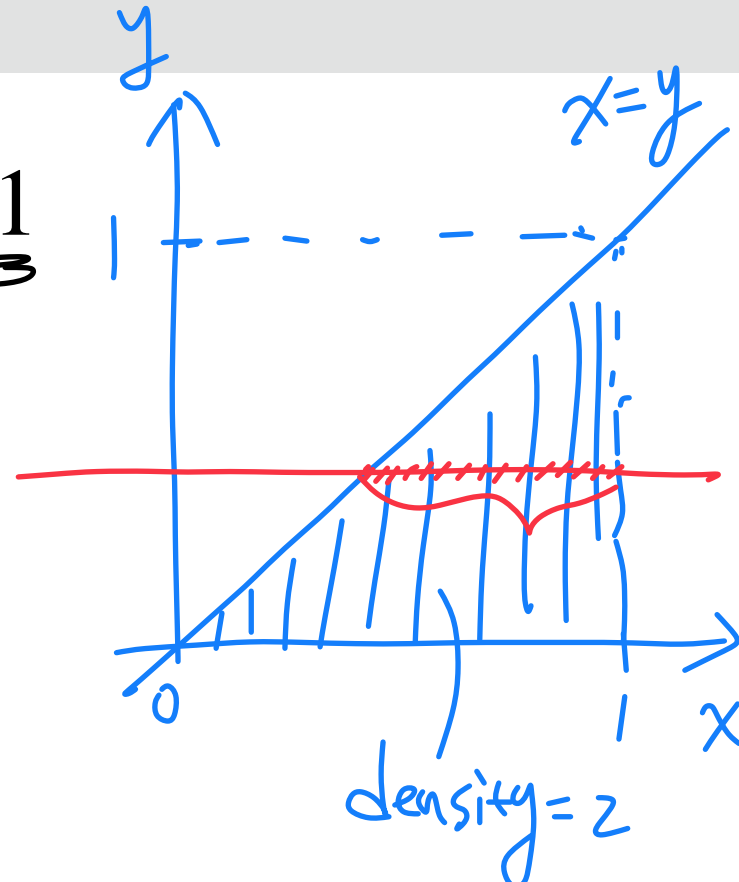
►  $f_{X|Y}(x|y) = ?$

$$f_{X|Y}(x|y) = \frac{f_{XY}(x, y)}{f_Y(y)} \quad (0 < y < 1).$$

← marginal PDF

$$= \begin{cases} 0 & , \quad x \leq y \text{ or } x \geq 1 \\ \frac{2}{2(1-y)} & , \quad \underline{y < x < 1} \end{cases}$$

$$f_Y(y) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f_{XY}(x, y) dx = \int_y^1 2 \cdot dx = 2x \Big|_y^1 = 2(1-y)$$





# Expected Value Regarding 2 Random Variables

# Recall: LOTUS for 1 Discrete Random Variable

## Expected Value of a Function of Discrete R.V.:

1. Let  $X$  be a discrete random variable with
  - the set of possible values  $S$
  - PMF of  $X$  is  $p_X(x)$
2. Let  $g(\cdot)$  be a real-valued function

The expectation of  $g(X)$  is

$$E[g(X)] = \sum_{x \in S} \underline{g(x)} \cdot \underline{p_X(x)}$$

# LOTUS for 2 Discrete Random Variables

## Expected Value of a Function of 2 Discrete RVs:

1. Let  $X, Y$  be 2 discrete random variables with sets of possible values  $S_X, S_Y$  and joint PMF  $p(x, y)$

2. Let  $g(\cdot, \cdot)$  be a function from  $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

The expected value of  $g(X, Y)$  is

$$E[g(X, Y)] = \sum_{\text{all } z} z \cdot \underline{p_z(z)} = \sum_{\substack{x \in S_X \\ y \in S_Y}} g(x, y) \cdot \underline{p(x, y)}$$

LOTUS for 2 random variables  
↓  
joint PMF

# Example: Using Joint PMF to Find Expected Value

$$g(x, y) = x + y$$

## ► Example: Bus #2 (NCTU - Mackay - Train Station)

- $X$  = traveling time from NCTU to Mackay
- $Y$  = traveling time from Mackay to Train Station
- $E[X + Y] = ?$



Joint PMF	X=10	X=15	X=20
Y=10	0.1	0.1	0.05
Y=15	0.1	0.3	0.1
Y=20	0.05	0.1	0.1

$$E[X+Y] \quad \text{LOTUS for 2 r.v.s}$$

$$= \sum_{\substack{x=10,15,20 \\ y=10,15,20}} (x+y) \cdot P_{XY}(x,y)$$

$$= \left( 20 \times 0.1 + 25 \times 0.1 + 30 \times 0.05 \right) \\ + \left( 25 \times 0.1 + 30 \times 0.3 + 35 \times 0.1 \right) \\ + \left( 30 \times 0.05 + 35 \times 0.1 + 40 \times 0.1 \right)$$

# Useful Property (I)

Recall:

$$E[\alpha X + \beta] = \alpha \cdot E[X] + \beta$$

## ► Linearity Property:

$$E[\alpha \cdot g_1(X, Y) + \beta \cdot g_2(X, Y)] = \alpha E[g_1(X, Y)] + \beta E[g_2(X, Y)]$$

- Remark:  $X, Y$  are NOT required to be independent
- Remark: This results holds for both discrete and continuous cases
- Proof:

LOTUS

# Useful Property (II)

$g, h = \text{two functions}$

- **Property under Independence:** Suppose  $X, Y$  are independent random variables. Then, we have

$$E[\underline{g(X)} \cdot h(Y)] = \underline{E[g(X)]} \cdot \underline{E[h(Y)]}$$

$g(x) = x$   
 $h(y) = y$

- **Remark:** This result holds for both discrete and continuous cases

(Assume discrete cases).

- **Proof:**

$$\begin{aligned} E[g(X) \cdot h(Y)] &= \sum_{\text{all } x} \sum_{\text{all } y} (g(x)h(y)) \cdot \underline{P_{XY}(x, y)} \\ &= \sum_{\text{all } x} \underline{g(x) \cdot P_X(x)} \left( \sum_{\text{all } y} \underline{h(y) \cdot P_Y(y)} \right) \quad \times E[h(Y)] \\ &= \sum_{\text{all } x} g(x) \cdot P_X(x) \underline{E[h(Y)]} = E[g(X)] \cdot E[h(Y)] \end{aligned}$$

# $E[XY] = E[X]E[Y]$ If $X, Y$ Are Independent

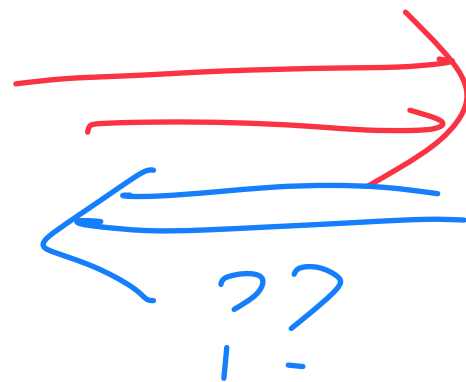
**Corollary:** Let  $X, Y$  be 2 independent random variables. Then,

$$\underline{E[XY] = E[X]E[Y]}$$

$$\begin{aligned} g(x) &= x \\ h(y) &= y \end{aligned}$$

► **Question:** How about the reverse argument?

$X, Y$  independent



$$E[XY] = E[X] \cdot E[Y]$$

$$E[XY] = E[X]E[Y] \not\Rightarrow X, Y \text{ Independent}$$

- ▶ **Example:** Let  $X$  be a discrete random variable with  $P(X = 1) = P(X = -1) = 0.5$ .
- ▶ Define  $Y = |X|$
- ▶  $E[X] = ?$   $E[Y] = ?$
- ▶  $E[XY] = ?$
- ▶ Are  $X, Y$  independent?



$$X = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{3} \\ -1, & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{3} \\ 0, & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{3} \end{cases}$$

$$E[X] = 0$$

$$E[Y] = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$E[XY] = E[X] \cdot E[Y]$$

$$E[XY] = 0$$

$X, Y$  independent?? NOT!

$$Y = |X|$$

$$XY = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{3} \\ -1, & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{3} \\ 0, & \text{w.p. } \frac{1}{3} \end{cases}$$

# More on $E[XY]$ : Cauchy-Schwarz Inequality

- **Recall:** Cauchy Inequality in high school

- **Cauchy-Schwarz Inequality:** Let  $X, Y$  be two random variables. Then, we have

$$E[X^2] \cdot E[Y^2] \geq (E[XY])^2$$

- **Question:** Under what condition do we have “=”?

# Proof of Cauchy-Schwarz Inequality

$$E[X^2] \cdot E[Y^2] \geq (E[XY])^2$$

- ▶ **Hint:** Start from that  $E[(tX + Y)^2] \geq 0$
- ▶ **Proof:**

# Bivariate Normal Random Variables

# Example: 2 Independent Normal Random Variables

- ▶ **Example:**  $X_1 \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_1, \sigma_1^2)$  and  $X_2 \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_2, \sigma_2^2)$ 
  - ▶ Suppose  $X_1, X_2$  are independent.
  - ▶ What is the joint PDF? How to plot the contour?

# Joint PDF of 2 Independent Normal R.V.s (Formally)

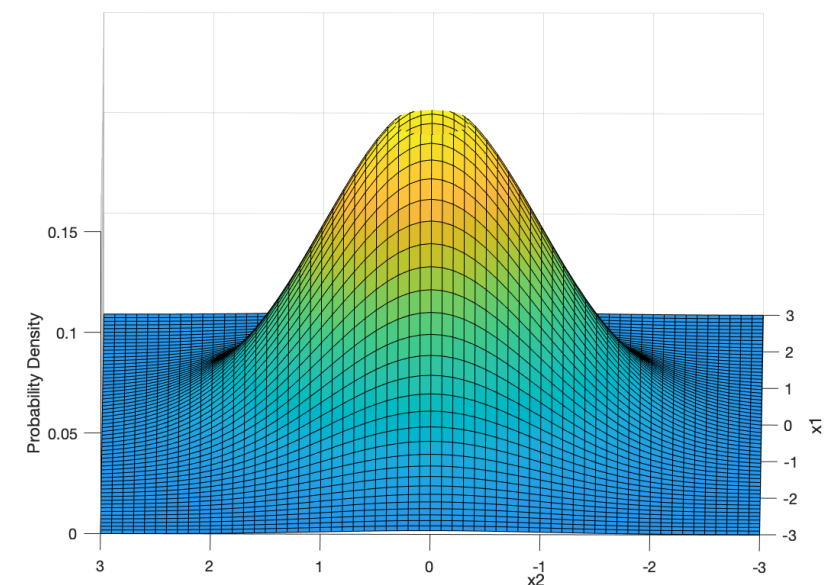
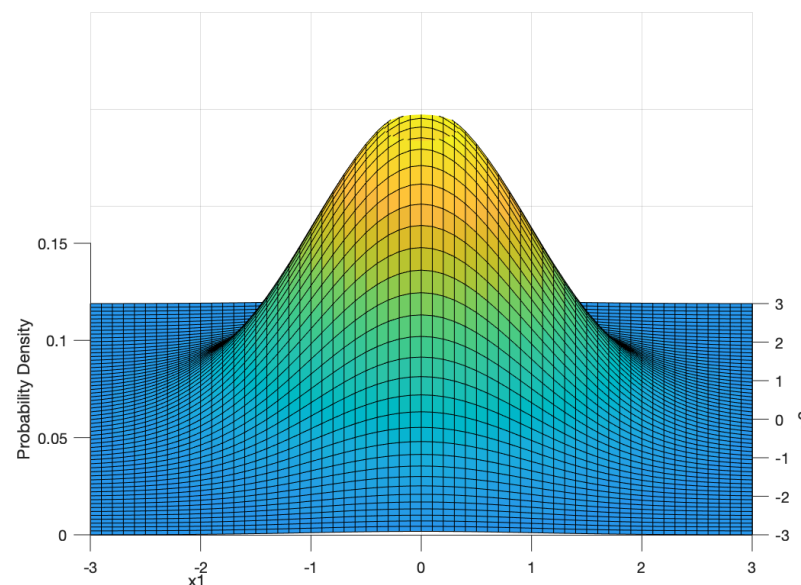
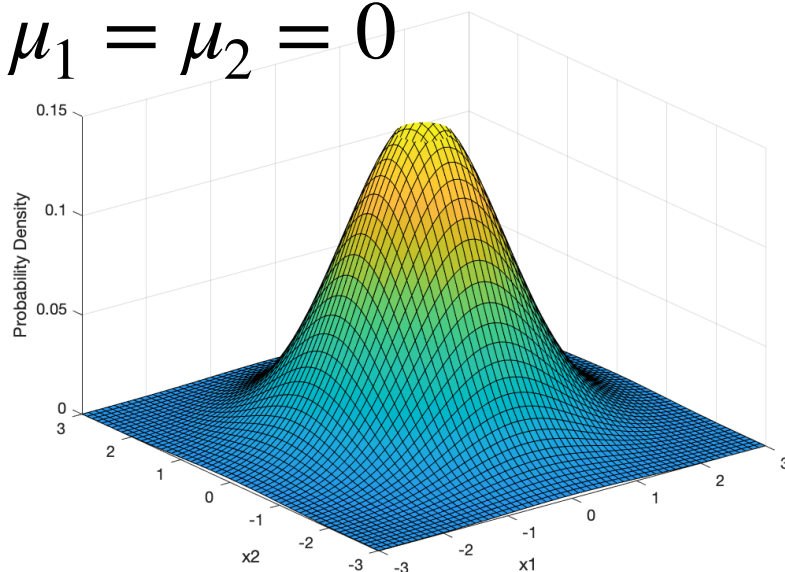
- ▶ **Given:**  $X_1 \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_1, \sigma_1^2)$  and  $X_2 \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_2, \sigma_2^2)$
- ▶ Suppose  $X_1, X_2$  are independent.

- ▶ **Joint PDF of 2 Independent Normal:**

$$f_{X_1 X_2}(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma_1\sigma_2} \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{(x_1 - \mu_1)^2}{\sigma_1^2} + \frac{(x_2 - \mu_2)^2}{\sigma_2^2} \right) \right]$$

$$\sigma_1 = \sigma_2 = 1$$

$$\mu_1 = \mu_2 = 0$$



## 2 Independent Normal: Matrix Form

- **Joint PDF of 2 Independent Normal:**

$$f_{X_1X_2}(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma_1\sigma_2} \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{(x_1 - \mu_1)^2}{\sigma_1^2} + \frac{(x_2 - \mu_2)^2}{\sigma_2^2} \right) \right]$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \updownarrow \\ \Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1^2 & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_2^2 \end{bmatrix} \\ x = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}, \mu = \begin{bmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \end{bmatrix} \end{array}$$

- **Joint PDF of 2 Independent Normal:**

$$f_{X_1X_2}(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{|\det(\Sigma)|}} \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2}(x - \mu)^T \Sigma^{-1}(x - \mu) \right]$$

One natural question:

Is it possible to construct a  
“jointly normal r.v.” from  
“2 non-independent normal r.v.s”?



# Construction of Bivariate Normal R.V.

- **Idea:** Let  $Z, W$  be 2 independent standard normal r.v.s and  $\rho \in [-1, 1]$ . Define two random variables

$$X_1 = \sigma_1 Z + \mu_1$$

$$X_2 = \sigma_2 \left( \rho Z + \sqrt{1 - \rho^2} W \right) + \mu_2$$

- **Question:** Is it possible to find the joint PDF of  $X_1, X_2$ ?

$$f_{X_1 X_2}(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma_1\sigma_2\sqrt{1-\rho^2}} \exp \left[ -\frac{\left( \frac{(x_1 - \mu_1)^2}{\sigma_1^2} - 2\rho \frac{(x_1 - \mu_1)(x_2 - \mu_2)}{\sigma_1\sigma_2} + \frac{(x_2 - \mu_2)^2}{\sigma_2^2} \right)}{2(1 - \rho^2)} \right]$$

# Bivariate Normal R.V.s (Formally)

- **Bivariate Normal:**  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are said to be bivariate normal random variables if the joint PDF of  $X_1, X_2$  is

$$f_{X_1X_2}(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma_1\sigma_2\sqrt{1-\rho^2}} \exp \left[ -\frac{\left( \frac{(x_1 - \mu_1)^2}{\sigma_1^2} - 2\rho \frac{(x_1 - \mu_1)(x_2 - \mu_2)}{\sigma_1\sigma_2} + \frac{(x_2 - \mu_2)^2}{\sigma_2^2} \right)}{2(1 - \rho^2)} \right]$$

The joint PDF can be written in matrix form as

$$f_{X_1X_2}(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{|\det(\Sigma)|}} \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2}(x - \mu)^T \Sigma^{-1}(x - \mu) \right]$$

where

$$\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1^2 & \rho\sigma_1\sigma_2 \\ \rho\sigma_1\sigma_2 & \sigma_2^2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad x = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mu = \begin{bmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Notation for bivariate normal:  $\begin{bmatrix} X_1 \\ X_2 \end{bmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma)$

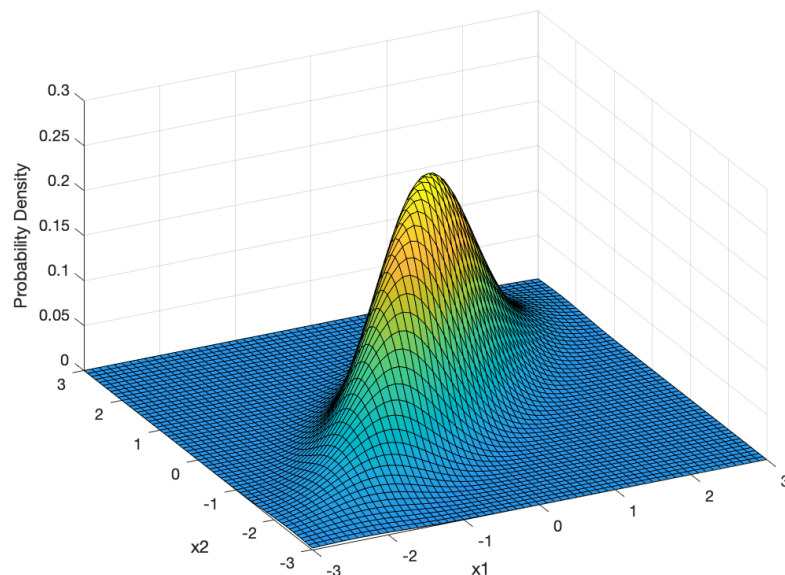
# Plotting the Joint PDF Bivariate Normal

## ► Joint PDF of Bivariate Normal:

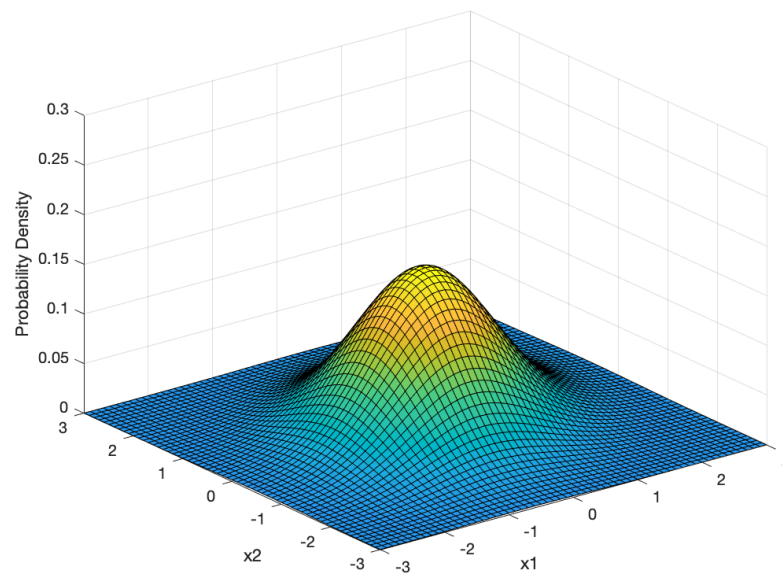
$$f_{X_1X_2}(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma_1\sigma_2\sqrt{1-\rho^2}} \exp \left[ -\frac{\left( \frac{(x_1 - \mu_1)^2}{\sigma_1^2} - 2\rho \frac{(x_1 - \mu_1)(x_2 - \mu_2)}{\sigma_1\sigma_2} + \frac{(x_2 - \mu_2)^2}{\sigma_2^2} \right)}{2(1 - \rho^2)} \right]$$

## ► Example: $\sigma_1 = \sigma_2 = 1, \mu_1 = \mu_2 = 0$

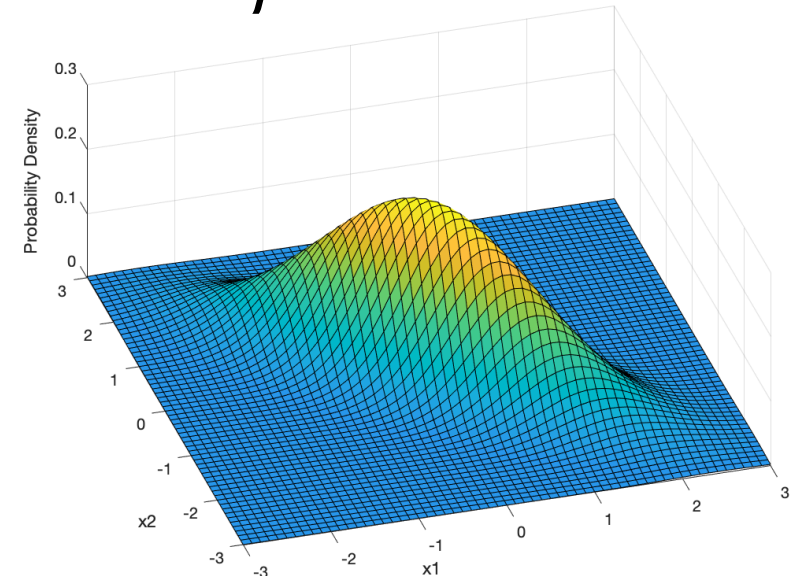
$\rho = 0.8$



$\rho = 0.2$



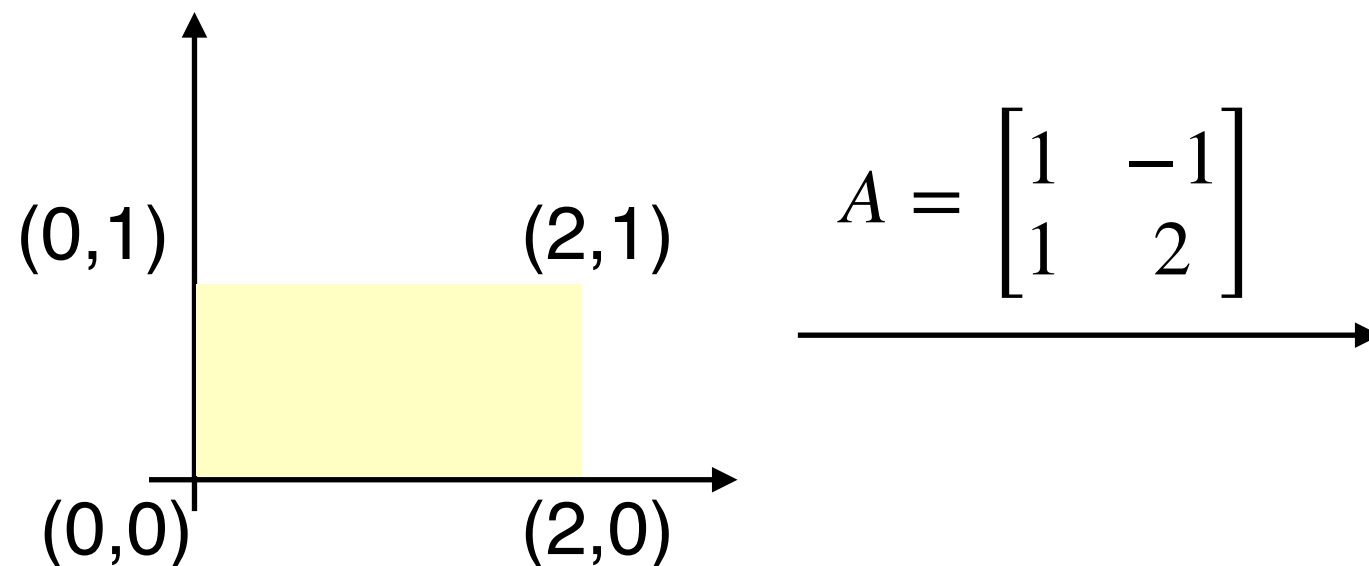
$\rho = -0.8$



# Linear Transformation of 2 Random Variables

- **Theorem:** Let  $U_1, U_2, V_1, V_2$  be random variables that satisfy  $V_1 = aU_1 + bU_2$  and  $V_2 = cU_1 + dU_2$ . Define the matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$ . Then, we have 
$$f_{V_1 V_2}(v_1, v_2) = \frac{1}{|\det(A)|} f_{U_1 U_2}(A^{-1}[v_1, v_2]^T)$$

- **Intuition:**



# Bivariate Normal and Linear Transformation

- For simplicity, assume  $\mu_1 = \mu_2 = 0$  (can be handled via translation)

$$\begin{aligned} X_1 &= \sigma_1 Z \\ X_2 &= \sigma_2 \left( \rho Z + \sqrt{1 - \rho^2} W \right) \end{aligned} \quad f_{X_1 X_2}(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{|\det(A)|} f_{ZW}(A^{-1}[x_1, x_2]^T)$$

# 1-Minute Summary

## 1. Conditional Distributions

- Conditional PMF / PDF
- Law of iterated expectation (LIE):  $E[E[X | Y]] = E[X]$

## 2. Expected Value Regarding 2 Random Variables

- LOTUS for 2 random variables
- $E[XY] = E[X]E[Y]$  under independence
- Cauchy-Schwarz:  $E[X^2] \cdot E[Y^2] \geq (E[XY])^2$

## 3. Bivariate Normal Random Variables

- Linear transformation of 2 random variables