



Expectation  
1/8

D.E. Brown

Moments

Mean

Variance

# Probability Review 4 - Expectation and Moments of Random Variables

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# Agenda

Expectation

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Moments

Mean

Variance

- 1 Moments of a Random Variable
  - Mean
  - Variance



# Expectation of a Discrete Random Variable

Expectation

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Moments

Mean

Variance

- Discrete random variable

$$E[X] = \sum_{x:p(x)>0} x p(x)$$



# Expectation of a Discrete Random Variable

Expectation

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Moments

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Variance

- Discrete random variable

$$E[X] = \sum_{x:p(x)>0} x p(x)$$

- Bernoulli:  $E[X] = p$



# Expectation of a Discrete Random Variable

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- Discrete random variable

$$E[X] = \sum_{x:p(x)>0} xp(x)$$

- Bernoulli:  $E[X] = p$
- Binomial:  $E[X] = np$



# Expectation of a Discrete Random Variable

Expectation

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Moments

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- Discrete random variable

$$E[X] = \sum_{x:p(x)>0} xp(x)$$

- Bernoulli:  $E[X] = p$
- Binomial:  $E[X] = np$
- Poisson:  $E[X] = \lambda$



# Expectation of a Continuous Random Variable

Expectation  
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Moments

Mean

Variance

- Continuous random variable

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



# Expectation of a Continuous Random Variable

Expectation

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D.E. Brown

Moments

Mean

Variance

- Continuous random variable

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

- If  $X$  is uniform  $(a, b)$ , what is  $E[X]$ ?





# Expectation of a Continuous Random Variable

Expectation

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- Continuous random variable

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

- If  $X$  is uniform  $(a, b)$ , what is  $E[X]$ ?
- Uniform  $(a, b)$ :  $E[X] = \frac{b+a}{2}$



# Expectation of a Continuous Random Variable

Expectation

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- Continuous random variable

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

- If  $X$  is uniform  $(a, b)$ , what is  $E[X]$ ?
- Uniform  $(a, b)$ :  $E[X] = \frac{b+a}{2}$
- Beta  $E[X] = \frac{a}{a+b}$



# Expectation of a Continuous Random Variable

Expectation

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- Continuous random variable

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

- If  $X$  is uniform  $(a, b)$ , what is  $E[X]$ ?
- Uniform  $(a, b)$ :  $E[X] = \frac{b+a}{2}$
- Beta  $E[X] = \frac{a}{a+b}$
- Gamma:  $E[X] = \frac{\alpha}{\lambda}$



# Expectation of a Continuous Random Variable

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

- If  $X$  is uniform  $(a, b)$ , what is  $E[X]$ ?
- Uniform  $(a, b)$ :  $E[X] = \frac{b+a}{2}$
- Beta  $E[X] = \frac{a}{a+b}$
- Gamma:  $E[X] = \frac{\alpha}{\lambda}$
- Gaussian:  $E[X] = \mu$



# Expectation of a Continuous Random Variable

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- Continuous random variable

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

- If  $X$  is uniform  $(a, b)$ , what is  $E[X]$ ?
- Uniform  $(a, b)$ :  $E[X] = \frac{b+a}{2}$
- Beta  $E[X] = \frac{a}{a+b}$
- Gamma:  $E[X] = \frac{\alpha}{\lambda}$
- Gaussian:  $E[X] = \mu$
- t Distribution:  $E[X] = \mu, \nu > 1$



# Expectation of the Function of a Random Variable

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Moments

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- Assume a real valued function  $g(\cdot)$



# Expectation of the Function of a Random Variable

Expectation

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Moments

Mean

Variance

- Assume a real valued function  $g(\cdot)$
- Discrete case:

$$E[g(X)] = \sum_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x)p(x)$$



# Expectation of the Function of a Random Variable

Expectation  
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D.E. Brown

Moments

Mean

Variance

- Assume a real valued function  $g(\cdot)$
- Discrete case:

$$E[g(X)] = \sum_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x)p(x)$$

- Continuous case:

$$E[g(X)] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x)f(x)$$





# Expectation of the Function of a Random Variable

Expectation  
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D.E. Brown

Moments

Mean

Variance

- Assume a real valued function  $g(\cdot)$
- Discrete case:

$$E[g(X)] = \sum_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x)p(x)$$

- Continuous case:

$$E[g(X)] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x)f(x)$$

- Find  $E[X^3]$  for  $X \sim U(0, 1)$



# Variance of a Discrete Random Variable

Expectation

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Moments

Mean

Variance

- Variance

$$\text{Var}[X] = \sum_{x:p(x)>0} (x - E[X])^2 p(x)$$



# Variance of a Discrete Random Variable

Expectation

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D.E. Brown

Moments

Mean

Variance

- Variance

$$\text{Var}[X] = \sum_{x:p(x)>0} (x - E[X])^2 p(x)$$

- Bernoulli:  $\text{Var}[X] = p(1 - p)$



# Variance of a Discrete Random Variable

Expectation

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D.E. Brown

Moments

Mean

Variance

- Variance

$$\text{Var}[X] = \sum_{x:p(x)>0} (x - E[X])^2 p(x)$$

- Bernoulli:  $\text{Var}[X] = p(1 - p)$
- Binomial:  $\text{Var}[X] = np(1 - p)$



# Variance of a Discrete Random Variable

Expectation

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D.E. Brown

Moments

Mean

Variance

- Variance

$$\text{Var}[X] = \sum_{x:p(x)>0} (x - E[X])^2 p(x)$$

- Bernoulli:  $\text{Var}[X] = p(1 - p)$
- Binomial:  $\text{Var}[X] = np(1 - p)$
- Poisson:  $\text{Var}[X] = \lambda$



# Variance of a Continuous Random Variable

Expectation

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Moments

Mean

Variance

- Variance

$$\text{Var}[X] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x - E[X])^2 f(x) dx$$



# Variance of a Continuous Random Variable

Expectation

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D.E. Brown

Moments

Mean

Variance

- Variance

$$\text{Var}[X] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x - E[X])^2 f(x) dx$$

- Uniform  $(a, b)$ :  $\text{Var}[X] = \frac{b+a}{12}$



# Variance of a Continuous Random Variable

Expectation

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Moments

Mean

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- Variance

$$\text{Var}[X] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x - E[X])^2 f(x) dx$$

- Uniform  $(a, b)$ :  $\text{Var}[X] = \frac{b+a}{12}$
- Beta  $\text{Var}[X] = \frac{ab}{(a+b)^2(a+b+1)}$





# Variance of a Continuous Random Variable

Expectation

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$$\text{Var}[X] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x - E[X])^2 f(x) dx$$

- Uniform  $(a, b)$ :  $\text{Var}[X] = \frac{b+a}{12}$
- Beta  $\text{Var}[X] = \frac{ab}{(a+b)^2(a+b+1)}$
- Gamma:  $\text{Var}[X] = \frac{\alpha}{\lambda^2}$



# Variance of a Continuous Random Variable

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$$\text{Var}[X] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x - E[X])^2 f(x) dx$$

- Uniform  $(a, b)$ :  $\text{Var}[X] = \frac{b+a}{12}$
- Beta  $\text{Var}[X] = \frac{ab}{(a+b)^2(a+b+1)}$
- Gamma:  $\text{Var}[X] = \frac{\alpha}{\lambda^2}$
- Gaussian:  $\text{Var}[X] = \sigma^2$



# Variance of a Continuous Random Variable

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$$\text{Var}[X] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x - E[X])^2 f(x) dx$$

- Uniform  $(a, b)$ :  $\text{Var}[X] = \frac{b+a}{12}$
- Beta  $\text{Var}[X] = \frac{ab}{(a+b)^2(a+b+1)}$
- Gamma:  $\text{Var}[X] = \frac{\alpha}{\lambda^2}$
- Gaussian:  $\text{Var}[X] = \sigma^2$
- t Distribution:  $\text{Var}[X] = \hat{\sigma}^2 \frac{\nu}{\nu-2}, \nu > 2$



# Useful Formulas

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Mean

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- Standard Deviation:  $Std[X] \equiv (Var[X])^{\frac{1}{2}}$



# Useful Formulas

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Moments

Mean

Variance

- Standard Deviation:  $Std[X] \equiv (Var[X])^{\frac{1}{2}}$
- Second Moment:  $E[X^2] = (E[X])^2 + Var[X]$