1 Motivation

This package is meant to simplify and streamline many of the basic tools in probability theory and statistics, such as Venn diagrams, histograms, point mass functions, and such. It relies heavily on `TikZ`.

2 Configuration

To prevent side-effects of asymmetric scaling when using `xscale` and `yscale` options of the `tikzpicture` environment (e.g., circles will may be stretched and become ellipses), this package implements its own scaling system.

It may be reset to the default unit scale by using the

$$\texttt{\textbackslash mayberesetscale}$$

command (no arguments), or set to an arbitrary value by using the

$$\texttt{\textbackslash maybesetscale}\{\langle\texttt{xscale}\rangle\}\{\langle\texttt{yscale}\rangle\}$$

command. Setting the scale to negative value(s) achieves reflection.

The current values of the scales may be retrieved through the `\maybexscale` and `\maybeyscale` commands that take no arguments.

3 Styling

Each command utilizing TikZ has options for styling. Some are specific to a particular command, while others are universal. Whenever there are labels (nodes) involved, one could use

$$\texttt{\textbackslash maybesetnodestyle}\{\langle\texttt{style}\rangle\}$$

to set or override the style of the node(s).

To prevent accidents while mixing pure numbers and units in TiKZ, every option that ignores `\maybexscale` and `\maybeyscale` is implemented through `xshift` and `yshift`, respectively.

4 Axes

Drawing an axis may be achieved by either

$$\texttt{\textbackslash maybeHAxis}[\langle\texttt{label}\rangle]\{\langle\texttt{xcoordinates}\rangle\}\{\langle\texttt{ylocation}\rangle\},$$

which produces a horizontal axis with an optional label, or

$$\texttt{\textbackslash maybeVAxis}[\langle\texttt{label}\rangle]\{\langle\texttt{ycoordinates}\rangle\}\{\langle\texttt{xlocation}\rangle\}.$$
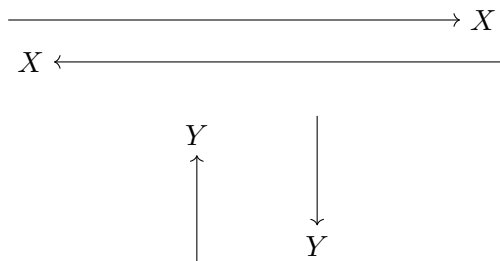
In each case the `coordinates` have to be a comma-separated list, and the axis will run from min(`coordinates`) to max(`coordinates`). The line will be extended by the absolute amount (not affected by \maybexscale or \maybeyscale), which is defined by

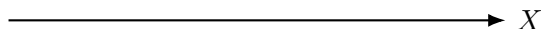$$\verb|\maybe@xaxisextendfrom|, \verb|\maybe@xaxisextendto|$$

for the horizontal axis, and

$$\verb|\maybe@yaxisextendfrom|, \verb|\maybe@yaxisextendto|$$

for the vertical axes.

The style of the axis may be changed by calling the \maybesetaxisstyle command.

Axis labels and ticks. To add labels/ticks to the horizontal or vertical axis, use the

$$\verb|\maybeHLabels|[\langle\text{xlabels}\rangle]\{\langle\text{xcoordinates}\rangle\}\{\langle\text{ylocation}\rangle\}$$
$$\verb|\maybeHTicks|\{\langle\text{xcoordinates}\rangle\}\{\langle\text{ylocation}\rangle\}$$

or

$$\verb|\maybeVLabels|[\langle\text{ylabels}\rangle]\{\langle\text{ycoordinates}\rangle\}\{\langle\text{xlocation}\rangle\}$$
$$\verb|\maybeVTicks|\{\langle\text{ycoordinates}\rangle\}\{\langle\text{xlocation}\rangle\}$$

commands, respectively. Labels default to the coordinates specified. Tick position may be changed by calling \maybeticksabove, \maybeticksbelow, or \maybetickscenter.
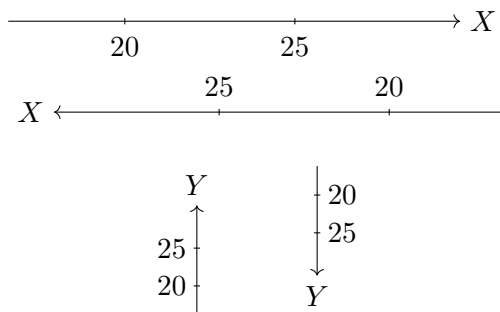
5 Visualizing Data

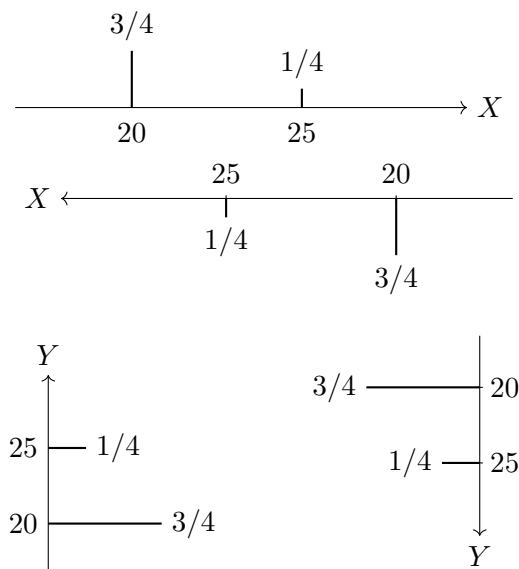**Point mass functions.** To add vertical or horizontal bars to a graph, use the

$\maybeVBars[\langle barlabels\rangle]\{\langle xcoordinates\rangle\}\{\langle barlengths\rangle\}\{\langle ylocation\rangle\}$

or

$\maybeHBars[\langle barlabels\rangle]\{\langle ycoordinates\rangle\}\{\langle barlengths\rangle\}\{\langle xlocation\rangle\}$

commands, respectively. Labels default to the lengths specified.

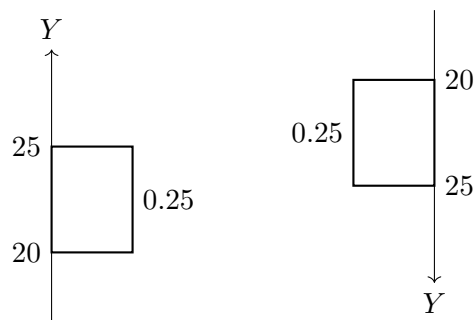**Histograms.** To add a vertical or horizontal histogram rectangle to a graph, use the

$\maybeVHistBar[\langle label\rangle]\{\langle xcoordinates\rangle\}\{\langle ylocation\rangle\}\{\langle area\rangle\}$

or

$\maybeHHistBar[\langle label\rangle]\{\langle ycoordinates\rangle\}\{\langle xlocation\rangle\}\{\langle area\rangle\}$

commands, respectively. Label defaults to the area specified.

3
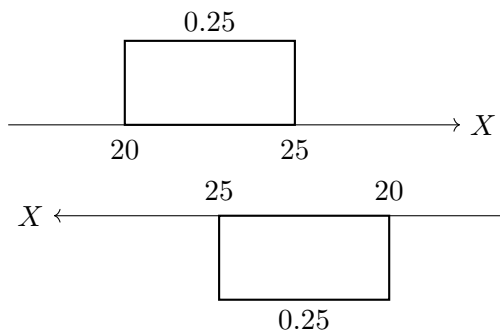
Box-plots. To add a horizontal or vertical box-plot to a graph, use the

$$\text{\textbackslash maybeHBoxPlot}\{\langle\text{min, Q1, Q2, Q3, max}\rangle\}\{\langle\text{ylocation}\rangle\}\{\langle\text{height}\rangle\}$$

or

$$\text{\textbackslash maybeVBoxPlot}\{\langle\text{min, Q1, Q2, Q3, max}\rangle\}\{\langle\text{xlocation}\rangle\}\{\langle\text{width}\rangle\}$$

commands, respectively.