

## MITx: 6.041x Introduction to Probability - The Science of Uncertainty

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Unit overview

Lec. 11: Derived distributions

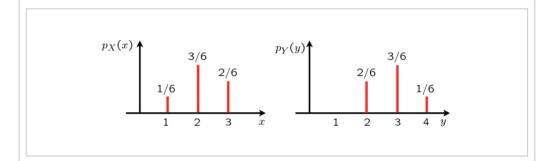
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## Exercise: Linear functions of discrete r.v.'s

(2/2 points)

The random variables  $\boldsymbol{X}$  and  $\boldsymbol{Y}$  obey a linear relation of the form Y = aX + b and have the PMFs shown in the diagram. Find the values of  $\boldsymbol{a}$  and  $\boldsymbol{b}$ .





## Answer:

Because the entries of the PMF of Y appear in the opposite order than the entries of the PMF of X, we know that a has to be negative. Furthermore, the spread of the PMF of  $oldsymbol{Y}$  is the same as the spread of the PMF of X, and therefore, a=-1. The random variable -Xtakes values in the set  $\{-3, -2, -1\}$ . To obtain the given PMF of Y, we need to shift it (to the right) by b = 5.

You have used 1 of 2 submissions

Lec. 12: Sums of independent r.v.'s; Covariance and correlation

Exercises 12 due Mar 30, 2016 at 23:59 UT @

Lec. 13: Conditional expectation and variance revisited; Sum of a random number of independent r.v.'s Exercises 13 due Mar 30, 2016 at 23:59 UT @

Solved problems

**Additional** theoretical material

Problem Set 6 Problem Set 6 due Mar 30, 2016 at 23:59 UT 🗗

**Unit summary** 

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