

## Introduction

### De Morgan's Laws

1.  $(A \cup B)^C = A^C \cap B^C$
2.  $(A \cap B)^C = A^C \cup B^C$

### The 3 axioms of Probability

1. For every event  $E \subset S$ ,  $P(E) \geq 0$
2.  $P(S) = 1$
3. If  $E_1, E_2, \dots$  is a sequence of events such that  $E_i \cap E_j = \emptyset \ \forall i \neq j$ , then

$$P \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} E_i = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(E_i)$$

### Introductory Theorems (Proofs not included):

1.  $P(E^C) = 1 - P(E)$
2.  $P(\emptyset) = 0$
3.  $P(E \cap F^C) = P(E) - P(E \cap F)$
4.  $E \subset F \Rightarrow P(E) \leq P(F)$
5.  $P(E \cup F) = P(E) + P(F) - P(E \cap F)$
6. If  $S$  is a finite sample space with  $N$  equally probable outcomes, and  $E$  is any event in  $S$ , then  $P(E) = |E|/N$

### Sausage rule:

Given a problem where we are asked to choose a sample of size  $n$  from a space with  $N$  objects where  $a$  are tagged, and we are asked to find the probability of the event where  $x$  of the sample will be tagged.

Define 2 "sausages", the first has as objects sets of  $x$  tagged objects that can be drawn from the  $a$  tagged objects, the second has as objects sets of  $n-x$  untagged objects that can be drawn from the  $N-a$  untagged objects. We wish to count the number of ways that we can draw objects from "sausage" 1 and "sausage" 2.

Therefore, this type of problem can be solved with:

$$\frac{\binom{a}{x} \binom{N-a}{n-x}}{\binom{N}{n}}$$

This later came to be known as a Hypergeometric Distribution.

## Conditional Probability

### Definition:

$$P(B|A) = P(B \cap A)/P(A)$$

By extension, we now have that

$$P(B \cap A) = P(B|A)P(A) = P(A|B)P(B)$$

### Conditional Probability Theorems (Proofs not included):

1.  $P(B|A) \geq 0 \quad \forall B$
2.  $P(S|A) = 1$
3. If  $B_1, B_2, \dots$  are disjoint events, then  $P(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} B_i|A) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(B_i|A)$
4.  $P(B^C|A) = 1 - P(B|A)$
5.  $A$  is any event. Define  $B_1, B_2, \dots, B_n$  such that
  - a.  $B_i \cap B_j = \emptyset \quad \forall i \neq j$
  - b.  $\bigcup_{i=1}^n B_i = S$

Then, we have that  $P(A) = \sum_{i=1}^n P(A|B_i)P(B_i)$

6.  $A$  is any event. Define  $B_1, B_2, \dots, B_n$  such that
  - a.  $B_i \cap B_j = \emptyset \quad \forall i \neq j$
  - b.  $\bigcup_{i=1}^n B_i = S$

Then, we have that  $P(B_k|A) = \frac{P(A|B_k)P(B_k)}{\sum_{j=1}^n P(A|B_j)P(B_j)} \quad \forall k = 1, 2, \dots, n$

This is known as Bayes' Theorem.

Definition:

1. Two events  $A$  and  $B$  are **independent** if  $P(B|A) = P(B)$  and/or  $P(A|B) = P(A)$ .
2. We may also say that these two events are **independent** if  $P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B)$ .
3. By extension, we may say that the events  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$  are **mutually independent** if  $P(\bigcap_{j=1}^k A_{ij}) = \prod_{j=1}^k P(A_{ij}) \quad \forall \text{ subsets } A_{i1}, A_{i2}, \dots, A_{ik} \text{ of } A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n \quad \forall k = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .
4. Given the same definition for subsets as seen above, we say that  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n$  are **pairwise independent** if  $P(A_{ij} \cap A_{ik}) = P(A_{ij})P(A_{ik}) \quad \forall A_{ij}, A_{ik}$ .
5. An infinite collection of events  $A_1, A_2, \dots$  is **independent** iff every finite collection of  $A_i$ s is independent according to Definition 3.

Related Theorems (Proofs not included):

1. If  $A$  and  $B$  are independent, then  $A^C$  and  $B^C$  are independent.
2. If  $A$  and  $B$  are disjoint, then they are independent iff either  $P(A) = 0$  or  $P(B) = 0$ .

## Random Variables

Definition:

Let  $S$  be a sample space with outcomes  $w$ . A **random variable** is defined to be a real-valued function  $X : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  s.t.  $X(w) \in \mathbb{R} \quad \forall w \in S$ .

The function of  $x$  given by  $P(X \in [-\infty, x]) = P(X \leq x)$  is the **cumulative distribution function of  $X$  (cdfs)**, it may be denoted as  $F_X(x)$ . cdfs have the following properties:

1.  $F_X(x)$  specifies probability distribution;
2. Define  $P(X \in A) = P(w : X(w) \in A)$ ;

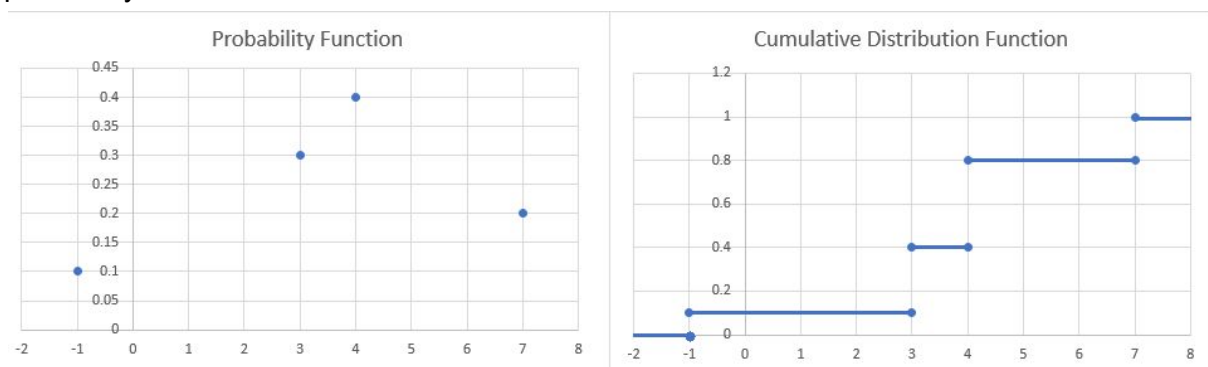
3.  $F_X(x)$  has a few basic properties:
  - a.  $F_X(x) \leq F_X(y)$  if  $x \leq y$ ;
  - b.  $F_X(\infty) = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} F_X(x) = 1$  and  $F_X(-\infty) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} F_X(x) = 0$ ;
  - c.  $F_X(x)$  need only be continuous from the right.

## Discrete Random Variables

Definition:

The real-valued function of  $x$  that gives  $P(X = x) \forall x$  in the range of  $X$  is called the **probability function of X**, denoted by  $p_X(x) = P(X = x)$ .

Illustrating the difference between the cumulative distribution function of  $X$  and the probability function of  $X$ :



On the probability function, we see that  $p_X(x_3) = P(X = x_3) = 0.4$

On the cumulative distribution function, we see that  $F_X(x_3) = P(X \in ]-\infty, x_3]) = P(X \leq x_3) = 0.8$

## Named Discrete Random Variable Distributions

1. Discrete Uniform Distribution

$$p_X(a_i) = P(X = a_i) = \frac{1}{N} \quad \forall 1 \leq i \leq N$$

Used to model complete randomness over a discrete set.

2. Bernoulli Distribution

$$p_X(x) = P(X = x) = p^x(1-p)^{1-x} \text{ for } 0 \leq p \leq 1 \text{ and } x = 0, 1$$

Used to describe random variables that take on one of two values.

3. Binomial Distribution

$$p_X(x) = P(X = x) = \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x} \text{ for } 0 \leq p \leq 1, x = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n$$

$$X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$$

Arises in the "Binomial Setup":

- a. We have  $n$  independent trials which each result in exactly one of two outcomes;
  - b. The probability of success on trial  $i$  is consistently  $p$ .
4. Poisson Distribution

$$p_X(x) = P(X = x) = \frac{\lambda^x e^{-\lambda}}{x!} \text{ for } x = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

This is an approximation to the Binomial Distribution. To be used when, in the Binomial definition,  $n$  is large and  $p$  is small, we define  $\lambda = np$ .

#### 5. Hypergeometric Distribution

$$p_X(x) = P(X = x) = \frac{\binom{a}{x} \binom{N-a}{n-x}}{\binom{N}{n}} \text{ for } x = 0, 1, \dots, \min\{a, n\}, \quad a \leq N, \quad n \leq N$$

Arises when sampling without replacement from a set of  $N$  objects:  $a$  are of type 1,  $N - a$  are of type 2, our desired sample has size  $n$ , and we want the probability of observing  $x$  of type 1 in our sample.

#### 6. Geometric Distribution

$$p_X(x) = P(X = x) = (1 - p)^{x-1} p \text{ for } x = 1, 2, \dots$$

Arises when, given a sequence of independent and consistent Bernoulli trials,  $X$  denotes the trial number at which the first success is observed.

#### 7. Negative Binomial Distribution

$$p_X(x) = P(X = x) = \binom{x-1}{k-1} p^k (1-p)^{x-k} \text{ for } x = k, k+1, \dots$$

Arises when, given a sequence of independent and consistent Bernoulli trials,  $X$  denotes the trial number at which the  $k^{\text{th}}$  success is observed.

### Mathematical Expectation and Variance of a Discrete Random Variable

Definition:

The **Expected Value (or mean) of a discrete random variable  $X$**  is defined as

$$E(X) = \sum_{x: x \text{ is in the range of } X} x p_X(x) = \sum_{x: x \text{ is in the range of } X} x P(X = x)$$

$$E(X) = \mu$$

This is a weighted average of the values of  $X$ .

$E(X)$  has the following properties:

a) For some constant  $c$ ,  $E(cX) = cE(X)$

b) For some set of random variables  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$ ,  $E\left(\sum_{i=1}^n X_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^n E(X_i)$

Definition:

The **Variance of a discrete random variable  $X$**  is defined as

$$Var(X) = \sigma_X^2 = E(X - \mu)^2 = \sum_{all\ x} (x - \mu)^2 P(X = x) = E(X^2) - \mu^2$$

The variance is the average of the squared distance of  $X$  from  $\mu$ .

$\sigma$  is the **standard deviation of a random variable**.

$$E(X^2) \geq E(X)^2 \text{ and } E(XY) \neq E(X)E(Y) \text{ (in general).}$$

### Expectation and Variance of Some Above-Named Distributions:

### 1. Discrete Uniform Distribution

$$E(X) = \sum_{i=1}^N a_i \frac{1}{N}$$

$$Var(X) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (a_i - \sum_{j=1}^N (a_j \frac{1}{N}))^2 = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (a_i - E(X))^2$$

### 2. Bernoulli Distribution

$$E(X) = 1 \cdot p + 0 \cdot (1 - p) = p$$

$$Var(X) = E(X^2) - p^2 = p(1 - p)$$

### 3. Binomial Distribution

$$E(X) = np$$

$$Var(X) = np(1 - p)$$

### 4. Poisson Distribution

$$E(X) = \lambda$$

$$Var(X) = \lambda$$

### 5. Geometric Distribution

$$E(X) = \frac{1}{p}$$

$$Var(X) = \frac{1-p}{p^2}$$

Useful property:

$$E(X(X-1)) = E(X^2) - E(X)$$

$$Var(X) = E(X(X-1)) + E(X) - E(X)^2$$

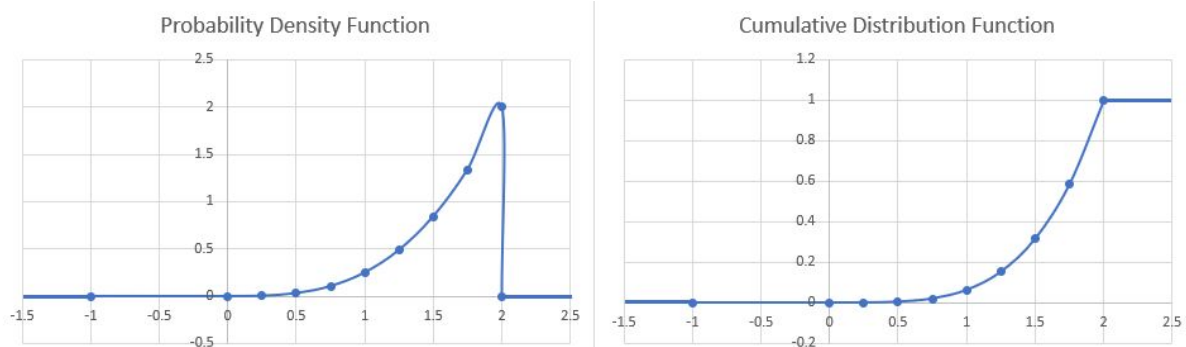
## Continuous Random Variables:

Definition:

A random variable  $X$  is said to be **continuous** if its **cumulative distribution function**  $F_X(x) = P(X \leq x)$  is a continuous function over all real values of  $x$ . As a consequence,  $P(X = x) = 0$ .

The **probability density function**  $f_X(x)$  of a random variable  $X$  is a function with the following property:  $P(X \leq x) = F_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f_X(y) dy$ . Note that  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_X(y) dy = 1$

Illustrating the difference between **cumulative distribution function** and **probability density function**:



Where  $f_X(x) = \frac{x^3}{4}$  when  $0 \leq x \leq 2$ ,  $f_X(x) = 0$  otherwise.

Note: if we are given a real function  $g(x) \geq 0$ , we may convert it a probability density function

$$f_X(x) \text{ with } f_X(x) = \frac{g(x)}{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x)dx}$$

### Mathematical Expectation and Variance of a Continuous Random Variable

Definition:

The **Expected Value (or mean) of a continuous random variable X** is defined as

$$E(X) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} xf_X(x)dx$$

$$E(X) = \mu$$

Definition:

The **Variance of a continuous random variable X** is defined as

$$Var(X) = \sigma_X^2 = E(X - \mu)^2 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x - \mu)^2 f_X(x)dx = E(X^2) - \mu^2 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 f_X(x)dx - \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} xf_X(x)dx$$

### Named Continuous Random Variable Distributions:

1. The Uniform Distribution,  $U(a, b)$

$$f_X(x) = \frac{1}{b-a} \text{ when } a < x < b, 0 \text{ elsewhere}$$

$$E(X) = \frac{a+b}{2}$$

$$Var(X) = \frac{(b-a)^2}{12}$$

Arises in modelling a complete randomness in a continuous setting.

2. The Exponential Distribution,  $exp(\beta)$

$$f_X(x) = \frac{1}{\beta} e^{-\frac{x}{\beta}} \text{ for } x \geq 0, 0 \text{ elsewhere}$$

$$E(X) = \beta$$

$$Var(X) = \beta^2$$

Has the **memoryless property**, that is,  $P(a < X < a + h | X > a) = P(0 < X < h)$

The **hazard function** of  $X$   $\lambda_X(x) = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{P(x < X < x + \Delta x | X > x)}{\Delta x}$ . This function represents the ratio of the probability density function  $f_X(x)$  to the survival function  $P(X > x)$ .

3. The Gamma Distribution,  $\Gamma(\alpha, \beta)$

$$f_X(x) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \frac{1}{\beta^\alpha} x^{\alpha-1} e^{-\frac{x}{\beta}}, \text{ where } \Gamma(\alpha) = \int_0^{\infty} x^{\alpha-1} e^{-x} dx$$

$$E(X) = \beta\alpha$$

$$Var(X) = \beta^2\alpha$$

Arises in in processes for which the waiting times between Poisson-distributed events are relevant **[second opinion on this desired]**

4. The Chi-Squared Distribution,  $\chi_v^2$

$$\chi_v^2 = \Gamma\left(\frac{v}{2}, 2\right)$$

$$E(X) = v$$

5. The Normal Distribution,  $N(\mu, \sigma^2)$

$$f_X(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \frac{1}{\sigma} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\sigma^2(x-\mu)^2}$$

$$E(X) = \mu$$

$$Var(X) = \sigma^2$$

Arises in models extending the **central limit theorem**, which states that the sum of a large number of random variables is approximately normally distributed.

If  $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ , we can define  $Z = \frac{X-\mu}{\sigma}$  to get  $Z \sim N(0, 1)$ , this process is called **standardization**

This is analogous to the discrete Binomial Distribution

## Transformations of Random Variables

Application:

We have the distribution of some Random Variable  $X$  and we wish to obtain the distribution of some real function  $g(x)$  of  $X$ .

### Transformations of Discrete Random Variables

1. Given a discrete random variable  $X$ , we wish to find the distribution of a discrete random variable  $Y$  which can be mapped by some real function  $g(x)$  of  $X$ .
2. Find  $P(Y = y) = P(g(x) = y) = P(X = g^{-1}(y))$
3. Substitute  $x$  with  $g^{-1}(y)$  in the probability function of  $X$ ,  $p_X(x)$ . The result is the probability function of  $Y$ ,  $p_Y(y)$ .
4. Apply the same transformation to the domain of  $X$  to obtain the domain of  $Y$ .

### Transformations of Continuous Random Variables

1. Given a continuous random variable  $X$  with pdf  $f_X(x)$ , we wish to find the pdf of a continuous random variable  $Y = f_Y(y)$ , where  $Y$  is subject to an increasing function of  $X$ ,  $g(X)$
2. Find  $F_Y(y) = F_X(g^{-1}(y))$
3. Find  $f_Y(y) = f_X(g^{-1}(y)) \frac{d}{dy}(g^{-1}(y))$

Definition:

Given some continuous random variable  $X$  which has a strictly increasing cdf  $F_X(x)$ , we can define a new random variable  $Y = F_X(x)$ , then  $Y \sim U(0, 1)$ . This transformation is called a **probability integral transformation**.

Theorem:

Given a random variable  $X$  and a random variable  $Y$  which is subject to the constraint  $Y = g(X)$  such that  $E|g(X)| < \infty$ :

- If  $X$  is discrete,  $E(g(x)) = \sum_{all\ x} g(x)p_X(x)$
- If  $X$  is continuous,  $E(g(x)) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x)f_X(x)dx$

By the definition of  $E(X)$ .

## Moment Generating Functions

Definition:

$E(X^k)$  is the  **$k$ th moment** of some random variable  $X$  if  $E(|X|^k) < \infty$

For some random variable  $X$ , the function  $M_X(t) = E(e^{tX})$  is called the **moment generating function** of  $X$ .

- If  $X$  is discrete,  $M_X(t) = \sum_{all\ x} e^{tx} p_X(x)$
- If  $X$  is continuous,  $M_X(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{tx} f_X(x) dx$

Useful property:  $M_X^{(k)}(0) = E(X^k)$

#### Moment Generating Functions of some known distributions:

- $X \sim Bin(n, p)$ ,  $M_X(t) = (e^t p + (1-p))^n$
- $X \sim Po(\lambda)$ ,  $M_X(t) = e^{\lambda(e^t - 1)}$
- $X \sim \Gamma(\alpha, \beta)$ ,  $M_X(t) = \frac{1}{(1-\beta t)^\alpha}$
- $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ ,  $M_X(t) = e^{\mu t + \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 t^2}$
- $X \sim N(0, 1)$ ,  $M_X(t) = e^{\frac{t^2}{2}}$

### Multivariate Distribution

Definition:

Given 2 random variables  $X$  and  $Y$ ,  $F_{X,Y}(x,y)$  is the **joint cumulative distribution function** of  $X$  and  $Y$  if  $F_{X,Y}(x,y) = P(X \leq x \cap Y \leq y)$

The following properties must hold in order for two random variables  $X$  and  $Y$  to have a joint pdf:

- $f_{X,Y}(x,y) \geq 0$
- $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X,Y}(x,y) dx dy = 1$  if  $X$  and  $Y$  are continuous
- $\int_{-\infty}^{y_0} \int_{-\infty}^{x_0} f_{X,Y}(x,y) dx dy = F_{X,Y}(x_0, y_0)$  if  $X$  and  $Y$  are continuous
- $\sum_{y:y \leq y_0} \sum_{x:x \leq x_0} p_{X,Y}(x,y) = F_{X,Y}(x_0, y_0)$  if  $X$  and  $Y$  are discrete

Given a **joint cumulative distribution function**,  $f_X(x)$  [ $p_X(x)$ ] and  $f_Y(y)$  [ $p_Y(y)$ ] are said to be the **marginal probability distribution functions** of  $X$  and  $Y$ .

Given some function of  $x$  and  $y$ , we can find the expected value of the function as follows:

- $E(g(x,y)) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x,y) f_{X,Y}(x,y) dx dy$  if  $X$  and  $Y$  are continuous
- $E(g(x,y)) = \sum_{all\ y} \sum_{all\ x} g(x,y) p_{X,Y}(x,y)$  if  $X$  and  $Y$  are discrete

### Conditional Distributions

Given a pair of jointly distributed random variables  $X$  and  $Y$ , we define the **conditional distribution** of the two as



- $p_{Y|X=x}(y|x) = P(Y = y|X = x) = \frac{P(X=x, Y=y)}{P(X=x)}$  if  $X$  and  $Y$  are discrete and  $P(X = x) \neq 0$
- $f_{Y|X=x}(y|x) = \frac{f_{X,Y}(x,y)}{f_X(x)}$  if  $X$  and  $Y$  are continuous and  $f_X(x)$

We can then define the **conditional cumulative distribution function** as

- $F_{Y|X=x}(y|x) = P(Y \leq y|X = x) = \int_{-\infty}^y f_{Y|X=x}(y|x)dy$  if  $X$  and  $Y$  are continuous
- $F_{Y|X=x}(y_0|x) = \sum_{y: y \leq y_0} \frac{p_{X,Y}(x,y_0)}{p_X(x)}$  if  $X$  and  $Y$  are discrete

We may then the **conditional expected value** as follows:

- $E(Y|X = x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} y f_{Y|X=x}(y|x)dy$  if  $X$  and  $Y$  are continuous
- $E(Y|X = x) = \sum_{all\ y} y p_{Y|X=x}(y|x)$  if  $X$  and  $Y$  are discrete

## Independence of Random Variables

Definition:

The random variables  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  are **independent** if

- $f_{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = f_{X_1}(x_1) f_{X_2}(x_2) \dots f_{X_n}(x_n)$  if all are continuous
- $p_{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = p_{X_1}(x_1) p_{X_2}(x_2) \dots p_{X_n}(x_n)$  if all are discrete
- $F_{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = F_{X_1}(x_1) F_{X_2}(x_2) \dots F_{X_n}(x_n)$

Property of independence:

Given 2 random variables  $X$  and  $Y$ , independent over functions  $g(X)$ ,  $h(Y)$ , we have that

$$E(g(X)h(Y)) = E(g(x))E(h(y))$$

Theorem:

Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  be independent random variables;

Let  $S_n = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$ ;

Then  $M_{S_n}(t) = \prod_{i=1}^n M_{X_i}(t)$

Theorem:

Let  $X, Y$  be discrete random variables with joint probability function  $p_{X,Y}(x,y)$ . Then:

- $p_Y(y) = \sum_x p_{Y|X=x}(y|x) p_X(x)$
- $E(Y) = \sum_x E(Y|X = x) p_X(x)$

## Central Limit Theorem

Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  be independent random variables with  $E(X) = \mu$  and  $Var(X) = \sigma^2$ . Then

$$P\left(\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n X_i - E\left(\sum_{i=1}^n X_i\right)}{\sqrt{Var\left(\sum_{i=1}^n X_i\right)}} \leq x\right) \rightarrow P(Z \leq x), \text{ where } Z \sim N(0, 1). \text{ This is equal to}$$

$$P\left(\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n X_i - n\mu}{\sqrt{n\sigma^2}} \leq x\right) \rightarrow P(Z \leq x).$$