

## tf.contrib.bayesflow.stochastic\_tensor.StochasticTensor

## Contents

Class StochasticTensor

## Properties

distribution

dtype

Class **StochasticTensor**Inherits From: **BaseStochasticTensor**Defined in `tensorflow/contrib/bayesflow/python/ops/stochastic_tensor_impl.py`.See the guide: [BayesFlow Stochastic Tensors \(contrib\) > Stochastic Tensor Classes](#)

StochasticTensor is a BaseStochasticTensor backed by a distribution.

## Properties

**distribution****dtype****graph****name****value\_type**

## Methods

**\_\_init\_\_**

```
__init__(  
    dist,  
    name='StochasticTensor',  
    dist_value_type=None,  
    loss_fn=sge.score_function  
)
```

Construct a **StochasticTensor**.

**StochasticTensor** is backed by the **dist** distribution and its **value** method will return the same value each time it is called. What **value** is returned is controlled by the **dist\_value\_type** (defaults to **SampleValue**).

Some distributions' sample functions are not differentiable (e.g. a sample from a discrete distribution like a Bernoulli) and

so to differentiate wrt parameters upstream of the sample requires a gradient estimator like the score function estimator. This is accomplished by passing a differentiable `loss_fn` to the `StochasticTensor`, which defaults to a function whose derivative is the score function estimator. Calling `stochastic_graph.surrogate_loss(final_losses)` will call `loss()` on every `StochasticTensor` upstream of final losses.

`loss()` will return `None` for `StochasticTensor`s backed by reparameterized distributions; it will also return `None` if the value type is `MeanValueType` or if `loss_fn=None`.

Args:

- `dist`: an instance of `Distribution`.
- `name`: a name for this `StochasticTensor` and its ops.
- `dist_value_type`: a `_StochasticValueType`, which will determine what the `value` of this `StochasticTensor` will be. If not provided, the value type set with the `value_type` context manager will be used.
- `loss_fn`: callable that takes `(st, st.value(), influenced_loss)`, where `st` is this `StochasticTensor`, and returns a `Tensor` loss. By default, `loss_fn` is the `score_function`, or more precisely, the integral of the score function, such that when the gradient is taken, the score function results. See the `stochastic_gradient_estimators` module for additional loss functions and baselines.

Raises:

- `TypeError`: if `dist` is not an instance of `Distribution`.
- `TypeError`: if `loss_fn` is not `callable`.

## entropy

```
entropy(name='entropy')
```

## loss

```
loss(  
    final_loss,  
    name='Loss'  
)
```

## mean

```
mean(name='mean')
```

## value

```
value(name='value')
```

---

Except as otherwise noted, the content of this page is licensed under the [Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 License](#), and code samples are licensed under the [Apache 2.0 License](#). For details, see our [Site Policies](#). Java is a registered trademark of Oracle and/or its affiliates.

Last updated November 2, 2017.

Stay Connected

- Blog
- GitHub
- Twitter

Support

- Issue Tracker
- Release Notes
- Stack Overflow