

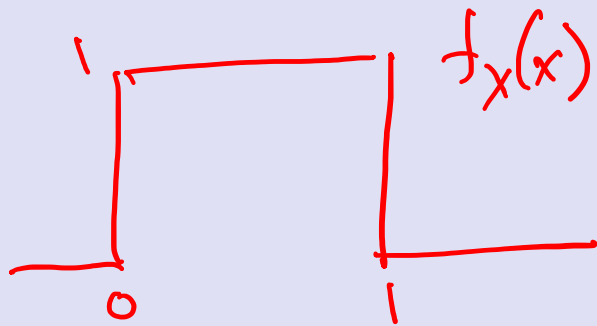
**ENGG 2430 / ESTR 2004: Probability and Statistics**

Spring 2019

**8. Everything you wanted to  
know about random variables  
but were afraid to ask**

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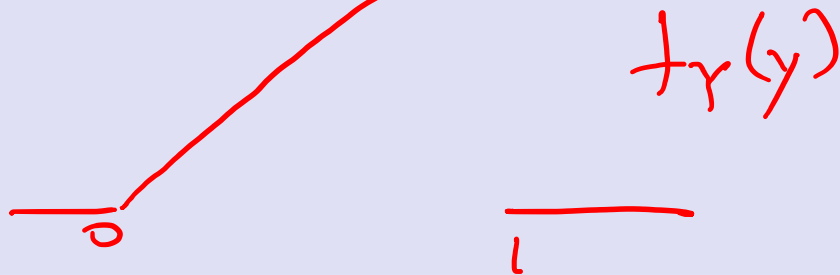
**$X$  is Uniform(0, 1). What is the PDF of  $Y = \sqrt{X}$ ?**



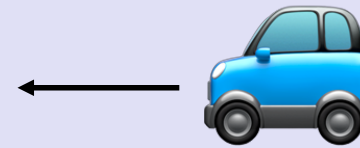
$$P(X \leq x) = x \quad \text{WHEN } 0 \leq x \leq 1.$$

$$P(Y \leq y) = P(\sqrt{X} \leq y) = P(X \leq y^2) = y^2 \quad \text{WHEN } 0 \leq y \leq 1$$

$$2 \quad f_Y(y) = \frac{d}{dy} P(Y \leq y) = 2y$$



$V = \cancel{50}$  Exponential(1) km/h



$\cancel{50}$ km 1km

0km

What is the PDF of the **travel time**?

$$T = \frac{\cancel{50}}{V} \quad V \text{ is Exponential}(1)$$

$$P(T \leq t) = P\left(\frac{1}{V} \leq t\right) = P\left(V \geq \frac{1}{t}\right) = e^{-1/t} \quad 0 \leq t \leq \infty$$

$$f_T(t) = \frac{d}{dt} P(T \leq t) = \frac{1}{t^2} e^{-1/t} \quad 0 \leq t \leq \infty$$

# Shifting and scaling

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$$Y = aX + b$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(Y \leq y) &= P(aX + b \leq y) \\ &= P\left(X \leq \frac{y-b}{a}\right) \quad \text{IF } a > 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{d}{dy} P\left(X \leq \frac{y-b}{a}\right) = \frac{1}{a} f_X\left(\frac{y-b}{a}\right)$$

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$$\boxed{f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{|a|} f_X\left(\frac{y-b}{a}\right)}$$

# Normalization

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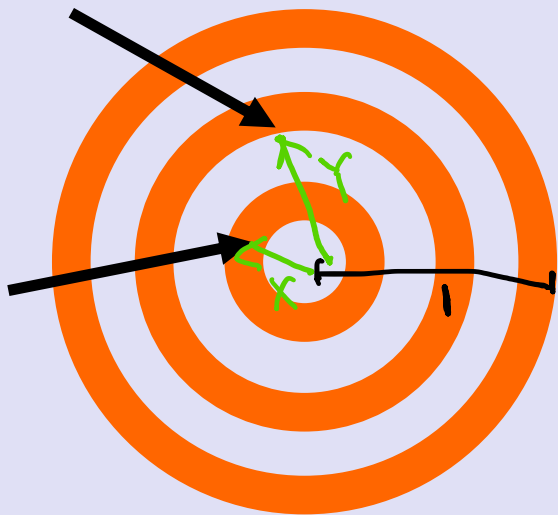
$X$  is *Normal*( $\mu, \sigma$ )

$$Y = (X - \mu) / \sigma$$

$$E[Y] = (E[X] - \mu) / \sigma = 0$$
$$\text{Var}[Y] = \text{Var}[(X - \mu) / \sigma] = 1$$

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

$$f_Y(y) = \sigma f_X\left(\frac{y + \mu / \sigma}{1 / \sigma}\right) = \sigma f_X(\sigma y + \mu)$$
$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-y^2/2}$$



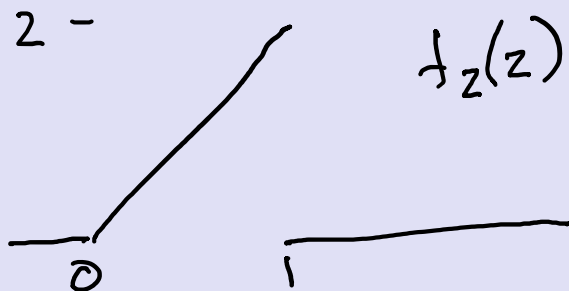
What is the PDF of the loser?

$X, Y$  Uniform(0,1)  
INDEPENDENT

$$Z = \max\{X, Y\}$$

$$P(Z \leq z) = P(X \leq z, Y \leq z) = P(X \leq z)P(Y \leq z) = z^2$$

$$f_z(z) = \frac{d}{dz} P(Z \leq z) = 2z \quad 0 \leq z \leq 1$$



$X, Y$  are independent Uniform(0, 1).

What is the PDF of  $Y/X$ ?

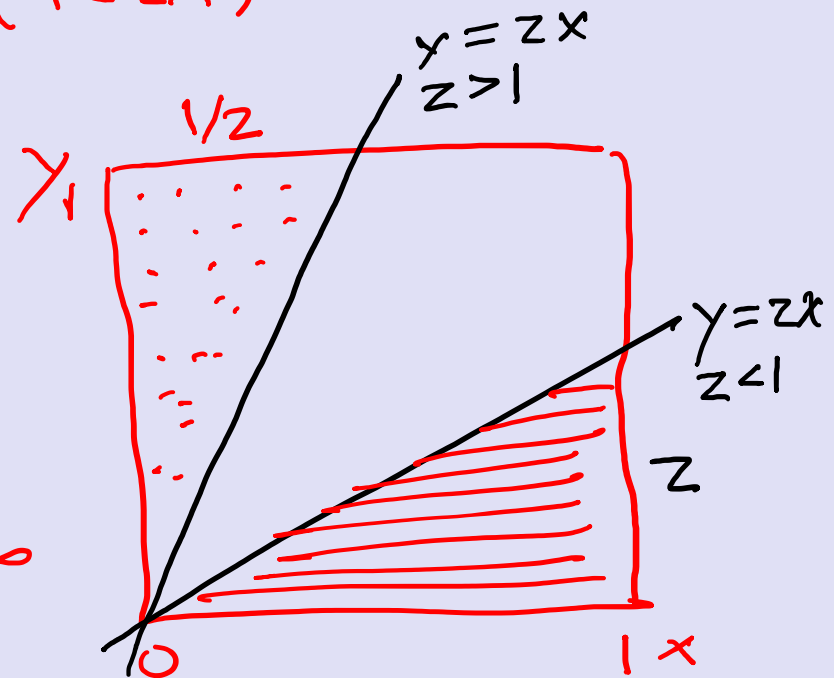
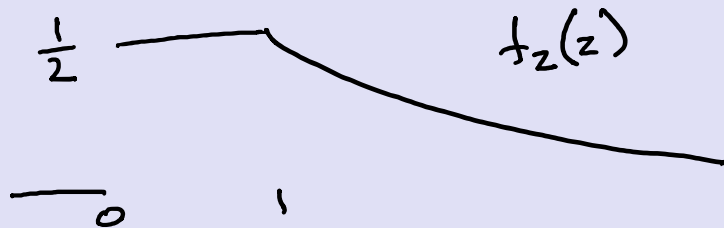
$$Z = Y/X$$

$$P(Z \leq z) = P(Y/X \leq z) = P(Y \leq zX)$$

$$z \leq 1 \quad P(Y \leq zX) = \frac{z}{2}$$

$$z > 1 \quad P(Y \leq zX) = 1 - \frac{1}{2z}$$

$$f_z(z) = \begin{cases} 1/2 & \text{WHEN } 0 < z < 1 \\ 1/2z^2 & \text{WHEN } 1 < z < \infty \end{cases}$$



# Convolution

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$X, Y$  are independent.

What is the PMF/PDF of  $X + Y$ ?  $Z$

$$\begin{aligned} P(Z=z) &= \sum_{x,y: x+y=z} P(X=x, Y=y) \\ &= \sum_{x,y: x+y=z} P(X=x)P(Y=y) \quad y=z-x \\ &= \sum_x P(X=x)P(Y=z-x) \end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{f_Z(z) = \sum_x f_X(x) f_Y(z-x)} \quad \text{DISCRETE}$$

$$\boxed{f_Z(z) = \int_x f_X(x) f_Y(z-x) dx} \quad \text{CONTINUOUS}$$



$X, Y$  are face values of 3-sided dice.

What is the PMF of  $X + Y$ ?

PMF OF  $X$

$\frac{1}{3}$	1	1	1
	1	2	3

PMF OF  $Y$

$\frac{1}{3}$	1	1	1
	1	2	3

PMF OF  $X+Y$

$\frac{2}{9}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{9}$	
	2	3	4	5	6

Romeo and Juliet arrive in Shatin at independent Exponential(1) hours past noon.  
How long is the wait?

$X = \text{ROMEO}$        $Y = \text{JULIET}$        $X, Y \text{ Exponential}(1)$

$Z = X - Y$        $f_z(z) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_x(z+y) f_y(y) dy$

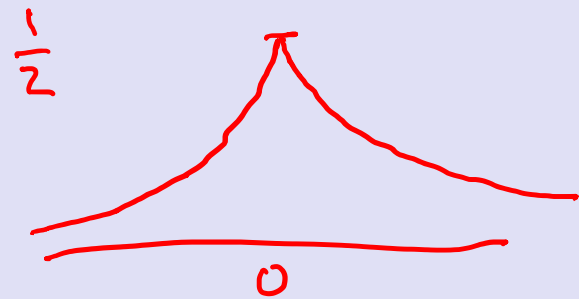
$z > 0$ :

$$f_z(z) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-(z+y)} e^{-y} dy = e^{-z} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-2y} dy$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} e^{-z}$$

$z < 0$ :  $f_z(z) = \frac{1}{2} e^z$

$$f_z(z) = \frac{1}{2} e^{-|z|}$$



# Sum of Independent Normals

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$$X, Y \text{ Normal}(0, 1) \quad f_x(x) = f_y(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-x^2/2}$$

$$Z = X + Y$$

$$f_z(z) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_x(x) f_y(z-x) dx = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{x^2}{2}} \cdot e^{-\frac{(z-x)^2}{2}} dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2 + xz - z^2/2} dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-(x-z/2)^2} e^{-z^2/4} dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} e^{-z^2/4} \underbrace{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-(x-z/2)^2} dx}_{\text{INDEPENDENT OF } z}$$

$$= \frac{c}{2\pi} e^{-z^2/4} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi} \cdot \sqrt{2}} e^{-z^2/4} \text{ Normal}(0, \sqrt{2})$$

# Sum of Independent Normals

---

$$\begin{aligned} X &= \text{Normal}(\mu, \sigma) \\ Y &= \text{Normal}(\mu', \sigma') \end{aligned} \quad \text{INDEPENDENT}$$

$$X+Y = \text{Normal}(\mu+\mu', \sqrt{\sigma^2 + \sigma'^2})$$

# Measuring dependence

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$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{Cov}[X, Y] &= \mathbf{E}[(X - \mathbf{E}[X])(Y - \mathbf{E}[Y])] \\ &= \mathbf{E}[XY] - \mathbf{E}[X]\mathbf{E}[Y]\end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbf{Var}[X] = \mathbf{Cov}[X, X]$$

$$\mathbf{Corr}[X, Y] = \frac{\mathbf{Cov}[X, Y]}{\sqrt{\mathbf{Var}[X] \mathbf{Var}[Y]}}$$

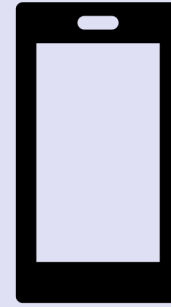
ALWAYS BETWEEN -1 AND 1

# Measuring dependence

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	Cov	Corr
$X, Y$ ind.	0	0
$Y = X$	$\text{Var}[X]$	1
$Y = -X$	$-\text{Var}[X]$	-1

**Warning: Zero-covariance is not independence!**



$N = \text{Normal}(0, \sigma)$

$X = 1$  or  $-1$   
 $\frac{1}{2}$     $\frac{1}{2}$

$Y = X + N$

$\text{Cov}[X, Y] = E[XY] - E[X]E[Y] = E[X(X+N)]$   
 $= E[X^2] + E[XN] = E[X]E[N] = 0$

$\text{Corr}[X, Y] = \frac{\text{Cov}[X, Y]}{\sqrt{\text{Var}[X]\text{Var}[Y]}}$   
 $= \frac{0}{\sqrt{1 \cdot (1 + \sigma^2)}} = 0$

# Variance of a sum

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$$\mathbf{Var}[X + Y] = \mathbf{Var}[X] + \mathbf{Var}[Y] \quad \text{if independent}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{Var}[X+Y] &= E[(X+Y - E[X+Y])^2] \\ &= E[(X - E[X]) + (Y - E[Y])^2] \\ &= E[(X - E[X])^2] + E[(Y - E[Y])^2] \\ &\quad + 2E[(X - E[X])(Y - E[Y])] \\ &= \mathbf{Var}[X] + \mathbf{Var}[Y] + 2\mathbf{Cov}[X, Y] \\ &= \mathbf{Var}[X] + \mathbf{Var}[Y] + \mathbf{Cov}[X, Y] + \mathbf{Cov}[Y, X] \end{aligned}$$



# Variance of a sum

---

$$\mathbf{Var}[X_1 + \dots + X_n] = \mathbf{Var}[X_1] + \dots + \mathbf{Var}[X_n]$$

if every pair  $X_i, X_j$  is independent.

IN GENERAL

$$\mathbf{Var}[X_1 + \dots + X_n] = \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{Var}[X_i]}_{n \text{ TERMS}} + \underbrace{\sum_{i \neq j} \mathbf{Cov}[X_i, X_j]}_{n(n-1) \text{ TERMS}}$$

$n$  people throw their hats in a box and pick one out at random. What is the variance of the number of people who get their own?

$$X = X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n \quad X_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{IF } i\text{TH P.} \\ 0 & \text{IF NOT} \end{cases}$$

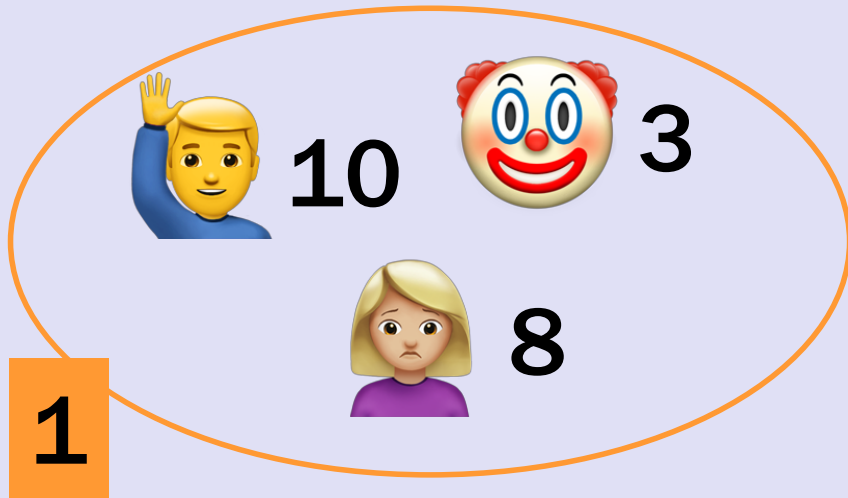
$$E[X] = E[X_1] + \dots + E[X_n] = n \cdot \frac{1}{n} = 1$$

$$\text{Var}[X] = \underbrace{\text{Var}[X_1] + \dots + \text{Var}[X_n]}_{\frac{1}{n} \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right) \dots \frac{1}{n} \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right)} + \sum_{i \neq j} \text{Cov}[X_i, X_j]$$

$$\text{Cov}[X_i, X_j] = \frac{E[X_i X_j]}{\frac{1}{n} \cdot \frac{1}{(n-1)}} - \frac{E[X_i] E[X_j]}{\frac{1}{n^2}} = \frac{1}{n^2(n-1)}$$

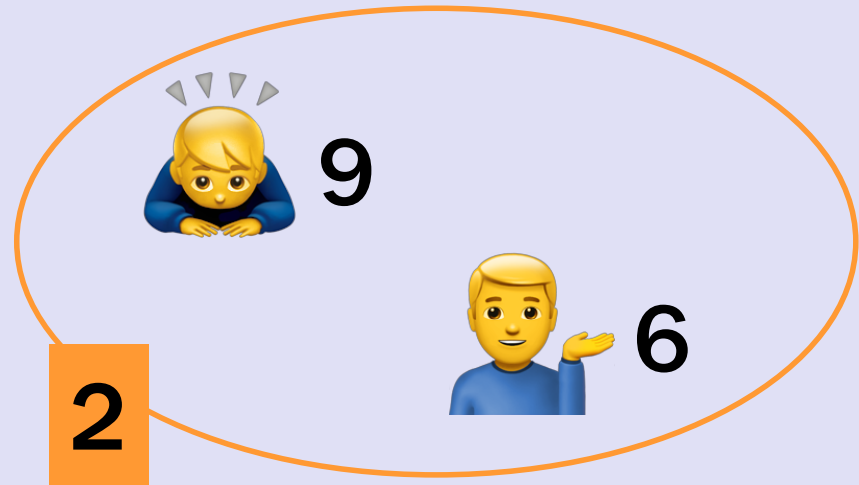
$$\text{Var}[X] = n \cdot \frac{1}{n} \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right) + n(n-1) \cdot \frac{1}{n^2(n-1)} = 1$$

**1**



Group 1 contains three items with scores: a man waving (10), a clown (3), and a woman with a sad expression (8).

**2**



Group 2 contains two items with scores: a man with a sad expression (9) and a man waving (6).

$X = \text{score}$

$Y = \text{section}$

$E[X | Y]:$

$$\begin{array}{r} 7 \qquad 7.5 \\ \hline 3/5 \qquad 2/5 \\ Y=1 \qquad Y=2 \end{array}$$

$$E[X] = 7 \cdot \frac{3}{5} + 7.5 \cdot \frac{2}{5} = 7.2$$

# Estimation

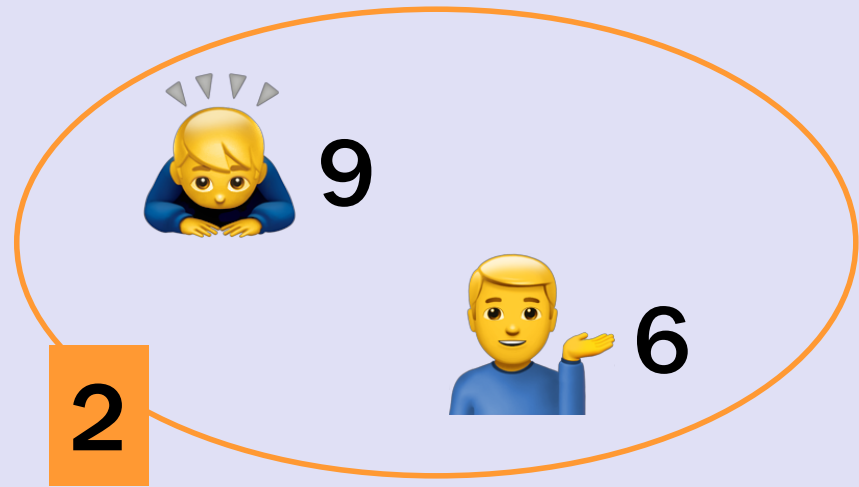
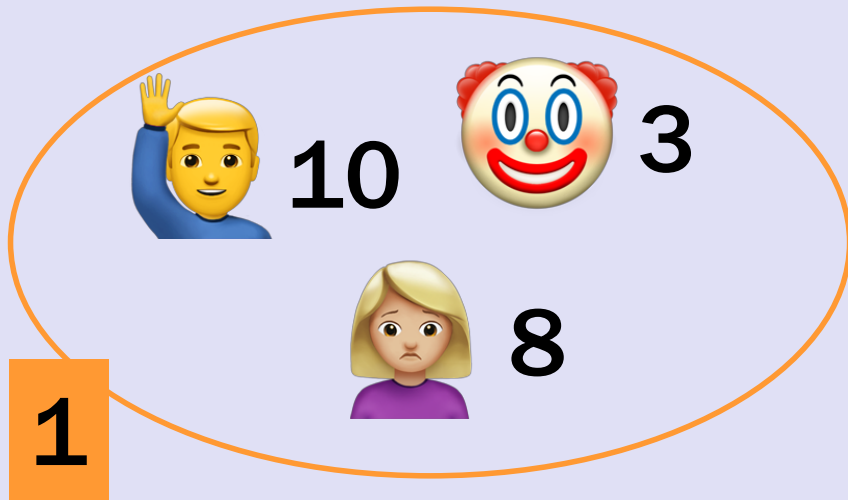
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$\hat{X} = \mathbf{E}[X | Y]$  is an **estimator** for  $X$  given  $Y$

$$\mathbf{E}[X] = \mathbf{E}[\hat{X}] = \mathbf{E}[\mathbf{E}[X | Y]]$$

**Total expectation theorem**

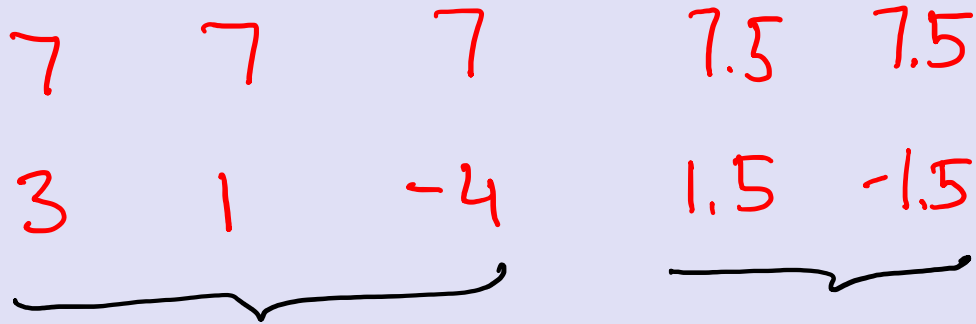
$\tilde{X} = X - \hat{X}$  is the **error**



$$\hat{X} = \mathbf{E}[X | Y]:$$



$$\tilde{X} = X - \hat{X}:$$



$$\mathbf{E}[\tilde{X} | Y]:$$



$$\mathbf{E}[\hat{X}\tilde{X} | Y]:$$



# Estimation

---

$\hat{X} = \mathbf{E}[X | Y]$  is an **estimator** for  $X$  given  $Y$

$\tilde{X} = X - \hat{X}$  is the **error**

$$\mathbf{E}[\tilde{X} | Y] = 0$$

$$\mathbf{E}[\hat{X}\tilde{X} | Y] = 0$$

$$\mathbf{Cov}[\hat{X}, \tilde{X}] = 0$$

# Conditional variance

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$$\text{Var}[X | Y] = \mathbf{E}[\tilde{X}^2 | Y]$$

$$X = \hat{X} + \tilde{X}$$

**Total variance theorem:**

$$\text{Var}[X] = \text{Var}[\hat{X}] + \text{Var}[\tilde{X}]$$

$$= \text{Var}[\mathbf{E}[X | Y]] + \mathbf{E}[\text{Var}[X | Y]]$$

VARIANCE  
BETWEEN  
GROUPS

VARIANCE  
WITHIN EACH  
GROUP

$$E[X|Y=1]=7$$

$$E[X|Y=2]=7.5$$

**1**

Group 1 (Y=1):  
 - Man waving:  $X=10, Y=3$   
 - Clown:  $X=3, Y=-4$   
 - Woman with sad face:  $X=8, Y=1$

**2**

Group 2 (Y=2):  
 - Man with shocked face:  $X=9, Y=1.5$   
 - Man waving:  $X=6, Y=-1.5$

$$\text{Var}[X|Y=1] = 3^2 \cdot \frac{1}{3} + (-4)^2 \cdot \frac{1}{3} + 1^2 \cdot \frac{1}{3} = \frac{26}{3}$$

$$\text{Var}[X|Y=2] = 1.5^2 \cdot \frac{1}{2} + (-1.5)^2 \cdot \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\hat{X} = E[X | Y]:$$

$$\frac{7}{3/5} \quad \frac{7.5}{2/5} \quad E[X] = 7.2$$

$$\text{Var } E[X | Y] = (-0.2)^2 \cdot \frac{3}{5} + (0.3)^2 \cdot \frac{2}{5} = 0.06$$

$$\text{Var}[X | Y]:$$

$$\frac{26/3}{3/5} \quad \frac{9/4}{2/5}$$

$$E \text{ Var}[X | Y] = \frac{26}{3} \cdot \frac{3}{5} + \frac{9}{4} \cdot \frac{2}{5} = 6.1$$

$$\boxed{\text{Var}[X] = 6.16}$$



$P$  is Uniform(0, 1),  $X$  is Binomial( $n, P$ )

What is  $\text{Var}[X]$ ?

$$E[X] = E[E[X|P]] = E[nP] = nE[P] = \frac{n}{2}$$

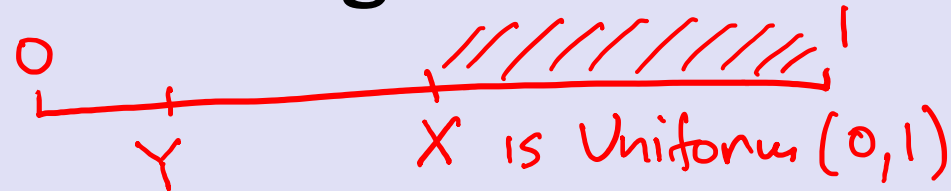
$$\text{Var}[X] = \text{Var}[E[X|P]] + E[\text{Var}[X|P]]$$

$$= \text{Var}[nP] + E[nP(1-P)]$$

$$= n^2 \underbrace{\text{Var}[P]}_{1/12} + n \left( \underbrace{E[P]}_{1/2} - \underbrace{E[P^2]}_{1/3} \right)$$

$$= \frac{n^2}{12} + \frac{n}{6}$$

Break a stick of length 1 at a random point.  
Keep the left part and repeat. What is the E  
and Var of the length?



$Y$  is Uniform(0, X)

$$E[Y] = E[E[Y|X]] = E\left[\frac{X}{2}\right] = \frac{1}{2} E[X] = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$\text{Var}[Y] = \text{Var}[E[Y|X]] + E[\text{Var}[Y|X]]$$

$$= \text{Var}\left[\frac{X}{2}\right] + E\left[\frac{X^2}{12}\right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \text{Var}[X] + \frac{1}{12} E[X^2]$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{12} + \frac{1}{12} \cdot \frac{1}{3} = \frac{1}{48} + \frac{1}{36}$$