



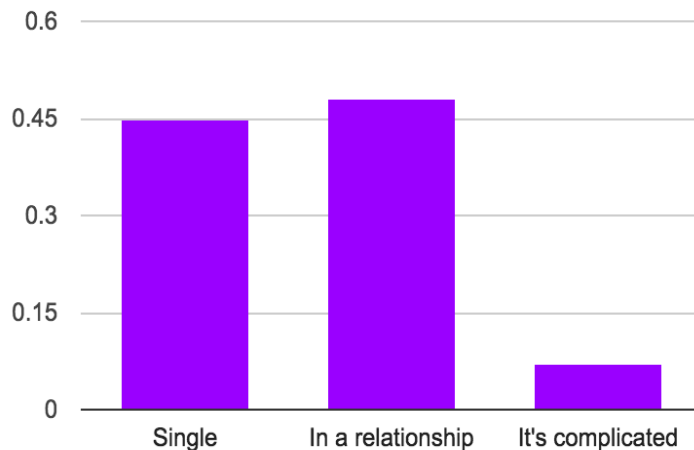
Properties of Joint Distributions

Chris Piech
CS109, Stanford University

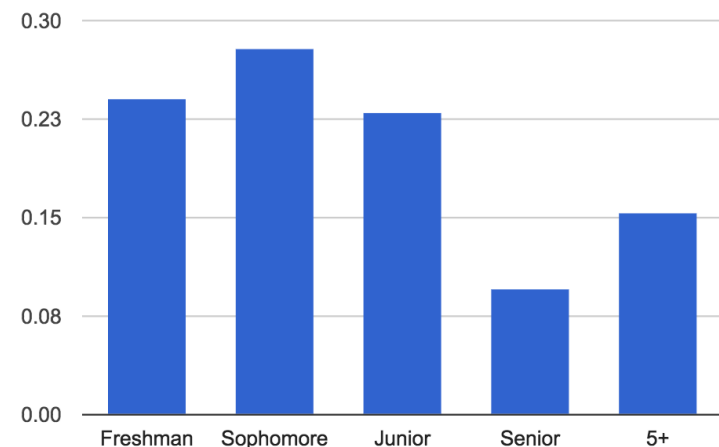
Discrete Joint Random Variables

Joint Probability Table				
	Single	In a relationship	It's complicated	Marginal Year
Freshman	0.13	0.09	0.02	0.24
Sophomore	0.16	0.10	0.02	0.28
Junior	0.12	0.10	0.02	0.23
Senior	0.01	0.09	0.00	0.10
5+	0.03	0.12	0.01	0.15
Marginal Status	0.45	0.48	0.07	

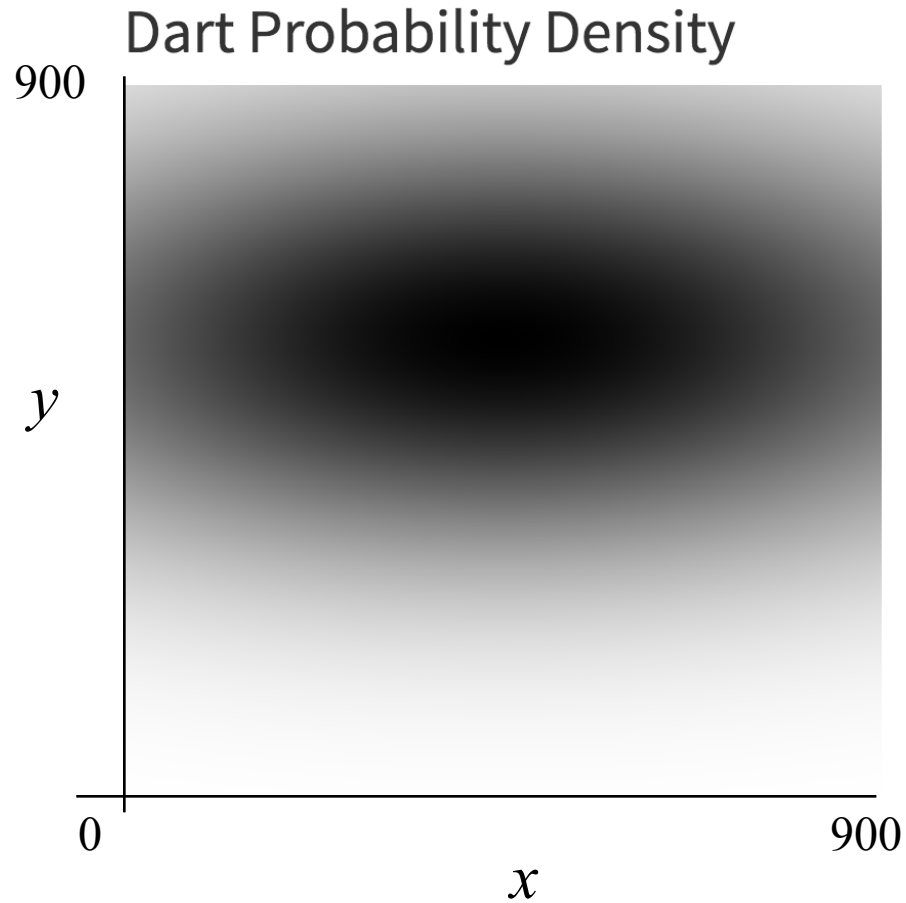
Marginal Status Probability



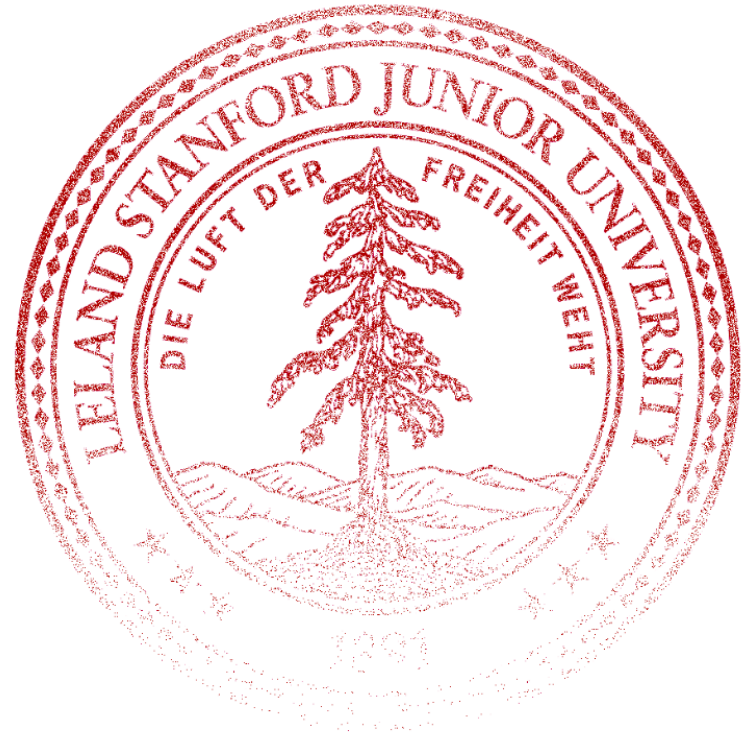
Marginal Year Probability



Continuous Joint Random Variables



Dart Results



The Multinomial

- Multinomial distribution
 - n independent trials of experiment performed
 - Each trial results in one of m outcomes, with respective probabilities: $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_m$ where $\sum_{i=1}^m p_i = 1$
 - X_i = number of trials with outcome i

$$P(X_1 = c_1, X_2 = c_2, \dots, X_m = c_m) = \binom{n}{c_1, c_2, \dots, c_m} p_1^{c_1} p_2^{c_2} \dots p_m^{c_m}$$

Joint distribution

Multinomial # ways of ordering the successes

Probabilities of each ordering are equal and mutually exclusive

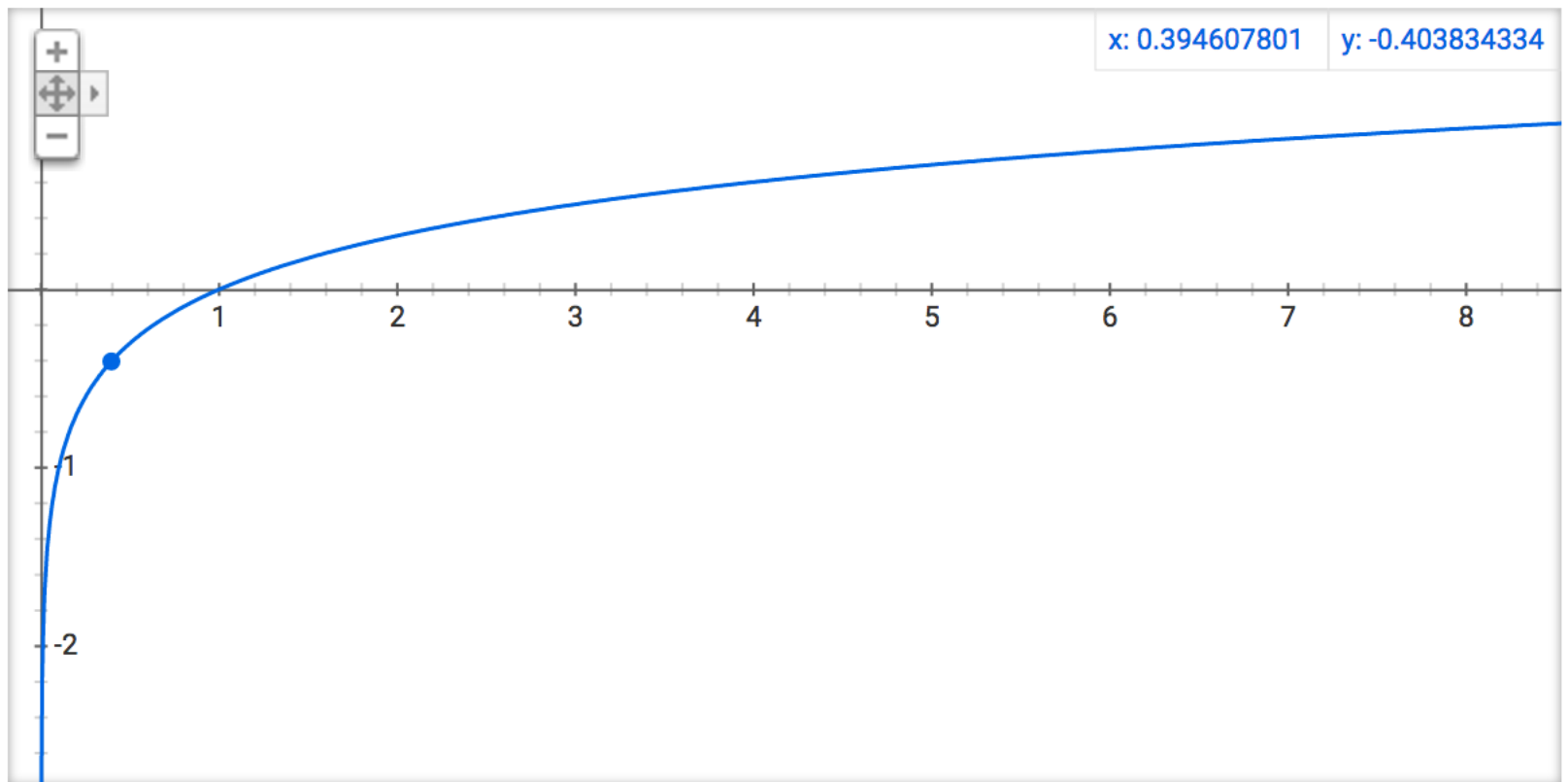
where $\sum_{i=1}^m c_i = n$ and $\binom{n}{c_1, c_2, \dots, c_m} = \frac{n!}{c_1! c_2! \dots c_m!}$

Log Review

$$e^y = x$$

$$\log(x) = y$$

Graph for $\log(x)$



[More info](#)

Log Identities

$$\log(a \cdot b) = \log(a) + \log(b)$$

$$\log(a/b) = \log(a) - \log(b)$$

$$\log(a^n) = n \cdot \log(a)$$

Products become Sums!

$$\log(a \cdot b) = \log(a) + \log(b)$$

$$\log\left(\prod_i a_i\right) = \sum_i \log(a_i)$$

* Spoiler alert: This is important because the product of many small numbers gets hard for computers to represent.

Who wrote the federalist papers?



Probabilistic Text Analysis

- Ignoring order of words, what is probability of any given word you write in English?
 - $P(\text{word} = \text{"the"}) > P(\text{word} = \text{"transatlantic"})$
 - $P(\text{word} = \text{"Stanford"}) > P(\text{word} = \text{"Cal"})$
 - Probability of each word is just multinomial distribution
- What about probability of those same words in someone else's writing?
 - $P(\text{word} = \text{"probability"} \mid \text{writer} = \text{you}) >$
 $P(\text{word} = \text{"probability"} \mid \text{writer} = \text{non-CS109 student})$
 - After estimating $P(\text{word} \mid \text{writer})$ from known writings, use Bayes' Theorem to determine $P(\text{writer} \mid \text{word})$ for new writings!

Text and the Multinomial

Example document:

“Pay for Viagra with a credit-card. Viagra is great.
So are credit-cards. Risk free Viagra. Click for free.”

$n = 18$

$$P \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{Viagra} = 2 \\ \text{Free} = 2 \\ \text{Risk} = 1 \\ \text{Credit-card: } 2 \\ \dots \\ \text{For} = 2 \end{array} \middle| \text{spam} \right) = \frac{n!}{2!2! \dots 2!} p_{\text{viagra}}^2 p_{\text{free}}^2 \dots p_{\text{for}}^2$$

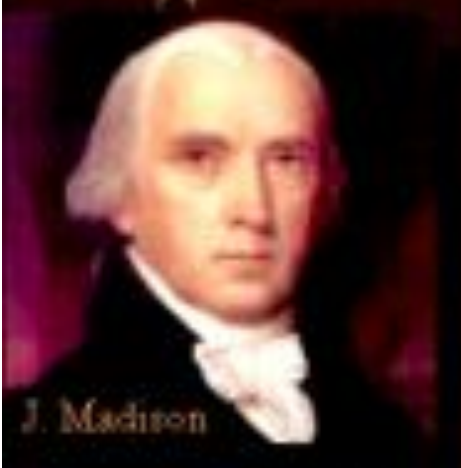
It's a Multinomial!

Probability of seeing
this document | spam

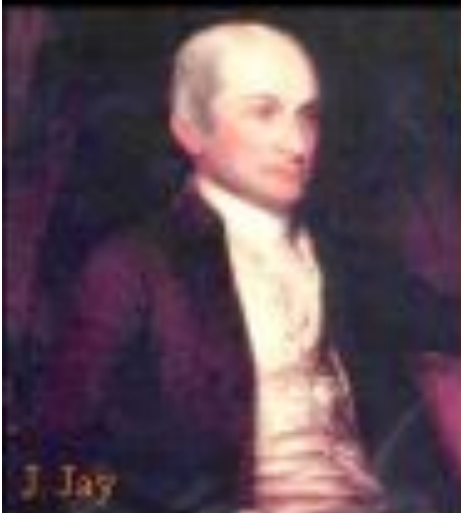
The probability of a word in
spam email being viagra



A. Hamilton



J. Madison



J. Jay

THE
FEDERALIST:

A COLLECTION OF
ESSAYS,

WRITTEN IN FAVOUR OF THE

NEW CONSTITUTION,

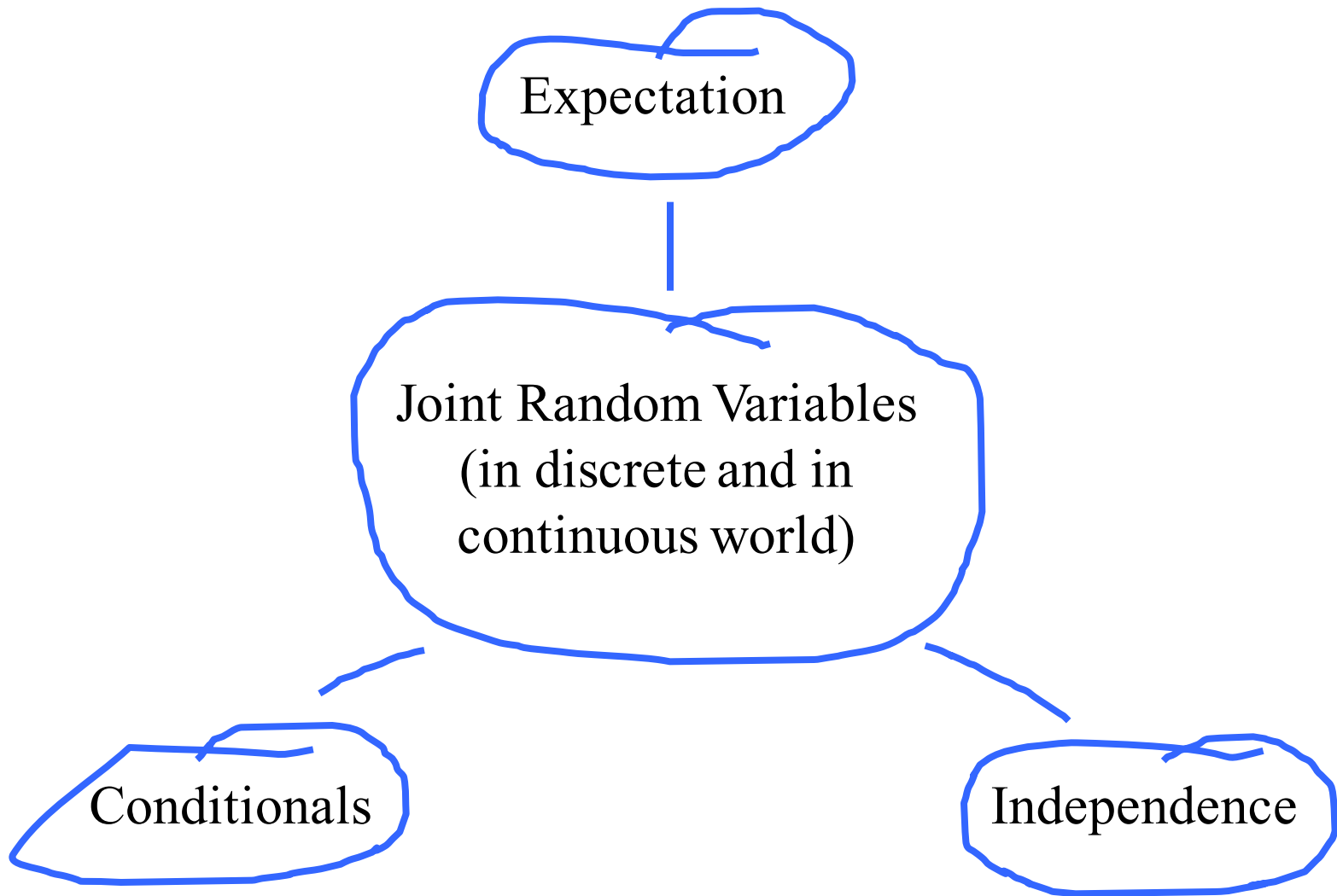
AS AGREED-UPON BY THE

FEDERAL CONVENTION,

SEPTEMBER 17, 1787.

Defense for Ratification

The Story so Far



Expectation with Multiple Variables?

Joint Expectation

$$E[X] = \sum_x xp(x)$$

- Expectation over a joint isn't nicely defined because it is not clear how to compose the multiple variables:
 - Add them? Multiply them?
- Lemma: For a function $g(X,Y)$ we can calculate the expectation of that function:

$$E[g(X, Y)] = \sum_{x,y} g(x, y)p(x, y)$$

- By the way, this also holds for single random variables:

$$E[g(X)] = \sum_x g(x)p(x)$$

Expected Values of Sums

Big deal lemma: first
stated without proof

$$E[X + Y] = E[X] + E[Y]$$

Generalized: $E\left[\sum_{i=1}^n X_i\right] = \sum_{i=1}^n E[X_i]$

Holds regardless of dependency between X_i 's

Skeptical Chris Wants a Proof!

Let $g(X,Y) = [X + Y]$

$$E[X + Y] = E[g(X, Y)] = \sum_{x,y} g(x, y)p(x, y)$$

What a useful lemma

$$= \sum_{x,y} [x + y]p(x, y)$$

By the definition of $g(x,y)$

Break that sum
into parts!

$$= \sum_{x,y} xp(x, y) + \sum_{x,y} yp(x, y)$$

Change the sum
of (x,y) into
separate sums

$$= \sum_x x \sum_y p(x, y) + \sum_y y \sum_x p(x, y)$$

That is the definition of
marginal probability

$$= \sum_x xp(x) + \sum_y yp(y)$$

That is the definition of
expectation

$$= E[X] + E[Y]$$

Independence and Random Variables

Independent Discrete Variables

- Two discrete random variables X and Y are called **independent** if:

$$p(x, y) = p_X(x)p_Y(y) \quad \text{for all } x, y$$

$$P(X = x, Y = y) = P(X = x) \cdot P(Y = y)$$

- Intuitively: knowing the value of X tells us nothing about the distribution of Y (and vice versa)
 - If two variables are **not** independent, they are called **dependent**
- Similar conceptually to independent *events*, but we are dealing with multiple **variables**
 - Keep your events and variables distinct (and clear)!

Is Year Independent of Status?

Joint Probability Table				
	Single	In a relationship	It's complicated	Marginal Year
Freshman	0.06	0.04	0.03	0.13
Sophomore	0.21	0.16	0.02	0.39
Junior	0.13	0.06	0.02	0.21
Senior	0.04	0.07	0.01	0.12
5+	0.04	0.09	0.03	0.15
Marginal Status	0.47	0.43	0.10	1.00

For all values of Year, Status:

$$P(\text{Year} = y, \text{Status} = s) = P(\text{Year} = y)P(\text{Status} = s)$$

0.06 0.13 0.47

Yes!

Is Year Independent of Status?

Joint Probability Table				
	Single	In a relationship	It's complicated	Marginal Year
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For all values of Year, Status:

$$P(\text{Year} = y, \text{Status} = s) = P(\text{Year} = y)P(\text{Status} = s)$$

0.21

0.39

0.47

0.18

No ☹️

Aside: Butterfly Effect



Coin Flips

- Flip coin with probability p of “heads”
 - Flip coin a total of $n + m$ times
 - Let X = number of heads in first n flips
 - Let Y = number of heads in next m flips

$$\begin{aligned}P(X = x, Y = y) &= \binom{n}{x} p^x (1 - p)^{n-x} \binom{m}{y} p^y (1 - p)^{m-y} \\&= P(X = x) P(Y = y)\end{aligned}$$

- X and Y are independent
- Let Z = number of total heads in $n + m$ flips
- Are X and Z independent?
 - What if you are told $Z = 0$?

Web Server Requests

- Let $N = \#$ of requests to web server/day
 - Suppose $N \sim \text{Poi}(\lambda)$
 - Each request comes from a human (probability = p) or from a “bot” (probability = $(1 - p)$), independently
 - $X = \#$ requests from humans/day $(X | N) \sim \text{Bin}(N, p)$
 - $Y = \#$ requests from bots/day $(Y | N) \sim \text{Bin}(N, 1 - p)$

$$P(X = i, Y = j) = \underbrace{P(X = i, Y = j | X + Y = i + j)}_{\text{Probability of } i \text{ human requests and } j \text{ bot requests | we got } i + j \text{ requests}} P(X + Y = i + j) + \underbrace{P(X = i, Y = j | X + Y \neq i + j)}_{\text{Probability of number of requests in a day was } i + j} P(X + Y \neq i + j)$$

Probability of i human requests and j bot requests

Probability of i human requests and j bot requests | we got $i + j$ requests

Probability of number of requests in a day was $i + j$

Web Server Requests

- Let $N = \#$ of requests to web server/day
 - Suppose $N \sim \text{Poi}(\lambda)$
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 - $Y = \#$ requests from bots/day $(Y | N) \sim \text{Bin}(N, 1 - p)$

$$P(X = i, Y = j) = P(X = i, Y = j | X + Y = i + j)P(X + Y = i + j) \\ + P(X = i, Y = j | X + Y \neq i + j)P(X + Y \neq i + j)$$

- Note: $P(X = i, Y = j | X + Y \neq i + j) = 0$


You got i human requests
and j bot requests


You did not get $i + j$
requests

Web Server Requests

- Let $N = \#$ of requests to web server/day
 - Suppose $N \sim \text{Poi}(\lambda)$
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 - $Y = \#$ requests from bots/day $(Y \mid N) \sim \text{Bin}(N, 1 - p)$

$$P(X = i, Y = j) = P(X = i, Y = j \mid X + Y = i + j)P(X + Y = i + j)$$

Web Server Requests

- Let $N = \#$ of requests to web server/day
 - Suppose $N \sim \text{Poi}(\lambda)$
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$$P(X = i, Y = j) = P(X = i, Y = j \mid X + Y = i + j) P(X + Y = i + j)$$

$$P(X = i, Y = j \mid X + Y = i + j) = \binom{i+j}{i} p^i (1-p)^j$$

$$P(X + Y = i + j) = e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^{i+j}}{(i+j)!}$$

$$P(X = i, Y = j) = \binom{i+j}{i} p^i (1-p)^j e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^{i+j}}{(i+j)!}$$

Binomial

Poisson

Joint

Web Server Requests

- Let $N = \#$ of requests to web server/day
 - Suppose $N \sim \text{Poi}(\lambda)$
 - Each request comes from a human (probability = p) or from a “bot” (probability = $(1 - p)$), independently
 - $X = \#$ requests from humans/day $(X | N) \sim \text{Bin}(N, p)$
 - $Y = \#$ requests from bots/day $(Y | N) \sim \text{Bin}(N, 1 - p)$

$$P(X = i, Y = j) = \frac{(i+j)!}{i!j!} p^i (1-p)^j e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^{i+j}}{(i+j)!} = e^{-\lambda} \frac{(\lambda p)^i}{i!} \cdot \frac{(\lambda(1-p))^j}{j!}$$

Reorder terms

$$= e^{-\lambda p} \frac{(\lambda p)^i}{i!} \cdot e^{-\lambda(1-p)} \frac{(\lambda(1-p))^j}{j!} = P(X = i)P(Y = j)$$

- Where $X \sim \text{Poi}(\lambda p)$ and $Y \sim \text{Poi}(\lambda(1 - p))$
- X and Y are independent!

Independent Continuous Variables

- Two continuous random variables X and Y are called **independent** if:

$$P(X \leq a, Y \leq b) = P(X \leq a) P(Y \leq b) \text{ for any } a, b$$

- Equivalently:

$$F_{X,Y}(a,b) = F_X(a)F_Y(b) \text{ for all } a,b$$

$$f_{X,Y}(a,b) = f_X(a)f_Y(b) \text{ for all } a,b$$

- More generally, joint density factors separately:

$$f_{X,Y}(x,y) = h(x)g(y) \text{ where } -\infty < x, y < \infty$$

Pop Quiz (just kidding)

- Consider joint density function of X and Y:

$$f_{X,Y}(x,y) = 6e^{-3x}e^{-2y} \quad \text{for } 0 < x, y < \infty$$

- Are X and Y independent? **Yes!**

Let $h(x) = 3e^{-3x}$ and $g(y) = 2e^{-2y}$, so $f_{X,Y}(x,y) = h(x)g(y)$

- Consider joint density function of X and Y:

$$f_{X,Y}(x,y) = 4xy \quad \text{for } 0 < x, y < 1$$

- Are X and Y independent? **Yes!**

Let $h(x) = 2x$ and $g(y) = 2y$, so $f_{X,Y}(x,y) = h(x)g(y)$

- Now add constraint that: $0 < (x + y) < 1$
- Are X and Y independent? **No!**
 - Cannot capture constraint on $x + y$ in factorization!

Dating at Stanford

- Two people set up a meeting for 12pm
 - Each arrives independently at time uniformly distributed between 12pm and 12:30pm
 - $X = \#$ min. past 12pm person 1 arrives $X \sim \text{Uni}(0, 30)$
 - $Y = \#$ min. past 12pm person 2 arrives $Y \sim \text{Uni}(0, 30)$
 - What is $P(\text{first to arrive waits} > 10 \text{ min. for other})$?

$P(X + 10 < Y) + P(Y + 10 < X) = 2P(X + 10 < Y)$ by symmetry

$$2P(X + 10 < Y) = 2 \iint_{x+10 < y} f(x, y) dx dy = 2 \iint_{x+10 < y} f_X(x) f_Y(y) dx dy$$

$$= 2 \int_{y=10}^{30} \int_{x=0}^{y-10} \left(\frac{1}{30} \right)^2 dx dy = \frac{2}{30^2} \int_{y=10}^{30} \left(\int_{x=0}^{y-10} dx \right) dy = \frac{2}{30^2} \int_{y=10}^{30} \left(x \Big|_0^{y-10} \right) dy = \frac{2}{30^2} \int_{y=10}^{30} (y-10) dy$$

$$= \frac{2}{30^2} \left(\frac{y^2}{2} - 10y \right) \Big|_{10}^{30} = \frac{2}{30^2} \left[\left(\frac{30^2}{2} - 300 \right) - \left(\frac{10^2}{2} - 100 \right) \right] = \frac{4}{9}$$

Independence of Multiple Variables

- n random variables $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$ are called **independent** if:

$$P(X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x_2, \dots, X_n = x_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n P(X_i = x_i) \quad \text{for all subsets of } x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$$

- Analogously, for continuous random variables:

$$P(X_1 \leq a_1, X_2 \leq a_2, \dots, X_n \leq a_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n P(X_i \leq a_i) \quad \text{for all subsets of } a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$$

Independence is Symmetric

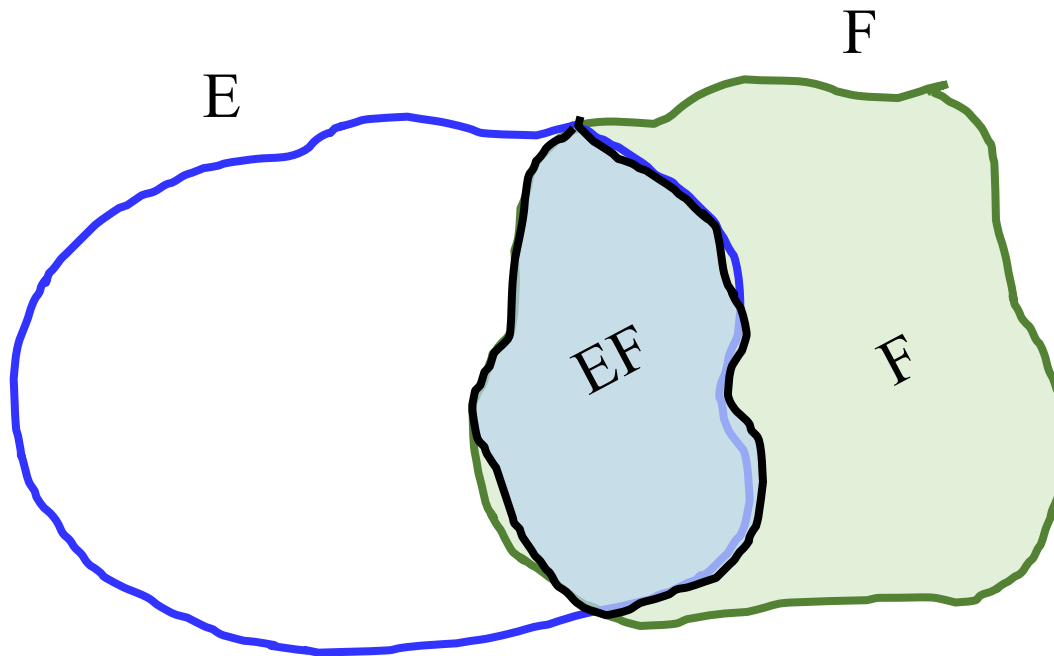
- If random variables X and Y independent, then
 - X independent of Y , and Y independent of X
- Duh!? Duh, indeed...
 - Let $X_1, X_2, \dots$ be a sequence of independent and identically distributed (I.I.D.) continuous random vars
 - Say $X_n > X_i$ for all $i = 1, \dots, n-1$ (i.e. $X_n = \max(X_1, \dots, X_n)$)
 - Call X_n a “record value”
 - Let event A_i indicate X_i is “record value”
 - Is A_{n+1} independent of A_n ?
 - Is A_n independent of A_{n+1} ?
 - Easier to answer: Yes!
 - By symmetry, $P(A_n) = 1/n$ and $P(A_{n+1}) = 1/(n+1)$
 - $P(A_n A_{n+1}) = (1/n)(1/(n+1)) = P(A_n)P(A_{n+1})$

Conditionals with multiple variables

Discrete Conditional Distribution

- Recall that for *events* E and F:

$$P(E | F) = \frac{P(EF)}{P(F)} \quad \text{where } P(F) > 0$$



Discrete Conditional Distributions

- Recall that for events E and F :

$$P(E | F) = \frac{P(EF)}{P(F)} \quad \text{where } P(F) > 0$$

- Now, have X and Y as discrete random variables

- Conditional PMF of X given Y (where $p_Y(y) > 0$):

$$P_{X|Y}(x | y) = P(X = x | Y = y) = \frac{P(X = x, Y = y)}{P(Y = y)} = \frac{p_{X,Y}(x, y)}{p_Y(y)}$$

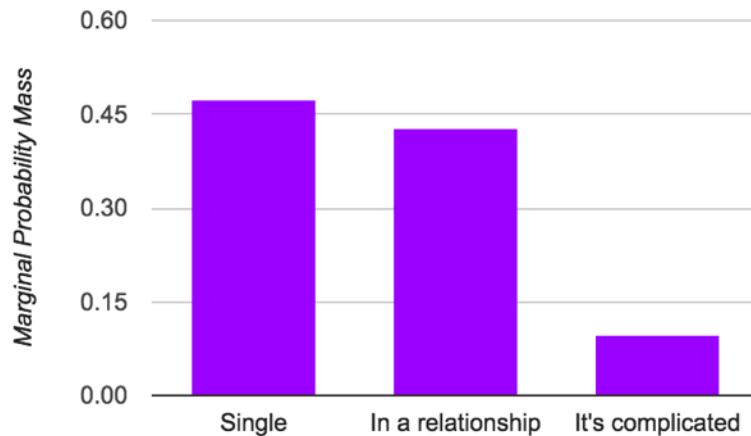
- Conditional CDF of X given Y (where $p_Y(y) > 0$):

$$\begin{aligned} F_{X|Y}(a | y) &= P(X \leq a | Y = y) = \frac{P(X \leq a, Y = y)}{P(Y = y)} \\ &= \frac{\sum_{x \leq a} p_{X,Y}(x, y)}{p_Y(y)} = \sum_{x \leq a} p_{X|Y}(x | y) \end{aligned}$$

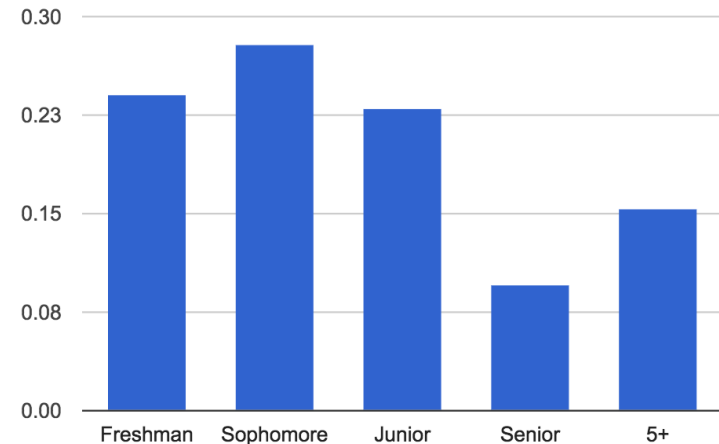
Probability Table

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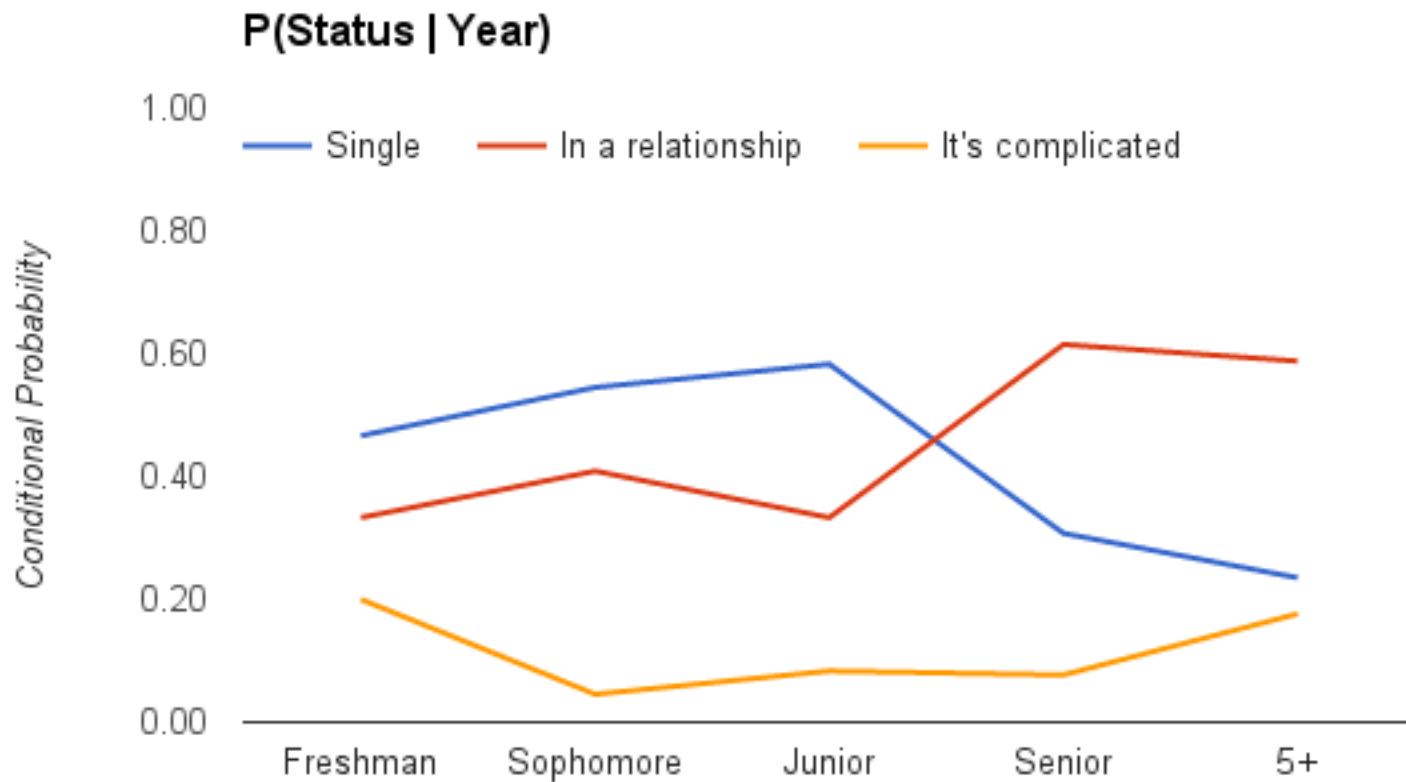
Marginal Status Probability



Marginal Year Probability



Relationship Status



And It Applies to Books Too



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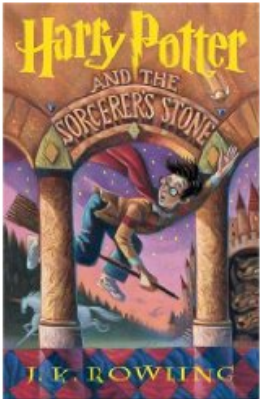
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Page 1 of 20

P(Buy Book Y | Bought Book X)

Continuous Conditional Distributions

- Let X and Y be continuous random variables
 - Conditional PDF of X given Y (where $f_Y(y) > 0$):

$$f_{X|Y}(x | y) = \frac{f_{X,Y}(x, y)}{f_Y(y)}$$

$$f_{X|Y}(x | y) dx = \frac{f_{X,Y}(x, y) dx dy}{f_Y(y) dy}$$

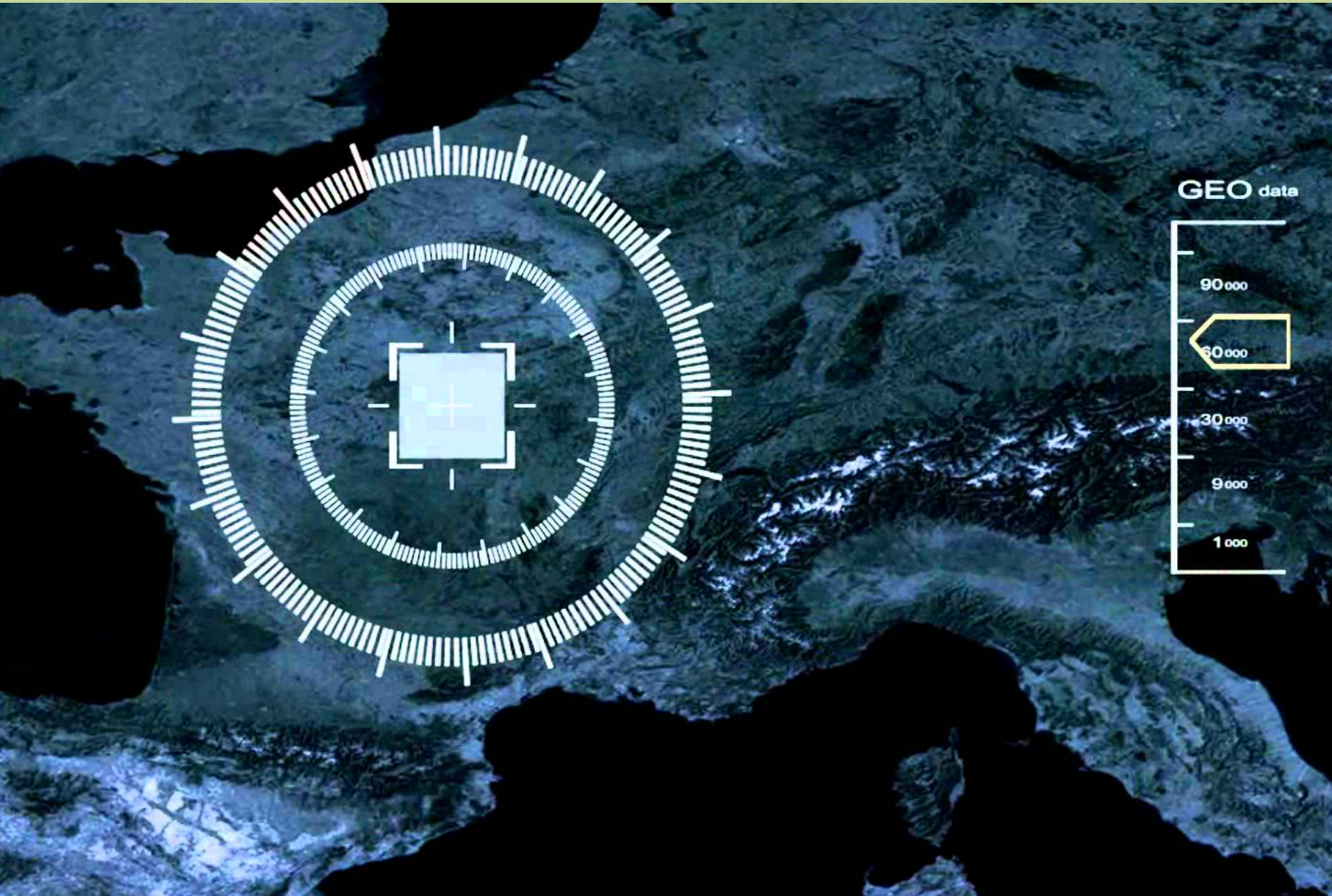
$$\approx \frac{P(x \leq X \leq x + dx, y \leq Y \leq y + dy)}{P(y \leq Y \leq y + dy)} = P(x \leq X \leq x + dx | y \leq Y \leq y + dy)$$

- Conditional CDF of X given Y (where $f_Y(y) > 0$):

$$F_{X|Y}(a | y) = P(X \leq a | Y = y) = \int_{-\infty}^a f_{X|Y}(x | y) dx$$

- Note: Even though $P(Y = a) = 0$, can condition on $Y = a$
 - Really considering: $P(a - \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \leq Y \leq a + \frac{\varepsilon}{2}) = \int_{a-\varepsilon/2}^{a+\varepsilon/2} f_Y(y) dy \approx \varepsilon f(a)$

Tracking without a grid?



Thanks!

Let's Do an Example

- X and Y are continuous RVs with PDF:

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{12}{5} x(2 - x - y) & \text{where } 0 < x, y < 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- Compute conditional density: $f_{X|Y}(x | y)$

$$\begin{aligned} f_{X|Y}(x | y) &= \frac{f_{X,Y}(x, y)}{f_Y(y)} = \frac{f_{X,Y}(x, y)}{\int_0^1 f_{X,Y}(x, y) dx} \\ &= \frac{\frac{12}{5} x(2 - x - y)}{\int_0^1 \frac{12}{5} x(2 - x - y) dx} = \frac{x(2 - x - y)}{\int_0^1 x(2 - x - y) dx} = \frac{x(2 - x - y)}{\left[x^2 - \frac{x^3}{3} - \frac{x^2 y}{2} \right]_0^1} \\ &= \frac{x(2 - x - y)}{\frac{2}{3} - \frac{y}{2}} = \frac{6x(2 - x - y)}{4 - 3y} \end{aligned}$$

Web Server Requests Redux

- Requests received at web server in a day
 - $X = \#$ requests from humans/day $X \sim \text{Poi}(\lambda_1)$
 - $Y = \#$ requests from bots/day $Y \sim \text{Poi}(\lambda_2)$
 - X and Y are independent $\rightarrow X + Y \sim \text{Poi}(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)$
 - What is $P(X = k \mid X + Y = n)$?

$$\begin{aligned} P(X = k \mid X + Y = n) &= \frac{P(X = k, Y = n - k)}{P(X + Y = n)} = \frac{P(X = k)P(Y = n - k)}{P(X + Y = n)} \\ &= \frac{e^{-\lambda_1} \lambda_1^k}{k!} \cdot \frac{e^{-\lambda_2} \lambda_2^{n-k}}{(n-k)!} \cdot \frac{n!}{e^{-(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)} (\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)^n} = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!} \cdot \frac{\lambda_1^k \lambda_2^{n-k}}{(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)^n} \\ &= \binom{n}{k} \left(\frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2} \right)^k \left(\frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2} \right)^{n-k} \end{aligned}$$

$$(X \mid X + Y = n) \sim \text{Bin} \left(n, \frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2} \right)$$

Continuous Conditional Distributions

- Let X and Y be continuous random variables
 - Conditional PDF of X given Y (where $f_Y(y) > 0$):

$$f_{X|Y}(x | y) = \frac{f_{X,Y}(x, y)}{f_Y(y)}$$

$$f_{X|Y}(x | y) dx = \frac{f_{X,Y}(x, y) dx dy}{f_Y(y) dy}$$

$$\approx \frac{P(x \leq X \leq x + dx, y \leq Y \leq y + dy)}{P(y \leq Y \leq y + dy)} = P(x \leq X \leq x + dx | y \leq Y \leq y + dy)$$

- Conditional CDF of X given Y (where $f_Y(y) > 0$):

$$F_{X|Y}(a | y) = P(X \leq a | Y = y) = \int_{-\infty}^a f_{X|Y}(x | y) dx$$

- Note: Even though $P(Y = a) = 0$, can condition on $Y = a$

- Really considering: $P(a - \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \leq Y \leq a + \frac{\varepsilon}{2}) = \int_{a-\varepsilon/2}^{a+\varepsilon/2} f_Y(y) dy \approx \varepsilon f(a)$

Let's Do an Example

- X and Y are continuous RVs with PDF:

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{12}{5} x(2 - x - y) & \text{where } 0 < x, y < 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- Compute conditional density: $f_{X|Y}(x | y)$

$$\begin{aligned} f_{X|Y}(x | y) &= \frac{f_{X,Y}(x, y)}{f_Y(y)} = \frac{f_{X,Y}(x, y)}{\int_0^1 f_{X,Y}(x, y) dx} \\ &= \frac{\frac{12}{5} x(2 - x - y)}{\int_0^1 \frac{12}{5} x(2 - x - y) dx} = \frac{x(2 - x - y)}{\int_0^1 x(2 - x - y) dx} = \frac{x(2 - x - y)}{\left[x^2 - \frac{x^3}{3} - \frac{x^2 y}{2} \right]_0^1} \\ &= \frac{x(2 - x - y)}{\frac{2}{3} - \frac{y}{2}} = \frac{6x(2 - x - y)}{4 - 3y} \end{aligned}$$