

# A short course on statistical inference

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# Recap

- Kolmogorov's definition of probability
- Bayes theorem
- Uniform random numbers
- Distribution of random numbers
- Histogram
- Probability mass functions and density functions (mostly from Glen Cowan's book and notes)

# Events, Sample space

The set of all possible outcomes of a particular experiment is called the sample space  $S$  for that experiment

Coin toss  $S = \{H, T\}$

Tossing two coins  $S = \{HH, HT, TH, TT\}$

Event : Any subset of  $S$

Random variables: variables characterising events

Momentum of an electron produced in the reaction  $pp \rightarrow Z \rightarrow e^+e^-$

# A definition of probability

Consider a set  $S$  with subsets  $A, B, \dots$

For all  $A \subset S, P(A) \geq 0$

$$P(S) = 1$$

If  $A \cap B = \emptyset, P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B)$



Kolmogorov  
axioms (1933)

From these axioms we can derive further properties, e.g.

$$P(\bar{A}) = 1 - P(A)$$

$$P(A \cup \bar{A}) = 1$$

$$P(\emptyset) = 0$$

if  $A \subset B$ , then  $P(A) \leq P(B)$

$$P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)$$

G. Cowan, UC  
London lectures

# Probability mass, density functions

$$P(x \text{ found in } [x, x + dx]) = f(x) dx$$

→  $f(x)$  = probability density function (pdf)

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx = 1 \quad x \text{ must be somewhere}$$

Or for discrete outcome  $x_i$  with e.g.  $i = 1, 2, \dots$  we have

$$P(x_i) = p_i \quad \text{probability mass function}$$

$$\sum_i P(x_i) = 1 \quad x \text{ must take on one of its possible values}$$

# Conditional probability, independence

Also define conditional probability of  $A$  given  $B$  (with  $P(B) \neq 0$ ):

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)}$$

E.g. rolling dice:  $P(n < 3 | n \text{ even}) = \frac{P((n < 3) \cap n \text{ even})}{P(\text{even})} = \frac{1/6}{3/6} = \frac{1}{3}$

Subsets  $A, B$  independent if:  $P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B)$

If  $A, B$  independent,  $P(A|B) = \frac{P(A)P(B)}{P(B)} = P(A)$

N.B. do not confuse with disjoint subsets, i.e.,  $A \cap B = \emptyset$

# Bayes' theorem

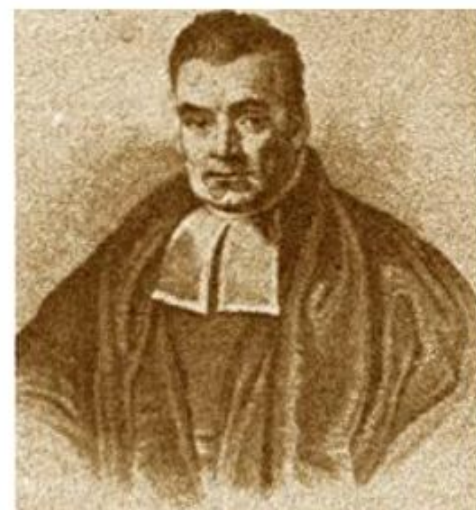
From the definition of conditional probability we have,

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)} \quad \text{and} \quad P(B|A) = \frac{P(B \cap A)}{P(A)}$$

but  $P(A \cap B) = P(B \cap A)$ , so

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(B|A)P(A)}{P(B)}$$

Bayes' theorem



First published (posthumously) by the Reverend Thomas Bayes (1702–1761)

*An essay towards solving a problem in the doctrine of chances*, Philos. Trans. R. Soc. **53** (1763) 370; reprinted in *Biometrika*, **45** (1958) 293.

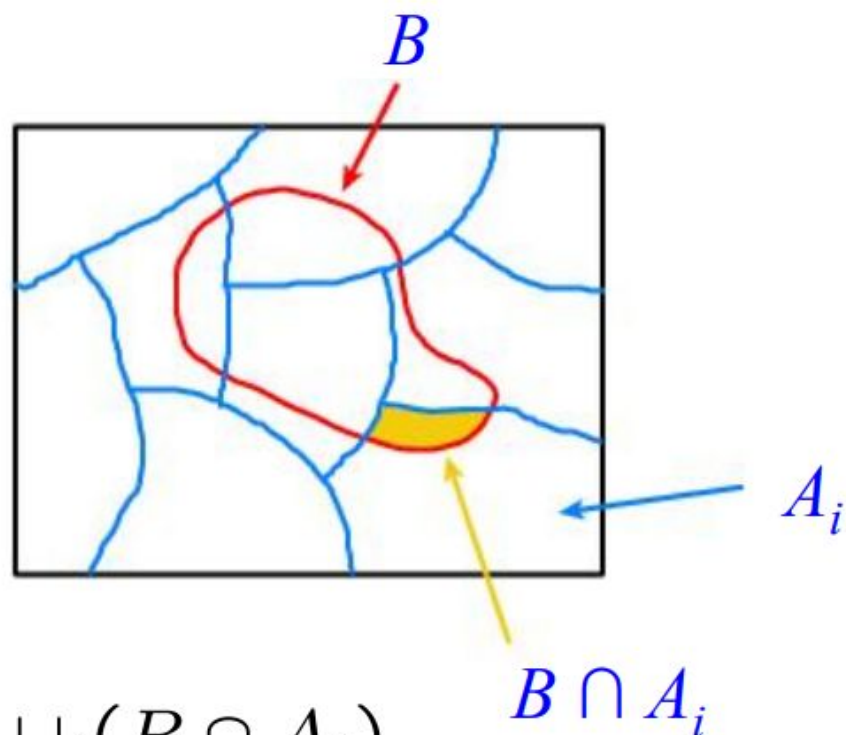
G. Cowan, UC  
London lectures

# The law of total probability

Consider a subset  $B$  of the sample space  $S$ ,

divided into disjoint subsets  $A_i$  such that  $\cup_i A_i = S$ ,

$S$



$$\rightarrow B = B \cap S = B \cap (\cup_i A_i) = \cup_i (B \cap A_i),$$

$$\rightarrow P(B) = P(\cup_i (B \cap A_i)) = \sum_i P(B \cap A_i)$$

$$\rightarrow P(B) = \sum_i P(B|A_i)P(A_i) \quad \text{law of total probability}$$

Bayes' theorem becomes

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(B|A)P(A)}{\sum_i P(B|A_i)P(A_i)}$$



# An example using Bayes' theorem

Suppose the probability (for anyone) to have AIDS is:

$$P(\text{AIDS}) = 0.001$$

$$P(\text{no AIDS}) = 0.999$$

← prior probabilities, i.e.,  
before any test carried out

Consider an AIDS test: result is + or -

$$P(+|\text{AIDS}) = 0.98$$

$$P(-|\text{AIDS}) = 0.02$$

← probabilities to (in)correctly  
identify an infected person

$$P(+|\text{no AIDS}) = 0.03$$

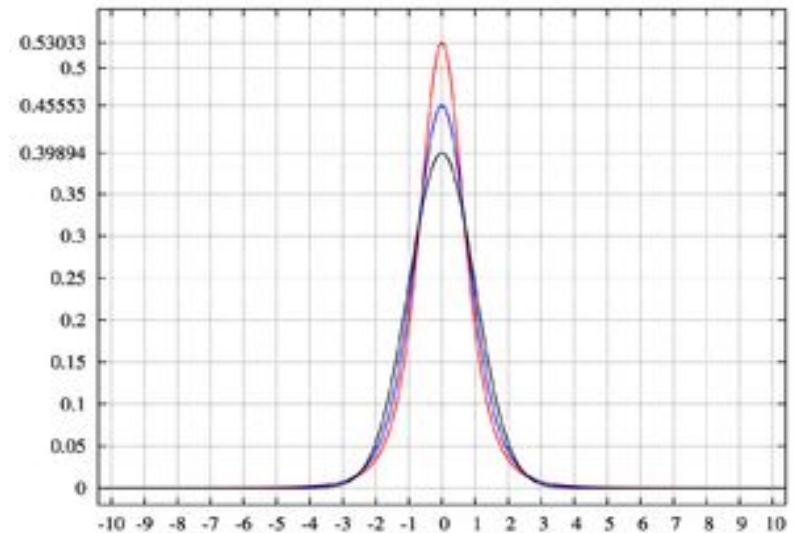
$$P(-|\text{no AIDS}) = 0.97$$

← probabilities to (in)correctly  
identify an uninfected person

Suppose your result is +. How worried should you be?

# Mean, Variance, Skewness, kurtosis

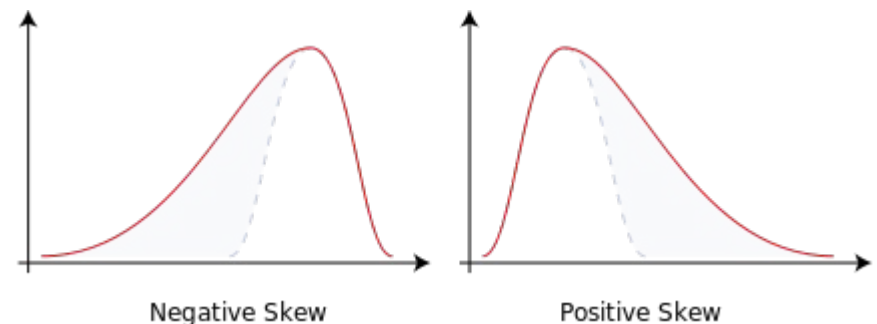
- Variance is the second standardised moment
- 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> standardized moments (Pearson moments)



$$\gamma_1 = E \left[ \left( \frac{X - \mu}{\sigma} \right)^3 \right] = \frac{\mu_3}{\sigma^3} = \frac{E[(X - \mu)^3]}{(E[(X - \mu)^2])^{3/2}} = \frac{\kappa_3}{\kappa_2^{3/2}},$$

( - 3 )

$$\beta_2 = \frac{E[(X - \mu)^4]}{(E[(X - \mu)^2])^2} = \frac{\mu_4}{\sigma^4}$$



# Covariance, correlation

$$\begin{aligned}V_{xy} &= E[(x - \mu_x)(y - \mu_y)] = E[xy] - \mu_x \mu_y \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x y f(x, y) dx dy - \mu_x \mu_y,\end{aligned}$$

denoted  $\text{cov}[x, y]$

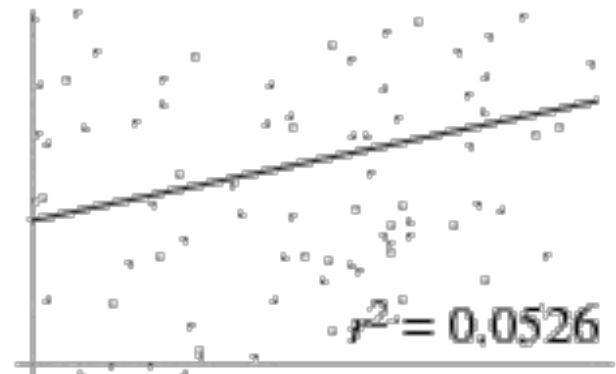
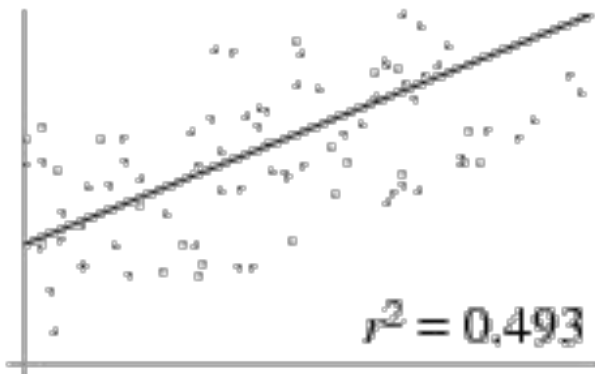
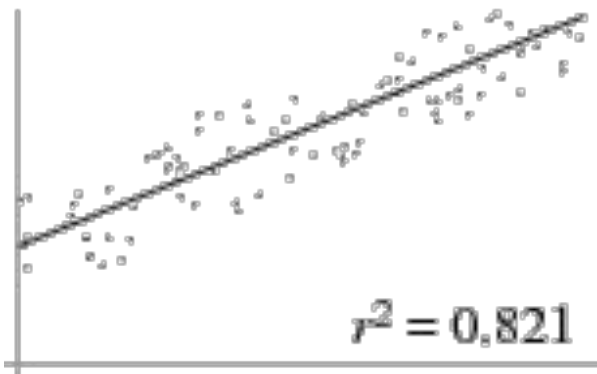
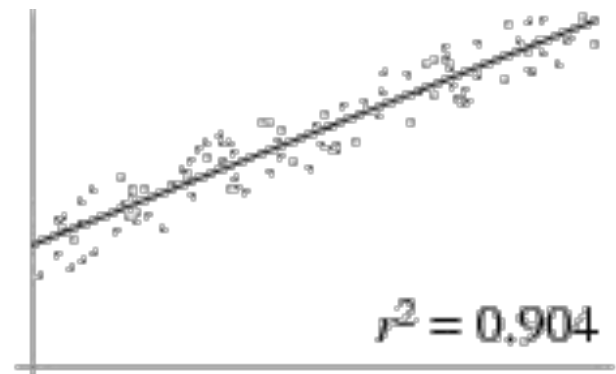
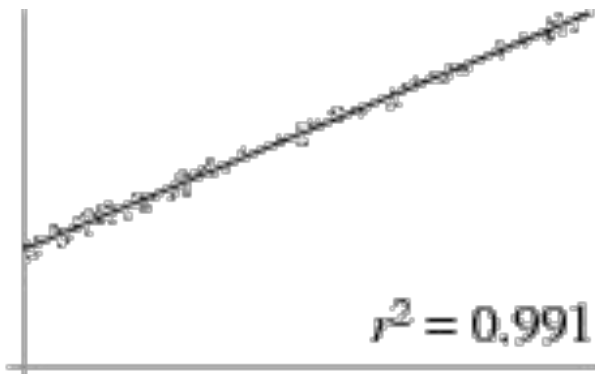
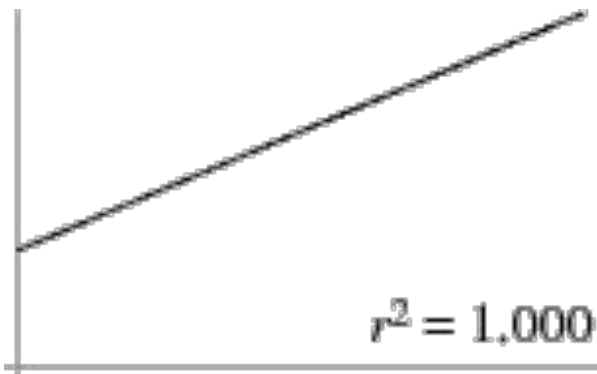
# Covariance, correlation 2

$$\begin{aligned}\text{cov}[a, b] &= E[(a - \mu_a)(b - \mu_b)] \\ &= E[ab] - \mu_a \mu_b \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} a b g(a, b) da db - \mu_a \mu_b \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \dots \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} a(\mathbf{x}) b(\mathbf{x}) f(\mathbf{x}) dx_1 \dots dx_n - \mu_a \mu_b\end{aligned}$$

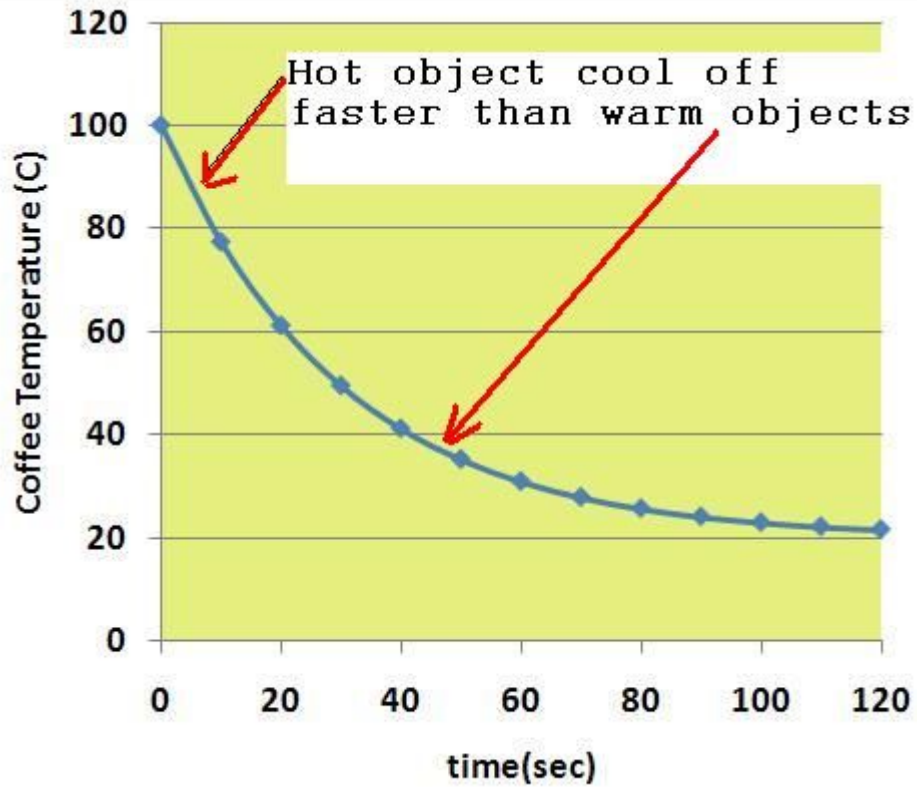
$$\rho_{xy} = \frac{V_{xy}}{\sigma_x \sigma_y}$$

Prove  $-1 \leq \rho_{xy} \leq 1$

# Scatter plot and regression



# exponential



# Exponential 2

$$f(t; \tau) = \frac{1}{\tau} e^{-t/\tau} \quad (\tau = \text{mean lifetime})$$

- $E[t] = \tau$
- $V[t] = \tau^2$
- Memoryless:  $f(t - t_0 | t \geq t_0) = f(t)$
- Cosmic muon lifetime experiment
- Homework: Check the statements

# binomial

- Out of ten generated uniform random numbers, in  $\{0,1\}$  how many will fall in the interval  $\{0,0.1\}$ ?
  - Random, with average 1
- What is the probability that exactly two uniform random numbers out of ten generated urn's in  $\{0,1\}$  will fall between  $\{0,0.1\}$
- $\binom{N}{n} p^n (1-p)^{N-n}$ ,  $p = 0.1$ ,  $N = 10$ ,  $n = 2$

$$E[n] = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n \frac{N!}{n!(N-n)!} p^n (1-p)^{N-n} = Np$$

$$\begin{aligned} V[n] &= E[n^2] - (E[n])^2 \\ &= Np(1-p). \end{aligned}$$



# Multinomial distribution

Like binomial but now  $m$  outcomes instead of two, probabilities are

$$\vec{p} = (p_1, \dots, p_m), \quad \text{with} \quad \sum_{i=1}^m p_i = 1 .$$

For  $N$  trials we want the probability to obtain:

$n_1$  of outcome 1,  
 $n_2$  of outcome 2,  
...  
 $n_m$  of outcome  $m$ .

This is the multinomial distribution for  $\vec{n} = (n_1, \dots, n_m)$

$$f(\vec{n}; N, \vec{p}) = \frac{N!}{n_1! n_2! \cdots n_m!} p_1^{n_1} p_2^{n_2} \cdots p_m^{n_m}$$

# poisson

Consider binomial  $n$  in the limit

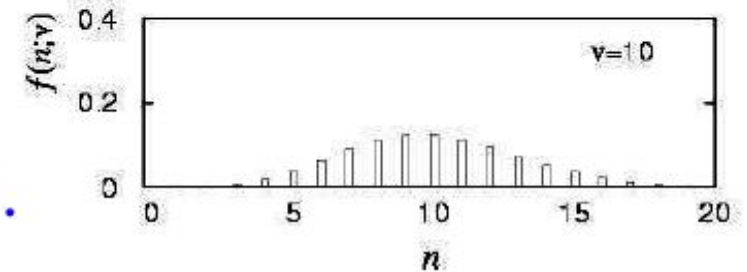
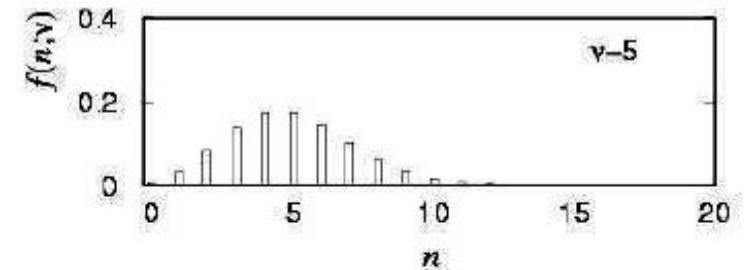
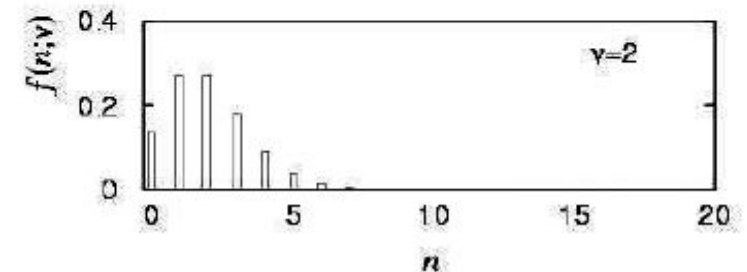
$$N \rightarrow \infty, \quad p \rightarrow 0, \quad E[n] = Np \rightarrow \nu .$$

→  $n$  follows the Poisson distribution:

$$f(n; \nu) = \frac{\nu^n}{n!} e^{-\nu} \quad (n \geq 0)$$

$$E[n] = \nu, \quad V[n] = \nu .$$

Example: number of scattering events  $n$  with cross section  $\sigma$  found for a fixed integrated luminosity, with  $\nu = \sigma \int L dt$ .



# Gaussian (normal)

Multivariate Gaussian pdf for the vector  $\vec{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$  :

$$f(\vec{x}; \vec{\mu}, V) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{n/2} |V|^{1/2}} \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} (\vec{x} - \vec{\mu})^T V^{-1} (\vec{x} - \vec{\mu}) \right]$$

$\vec{x}$ ,  $\vec{\mu}$  are column vectors,  $\vec{x}^T$ ,  $\vec{\mu}^T$  are transpose (row) vectors,

$$E[x_i] = \mu_i, \quad \text{COV}[x_i, x_j] = V_{ij} .$$

For  $n = 2$  this is

$$f(x_1, x_2; \mu_1, \mu_2, \sigma_1, \sigma_2, \rho) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma_1\sigma_2\sqrt{1-\rho^2}} \\ \times \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2(1-\rho^2)} \left[ \left( \frac{x_1 - \mu_1}{\sigma_1} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{x_2 - \mu_2}{\sigma_2} \right)^2 - 2\rho \left( \frac{x_1 - \mu_1}{\sigma_1} \right) \left( \frac{x_2 - \mu_2}{\sigma_2} \right) \right] \right\}$$

where  $\rho = \text{cov}[x_1, x_2]/(\sigma_1\sigma_2)$  is the correlation coefficient.

# Characteristic functions

$$\phi_x(k) = E[e^{ikx}] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{ikx} f(x) dx.$$

- Characteristic functions are fourier transforms of pdf, in one to one correspondence with the pdf's
- For sum of random variables  $z = \sum_i x_i$

$$\begin{aligned}\phi_z(k) &= \int \dots \int \exp\left(ik \sum_{i=1}^n x_i\right) f_1(x_1) \dots f_n(x_n) dx_1 \dots dx_n \\ &= \int e^{ikx_1} f_1(x_1) dx_1 \dots \int e^{ikx_n} f_n(x_n) dx_n \\ &= \phi_1(k) \dots \phi_n(k). \longrightarrow f(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \phi_z(k) e^{-ikz} dk.\end{aligned}$$

# Characteristic functions 2

Distribution	p.d.f.	$\phi(k)$
Binomial	$f(n; N, p) = \frac{N!}{n!(N-n)!} p^n (1-p)^{N-n}$	$[p(e^{ik} - 1) + 1]^N$
Poisson	$f(n; \nu) = \frac{\nu^n}{n!} e^{-\nu}$	$\exp[\nu(e^{ik} - 1)]$
Uniform	$f(x; \alpha, \beta) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\beta-\alpha} & \alpha \leq x \leq \beta \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$	$\frac{e^{i\beta k} - e^{i\alpha k}}{(\beta-\alpha)ik}$
Exponential	$f(x; \xi) = \frac{1}{\xi} e^{-x/\xi}$	$\frac{1}{1-ik\xi}$
Gaussian	$f(x; \mu, \sigma^2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$	$\exp(i\mu k - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 k^2)$
Chi-square	$f(z; n) = \frac{1}{2^{n/2}\Gamma(n/2)} z^{n/2-1} e^{-z/2}$	$(1-2ik)^{-n/2}$
Cauchy	$f(x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{1}{1+x^2}$	$e^{- k }$

# Characteristic functions 3

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d^m}{dk^m} \phi_z(k) \Big|_{k=0} &= \frac{d^m}{dk^m} \int e^{ikz} f(z) dz \Big|_{k=0} \\ &= i^m \int z^m f(z) dz \\ &= i^m \mu'_m\end{aligned}$$

$$E[x] = -i \frac{d}{dk} [\exp(i\mu k - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 k^2)] \Big|_{k=0} = \mu,$$

$$\begin{aligned}V[x] &= E[x^2] - (E[x])^2 \\ &= -\frac{d^2}{dk^2} [\exp(i\mu k - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 k^2)] \Big|_{k=0} - \mu^2 = \sigma^2.\end{aligned}$$

# Characteristic function 4

$$\phi(k) = [p(e^{ik} - 1) + 1]^N.$$

Taking the limit  $p \rightarrow 0$ ,  $N \rightarrow \infty$  with  $\nu = pN$  constant gives

$$\phi(k) = \left( \frac{\nu}{N}(e^{ik} - 1) + 1 \right)^N \rightarrow \exp[\nu(e^{ik} - 1)],$$

# Cauchy

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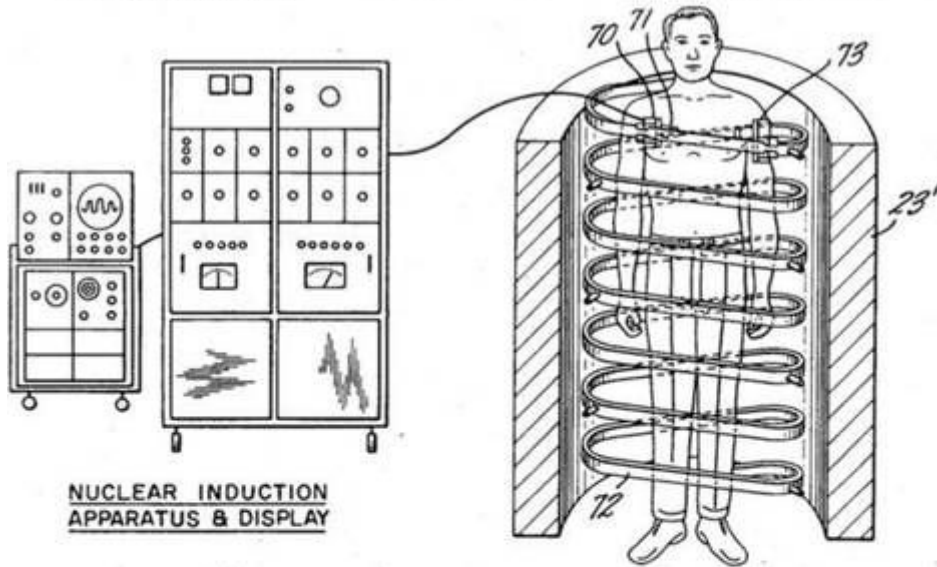


FIG. 2

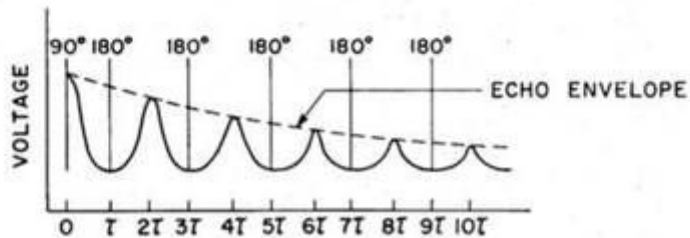
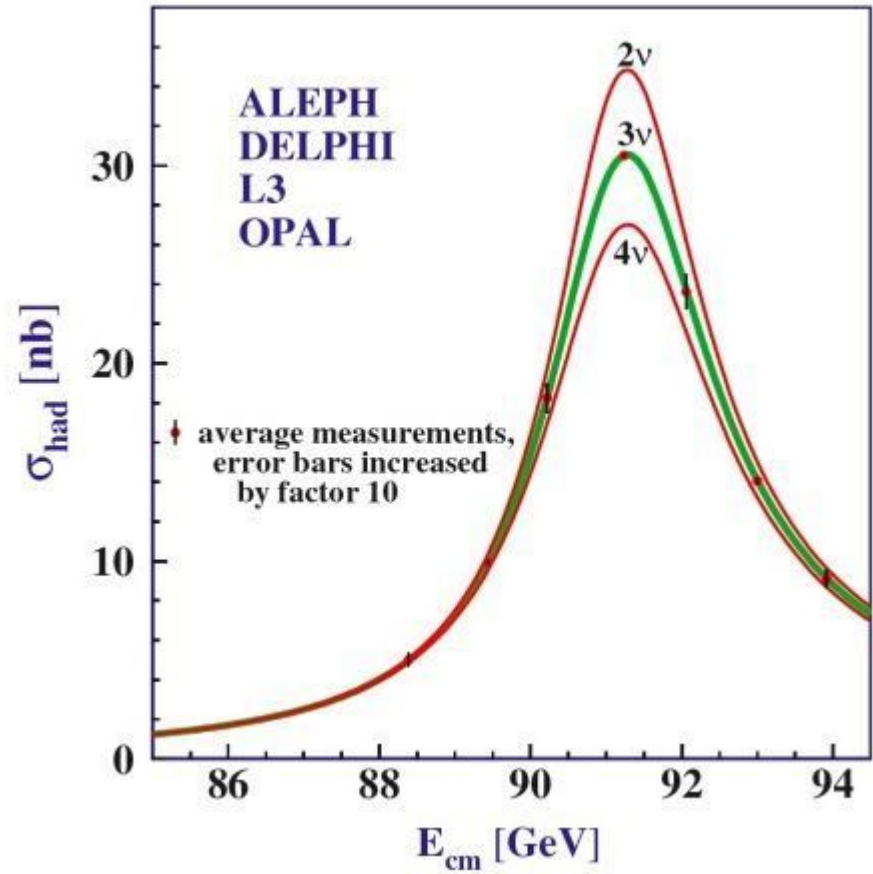
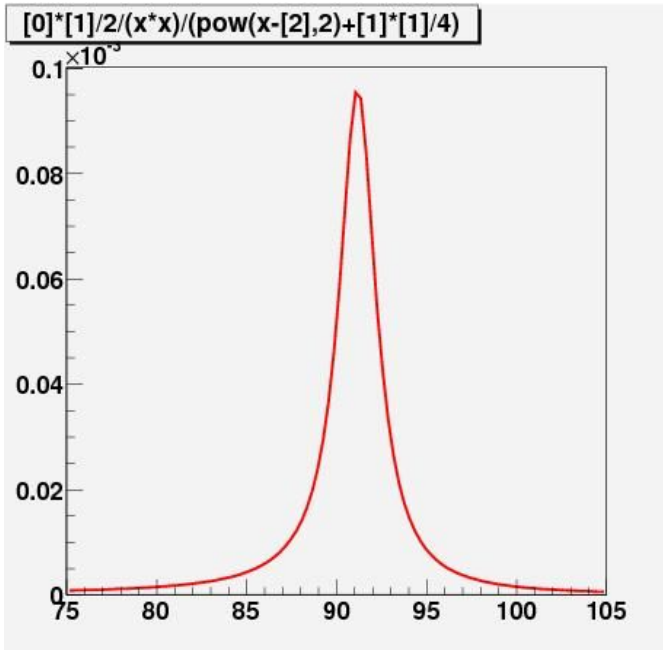


FIG. 3





# Cauchy



$$f(x; \Gamma, x_0) = \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{\Gamma/2}{\Gamma^2/4 + (x - x_0)^2}$$

( $\Gamma = 2$ ,  $x_0 = 0$  is the Cauchy pdf.)

- $E(x)$  is not well defined
- $V(x)$  tends to infinity
- Mode  $x_0$
- Fwhm:  $\Gamma$

# Student's t

$$f(x; \nu) = \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{\nu+1}{2}\right)}{\sqrt{\nu\pi} \Gamma(\nu/2)} \left(1 + \frac{x^2}{\nu}\right)^{-\left(\frac{\nu+1}{2}\right)}$$

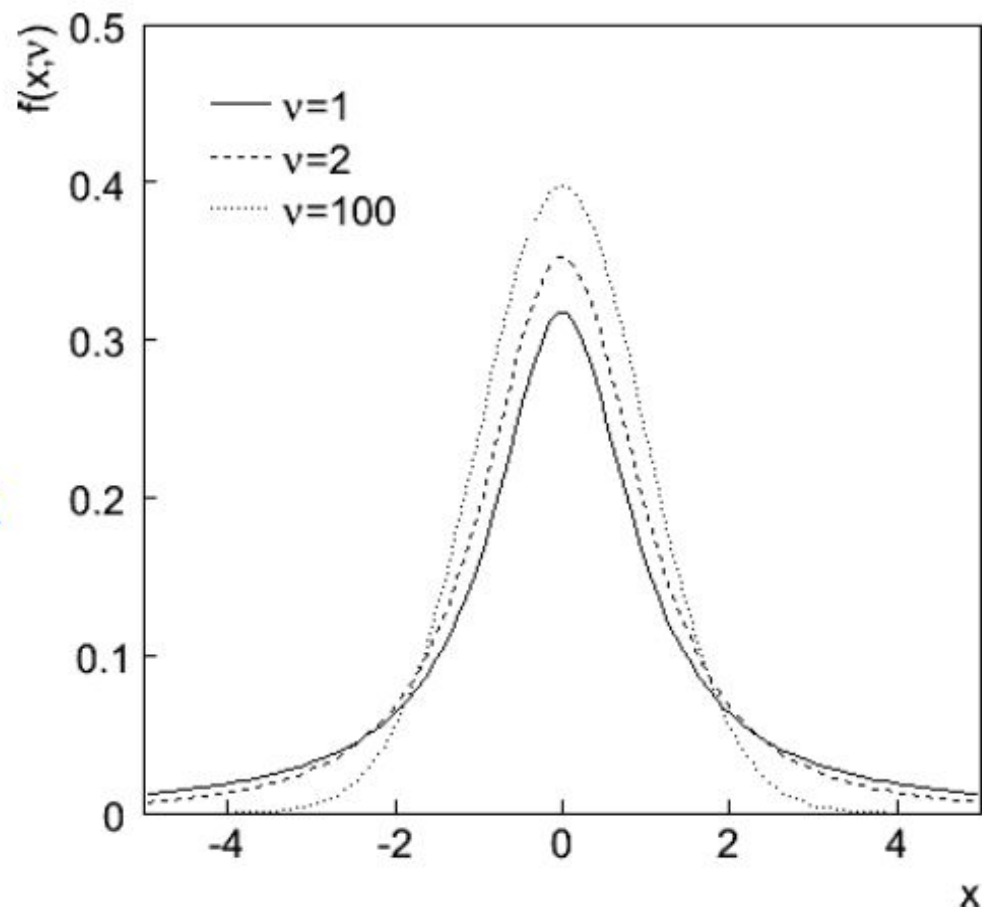
$$E[x] = 0 \quad (\nu > 1)$$

$$V[x] = \frac{\nu}{\nu - 2} \quad (\nu > 2)$$

$\nu$  = number of degrees of freedom  
(not necessarily integer)

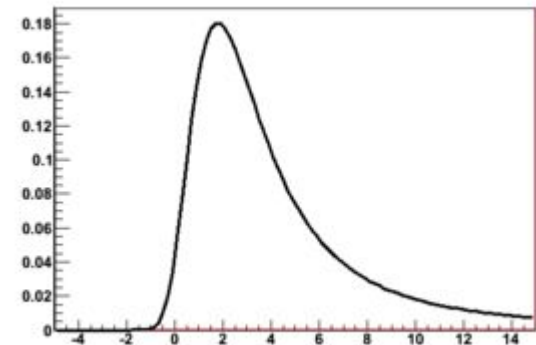
$\nu = 1$  gives Cauchy,

$\nu \rightarrow \infty$  gives Gaussian.



# Ionization loss

- Charged particle ionization is used to detect radiation
  - Cosmic radiation was detected with Wulf electrometer
  - Mars rover RAD detects radiation using ionization
- Delta rays give a long tail in energy loss due to ionization - Landau



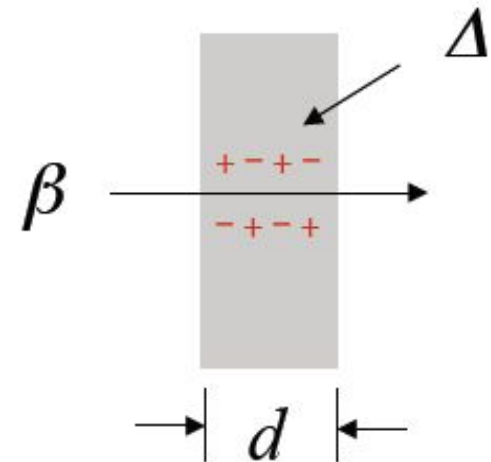
# Landau distribution

$$f(\Delta; \beta) = \frac{1}{\xi} \phi(\lambda) ,$$

$$\phi(\lambda) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \exp(-u \ln u - \lambda u) \sin \pi u \, du ,$$

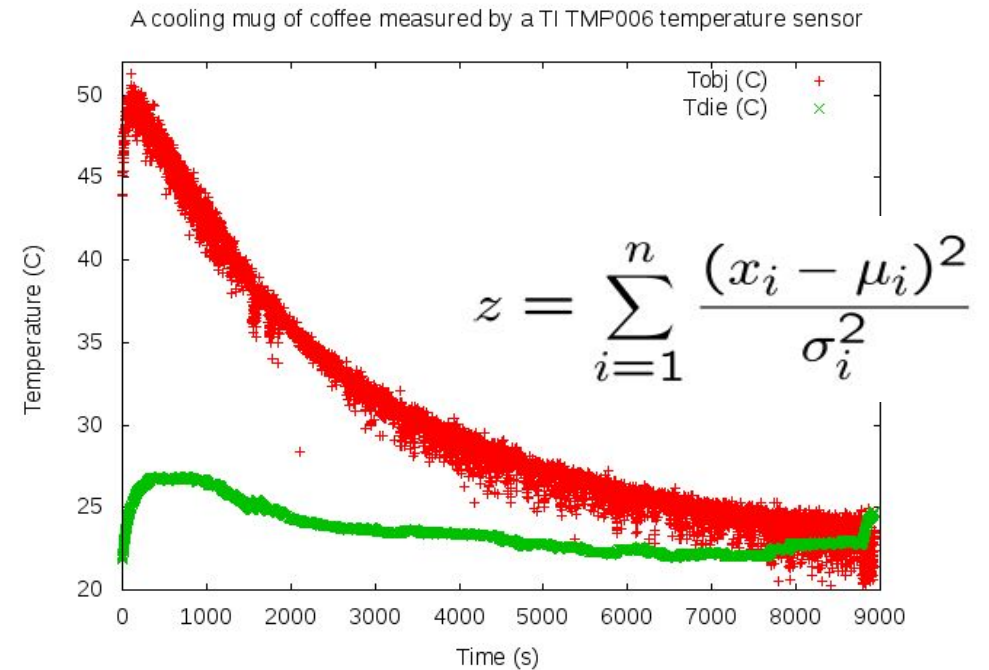
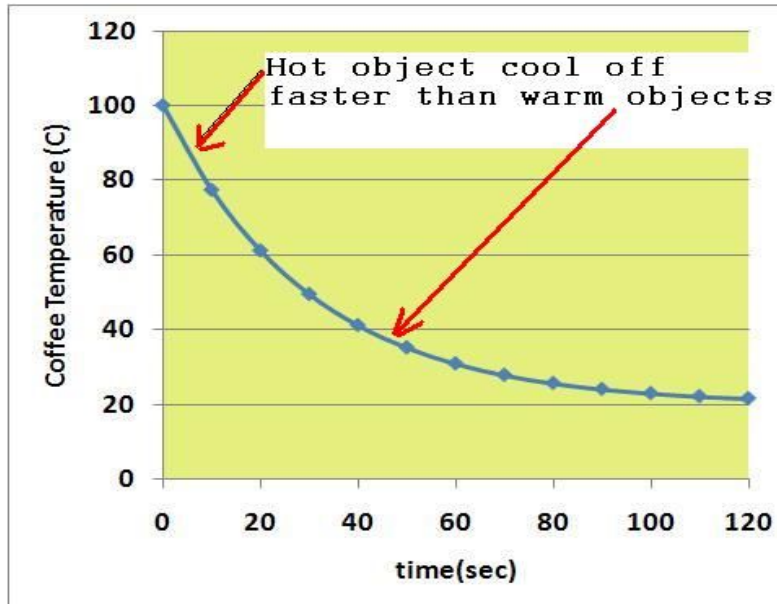
$$\lambda = \frac{1}{\xi} \left[ \Delta - \xi \left( \ln \frac{\xi}{\epsilon'} + 1 - \gamma_E \right) \right] ,$$

$$\xi = \frac{2\pi N_A e^4 z^2 \rho \sum Z}{m_e c^2 \sum A} \frac{d}{\beta^2} , \quad \epsilon' = \frac{I^2 \exp \beta^2}{2m_e c^2 \beta^2 \gamma^2} .$$



- All moments infinite!

# Chi-square ( $\chi^2$ )

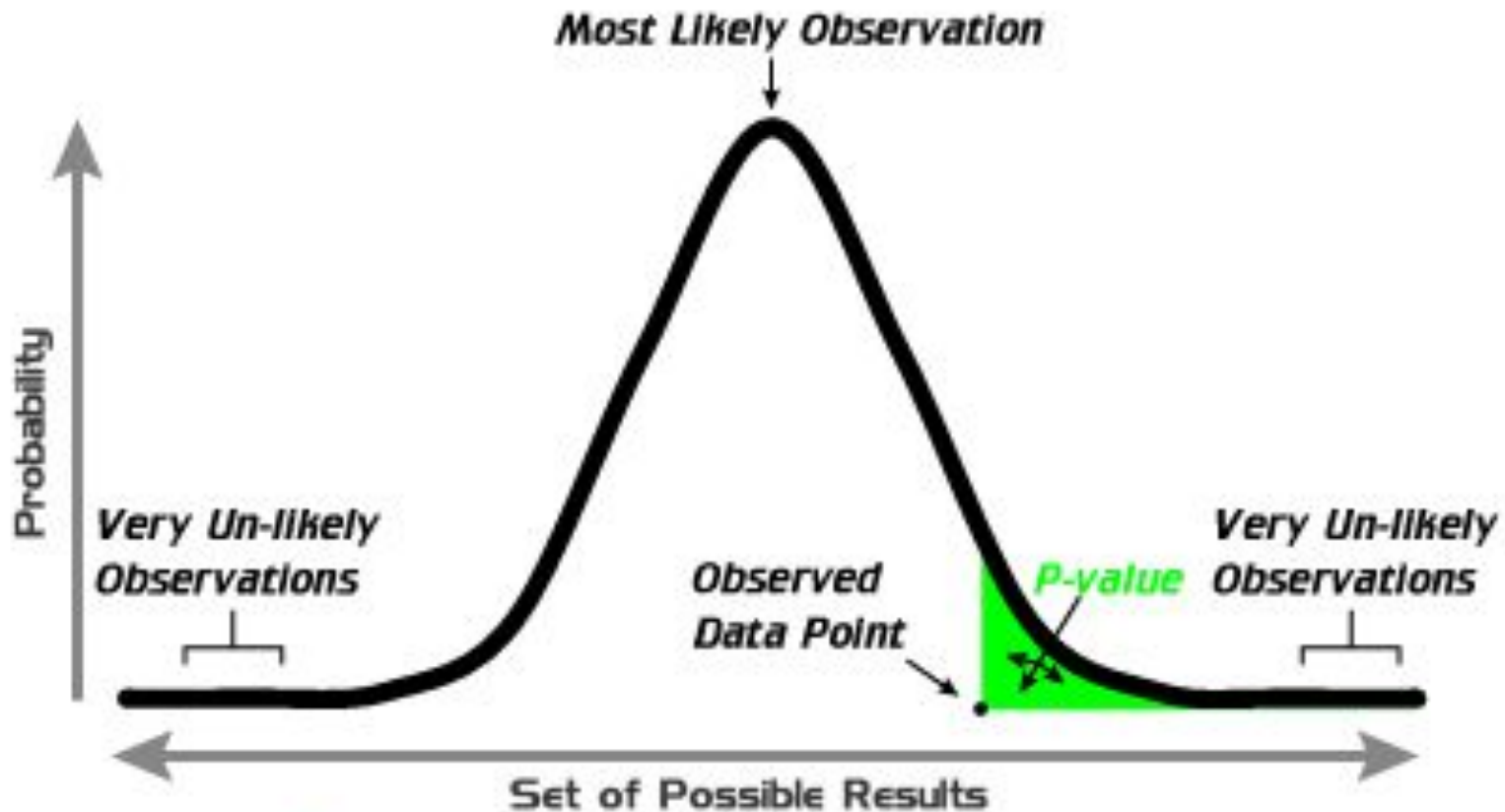


$$f(z; n) = \frac{1}{2^{n/2} \Gamma(n/2)} z^{n/2-1} e^{-z/2}$$

$n = 1, 2, \dots$  = number of 'degrees of freedom' (dof)

$$E[z] = n, \quad V[z] = 2n.$$

# p-value



A **p-value** (shaded green area) is the probability of an observed (or more extreme) result arising by chance

# Sum of random numbers?

- Question: How is the sum of two uniform random numbers distributed?
- How is the sum of many uniform random numbers distributed?

# Central limit theorem

- Consider sum  $(x_j)$  with mean  $\mu_j$  and standard deviation  $\sigma_j$

$$y_j = \frac{x_j - \mu_j}{\sqrt{n}}$$

$$\phi_j(k) = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{d^m \phi}{dk^m} \Big|_{k=0} \frac{k^m}{m!}$$

$$= \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{(ik)^m}{m!} E[y^m]$$

$$= 1 - \frac{k^2}{2n} \sigma^2 - \frac{ik^3}{3!} \frac{E[(x_j - \mu_j)^3]}{n^{3/2}} + \dots,$$



# Central limit theorem 2

$$z = \sum_j y_j$$

$$\phi_z(\mathbf{k}) = \prod_{j=1}^n \phi_j(k) = \prod_{j=1}^n \left( 1 - \frac{k^2}{2n} \sigma^2 - \frac{ik^3}{3!} \frac{E[(x_j - \mu_j)^3]}{n^{3/2}} + \dots \right)$$

- Neglecting higher orders

$$\phi_z(k) \approx \left( 1 - \frac{k^2}{2n} \sigma^2 \right)^n \rightarrow \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 k^2 \right)$$

- Gaussian with mean 0 and variance  $\sigma^2$
- Transforming back, one gets Gaussian with sum  $(\mu_j)$  and variance  $n \cdot \sigma^2$
- **Important: sample mean is Gaussian distributed**
- **Fails for Landau, Cauchy**

# Central limit theorem 2

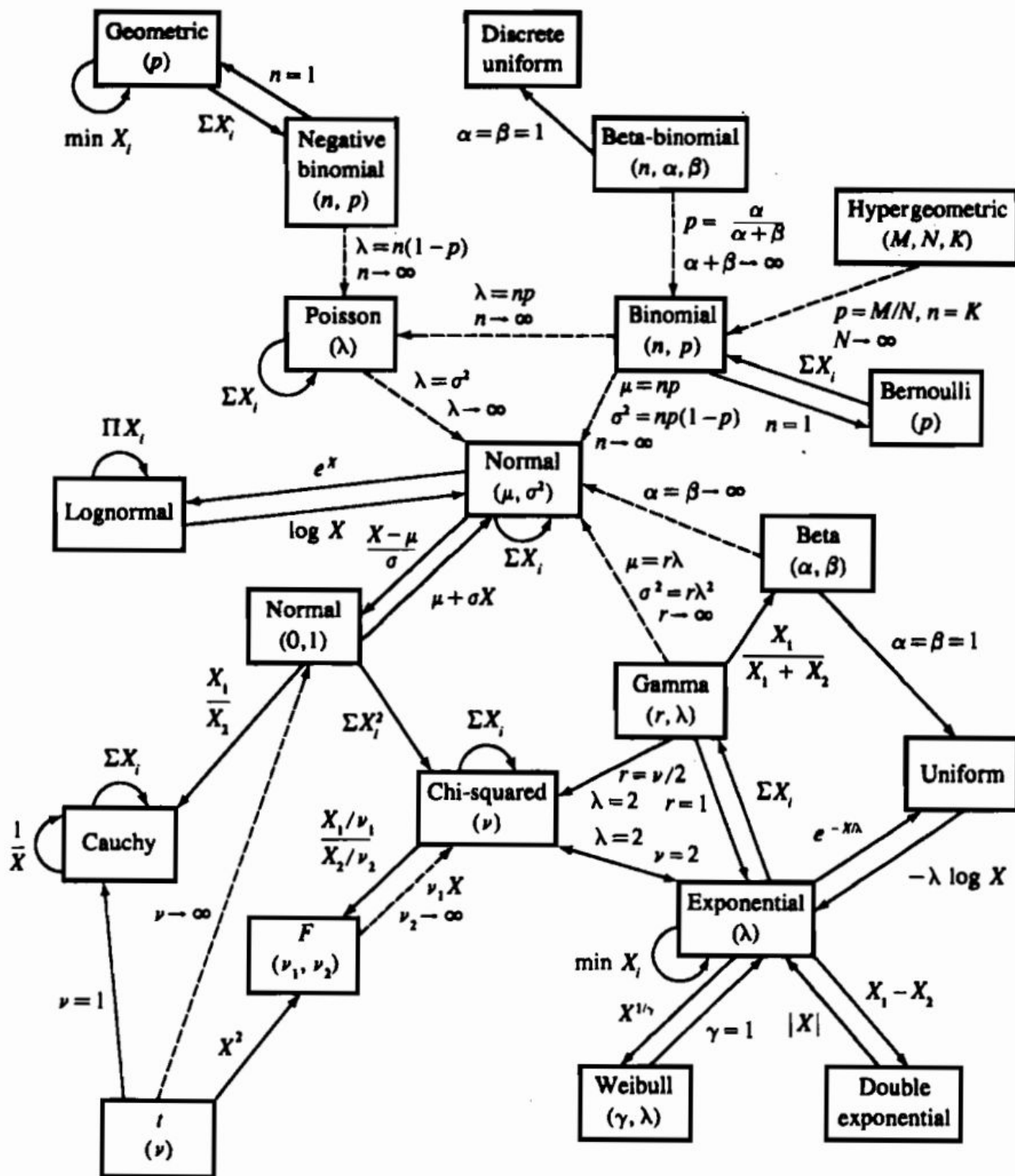
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- Neglecting higher orders

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# Lecture 3

# Linear Congruential Generator

- Goal: Generate  $U_n$  uniform in the interval  $[0,1)$
- Generate  $X_n$  in  $[0,m)$ ,  $U_n = X_n/m$
- $X_{n+1} = (a * X_n + c) \% m$  – Linear congruential series
- Four constants required
- $X_0$  (starting value/seed),  $a$  (multiplier),  $c$  (increment/bias),  $m$  (modulus)
- $X_0 = a = c = 7, m = 10$  will give 7, 6, 9, 0, 7, 6, 9, 0, ...
  - Four magic numbers required:

# Linear Congruential Generator 2

- $X_{n+1} = (65539 * X_n) \% \text{pow}(2, 31)$
- This is essentially RANDU, most popular generator for many years
  - Multiplicative congruential method (Lehman's original method)
  - Mixed congruential method  $C \neq 0$
- For the math (number theory):  
<http://www.math.cornell.edu/~mec/Winter2009/Luo/Linear%20Congruential%20Generator/linear%20congruential%20gen1.html>

# Code for linear congruential generator

```
#include <iostream>
#include <ostream>
#include <cmath>
#include <TMath.h>
#include <TRandom2.h>
#include <TH1.h>
#include <TH1D.h>
#include <TCanvas.h>
#include <TStyle.h>

double GetUniform()
{
    Static int X0 = 12345, m = 0, Xn =
0;
    m = pow(2,31);
    Xn=X0;
    Xn = (65539*Xn)%m;
    return (double)Xn/(double)m;
}

int main(){

    std::cout<<GetUniform()<<std::endl;
```

# Marsaglia



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## George Marsaglia

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**George Marsaglia** (March 12, 1924 – February 15, 2011)<sup>[1]</sup> was an American mathematician and computer scientist. He established the lattice structure of *linear congruential generators* in the paper "Random numbers fall mainly in the planes".<sup>[2]</sup> This phenomenon is sometimes called the Marsaglia effect, and means that *n*-tuples with coordinates obtained from consecutive use of the generator will lie on a small number of equally spaced hyperplanes in *n*-dimensional space.<sup>[3]</sup> He also developed the so-called "diehard tests", a series of tests to determine whether or not a sequence of numbers have the statistical properties that could be expected from a random sequence. In 1995 he published a CD-ROM of random numbers which included the diehard tests.<sup>[4]</sup>

He is also known for developing some of the most commonly used methods for generating random numbers and using them to produce random samples from various distributions. Some of the most widely used being the *multiply-with-carry*, *subtract-with-borrow*, *Xorshift*, *KISS* and *Mother* methods for random numbers, and the *ziggurat algorithm* for generating normally or other unimodally distributed random variables.

He was Professor Emeritus of Pure and Applied Mathematics and Computer Science at Washington State University and Professor Emeritus of Statistics at Florida State University.

Marsaglia died of a heart attack on February 15, 2011, in Tallahassee.

### Family

[edit]

Marsaglia had one son, John, with his first wife, Lee Ann Marsaglia. Until his death he was married to Doris Marsaglia. He had two grandchildren, Chris and Nicole Marsaglia, through their son John and his wife Michelle.

### See also

[edit]

- Linear congruential generator
- Marsaglia polar method

### References

[edit]

- ↑ George Marsaglia Obituary
- ↑ A.C. Marsaglia "Random numbers fall mainly in the planes" *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.* **61**(1): 25–28 (1968)

#### George Marsaglia

<b>Born</b>	March 12, 1924
<b>Died</b>	February 15, 2011 (aged 86) Tallahassee, Florida
<b>Nationality</b>	American
<b>Fields</b>	Mathematics
<b>Institutions</b>	Florida State University Washington State University
<b>Alma mater</b>	Ohio State University
<b>Doctoral advisor</b>	Henry Mann



# Random numbers stay mainly in the plane

## *RANDOM NUMBERS FALL MAINLY IN THE PLANES*

BY GEORGE MARSAGLIA

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*Communicated by G. S. Schairer, June 24, 1968*

Virtually all the world's computer centers use an arithmetic procedure for generating random numbers. The most common of these is the multiplicative congruential generator first suggested by D. H. Lehmer. In this method, one merely multiplies the current random integer  $I$  by a constant multiplier  $K$  and keeps the remainder after overflow:

$$\text{new } I = K \times \text{old } I \text{ modulo } M.$$

The apparently haphazard way in which successive multiplications by a large integer  $K$  produce remainders after overflow makes the resulting numbers work surprisingly well for many Monte Carlo problems. Scores of papers have reported favorably on cycle length and statistical properties of such generators.

The purpose of this note is to point out that all multiplicative congruential

The purpose of this note is to point out that all multiplicative congruential random number generators have a defect—a defect that makes them unsuitable for many Monte Carlo problems and that cannot be removed by adjusting the starting value, multiplier, or modulus. The problem lies in the “crystalline” nature of multiplicative generators—if  $n$ -tuples  $(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n)$ ,  $(u_2, u_3, \dots, u_{n+1}), \dots$  of uniform variates produced by the generator are viewed as points in the unit cube of  $n$  dimensions, then *all* the points will be found to lie in a relatively small number of parallel hyperplanes. Furthermore, there are many systems of parallel hyperplanes which contain all of the points; the points are about as randomly spaced in the unit  $n$ -cube as the atoms in a perfect crystal at absolute zero.

One can readily think of Monte Carlo problems where such regularity in “random” points in  $n$ -space would be unsatisfactory; more disturbing is the possibility that for the past 20 years such regularity might have produced bad, but unrecognized, results in Monte Carlo studies which have used multiplicative generators.

# Multiply with carry

- `uint GetUint()`
- `{`
- `m_z = 36969 * (m_z & 65535) + (m_z >> 16);`
- `m_w = 18000 * (m_w & 65535) + (m_w >>`  
`16);`
- `return (m_z << 16) + m_w;`
- `}`

# Test of randomness

- Diehard tests (marsaglia 1995)
- Birthday spacings, parking lot test, the craps test, **monkey tests (based on infinite monkey theorem), count the 1's,...**
- See  
eg:[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Diehard\\_tests](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Diehard_tests)

# Test with linear congruential numbers

# lecture-3

# Other distributions from uniform variate

- Uniform random numbers can be used to generate other distributions
- Let  $x$  be uniform in  $(0., 1.)$ , we want a new random number  $a$  in  $(a_1, a_2)$  distributed as  $g(a)$
- Conservation of probability:
- $g(a)da = f(x)dx$ ;  $f(x) = 1$ .
- $g(a) = |dx/da|$
- If  $g(a)$  is desired to be exponential then:
- $(1/D)^* \exp(-a/D) = |dx/da|$  ( $D = \text{const parameter}$ )

# Usefulness of randomness

- What is the probability of getting two sixes in 10 throws of a fair dice?
- Example code dicethrow
- What is the probability of two successive sixes in 10 throws of a dice?
- Modify dicethrow