

CS70: Jean Walrand: Lecture 19.

Random Variables: Expectation

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1. Random Variables: Brief Review
2. Expectation
3. Important Distributions

Random Variables: Definitions

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- ▶ $(X - Y)^2$
- ▶ $X \cos(2\pi Y + Z)$.

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Also,

$$\sum_a a \times Pr[X = a] = 3 \times \frac{1}{8} + 2 \times \frac{3}{8} + 1 \times \frac{3}{8} + 0 \times \frac{1}{8}.$$

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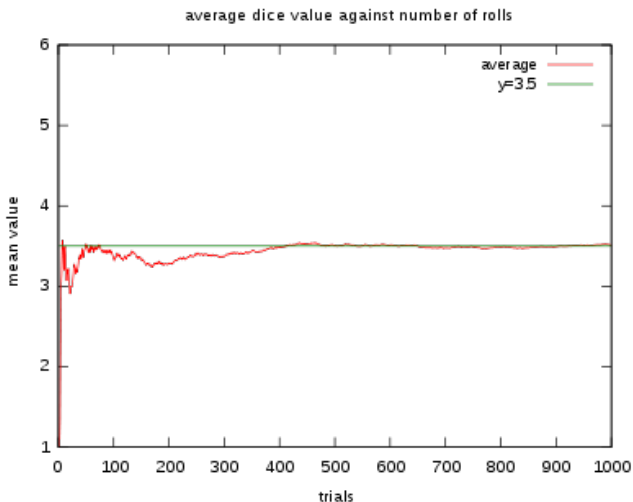
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Thus, we will write $X = 1_A$.

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□

Note: If we had defined $Y = a_1 X_1 + \cdots + a_n X_n$ and had tried to compute $E[Y] = \sum_y y Pr[Y = y]$, we would have been in trouble!

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Note: Computing $\sum_x xPr[X = x]$ directly is not easy!

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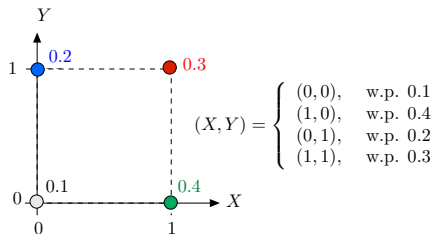
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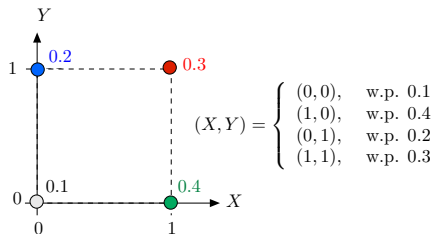
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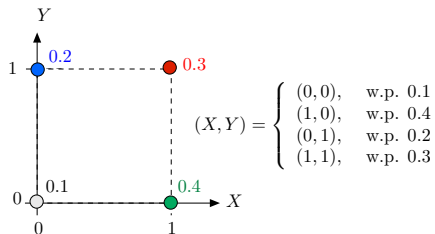
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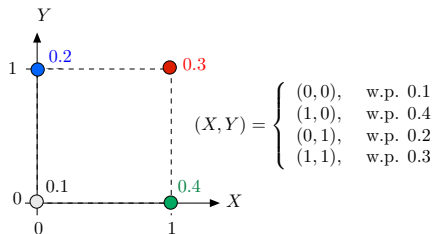
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The value of a that minimizes $E[|X - a|]$ is the *median* of X .

The median v of X is any real number such that

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Thus, if $0 < \varepsilon \ll 1$,

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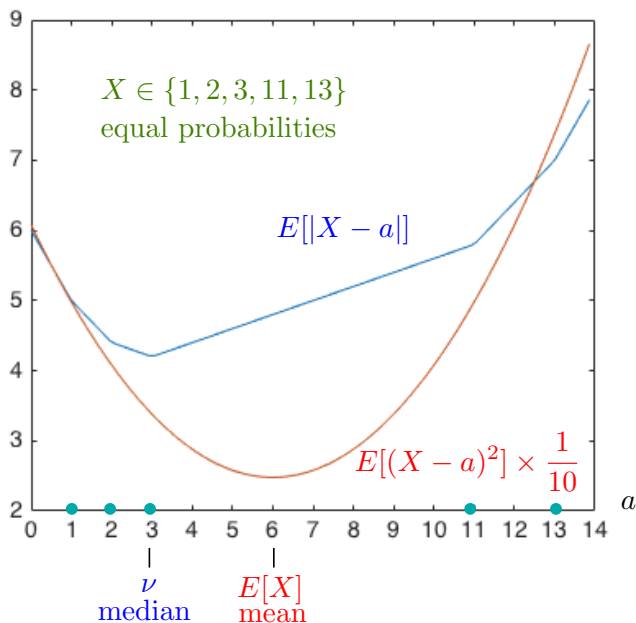
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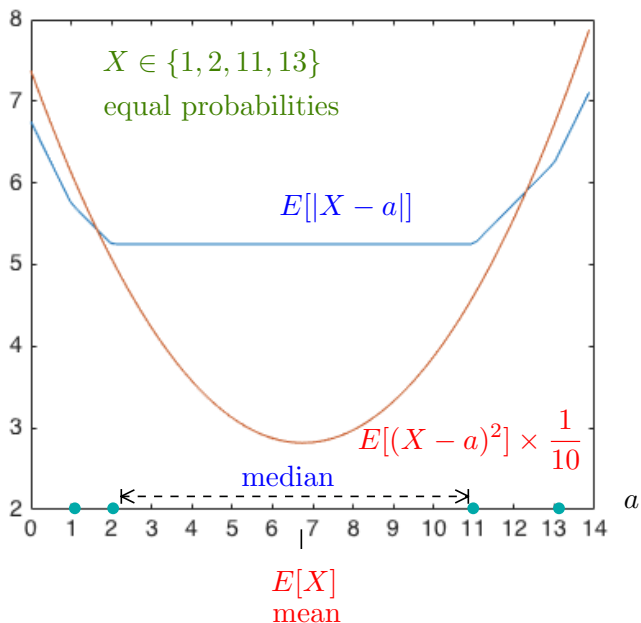
Best Guess: Illustration

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Best Guess: Another Illustration

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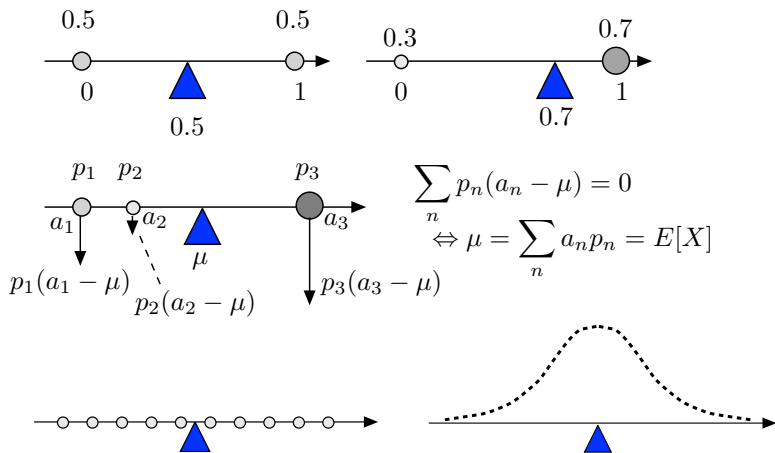
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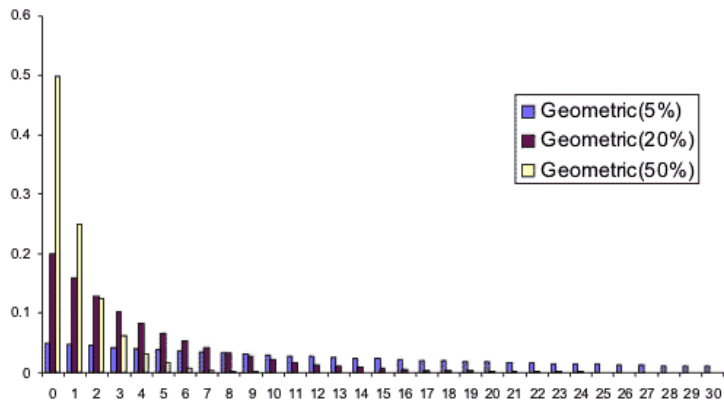
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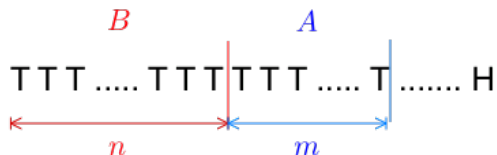
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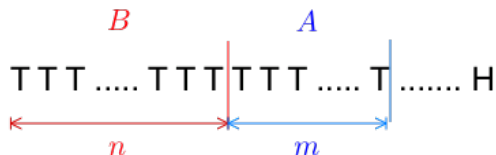
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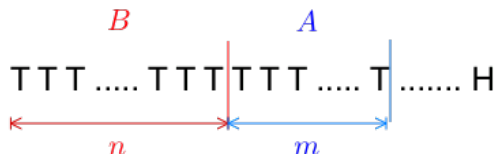
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The coin is memoryless, therefore, so is X .

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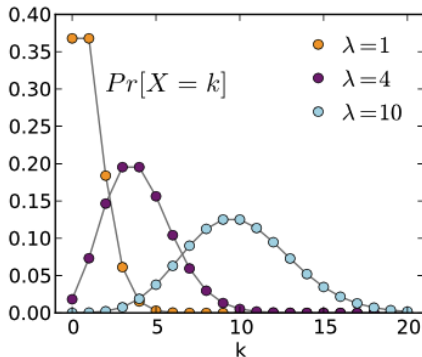
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Simeon Poisson

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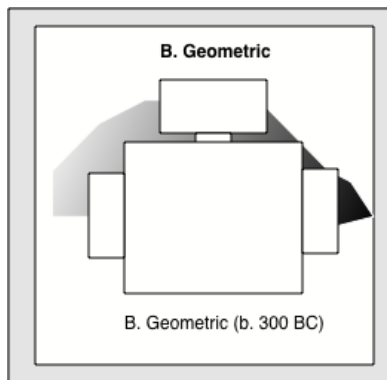


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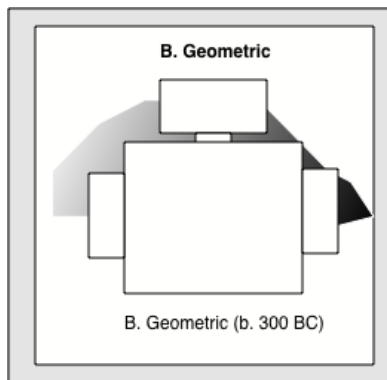
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I could not find a picture of D. Binomial, sorry.

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Random Variables

- ▶ A random variable X is a function $X : \Omega \rightarrow \mathfrak{R}$.
- ▶ $Pr[X = a] := Pr[X^{-1}(a)] = Pr[\{\omega \mid X(\omega) = a\}]$.
- ▶ $Pr[X \in A] := Pr[X^{-1}(A)]$.
- ▶ The distribution of X is the list of possible values and their probability: $\{(a, Pr[X = a]), a \in \mathcal{A}\}$.
- ▶ $g(X, Y, Z)$ assigns the value
- ▶ $E[X] := \sum_a a Pr[X = a]$.
- ▶ Expectation is Linear.
- ▶ $B(n, p), U[1 : n], G(p), P(\lambda)$.