

Foundamental Course on  
Probability, Random Variable and Random Processes

Teacher: W.K. Cham

- ❑ Probability Theory
- ❑ Random Variables
- ❑ Random Processes
  - Stationary RP & Ergodic RP
  - Gaussian RP
  - Filtering of RP

## Random Variables (2)

The **outcomes** of the experiments below are random variables whose values are defined at each sample points  $s_1, s_2, \dots$  in a sample space  $S$

**Sample space** is the set corresponds to all possible outcomes of an experiment.

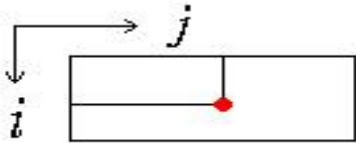
A **sample point** is a point at which an outcome of an experiment is sampled.

experiment

outcome

sample space

sample point



luminance  $x(i,j) \in [0, 255]$

discrete  $(i,j)$



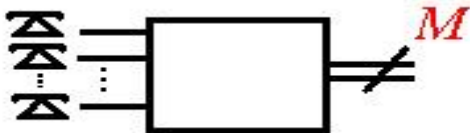
voltage  $x(t) \in (-\infty, \infty)$

continuous  $t$



$x(i) \in [1,6]$

discrete  $i$



$k(t)$  lines busy  $\in [0, M]$

continuous  $t$

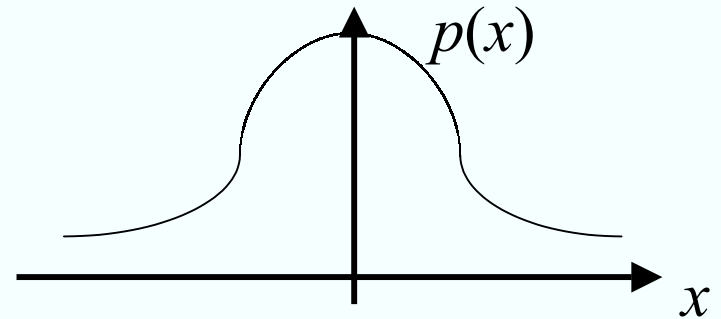
## Definition of Probability Density Function $p.d.f.$ <sup>(3)</sup>

**Def:** Let  $x$  represent a continuous **random variable** in a **sample space**  $S$ . For each  $x$  we have a  $p.d.f.$   $p(x)$  which is a function that satisfies the following:

$$1) p(x) \geq 0 \quad \forall x \in S$$

$$2) \int_S p(x) dx = 1$$

$$3) \forall x_1 < x_2 \text{ in } S$$



$$\text{The probability of } x \in [x_1, x_2] = P(x_1 \leq x \leq x_2) = \int_{x_1}^{x_2} p(x) dx$$

If  $x$  is continuous  
at  $a$ , then the  
probability of  $x=a$

$$= P(x=a) = \int_a^a p(x) da = 0$$

### The 3 axioms of Probability

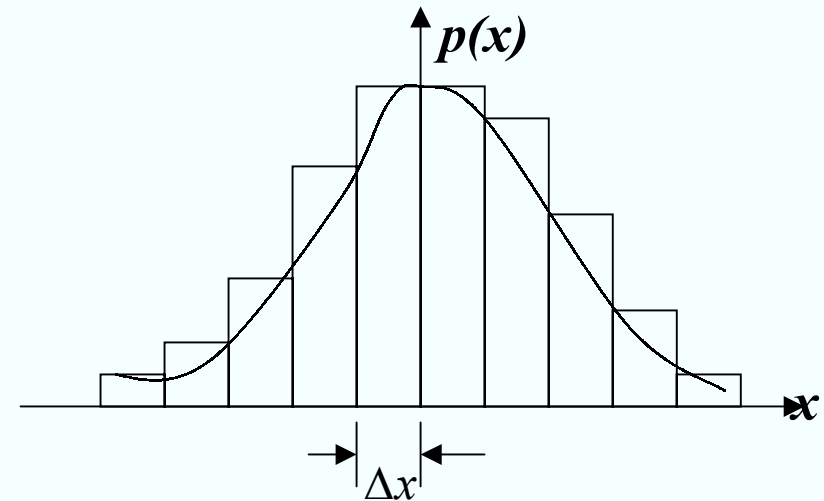
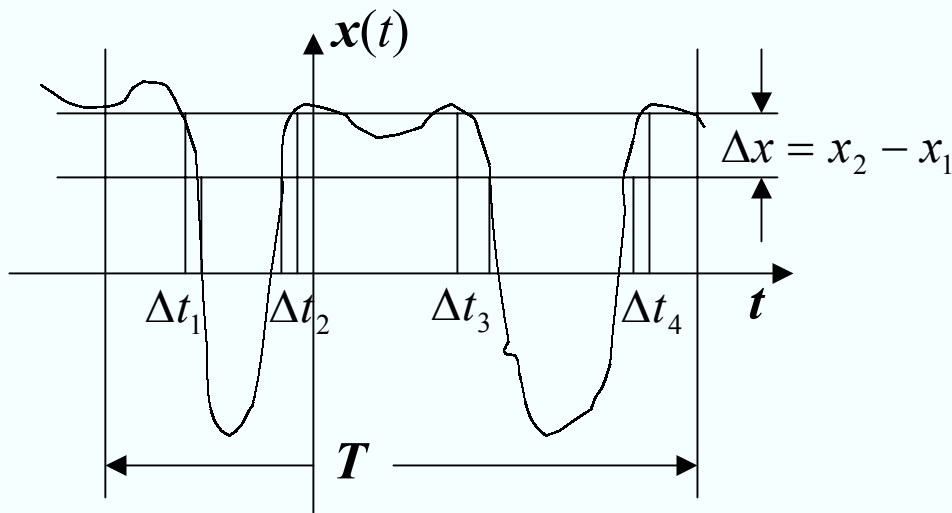
$$1. P(A) \geq 0$$

$$2. P(S) = 1$$

$$3. AB = 0$$

$$\rightarrow P(A+B) = P(A) + P(B)$$

## How to determine the $p.d.f.$ of a random variable <sup>(4)</sup>



- (1) choose a value for  $\Delta x$  (resolution improves as  $\Delta x \downarrow$ )
- (2) choose a value for  $T$  (accuracy improves as  $T \uparrow$ )

$$\int_{x_1}^{x_2} p(x) dx = P(x_1 \leq x \leq x_2)$$

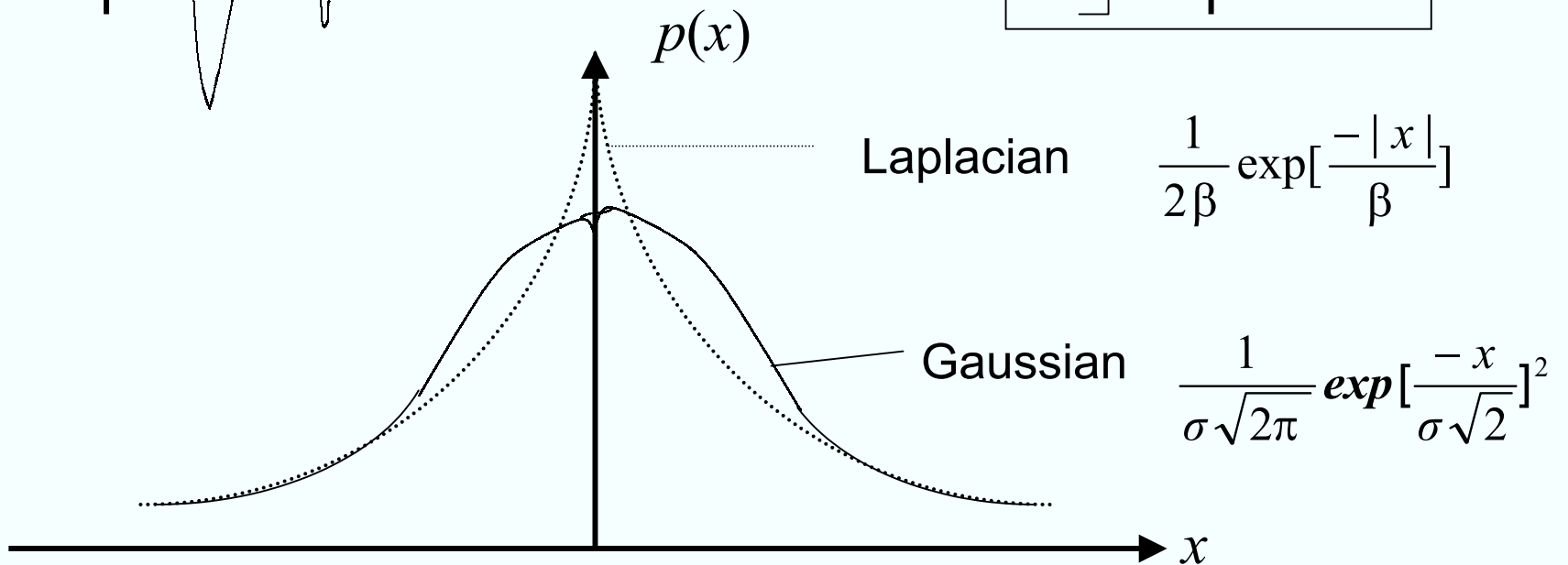
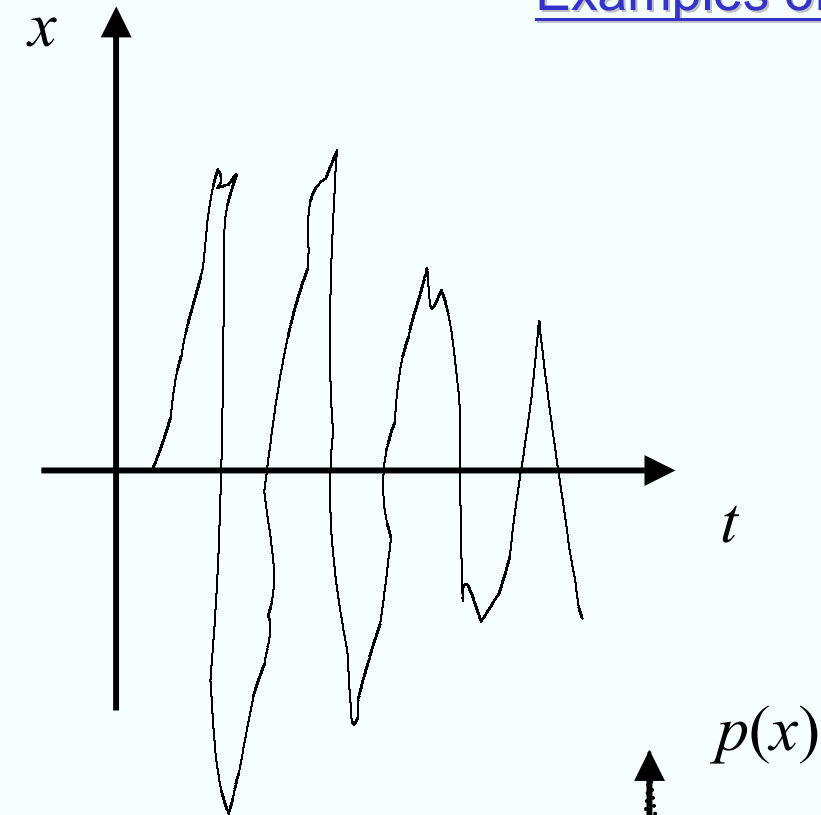
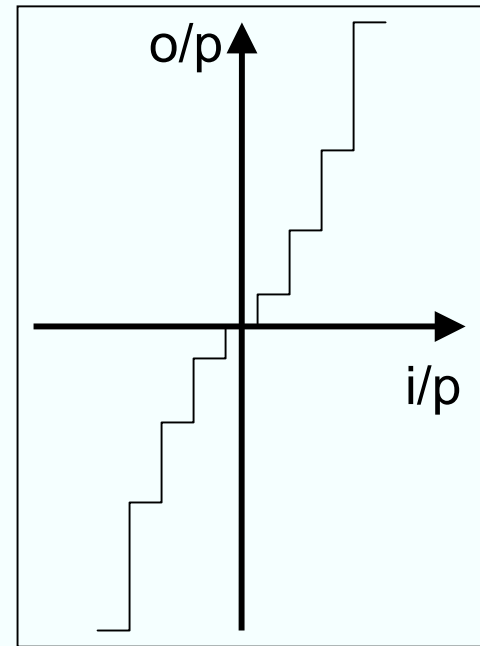
For  $x_1 \cong x_2$ ,  $p(x)$  will be approximately constant over that interval

$$p(x)(x_2 - x_1) \cong P(x_1 \leq x \leq x_2), x \in [x_1, x_2]$$

$$p(x) \cong \frac{P(x_1 \leq x \leq x_2)}{x_2 - x_1}, x \in [x_1, x_2] \quad \longrightarrow \quad p(x) \cong \frac{1}{\Delta x} \cdot \frac{\sum_{i=1}^j \Delta t_i}{T}$$

## Examples of p.d.f.s (5)

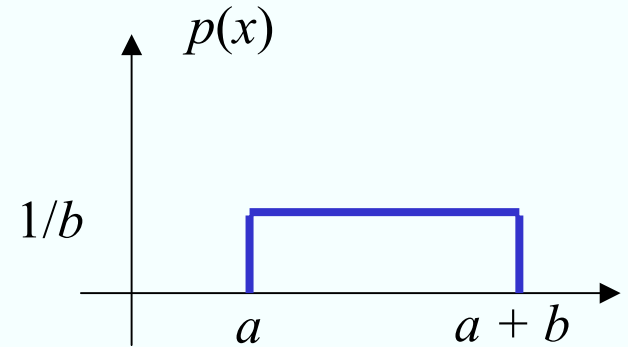
Quantizer



## Uniform Distribution <sup>(6)</sup>

*Def:* The uniform distribution with parameters  $a$  &  $b$  is defined by the

$$p.d.f. \quad p(x) = \begin{cases} 1/b & \text{for } x \in [a, a+b] \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



*Properties:*

$$\mathbf{E}[\mathbf{x}] = \overline{\mathbf{x}} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x \cdot p(x) dx = \frac{1}{b} \int_a^{a+b} x dx = \frac{1}{b} \left[ \frac{x^2}{2} \right]_a^{a+b} = a + \frac{b}{2}$$

$$\mathbf{E}[\mathbf{x}^2] = \int_a^{a+b} x^2 \cdot p(x) dx = \frac{1}{b} \left[ \frac{x^3}{3} \right]_a^{a+b} = a^2 + ab + \frac{b^2}{3}$$

$$\sigma^2 = \overline{\mathbf{x}^2} - \overline{\mathbf{x}}^2 = a^2 + ab + \frac{b^2}{3} - a^2 - \frac{b^2}{4} - ab = \frac{b^2}{12}$$

## Gaussian Distribution (7)

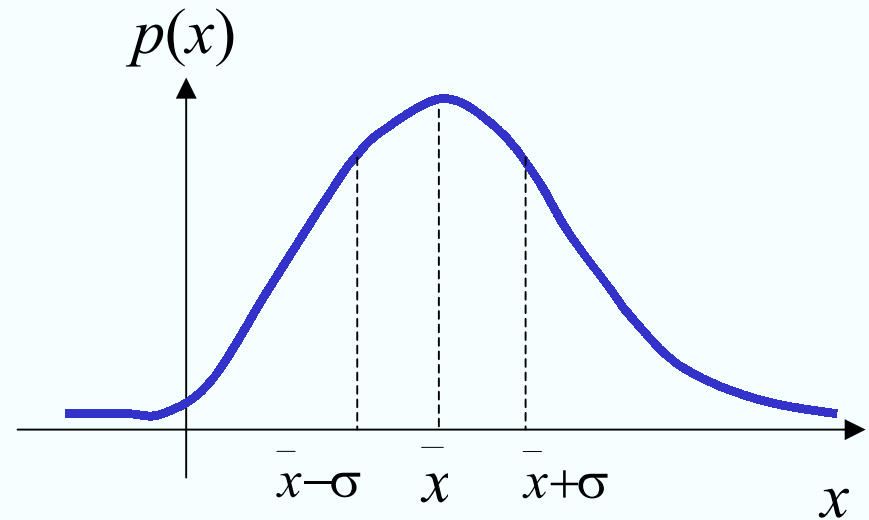
*Def:* The Gaussian (normal) distribution with parameters  $\sigma$  &  $\bar{x}$  is defined by the *p.d.f.*

$$p(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} \cdot e^{-\frac{(x-\bar{x})^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

*Properties:*

$$E[\mathbf{x}] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x \cdot p(x) dx = \bar{x}$$

$$E[\mathbf{x}^2] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 \cdot p(x) dx = \bar{x}^2 + \sigma^2$$
$$\therefore \sigma^2 = E[\mathbf{x}^2] - E[\mathbf{x}]^2$$



## p.d.f. of Linearly Combined Random Variables <sup>(8)</sup>

$y = a_1 \mathbf{x}_1 + a_2 \mathbf{x}_2 + \dots + a_n \mathbf{x}_n$  where  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  are constants,  
 $\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$  are  $n$  independent variable &

$p_{x_1}(x_1), p_{x_2}(x_2), \dots, p_{x_n}(x_n)$  are their p.d.f respectively.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{If } y = x_1 + x_2 \quad \text{then} \quad p_y(y) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p_{x_1}(\alpha) \cdot p_{x_2}(y - \alpha) d\alpha \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p_{x_2}(\alpha) \cdot p_{x_1}(y - \alpha) d\alpha \\ &= \text{convolution of } p_{x_1}(x_1) \& p_{x_2}(x_2) \\ &= p_{x_1} \otimes p_{x_2} \\ &= p_{x_2} \otimes p_{x_1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{If } y = x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n$$

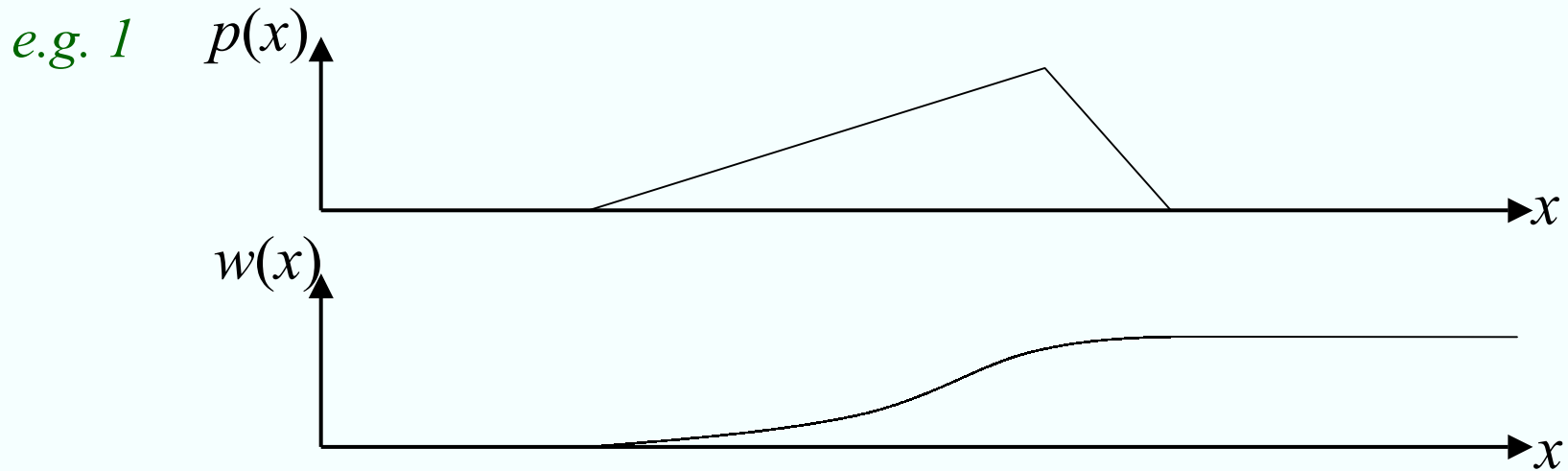
$$\text{then } p_y(y) = p_{x_1} \otimes p_{x_2} \otimes \dots \otimes p_{x_n}$$



## Probability Distribution Function <sup>(9)</sup>

*Def:* The Probability Distribution Function  $W(x_1)$  of a random variable  $x$  is the probability that  $x$  is less than or equal to  $x_1$ ,

i.e. 
$$W(x_1) = \int_{-\infty}^{x_1} p(x) dx = P(x \leq x_1).$$



*Consider* a random variable  $x$  of *p.d.f.*  $p(x)$  and distribution function  $W(x)$ .

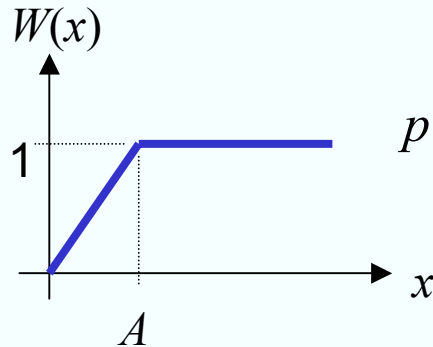
*Note that:*

- The  $x$  in  $p(x)$  and  $W(x)$  is not a random variable but **a value of the random variable  $x$** .
- The *p.d.f.*  $p(x)$  is not a probability but **a rate of change of the probability  $W(x)$  w.r.t.  $x$ , i.e.  $\frac{dW(x)}{dx}$** .
- The distribution function  $W(x)$  of random variable  $x$  is **the probability** that  $x$  has a value less than or equal to the value  $x$ .

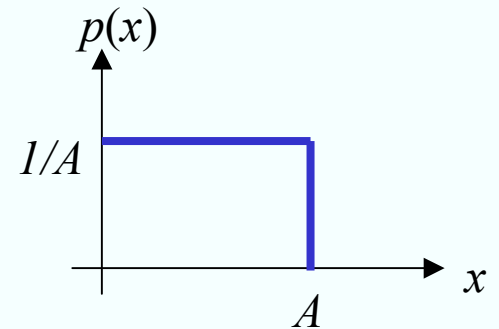
# Probability Distribution Function $W(x)$ (11)

$$p(x) = \frac{dW(x)}{dx} \quad \text{or} \quad p(x_1) = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{W(x_1 + \Delta x) - W(x_1)}{\Delta x}$$

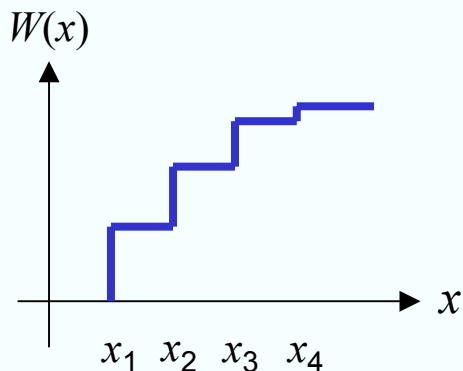
## Example 1



$$p(x) = \frac{dW(x)}{dx} = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{A} & x \in (0, A] \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

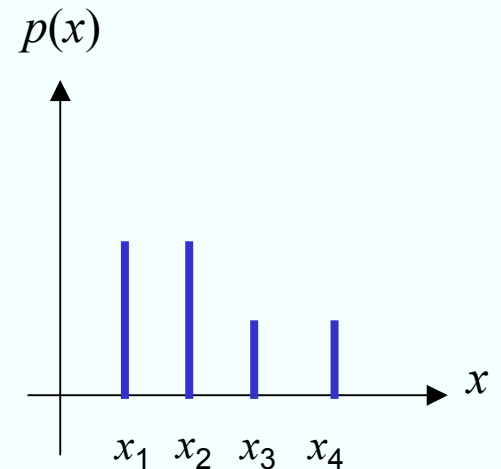


## Example 2



$$p(x) = \sum_{i=1}^4 P(x_i) \cdot \delta(x - x_i)$$

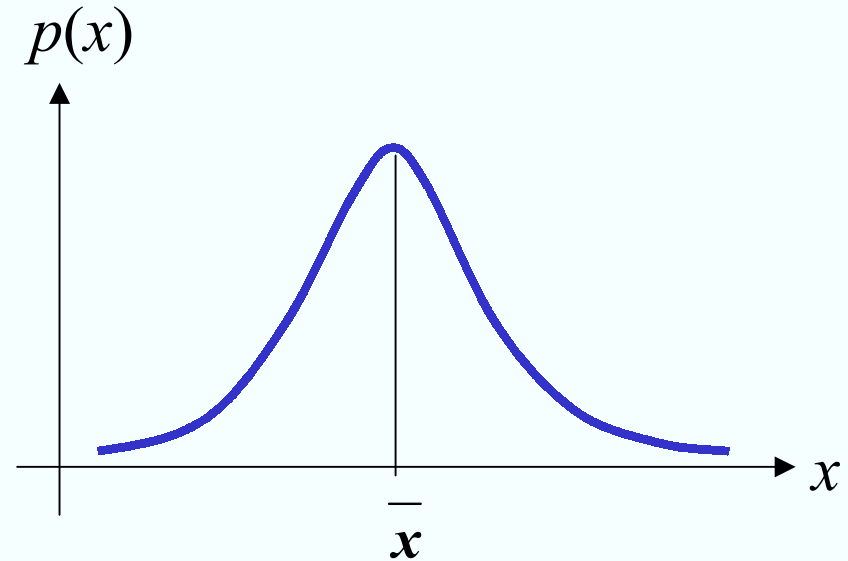
$$\text{where } P(x_i) = W(x_i) - W(x_i - \varepsilon)$$



## Statistical Average (12)

*Def.* The **average value**  $\bar{x}$  of a random variable  $x$  with a *p.d.f.*  $p(x)$  is

$$\bar{x} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x \cdot p(x) dx.$$



*Note :*

1.  $\bar{x} \equiv E[x] \equiv$  **Expected value**  $\equiv$  **Mean value**  $\equiv$  **Ensemble average**

2. If  $g(x)$  is an arbitrary function of  $x$ , the expected value of

$g(x)$  is  $E[g(x)] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x) \cdot p(x) dx.$

## Moments (13)

*Def.* The  $n$  th moment of  $p(x)$  (about the origin)

$$\equiv E[x^n] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^n \cdot p(x) dx \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

*Def.* The  $n$  th moment of  $p(x)$  about the  $x_0$

$$\equiv E[(x - x_0)^n] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x - x_0)^n \cdot p(x) dx \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

*Note:* 1. The **first moment** ( $n = 1$ ) (about the origin)

$$= E[x] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x \cdot p(x) dx = \bar{x} = \text{mean value of } x$$

2. The **second moment** ( $n = 2$ )

$$= E[x^2] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 \cdot p(x) dx = \overline{x^2} = \text{mean square value of } x$$

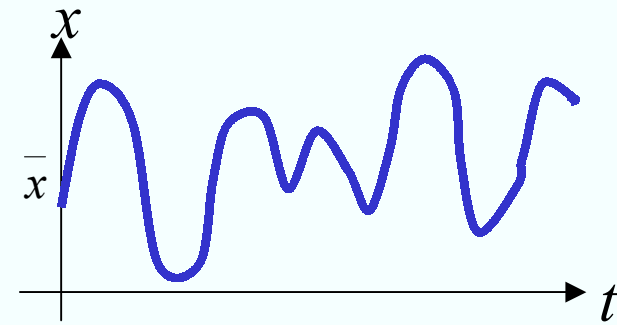
### Examples (14)

Given : a r.v.  $x$  & its mean is  $\bar{x}$

i) Find:  $E[(x - \bar{x})]$

Sln:  $E[(x - \bar{x})] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x - \bar{x})p(x)dx$

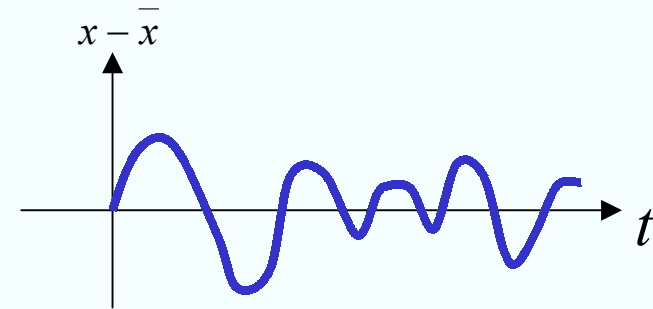
$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x \cdot p(x)dx - \bar{x} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p(x)dx$$
$$= 0$$



ii) Find:  $E[(x - \bar{x})^2]$

Sln:  $E[(x - \bar{x})^2]$

$$= E[x^2 + \bar{x}^2 - 2x\bar{x}]$$
$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 \cdot p(x)dx + \bar{x}^2 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p(x)dx - 2\bar{x} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x \cdot p(x)dx$$
$$= \overline{x^2} + \bar{x}^2 - 2\bar{x}^2$$



$$\therefore \overline{(x - \bar{x})^2} = \overline{x^2} - \bar{x}^2 \equiv \sigma^2 = \text{variance of the r.v. } x$$

Power of the r.v.  
(A.C. + D.C.)

Power of the D.C. component

Power of the A.C. component

## Central Limit Theorem (15)

$\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$  are **independent** random variables with *p.d.f.*  $p_{x1}, p_{x2}, \dots, p_{xn}$ . For  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{x}_2 + \dots + \mathbf{x}_n$ , the *p.d.f.* of  $\mathbf{y}$  is

$$p_y(y) = p_{x1} \otimes p_{x2} \otimes \dots \otimes p_{xn} \quad \text{where } \otimes \text{ is convolution.}$$

**Th<sup>m</sup>:** If  $n$  is very large, then for all  $p_{xi}$  the *p.d.f.* of  $\mathbf{y}$  equals

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p_y(y) = \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} e^{\frac{-(y - \bar{y})^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

where  $\bar{\mathbf{y}} = \bar{\mathbf{x}}_1 + \bar{\mathbf{x}}_2 + \dots + \bar{\mathbf{x}}_n$

$$\sigma^2 = \sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2 + \dots + \sigma_n^2$$

## Central Limit Theorem (16)

*Given:*  $y = \sum_{i=1}^{100} x_i$

$$p_i(x_i) = \begin{cases} 1 & x \in [-0.5, 0.5] \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad \text{for } i \in [1, 100]$$

*Find:*  $p_y(y)$  the p.d.f. of  $y$

*Sln:*

$$\overline{x_i} = 0$$

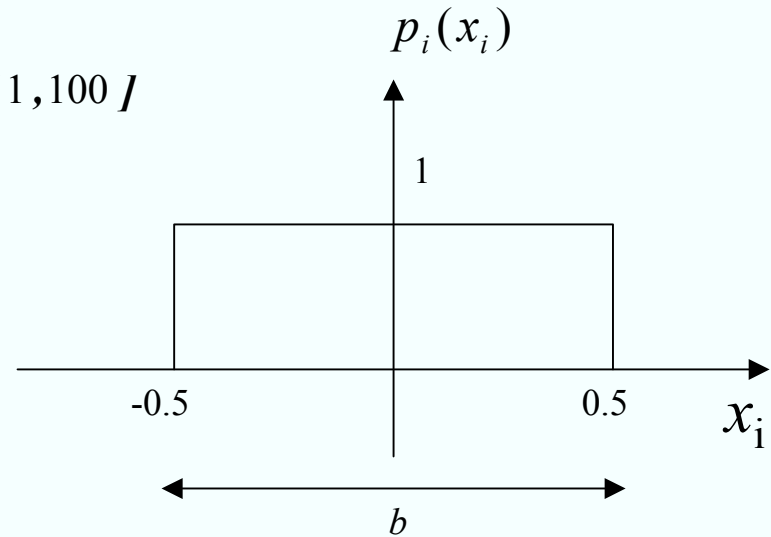
$$\sigma_i^2 = \frac{b}{12} = \frac{1}{12}$$

$$\overline{y} = \sum_{i=1}^{100} \overline{x_i} = 0$$

$$\sigma^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{100} \sigma_i^2 = \frac{100}{12} \text{ or } \frac{25}{3}$$

$$p_y(y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi} \cdot \sigma} \cdot e^{\frac{-(y - \overline{y})^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\frac{50\pi}{3}}} \cdot e^{\frac{-3y^2}{50}}$$





## Two-Dimensional Distributions (17)

*Def.* The **joint probability density function** of two random variables  $x$  and  $y$  is a function  $p(x,y)$  that possesses the properties

$$i) \quad p(x,y) \geq 0$$

$$ii) \quad \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p(x,y) \, dx \, dy = 1$$

$$iii) \quad P(x_1 \leq x \leq x_2, y_1 \leq y \leq y_2) = \int_{y_1}^{y_2} \int_{x_1}^{x_2} p(x,y) \, dx \, dy$$

*Def.* The **joint probability distribution function** is

$$W(x,y) = \int_{-\infty}^y \int_{-\infty}^x p(x,y) \, dx \, dy$$

$$\text{so} \quad p(x,y) = \frac{\partial^2 W(x,y)}{\partial x \, \partial y}.$$

*Def.* The random variables  $x$  and  $y$  with *p.d.f.*  $p_x(x)$  and  $p_y(y)$  are **independent** if  $p(x,y) = p_x(x) p_y(y)$ .

*Def.* The **marginal probability density functions** of the variables  $x$  and  $y$  are  $p_1(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p(x, y) dy$  &  $p_2(y) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p(x, y) dx$ .

*Def.* The **marginal probability distribution functions** are

$$W_1(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x p_1(x) dx = \int_{-\infty}^x \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p(x, y) dy dx$$

$$W_2(y) = \int_{-\infty}^y p_2(y) dy = \int_{-\infty}^y \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p(x, y) dx dy$$

*Find:*  $k$  for the 2D *p.d.f.*

$$p(x, y) = \begin{cases} k e^{-2x-3y} & x \geq 0, y \geq 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

*Sln:*  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p(x, y) dx dy = 1$

$$\rightarrow k \int_0^{\infty} e^{-2x} dx \int_0^{\infty} e^{-3y} dy = 1$$

$$\rightarrow k \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{3} = 1$$

$$\therefore k = 6$$

## Moments of 2-D p.d.f. (19)

*Def.* The moments of a joint p.d.f.  $p(x,y)$  are called **joint moments**

$$\mu'_{i,j} = E[\mathbf{x}^i \mathbf{y}^j] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^i y^j p(x,y) dx dy$$

where  $i, j = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$  and the order of  $\mu'_{ij}$  is  $i + j$ .

*Note:*  $E[\mathbf{x}] = \bar{x} = \mu'_{1,0} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^i p(x,y) dx dy$

$$E[\mathbf{y}] = \bar{y} = \mu'_{0,1} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} y^j p(x,y) dx dy$$

*Def.* The **central moments** (i.e. moments about the mean) are

$$\mu_{ij} = E[(\mathbf{x} - \bar{x})^i (\mathbf{y} - \bar{y})^j] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x - \bar{x})^i (y - \bar{y})^j p(x,y) dx dy$$

where  $i, j = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$  and the order of  $\mu'_{ij}$  is  $i + j$ .

*Note:* The moment  $\mu_{11}$  is called the **covariance** of two variables.

c.f. variance of  $y$  is  $\sigma_y^2 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (y - \bar{y})^2 p_y(y) dy$

## Example

*Find:* the three 2<sup>nd</sup> order moments of the r.v.s  $x$  and  $y$  .

*Sln:*

The three 2<sup>nd</sup> order moments are  $\mu_{20}$ ,  $\mu_{02}$  and  $\mu_{11}$ .

$$\mu_{20} = E[(x - \bar{x})^2] = E[x^2 - 2x\bar{x} + \bar{x}^2] = \overline{x^2} - \bar{x}^2$$

$$\mu_{02} = E[(y - \bar{y})^2] = E[y^2 - 2y\bar{y} + \bar{y}^2] = \overline{y^2} - \bar{y}^2$$

$$\therefore \mu_{20} = \sigma_x^2$$

$$\mu_{02} = \sigma_y^2$$

$$\mu_{11} = \text{covariance}$$

$$= E[(x - \bar{x})(y - \bar{y})]$$

$$= E[xy - x\bar{y} - \bar{x}y + \bar{x}\bar{y}]$$

$$= \overline{xy} - \bar{x}\bar{y}$$

## Correlation

*Def.* The numerical measure of the *similarity* between  $x$  and  $y$  is the **normalised correlation coefficients** and is defined as

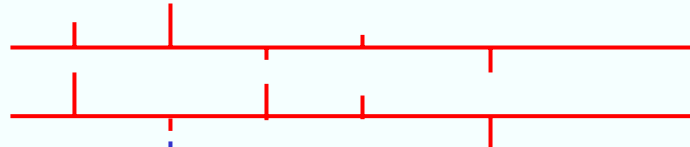
$$\rho = \frac{\mu_{11}}{\sqrt{\mu_{20}\mu_{02}}} = \frac{E[(x - \bar{x})(y - \bar{y})]}{\sqrt{E[(x - \bar{x})^2] E[(y - \bar{y})^2]}}.$$

*Note:* (i)  $\rho \in [-1, 1]$

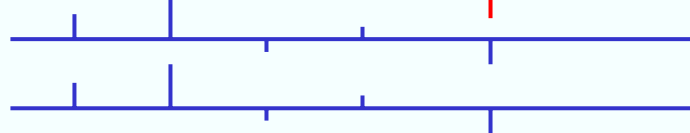
(ii)  $\rho = 0$  if  $x$  and  $y$  are **uncorrelated** (i.e.  $\mu_{11} = 0$ ).

*e.g.*

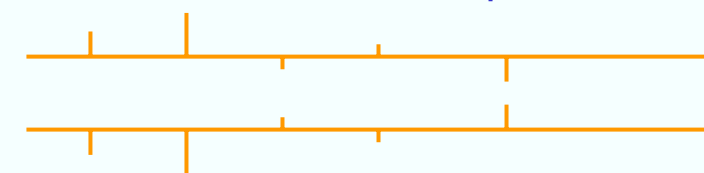
$$\rho \approx 0 \begin{cases} x \\ y \end{cases}$$



$$\rho \rightarrow 1 \begin{cases} x \\ y \end{cases}$$



$$\rho \rightarrow -1 \begin{cases} x \\ y \end{cases}$$



*Def:* Random variables  $x$  and  $y$  are **uncorrelated** if  $\rho = 0$  or  $\mu_{11} = 0$ .

## Independent and uncorrelated

*Def:* Random variables  $x$  and  $y$  are **uncorrelated** if  $\rho = 0$  or  $\mu_{11} = 0$ .

*Th<sup>m</sup>:* If  $x$  and  $y$  are **statistically independent** then they are **uncorrelated**.

*Proof:*  $x$  and  $y$  are **statistically independent** so  $p(x,y) = p_1(x) p_2(y)$  where  $p_1(x)$  and  $p_2(y)$  are *p.d.f.* of  $x$  and  $y$  respectively.

$$\begin{aligned}\rightarrow \overline{xy} &= E[xy] \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} xy p(x,y) dx dy \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x p_1(x) dx \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} y p_2(y) dy \\ &= \overline{x} \overline{y} \quad \therefore \mu_{11} = 0\end{aligned}$$

*note :*

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_{11} &= E[(x - \overline{x})(y - \overline{y})] \\ &= \overline{xy} - \overline{x} \overline{y}\end{aligned}$$

$$\rightarrow E[(x - \overline{x})(y - \overline{y})] = E[xy - x\overline{y} - \overline{x}y + \overline{x}\overline{y}] = \overline{xy} - \overline{x}\overline{y} = 0$$

$$\rightarrow \mu_{11} = 0 \quad \text{and so } x \text{ and } y \text{ are **uncorrelated** .}$$

## Examples

*Find:*  $\mu_{22}$  if  $p(x,y) = p_1(x) p_2(y)$

*Sln:*

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_{22} &= E[(x - \bar{x})^2 (y - \bar{y})^2] \\ &= E[(x - \bar{x})^2] E[(y - \bar{y})^2] \\ &= (\overline{x^2} - \bar{x}^2) (\overline{y^2} - \bar{y}^2) \\ &= \overline{x^2} \overline{y^2} - \bar{x}^2 \bar{y}^2 - \bar{x}^2 \overline{y^2} + \bar{x}^2 \bar{y}^2\end{aligned}$$

*Given:* A r.v.  $x$  is uniformly distribution between -1 and +1.

*Find:* the **normalised correlation coefficient** for  $x$  and  $y$  if  $y = x^2$ .

*Sln:*

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_{11} &= \overline{xy} - \bar{x} \bar{y} \\ &= \overline{x^3} - \bar{x} \overline{x^2}\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{remind: } \rho = \frac{\mu_{11}}{\sqrt{\mu_{20} \mu_{02}}}$$

$$\bar{x} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x p(x) dx = 0$$

$$\overline{x^3} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^3 p(x) dx = 0 \quad \therefore \mu_{11} = 0 \quad \rightarrow \quad \rho = 0$$

### Example

*Given:*  $x$  and  $y$  are 2 **independent** r.v.s and  $u = x + y$  and  $v = x - y$

*Find:* the condition under which  $u$  and  $v$  are **uncorrelated**.

*Sln:*

$$\sigma_x^2 = \overline{x^2} - \bar{x}^2 \qquad \sigma_y^2 = \overline{y^2} - \bar{y}^2$$

$$\mu_{11} = E[(u - \bar{u})(v - \bar{v})]$$

$$= E[\{(x + y) - \overline{(x + y)}\}\{(x - y) - \overline{(x - y)}\}]$$

$$= E[x^2 - y^2 + \bar{x}^2 - \bar{y}^2 - (x - y)(\bar{x} + \bar{y}) - (x + y)(\bar{x} - \bar{y})]$$

$$= \overline{x^2} - \overline{y^2} + \bar{x}^2 - \bar{y}^2 - (\bar{x} - \bar{y})(\bar{x} + \bar{y}) - (\bar{x} + \bar{y})(\bar{x} - \bar{y})$$

$$= (\overline{x^2} - \bar{x}^2) - (\overline{y^2} - \bar{y}^2)$$

$$= \sigma_x^2 - \sigma_y^2 \quad \therefore \mu_{11} = 0 \quad \text{if} \quad \sigma_x = \sigma_y$$