

## Jointly distributed continuous random variables

This is just a fancy way of saying that we want to analyze two (or more) continuous random variables at the same time.

Define  $f_{X,Y}(x,y)$  to be the joint probability density function (joint density).

It has the property that

$$P(X \in A, Y \in B) = \int_A \int_B f_{X,Y}(x,y) dy dx$$

For example,  $P(0 \leq X \leq 2, 1 \leq Y \leq 7.5) = \int_0^2 \int_1^{7.5} f_{X,Y}(x,y) dy dx$

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Also have a joint CDF (joint cumulative distribution function)

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

We get the joint CDF evaluated at  $(a,b)$  by integrating  $f_{X,Y}(x,y)$ , the joint density, from  $-\infty$  to  $a$  with respect to  $x$  and by integrating from  $-\infty$  to  $b$  with respect to  $y$ .

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If we have the joint CDF  $F_{X,Y}(x,y)$  of  $X$  and  $Y$ , we can get the joint density by differentiating with respect to each of the random variables:

$$f_{X,Y}(x,y) = \frac{d}{dx} \frac{d}{dy} F_{X,Y}(x,y) = \frac{d}{dy} \frac{d}{dx} F_{X,Y}(x,y) \quad (\text{either order is OK}).$$