

Final this Friday, Aug 11th 6-9pm → all free response

↳ Berkeley time (starts at 6:10pm)

→ DSP (even earlier exams, start at Berkeley time)

## Lecture 7A:

# Continuous Probability III

Course Eval

↳ 80%

1 point extra credit post-curve

→ currently at 50%

UC Berkeley CS70

Summer 2023

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Special Topics  
↳ Wed (ECCs)  
↳ Thurs (Computation)

Stickers  
for CS70

# Exponential Distribution

Def: For some  $\lambda > 0$ , a continuous random variable  $X$  is an exponential random variable with parameter  $\lambda$  if it has the following PDF,

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \lambda e^{-\lambda x}, & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

$\lambda e^{-\lambda x}$  if  $x \geq 0$

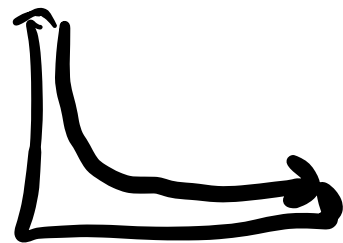
We can write  $X \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda)$  if is an exponential random variable.

Let's check that  $f(x)$  satisfies the two PDF properties

①  $f_x(x) \geq 0 \rightarrow e^{-\lambda x} \geq 0$

②  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_x(x) = 1 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \lambda e^{-\lambda x} dx = \int_0^{\infty} \lambda e^{-\lambda x} dx$

positive



$$\int e^y dy \checkmark$$

# Expectation & Variance of Exponential

For a random variable  $X \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda)$ ,

$$\underline{\mathbb{E}[X]} = \underline{\frac{1}{\lambda}}$$

$$E[X] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f_X(x) dx$$

$$\Rightarrow \int_0^{\infty} x \lambda e^{-\lambda x} dx \cdot \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \cdot \frac{1}{\lambda} \right)$$

$y = \lambda x$        $y = \lambda x$

$$= \frac{1}{\lambda} \int_0^{\infty} y e^{-y} dy$$

$$-e^{-\lambda x} \Big|_0^{\infty}$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$-e^{-\infty} - (-e^{-0})$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$e^{-\infty} = 0$$

$$0 - (-e^{-0})$$

$$0 + 1$$

$$= 1$$

$$= \frac{1}{\lambda} \left( -ye^{-y} - \int_0^{\infty} -e^{-y} dy \right) \Big|_0^{\infty}$$

$\int u dv = uv - \int v du$   
 $u = y \quad du = 1$   
 $dv = e^{-y} dy \quad v = -e^{-y}$

$$= \frac{1}{\lambda} \left( -ye^{-y} - e^{-y} \right) \Big|_0^{\infty}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\lambda} (0 - 0 - (0 - e^{-0}))$$

$$= \frac{1}{\lambda} (e^0) = \frac{1}{\lambda} (1) = \frac{1}{\lambda}$$

$$e^{-y} \rightarrow -e^{-y}$$

# Expectation & Variance of Exponential

For a random variable  $X \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda)$ ,  $\text{Var}(X) = \frac{1}{\lambda^2}$ .

$$\underline{\text{Var}(X)} = \underline{E(X^2)} - \underline{E(X)^2}$$

$$\underline{E(X^2)} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 f_X(x) dx$$

$$= \int_0^{\infty} x^2 \lambda e^{-\lambda x} dx$$

$$y = \lambda x$$
$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \lambda$$

$$= \frac{1}{\lambda} \int_0^{\infty} \underbrace{x^2 \lambda}_{y^2 = x^2 \lambda^2} e^{-y} dy \quad \cdot \lambda \cdot \frac{1}{\lambda}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\lambda^2} \int_0^{\infty} x^2 \lambda^2 e^{-y} dy$$

$$= \frac{1}{\lambda^2} \underbrace{\int_0^{\infty} y^2 e^{-y} dy}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\lambda^2} (2) = \frac{2}{\lambda^2}$$

$$\text{Var}(X) = \frac{2}{\lambda^2} - E(X)^2$$

$$= \frac{2}{\lambda^2} - \left(\frac{1}{\lambda}\right)^2 = \frac{2}{\lambda^2} - \frac{1}{\lambda^2}$$

$$= \underbrace{\frac{1}{\lambda^2}}_{\text{exponential variance}}$$

# Example Exponential

Going back to our terrible alarm clock, we know the behavior is:

Once plugged in, the alarm will randomly ring once after some amount of time, however we know it goes off at a rate of 1 time every 10 minutes.

Let  $X$  be the amount of time it takes the alarm to sound.  $X \sim \text{Exp}(1/10)$ , because our rate of rings is 1/10 per minute.

How many minutes should we expect to wait before the alarm rings?

$$E(X) = \underbrace{1}_{\text{parameter}} = \frac{1}{(\frac{1}{10})} = 10 \text{ min}$$

An important property to note  $X \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda)$

$$\mathbb{P}[X > t] = e^{-\lambda t}$$

Proof:

$$\underline{\mathbb{P}(X > t)} = \int_t^{\infty} f_X(x) dx$$

$$= \int_t^{\infty} \lambda e^{-\lambda x} dx = -e^{-\lambda x} \Big|_t^{\infty} = -e^{-\infty} - (-e^{-\lambda t}) = 0 + e^{-\lambda t} = e^{-\lambda t}$$

# Exponential Relation to Geometric

Let's try to draw a more rigorous connection between Exponential and Geometric distributions. Take our Geometric r.v. and consider running trials after every  $\delta$  seconds. The probability of a success is  $p = \lambda\delta$ .

Then, let  $Y$  denote the amount of time/seconds before a successful trial:

$$\mathbb{P}[Y > k\delta] = (1 - p)^k = (1 - \lambda\delta)^k,$$

To translate our trials to a continuum, consider taking the limit of  $\delta \rightarrow 0$ . Then, for any time  $t$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}[Y > t] = \mathbb{P}[Y > (\frac{t}{\delta})\delta] = (1 - \lambda\delta)^{t/\delta} \approx e^{-\lambda t}.$$

## Continuous Example!

Let  $\underline{V}$  and  $\underline{W}$  have the joint density  $12e^{-v-3w}$  for  $0 < v < w < \infty$ . Find the distribution of  $V$ .

$$f_{v,w}(v,w) = \begin{cases} 12e^{-v-3w} & \text{for } \underline{0 < v < w < \infty} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$f_V(v) = \int f_{v,w}(v,w) \underline{dw}$$

## Continuous Example

$$e^{-v-\infty} \rightarrow e^{-\infty}$$

Let  $V$  and  $W$  have the joint density  $12e^{-v-3w}$  for  $0 < v < w < \infty$ . Find the distribution of  $V$ .

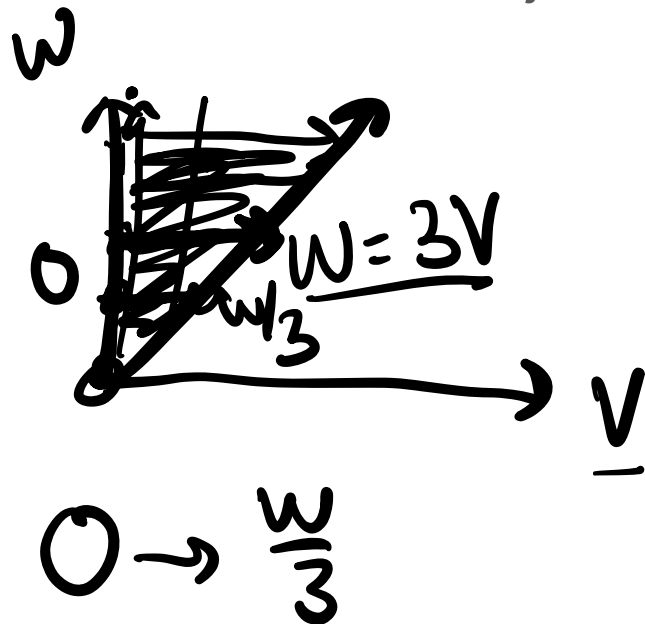
$$\begin{aligned}
 & \underline{0 \leq v \leq \underline{w} < \underline{\infty}} \quad \underline{2 < w < v} \\
 & = \int_v^{\infty} 12e^{-v-3w} dw = -4e^{-v-3w} \Big|_v^{\infty} \\
 & = \cancel{-4e^{-v-3 \cdot \infty}} - (-4e^{-v-3v})
 \end{aligned}$$

# Continuous Example

$$= 4e^{-4v} \quad v \sim \text{Exp}(4)$$

$\uparrow \lambda = 4$

Let  $V$  and  $W$  have the joint density  $12e^{-v-3w}$  for  $0 < v < w < \infty$ . Find  $P(W > 3V)$



$$W = 3V$$

$$v = \frac{w}{3}$$

$$W = 3V$$

$$W > 3V$$

$$\int_0^{\infty} \int_{w/3}^{\infty} 12e^{-v-3w} dv dw$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \int_0^{\infty} \left( \int_0^{w/3} 12e^{-v-3w} \underline{dv} \right) dw \\
& \Rightarrow \int_0^{\infty} \left( \left. \underline{-12e^{-v-3w}} \right|_{\underline{0}}^{\underline{w/3}} \right) dw \\
& = \int_0^{\infty} \left( -12e^{-w/3-3w} - (-12e^{-0-3w}) \right) dw \\
& \int_0^{\infty} \left( -12e^{-10/3w} + 12e^{-3w} \right) dw
\end{aligned}$$

# Continuous Example

Let  $V$  and  $W$  have the joint density  $12e^{-v-3w}$  for  $0 < v < w < \infty$ . Find  $P(W > 3V)$

## Another Continuous Example!

Let  $f(x) = \underline{k(2x+3)}$  for  $\underline{-1 \leq x \leq 2}$ , and 0 otherwise. What is  $k$ ?

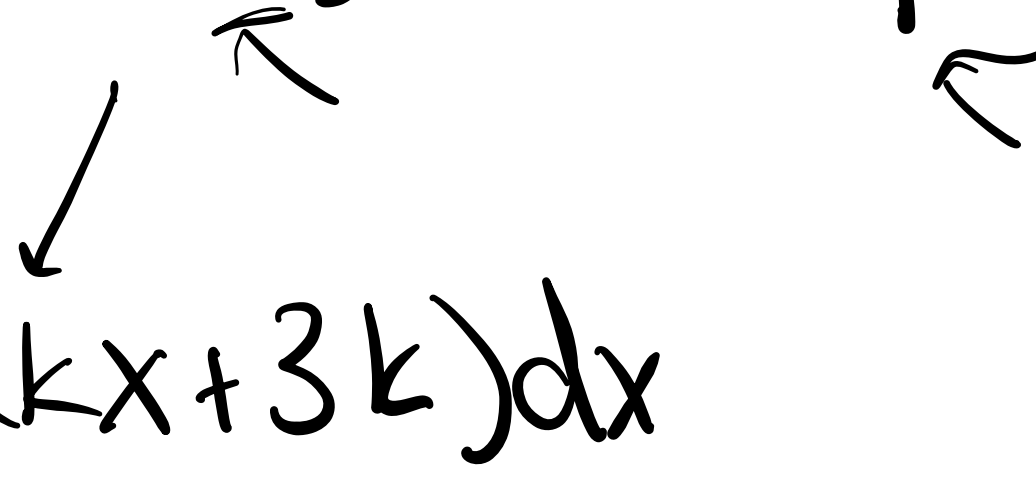
$$f_x(x) = \begin{cases} k(2x+3) & \underline{-1 \leq x \leq 2} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_x(x) dx = 1$$

## Another Continuous Example!

$$2e^{-3x}$$

Let  $f(x) = k(2x+3)$  for  $-1 \leq x \leq 2$ , and 0 otherwise. What is  $k$ ?

$$\int_{-1}^2 k(2x+3) dx = 1$$
$$\int_{-1}^2 (2kx + 3k) dx$$


$$(kx^2 + \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ -1}}{3x}k)^2$$

$$= (4k + 6k) - (k - 3k)$$

$$= (10k) - (-2k)$$

$$= 12k$$

$$12k = 1, \quad k = \frac{1}{12}$$

## Min of Uniforms

independent

$\min > k$   
all numbers had to be  $> k$

We have  $n$  uniform(0, 2) random variables. For  $0 < x < 2$ , what is the probability that the minimum of the RVs is  $\leq x$ ?

$$U_1, U_2, \dots, U_n \sim \text{Uniform}(0, 2)$$

$$M = \min \{U_1, U_2, \dots, U_n\}$$

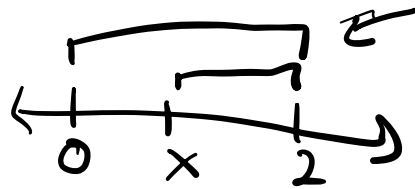
$$P(M \leq x) = 1 - P(M > x)$$

$$= 1 - P(U_1 \wedge \dots \wedge U_n > x)$$

$$= 1 - \underbrace{P(U_1 > x)} \underbrace{P(U_2 > x)} \dots \underbrace{P(U_n > x)}$$

$$U_1 > x$$

$$\downarrow U_1: [0, 2]$$



$$= \frac{2-x}{2-0} = \frac{2-x}{2}$$

$$= 1 - \left(\frac{2-x}{2}\right)^n$$

$$= 1 - \left(\frac{2-x}{2}\right)^n$$

## Min of Exponentials

We have  $n$  exponential random variables with different parameters. Find the distribution of their minimum.

$\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$

$X_1 \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda_1) \quad X_2 \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda_2) \quad \dots \quad X_n \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda_n)$

$$M = \min \{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n\}$$

$$P(X_1 > x) = e^{-\lambda_1 x}$$

$$P(X_2 > x) = e^{-\lambda_2 x}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(M > x) &= P(X_1 > x \wedge X_2 > x \dots X_n > x) \\ &= P(X_1 > x) P(X_2 > x) \dots P(X_n > x) \end{aligned}$$

$$= e^{-\lambda_1 x} e^{-\lambda_2 x} \dots e^{-\lambda_n x}$$

$$= e^{-\underbrace{(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \dots + \lambda_n)}_{\cdot}} x$$

$$M \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \dots + \lambda_n)$$

Formula from before

$$\boxed{P(X > t) = e^{-\lambda t}}$$



$X \sim \exp(2)$      $Y = 2X$   
 Transforming Exponentials

$$P(X > t) = e^{-\lambda t}$$

$$Y = \exp\left(\frac{2}{2}\right) = \exp(1)$$

Let  $X$  be exponential( $\lambda$ ) and let  $Y = 3X$ . What distribution does  $Y$  follow?

$$X \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda) \quad Y = 3X$$

$$P(\underline{Y} > t) \overset{\text{for any value } t}{=} P(\underline{3X} > t) = P(\underline{X} > \frac{t}{3})$$

$$= 1 - P(X \leq \frac{t}{3}) \quad \text{plug in CDF}$$

4.18

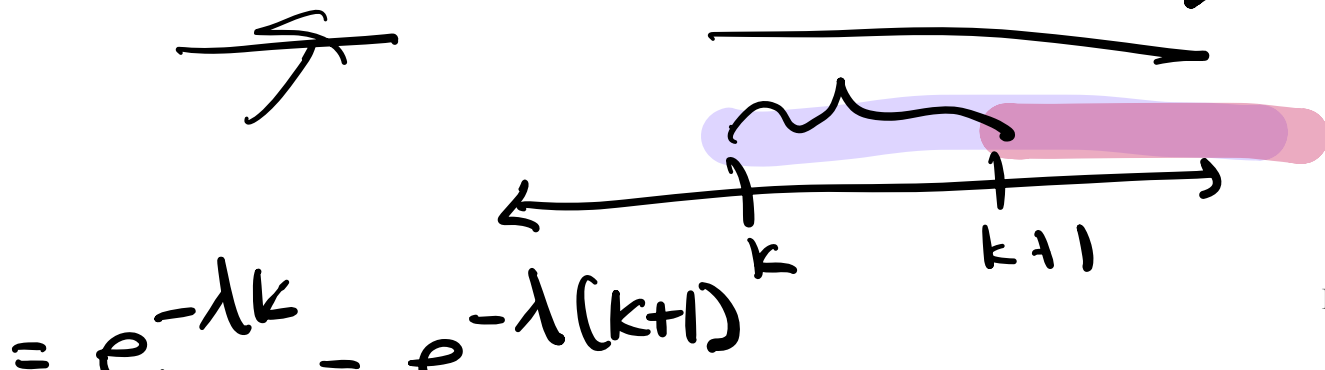
4.65

 $T \sim \text{Exp}(1)$ 
 $T = \sqrt{4.375} = 2.0917$   
 $\sqrt{5.623} = 2.3713$   
 $\sqrt{8.7616} = 2.9600$ 
Exponential  $T$ 

Let  $T$  have the exponential( $\lambda$ ) distribution and let  $N$  be the integer part of  $T$ . What is the distribution of  $N$ ?

$$P(N = \underline{k}) = \underbrace{P(\overset{\downarrow}{k} < T < \overset{\downarrow}{k+1})}$$

$$= P(T > k) - P(T > k+1)$$



## Exponential (cont.)

$$\downarrow e^{-\lambda k} - e^{-\lambda(k-1)}$$

Let  $T$  have the exponential( $\lambda$ ) distribution and let  $N$  be the integer part of  $T$ . What is the distribution of  $N$ ?

$$= e^{-\lambda k} (1 - e^{-\lambda})$$

$$= (e^{-\lambda})^k (1 - e^{-\lambda})$$

$$N \sim \text{Geo}(1 - e^{-\lambda})$$

$\nearrow P(N=k+1)$   
 $\nwarrow$  geometric

geometric but  
with  
values  $0, 1, \dots$

$T: \textcircled{8} 76$

$\textcircled{4} 34$

## Combining Exponential and Uniform

2.4

$$\rightarrow Y \sim \text{Uniform}(0, 2.4)$$

Let  $X \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda)$  and let  $Y$  be Uniform  $[0, X]$ . What is the joint distribution of  $X$  and  $Y$ ?

$$X \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda)$$

$$Y \sim \text{Uniform}(0, X)$$

$$\downarrow$$
$$\underline{f_X(x)} = \lambda e^{-\lambda x}$$

$$\xrightarrow{X=b} f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{x-0} = \frac{1}{b} \quad 0 \leq y \leq b$$

# Combining Exponential and Uniform $X=x \rightarrow \frac{1}{x}$

Let  $X \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda)$  and let  $Y$  be Uniform  $[0, X]$ . What is the joint distribution of  $X$  and  $Y$ ?

$$f_{X,Y}(x,y) = \underbrace{f_{Y|X}(y|x)} \underbrace{f_X(x)}$$

$$f_{X,Y}(x,y) = \left( \frac{1}{x} \right) \left( \lambda e^{-\lambda x} \right)$$

$$\underline{0 \leq y \leq x}$$

X doesn't take on negative values

Continuous Tail Sum (non-negative RV X)

CDF

$$E(X) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} P(X > k)$$

$$E(X) = \int_0^{\infty} [1 - F(x)] dx = \int_0^{\infty} \underbrace{P(X > x)}_{\text{CDF}} dx$$

→ HW problems

$$E(X) = \int_0^{\infty} x f_x(x) dx \quad \swarrow$$

$$x \Big|_0^x = x$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \int_0^{\infty} \int_0^x f_x(x) dt dx \\ &\rightarrow = \int_0^{\infty} \left[ \int_0^x f_x(x) dx \right] dt = \int_0^{\infty} P(X > t) dt \end{aligned}$$



## Continuous Tail Sum (non-negative RV $X$ )

# Memoryless Exponentials

For  $X \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda)$  find  $P(X > s + n \mid X > n)$   $= P(X > s)$

$$X \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda)$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(X > s+n \mid X > n) &= \frac{P(X > \underline{s+n} \text{ } ~~A X > n~~)}{P(X > n)} \\ &= \frac{P(X > s+n)}{P(X > n)} = \frac{e^{-\lambda(s+n)}}{e^{-\lambda n}} = e^{-\lambda s} \end{aligned}$$

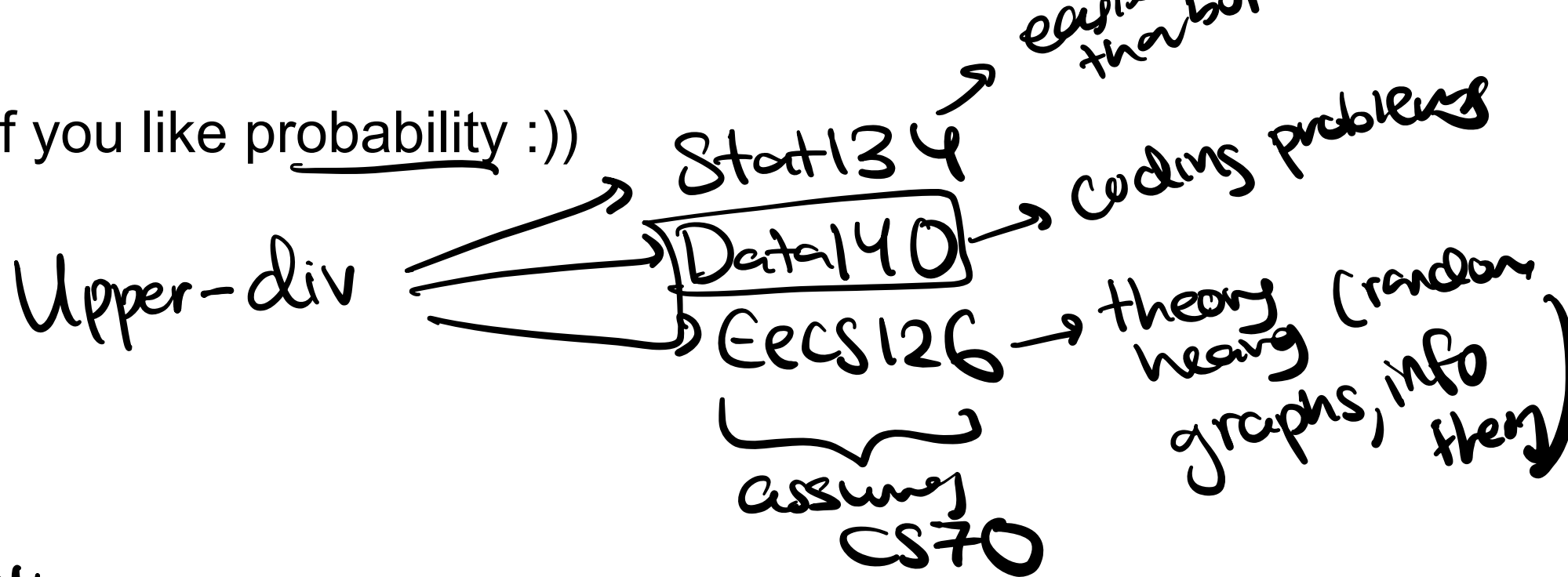
# Memoryless Exponentials

For  $X \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda)$  find  $P(X > s + t \mid X > t)$

$P(X > s)$

memoryless

If you like probability :))



Dth  
classy → CS174: Randomized Algorithms  
is pre-req: CS170 (algs)  
→ CS270: Combinatorial Algorithms

# Recap

## Practiced Continuous R.V.s:

- Finding marginals from joint densities
- Finding constants of integration,  $E(X)$ ,  $\text{Var}(X)$  from PDF

## More Properties of Exponential/Uniform:

- Min of Exponentials/Uniforms
- Memoryless Property of Exponential
- Continuous Tail Sum