



# Exact Bayesian inference by symbolic disintegration

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Indiana University

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Tufts University

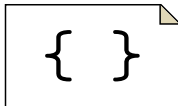
POPL, 18 January 2017



1. Probabilistic programs denote distributions
2. Exact inference by transforming terms

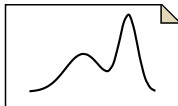


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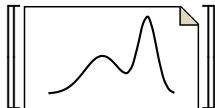


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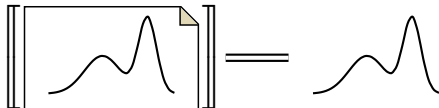


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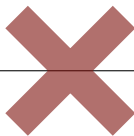
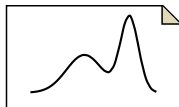
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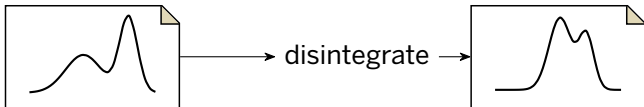


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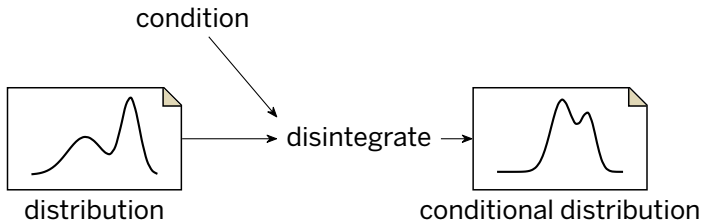


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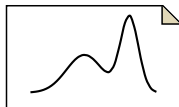
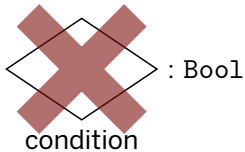


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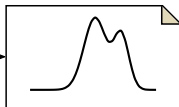


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distribution

disintegrate



conditional distribution



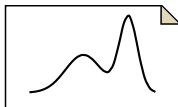
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condition

:  $\alpha$

{ dependent variable of regression  
noisy measurement of location  
total momentum of point masses  
detected amplitude of seismic event  
... ..



distribution

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conditional distribution



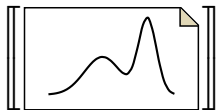
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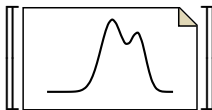
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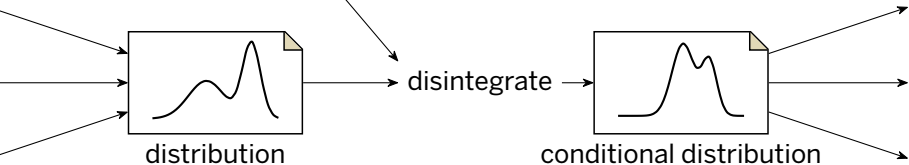
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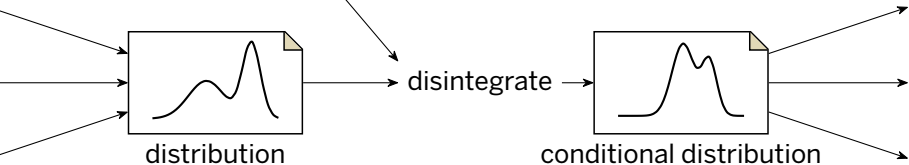
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1. **Motivate** by puzzle
2. **Specify** by semantics
3. **Implement** by derivation





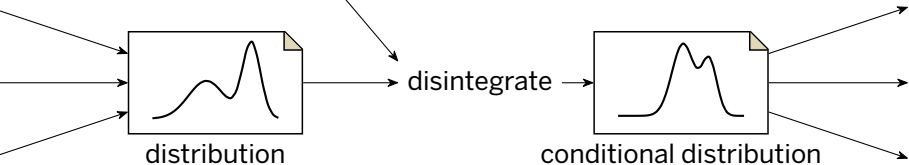
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# Bayesian probabilistic inference



prior

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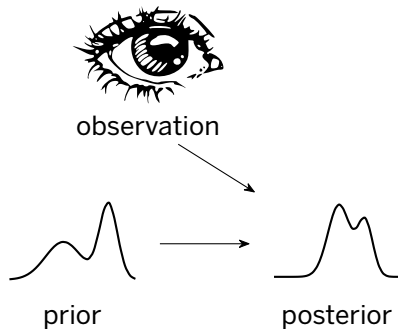


observation

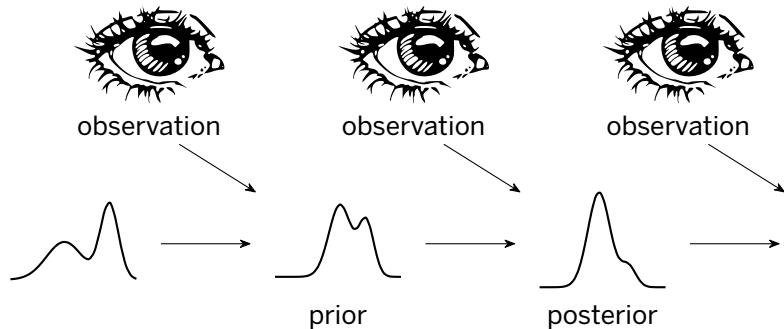


prior

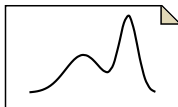
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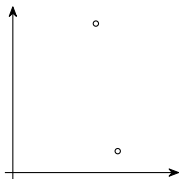
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```
x := ...;  
y := ...;
```

generative model



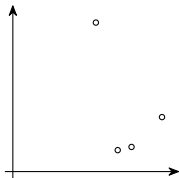
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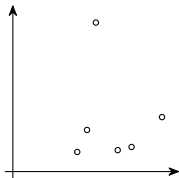
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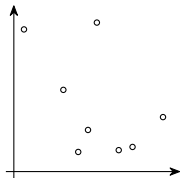
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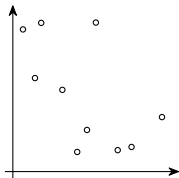
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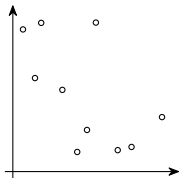
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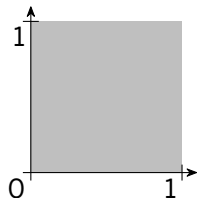


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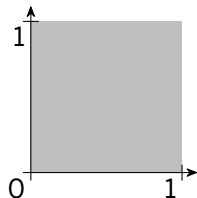
$E(x)$   
 $P(A)$

## Observation, inference, and query in core Hakaru



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m0 = do {x  $\leftarrow$  uniform 0 1;  
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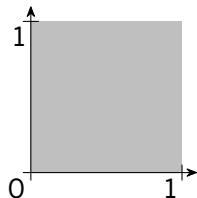
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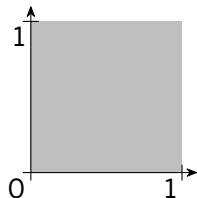
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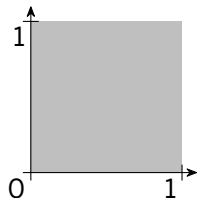
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$$E_{m0}(\lambda(x,y).x)$$

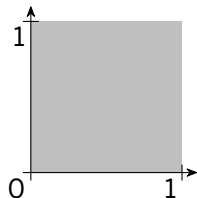
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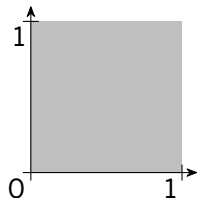
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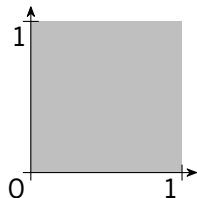
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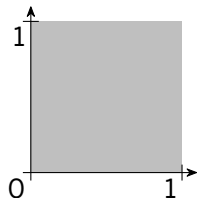
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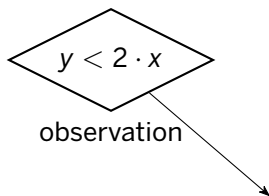
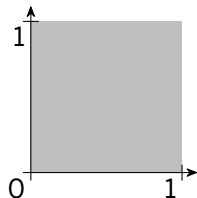


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$$P(A) = E(\langle A \rangle)$$

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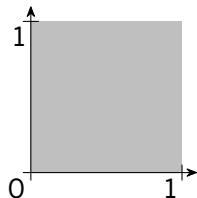


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m0 = do {x ~ uniform 0 1;  
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prior

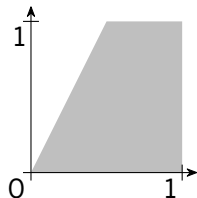


# Observation, inference, and query in core Hakaru



$$y < 2 \cdot x$$

observation



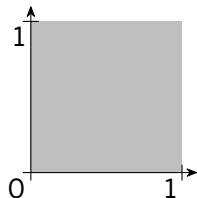
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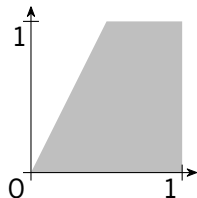
posterior

# Observation, inference, and query in core Hakaru



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observation



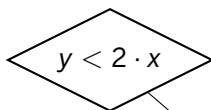
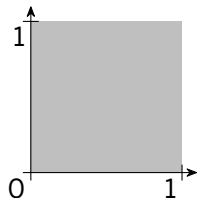
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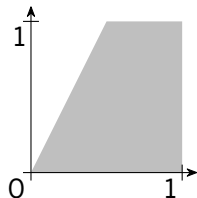
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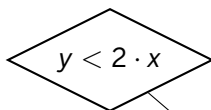
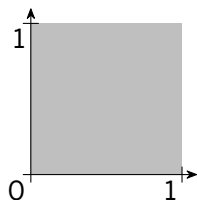


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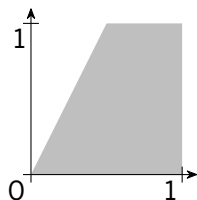
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m1 = do {x ~ uniform 0 1;  
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$$E_{m1}(\lambda(x,y).x) = \frac{\int_{m1} x d(x,y)}{\int_{m1} 1 d(x,y)} = \frac{\int_{m0} \langle y < 2 \cdot x \rangle \cdot x d(x,y)}{\int_{m0} \langle y < 2 \cdot x \rangle \cdot 1 d(x,y)} = \frac{11/24}{3/4} = 11/18$$

## Observation, inference, and query in core Hakaru



observation

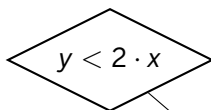
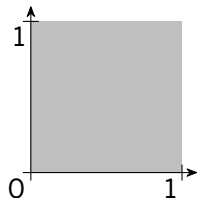


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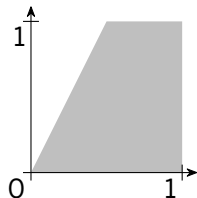
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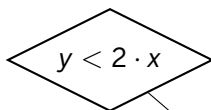
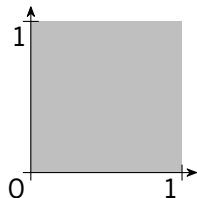


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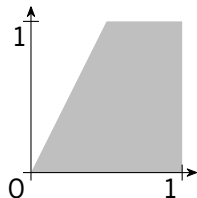
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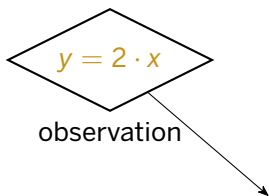
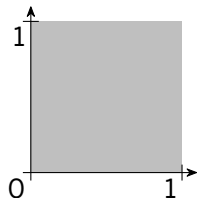


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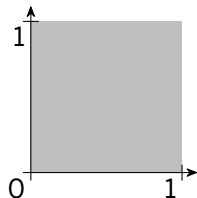
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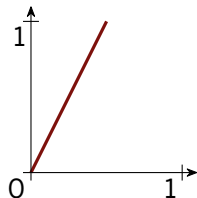
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$$y = 2 \cdot x$$

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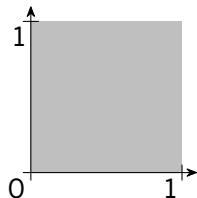
```
m0 = do {  
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  return (x,y)}
```

```
m2 = do {  
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   $y \leftarrow$  uniform 0 1;  
  observe  $y = 2 \cdot x$ ;  
  return (x,y)}
```

$$E_{m_2}(\lambda(x,y).x) = \frac{\int_{m_2} x d(x,y)}{\int_{m_2} 1 d(x,y)} = \frac{\int_{m_0} \langle y = 2 \cdot x \rangle \cdot x d(x,y)}{\int_{m_0} \langle y = 2 \cdot x \rangle \cdot 1 d(x,y)} = \frac{0}{0}$$

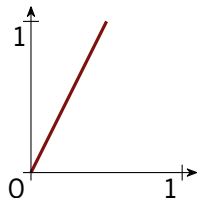


# Observation, inference, and query in core Hakaru



$$y = 2 \cdot x$$

observation

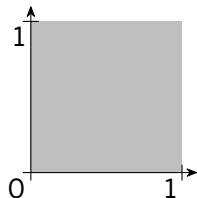


```
m0 = do {x ~ uniform 0 1;  
         y ~ uniform 0 1;  
         return (x,y)}
```

```
m2 = do {x ~ uniform 0 1;  
         y ~ uniform 0 1;  
         observe y = 2 * x;  
         return (x,y)}
```

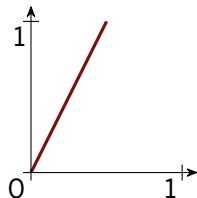
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# Observation, inference, and query in core Hakaru



$$y = 2 \cdot x$$

observation

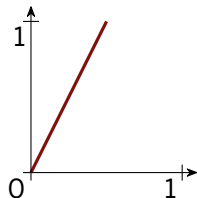
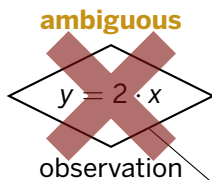
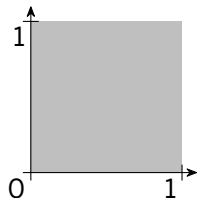


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# Observation, inference, and query in core Hakaru

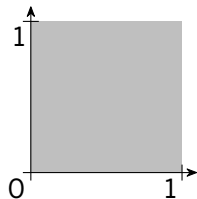


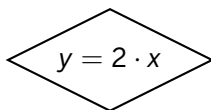
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```
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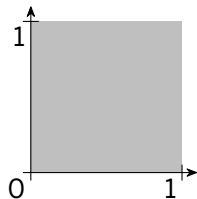
## Observation of measure-zero sets is paradoxical



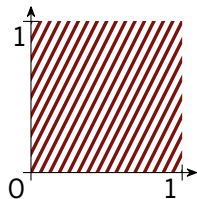


A diamond-shaped box (rhombus) containing the equation  $y = 2 \cdot x$ .

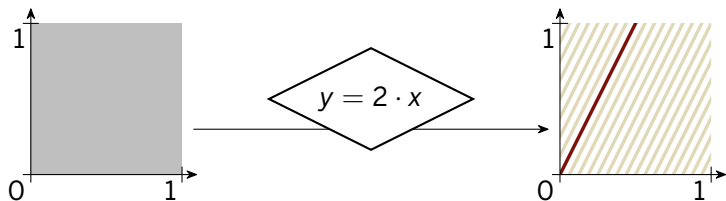
# Observation of measure-zero sets is paradoxical



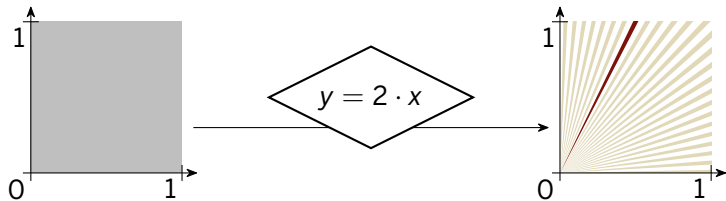
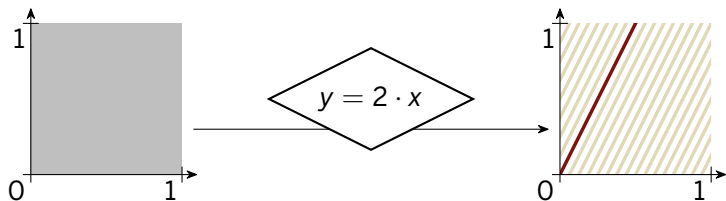
$$y = 2 \cdot x$$



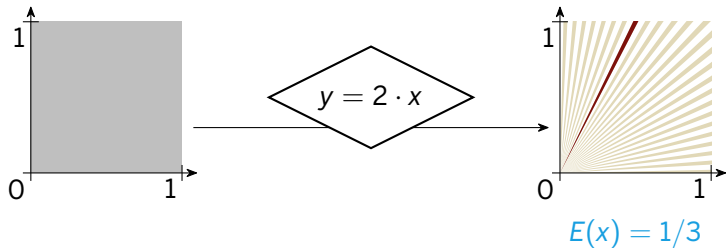
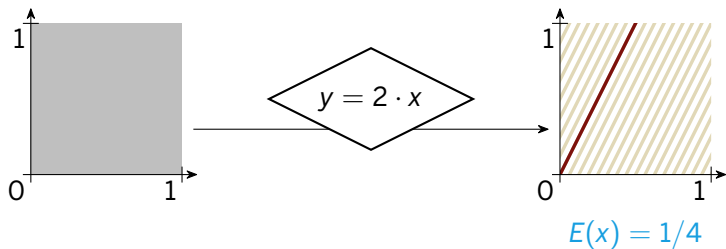
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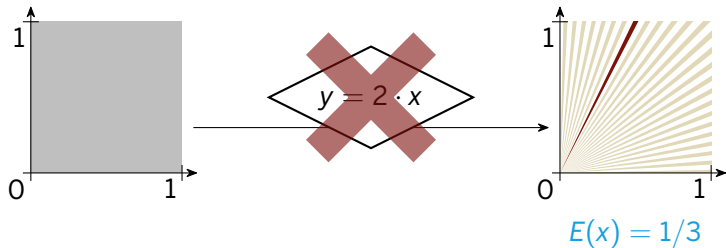
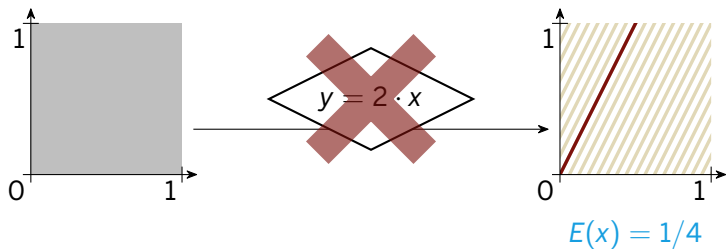


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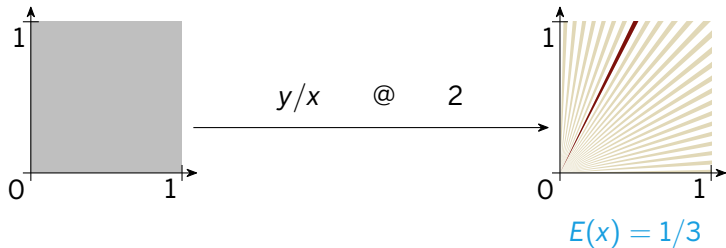
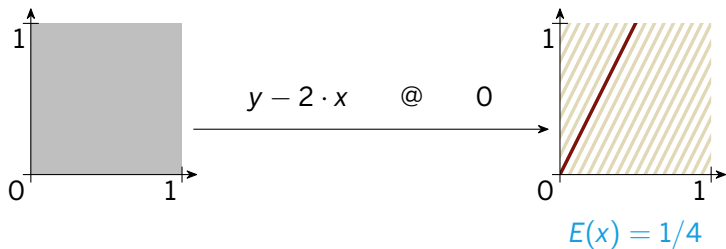




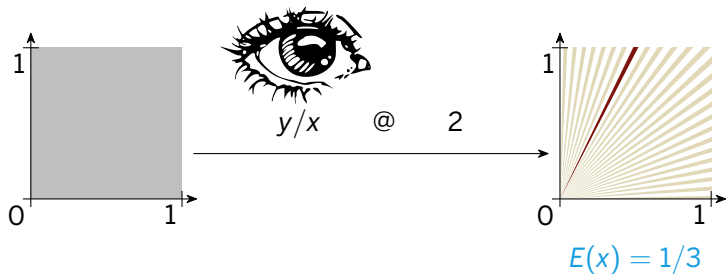
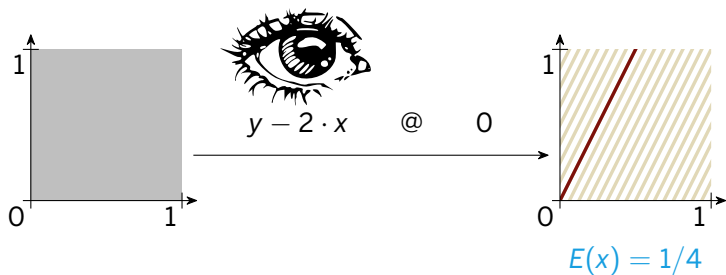
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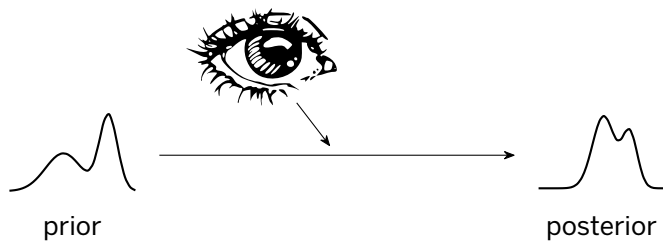
# Resolving the paradox via disintegration



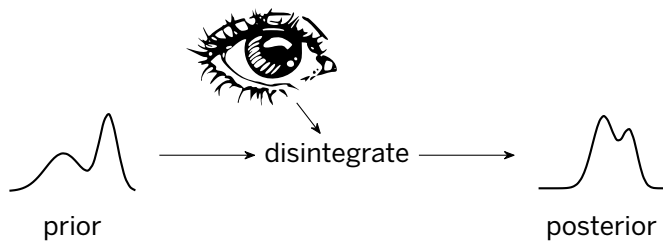
# Resolving the paradox via disintegration



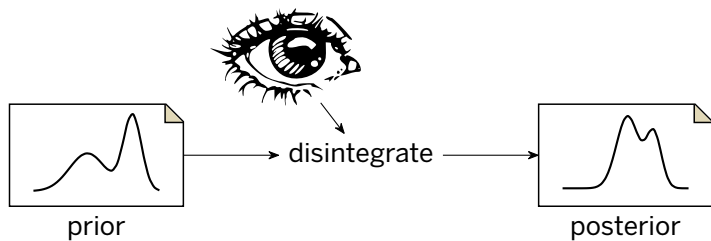
## Resolving the paradox via disintegration



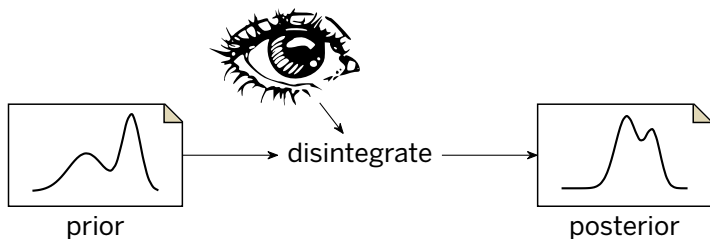
# Resolving the paradox via disintegration



# Resolving the paradox via disintegration



# Resolving the paradox via disintegration



Soundness: If the disintegrator succeeds then the result is correct.



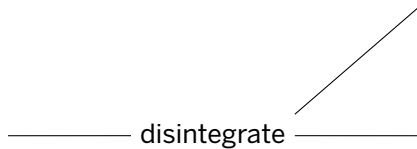
1. **Motivate** by puzzle
2. **Specify** by semantics
3. **Implement** by derivation



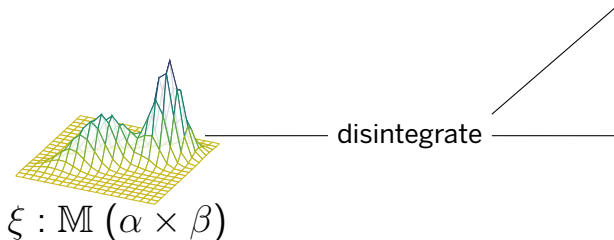
disintegrate



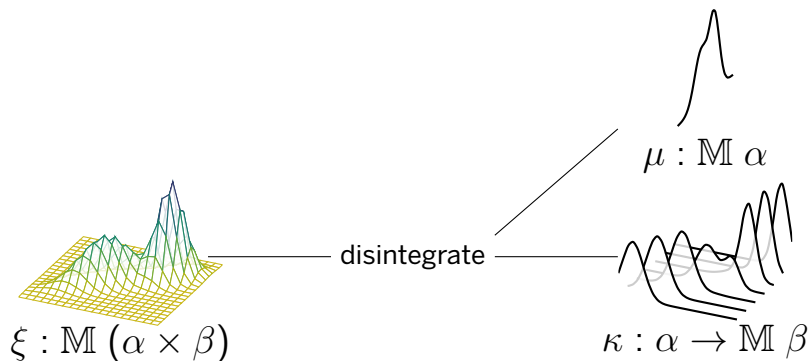
## Specifying disintegration by semantics



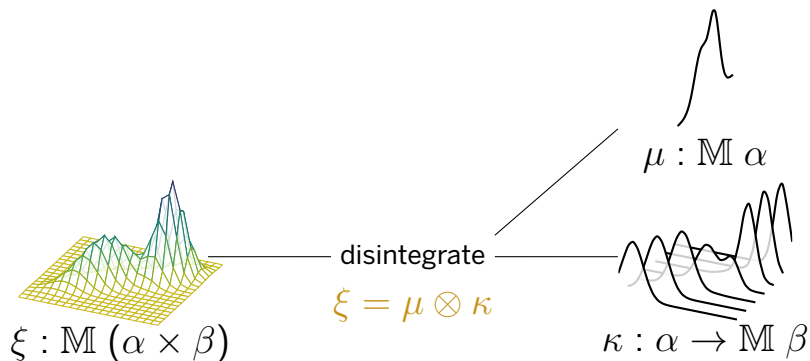
## Specifying disintegration by semantics



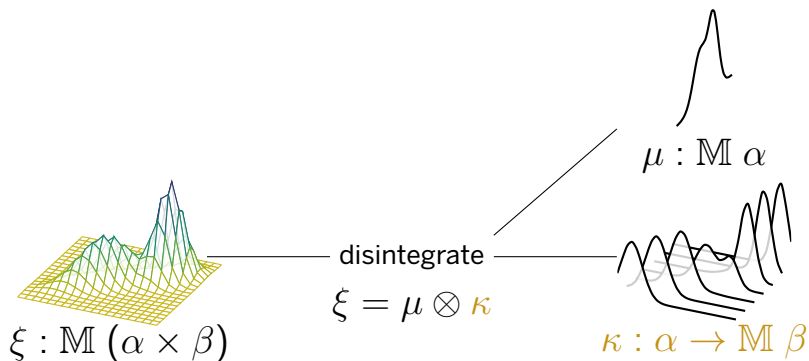
# Specifying disintegration by semantics



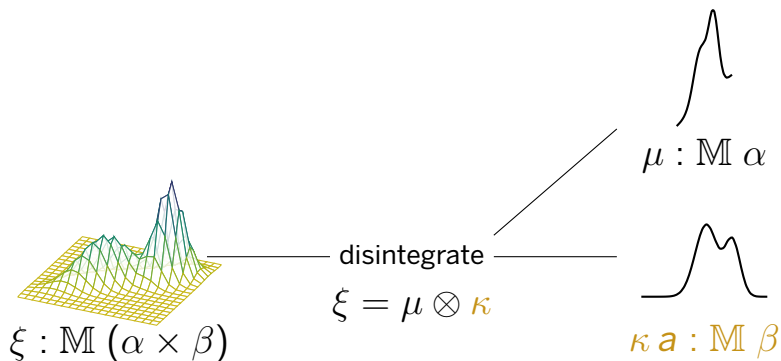
## Specifying disintegration by semantics



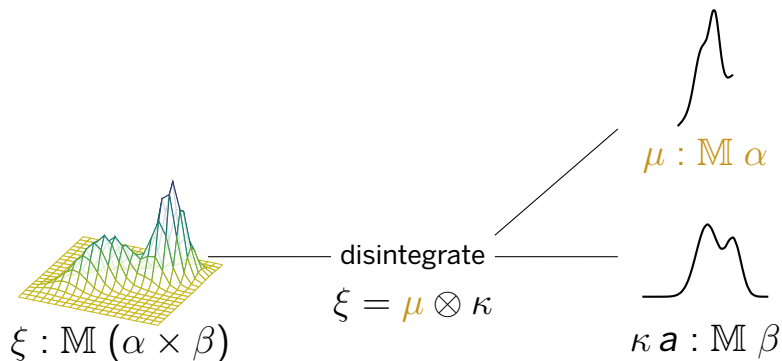
## Specifying disintegration by semantics



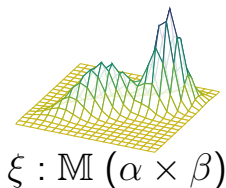
## Specifying disintegration by semantics




## Specifying disintegration by semantics




## Specifying disintegration by semantics



$$\xi = \mu \otimes \kappa$$

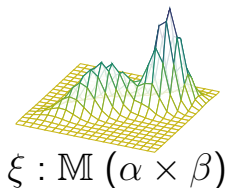
**do**  $\{a \leftarrow$    $;$   
 $\mu : \mathbb{M} \alpha$

$b \leftarrow$    $;$   
 $\kappa a : \mathbb{M} \beta$



**return**  $(a, b)$



## Specifying disintegration by semantics



$$\xRightarrow{\quad}$$
$$\xi = \mu \otimes \kappa$$

```
do { a  $\leftarrow$   ;  
    μ :  $\mathbb{M} \alpha$   
    b  $\leftarrow$   ;  
    κ a :  $\mathbb{M} \beta$   
return (a, b) }
```



$\xi : \mathbb{M} (\alpha \times \beta)$



**do** {  $a \leftarrow$   ;

$\mu : \mathbb{M} \alpha$

$b \leftarrow$  

$\kappa a : \mathbb{M} \beta$

**return**  $(a, b)$  }

$$\alpha = \mathbb{R}$$

$$\beta = \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$$



$$\xi : \mathbb{M} (\alpha \times \beta)$$

**do** {  $a \leftarrow$   ;

$$\mu : \mathbb{M} \alpha$$

$b \leftarrow$   ;

$$\kappa a : \mathbb{M} \beta$$

**return**  $(a, b)$  }

**do** {  $x \leftarrow$  **uniform**  $0\ 1$  ;  
 $y \leftarrow$  **uniform**  $0\ 1$  ;  
**return**  $(x, y)$  }

$$\text{prior} : \mathbb{M} \beta$$

$y - 2 \cdot x$



observation



$\xi : \mathbb{M}(\alpha \times \beta)$

**do**  $\{a \leftarrow$



$\mu : \mathbb{M} \alpha$

$b \leftarrow$



$\kappa a : \mathbb{M} \beta$

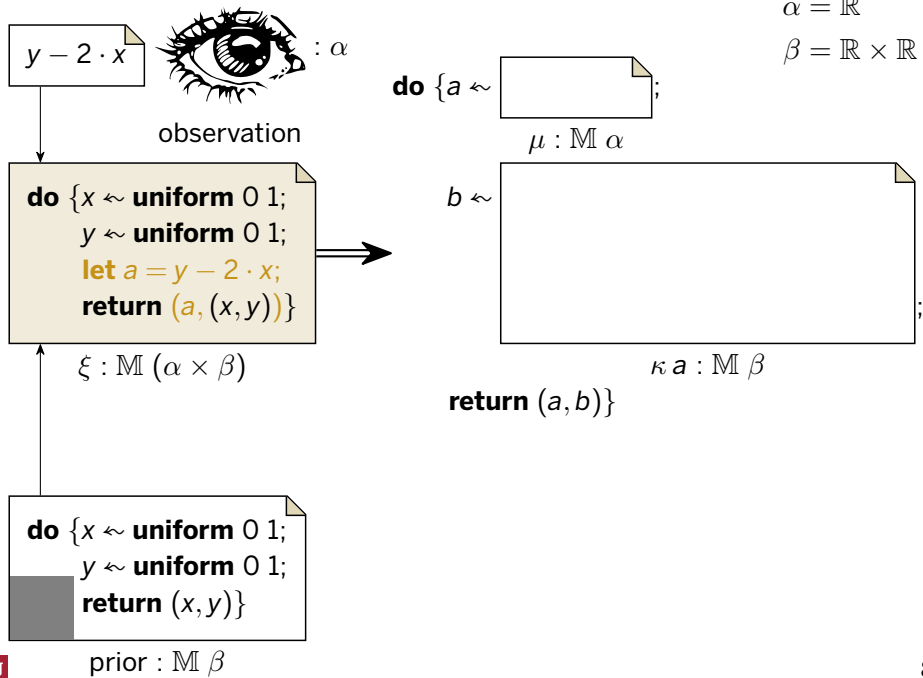
**return**  $(a, b)$

$\alpha = \mathbb{R}$

$\beta = \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$

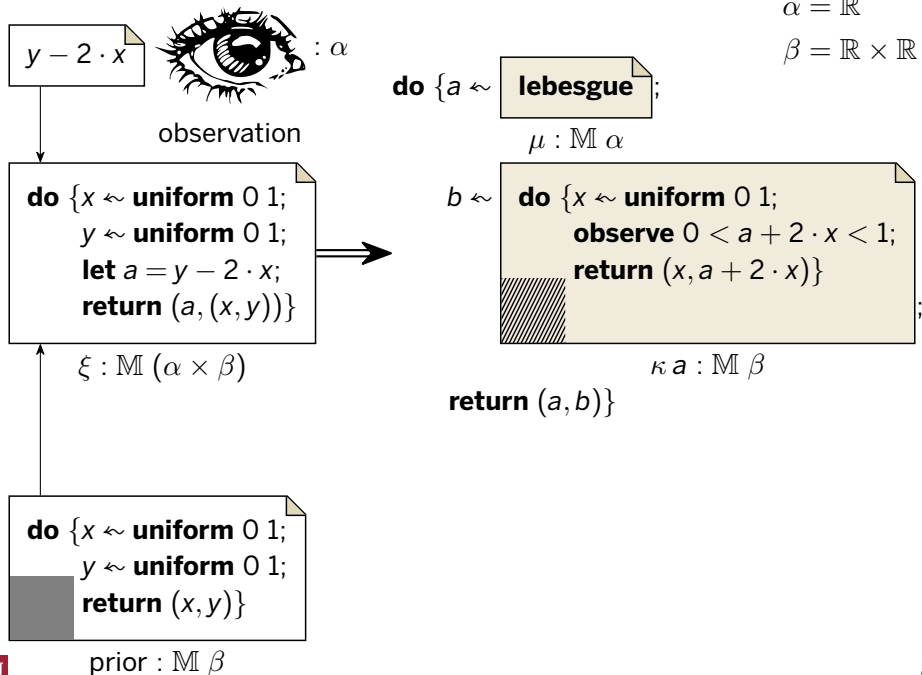
**do**  $\{x \leftarrow$  **uniform**  $0\ 1$ ;  
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prior :  $\mathbb{M} \beta$



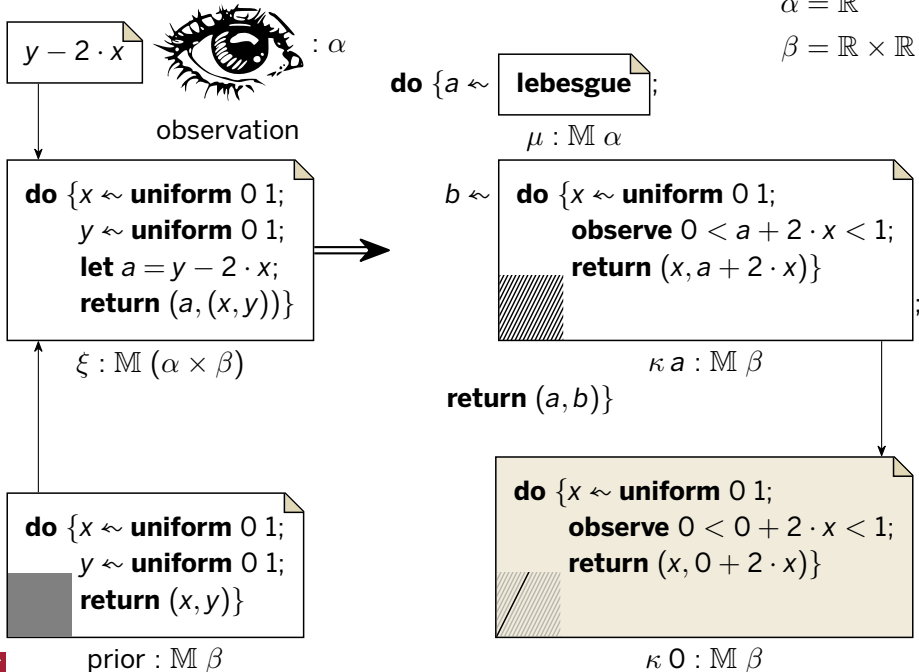
$$\alpha = \mathbb{R}$$

$$\beta = \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$$



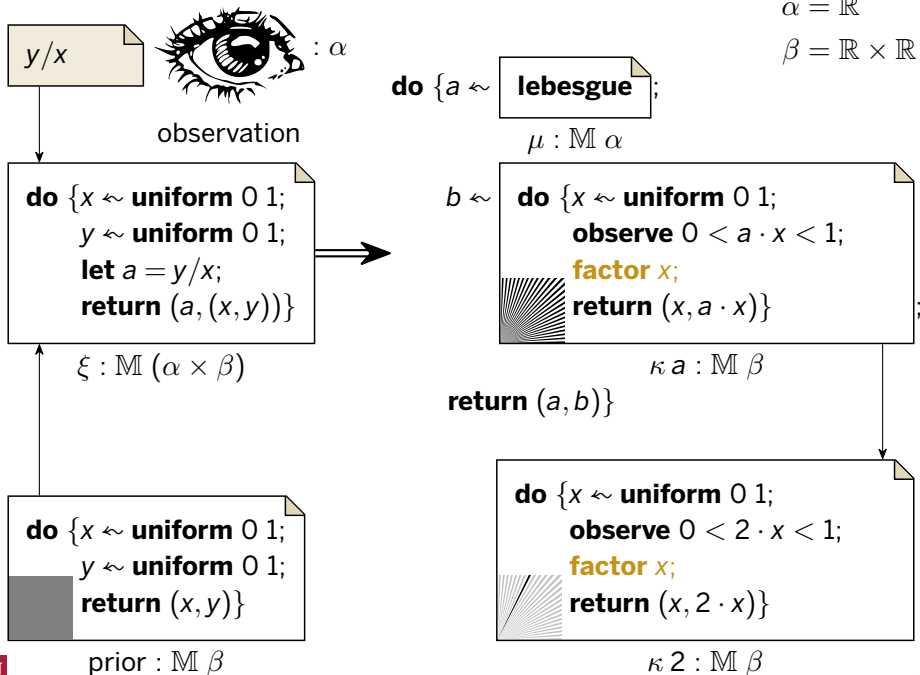
$$\alpha = \mathbb{R}$$

$$\beta = \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$$

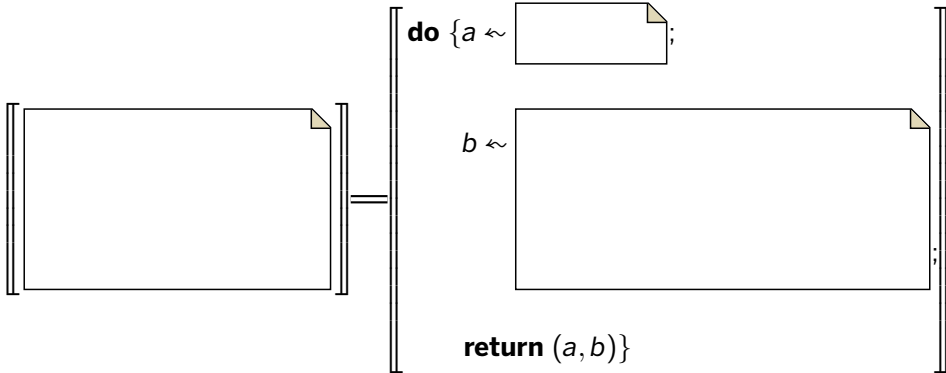


$$\alpha = \mathbb{R}$$

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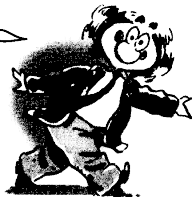




## Measure semantics

- ★ Compositional denotation! ★
- ★★ Equational reasoning! ★★
- ★★★ Integrator formulation! ★★★

AND NOW,  
ON TO THE  
INTEGRAL!



$$\llbracket M \ \alpha \rrbracket = \overbrace{(\llbracket \alpha \rrbracket \rightarrow \mathbb{R})}^{\text{integrand}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$\llbracket \mathbf{uniform} \ 0 \ 1 \rrbracket = \lambda f. \int_0^1 f(x) \, dx$$

$$\llbracket \mathbf{lebesgue} \rrbracket = \lambda f. \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) \, dx$$

$$\llbracket \mathbf{return} \ (x, y) \rrbracket = \lambda f. f(x, y)$$

$$\llbracket \mathbf{do} \ \{x \leftarrow m; M\} \rrbracket = \lambda f. \llbracket m \rrbracket (\lambda x. \llbracket M \rrbracket f)$$

$$\llbracket \mathbf{do} \ \left\{ \begin{array}{l} x \leftarrow \mathbf{uniform} \ 0 \ 1; \\ y \leftarrow \mathbf{uniform} \ 0 \ 1; \\ \mathbf{return} \ (x, y) \end{array} \right\} \rrbracket = \lambda f. \int_0^1 \int_0^1 f(x, y) \, dy \, dx$$

$$\llbracket M \ \alpha \rrbracket = \overbrace{(\llbracket \alpha \rrbracket \rightarrow \mathbb{R})}^{\text{integrand}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

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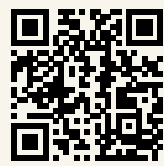
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“fantastic introduction”

★ “a pleasure to read!” ★



“very polished!”

★ “best written of the last 30 papers I have read!” ★  
★ “loved reading!” ★

★ “deft!”

★ “self contained!” ★

“gentle!” ★

★ “easy to follow!” ★

“beautifully explained!”

“fantastic introduction”

★ “a pleasure to read!” ★



“very polished!”

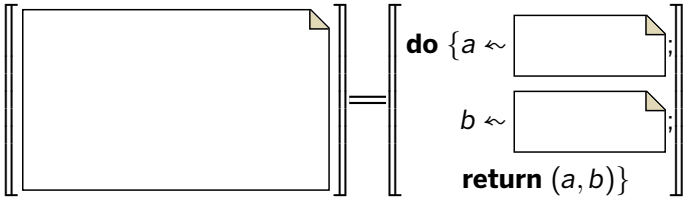
★ “best written” ★ “loved reading!” ★





PLDI readers without lots of background in probability theory should be able to follow; this is impressive



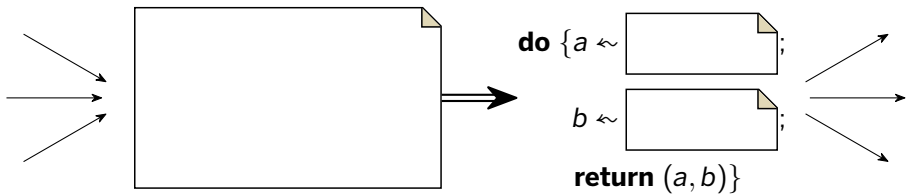
“beautifully explained!”





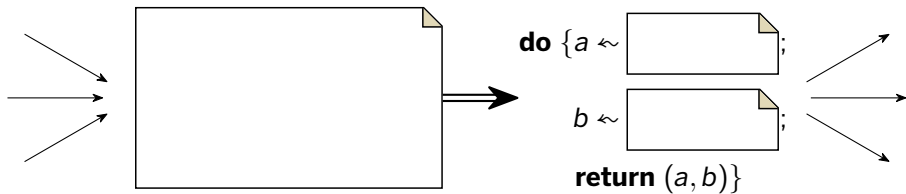
```
do {  $a \leftarrow$   ;  
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      return ( $a, b$ ) }
```





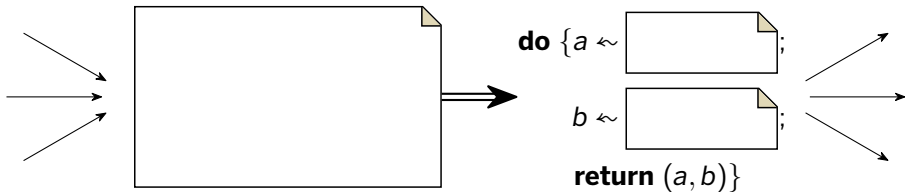


1. Probabilistic programs denote distributions
2. Exact inference by transforming terms





1. Probabilistic programs denote distributions
2. Exact inference by transforming terms



1. **Motivate** by puzzle
2. **Specify** by semantics
3. **Implement** by derivation



- ▶  $y - 2 \cdot x$      $y/x$      $\max(x, y)$     ...



- ▶ multivariate Gaussian distributions  
(for regression and dynamics)
- ▶ mixtures of distributions  
(for classifying points and documents)
- ▶ seismic event detection (Arora et al.)
- ▶ point masses' total momentum (Afshar et al.)

## When it works

- ▶  $y - 2 \cdot x$      $y/x$      $\max(x,y)$     ...

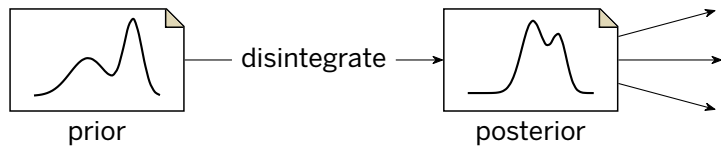


- ▶ multivariate Gaussian distributions (for regression and dynamics)
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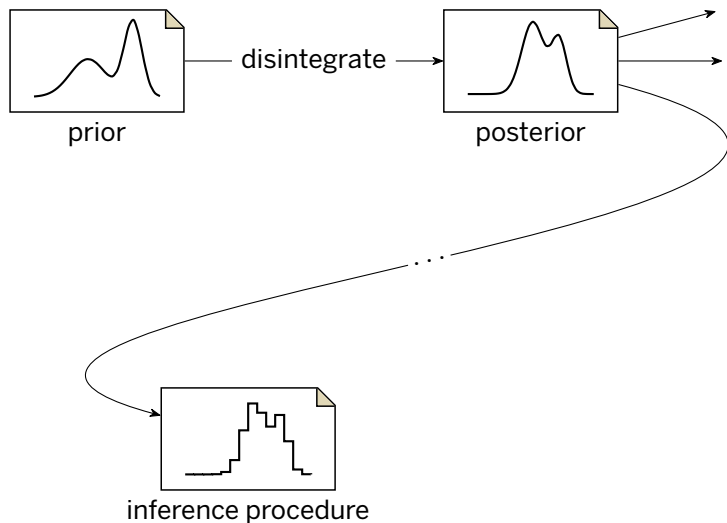
```
do { $x \leftarrow \dots$ ;  
     $y \leftarrow \dots$ ;  
     $z \leftarrow \dots$ ;  
    return ( $f(x,y,z), \dots$ )}
```

invertible

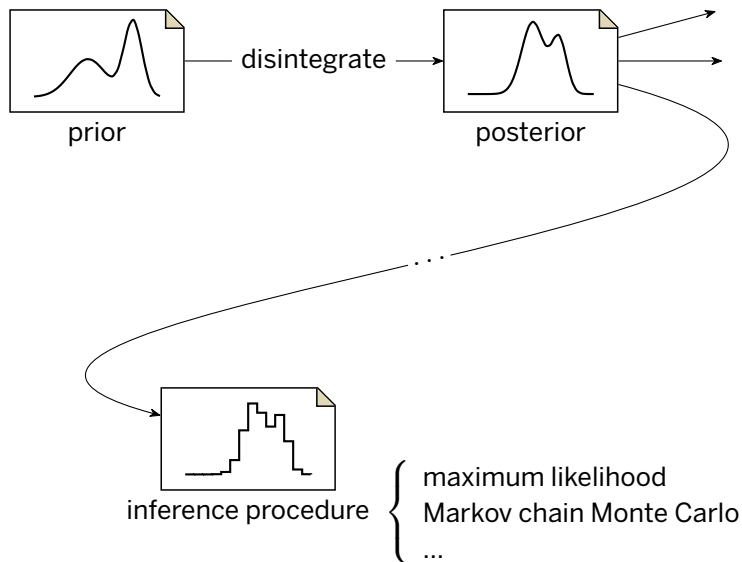
## Where it helps



## Where it helps

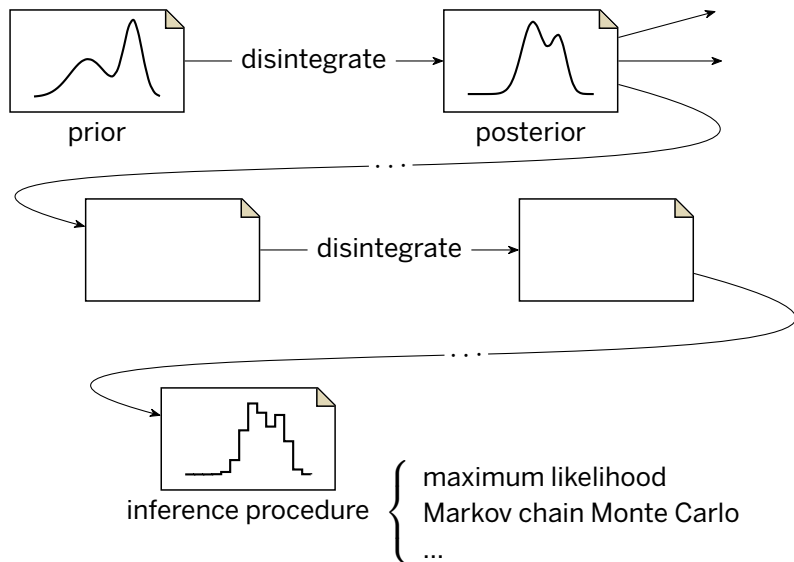


# Where it helps

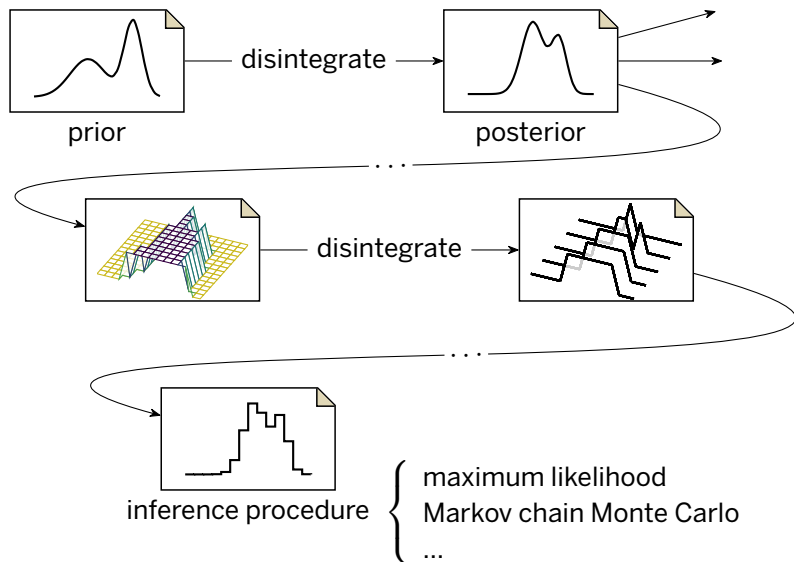




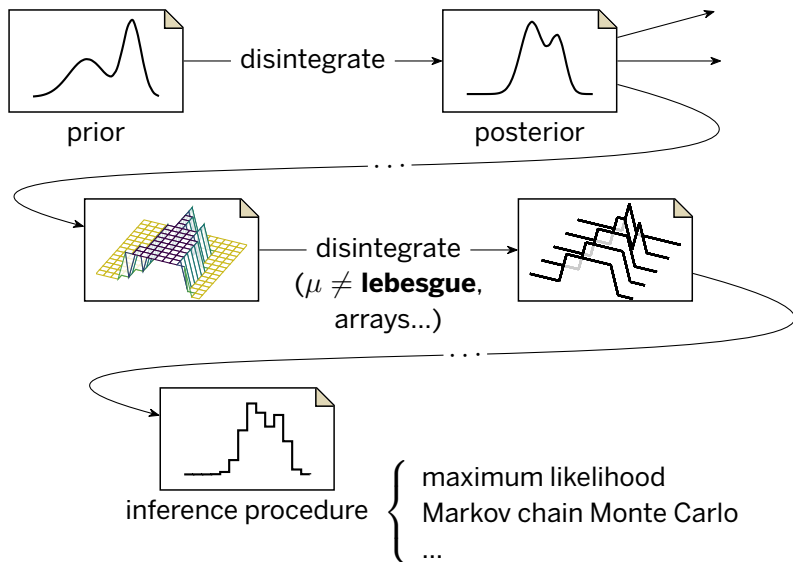
# Where it helps



# Where it helps



# Where it helps





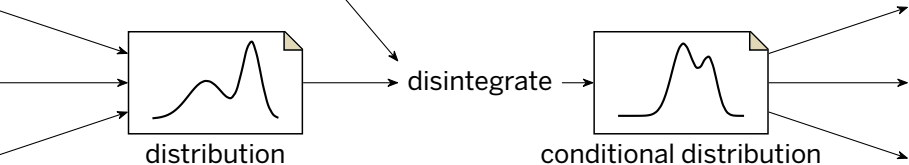
1. Probabilistic programs denote distributions
2. Exact inference by transforming terms



condition

$\alpha$

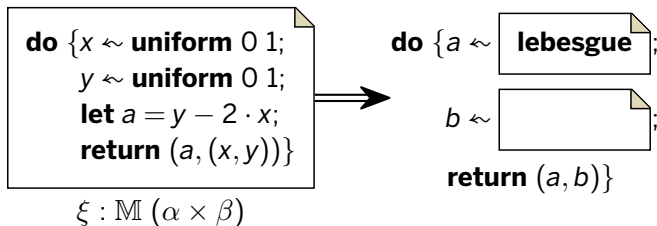
dependent variable of regression  
noisy measurement of location  
total momentum of point masses  
detected amplitude of seismic event  
... ..



1. **Motivate** by puzzle
2. **Specify** by semantics
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# Induction hypothesis for automatic disintegrator

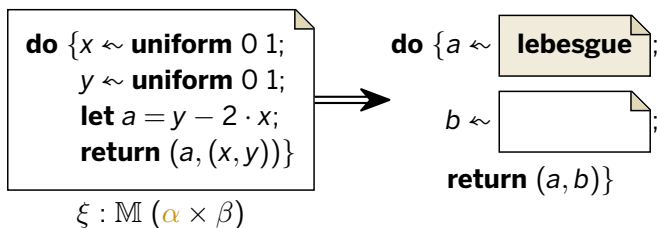


# Induction hypothesis for automatic disintegrator

Specialize:  $\alpha = \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\mu = \text{lebesgue}$ .

Generalize: observable action  $m$ , heap  $h$ , final action  $M$ .

Define continuation  $\bar{M} = \lambda h'. \mathbf{do} \{h'; M\}$ .

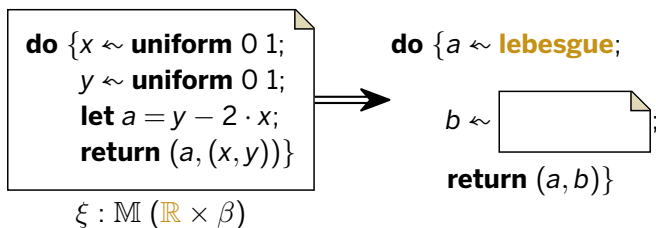


# Induction hypothesis for automatic disintegrator

Specialize:  $\alpha = \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\mu = \text{lebesgue}$ .

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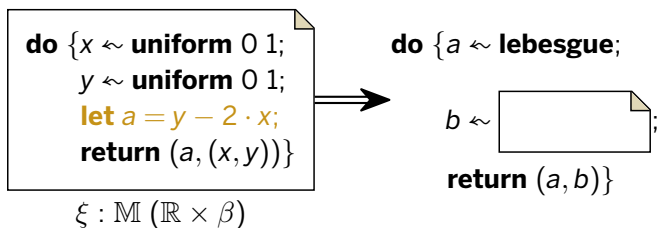


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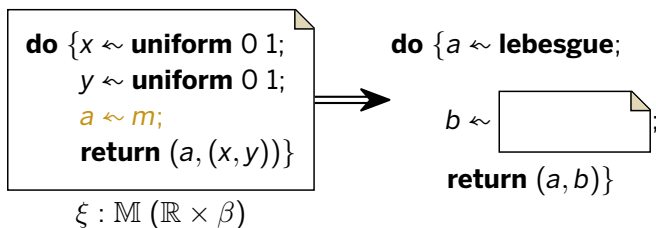


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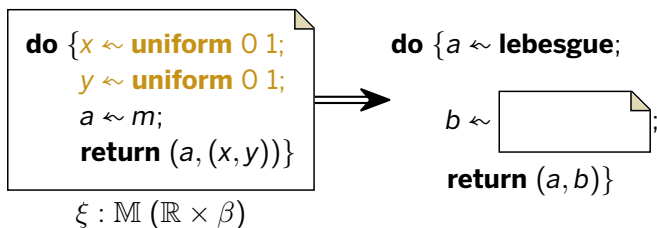


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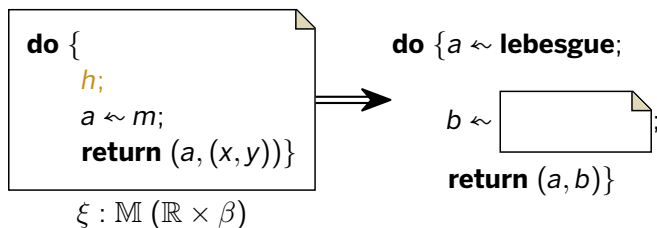


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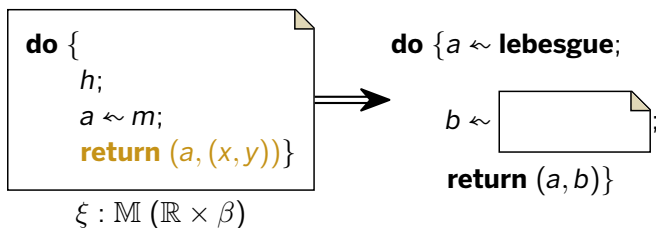


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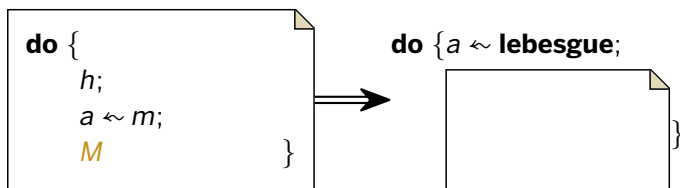


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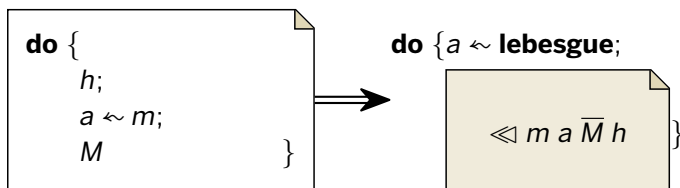


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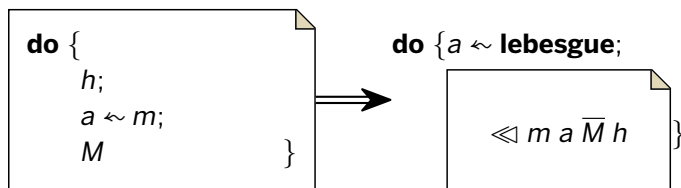


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Implement  $\ll$  by equational reasoning from this specification.

Case analysis on  $m$ :

Goal:  $\mathbf{do} \{h; a \sim m; M\} = \mathbf{do} \{a \sim \mathbf{lebesgue}; \llcorner m a \bar{M} h\}$

Case  $m = \mathbf{uniform} \ 0 \ 1$ :

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbf{do} \{h; a \sim \mathbf{uniform} \ 0 \ 1; M\} \\ = & \{ \text{probability density of } m \text{ (Bhat et al.)} \} \\ & \mathbf{do} \{h; a \sim \mathbf{lebesgue}; \mathbf{factor} \langle 0 < a < 1 \rangle; M\} \\ = & \{ \text{exchange integrals using Tonelli's theorem} \} \\ & \mathbf{do} \{a \sim \mathbf{lebesgue}; \mathbf{factor} \langle 0 < a < 1 \rangle; h; M\} \\ = & \{ \text{beta; recall } \bar{M} = \lambda h'. \mathbf{do} \{h'; M\} \} \\ & \mathbf{do} \{a \sim \mathbf{lebesgue}; \mathbf{factor} \langle 0 < a < 1 \rangle; \bar{M} h\} \end{aligned}$$

So define

$$\llcorner (\mathbf{uniform} \ 0 \ 1) a c h = \mathbf{do} \{ \mathbf{factor} \langle 0 < a < 1 \rangle; c h \}$$

Similarly for other primitive continuous distributions.

The disintegration fused into most inference methods ends here.



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Case  $m = \mathbf{return} \ x$ : Look up  $x$  in  $h = (h_1; x \leftarrow m; h_2)$

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbf{do} \{h_1; x \leftarrow m; h_2; a \leftarrow \mathbf{return} \ x; M\} \\ = & \quad \{ \text{monad laws, beta, alpha} \} \\ & \mathbf{do} \{h_1; a \leftarrow m; \mathbf{let} \ x = a; h_2; M\} \\ = & \quad \{ \text{induction hypothesis} \} \\ & \mathbf{do} \{a \leftarrow \mathbf{lebesgue}; \llcorner m a (\overline{\mathbf{do} \{ \mathbf{let} \ x = a; h_2; M \}}) h_1\} \\ = & \quad \{ \text{beta; recall } \bar{M} = \lambda h'. \mathbf{do} \{h'; M\} \} \\ & \mathbf{do} \{a \leftarrow \mathbf{lebesgue}; \llcorner m a (\lambda h'. \bar{M} (h'; \mathbf{let} \ x = a; h_2)) h_1\} \end{aligned}$$

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Similarly for other invertible functions:  $\log x, y - 2 \cdot x$ .

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