

Let us now consider an application of what we have done so far.

Let  $X$  be a normal random variable with given mean and variance.

This means that the PDF of  $X$  takes the familiar form.

We consider random variable  $Y$ , which is a linear function of  $X$ . And to avoid trivialities, we assume that  $a$  is different than zero.

We will just use the formula that we have already developed.

So we have that the density of  $Y$  is equal to 1 over the absolute value of  $a$ .

And then we have the density of  $X$ , but evaluated at  $x$  equal to this expression.

So this expression will go in the place of  $x$  in this formula.

And we have  $y - b$  over  $a$  minus  $\mu$  squared divided by  $2$  sigma squared.

And now we collect these constant terms here.

And then in the exponent, we multiply by  $a$  squared the numerator and the denominator, which gives us this form here.

We recognize that this is again, a normal PDF.

It's a function of  $y$ .

We have a random variable  $Y$ . This is the mean of the normal.

And this is the variance of that normal.

So the conclusion is that the random variable  $Y$  is normal with mean equal to  $b + a\mu$ .

And with variance  $a$  squared, sigma squared.

The fact that this is the mean and this is the variance of  $Y$  is not surprising.

This is how means and variances behave when you form linear functions.

The interesting part is that the random variable  $Y$  is actually normal.

Intuitively, what happened here is that we started with a normal bell shaped curve.

A bell shaped PDF for  $X$ . We scale it vertically and horizontally, and then shift it horizontally by  $b$ .

As we do these operations, the PDF still remains bell shaped.

And so the final PDF is again a bell shaped normal PDF.