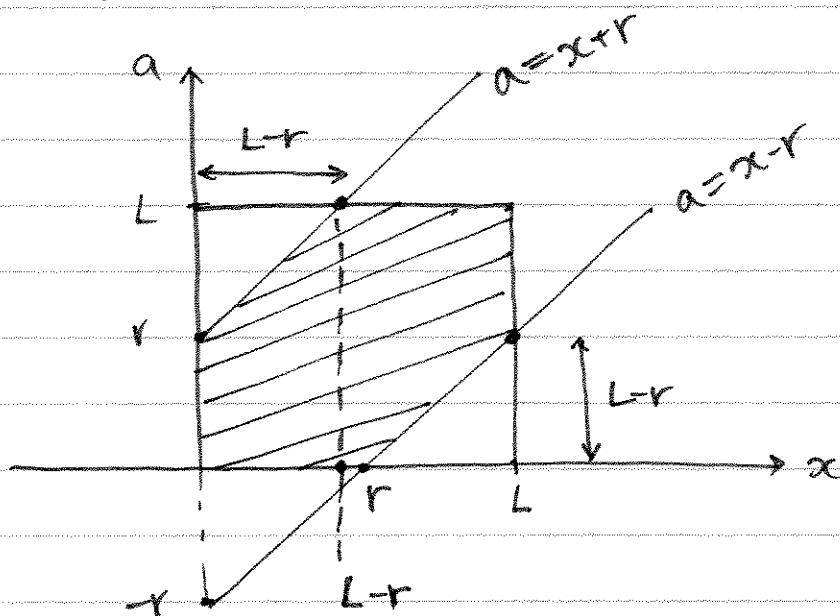


The problem wanted the distribution of $|X-A|$ not just its expectation.

So 1st find cdf, then differentiate:

$$\begin{aligned} P\{|X-A| \leq r\} &= P\{-r \leq A-X \leq r\} \\ &= P\{(X,A) \text{ falls in the shaded region}\} \end{aligned}$$

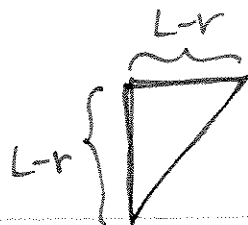


Now (X, A) is uniformly distributed on the square (independence)! Therefore,

$$P\{|X-A| \leq r\} = \frac{\text{area of shaded region}}{L^2}$$

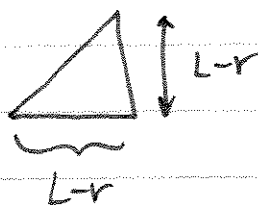
$$= 1 - \frac{\text{area of unshaded region}}{L^2}$$

• area of



is $\frac{(L-r)^2}{2}$

• area of



is also $\frac{(L-r)^2}{2}$

$\Rightarrow$

$$P(|X-A| \leq r) = 1 - \frac{(L-r)^2}{L^2} = 1 - \left(\frac{L-r}{L}\right)^2$$

$$= 1 - \left(1 - \frac{r}{L}\right)^2 \quad 0 \leq r \leq L.$$

Differentiate $[dr]$:

$$f_{|X-A|}(r) = \begin{cases} 2\left(1 - \frac{r}{L}\right) \cdot \frac{1}{L} & 0 \leq r \leq L, \\ 0 & \text{o/w.} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{N.B. } E(|X-A|) = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L r \left(1 - \frac{r}{L}\right) dr$$

$$= \frac{2}{L^2} \int_0^L r(L-r) dr$$

$$= \frac{2}{L^2} \left[L \int_0^L r dr - \int_0^L r^2 dr \right]$$

$$= \frac{2}{L^2} \left[\frac{1}{2} L^3 - \frac{1}{3} L^3 \right] = \frac{L}{3}, \text{ as before.}$$