

**Ex:** If  $X$  has a gaussian (i.e., normal) distribution with mean  $\mu_X = 1$  and standard deviation  $\sigma_X = 2$ , i.e.,  $X \sim n(1, 2)$ , find the probability density function for  $Y = -X + 9$ .

**SOL'N:** For  $Y = aX + b$ , ( $a \neq 0$ ), the pdf for  $Y$  in terms of the pdf for  $X$  is given by the following formula:

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{|a|} f_X\left(x = \frac{y-b}{a}\right)$$

For  $X$ , we have a gaussian or normal pdf:

$$f_X(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_X^2}} e^{-(x-\mu_X)^2/2\sigma_X^2}$$

Using the formula for  $f_Y(y)$ , we have one form for  $f_Y(y)$ :

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{|a|} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_X^2}} e^{-\left(\frac{y-b}{a}-\mu_X\right)^2/2\sigma_X^2}$$

Using  $a = -1$  and  $b = 9$  in the formula for  $f_Y(y)$ , we have one form of the final answer:

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{|-1|} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_X^2}} e^{-\left(\frac{y-9}{-1}-\mu_X\right)^2/2\sigma_X^2}$$

This is again a gaussian or normal distribution and, after some algebraic manipulation, we find that the gaussian or normal distribution has the following mean and variance:

$$\mu_Y = a\mu_X + b = -1 \cdot 1 + 9 = 8 \quad \sigma_Y^2 = a^2\sigma_X^2 = (-1)^2 2^2 = 4$$

Using  $a = -1$  and  $b = 9$ , we have another form for the desired answer:

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi(-2)^2}} e^{-[y-(-1+9)]^2/2(-2)^2} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi \cdot 4}} e^{-[y-8]^2/2 \cdot 4}$$