

# RANDOM VARIABLES

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A quote from the Scheinerman textbook:

"A random variable is neither random nor variable"

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$$P(X < 3) = \frac{1}{36} \quad \begin{array}{l} \leftarrow \text{2 dice} \\ \leftarrow \text{sum} \end{array}$$

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$P(Y = 1)$	$= \frac{1}{2}$	← parity

We can also eliminate absurd events, e.g.,  $P(X = 13) = 0$

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$$E(X) = \sum^* y \cdot P(X=y) \quad \left. \vphantom{\sum} \right\} \text{see example 34.3 in book (mainly p.237)} \\ \text{(Scheinerman)}$$

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$$E(X) = \frac{0 + 10 + 16 + 18 + 16 + 10}{36}$$

( $\sim 1.944$ )

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LINEARITY OF EXPECTATION (important)

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2 dice, A, B.  $X = \text{result of A. } Y = \text{result of B. } Z = X + Y$   
 $E(Z) = E(X + Y) = E(X) + E(Y) = 2 \cdot 3.5 = 7$

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If  $X$  &  $Y$  are independent, then  $E(X \cdot Y) = E(X) \cdot E(Y)$

However,  $E(X \cdot Y) = E(X) \cdot E(Y)$  does **NOT** imply  
 $X$  &  $Y$  are independent.

(see example 34.15)  
(Scheinerman)

- We are skipping the proofs of most statements in this section.
- You are not required to study these, but it would probably be beneficial.
- We are also skipping variance, which is an important concept to learn independently.