

Statistics for Data Science -1

Lecture 8.1: Random Variable: Introduction

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Learning objectives

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1. Define what is a random variable.

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2. Types of random variables: discrete and continuous.

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2. Types of random variables: discrete and continuous.
3. Probability mass function, graph, and examples.
4. Cumulative distribution function, graphs, and examples.
5. Expectation and variance of a random variable.

Random variable

Example: Rolling a dice twice

Example: Tossing a coin three times

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 - ▶ That is, we may be interested in knowing that the sum is 7 and may not be concerned over whether the actual outcome was $(1, 6)$, $(2, 5)$, $(3, 4)$, $(4, 3)$, $(5, 2)$, or $(6, 1)$.
- ▶ These quantities of interest, or, more formally, these real-valued functions defined on the sample space, are known as **random variables**.
- ▶ Because the value of a random variable is determined by the outcome of the experiment, we may assign probabilities to the possible values of the random variable.

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- ▶ The sample space for this experiment is

$$S = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} (1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3), (1, 4), (1, 5), (1, 6), \\ (2, 1), (2, 2), (2, 3), (2, 4), (2, 5), (2, 6), \\ (3, 1), (3, 2), (3, 3), (3, 4), (3, 5), (3, 6), \\ (4, 1), (4, 2), (4, 3), (4, 4), (4, 5), (4, 6), \\ (5, 1), (5, 2), (5, 3), (5, 4), (5, 5), (5, 6), \\ (6, 1), (6, 2), (6, 3), (6, 4), (6, 5), (6, 6), \end{array} \right\}$$

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 1. Of the outcomes, how many outcomes will result in a sum of outcomes as 7?

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- ▶ Consider the probabilities associated with the two questions
 1. Of the outcomes, how many outcomes will result in a sum of outcomes as 7?
 2. Of the outcomes, how many outcomes will have the smaller of the outcomes as 3?

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- ▶ Consider the probabilities associated with the two questions
 1. Of the outcomes, how many outcomes will result in a sum of outcomes as 7?
 2. Of the outcomes, how many outcomes will have the smaller of the outcomes as 3?
- ▶ Notice, the experiment and sample space used to answer both the questions are the same.

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Outcome	X	Y	Outcome	X	Y	Outcome	X	Y
(1,1)	2	1	(3,1)	4	1	(5,1)	6	1
(1,2)	3	1	(3,2)	5	2	(5,2)	7	2
(1,3)	4	1	(3,3)	6	3	(5,3)	8	3
(1,4)	5	1	(3,4)	7	3	(5,4)	9	4
(1,5)	6	1	(3,5)	8	3	(5,5)	10	5
(1,6)	7	1	(3,6)	9	3	(5,6)	11	5
(2,1)	3	1	(4,1)	5	1	(6,1)	7	1
(2,2)	4	2	(4,2)	6	2	(6,2)	8	2
(2,3)	5	2	(4,3)	7	3	(6,3)	9	3
(2,4)	6	2	(4,4)	8	4	(6,4)	10	4
(2,5)	7	2	(4,5)	9	4	(6,5)	11	5
(2,6)	8	2	(4,6)	10	4	(6,6)	12	6

Sum of rolls of the dice

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$P\{X = 2\}$	$P(\{(1, 1)\})$	$\frac{1}{36}$

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$P\{X = 2\}$	$P(\{(1, 1)\})$	$\frac{1}{36}$
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$P\{X = 4\}$	$P(\{(1, 3), (2, 2), (3, 1)\})$	$\frac{3}{36}$
$P\{X = 5\}$	$P(\{(1, 4), (2, 3), (3, 2), (4, 1)\})$	$\frac{4}{36}$
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$P\{X = 4\}$	$P(\{(1, 3), (2, 2), (3, 1)\})$	$\frac{3}{36}$
$P\{X = 5\}$	$P(\{(1, 4), (2, 3), (3, 2), (4, 1)\})$	$\frac{4}{36}$
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$P\{X = 9\}$	$P(\{(3, 6), (4, 5), (5, 4), (6, 3)\})$	$\frac{4}{36}$

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$P\{X = 5\}$	$P(\{(1, 4), (2, 3), (3, 2), (4, 1)\})$	$\frac{4}{36}$
\vdots	\vdots	\vdots
$P\{X = 9\}$	$P(\{(3, 6), (4, 5), (5, 4), (6, 3)\})$	$\frac{4}{36}$
$P\{X = 10\}$	$P(\{(4, 6), (5, 5), (6, 4)\})$	$\frac{3}{36}$

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$P\{X = 10\}$	$P(\{(4, 6), (5, 5), (6, 4)\})$	$\frac{3}{36}$
$P\{X = 11\}$	$P(\{(5, 6), (6, 5)\})$	$\frac{2}{36}$

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$P\{X = 10\}$	$P(\{(4, 6), (5, 5), (6, 4)\})$	$\frac{3}{36}$
$P\{X = 11\}$	$P(\{(5, 6), (6, 5)\})$	$\frac{2}{36}$
$P\{X = 12\}$	$P(\{(6, 6)\})$	$\frac{1}{36}$

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2	

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1	$\{(1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3), (1, 4), (1, 5), (1, 6), (2, 1), (3, 1), (4, 1), (5, 1), (6, 1)\}$
2	$\{(2, 2), (2, 3), (2, 4), (2, 5), (2, 6), (3, 2), (4, 2), (5, 2), (6, 2)\}$
3	

Lesser of the two values

- ▶ Let Y denote the lesser of the two outcomes. If the outcomes are the same, the value of the outcome is taken as value of Y .
- ▶ Y takes the values 1,2,3,4,5, and 6.

Y	Relevant event
1	$\{(1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3), (1, 4), (1, 5), (1, 6), (2, 1), (3, 1), (4, 1), (5, 1), (6, 1)\}$
2	$\{(2, 2), (2, 3), (2, 4), (2, 5), (2, 6), (3, 2), (4, 2), (5, 2), (6, 2)\}$
3	$\{(3, 3), (3, 4), (3, 5), (3, 6), (4, 3), (5, 3), (6, 3)\}$

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1	$\{(1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3), (1, 4), (1, 5), (1, 6), (2, 1), (3, 1), (4, 1), (5, 1), (6, 1)\}$
2	$\{(2, 2), (2, 3), (2, 4), (2, 5), (2, 6), (3, 2), (4, 2), (5, 2), (6, 2)\}$
3	$\{(3, 3), (3, 4), (3, 5), (3, 6), (4, 3), (5, 3), (6, 3)\}$
4	

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1	$\{(1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3), (1, 4), (1, 5), (1, 6), (2, 1), (3, 1), (4, 1), (5, 1), (6, 1)\}$
2	$\{(2, 2), (2, 3), (2, 4), (2, 5), (2, 6), (3, 2), (4, 2), (5, 2), (6, 2)\}$
3	$\{(3, 3), (3, 4), (3, 5), (3, 6), (4, 3), (5, 3), (6, 3)\}$
4	$\{(4, 4), (4, 5), (4, 6), (5, 4), (6, 4)\}$

Lesser of the two values

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1	$\{(1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3), (1, 4), (1, 5), (1, 6), (2, 1), (3, 1), (4, 1), (5, 1), (6, 1)\}$
2	$\{(2, 2), (2, 3), (2, 4), (2, 5), (2, 6), (3, 2), (4, 2), (5, 2), (6, 2)\}$
3	$\{(3, 3), (3, 4), (3, 5), (3, 6), (4, 3), (5, 3), (6, 3)\}$
4	$\{(4, 4), (4, 5), (4, 6), (5, 4), (6, 4)\}$
5	

Lesser of the two values

- ▶ Let Y denote the lesser of the two outcomes. If the outcomes are the same, the value of the outcome is taken as value of Y .
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Y	Relevant event
1	$\{(1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3), (1, 4), (1, 5), (1, 6), (2, 1), (3, 1), (4, 1), (5, 1), (6, 1)\}$
2	$\{(2, 2), (2, 3), (2, 4), (2, 5), (2, 6), (3, 2), (4, 2), (5, 2), (6, 2)\}$
3	$\{(3, 3), (3, 4), (3, 5), (3, 6), (4, 3), (5, 3), (6, 3)\}$
4	$\{(4, 4), (4, 5), (4, 6), (5, 4), (6, 4)\}$
5	$\{(5, 5), (5, 6), (6, 5)\}$

Lesser of the two values

- ▶ Let Y denote the lesser of the two outcomes. If the outcomes are the same, the value of the outcome is taken as value of Y .
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1	$\{(1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3), (1, 4), (1, 5), (1, 6), (2, 1), (3, 1), (4, 1), (5, 1), (6, 1)\}$
2	$\{(2, 2), (2, 3), (2, 4), (2, 5), (2, 6), (3, 2), (4, 2), (5, 2), (6, 2)\}$
3	$\{(3, 3), (3, 4), (3, 5), (3, 6), (4, 3), (5, 3), (6, 3)\}$
4	$\{(4, 4), (4, 5), (4, 6), (5, 4), (6, 4)\}$
5	$\{(5, 5), (5, 6), (6, 5)\}$
6	

Lesser of the two values

- ▶ Let Y denote the lesser of the two outcomes. If the outcomes are the same, the value of the outcome is taken as value of Y .
- ▶ Y takes the values 1,2,3,4,5, and 6.

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1	$\{(1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3), (1, 4), (1, 5), (1, 6), (2, 1), (3, 1), (4, 1), (5, 1), (6, 1)\}$
2	$\{(2, 2), (2, 3), (2, 4), (2, 5), (2, 6), (3, 2), (4, 2), (5, 2), (6, 2)\}$
3	$\{(3, 3), (3, 4), (3, 5), (3, 6), (4, 3), (5, 3), (6, 3)\}$
4	$\{(4, 4), (4, 5), (4, 6), (5, 4), (6, 4)\}$
5	$\{(5, 5), (5, 6), (6, 5)\}$
6	$\{(6, 6)\}$

- ▶ We say Y is a random variable taking on one of the values 1,2,3,4,5, and 6 with respective probabilities

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Y	Relevant event	Probability

- We say Y is a random variable taking on one of the values 1,2,3,4,5, and 6 with respective probabilities

Y	Relevant event	Probability
1	$\{(1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3), (1, 4), (1, 5), (1, 6), (2, 1), (3, 1), (4, 1), (5, 1), (6, 1)\}$	$\frac{11}{36}$

- We say Y is a random variable taking on one of the values 1,2,3,4,5, and 6 with respective probabilities

Y	Relevant event	Probability
1	$\{(1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3), (1, 4), (1, 5), (1, 6), (2, 1), (3, 1), (4, 1), (5, 1), (6, 1)\}$	$\frac{11}{36}$
2	$\{(2, 2), (2, 3), (2, 4), (2, 5), (2, 6), (3, 2), (4, 2), (5, 2), (6, 2)\}$	$\frac{9}{36}$

- We say Y is a random variable taking on one of the values 1,2,3,4,5, and 6 with respective probabilities

Y	Relevant event	Probability
1	$\{(1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3), (1, 4), (1, 5), (1, 6), (2, 1), (3, 1), (4, 1), (5, 1), (6, 1)\}$	$\frac{11}{36}$
2	$\{(2, 2), (2, 3), (2, 4), (2, 5), (2, 6), (3, 2), (4, 2), (5, 2), (6, 2)\}$	$\frac{9}{36}$
3	$\{(3, 3), (3, 4), (3, 5), (3, 6), (4, 3), (5, 3), (6, 3)\}$	$\frac{7}{36}$

- We say Y is a random variable taking on one of the values 1,2,3,4,5, and 6 with respective probabilities

Y	Relevant event	Probability
1	$\{(1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3), (1, 4), (1, 5), (1, 6), (2, 1), (3, 1), (4, 1), (5, 1), (6, 1)\}$	$\frac{11}{36}$
2	$\{(2, 2), (2, 3), (2, 4), (2, 5), (2, 6), (3, 2), (4, 2), (5, 2), (6, 2)\}$	$\frac{9}{36}$
3	$\{(3, 3), (3, 4), (3, 5), (3, 6), (4, 3), (5, 3), (6, 3)\}$	$\frac{7}{36}$
4	$\{(4, 4), (4, 5), (4, 6), (5, 4), (6, 4)\}$	$\frac{5}{36}$

- We say Y is a random variable taking on one of the values 1,2,3,4,5, and 6 with respective probabilities

Y	Relevant event	Probability
1	$\{(1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3), (1, 4), (1, 5), (1, 6), (2, 1), (3, 1), (4, 1), (5, 1), (6, 1)\}$	$\frac{11}{36}$
2	$\{(2, 2), (2, 3), (2, 4), (2, 5), (2, 6), (3, 2), (4, 2), (5, 2), (6, 2)\}$	$\frac{9}{36}$
3	$\{(3, 3), (3, 4), (3, 5), (3, 6), (4, 3), (5, 3), (6, 3)\}$	$\frac{7}{36}$
4	$\{(4, 4), (4, 5), (4, 6), (5, 4), (6, 4)\}$	$\frac{5}{36}$
5	$\{(5, 5), (5, 6), (6, 5)\}$	$\frac{3}{36}$

- We say Y is a random variable taking on one of the values 1,2,3,4,5, and 6 with respective probabilities

Y	Relevant event	Probability
1	$\{(1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3), (1, 4), (1, 5), (1, 6), (2, 1), (3, 1), (4, 1), (5, 1), (6, 1)\}$	$\frac{11}{36}$
2	$\{(2, 2), (2, 3), (2, 4), (2, 5), (2, 6), (3, 2), (4, 2), (5, 2), (6, 2)\}$	$\frac{9}{36}$
3	$\{(3, 3), (3, 4), (3, 5), (3, 6), (4, 3), (5, 3), (6, 3)\}$	$\frac{7}{36}$
4	$\{(4, 4), (4, 5), (4, 6), (5, 4), (6, 4)\}$	$\frac{5}{36}$
5	$\{(5, 5), (5, 6), (6, 5)\}$	$\frac{3}{36}$
6	$\{(6, 6)\}$	$\frac{1}{36}$

Tossing a coin three times: Sample space

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- ▶ Experiment: Toss a coin three times.

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$$S = \{HHH, HHT, HTH, HTT, THH, THT, TTH, TTT\}$$

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- ▶ Consider the probabilities associated with the two questions:

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$$S = \{HHH, HHT, HTH, HTT, THH, THT, TTH, TTT\}$$

- ▶ Consider the probabilities associated with the two questions:
 1. Of the three tosses, how many tosses will be heads?

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- ▶ Experiment: Toss a coin three times.
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$$S = \{HHH, HHT, HTH, HTT, THH, THT, TTH, TTT\}$$

- ▶ Consider the probabilities associated with the two questions:
 1. Of the three tosses, how many tosses will be heads?
 2. Of the three tosses, which toss results in a heads first?, i.e first, second or third toss is a head?

Tossing a coin three times: Sample space

- ▶ Experiment: Toss a coin three times.
- ▶ The sample space for this experiment is

$$S = \{HHH, HHT, HTH, HTT, THH, THT, TTH, TTT\}$$

- ▶ Consider the probabilities associated with the two questions:
 1. Of the three tosses, how many tosses will be heads?
 2. Of the three tosses, which toss results in a heads first?, i.e first, second or third toss is a head?
- ▶ Notice the experiment and sample space used to answer both the questions are the same.

- ▶ Let X denote the number of heads that appear. Let Y denote the toss in which a head appears first.

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Outcome	X	Y
HHH	3	1
HHT	2	1
HTH	2	1
HTT	1	1
THH	2	2
THT	1	2
TTH	1	3
TTT	0	NIL

Number of tosses that will be heads

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- ▶ Let X denote the number of heads that appear.

Number of tosses that will be heads

- ▶ Let X denote the number of heads that appear.
- ▶ X takes the values 0,1,2,3

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Value of X	Relevant event

Number of tosses that will be heads

- ▶ Let X denote the number of heads that appear.
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Value of X	Relevant event
0	

Number of tosses that will be heads

- ▶ Let X denote the number of heads that appear.
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Value of X	Relevant event
0	$\{(TTT)\}$

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- ▶ Let X denote the number of heads that appear.
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Value of X	Relevant event
0	$\{(TTT)\}$
1	

Number of tosses that will be heads

- ▶ Let X denote the number of heads that appear.
- ▶ X takes the values 0,1,2,3

Value of X	Relevant event
0	$\{(TTT)\}$
1	$\{(HTT), (THT), (TTH)\}$

Number of tosses that will be heads

- ▶ Let X denote the number of heads that appear.
- ▶ X takes the values 0,1,2,3

Value of X	Relevant event
0	$\{(TTT)\}$
1	$\{(HTT), (THT), (TTH)\}$
2	

Number of tosses that will be heads

- ▶ Let X denote the number of heads that appear.
- ▶ X takes the values 0,1,2,3

Value of X	Relevant event
0	$\{(TTT)\}$
1	$\{(HTT), (THT), (TTH)\}$
2	$\{(HHT), (HTH), (THH)\}$

Number of tosses that will be heads

- ▶ Let X denote the number of heads that appear.
- ▶ X takes the values 0,1,2,3

Value of X	Relevant event
0	$\{(TTT)\}$
1	$\{(HTT), (THT), (TTH)\}$
2	$\{(HHT), (HTH), (THH)\}$
3	

Number of tosses that will be heads

- ▶ Let X denote the number of heads that appear.
- ▶ X takes the values 0,1,2,3

Value of X	Relevant event
0	$\{(TTT)\}$
1	$\{(HTT), (THT), (TTH)\}$
2	$\{(HHT), (HTH), (THH)\}$
3	$\{(HHH)\}$

Number of tosses that will be heads

- ▶ Let X denote the number of heads that appear.
- ▶ X takes the values 0,1,2,3

Value of X	Relevant event
0	$\{(TTT)\}$
1	$\{(HTT), (THT), (TTH)\}$
2	$\{(HHT), (HTH), (THH)\}$
3	$\{(HHH)\}$

- ▶ We say X is a random variable taking on one of the values 0, 1, 2, and 3 with respective probabilities

Number of tosses that will be heads

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- ▶ X takes the values 0,1,2,3

Value of X	Relevant event
0	$\{(TTT)\}$
1	$\{(HTT), (THT), (TTH)\}$
2	$\{(HHT), (HTH), (THH)\}$
3	$\{(HHH)\}$

- ▶ We say X is a random variable taking on one of the values 0, 1, 2, and 3 with respective probabilities
 - ▶ $P\{X = 0\} = P\{(TTT)\} = \frac{1}{8}$

Number of tosses that will be heads

- ▶ Let X denote the number of heads that appear.
- ▶ X takes the values 0,1,2,3

Value of X	Relevant event
0	$\{(TTT)\}$
1	$\{(HTT), (THT), (TTH)\}$
2	$\{(HHT), (HTH), (THH)\}$
3	$\{(HHH)\}$

- ▶ We say X is a random variable taking on one of the values 0, 1, 2, and 3 with respective probabilities
 - ▶ $P\{X = 0\} = P\{(TTT)\} = \frac{1}{8}$
 - ▶ $P\{X = 1\} = P\{(HTT), (THT), (TTH)\} = \frac{3}{8}$

Number of tosses that will be heads

- ▶ Let X denote the number of heads that appear.
- ▶ X takes the values 0,1,2,3

Value of X	Relevant event
0	$\{(TTT)\}$
1	$\{(HTT), (THT), (TTH)\}$
2	$\{(HHT), (HTH), (THH)\}$
3	$\{(HHH)\}$

- ▶ We say X is a random variable taking on one of the values 0, 1, 2, and 3 with respective probabilities
 - ▶ $P\{X = 0\} = P\{(TTT)\} = \frac{1}{8}$
 - ▶ $P\{X = 1\} = P\{(HTT), (THT), (TTH)\} = \frac{3}{8}$
 - ▶ $P\{X = 2\} = P\{(HHT), (HTH), (THH)\} = \frac{3}{8}$

Number of tosses that will be heads

- ▶ Let X denote the number of heads that appear.
- ▶ X takes the values 0,1,2,3

Value of X	Relevant event
0	$\{(TTT)\}$
1	$\{(HTT), (THT), (TTH)\}$
2	$\{(HHT), (HTH), (THH)\}$
3	$\{(HHH)\}$

- ▶ We say X is a random variable taking on one of the values 0, 1, 2, and 3 with respective probabilities
 - ▶ $P\{X = 0\} = P\{(TTT)\} = \frac{1}{8}$
 - ▶ $P\{X = 1\} = P\{(HTT), (THT), (TTH)\} = \frac{3}{8}$
 - ▶ $P\{X = 2\} = P\{(HHT), (HTH), (THH)\} = \frac{3}{8}$
 - ▶ $P\{X = 3\} = P\{(HHH)\} = \frac{1}{8}$

Which toss results in a heads first

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- ▶ Let Y denote the toss in which a head appears first.

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- ▶ Let Y denote the toss in which a head appears first.
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Value of Y	Relevant event

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Value of Y	Relevant event
1	

Which toss results in a heads first

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Value of Y	Relevant event
1	$\{(HHH), (HHT), (HTH), (HTT)\}$

Which toss results in a heads first

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Value of Y	Relevant event
1	$\{(HHH), (HHT), (HTH), (HTT)\}$
2	

Which toss results in a heads first

- ▶ Let Y denote the toss in which a head appears first.
- ▶ Y takes the values 1, 2, 3, and NIL

Value of Y	Relevant event
1	$\{(HHH), (HHT), (HTH), (HTT)\}$
2	$\{(THH), (THT)\}$

Which toss results in a heads first

- ▶ Let Y denote the toss in which a head appears first.
- ▶ Y takes the values 1, 2, 3, and NIL

Value of Y	Relevant event
1	$\{(HHH), (HHT), (HTH), (HTT)\}$
2	$\{(THH), (THT)\}$
3	

Which toss results in a heads first

- ▶ Let Y denote the toss in which a head appears first.
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Value of Y	Relevant event
1	$\{(HHH), (HHT), (HTH), (HTT)\}$
2	$\{(THH), (THT)\}$
3	$\{(TTH)\}$

Which toss results in a heads first

- ▶ Let Y denote the toss in which a head appears first.
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Value of Y	Relevant event
1	$\{(HHH), (HHT), (HTH), (HTT)\}$
2	$\{(THH), (THT)\}$
3	$\{(TTH)\}$
NIL	

Which toss results in a heads first

- ▶ Let Y denote the toss in which a head appears first.
- ▶ Y takes the values 1, 2, 3, and NIL

Value of Y	Relevant event
1	$\{(HHH), (HHT), (HTH), (HTT)\}$
2	$\{(THH), (THT)\}$
3	$\{(TTH)\}$
NIL	$\{(TTT)\}$

Which toss results in a heads first

- ▶ Let Y denote the toss in which a head appears first.
- ▶ Y takes the values 1,2,3, and NIL

Value of Y	Relevant event
1	$\{(HHH), (HHT), (HTH), (HTT)\}$
2	$\{(THH), (THT)\}$
3	$\{(TTH)\}$
NIL	$\{(TTT)\}$

- ▶ We say Y is a random variable taking on one of the values 1, 2, 3, and NIL with respective probabilities

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Value of Y	Relevant event
1	$\{(HHH), (HHT), (HTH), (HTT)\}$
2	$\{(THH), (THT)\}$
3	$\{(TTH)\}$
NIL	$\{(TTT)\}$

- ▶ We say Y is a random variable taking on one of the values 1, 2, 3, and NIL with respective probabilities
 - ▶ $P\{Y = 1\} = P\{(HHH), (HHT), (HTH), (HTT)\} = \frac{4}{8}$

Which toss results in a heads first

- ▶ Let Y denote the toss in which a head appears first.
- ▶ Y takes the values 1, 2, 3, and NIL

Value of Y	Relevant event
1	$\{(HHH), (HHT), (HTH), (HTT)\}$
2	$\{(THH), (THT)\}$
3	$\{(TTH)\}$
NIL	$\{(TTT)\}$

- ▶ We say Y is a random variable taking on one of the values 1, 2, 3, and NIL with respective probabilities
 - ▶ $P\{Y = 1\} = P\{(HHH), (HHT), (HTH), (HTT)\} = \frac{4}{8}$
 - ▶ $P\{Y = 2\} = P\{(THH), (THT)\} = \frac{2}{8}$

Which toss results in a heads first

- ▶ Let Y denote the toss in which a head appears first.
- ▶ Y takes the values 1, 2, 3, and NIL

Value of Y	Relevant event
1	$\{(HHH), (HHT), (HTH), (HTT)\}$
2	$\{(THH), (THT)\}$
3	$\{(TTH)\}$
NIL	$\{(TTT)\}$

- ▶ We say Y is a random variable taking on one of the values 1, 2, 3, and NIL with respective probabilities
 - ▶ $P\{Y = 1\} = P\{(HHH), (HHT), (HTH), (HTT)\} = \frac{4}{8}$
 - ▶ $P\{Y = 2\} = P\{(THH), (THT)\} = \frac{2}{8}$
 - ▶ $P\{Y = 3\} = P\{(TTH)\} = \frac{1}{8}$

Which toss results in a heads first

- ▶ Let Y denote the toss in which a head appears first.
- ▶ Y takes the values 1, 2, 3, and NIL

Value of Y	Relevant event
1	$\{(HHH), (HHT), (HTH), (HTT)\}$
2	$\{(THH), (THT)\}$
3	$\{(TTH)\}$
NIL	$\{(TTT)\}$

- ▶ We say Y is a random variable taking on one of the values 1, 2, 3, and NIL with respective probabilities
 - ▶ $P\{Y = 1\} = P\{(HHH), (HHT), (HTH), (HTT)\} = \frac{4}{8}$
 - ▶ $P\{Y = 2\} = P\{(THH), (THT)\} = \frac{2}{8}$
 - ▶ $P\{Y = 3\} = P\{(TTH)\} = \frac{1}{8}$
 - ▶ $P\{Y = \text{NIL}\} = P\{(TTT)\} = \frac{1}{8}$

Section summary

1. Definition of a random variable and examples