

Theorem 0.0.1. Let X be a square integrable random variable, i.e. $\mathbb{E}[X^2] < \infty$. Then $\mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{G}]$ is the orthogonal projection of X on $L^2(\Omega, \mathbb{P})$. This means that for every square integrable \mathcal{G} -measurable Z ,

$$\mathbb{E}[(X - Z)^2] \geq \mathbb{E}[(X - \mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{G}])^2]$$

with equality if and only if $Z = \mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{G}]$.