

Theorem 0.0.1 (conditional expectation). Let X, Y be two integrable random variables on $(\Omega, \mathcal{A}, \mathbb{P})$, and \mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H} be two sub σ -algebras of \mathcal{A} . Then

1. (**taking out what is known**) If X is \mathcal{G} -measurable (or equivalently $\sigma(X) \subseteq \mathcal{G}$), then $\mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{G}] = X$.

2. (**linearity**) For $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$, $\mathbb{E}[aX + bY|\mathcal{G}] = a\mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{G}] + b\mathbb{E}[Y|\mathcal{G}]$.

3. (**tower property**) If $\mathcal{H} \subseteq \mathcal{G}$ then

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{G}]|\mathcal{H}] = \mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{H}]$$

in particular, by taking $\mathcal{H} = \{\emptyset, \Omega\}$ to be the trivial σ -algebra, we have

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{G}]] = \mathbb{E}(X).$$

4. If X is independent of \mathcal{G} in the sense that for all $A \in \sigma(X)$ and $B \in \mathcal{G}$ we have $\mathbb{P}(A \cap B) = \mathbb{P}(A)\mathbb{P}(B)$, then

$$\mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{G}] = \mathbb{E}[X].$$

5. If X is \mathcal{G} -measurable and Y is independent of \mathcal{G} then for any Borel function $h : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ we have

$$\mathbb{E}[h(X, Y)|\mathcal{G}] = H(X),$$

where $H : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is given by the formula $H(x) = \mathbb{E}[h(x, Y)]$. Consider, e.g. X represents the present, Y the future and \mathcal{G} the information generated by past events.

6. (**conditional Jensen's inequality**) Let $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a convex function and for any σ -algebra $\mathcal{G} \subseteq \mathcal{A}$,

$$g(\mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{G}]) \leq \mathbb{E}[g(X)|\mathcal{G}].$$