

## ## Expectation of a Random Variable ##

The expected value of a random variable is the average of the random variable's outcomes

This is a useful way to summarize the information in the distribution.

Formula for expected value of a random variable  $X$

$$E[X] = \sum_{s \in S} X(s) p(s)$$

where  $p(s)$  is the probability of the outcome  $s$

Another way to calculate  $E[X]$  is

$$E[X] = \sum_{r \in X(S)} r \cdot p(X=r)$$

where  $X(S)$  is the range of the function  $X$ .