

<u>Course</u> > <u>Topic 7</u>... > <u>7.8 Lin</u>... > Lineari...

# **Linearity of Expectations** Video

minus twice the expected value of x times the expected value of Now, the first two terms are the variance of x. and the next two terms are the variance of y, and what we're left with is twice the expected value of minus the expected value of times the expected value of y. So, the answer as to whether the variance of x plus y is equal to the variance of x plus the variance of y depends on whether the expected value of xy 3:03 / 0:00 1.0x X CC equals the expected value of

## 7.8 Linearity of Expectation

#### **POLL**

Which of the following always holds?

#### **RESULTS**

**Both** 76%

E[X+Y]=E[X]+E[Y]16%

None 6%

E[X-Y]=E[X]-E[Y]3%

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#### Results gathered from 200 respondents.

#### **FEEDBACK**

Both of them hold.

1

0 points possible (ungraded)

Let X be number of heads you get by flipping a fair coin 100 times. Then what is  $E\left(X\right)$ ?

$$\circ$$
  $E\left[X
ight]=25$ 

$$ullet$$
  $E\left[X
ight]=50$ 

$$E[X] = 75$$

None of the above

### **Explanation**

Let  $X_i$  be the random variable for the i-th flip, with 1 representing heads and 0representing tails. Then  $E\left(X_{i}\right)=\frac{1}{2}$ .

It is obvious that 
$$X=\sum_{i=1}^{100}X_i$$
. Its expectation  $E\left(X\right)=E\left(\sum_{i=1}^{100}X_i\right)=\sum_{i=1}^{100}E\left(X_i\right)=100 imes rac{1}{2}=50$ 

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You have used 1 of 2 attempts

Answers are displayed within the problem

2

3.0/3.0 points (graded)

Starting with 10 blue balls, in each of 10 sequential rounds, we remove a random ball and replace it with a new red ball. For example, after the first round we have 9 blue balls and one red ball, after the second round, with probability 9/10 we have 8 blue balls and 2 red balls, and with probability 1/10 we have 9 blue balls and one red ball, etc.

What is the probability that the ball we remove at the 11th round is blue?



#### **Explanation**

Imagine that the balls are placed in 10 locations 1 to 10. Let  $B_i$  be the event that at the final (11th) round, the ball in location i is blue.  $B_i$  occurs iff the ball in location i was not discarded in any of the previous 10 rounds, hence  $P\left(B_i
ight) = \left(1-1/10
ight)^{10} = (9/10)^{10}.$ Let B be the event that the final ball, picked at the 11th round, is blue. By the rule of total probability,  $P(B) = \sum_{i=1}^{10} \frac{1}{10} P(B_i) = 10 \cdot \frac{1}{10} (\frac{9}{10})^{10} = (\frac{9}{10})^{10} = 0.3486$ 

Submit

You have used 1 of 4 attempts

**1** Answers are displayed within the problem

3

2.0/2.0 points (graded)

$$\mathbb{E}\left(X
ight)=2$$
 and  $\mathbb{E}\left(X\left(X-1
ight)
ight)=5$  Find  $V\left(X
ight)$ .

## **Explanation**

$$egin{aligned} 5 &= \mathbb{E}\left(X(X-1)
ight) \ &= \mathbb{E}\left(X^2 - X
ight) \ &= \mathbb{E}\left(X^2
ight) - \mathbb{E}\left(X
ight) \ &= \mathbb{E}\left(X^2
ight) - 2 \ & o \mathbb{E}\left(X^2
ight) = 5 + 2 = 7 \end{aligned}$$

$$V\left(X
ight)=\mathbb{E}\left(X^{2}
ight)-\mathbb{E}(X)^{2}=7-4=3$$

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You have used 2 of 4 attempts

**1** Answers are displayed within the problem

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