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## survivor function

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Defines survival time

Let Y be a random variable with cumulative probability distribution function  $F_Y(y)$ . Then the survivor function S(y) is defined to be:

$$S(y) = 1 - F_Y(y) = P(Y \ge y).$$

The random variable Y is often called the *survival time*.

The survivor function is the probability of survival beyond time Y = y. **Examples.** The three most commonly used distribution functions for survival time are:

- 1. http://planetmath.org/ExponentialRandomVariableexponential distribution, with  $S(y) = \exp(-\gamma y)$ .
- 2. Weibull distribution, with  $S(y) = \exp(-y^{\gamma})$  using the standard Weibull distribution.
- 3. extreme-value distribution, with  $S(y) = \exp(-\exp(\frac{y-\alpha}{\beta}))$ .