

## MITx: 6.041x Introduction to Probability - The Science of Uncertainty

Bookmarks

- Unit 0: Overview
- **Entrance Survey**
- Unit 1: Probability models and axioms
- ▶ Unit 2: Conditioning and independence
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Unit overview

Lec. 11: Derived distributions Exercises 11 due Mar 30, 2016

at 23:59 UTC

Lec. 12: Sums of independent r.v.'s; **Covariance** and correlation

Exercises 12 due Mar 30, 2016 at 23:59 UTC

Lec. 13: Conditional expectation and variance revisited; Sum of a random number of independent r.v.'s Exercises 13 due Mar 30, 2016 at 23:59 UTC

Solved problems

Additional theoretical material

Problem Set 6 Problem Set 6 due Mar 30, 2016 at 23:59 UTC

**Unit summary** 

Unit 6: Further topics on random variables > Lec. 12: Sums of independent r.v.'s; Covariance and correlation > Lec 12 Sums of independent r v s Covariance and correlation vertical3

**■** Bookmark

## Exercise: Covariance calculation

(1/1 point)

Suppose that X, Y, and Z are independent random variables with unit variance. Furthermore,  $\mathbf{E}[X] = \mathbf{0}$  and  $\mathbf{E}[Y] = \mathbf{E}[Z] = \mathbf{2}$ . Then,

$$cov(XY, XZ) = \begin{vmatrix} 4 \end{vmatrix}$$
 Answer: 4

Answer:

Because of independence and the zero-mean assumption, it follows that  $\mathbf{E}[XY] = \mathbf{E}[X] \cdot \mathbf{E}[Y] = 0$  and similarly,  $\mathbf{E}[XZ] = 0$ . Thus,

$$\operatorname{cov}(XY,XZ) = \operatorname{\mathbf{E}}[XYXZ] = \operatorname{\mathbf{E}}[X^2YZ] = \operatorname{\mathbf{E}}[X^2] \cdot \operatorname{\mathbf{E}}[Y] \cdot \operatorname{\mathbf{E}}[Z] = \operatorname{var}(X) \cdot \operatorname{\mathbf{E}}[Y] \cdot \operatorname{\mathbf{E}}[Z]$$

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