Probability: A Very Short Introduction

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Probability: A Very Short Introduction explores ideas of probability and the different philosophical approaches to it. It provides a brief account of the history of development of probability theory, and considers the work of some of the big players: from Galileo and Pascal to Bayes, Laplace, Poisson, and Markov. Making good decisions under conditions of uncertainty — which is the norm — requires a sound appreciation of the way random chance works. As analysis and modelling of most aspects of the world, and all measurement, are necessarily imprecise and involve uncertainties of varying degrees, the understanding and management of probabilities is central to much work in the sciences and economics.