

Let P be a random variable that is equally likely to take the values $1/3$ and $2/3$. Let X be the number of heads when a coin with probability of heads P is tossed 10 times. Find $\text{Var}[E[X|P]]$.

Solution: The variance of P is $\frac{1}{2} \cdot (\frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{2})^2 + \frac{1}{2} \cdot (\frac{2}{3} - \frac{1}{2})^2 = \frac{1}{36}$, so

$$\text{Var}[E[X|P]] = \text{Var}[10P] = 100 \cdot \text{Var}[P] = \frac{100}{36} = 2\frac{7}{9}.$$