The Pleasures of Probability

By Isaac, Richard

Book Condition: New. Publisher/Verlag: Springer, Berlin | This introduction to fundamental ideas in classical probability is written for an audience ranging from mathematical amateurs to scientists, from students to professional mathematicians. Includes illustrative problems, with answers at the end of the book. | The ideas of probability are all around us. Lotteries, casino gambling, the al most non-stop polling which seems to mold public policy more and more these are a few of the areas where principles of probability impinge in a direct way on the lives and fortunes of the general public. At a more re moved level there is modern science which uses probability and its offshoots like statistics and the theory of random processes to build mathematical descriptions of the real world. In fact, twentieth-century physics, in embrac ing quantum mechanics, has a world view that is at its core probabilistic in nature, contrary to the deterministic one of classical physics. In addition to all this muscular evidence of the importance of probability ideas it should also be said that probability can be lots of fun. It is a subject where you can start thinking about amusing, interesting, and often difficult problems with very little mathematical background....

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