



Tender Moments

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Learning Goals

1. Use New Random Variables!
2. Calculate Expectation of a Random Variable



Review



A **random variable** is a number which takes on values probabilistically.



A discrete random variable is fully described by a **probability mass function**.

Let Y be a random variable



Y

For example Y is the number of heads in 5 coin flips

Let Y be a random variable



$$Y = 2$$

*note: here equals means `==` in coding

It is an event when
 Y takes on a value

For example Y is the number of heads in 5 coin flips

Let Y be a random variable



$$Y < 3$$

It is an event when
you ask any comparison question

For example Y is the number of heads in 5 coin flips

If this is a number

$$P(Y = 2)$$

Then this is a probability
(between 0 and 1)

For example Y is the number of heads in 5 coin flips

If this is a **variable**

$$P(Y = k)$$

Then this is a **function**

For example Y is the number of heads in 5 coin flips

This is a function

$$P(Y = k)$$

The diagram illustrates a function. A blue arrow points from the value $k = 5$ to the expression $P(Y = k)$. A second blue arrow points from $P(Y = k)$ down to the numerical value 0.03125 .

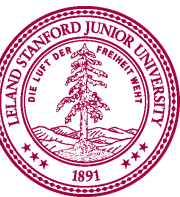
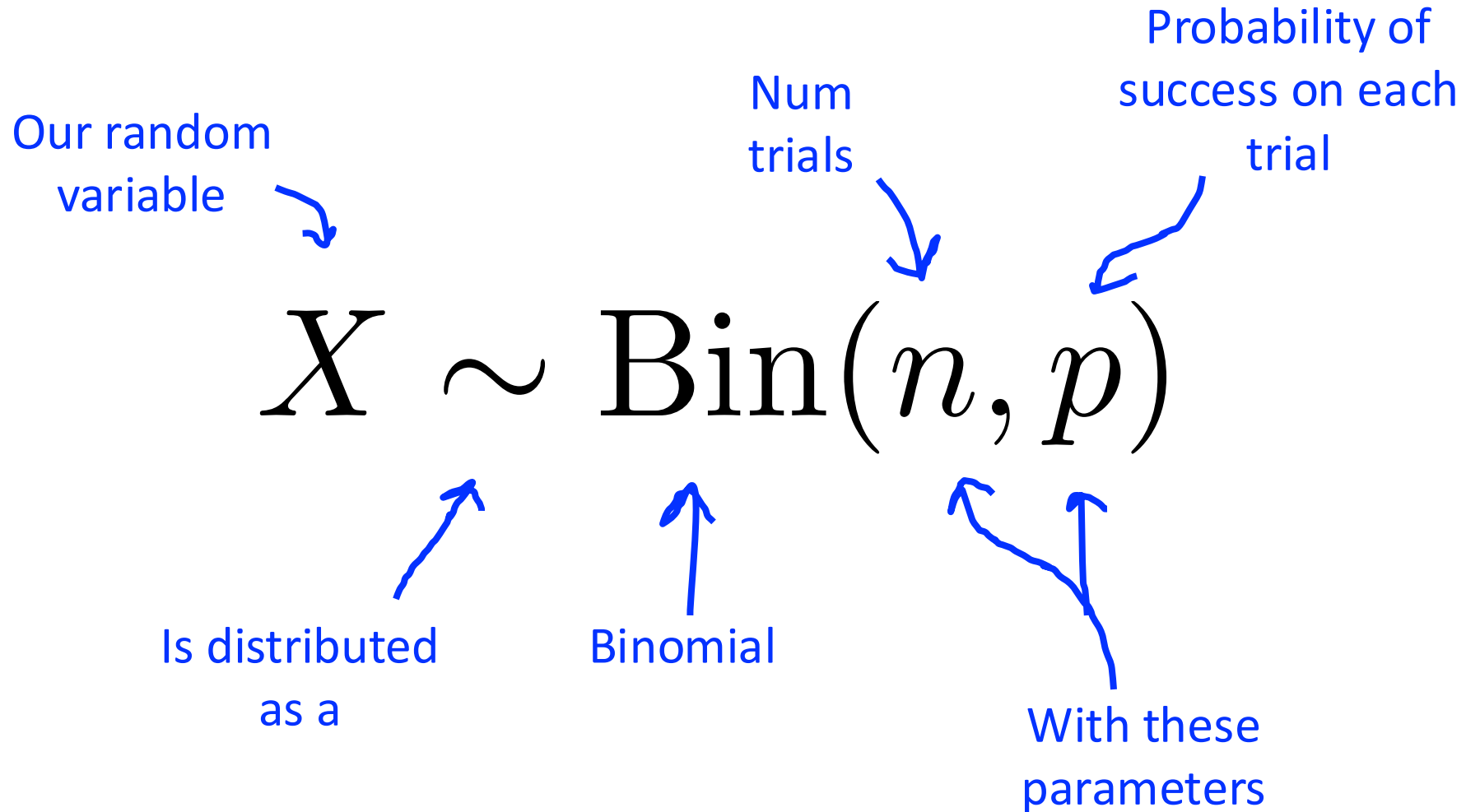
For example Y is the number of heads in 5 coin flips

Random Variables are a big deal, because they allow other people to give you a PMF (and other helpful equations)

Classics



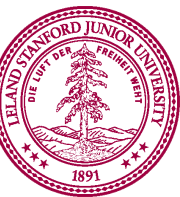
Declare a Random Variable to be Binomial



Exactly k heads in n coin flips. Probability of exactly k heads:

(H, H, H, H, T, T, T, T, T, T)
(H, H, H, T, H, T, T, T, T, T)
(H, H, H, T, T, H, T, T, T, T)
(H, H, H, T, T, T, H, T, T, T)
(H, H, H, T, T, T, T, H, T, T)
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(H, H, T, T, H, T, H, T, T, T)
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(H, H, T, T, H, T, T, T, H, T)
(H, H, T, T, H, T, T, T, T, H)

$$\binom{n}{k} p^k (1 - p)^{n-k}$$



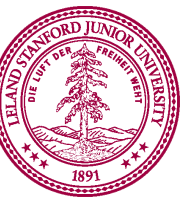
Automatically Know the PMF

Probability Mass Function for a
Binomial

$$P(X = k) = \binom{n}{k} p^k (1 - p)^{n-k}$$

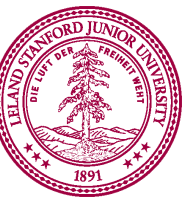
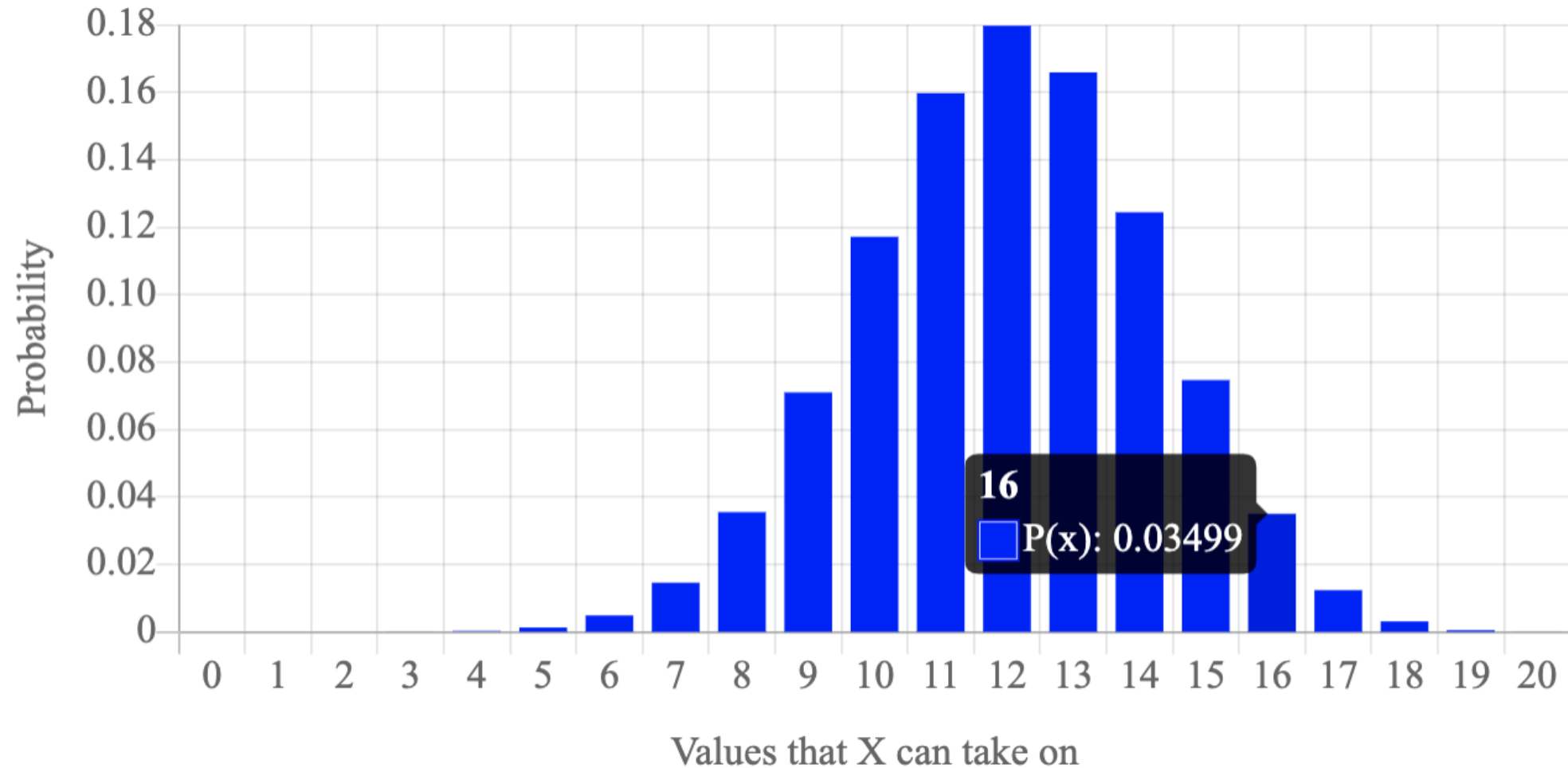
↑
Probability that our
variable takes on the
value k

↑
* This is also called the
binomial term

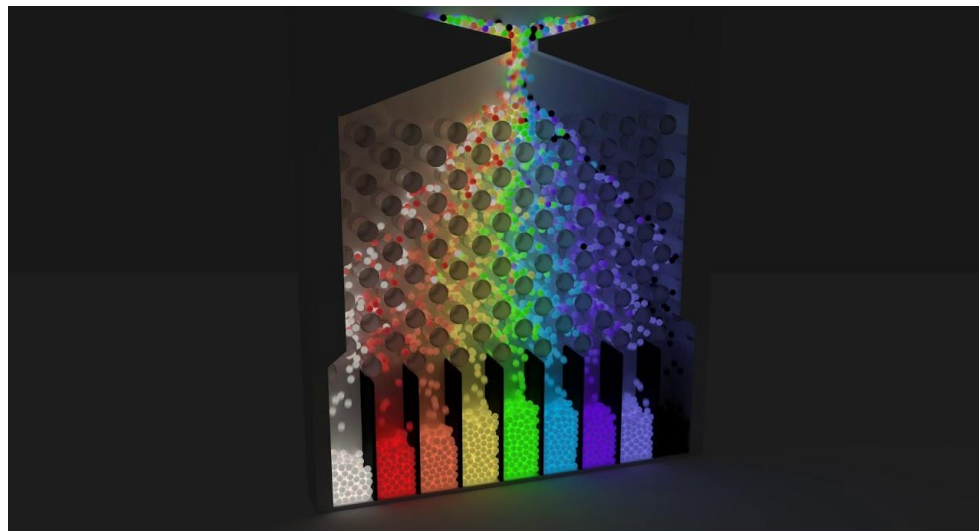
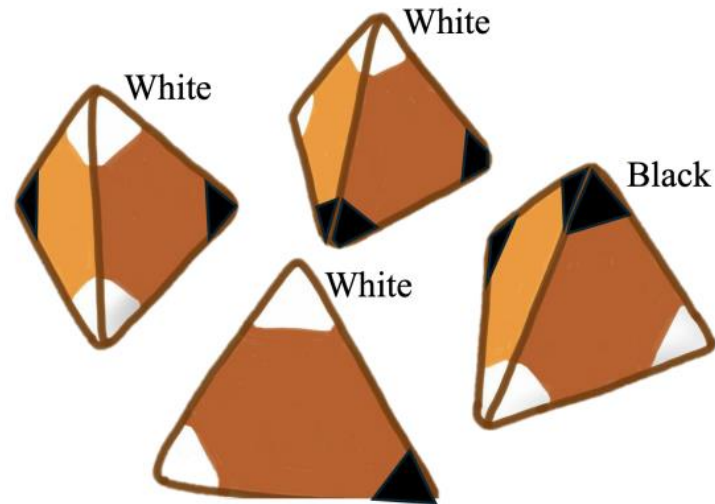


The PMF as a Graph: $X \sim \text{Bin}(n = 20, p = 0.6)$

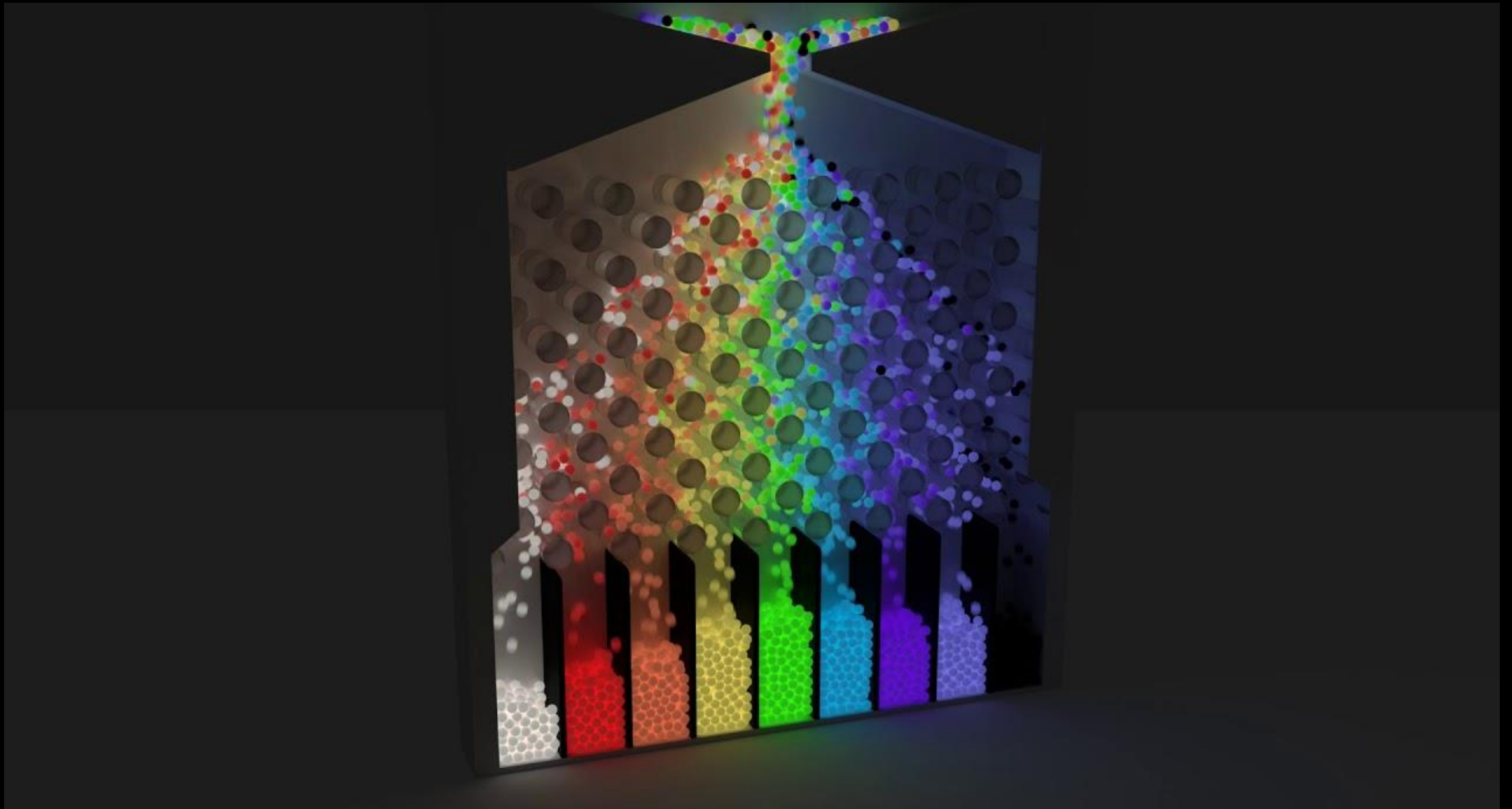
Parameter n : Parameter p :



Many Stories fit the Binomial

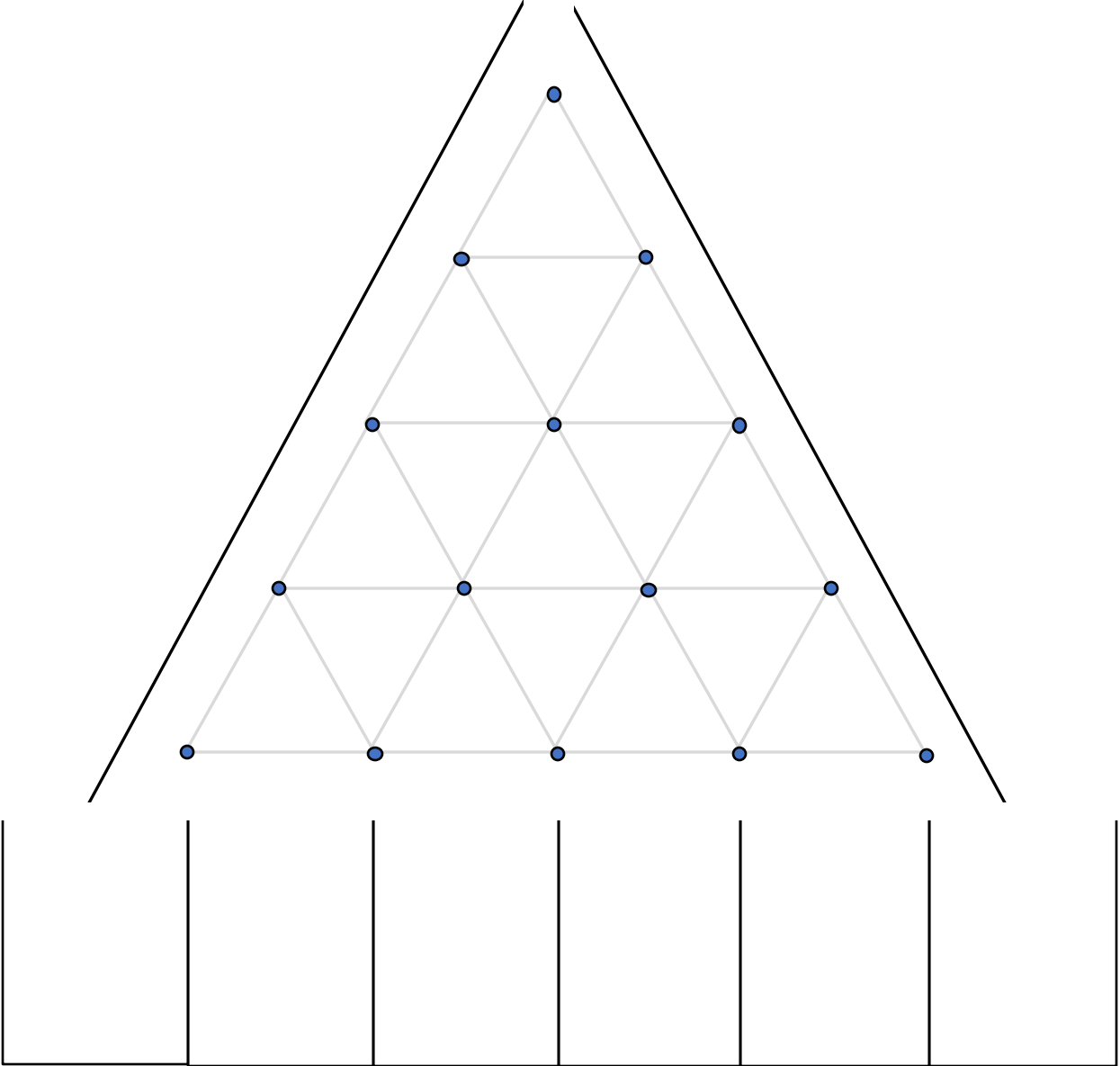


End Review

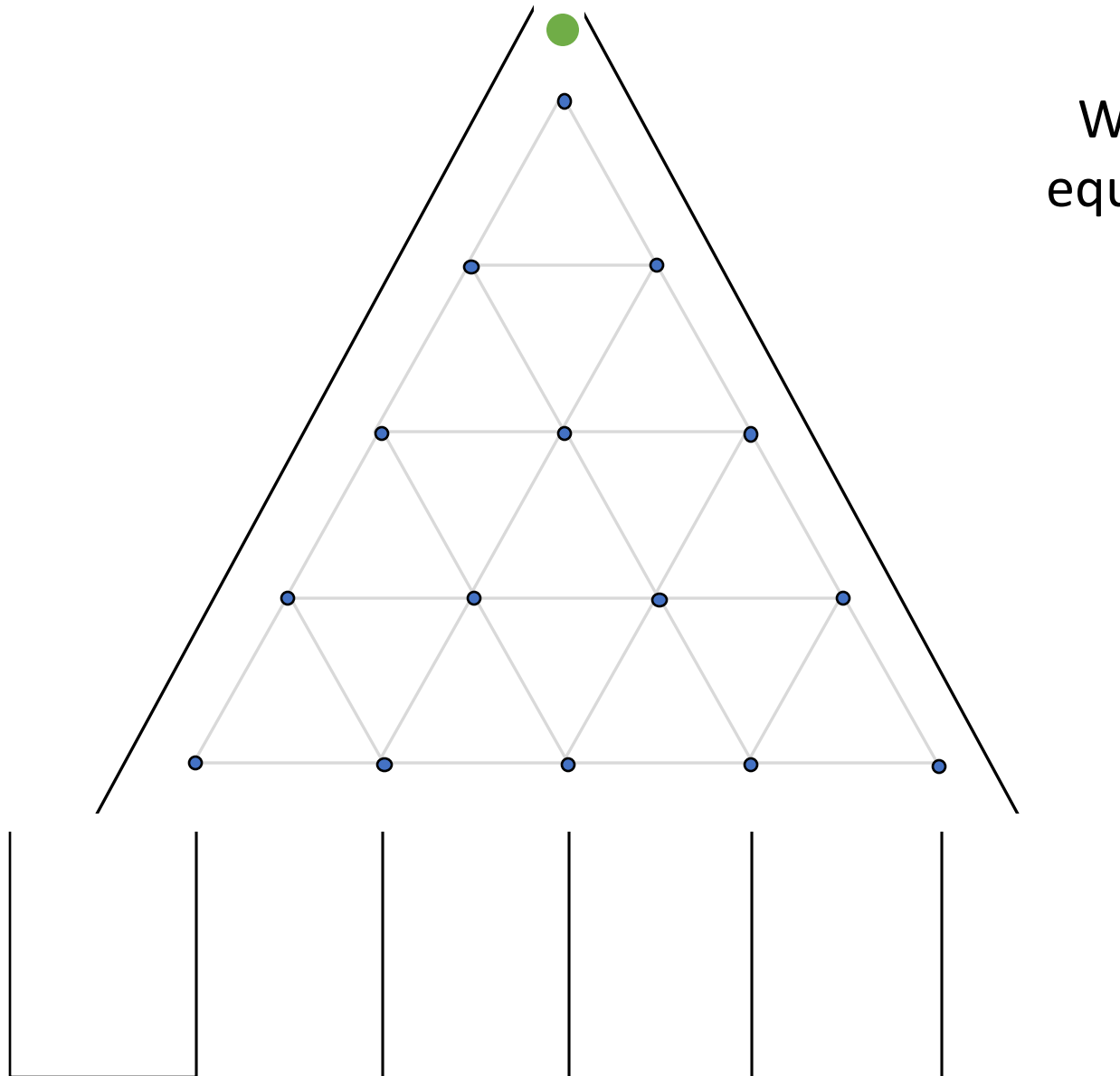


Galton Board Time!

Galton Board Fun

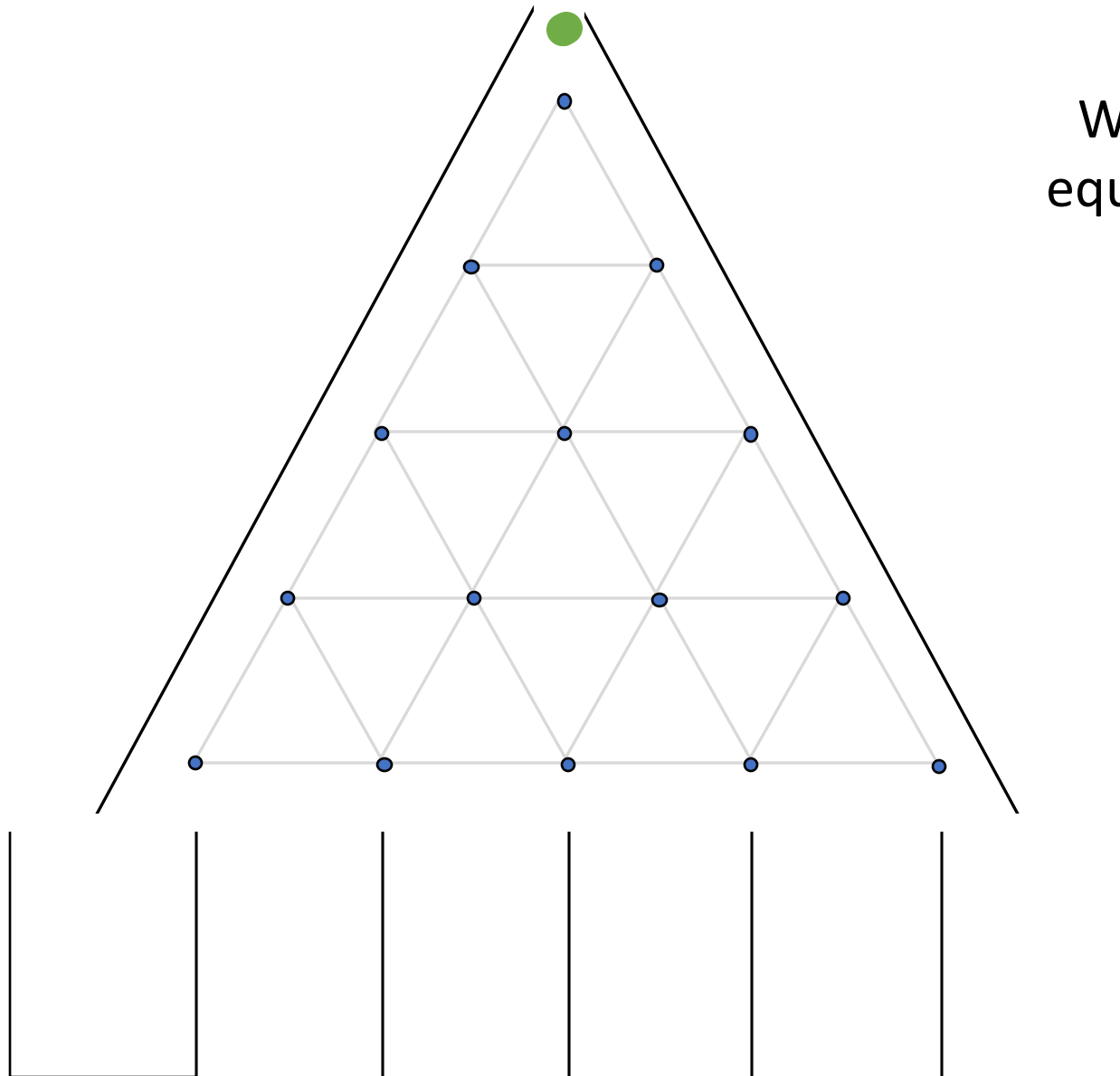


Galton Board Fun



When a marble hits a pin, it has equal chance of going left or right.

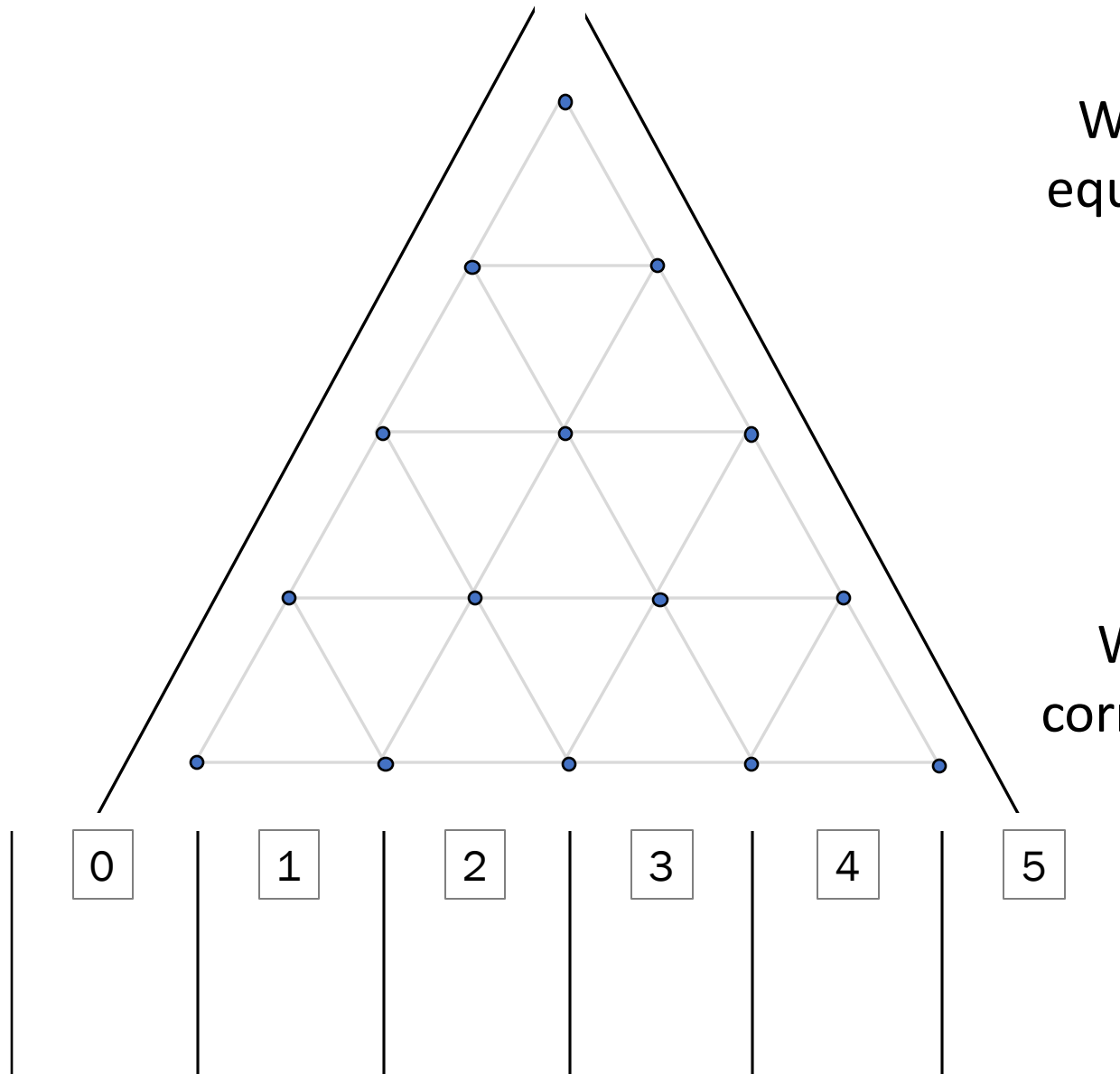
Galton Board Fun



When a marble hits a pin, it has equal chance of going left or right.

Each pin represents an independent event.

Galton Board Fun

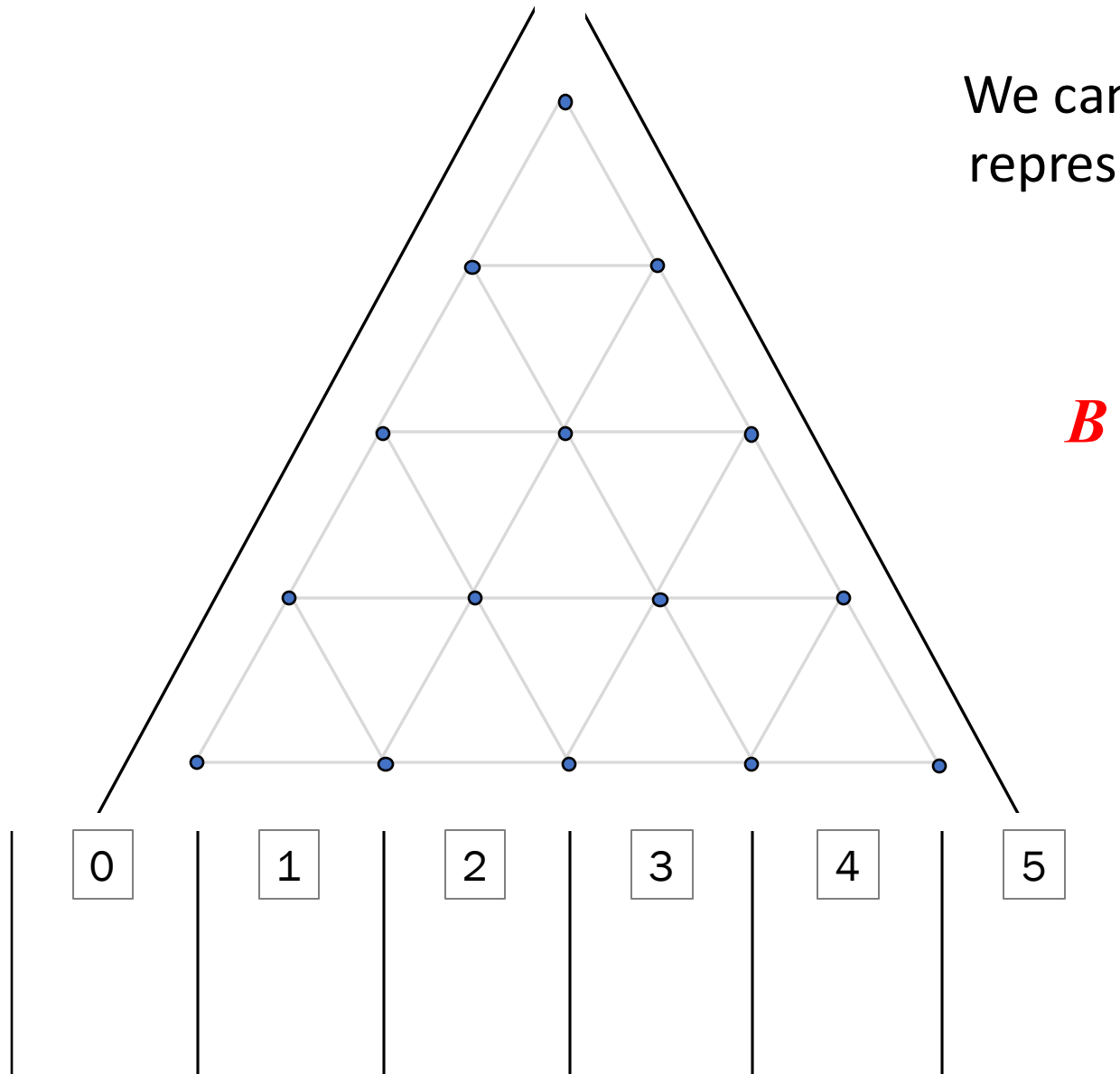


When a marble hits a pin, it has equal chance of going left or right.

Each pin represents an independent event.

Which bucket a marble lands in corresponds to the number of times the marble went right.

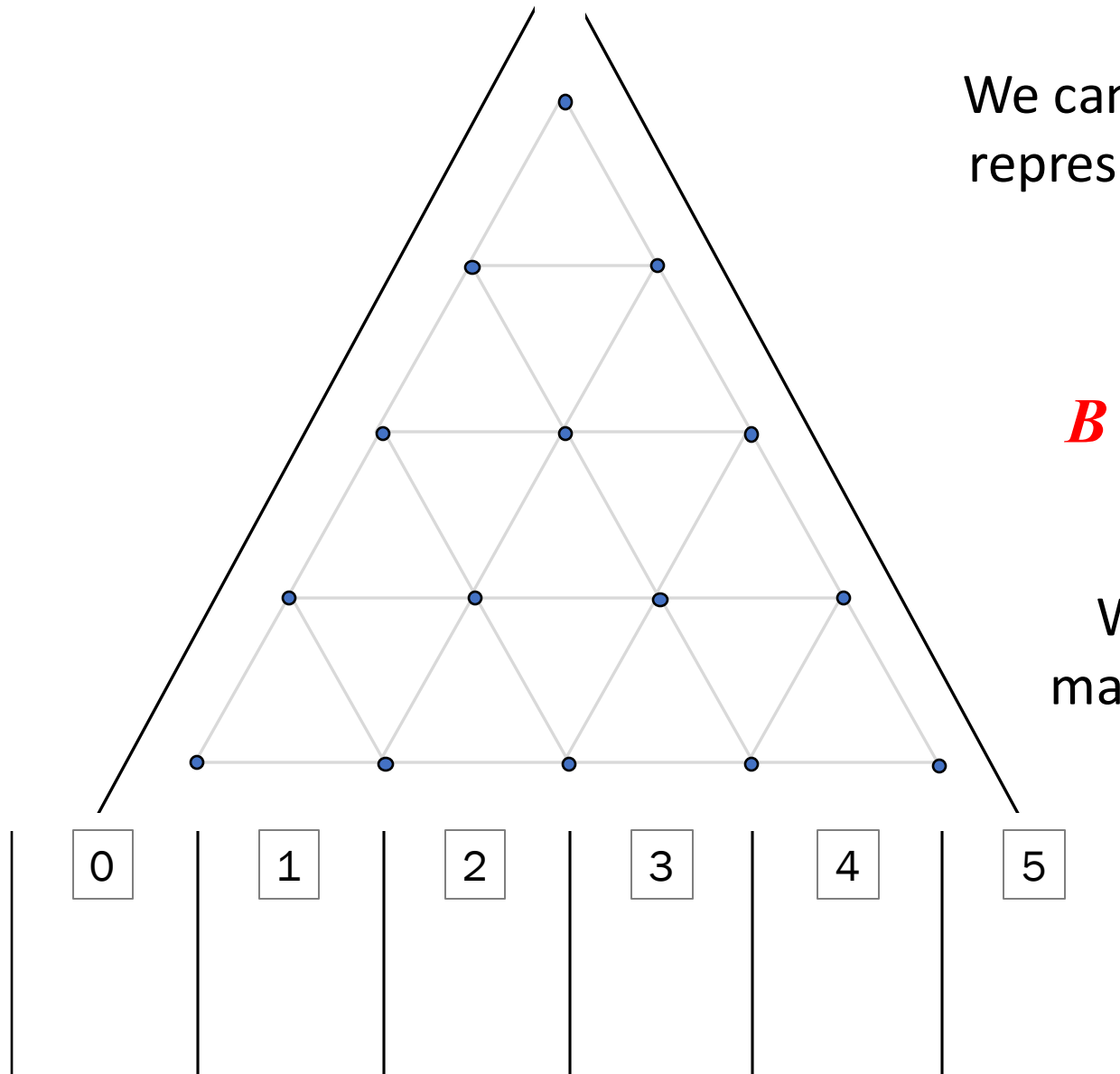
Galton Board Fun



We can define a random variable (B) representing which bucket a marble lands in.

$$B \sim \text{Bin}(n = \text{levels}, p = 0.5)$$

Galton Board Fun

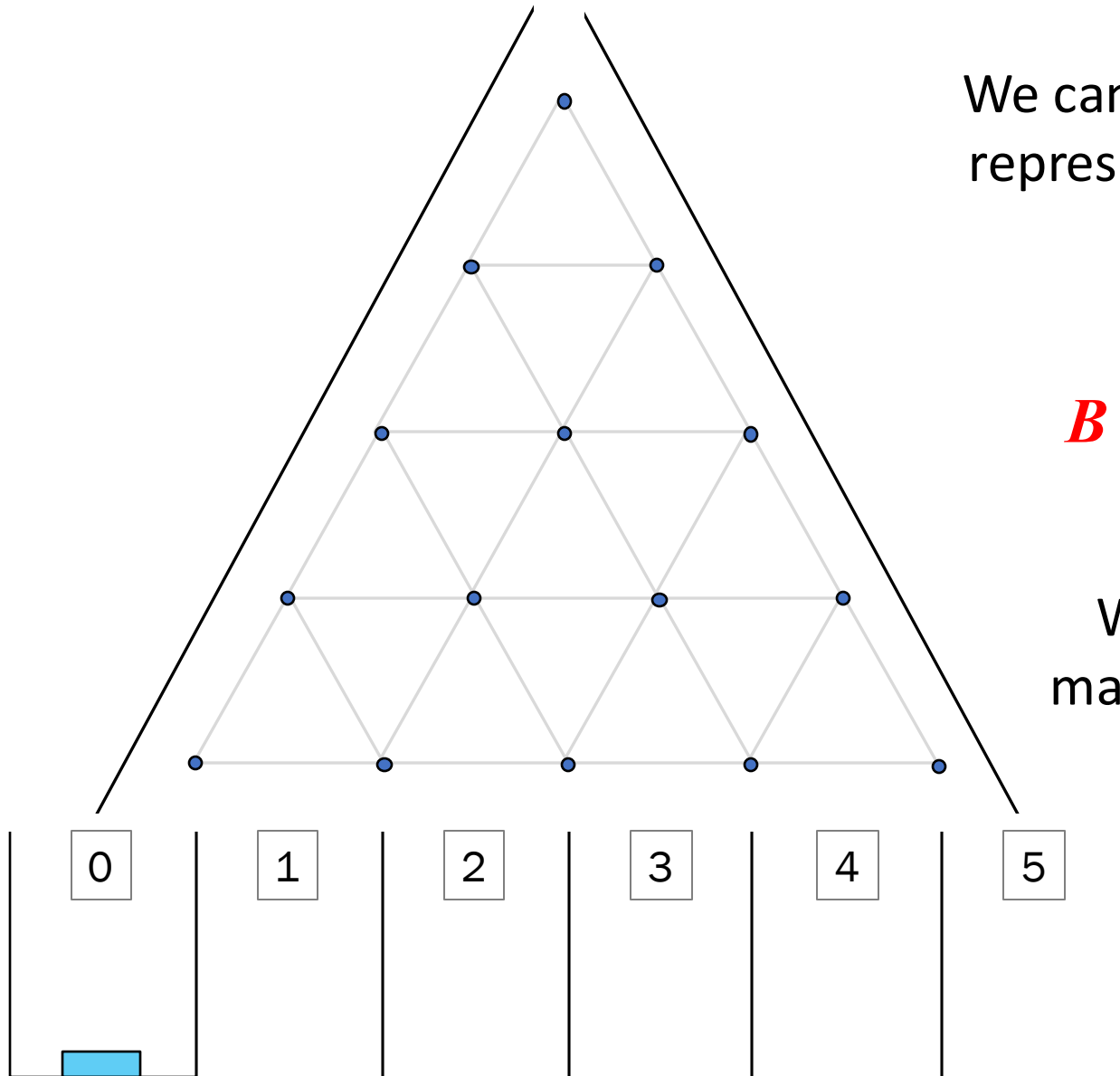


We can define a random variable (B) representing which bucket a marble lands in.

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What is the probability of a marble landing in each bucket?

Galton Board Fun



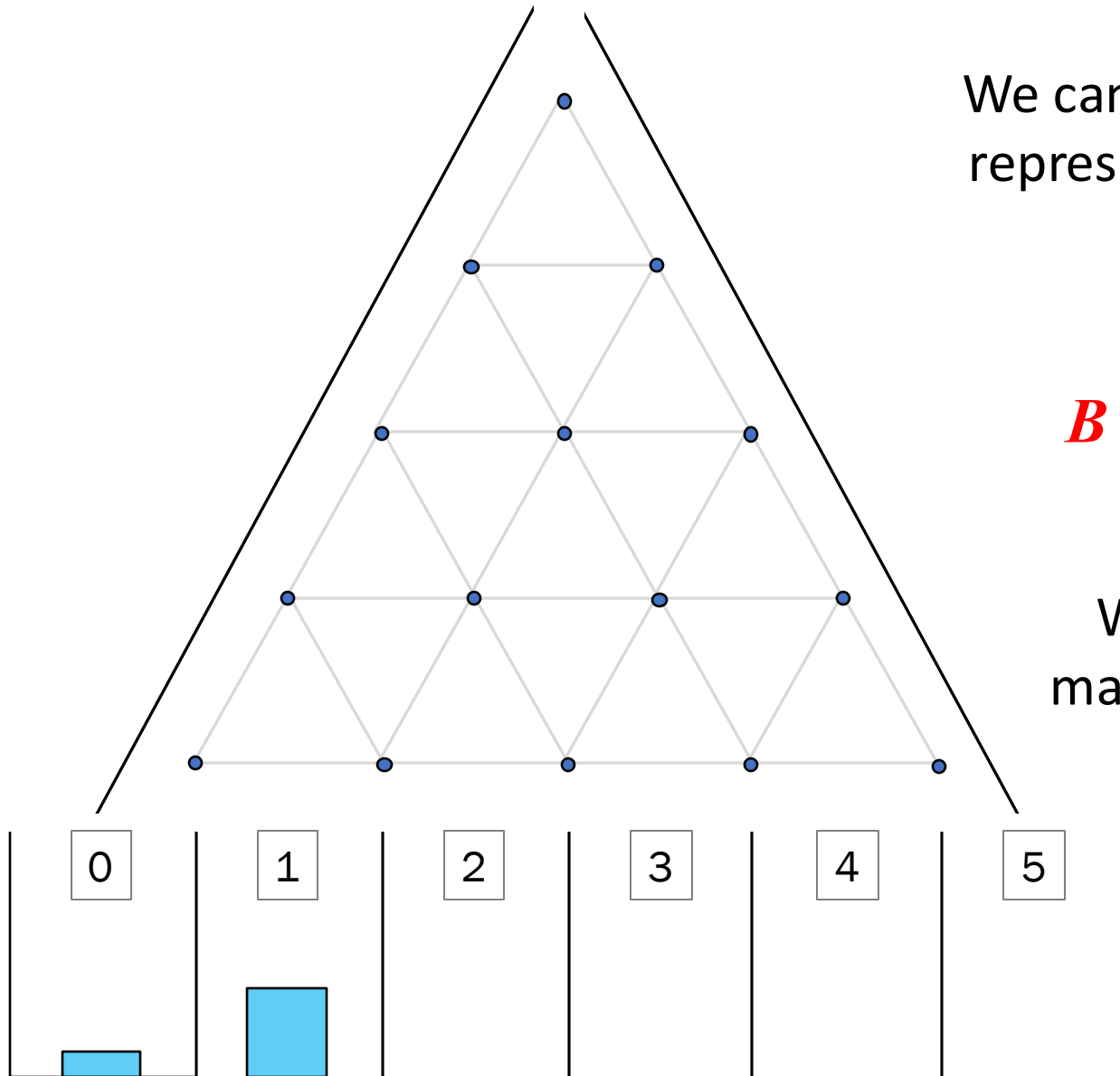
We can define a random variable (B) representing which bucket a marble lands in.

$$B \sim \text{Bin}(n = \text{levels}, p = 0.5)$$

What is the probability of a marble landing in each bucket?

$$P(B = 0) = \binom{5}{0} \frac{1}{2}^5 \approx 0.03$$

Galton Board Fun



We can define a random variable (B) representing which bucket a marble lands in.

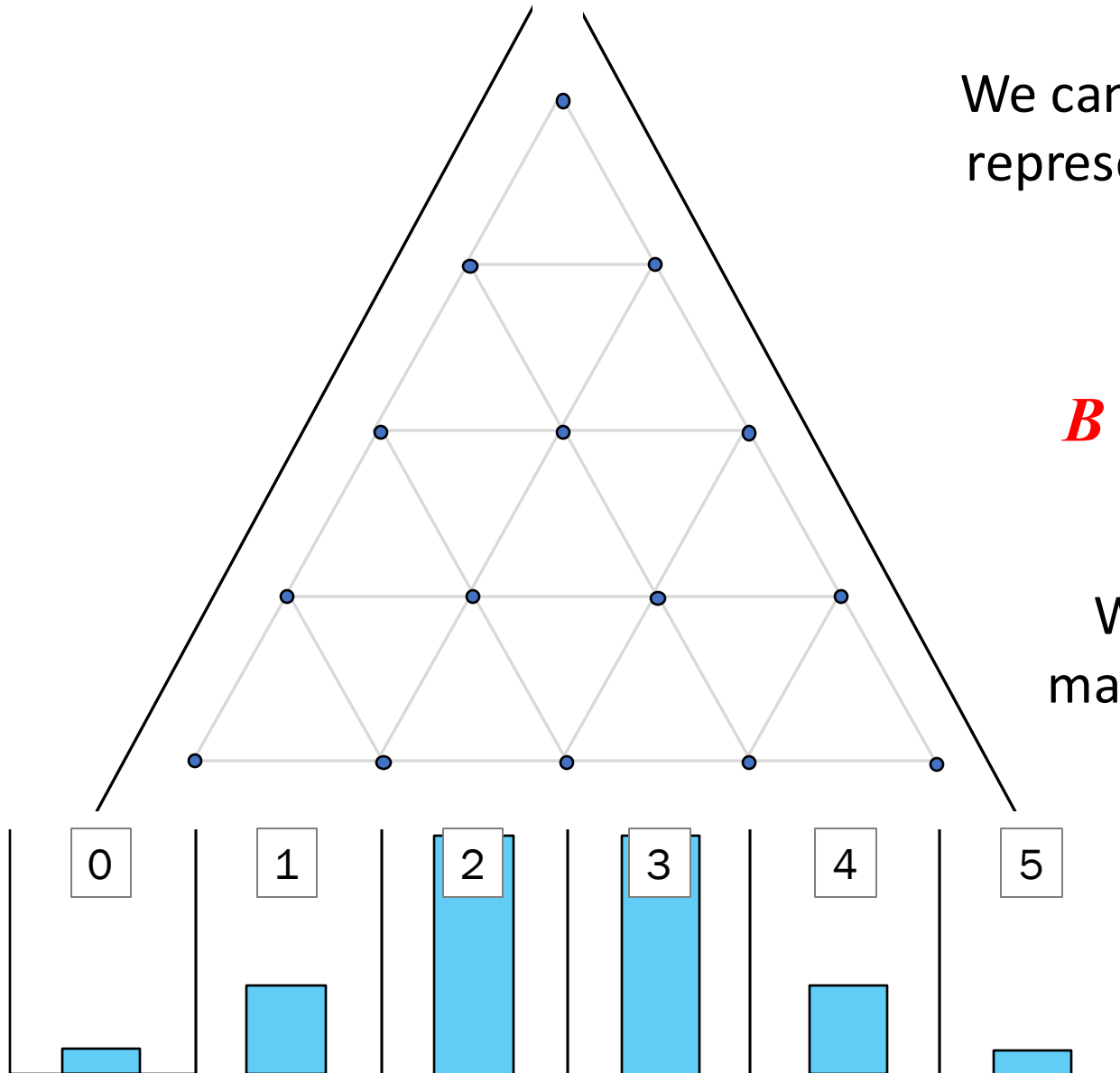
$$B \sim \text{Bin}(n = \text{levels}, p = 0.5)$$

What is the probability of a marble landing in each bucket?

$$P(B = 0) = \binom{5}{0} \frac{1}{2}^5 \approx 0.03$$

$$P(B = 1) = \binom{5}{1} \frac{1}{2}^5 \approx 0.16$$

Galton Board Fun



We can define a random variable (B) representing which bucket a marble lands in.

$$B \sim \text{Bin}(n = \text{levels}, p = 0.5)$$

What is the probability of a marble landing in each bucket?

This is the PMF of the binomial!

FROM CHAOS TO ORDER



What is the probability of winning a 7 game series?

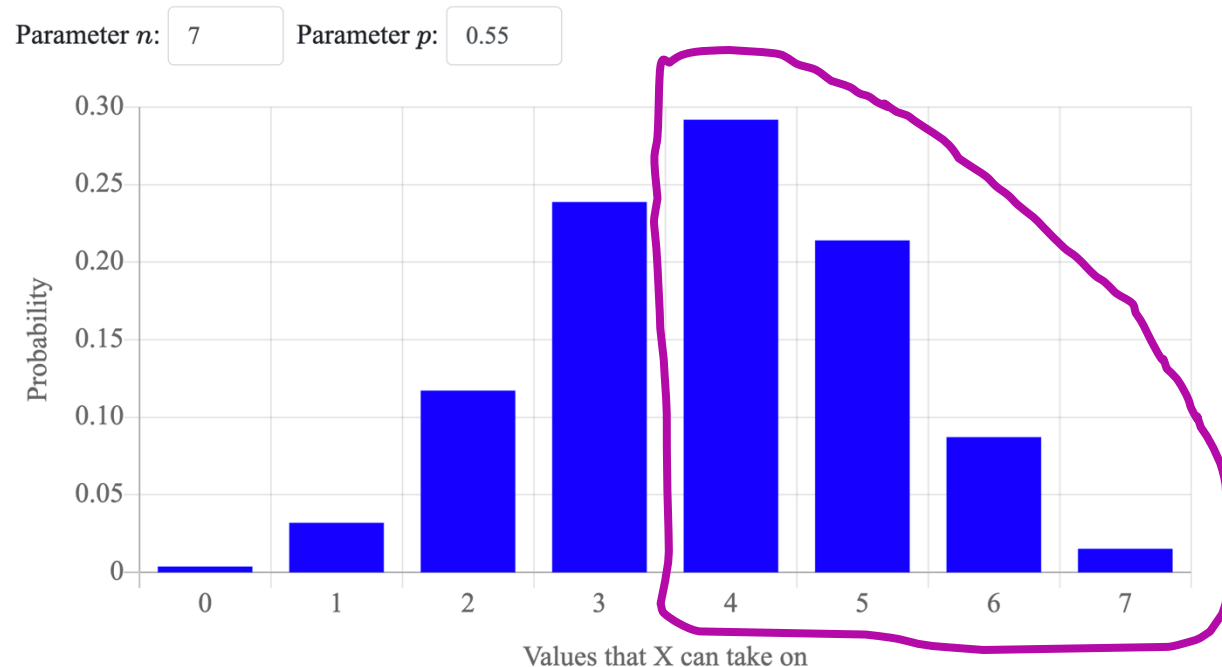
Warriors are going to play the Celtics in a best of 7 series during the 2050 NBA finals. What is the probability that the warriors win the series? Each game is **independent**. Each game, the warriors have a 0.55 probability of winning. Win series if you win at least 4 games.

Let X be the number of games won. $X \sim \text{Bin}(n = 7, p = 0.55)$. $P(X > 3)$?

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Let X be the number of games won. $X \sim \text{Bin}(n = 7, p = 0.55)$. $P(X > 3)$?

$$\begin{aligned} P(X \geq 4) &= \sum_{i=4}^7 P(X = i) \\ &= \sum_{i=4}^7 \binom{7}{i} p^i (1-p)^{7-i} \\ &= \sum_{i=4}^7 \binom{7}{i} 0.55^i (0.45)^{7-i} \approx 0.61 \end{aligned}$$

Debugging Probability



Debugging Probability

How to calculate the probability of at least k successes in n independent trials?

- X is number of successes in n trials each with probability p
- $P(X \geq k) =$

Chose slots for success, don't care about rest

ways to choose slots for success

$$\binom{n}{k} p^k$$

Probability that each is success

Debugging Probability

How to calculate the probability of at least k successes in n independent trials?

- X is number of successes in n trials each with probability p
- $P(X \geq k) =$

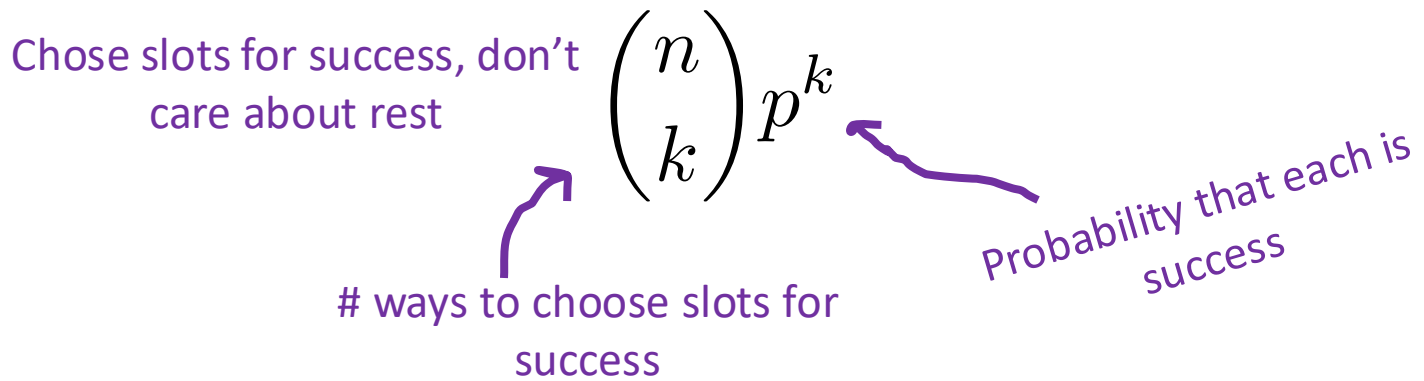
First clue that something is wrong.
Think about $p = 1$

Chose slots for success, don't care about rest

ways to choose slots for success

$$\binom{n}{k} p^k$$

Probability that each is success



Not mutually exclusive...

Correct:

$$P(X \geq k) = \sum_{i=k}^n \binom{n}{i} \cdot p^i \cdot (1-p)^{n-i}$$

Where are We in CS109?

You are here



Counting
Theory



Core
Probability



Random
Variables



Probabilistic
Models



Uncertainty
Theory



Machine
Learning



Classic Random Variables (with PMFs)

$$X \sim \text{Bern}(p)$$

Successes in one trial

$$X \sim \text{Geo}(p)$$

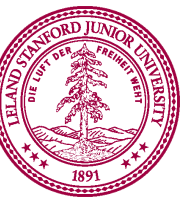
Trials until one success

$$Y \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$$

Successes in n trials

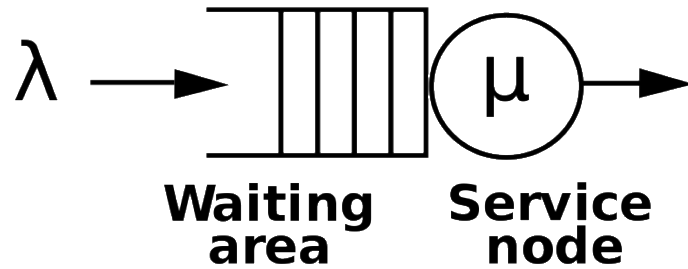
$$Y \sim \text{NegBin}(r, p)$$

Trials until r success



Goal: Be Able to Use a New Random Variable

You are learning about servers...



You read about the MD1 queue...

You find a paper that says the length of a server “busy period” is distributed as a Borel with parameter $\mu = 0.2$...

Borel distribution

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The **Borel distribution** is a discrete probability distribution, arising in contexts including [branching processes](#) and [queueing theory](#). It is named after the French mathematician [Émile Borel](#).

Borel distribution	
Parameters	$\mu \in [0, 1]$
Support	$n \in \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$
pmf	$\frac{e^{-\mu n} (\mu n)^{n-1}}{n!}$
Mean	$\frac{1}{1 - \mu}$
Variance	$\frac{\mu}{(1 - \mu)^3}$

If the number of offspring that an organism has is Poisson-distributed, and if the average number of offspring of each organism is no bigger than 1, then the descendants of each individual will ultimately become extinct. The number of descendants that an individual ultimately has in that situation is a random variable distributed according to a Borel distribution.

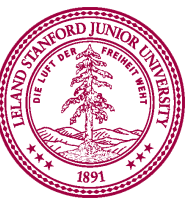
Definition [edit]

A discrete [random variable](#) X is said to have a Borel distribution^{[1][2]} with parameter $\mu \in [0, 1]$ if the [probability mass function](#) of X is given by

$$P_{\mu}(n) = \Pr(X = n) = \frac{e^{-\mu n} (\mu n)^{n-1}}{n!}$$

for $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

Derivation and branching process interpretation [edit]



Geometric Random Variable

X is **Geometric** Random Variable: $X \sim \text{Geo}(p)$

- X is number of independent trials until first success
- p is probability of success on each trial
- Assumes p does not change
- X takes on values 1, 2, 3, ..., with probability:

$$P(X = n) = (1 - p)^{n-1}p$$

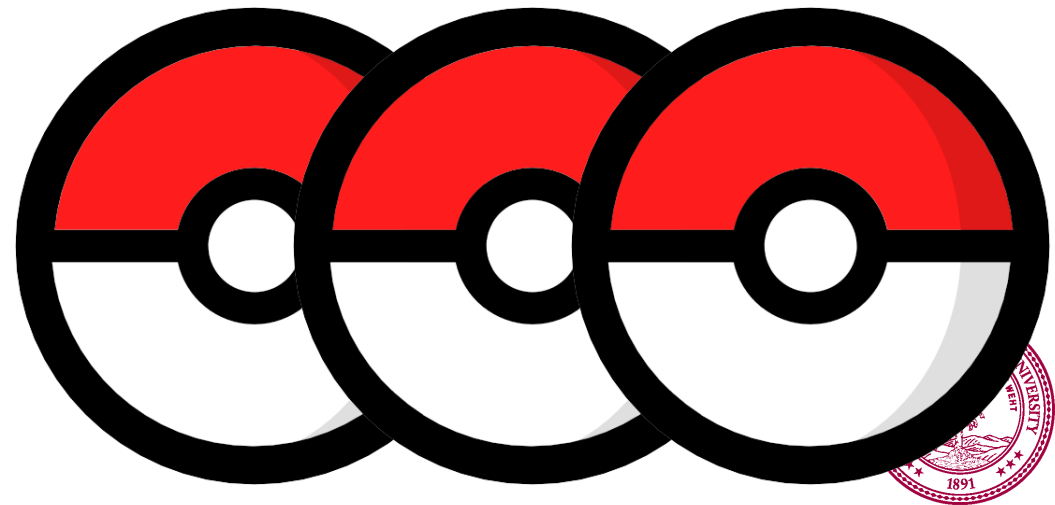


Negative Binomial Random Variable

X is **Negative Binomial** RV: $X \sim \text{NegBin}(r, p)$

- X is number of independent trials until r successes
- p is probability of success on each trial
- Assumes p does not change.
- X takes on value n with probability:

$$P(X = n) = \binom{n-1}{r-1} p^r (1-p)^{n-r}, \text{ where } n = r, r+1, \dots$$



Classic Random Variables (with PMFs)

$$X \sim \text{Bern}(p)$$

$$X \sim \text{Geo}(p)$$

Trials until one success

$$P(X = x) = (1 - p)^{x-1}p$$

$$Y \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$$

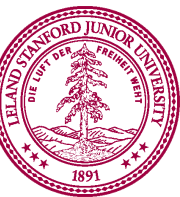
Successes in n trials

$$P(X = x) = \binom{n}{x} p^x (1 - p)^{n-x}$$

$$Y \sim \text{NegBin}(r, p)$$

Trials until r success

$$P(X = x) = \binom{x-1}{r-1} p^r (1-p)^{x-r}$$





Recipe For Solving Problems:

1. Recognize a classic random variable type

2. Define a random variable to be that type, with parameters

3. Profit off the PMF

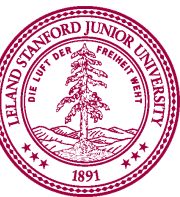


$$X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$$



Dating at Stanford

Each person you date has a 0.2 probability of being someone you spend your life with. What is the probability you need to date more than 5 people? **Your meta goal: what steps would you take to answer this question?**

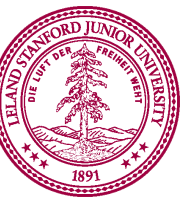


Equity in the Courts

Berghuis v. Smith

If a group is underrepresented in a jury pool, how do you tell?

Justice Breyer [Stanford Alum] opened the questioning by invoking the binomial theorem. He hypothesized a scenario involving **“an urn with a thousand balls, and sixty are yellow, and nine hundred forty are navy-blue, and then you select them at random... twelve at a time.”** According to Justice Breyer and the binomial theorem, if the purple balls were under represented jurors then **“you would expect... something like a third to a half of juries would have at least one yellow ball”** on them.

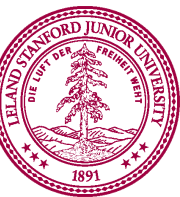
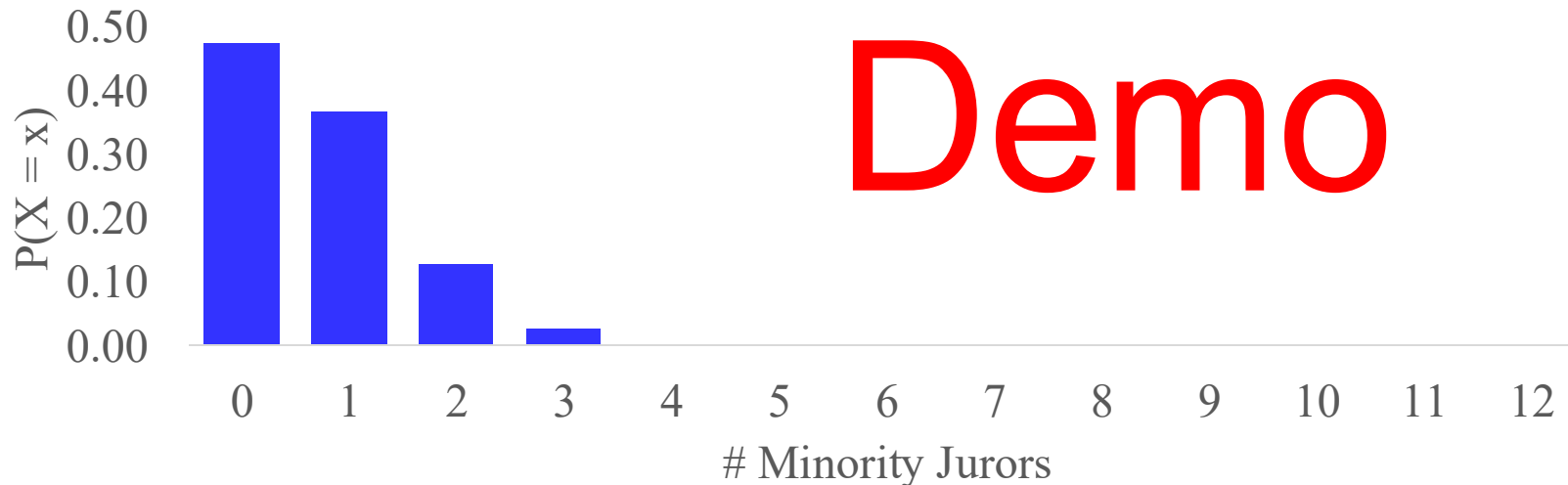


Equity in the Courts

Approximation using Binomial distribution

- Assume $P(\text{blue ball})$ constant for every draw = $60/1000$
- $X = \#$ blue balls drawn. $X \sim \text{Bin}(12, 60/1000 = 0.06)$
- $P(X \geq 1) = 1 - P(X = 0) \approx 1 - 0.4759 = 0.5240$

In Breyer's description, should actually expect just over half of juries to have at least one non-white person on them



Bitcoin Mining



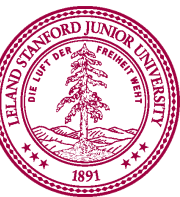
SHA-256 Hash(,)

Data
Fixed

Salt
Choice

Number that looks like random bits

You “mine a bitcoin” if, for given data D , you find a salt number N such that Hash(D , N) produces a string that starts with g zeroes.



You “mine a bitcoin” if, for given data D , you find a number N such that $\text{Hash}(D, N)$ produces a string that starts with g zeroes.

(a) What is the probability that Hash outputs a bit string which starts with g zeroes (in other words you mine a bitcoin)?

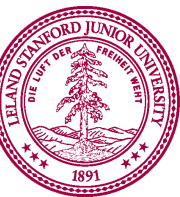
Let X be the number of zeros in the first g bits. $X \sim \text{Bin}(n = g, p = 0.5)$

$$P(X = g) = \binom{g}{g} \frac{1^g}{2^g} = \frac{1}{2^g} \quad \text{Call this answer } p_a$$

(b) What is the probability that you will need under 100 attempts to mine 2 bit coins?

Let Y be the number of tries until you mine 2 bitcoins. $Y \sim \text{NegBin}(r = 2, p = p_a)$

$$\begin{aligned} P(Y < 100) &= \sum_{x=2}^{99} P(Y = x) \\ &= \sum_{x=2}^{99} \binom{x-1}{r-1} p^r (1-p)^{x-r} \end{aligned}$$



Classic Random Variables (with PMFs)

$$X \sim \text{Bern}(p)$$

$$X \sim \text{Geo}(p)$$

Trials until one success

$$P(X = x) = (1 - p)^{x-1}p$$

$$Y \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$$

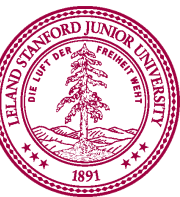
Successes in n trials

$$P(X = x) = \binom{n}{x} p^x (1 - p)^{n-x}$$

$$Y \sim \text{NegBin}(r, p)$$

Trials until r success

$$P(X = x) = \binom{x-1}{r-1} p^r (1-p)^{x-r}$$



Can Jacob Bernoulli Have a Variable Named After Him?



Here yee. I want to have a random variable named after myself. Huzzah.

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Yes - the Bernoulli random variable: $X \sim \text{Bern}(p)$

Can Jacob Bernoulli Have a Variable Named After Him?



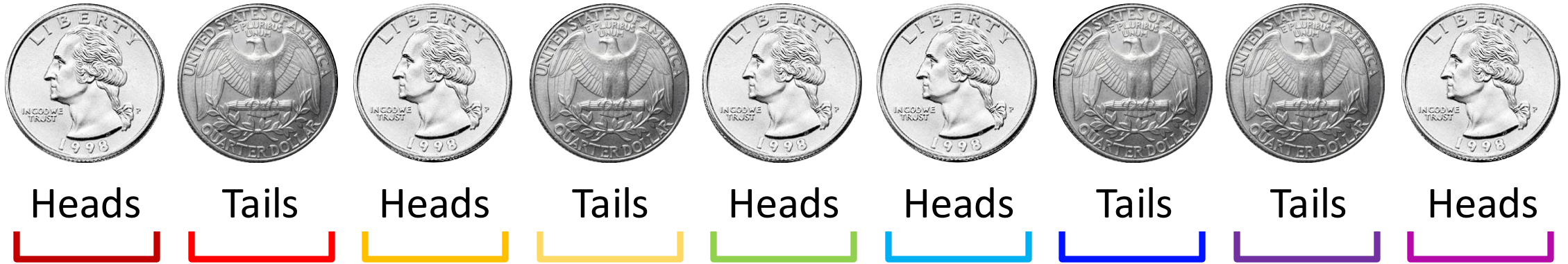
Here yee. I want to have a random variable named after myself. Huzzah.

Yes - the Bernoulli random variable: $X \sim \text{Bern}(p)$

- The Bernoulli is an **indicator** random variable (value is either 0 or 1).
- $P(X = 1) = p$
- $P(X = 0) = 1 - p$ (this is the whole PMF)
- Examples: a single coin flip, one ad click, any binary event

Random Variable Sums

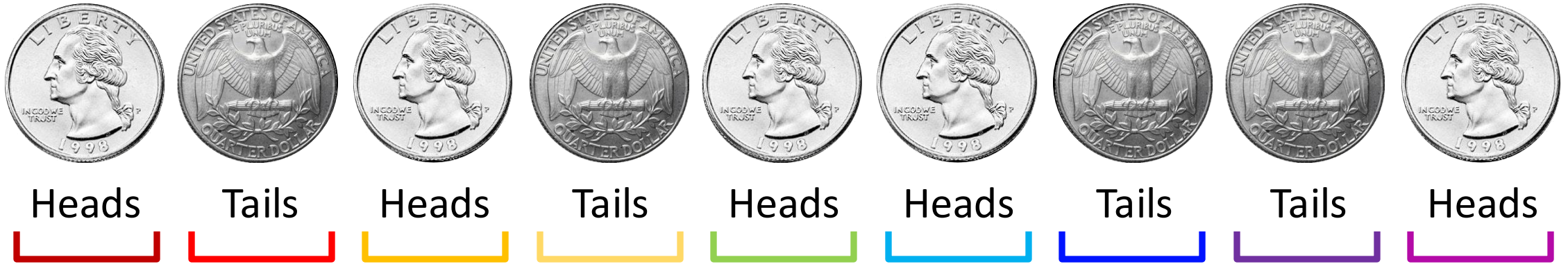
The Binomial



Random Variable Sums

The Binomial

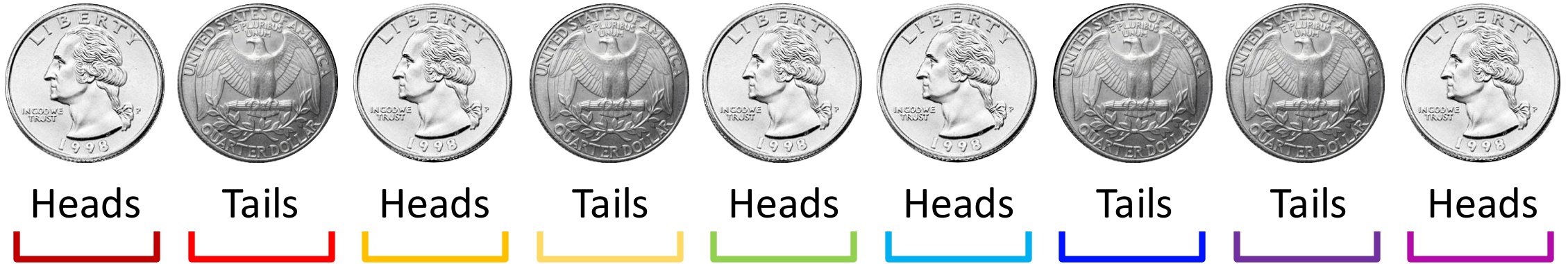
...is a sum of Bernoulli random variables



Random Variable Sums

The Binomial

...is a sum of Bernoulli random variables



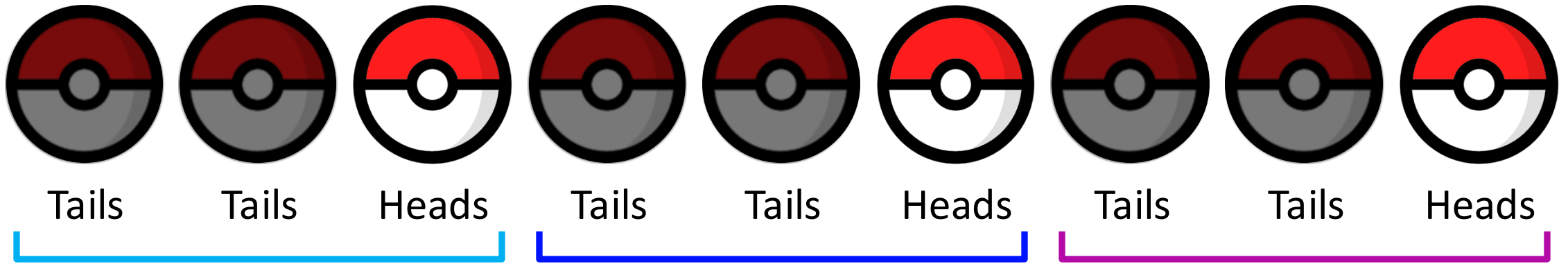
Let $X_1 \sim \text{Bern}(p = 1/2)$ and $X_2 \sim \text{Bern}(p = 1/2)$.

$$Y \sim \text{Bin}(n = 2, p = 1/2)$$

$$Y = X_1 + X_2$$

Random Variable Sums

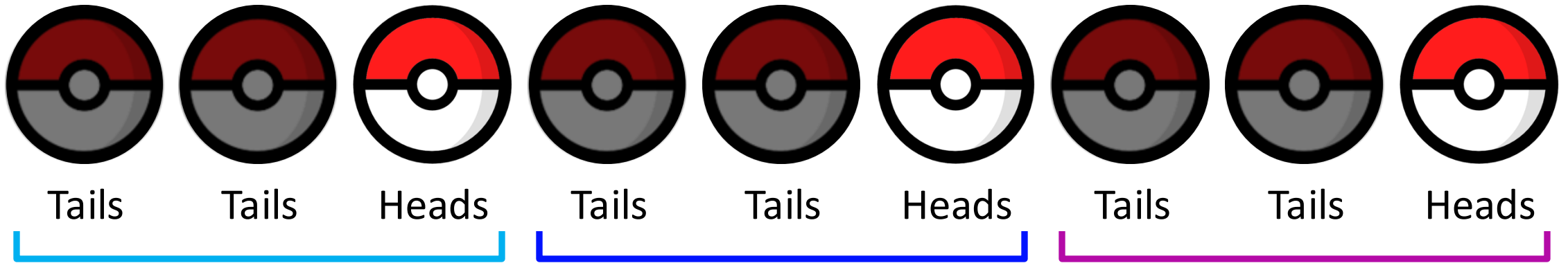
The Negative Binomial



Random Variable Sums

The Negative Binomial

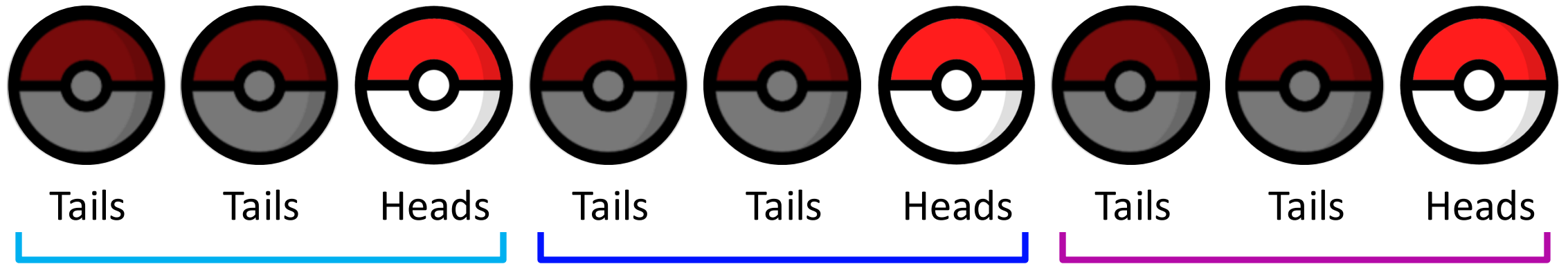
...is a sum of Geometric random variables



Random Variable Sums

The Negative Binomial

...is a sum of Geometric random variables



Let $X_1 \sim \text{Geo}(p = 1/3)$, $X_2 \sim \text{Geo}(p = 1/3)$, and $X_3 \sim \text{Geo}(p = 1/3)$.

$Y \sim \text{NegBin}(r = 3, p = 1/3)$

$$Y = \underline{X_1} + \underline{X_2} + \underline{X_3}$$

Classic Random Variables (with PMFs)

$$X \sim \text{Bern}(p)$$

Successes in one trial

$$P(X = x) = \begin{cases} p & \text{if } x = 1 \\ 1 - p & \text{if } x = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$X \sim \text{Geo}(p)$$

Trials until one success

$$P(X = x) = (1 - p)^{x-1}p$$

$$Y \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$$

Successes in n trials

$$P(X = x) = \binom{n}{x} p^x (1 - p)^{n-x}$$

$$Y \sim \text{NegBin}(r, p)$$

Trials until r success

$$P(X = x) = \binom{x-1}{r-1} p^r (1 - p)^{x-r}$$

[Short Pedagogical Pause]

Time for some tender moments*

*Moments: numbers that summarize different aspects of a random variable

Expectation

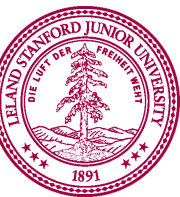
Expected Value

The value

The probability of that value

$$E[X] = \sum_x x \cdot P(X = x)$$

Loop over all values x that X can take on



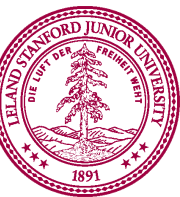
Expected Value

Expected value answers the question:

What is the average value we could expect some random variable to be?

Also called: **Mean**, *Expectation*, **Weighted Average**, **Center of Mass**,
1st Moment

$$E[X] = \sum_x x \cdot P(X = x)$$



Example: Expected Value of Dice Roll

Let X be the result of rolling a 6-sided dice.

$$P(X = x) = \frac{1}{6} \text{ for } x \in \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$$

What is the expectation of X ?



$$E[X] = \sum_x x \cdot P(X = x)$$

Example: Expected Value of Dice Roll

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$$E[X] = \sum_x x \cdot P(X = x)$$

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$$P(X = x) = \frac{1}{6} \text{ for } x \in \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$$

What is the expectation of X ?

$$\begin{aligned} E[X] &= \sum_{x=1}^6 x \cdot P(X = x) \\ &= 1 \cdot \frac{1}{6} + 2 \cdot \frac{1}{6} + 3 \cdot \frac{1}{6} + 4 \cdot \frac{1}{6} + 5 \cdot \frac{1}{6} + 6 \cdot \frac{1}{6} \\ &= 3.5 \end{aligned}$$



$$E[X] = \sum_x x \cdot P(X = x)$$

Example: Expected Value of Dice Roll

Let X be the result of rolling a 6-sided dice.

$$P(X = x) = \frac{1}{6} \text{ for } x \in \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$$

What is the expectation of X ?

$$E[X] = \sum_{x=1}^6 x \cdot P(X = x)$$

$E[X]$ is not always an actual possible outcome for X

$$= 1 \cdot \frac{1}{6} + 2 \cdot \frac{1}{6} + 3 \cdot \frac{1}{6} + 4 \cdot \frac{1}{6} + 5 \cdot \frac{1}{6} + 6 \cdot \frac{1}{6}$$

$$= 3.5$$



Lying With Statistics



Imagine a university has 3 classes, with 5, 10, and 150 students in each class. We randomly choose a **class** with equal probability.

Let X be the chosen class's size. What is $E[X]$?



Lying With Statistics



Imagine a university has 3 classes, with 5, 10, and 150 students in each class. We randomly choose a **class** with equal probability.

Let X be the chosen class's size. What is $E[X]$?

$$P(X = 5) = 1/3$$

$$P(X = 10) = 1/3$$

$$P(X = 150) = 1/3$$

$$E[X] = \sum_{x \in \{5, 10, 150\}} x \cdot P(X = x)$$

$$= 5 \cdot \frac{1}{3} + 10 \cdot \frac{1}{3} + 150 \cdot \frac{1}{3}$$

$$= 55$$



Lying With Statistics



Imagine a university has 3 classes, with 5, 10, and 150 students in each class. We randomly choose a **student** with equal probability.

Let X be the chosen student's class size. What is $E[X]$?



Lying With Statistics



Imagine a university has 3 classes, with 5, 10, and 150 students in each class. We randomly choose a **student** with equal probability.

Let X be the chosen student's class size. What is $E[X]$?

$$P(X = 5) = 5/165$$

$$P(X = 10) = 10/165$$

$$P(X = 150) = 150/165$$

$$E[X] = \sum_{x \in \{5, 10, 150\}} x \cdot P(X = x)$$

$$= 5 \cdot \frac{5}{165} + 10 \cdot \frac{10}{165} + 150 \cdot \frac{150}{165}$$

$$= 137$$



Expectation from Data

List called data

X
3
2
6
10
1
1
5
4
...

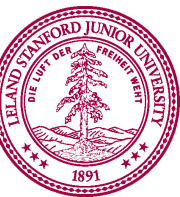
$$E[X] = \sum_x x \cdot \boxed{P(X = x)}$$

$$\approx \sum_x x \cdot \frac{\text{count}(X = x)}{N}$$

Length of data

$$\approx \frac{1}{N} \sum_x x \cdot \text{count}(X = x)$$

$$\approx \frac{1}{N} \sum_{v \in \text{data}} v$$



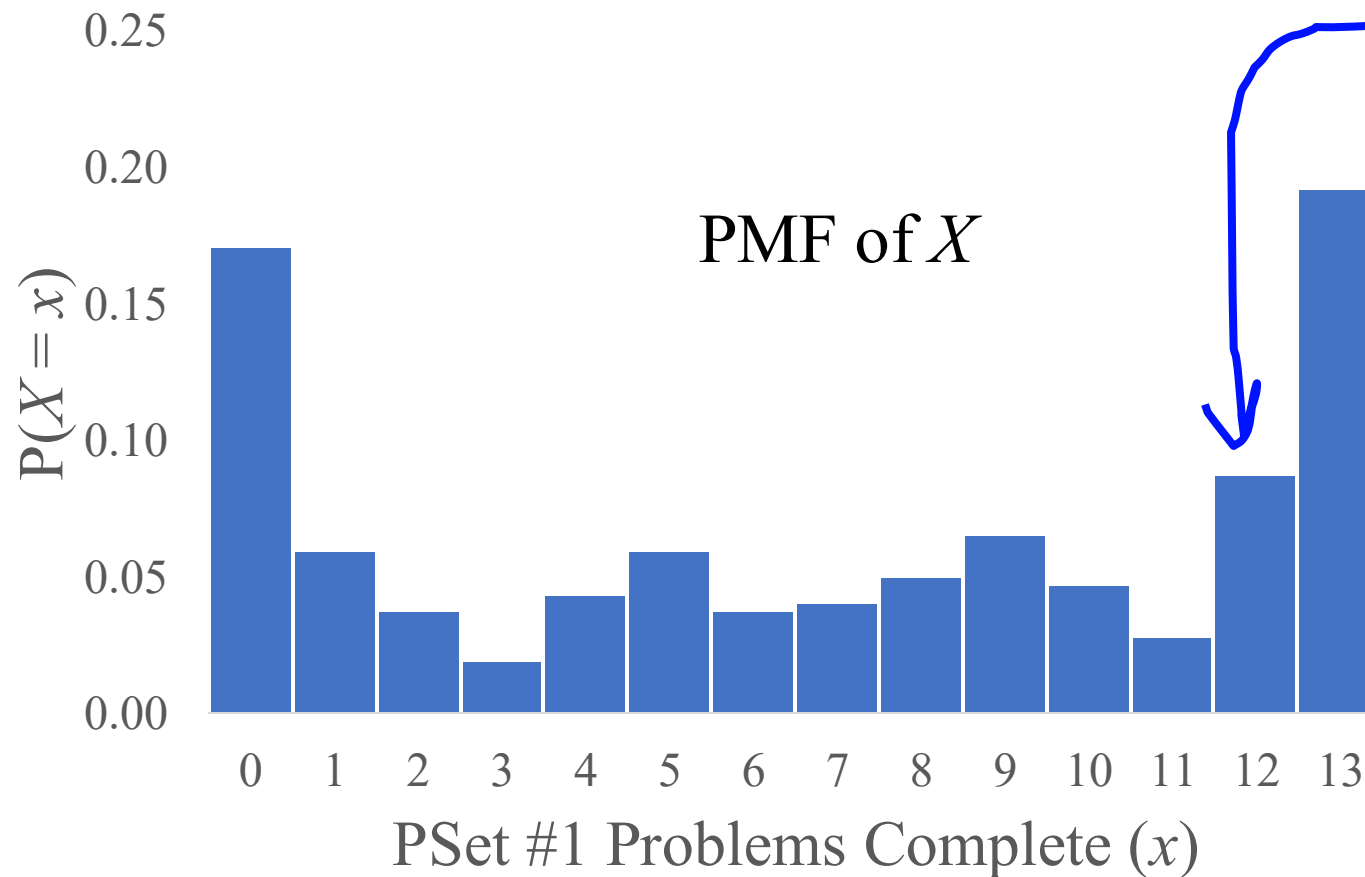
Expectation is a single number
summary...

Expectation leaves much to be
desired...

Expectation vs PMF

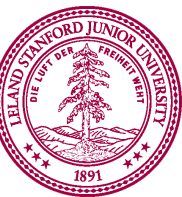
Let X be the number of problems that a randomly selected student has completed, as of 11a today.

X takes on values, with uncertainty. X is a random variable.



$$P(X = 12) \approx \frac{\text{Count}(X = 12)}{N}$$

$$E[X] = 7.4$$



Why People Care?

Properties of Expectation (proof later)

Linearity:

$$E[aX + b] = aE[X] + b$$

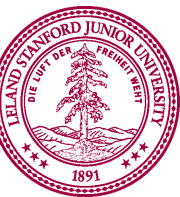
- Consider $X = 6$ -sided die roll, Winnings = $2X - 1$.
- $E[X] = 3.5$ $E[2X-1] = 6$

Expectation of a sum is the sum of expectations

$$E[X + Y] = E[X] + E[Y]$$

Unconscious statistician:

$$E[g(x)] = \sum_{x \in X} g(x)P(X = x)$$



Law of the Unconscious Statistician (LOTUS)

$$E[g(X)] = \sum_x g(x)P(X = x)$$

This lets you get the expectation of **any** function of a random variable.

Examples:

$$E[X^2] = \sum_x x^2 \cdot P(X = x)$$

$$E[\sin(X)] = \sum_x \sin(x) \cdot P(X = x)$$

$$E[\sqrt{X}] = \sum_x \sqrt{x} \cdot P(X = x)$$

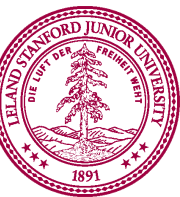
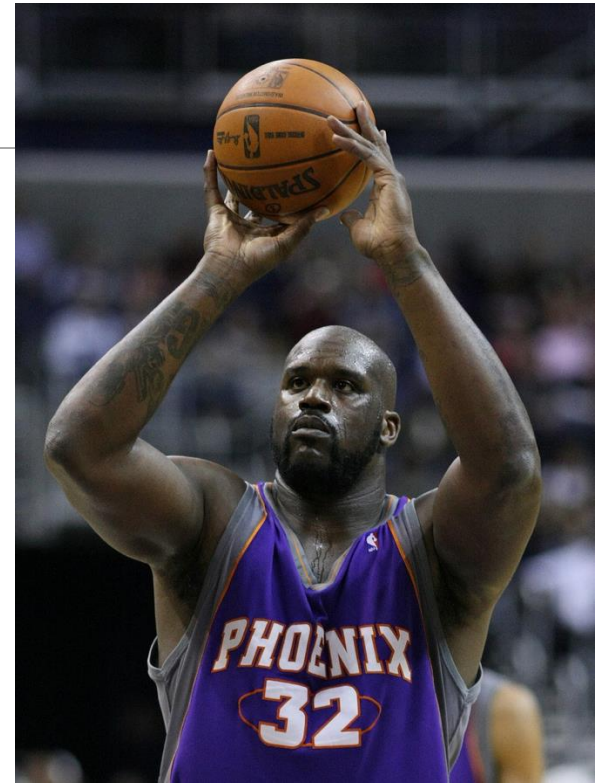
Expectation of Classic Random Variables

Expected Value of Free Throws

In basketball, players sometimes get a chance to shoot a free throw. If they make it, the team gets 1 point; otherwise they get no points.

Some players are not very good at free throws, such as Shaq. While in the NBA, Shaq made only 53% of his free throws.

Let X be the points gained from Shaq attempting a free throw. What is $E[X]$?

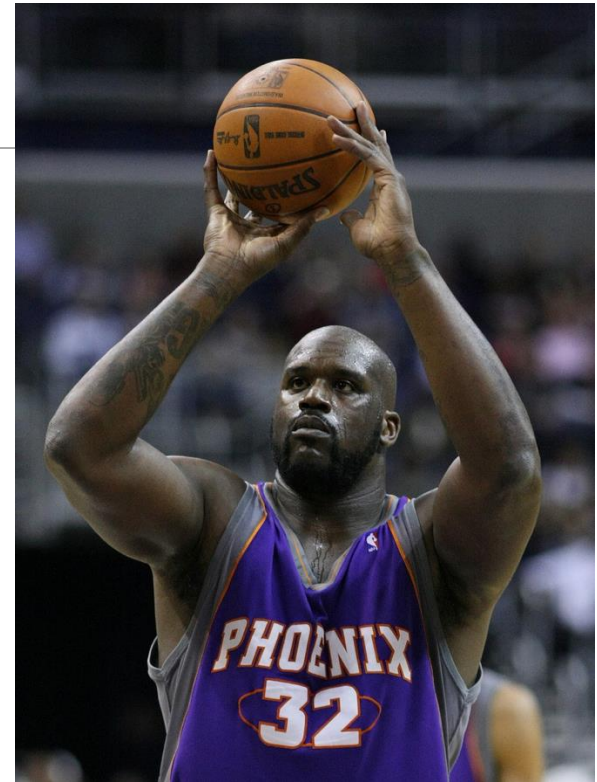


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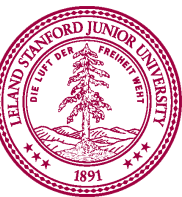
Let X be the points gained from Shaq attempting a free throw. What is $E[X]$?



$$X \sim \text{Bern}(p = 0.53)$$

$$\begin{aligned} E[X] &= 0 \cdot P(X = 0) + 1 \cdot P(X = 1) \\ &= 0 \cdot 0.47 + 1 \cdot 0.53 = \underline{0.53} \end{aligned}$$

For Bernoulli random variables, $E[X] = p$ (always)



With Classic RVs, You Get Expectations For Free Too!

Course Reader for CS109

Search book...

Notation Reference
Core Probability Reference
Random Variable Reference
Python Reference
Calculators

Part 1: Core Probability

- Counting
- Combinatorics
- Definition of Probability
- Equally Likely Outcomes
- Probability of or
- Conditional Probability
- Independence
- Probability of and
- Law of Total Probability
- Bayes' Theorem
- Log Probabilities
- Many Coin Flips
- Applications
 - Enigma Machine
 - Serendipity
 - Random Shuffles
 - Random Graphs
 - Bacteria Evolution

Part 2: Random Variables

- Random Variables
- Probability Mass Functions

Random Variable Reference

Discrete Random Variables

Bernoulli Random Variable

Notation: $X \sim \text{Bern}(p)$

Description: A boolean variable that is 1 with probability p

Parameters: p , the probability that $X = 1$.

Support: x is either 0 or 1

PMF equation:
$$P(X = x) = \begin{cases} p & \text{if } x = 1 \\ 1 - p & \text{if } x = 0 \end{cases}$$

PMF (smooth): $P(X = x) = p^x(1 - p)^{1-x}$

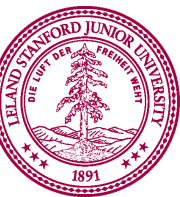
Expectation: $E[X] = p$

Variance: $\text{Var}(X) = p(1 - p)$

PMF graph:

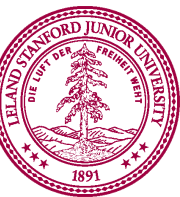
Parameter p :

Value of X	Probability
0	0.2
1	0.8



We Can Now Calculate Expectation of Binomial

$$X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$$



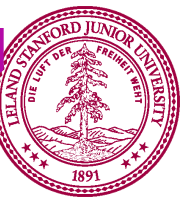
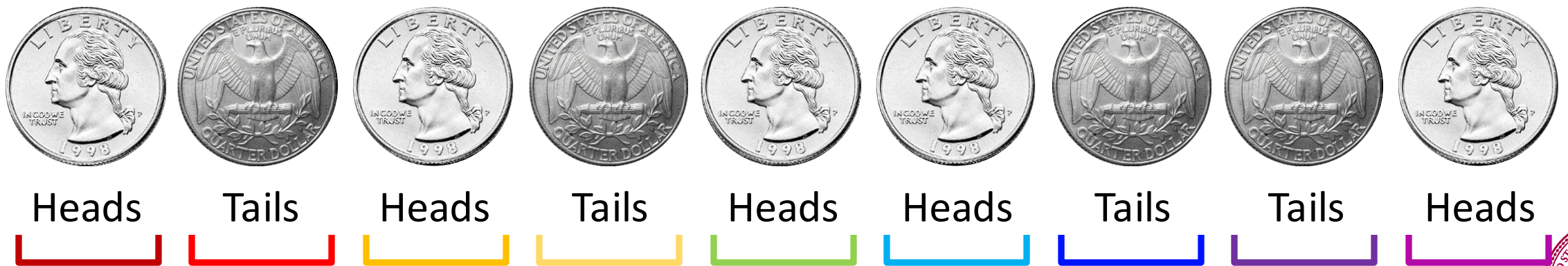
We Can Now Calculate Expectation of Binomial

$$X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$$

Let Y_i be 1 if trial i was a success, otherwise 0, with i from 1 to n . $Y_i \sim \text{Bern}(p)$.

The Binomial

...is a sum of Bernoulli random variables

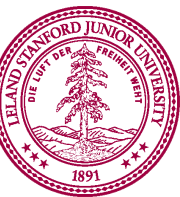


We Can Now Calculate Expectation of Binomial

$$X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$$

Let Y_i be 1 if trial i was a success, otherwise 0, with i from 1 to n . $Y_i \sim \text{Bern}(p)$.

$$\mathbf{E}[X] = \mathbf{E} \left[\sum_{i=1}^n Y_i \right] \quad \text{Since } X = \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i$$



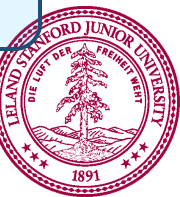
We Can Now Calculate Expectation of Binomial

$$X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E}[X] &= \mathbf{E} \left[\sum_{i=1}^n Y_i \right] && \text{Since } X = \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{E}[Y_i] && \text{Expectation of sum} \end{aligned}$$

Expectation of a sum is the sum of expectations: $E[X + Y] = E[X] + E[Y]$



We Can Now Calculate Expectation of Binomial

$$X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$$

Let Y_i be 1 if trial i was a success, otherwise 0, with i from 1 to n . $Y_i \sim \text{Bern}(p)$.

$$\mathbf{E}[X] = \mathbf{E} \left[\sum_{i=1}^n Y_i \right]$$

$$\text{Since } X = \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{E}[Y_i]$$

Expectation of sum

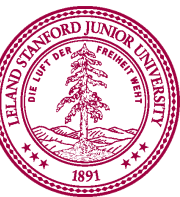
$$= \sum_{i=1}^n p$$

Expectation of Bernoulli

$$= n \cdot p$$

Sum n times

True for every binomial
ever



You Get So Much For Free!

Binomial Random Variable

Notation: $X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$

Description: Number of "successes" in n identical, independent experiments each with probability of success p .

Parameters: $n \in \{0, 1, \dots\}$, the number of experiments.
 $p \in [0, 1]$, the probability that a single experiment gives a "success".

Support: $x \in \{0, 1, \dots, n\}$

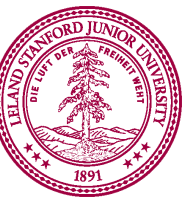
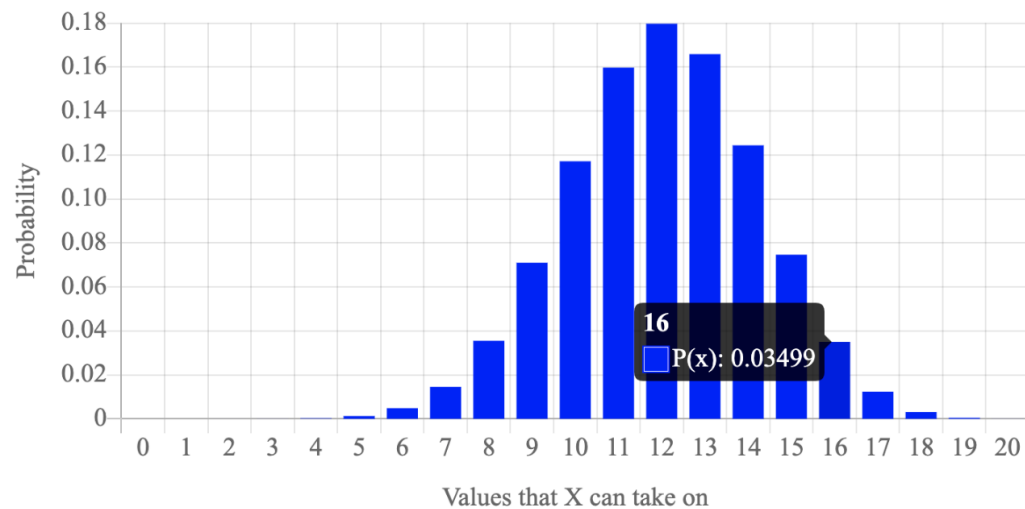
PMF equation: $\Pr(X = x) = \binom{n}{x} p^x (1 - p)^{n-x}$

Expectation: $E[X] = n \cdot p$

Variance: $\text{Var}(X) = n \cdot p \cdot (1 - p)$

PMF graph:

Parameter n : Parameter p :



Expected Value of Free Throws

In basketball, players sometimes get a chance to shoot a free throw. If they make it, the team gets 1 point; otherwise they get no points.

Some players are not very good at free throws, such as Shaq. While in the NBA, Shaq made only 53% of his free throws.

Let Y be the points gained from Shaq attempting **500** free throws. What is $E[Y]$?



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$$Y \sim \text{Bin}(n = 500, p = 0.53)$$



Expected Value of Free Throws

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Let Y be the points gained from Shaq attempting **500** free throws. What is $E[Y]$?

$$Y \sim \text{Bin}(n = 500, p = 0.53)$$

$$E[Y] = n \cdot p = 500 \cdot 0.53 = 265$$



Expected Value of Free Throws

In basketball, players sometimes get a chance to shoot a free throw. If they make it, the team gets 1 point; otherwise they get no points.

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Let Y be the points gained from Shaq attempting **500** free throws. What is $E[Y]$?

$$Y \sim \text{Bin}(n = 500, p = 0.53)$$

$$E[Y] = n \cdot p = 500 \cdot 0.53 = 265$$

Challenge: If Shaq was 10% better at shooting free throws, how many *more* free throws would you expect him to make, out of 500?



Expected Value of The Geometric

If $X \sim \text{Geo}(p)$, then $E[X] = \frac{1}{p}$

This definition has intuition built in:

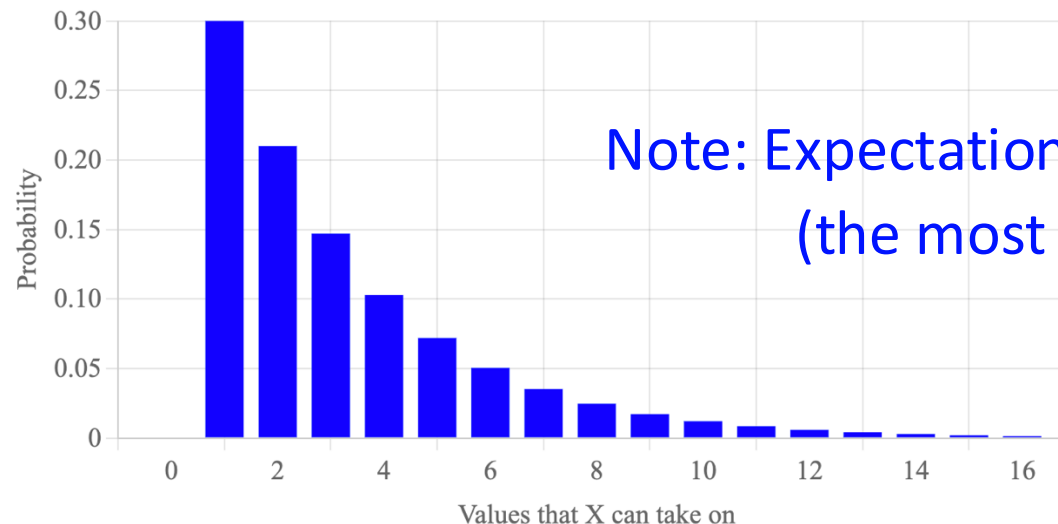
- If Shaq makes about half his free throws, then on average, it will take him two shots to make one free throw. $E[X] = (1/2)^{-1} = 2$.

Expected Value of The Geometric

If $X \sim \text{Geo}(p)$, then $E[X] = \frac{1}{p}$

This definition has intuition built in:

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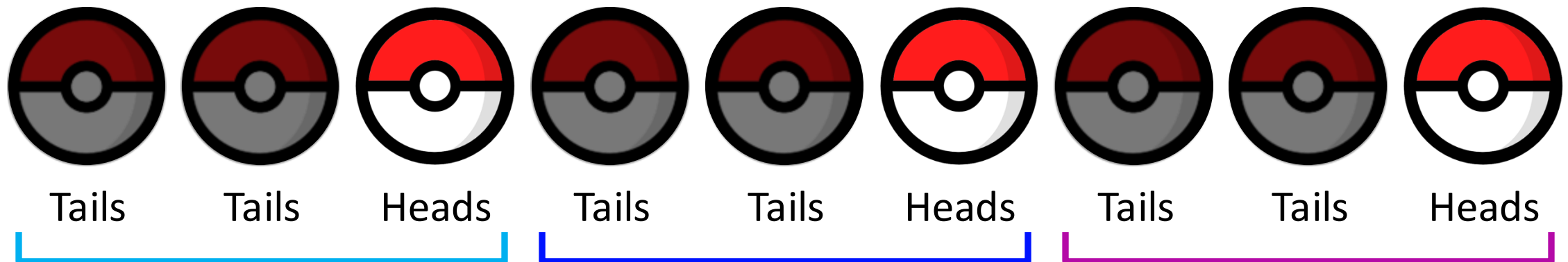
Note: Expectation is often **not** the mode
(the most likely outcome)

Expected Value of The Negative Binomial

We can derive using the **sum of expectations** property, similar to binomials.

The Negative Binomial

...is a sum of Geometric random variables



Expected Value of The Negative Binomial

We can derive using the **sum of expectations** property, similar to binomials.

Let $X_i \sim \text{Geo}(p)$, for each i from 1 to r .

$$E[X_i] = \frac{1}{p}$$

Let $Y \sim \text{NegBin}(r, p)$.

Expected Value of The Negative Binomial

We can derive using the **sum of expectations** property, similar to binomials.

$$\text{Let } X_i \sim \text{Geo}(p), \text{ for each } i \text{ from } 1 \text{ to } r. \quad E[Y] = E \left[\sum_{i=1}^r X_i \right]$$
$$E[X_i] = \frac{1}{p}$$

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Expected Value of The Negative Binomial

We can derive using the **sum of expectations** property, similar to binomials.

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$$E[Y] = E \left[\sum_{i=1}^r X_i \right]$$
$$= \sum_{i=1}^r E[X_i]$$

Expected Value of The Negative Binomial

We can derive using the **sum of expectations** property, similar to binomials.

Let $X_i \sim \text{Geo}(p)$, for each i from 1 to r .

$$E[X_i] = \frac{1}{p}$$

Let $Y \sim \text{NegBin}(r, p)$.

$$\begin{aligned} E[Y] &= E \left[\sum_{i=1}^r X_i \right] \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^r E[X_i] \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^r \frac{1}{p} = \frac{r}{p} \end{aligned}$$

Expectations of Classic Random Variables

$$X \sim \text{Geo}(p)$$

$$E[X] = \frac{1}{p}$$

$$X \sim \text{Bern}(p)$$

$$E[X] = p$$

$$Y \sim \text{NegBin}(r, p)$$

$$E[Y] = \frac{r}{p}$$

$$Y \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$$

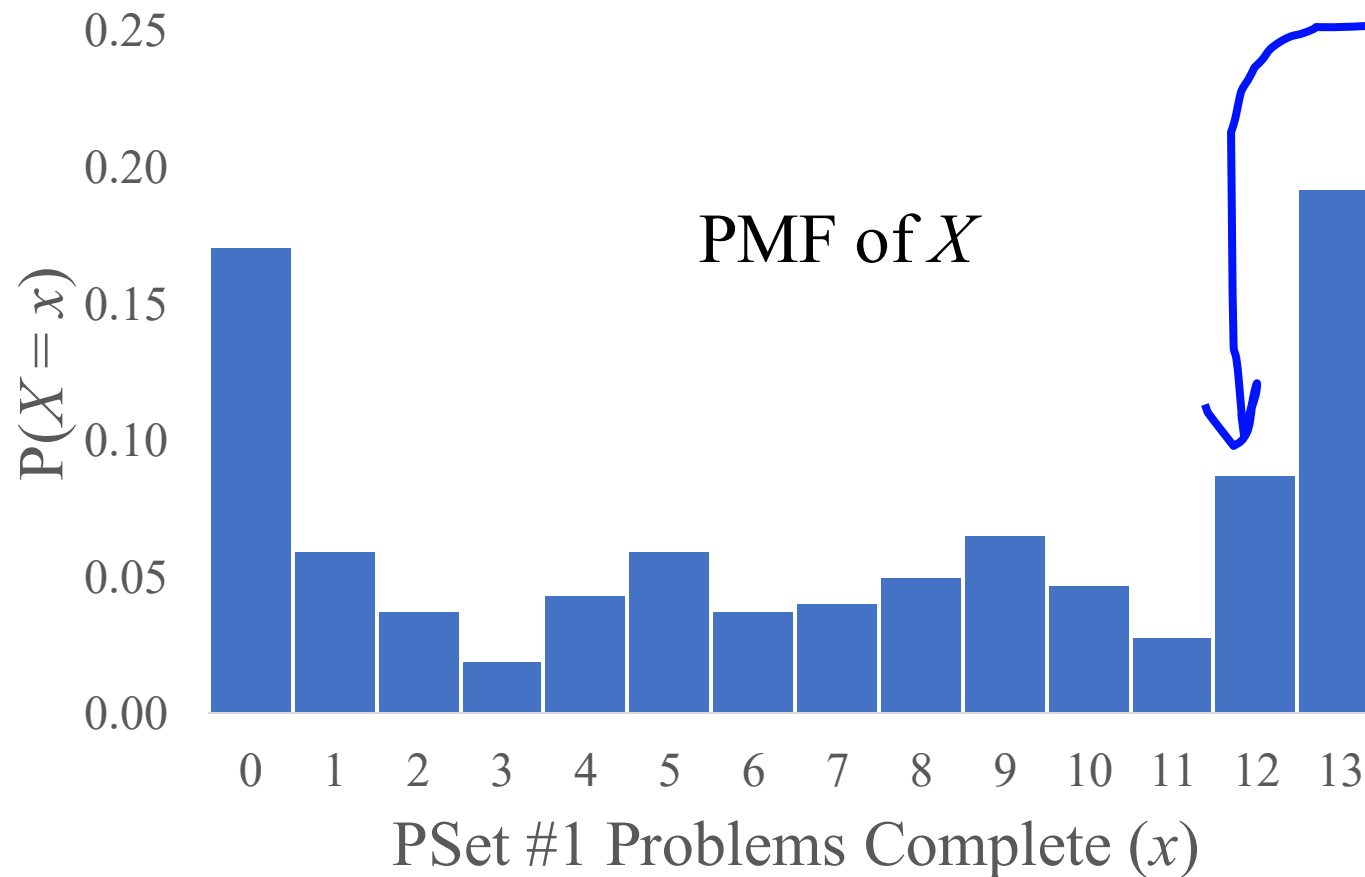
$$E[Y] = n \cdot p$$

Expectation is easy to work with, but
still leaves much to be desired

Expectation vs PMF

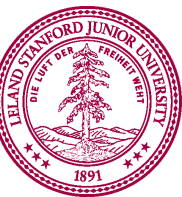
Let X be the number of problems that a randomly selected student has completed, as of 11a today.

X takes on values, with uncertainty. X is a random variable.



$$P(X = 12) \approx \frac{\text{Count}(X = 12)}{N}$$

$$E[X] = 7.4$$



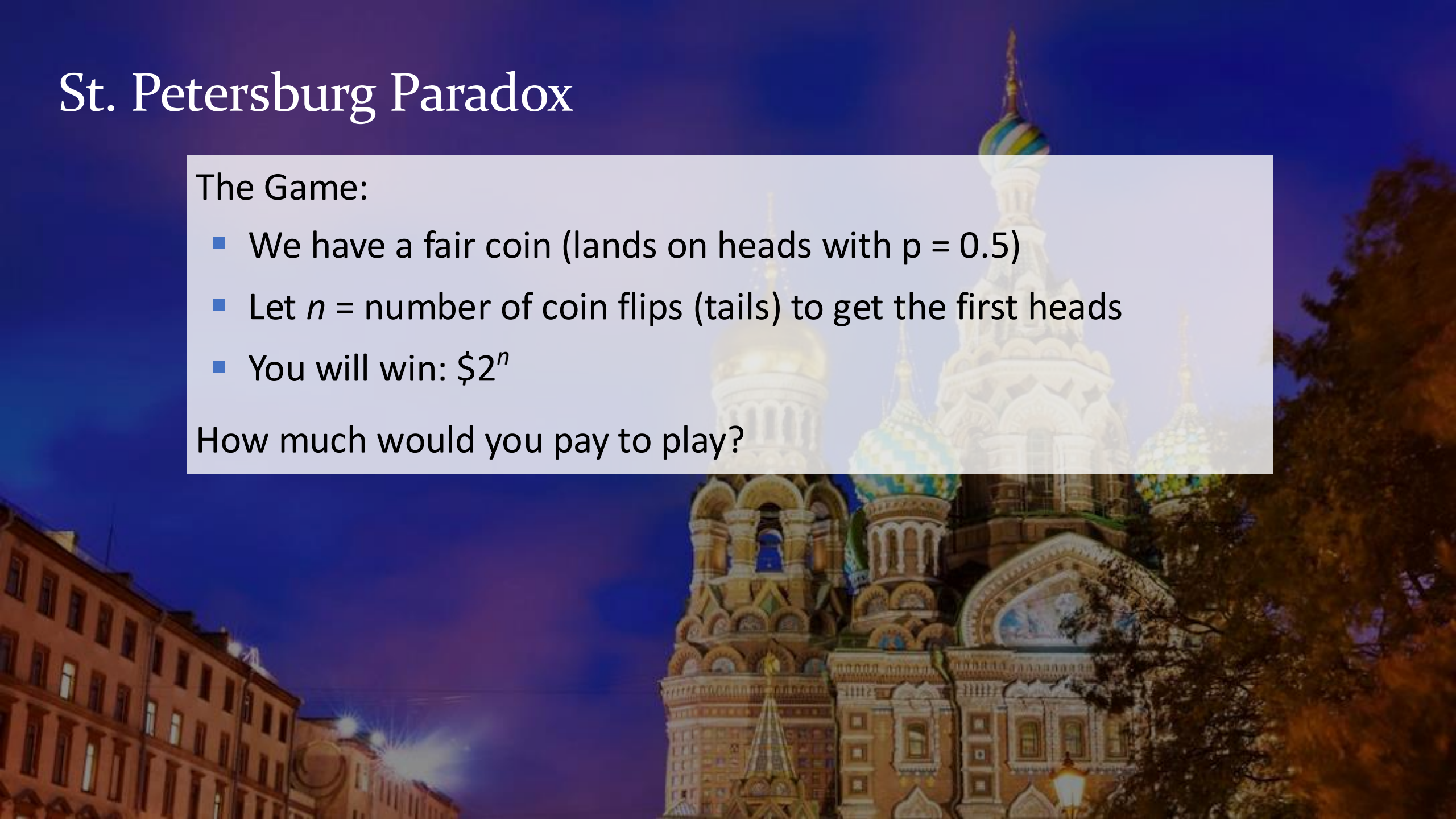
If extra time...

St. Petersburg Paradox

The Game:

- We have a fair coin (lands on heads with $p = 0.5$)
- Let n = number of coin flips (tails) to get the first heads
- You will win: $\$2^n$

How much would you pay to play?



St. Petersburg Paradox

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- You will win: $\$2^n$

How much would you pay to play?

Let X be your winnings.

$$E[X] = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^1 2^1 + \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 2^2 + \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^3 2^3 + \dots = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} 1 = \infty$$

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What if you could play this game for only \$1000...but just once?