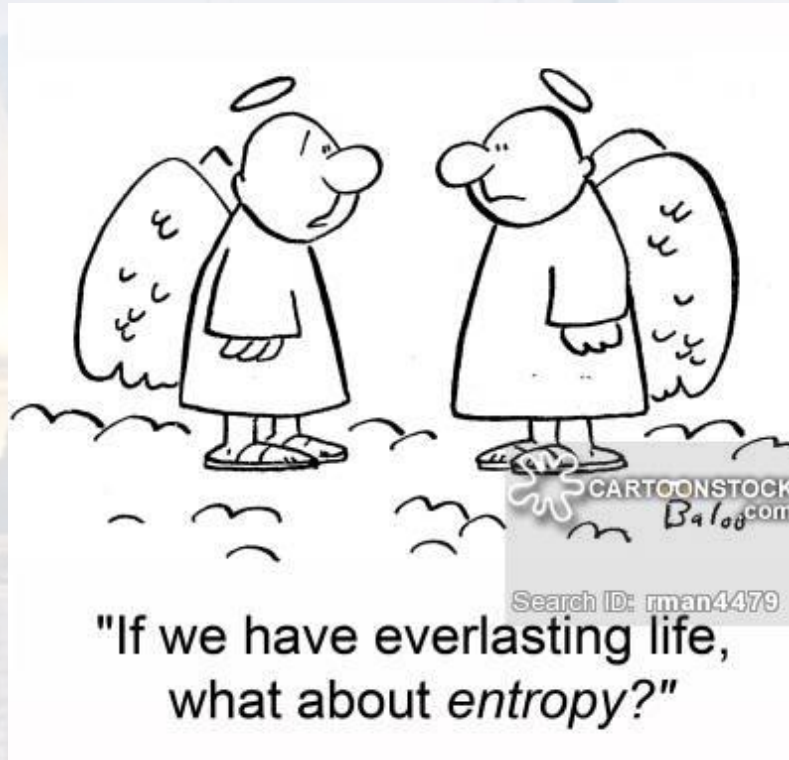


*M. Hohle:*

# Physics 77: Introduction to Computational Techniques in Physics

## *Bonus: Entropy*

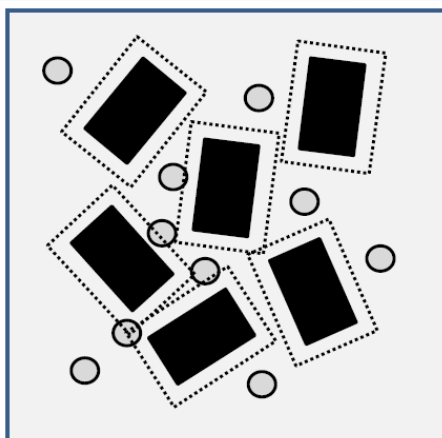




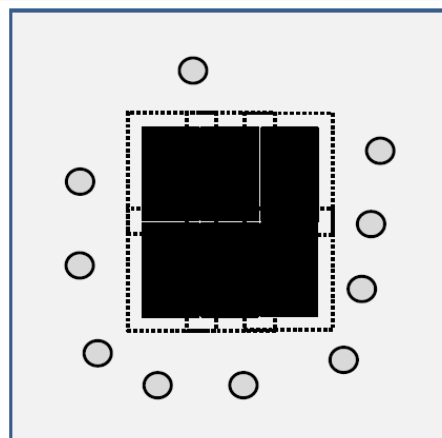
What do you think: in which image is entropy higher?

**first of all:**

Entropy is **not** a measure of disorder!

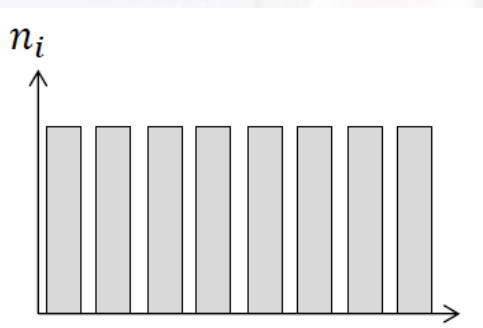


low entropy

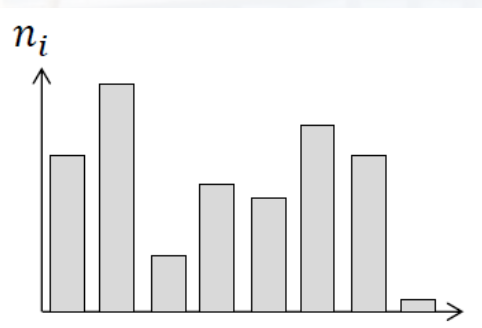


high entropy

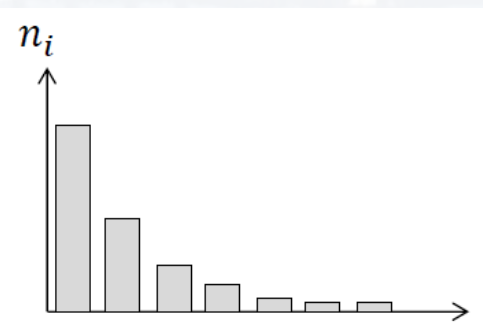
$i$ : states  
 $n_i$ : number of particles in state  $i$



highest **possible** entropy



low entropy



high entropy



Often people explain entropy with an ordered vs messy office...



...and then say, that entropy (disorder) grows with time (in closed systems).



**first of all:**

Entropy is **not** a measure of disorder!

- But how is it possible, that an office can do that, just by itself?
- What if my office just *looks* messy, but I can still pull any file you are asking me for?

order/disorder is not a physical quantity!

Those examples have nothing to do with entropy conceptionally!





actually, the idea of entropy is more like that:



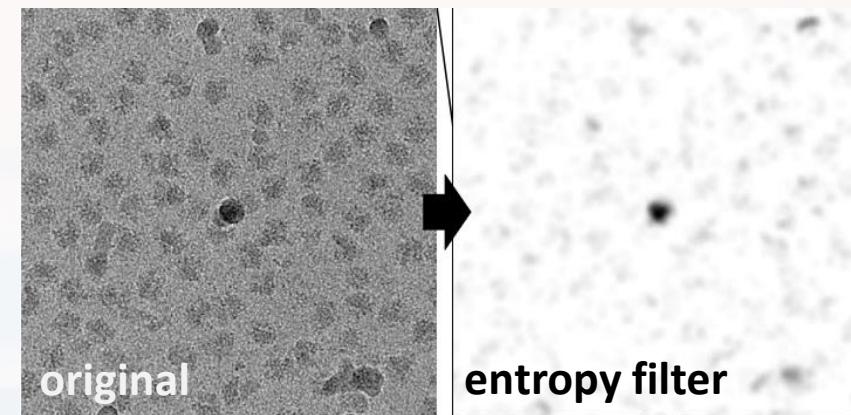


### Entropy:

### data analysis:

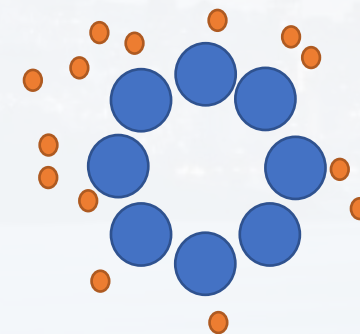
- image processing
- noise reduction
- feature detection

Cryo-EM image of ribosomes



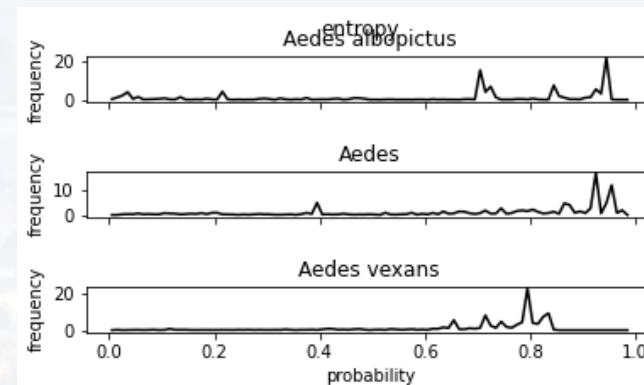
### biophysics:

- molecular driving forces
- formation of macromolecules
- “ordering forces”



### AI:

- optimization
- cross entropy





### Entropy:

### statistics/information theory:

- maximum entropy, given constrains

Distribution name	Probability density / mass function	Maximum Entropy constraint	Support
Uniform (discrete)	$f(k) = \frac{1}{b - a + 1}$	None	$\{a, a + 1, \dots, b - 1, b\}$
Uniform (continuous)	$f(x) = \frac{1}{b - a}$	None	$[a, b]$
Bernoulli	$f(k) = p^k (1 - p)^{1-k}$	$\mathbb{E}[K] = p$	$\{0, 1\}$
Geometric	$f(k) = (1 - p)^{k-1} p$	$\mathbb{E}[K] = \frac{1}{p}$	$\mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\} = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$
Exponential	$f(x) = \lambda \exp(-\lambda x)$	$\mathbb{E}[X] = \frac{1}{\lambda}$	$[0, \infty)$
Laplace	$f(x) = \frac{1}{2b} \exp\left(-\frac{ x - \mu }{b}\right)$	$\mathbb{E}[ X - \mu ] = b$	$(-\infty, \infty)$
Asymmetric Laplace	$f(x) = \frac{\lambda \exp\left(-(x - m) \lambda s \kappa^s\right)}{\left(\kappa + \frac{1}{\kappa}\right)}$ where $s \equiv \text{sgn}(x - m)$	$\mathbb{E}[(X - m) s \kappa^s] = \frac{1}{\lambda}$	$(-\infty, \infty)$
Pareto	$f(x) = \frac{\alpha x_m^\alpha}{x^{\alpha+1}}$	$\mathbb{E}[\ln X] = \frac{1}{\alpha} + \ln(x_m)$	$[x_m, \infty)$
Normal	$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{(x - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$	$\mathbb{E}[X] = \mu,$ $\mathbb{E}[X^2] = \sigma^2 + \mu^2$	$(-\infty, \infty)$
Gamma	$f(x) = \frac{x^{k-1} \exp\left(-\frac{x}{\theta}\right)}{\theta^k \Gamma(k)}$	$\mathbb{E}[X] = k \theta,$ $\mathbb{E}[\ln X] = \psi(k) + \ln \theta$	$[0, \infty)$





What is entropy, really?



$N$ : number of dice  
 $n_i$ : number of dice exposing a certain number  $i$   
(= having a certain state  $i$ )  
 $I$ : number of states a die can have

What is the probability  $P$  to observe the *system* in a certain state?

What is the probability  $p_i$  to observe *a die* in a certain state?

$$\Omega = \frac{N!}{n_1! n_2! \dots n_I!}$$

assumption: all  $i$  are equally likely:

$$P = 1/\Omega$$



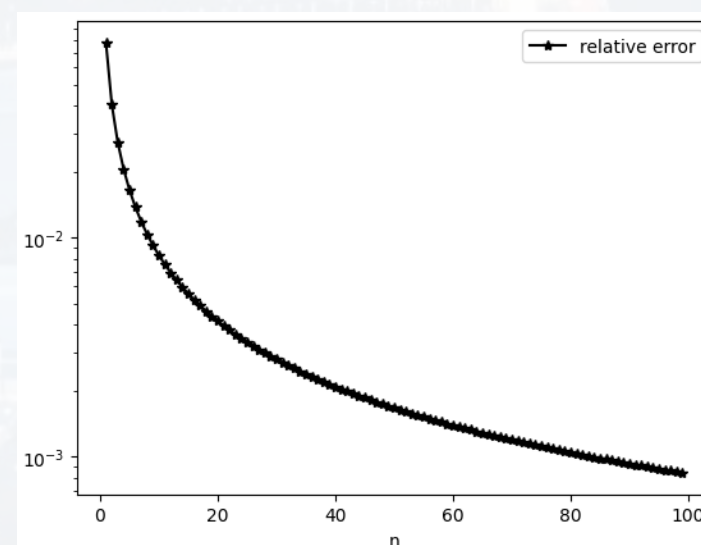
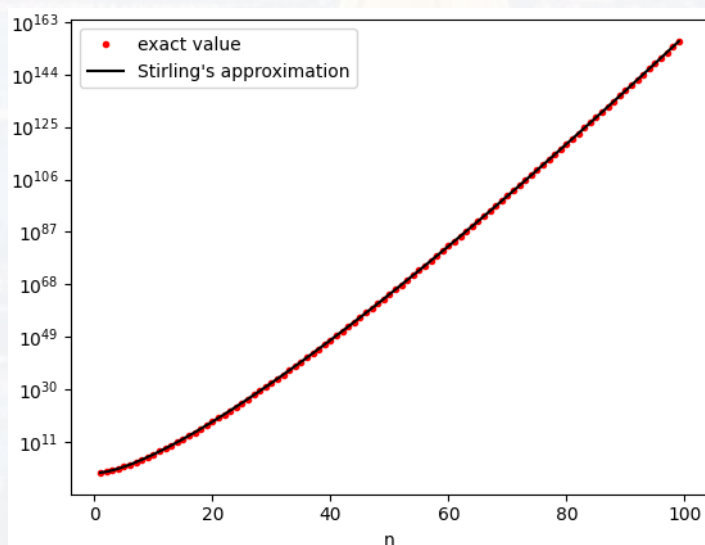
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$I$ :	number of states a die can have

$$\Omega = \frac{N!}{n_1! n_2! \dots n_I!}$$

is large, even for small systems!

Stirling's approximation

$$n! \approx \sqrt{2\pi n} \left(\frac{n}{e}\right)^n$$







$N$ :	number of dice
$n_i$ :	number of dice exposing a certain number $i$ (= having a certain state $i$ )
$I$ :	number of states a die can have

$$\Omega = \frac{N!}{n_1! n_2! \dots n_I!}$$

is large, even for small systems!

for large  $n_i$ :

$$\Omega = \frac{N!}{n_1! n_2! \dots n_I!} \approx \frac{N^N}{n_1^{n_1} n_2^{n_2} \dots n_I^{n_I}}$$

$$p_i \approx \frac{n_i}{N}$$

$$\approx \frac{1}{p_1^{n_1} p_2^{n_2} \dots p_I^{n_I}}$$

$$\ln \Omega = - \sum_i^I n_i \ln p_i$$

$$\frac{\ln \Omega}{N} = - \sum_i^I p_i \ln p_i$$

$$S = - \sum_i^I p_i \ln p_i$$

entropy per particle



$$S = - \sum_i^I p_i \ln p_i$$

$N$ :	number of dice
$n_i$ :	number of dice exposing a certain number $i$ (= having a certain state $i$ )
$I$ :	number of states a die can have
$p_i$ :	$n_i/N$

assumption: all  $i$  are equally likely:  $P = 1/\Omega$

subsets of  $\Omega$ :

- sum  $M$  of all numbers on the dice
- dice can only be distinguished by their state

$M = 2$ :

$$\min(M) = 1 + 1 = 2$$

$$\max(M) = 6 + 6 = 12$$

most likely  **$M = 7$**  (or  $2 \times \text{mean}(I)$ ), because there are **six** possibilities to obtain it:  
 $1 + 6; 1 + 6; 2 + 5; 5 + 2; 3 + 4; 4 + 3$

$M = N$ :

$$\min(M) = N$$

$$\max(M) = I N$$

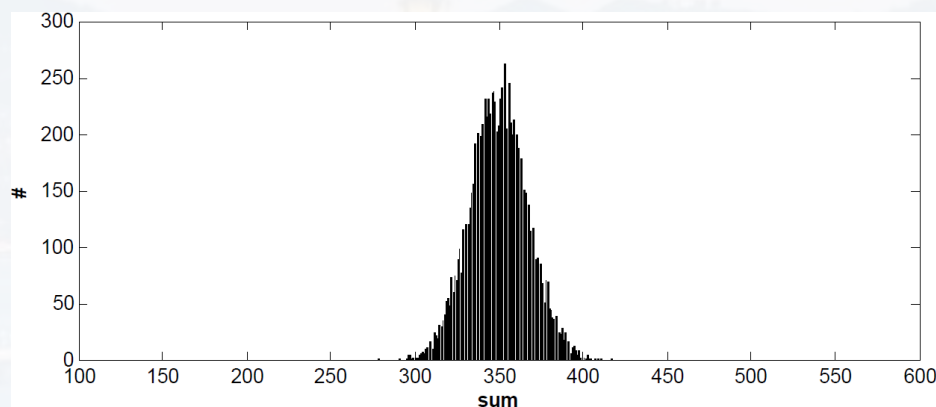
most likely  **$M = N \times \text{mean}(I)$**



$$S = - \sum_i^I p_i \ln p_i$$

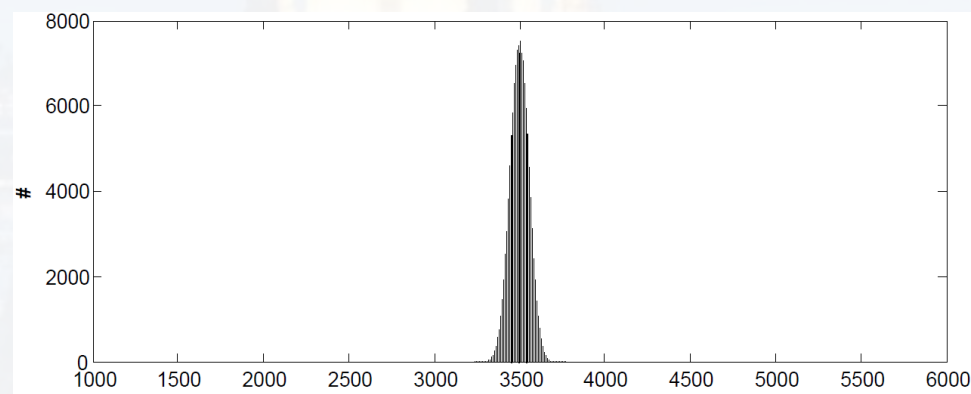
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$I$ :	number of states a die can have
$p_i$ :	$n_i/N$

assumption: all  $i$  are equally likely:



$N = 100$

- some subsets of  $\Omega$ , hence some states of the system are **way more likely** than other states
- becomes **more extreme for large  $N$**



$N = 1000$

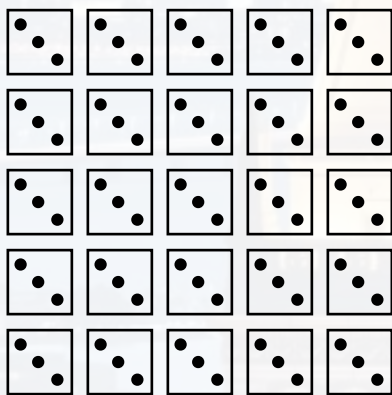




$$S = - \sum_i^I p_i \ln p_i$$

$N$ :	number of dice
$n_i$ :	number of dice exposing a certain number $i$ (= having a certain state $i$ )
$I$ :	number of states a die can have
$p_i$ :	$n_i/N$

we can also see this as dynamical process:



$t = 0$  : all dice have the same state

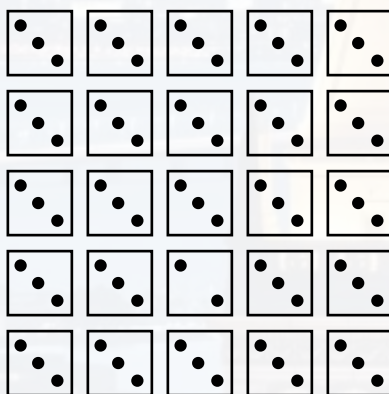
$t \rightarrow t + dt$  : one, randomly picked die, changes its state



$$S = - \sum_i^I p_i \ln p_i$$

$N$ :	number of dice
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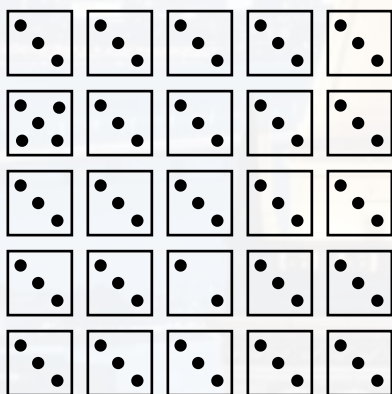
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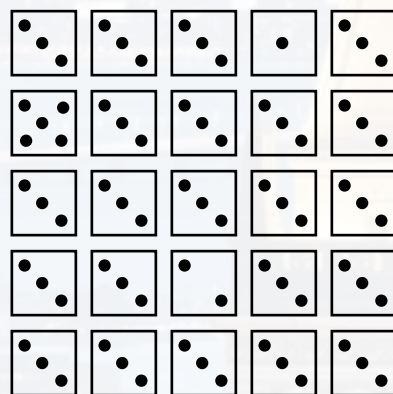




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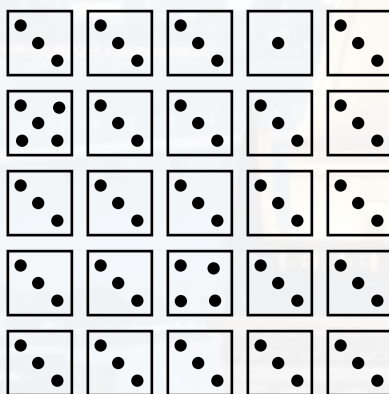
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we can also see this as dynamical process:



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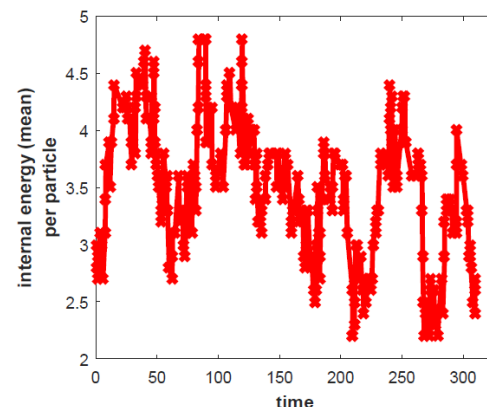
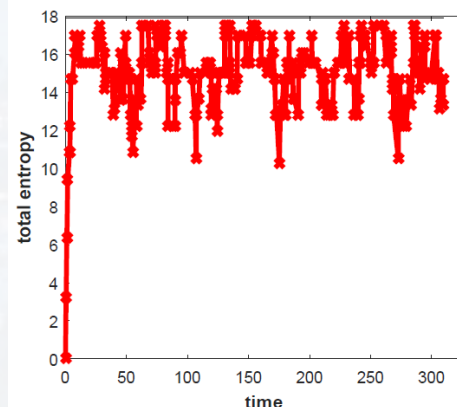
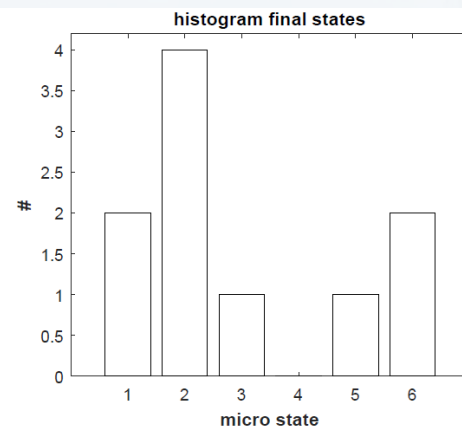
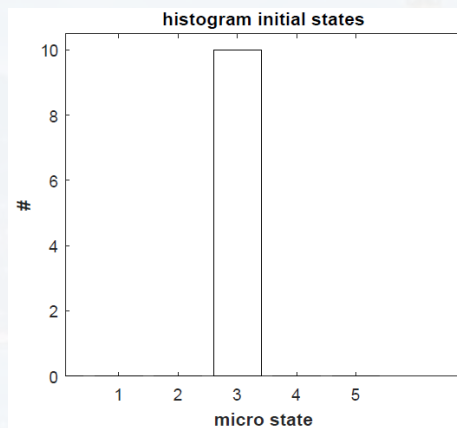
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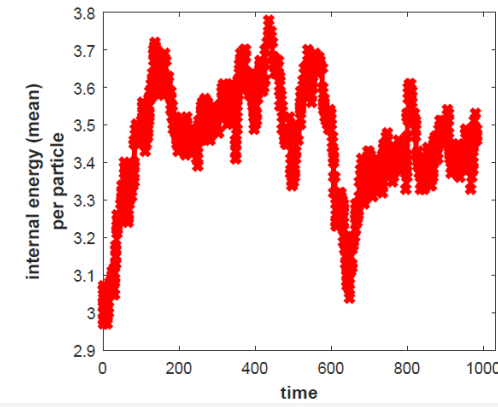
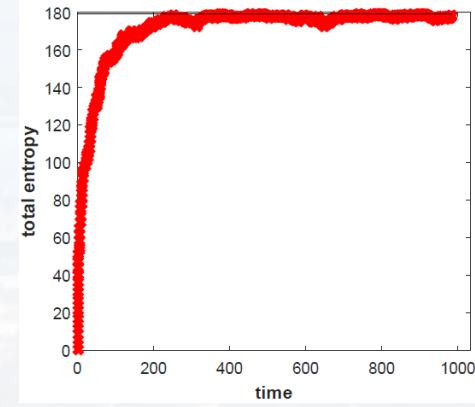
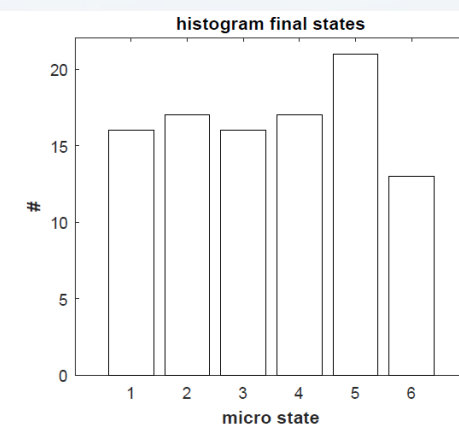
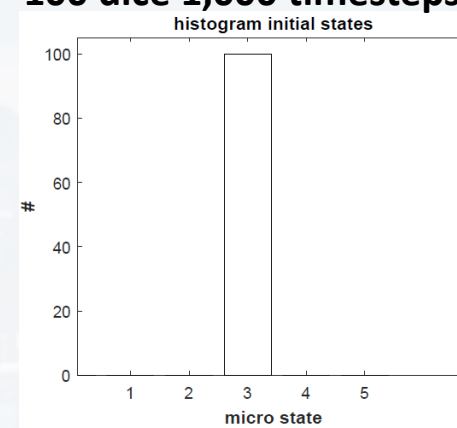
$$S = - \sum_i^I p_i \ln p_i$$

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(= having a certain state  $i$ )  
 **$I$ :** number of states a die can have  
 **$p_i$ :**  $n_i/N$

10 dice  
300 timesteps



100 dice 1,000 timesteps



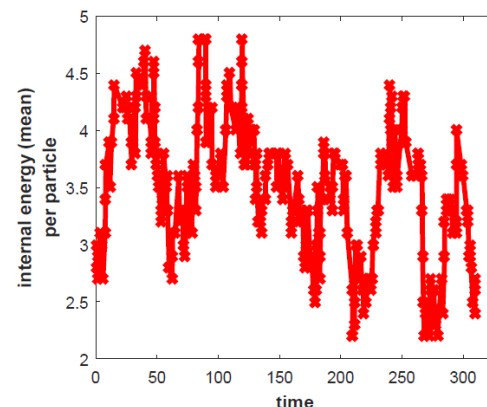
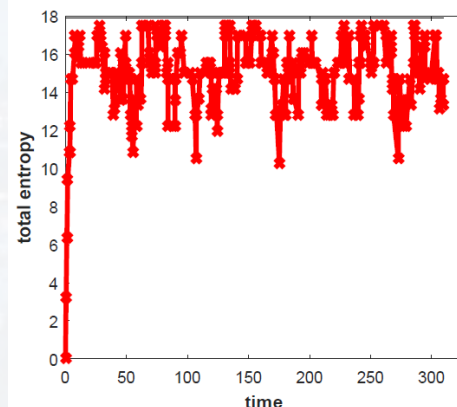
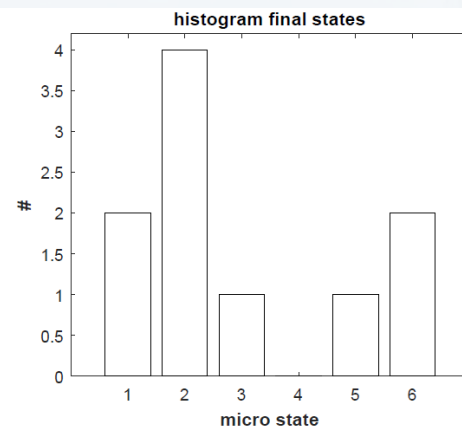
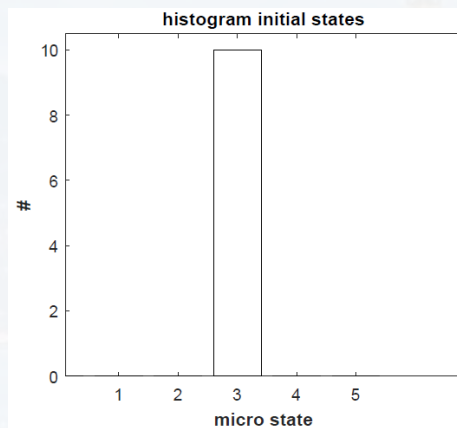




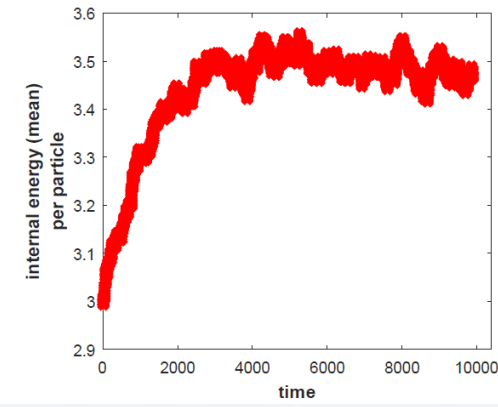
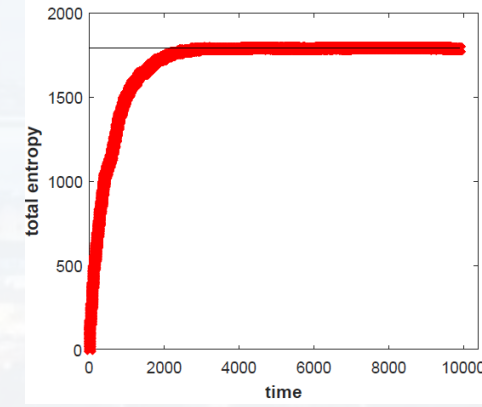
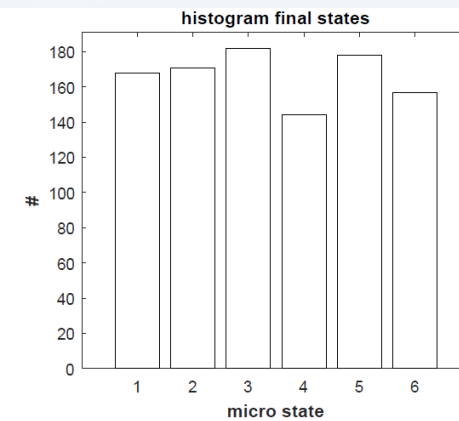
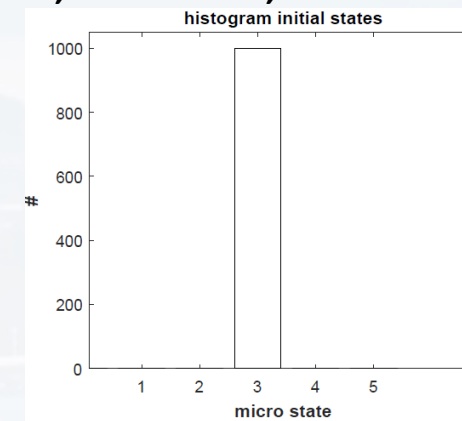
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10 dice  
300 timesteps

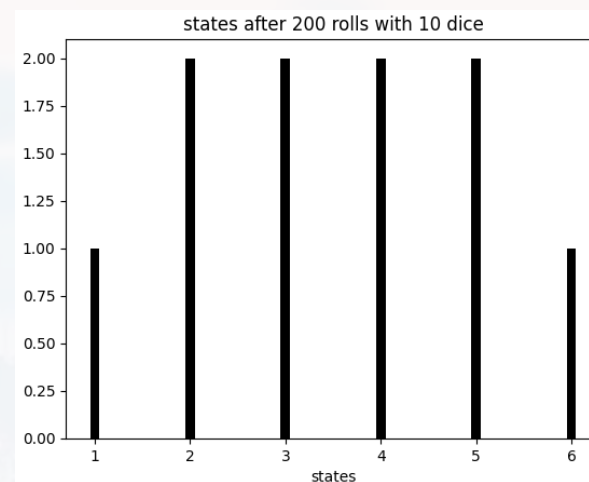
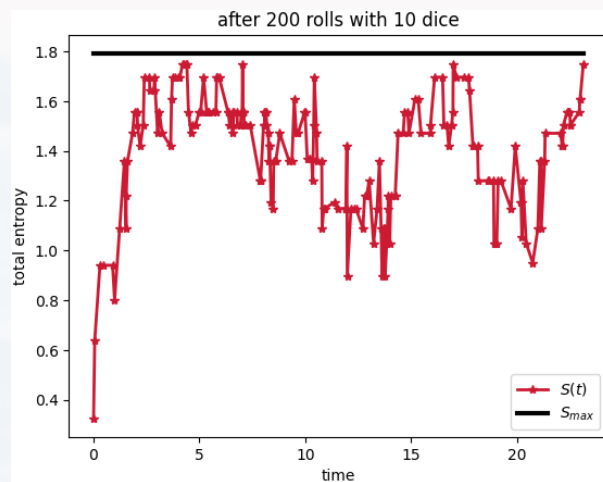


1,000 dice 10,000 timesteps

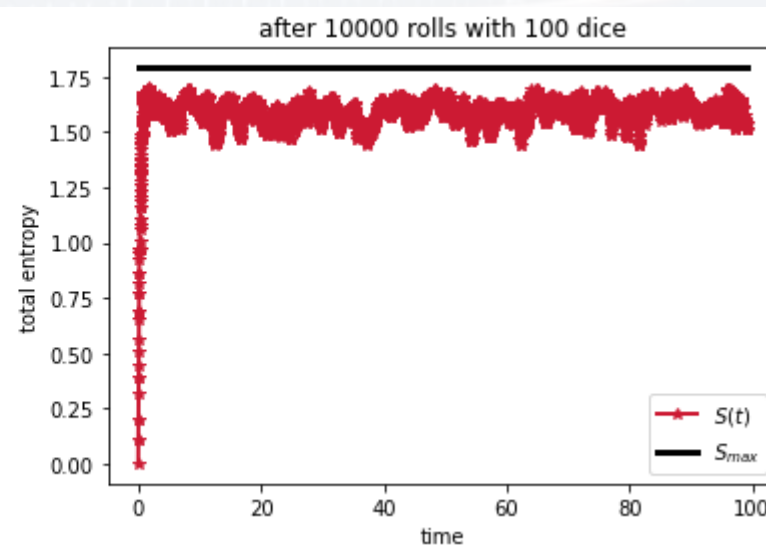
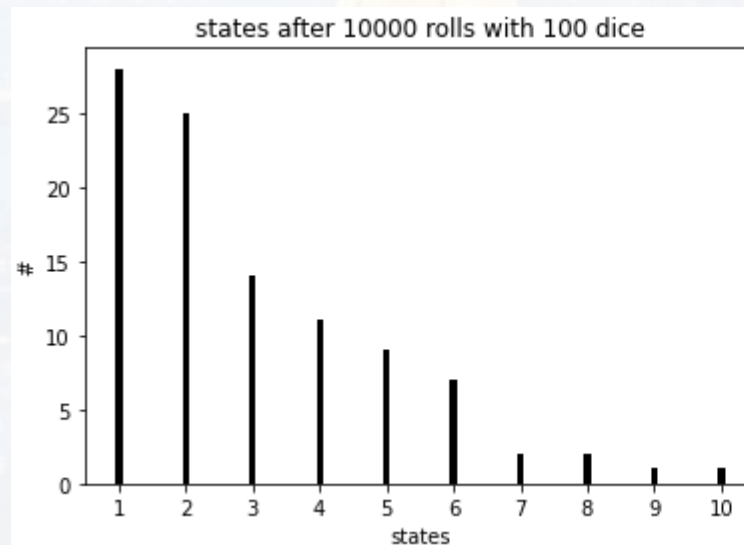




check out `random_machine.ipynb`



constrain:  $M$  is conserved,  $I$  is free, but  $>0$





### conclusions:

- entropy increases with time (in a closed system) because it is the **most likely state**
- the **larger** the system, the more **deterministic** it looks
- for **small systems**: entropy can fluctuate in both ways and **does not increase!** (Stirling's approximation)
- **large systems**: (thermodynamic) **arrow of time** (question: what if we are at  $S_{max}$  already)
- **small systems**: **symmetry** in time!
- even if  $i$  are not equally likely (constrains, some states are more accessible)  
→ different weights, **but same principle**
- **uniform distribution** has **highest entropy** (do the math : ) )





### Entropy is a mathematically precise measure of information!

- entropy high  $\rightarrow$  information low
- entropy low  $\rightarrow$  information high

$$S = - \sum_i^I p_i \ln p_i$$



fair die: events are

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

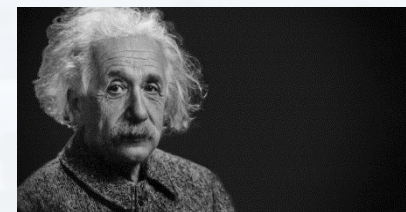
$p_n$  are

$p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4, p_5, p_6 = 1/6$  for all  $p_n$

Hi Eini: guess the  
number I rolled!



I have no idea, so all numbers are  
equally likely if it's a fair die.





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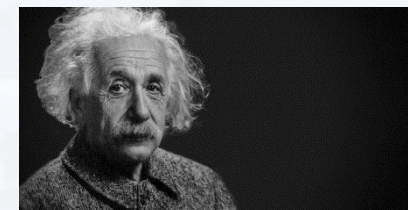
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Hi Eini: guess the  
number I rolled!



$$S = -\frac{1}{6} \ln \left( \frac{1}{6} \right) * 6 = 1.79 \dots$$





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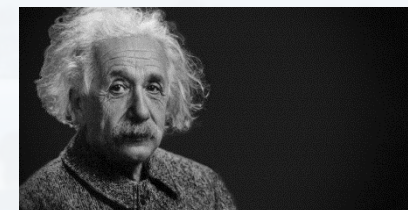
$p_n$  are

$p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4, p_5, p_6 = 1/6$  for all  $p_n$

Ok, I give you a  
hint: it is not a six.



Alright, so then  $p_6 = 0$  and all  
the other  $p_5 = 1/5$ .







### Entropy is a mathematically precise measure of information!

- entropy high  $\rightarrow$  information low
- entropy low  $\rightarrow$  information high

$$S = - \sum_i^I p_i \ln p_i$$



fair die: events are

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

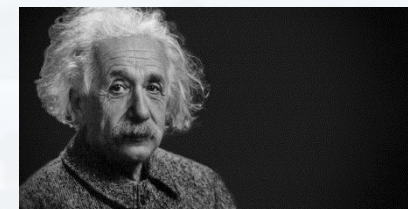
$p_n$  are

$p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4, p_5, p_6 = 1/6$  for all  $p_n$

Ok, I give you a  
hint: it is not a six.



Hence,  $S = -\frac{1}{5} \ln\left(\frac{1}{5}\right) * 5 =$   
1.61 ...





**Entropy is a mathematically precise measure of information!**

- entropy high  $\rightarrow$  information low
- entropy low  $\rightarrow$  information high

$$S = - \sum_i^I p_i \ln p_i$$



fair die: events are

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

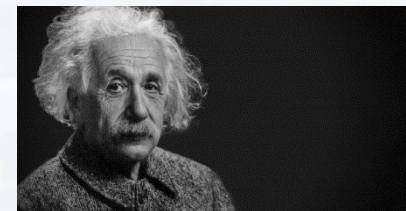
$p_n$  are

$p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4, p_5, p_6 = 1/6$  for all  $p_n$

Come on, don't be so nerdy. It is an odd number.



This helps a lot:  $p_2 = p_4 = p_6 = 0$   
and thus,  $p_1 = p_3 = p_5 = 1/3$





### Entropy is a mathematically precise measure of information!

- entropy high  $\rightarrow$  information low
- entropy low  $\rightarrow$  information high

$$S = - \sum_i^I p_i \ln p_i$$



fair die: events are

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

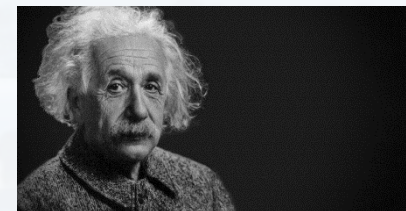
$p_n$  are

$p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4, p_5, p_6 = 1/6$  for all  $p_n$

Come on, don't be so nerdy. It is an odd number.



Hence,  $S = -\frac{1}{3} \ln\left(\frac{1}{3}\right) * 3 = 1.10 \dots$







**Entropy is a mathematically precise measure of information!**

- entropy high  $\rightarrow$  information low
- entropy low  $\rightarrow$  information high

$$S = - \sum_i^I p_i \ln p_i$$



fair die: events are

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

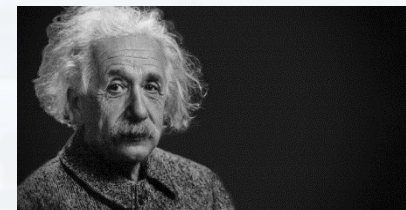
$p_n$  are

$p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4, p_5, p_6 = 1/6$  for all  $p_n$

**I give up. It's a five. Next time I am gonna play with Schroedinger.**



**Fantastic! So all  $p_n = 0$  except for  $n = 5$**





**Entropy is a mathematically precise measure of information!**

- entropy high  $\rightarrow$  information low
- entropy low  $\rightarrow$  information high

$$S = - \sum_i^I p_i \ln p_i$$



fair die: events are

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

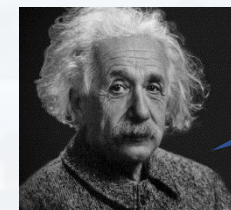
$p_n$  are

$p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4, p_5, p_6 = 1/6$  for all  $p_n$

I give up. It's a five. Next time I am gonna play with Schroedinger.



Hence,  $S = -0 \ln(0) * 5 - 1 * \ln(1) = 0$



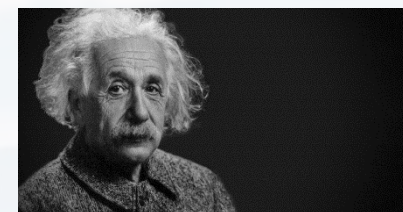
But don't mention your cat!



### Entropy is a mathematically precise measure of information!

- entropy high  $\rightarrow$  information low
- entropy low  $\rightarrow$  information high

$$S = - \sum_i^I p_i \ln p_i$$



#### Information:

none (any number)

not a six

an odd number

the actual number

#### Entropy:

$S = 1.79$

$S = 1.61$

$S = 1.10$

$S = 0.00$



*M. Hohle:*

Thank you for your attention and Happy X-Mas!!

