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~~Settlers of Catan~~ A board game is played on a hexagonal grid of 19 tiles. A 'traveler' token starts on the center tile. Each turn a die is rolled to determine what neighboring tile the traveler moves to (all six directions equally likely). The turn that the traveler leaves the board, the game ends. What is the expected number of turns of the game?

A hexagonal grid of 19 cells, each containing a red dot and a number from 0 to 18. The grid is surrounded by 20 green dots, each labeled with a number from 19 to 38. The grid is arranged in a larger hexagonal shape with 4 cells on the left and right sides, 3 cells on the top and bottom sides, and 2 cells on the top-left and bottom-right corners.

The dice is truly random, so there is no upper bound on N . We note that this game is really akin to a Markov chain, in that it doesn't matter what the past states are.

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$$N^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} p_{0,0} = 1 & p_{0,1} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{0,2} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{0,3} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{0,4} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{0,5} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{0,6} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{0,7} = 0 & p_{0,8} = 0 & p_{0,9} = 0 & p_{0,10} = 0 & p_{0,11} = 0 & p_{0,12} = 0 & p_{0,13} = 0 & p_{0,14} = 0 & p_{0,15} = 0 & p_{0,16} = 0 & p_{0,17} = 0 & p_{0,18} = 0 & p_{0,19} = 0 \\ p_{1,0} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{1,1} = 1 & p_{1,2} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{1,3} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{1,4} = 0 & p_{1,5} = 0 & p_{1,6} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{1,7} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{1,8} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{1,9} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{1,10} = 0 & p_{1,11} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{1,12} = 0 & p_{1,13} = 0 & p_{1,14} = 0 & p_{1,15} = 0 & p_{1,16} = 0 & p_{1,17} = 0 & p_{1,18} = 0 & p_{1,19} = 0 \\ p_{2,0} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{2,1} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{2,2} = 1 & p_{2,3} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{2,4} = 0 & p_{2,5} = 0 & p_{2,6} = 0 & p_{2,7} = 0 & p_{2,8} = 0 & p_{2,9} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{2,10} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{2,11} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{2,12} = 0 & 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& p_{5,11} = 0 & p_{5,12} = 0 & p_{5,13} = 0 & p_{5,14} = 0 & p_{5,15} = 0 & p_{5,16} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{5,17} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{5,18} = 0 & p_{5,19} = 0 \\ p_{6,0} = 0 & p_{6,1} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{6,2} = 0 & p_{6,3} = 0 & p_{6,4} = 0 & p_{6,5} = 0 & p_{6,6} = 1 & p_{6,7} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{6,8} = 0 & p_{6,9} = 0 & p_{6,10} = 0 & p_{6,11} = 0 & p_{6,12} = 0 & p_{6,13} = 0 & p_{6,14} = 0 & p_{6,15} = 0 & p_{6,16} = 0 & p_{6,17} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{6,18} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{6,19} = 0 \\ p_{7,0} = 0 & p_{7,1} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{7,2} = 0 & p_{7,3} = 0 & p_{7,4} = 0 & p_{7,5} = 0 & p_{7,6} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{7,7} = 1 & p_{7,8} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{7,9} = 0 & p_{7,10} = 0 & p_{7,11} = 0 & p_{7,12} = 0 & p_{7,13} = 0 & p_{7,14} = 0 & p_{7,15} = 0 & p_{7,16} = 0 & p_{7,17} = 0 & p_{7,18} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{7,19} = \frac{1}{6} \\ p_{8,0} = 0 & p_{8,1} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{8,2} = 0 & p_{8,3} = 0 & p_{8,4} = 0 & p_{8,5} = 0 & p_{8,6} = 0 & p_{8,7} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{8,8} = 1 & p_{8,9} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{8,10} = 0 & p_{8,11} = 0 & p_{8,12} = 0 & p_{8,13} = 0 & p_{8,14} = 0 & p_{8,15} = 0 & p_{8,16} = 0 & p_{8,17} = 0 & p_{8,18} = 0 & p_{8,19} = 0 \\ p_{9,0} = 0 & p_{9,1} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{9,2} = 0 & p_{9,3} = 0 & p_{9,4} = 0 & p_{9,5} = 0 & p_{9,6} = 0 & p_{9,7} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{9,8} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{9,9} = 1 & p_{9,10} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{9,11} = 0 & p_{9,12} = 0 & p_{9,13} = 0 & p_{9,14} = 0 & p_{9,15} = 0 & p_{9,16} = 0 & p_{9,17} = 0 & p_{9,18} = 0 & p_{9,19} = 0 \\ p_{10,0} = 0 & p_{10,1} = 0 & p_{10,2} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{10,3} = 0 & p_{10,4} = 0 & p_{10,5} = 0 & p_{10,6} = 0 & p_{10,7} = 0 & p_{10,8} = 0 & p_{10,9} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{10,10} = 1 & p_{10,11} = 0 & p_{10,12} = 0 & p_{10,13} = 0 & p_{10,14} = 0 & p_{10,15} = 0 & p_{10,16} = 0 & p_{10,17} = 0 & p_{10,18} = 0 & p_{10,19} = 0 \\ p_{11,0} = 0 & p_{11,1} = 0 & p_{11,2} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{11,3} = 0 & p_{11,4} = 0 & p_{11,5} = 0 & p_{11,6} = 0 & p_{11,7} = 0 & p_{11,8} = 0 & p_{11,9} = 0 & p_{11,10} = 0 & p_{11,11} = 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| $N =$ | $P_{0,0} = \frac{45}{16}$ | $P_{1,0} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{2,0} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{3,0} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{4,0} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{5,0} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{6,0} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{7,0} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{8,0} = \frac{5}{4}$ | $P_{9,0} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{10,0} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{11,0} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{12,0} = \frac{5}{4}$ | $P_{13,0} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{14,0} = \frac{5}{4}$ | $P_{15,0} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{16,0} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{17,0} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{18,0} = \frac{5}{4}$ |
| | $P_{1,1} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{2,1} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{3,1} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{4,1} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{5,1} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{6,1} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{7,1} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{8,1} = \frac{5}{4}$ | $P_{9,1} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{10,1} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{11,1} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{12,1} = \frac{5}{4}$ | $P_{13,1} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{14,1} = \frac{5}{4}$ | $P_{15,1} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{16,1} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{17,1} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{18,1} = \frac{5}{4}$ | |
| | $P_{2,2} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{3,2} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{4,2} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{5,2} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{6,2} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{7,2} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{8,2} = \frac{5}{4}$ | $P_{9,2} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{10,2} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{11,2} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{12,2} = \frac{5}{4}$ | $P_{13,2} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{14,2} = \frac{5}{4}$ | $P_{15,2} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{16,2} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{17,2} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{18,2} = \frac{5}{4}$ | | |
| | $P_{3,3} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{4,3} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{5,3} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{6,3} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{7,3} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{8,3} = \frac{5}{4}$ | $P_{9,3} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{10,3} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{11,3} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{12,3} = \frac{5}{4}$ | $P_{13,3} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{14,3} = \frac{5}{4}$ | $P_{15,3} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{16,3} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{17,3} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{18,3} = \frac{5}{4}$ | | | |
| | $P_{4,4} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{5,4} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{6,4} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{7,4} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{8,4} = \frac{5}{4}$ | $P_{9,4} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{10,4} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{11,4} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{12,4} = \frac{5}{4}$ | $P_{13,4} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{14,4} = \frac{5}{4}$ | $P_{15,4} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{16,4} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{17,4} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{18,4} = \frac{5}{4}$ | | | | |
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| | $P_{6,6} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{7,6} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{8,6} = \frac{5}{4}$ | $P_{9,6} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{10,6} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{11,6} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{12,6} = \frac{5}{4}$ | $P_{13,6} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{14,6} = \frac{5}{4}$ | $P_{15,6} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{16,6} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{17,6} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{18,6} = \frac{5}{4}$ | | | | | | |
| | $P_{7,7} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{8,7} = \frac{5}{4}$ | $P_{9,7} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{10,7} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{11,7} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{12,7} = \frac{5}{4}$ | $P_{13,7} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{14,7} = \frac{5}{4}$ | $P_{15,7} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{16,7} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{17,7} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{18,7} = \frac{5}{4}$ | | | | | | | |
| | $P_{8,8} = \frac{5}{4}$ | $P_{9,8} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{10,8} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{11,8} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{12,8} = \frac{5}{4}$ | $P_{13,8} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{14,8} = \frac{5}{4}$ | $P_{15,8} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{16,8} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{17,8} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{18,8} = \frac{5}{4}$ | | | | | | | | |
| | $P_{9,9} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{10,9} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{11,9} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{12,9} = \frac{5}{4}$ | $P_{13,9} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{14,9} = \frac{5}{4}$ | $P_{15,9} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{16,9} = \frac{15}{16}$ | $P_{17,9} = \frac{7}{2}$ | $P_{18,9} = \frac{5}{4}$ | | | | | | | | | |

$$t = N\mathbf{1}$$
[illegible]

Finally, we see that $t_0 = \boxed{\frac{213}{29} \approx 7.345}$