

\mathbb{R}^n Bonus Problem #3

Rajeev Atla

§1 Problem

~~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?

§2 Diagram



§3 Solution

We wish to find the expected value of the number of turns in the game, which we denote N .

$$\mathbb{E}(N) = \sum N \mathbb{P}(N)$$

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.

$$N = \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} P_{0,0} = 45 \\ P_{0,1} = 34506 \\ P_{0,2} = 10714 \\ P_{0,3} = 249999 \\ P_{0,4} = 57876 \\ P_{0,5} = 11792 \\ P_{0,6} = 18354 \\ P_{0,7} = 24792 \\ P_{0,8} = 30792 \\ P_{0,9} = 36792 \\ P_{0,10} = 42792 \\ P_{0,11} = 48792 \\ P_{0,12} = 54792 \\ P_{0,13} = 60792 \\ P_{0,14} = 66792 \\ P_{0,15} = 72792 \\ P_{0,16} = 78792 \\ P_{0,17} = 84792 \\ P_{0,18} = 90792 \\ P_{0,19} = 96792 \\ P_{0,20} = 102792 \\ P_{0,21} = 108792 \\ P_{0,22} = 114792 \\ P_{0,23} = 120792 \\ P_{0,24} = 126792 \\ P_{0,25} = 132792 \\ P_{0,26} = 138792 \\ P_{0,27} = 144792 \\ P_{0,28} = 150792 \\ P_{0,29} = 156792 \\ P_{0,30} = 162792 \\ P_{0,31} = 168792 \\ P_{0,32} = 174792 \\ P_{0,33} = 180792 \\ P_{0,34} = 186792 \\ P_{0,35} = 192792 \\ P_{0,36} = 198792 \\ P_{0,37} = 204792 \\ P_{0,38} = 210792 \\ P_{0,39} = 216792 \\ P_{0,40} = 222792 \\ P_{0,41} = 228792 \\ P_{0,42} = 234792 \\ P_{0,43} = 240792 \\ P_{0,44} = 246792 \\ P_{0,45} = 252792 \\ P_{0,46} = 258792 \\ P_{0,47} = 264792 \\ P_{0,48} = 270792 \\ P_{0,49} = 276792 \\ P_{0,50} = 282792 \\ P_{0,51} = 288792 \\ P_{0,52} = 294792 \\ P_{0,53} = 300792 \\ P_{0,54} = 306792 \\ P_{0,55} = 312792 \\ P_{0,56} = 318792 \\ P_{0,57} = 324792 \\ P_{0,58} = 330792 \\ P_{0,59} = 336792 \\ P_{0,60} = 342792 \\ P_{0,61} = 348792 \\ P_{0,62} = 354792 \\ P_{0,63} = 360792 \\ P_{0,64} = 366792 \\ P_{0,65} = 372792 \\ P_{0,66} = 378792 \\ P_{0,67} = 384792 \\ P_{0,68} = 390792 \\ P_{0,69} = 396792 \\ P_{0,70} = 402792 \\ P_{0,71} = 408792 \\ P_{0,72} = 414792 \\ P_{0,73} = 420792 \\ P_{0,74} = 426792 \\ P_{0,75} = 432792 \\ P_{0,76} = 438792 \\ P_{0,77} = 444792 \\ P_{0,78} = 450792 \\ P_{0,79} = 456792 \\ P_{0,80} = 462792 \\ P_{0,81} = 468792 \\ P_{0,82} = 474792 \\ P_{0,83} = 480792 \\ P_{0,84} = 486792 \\ P_{0,85} = 492792 \\ P_{0,86} = 498792 \\ P_{0,87} = 504792 \\ P_{0,88} = 510792 \\ P_{0,89} = 516792 \\ P_{0,90} = 522792 \\ P_{0,91} = 528792 \\ P_{0,92} = 534792 \\ P_{0,93} = 540792 \\ P_{0,94} = 546792 \\ P_{0,95} = 552792 \\ P_{0,96} = 558792 \\ P_{0,97} = 564792 \\ P_{0,98} = 570792 \\ P_{0,99} = 576792 \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} P_{1,0} = 16 \\ P_{1,1} = 34506 \\ P_{1,2} = 10714 \\ P_{1,3} = 249999 \\ P_{1,4} = 57876 \\ P_{1,5} = 11792 \\ P_{1,6} = 18354 \\ P_{1,7} = 24792 \\ P_{1,8} = 30792 \\ P_{1,9} = 36792 \\ P_{1,10} = 42792 \\ P_{1,11} = 48792 \\ P_{1,12} = 54792 \\ P_{1,13} = 60792 \\ P_{1,14} = 66792 \\ P_{1,15} = 72792 \\ P_{1,16} = 78792 \\ P_{1,17} = 84792 \\ P_{1,18} = 90792 \\ P_{1,19} = 96792 \\ P_{1,20} = 102792 \\ P_{1,21} = 108792 \\ P_{1,22} = 114792 \\ P_{1,23} = 120792 \\ P_{1,24} = 126792 \\ P_{1,25} = 132792 \\ P_{1,26} = 138792 \\ P_{1,27} = 144792 \\ P_{1,28} = 150792 \\ P_{1,29} = 156792 \\ P_{1,30} = 162792 \\ P_{1,31} = 168792 \\ P_{1,32} = 174792 \\ P_{1,33} = 180792 \\ P_{1,34} = 186792 \\ P_{1,35} = 192792 \\ P_{1,36} = 198792 \\ P_{1,37} = 204792 \\ P_{1,38} = 210792 \\ P_{1,39} = 216792 \\ P_{1,40} = 222792 \\ P_{1,41} = 228792 \\ P_{1,42} = 234792 \\ P_{1,43} = 240792 \\ P_{1,44} = 246792 \\ P_{1,45} = 252792 \\ P_{1,46} = 258792 \\ P_{1,47} = 264792 \\ P_{1,48} = 270792 \\ P_{1,49} = 276792 \\ P_{1,50} = 282792 \\ P_{1,51} = 288792 \\ P_{1,52} = 294792 \\ P_{1,53} = 300792 \\ P_{1,54} = 306792 \\ P_{1,55} = 312792 \\ P_{1,56} = 318792 \\ P_{1,57} = 324792 \\ P_{1,58} = 330792 \\ P_{1,59} = 336792 \\ P_{1,60} = 342792 \\ P_{1,61} = 348792 \\ P_{1,62} = 354792 \\ P_{1,63} = 360792 \\ P_{1,64} = 366792 \\ P_{1,65} = 372792 \\ P_{1,66} = 378792 \\ P_{1,67} = 384792 \\ P_{1,68} = 390792 \\ P_{1,69} = 396792 \\ P_{1,70} = 402792 \\ P_{1,71} = 408792 \\ P_{1,72} = 414792 \\ P_{1,73} = 420792 \\ P_{1,74} = 426792 \\ P_{1,75} = 432792 \\ P_{1,76} = 438792 \\ P_{1,77} = 444792 \\ P_{1,78} = 450792 \\ P_{1,79} = 456792 \\ P_{1,80} = 462792 \\ P_{1,81} = 468792 \\ P_{1,82} = 474792 \\ P_{1,83} = 480792 \\ P_{1,84} = 486792 \\ P_{1,85} = 492792 \\ P_{1,86} = 498792 \\ P_{1,87} = 504792 \\ P_{1,88} = 510792 \\ P_{1,89} = 516792 \\ P_{1,90} = 522792 \\ P_{1,91} = 528792 \\ P_{1,92} = 534792 \\ P_{1,93} = 540792 \\ P_{1,94} = 546792 \\ P_{1,95} = 552792 \\ P_{1,96} = 558792 \\ P_{1,97} = 564792 \\ P_{1,98} = 570792 \\ P_{1,99} = 576792 \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} P_{2,0} = 16 \\ P_{2,1} = 34506 \\ P_{2,2} = 10714 \\ P_{2,3} = 249999 \\ P_{2,4} = 57876 \\ P_{2,5} = 11792 \\ P_{2,6} = 18354 \\ P_{2,7} = 24792 \\ P_{2,8} = 30792 \\ P_{2,9} = 36792 \\ P_{2,10} = 42792 \\ P_{2,11} = 48792 \\ P_{2,12} = 54792 \\ P_{2,13} = 60792 \\ P_{2,14} = 66792 \\ P_{2,15} = 72792 \\ P_{2,16} = 78792 \\ P_{2,17} = 84792 \\ P_{2,18} = 90792 \\ P_{2,19} = 96792 \\ P_{2,20} = 102792 \\ P_{2,21} = 108792 \\ P_{2,22} = 114792 \\ P_{2,23} = 120792 \\ P_{2,24} = 126792 \\ P_{2,25} = 132792 \\ P_{2,26} = 138792 \\ P_{2,27} = 144792 \\ P_{2,28} = 150792 \\ P_{2,29} = 156792 \\ P_{2,30} = 162792 \\ P_{2,31} = 168792 \\ P_{2,32} = 174792 \\ P_{2,33} = 180792 \\ P_{2,34} = 186792 \\ P_{2,35} = 192792 \\ P_{2,36} = 198792 \\ P_{2,37} = 204792 \\ P_{2,38} = 210792 \\ P_{2,39} = 216792 \\ P_{2,40} = 222792 \\ P_{2,41} = 228792 \\ P_{2,42} = 234792 \\ P_{2,43} = 240792 \\ P_{2,44} = 246792 \\ P_{2,45} = 252792 \\ P_{2,46} = 258792 \\ P_{2,47} = 264792 \\ P_{2,48} = 270792 \\ P_{2,49} = 276792 \\ P_{2,50} = 282792 \\ P_{2,51} = 288792 \\ P_{2,52} = 294792 \\ P_{2,53} = 300792 \\ P_{2,54} = 306792 \\ P_{2,55} = 312792 \\ P_{2,56} = 318792 \\$$

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

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