

Rajeev Atla

~~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?

The diagram shows a central cluster of 19 hexagonal cells, each containing a red dot and a number from 0 to 18. The cells are arranged in a hexagonal pattern, with 0 in the center. The numbers 1 through 18 are arranged in a ring around 0. The cells are surrounded by 20 green dots, numbered 19 to 38, which are arranged in a larger hexagonal pattern around the central cluster. The dots are numbered 19 through 38, with 19 at the top and 38 at the bottom.

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 & p_{2,13} = 0 & p_{2,14} = 0 & p_{2,15} = 0 & p_{2,16} = 0 & p_{2,17} = 0 & p_{2,18} = 0 & p_{2,19} = 0 \\ p_{3,0} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{3,1} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{3,2} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{3,3} = 1 & p_{3,4} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{3,5} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{3,6} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{3,7} = 0 & p_{3,8} = 0 & p_{3,9} = 0 & p_{3,10} = 0 & p_{3,11} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{3,12} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{3,13} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{3,14} = 0 & p_{3,15} = 0 & p_{3,16} = 0 & p_{3,17} = 0 & p_{3,18} = 0 & p_{3,19} = 0 \\ p_{4,0} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{4,1} = 0 & p_{4,2} = 0 & p_{4,3} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{4,4} = 1 & p_{4,5} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{4,6} = 0 & p_{4,7} = 0 & p_{4,8} = 0 & p_{4,9} = 0 & p_{4,10} = 0 & p_{4,11} = 0 & p_{4,12} = 0 & p_{4,13} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{4,14} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{4,15} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{4,16} = 0 & p_{4,17} = 0 & p_{4,18} = 0 & p_{4,19} = 0 \\ p_{5,0} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{5,1} = 0 & p_{5,2} = 0 & p_{5,3} = 0 & p_{5,4} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{5,5} = 1 & p_{5,6} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{5,7} = 0 & p_{5,8} = 0 & p_{5,9} = 0 & p_{5,10} = 0 & 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} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{6,1} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{6,2} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{6,3} = 0 & p_{6,4} = 0 & p_{6,5} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{6,6} = 1 & p_{6,7} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{6,8} = \frac{1}{6} & 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} = \frac{1}{6} & 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} = \frac{1}{6} & 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} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{11,11} = 1 & p_{11,12} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{11,13} = 0 & p_{11,14} = 0 & p_{11,15} = 0 & p_{11,16} = 0 & p_{11,17} = 0 & p_{11,18} = 0 & p_{11,19} = 0 \\ p_{12,0} = 0 & p_{12,1} = 0 & p_{12,2} = 0 & p_{12,3} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{12,4} = 0 & p_{12,5} = 0 & p_{12,6} = 0 & p_{12,7} = 0 & p_{12,8} = 0 & p_{12,9} = 0 & p_{12,10} = 0 & p_{12,11} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{12,12} = 1 & p_{12,13} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{12,14} = 0 & p_{12,15} = 0 & p_{12,16} = 0 & p_{12,17} = 0 & p_{12,18} = 0 & p_{12,19} = 0 \\ p_{13,0} = 0 & p_{13,1} = 0 & p_{13,2} = 0 & p_{13,3} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{13,4} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{13,5} = 0 & p_{13,6} = 0 & p_{13,7} = 0 & p_{13,8} = 0 & p_{13,9} = 0 & p_{13,10} = 0 & p_{13,11} = 0 & p_{13,12} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{13,13} = 1 & p_{13,14} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{13,15} = 0 & p_{13,16} = 0 & p_{13,17} = 0 & p_{13,18} = 0 & p_{13,19} = 0 \\ p_{14,0} = 0 & p_{14,1} = 0 & p_{14,2} = 0 & p_{14,3} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{14,4} = \frac{1}{6} & p_{14,5} = 0 & p_{14,6} = 0 & p_{14,7} = 0 & p_{14,8} = 0 & p_{14,9} = 0 & p_{14,10} = 0 & p_{1$$

$P_{0,0} = 45$	$P_{0,1} = 16$	$P_{0,2} = 3456$	$P_{0,3} = 16$	$P_{0,4} = 106714$	$P_{0,5} = 16$	$P_{0,6} = 17222$	$P_{0,7} = 16$	$P_{0,8} = 7$	$P_{0,9} = 5$	$P_{0,10} = 7$	$P_{0,11} = 5$	$P_{0,12} = 7$	$P_{0,13} = 5$	$P_{0,14} = 7$	$P_{0,15} = 5$	$P_{0,16} = 7$	$P_{0,17} = 5$	$P_{0,18} = 7$
$P_{1,0} = 16$	$P_{1,1} = 3456$	$P_{1,2} = 16$	$P_{1,3} = 106714$	$P_{1,4} = 16$	$P_{1,5} = 17222$	$P_{1,6} = 16$	$P_{1,7} = 7$	$P_{1,8} = 5$	$P_{1,9} = 7$	$P_{1,10} = 5$	$P_{1,11} = 7$	$P_{1,12} = 5$	$P_{1,13} = 7$	$P_{1,14} = 5$	$P_{1,15} = 7$	$P_{1,16} = 5$	$P_{1,17} = 7$	$P_{1,18} = 5$
$P_{2,0} = 3456$	$P_{2,1} = 16$	$P_{2,2} = 106714$	$P_{2,3} = 16$	$P_{2,4} = 17222$	$P_{2,5} = 16$	$P_{2,6} = 7$	$P_{2,7} = 5$	$P_{2,8} = 7$	$P_{2,9} = 5$	$P_{2,10} = 7$	$P_{2,11} = 5$	$P_{2,12} = 7$	$P_{2,13} = 5$	$P_{2,14} = 7$	$P_{2,15} = 5$	$P_{2,16} = 7$	$P_{2,17} = 5$	$P_{2,18} = 7$
$P_{3,0} = 16$	$P_{3,1} = 106714$	$P_{3,2} = 16$	$P_{3,3} = 17222$	$P_{3,4} = 16$	$P_{3,5} = 7$	$P_{3,6} = 5$	$P_{3,7} = 7$	$P_{3,8} = 5$	$P_{3,9} = 7$	$P_{3,10} = 5$	$P_{3,11} = 7$	$P_{3,12} = 5$	$P_{3,13} = 7$	$P_{3,14} = 5$	$P_{3,15} = 7$	$P_{3,16} = 5$	$P_{3,17} = 7$	$P_{3,18} = 5$
$P_{4,0} = 16$	$P_{4,1} = 17222$	$P_{4,2} = 7$	$P_{4,3} = 5$	$P_{4,4} = 7$	$P_{4,5} = 5$	$P_{4,6} = 7$	$P_{4,7} = 5$	$P_{4,8} = 7$	$P_{4,9} = 5$	$P_{4,10} = 7$	$P_{4,11} = 5$	$P_{4,12} = 7$	$P_{4,13} = 5$	$P_{4,14} = 7$	$P_{4,15} = 5$	$P_{4,16} = 7$	$P_{4,17} = 5$	$P_{4,18} = 7$
$P_{5,0} = 7$	$P_{5,1} = 5$	$P_{5,2} = 7$	$P_{5,3} = 5$	$P_{5,4} = 7$	$P_{5,5} = 5$	$P_{5,6} = 7$	$P_{5,7} = 5$	$P_{5,8} = 7$	$P_{5,9} = 5$	$P_{5,10} = 7$	$P_{5,11} = 5$	$P_{5,12} = 7$	$P_{5,13} = 5$	$P_{5,14} = 7$	$P_{5,15} = 5$	$P_{5,16} = 7$	$P_{5,17} = 5$	$P_{5,18} = 7$
$P_{6,0} = 5$	$P_{6,1} = 7$	$P_{6,2} = 5$	$P_{6,3} = 7$	$P_{6,4} = 5$	$P_{6,5} = 7$	$P_{6,6} = 5$	$P_{6,7} = 7$	$P_{6,8} = 5$	$P_{6,9} = 7$	$P_{6,10} = 5$	$P_{6,11} = 7$	$P_{6,12} = 5$	$P_{6,13} = 7$	$P_{6,14} = 5$	$P_{6,15} = 7$	$P_{6,16} = 5$	$P_{6,17} = 7$	$P_{6,18} = 5$
$P_{7,0} = 7$	$P_{7,1} = 5$	$P_{7,2} = 7$	$P_{7,3} = 5$	$P_{7,4} = 7$	$P_{7,5} = 5$	$P_{7,6} = 7$	$P_{7,7} = 5$	$P_{7,8} = 7$	$P_{7,9} = 5$	$P_{7,10} = 7$	$P_{7,11} = 5$	$P_{7,12} = 7$	$P_{7,13} = 5$	$P_{7,14} = 7$	$P_{7,15} = 5$	$P_{7,16} = 7$	$P_{7,17} = 5$	$P_{7,18} = 7$
$P_{8,0} = 5$	$P_{8,1} = 7$	$P_{8,2} = 5$	$P_{8,3} = 7$	$P_{8,4} = 5$	$P_{8,5} = 7$	$P_{8,6} = 5$	$P_{8,7} = 7$	$P_{8,8} = 5$	$P_{8,9} = 7$	$P_{8,10} = 5$	$P_{8,11} = 7$	$P_{8,12} = 5$	$P_{8,13} = 7$	$P_{8,14} = 5$	$P_{8,15} = 7$	$P_{8,16} = 5$	$P_{8,17} = 7$	$P_{8,18} = 5$
$P_{9,0} = 7$	$P_{9,1} = 5$	$P_{9,2} = 7$	$P_{9,3} = 5$	$P_{9,4} = 7$	$P_{9,5} = 5$	$P_{9,6} = 7$	$P_{9,7} = 5$	$P_{9,8} = 7$	$P_{9,9} = 5$	$P_{9,10} = 7$	$P_{9,11} = 5$	$P_{9,12} = 7$	$P_{9,13} = 5$	$P_{9,14} = 7$	$P_{9,15} = 5$	$P_{9,16} = 7$	$P_{9,17} = 5$	$P_{9,18} = 7$
$P_{10,0} = 5$	$P_{10,1} = 7$	$P_{10,2} = 5$	$P_{10,3} = 7$	$P_{10,4} = 5$	$P_{10,5} = 7$	$P_{10,6} = 5$	$P_{10,7} = 7$	$P_{10,8} = 5$	$P_{10,9} = 7$	$P_{10,10} = 5$	$P_{10,11} = 7$	$P_{10,12} = 5$	$P_{10,13} = 7$	$P_{10,14} = 5$	$P_{10,15} = 7$	$P_{10,16} = 5$	$P_{10,17} = 7$	$P_{10,18} = 5$
$P_{11,0} = 7$	$P_{11,1} = 5$	$P_{11,2} = 7$	$P_{11,3} = 5$	$P_{11,4} = 7$	$P_{11,5} = 5$	$P_{11,6} = 7$	$P_{11,7} = 5$	$P_{11,8} = 7$	$P_{11,9} = 5$	$P_{11,10} = 7$	$P_{11,11} = 5$	$P_{11,12} = 7$	$P_{11,13} = 5$	$P_{$				

In order to get the expected number of steps, we find t_0 , where

$$t = N\mathbf{1}$$

Here, $\mathbf{1}$ is a vector whose entries are all 1.

[illegible]

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