

MORE INDEPENDENT EVENTS

DISCRETE STRUCTURES II

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BASED ON THE TEXTBOOK:

DISCRETE STRUCTURES FOR COMPUTER SCIENCE: COUNTING,
RECURSION, AND PROBABILITY

BY MICHEL SMID

Events

Often events are described in English, but they are really sets and the English is describing a logical predicate that selects a subset of the sample space. Consider $S =$ all people

English /Logic	Subsets of S
$A \wedge B$	$A \cap B$
$A \vee B$	$A \cup B$
$\neg A$	\overline{A}
$A \rightarrow B$	$A \subseteq B$

$A =$ Everyone with black hair and brown eyes

$B =$ Everyone with black hair or brown eyes

$C =$ Everyone with black hair

$D =$ Everyone with brown eyes

$$A = C \cup D$$

$$A = \{x \mid x \text{ has black hair } \vee x \text{ has brown eyes}\}$$

$$B = C \cap D$$

$$B = \{x \mid x \text{ has black hair } \wedge x \text{ has brown eyes}\}$$

Events

Often events are described in English, but they are really sets and the English is describing a logical predicate that selects a subset of the sample space. Consider $S =$ all people

English /Logic	Subsets of S
$A \wedge B$	$A \cap B$
$A \vee B$	$A \cup B$
$\neg A$	\overline{A}
$A \rightarrow B$	$A \subseteq B$

$A =$ People who does not have black hair

$B =$ People with blond hair

$C =$ People with black hair

$$A = \overline{C} \quad (\text{set operation})$$
$$A(x) = \neg C(x) \quad (\text{logically equivalent})$$

$$B(x) \rightarrow A(x)$$
$$B \subseteq A$$

Circuit C : There are n components

$$C_1, C_2, \dots, C_n$$

$$\forall i, 1 \leq i \leq n: A_i = C_i \text{ fails}$$

$$\Pr(A_i) = p, \quad 0 < p < 1$$

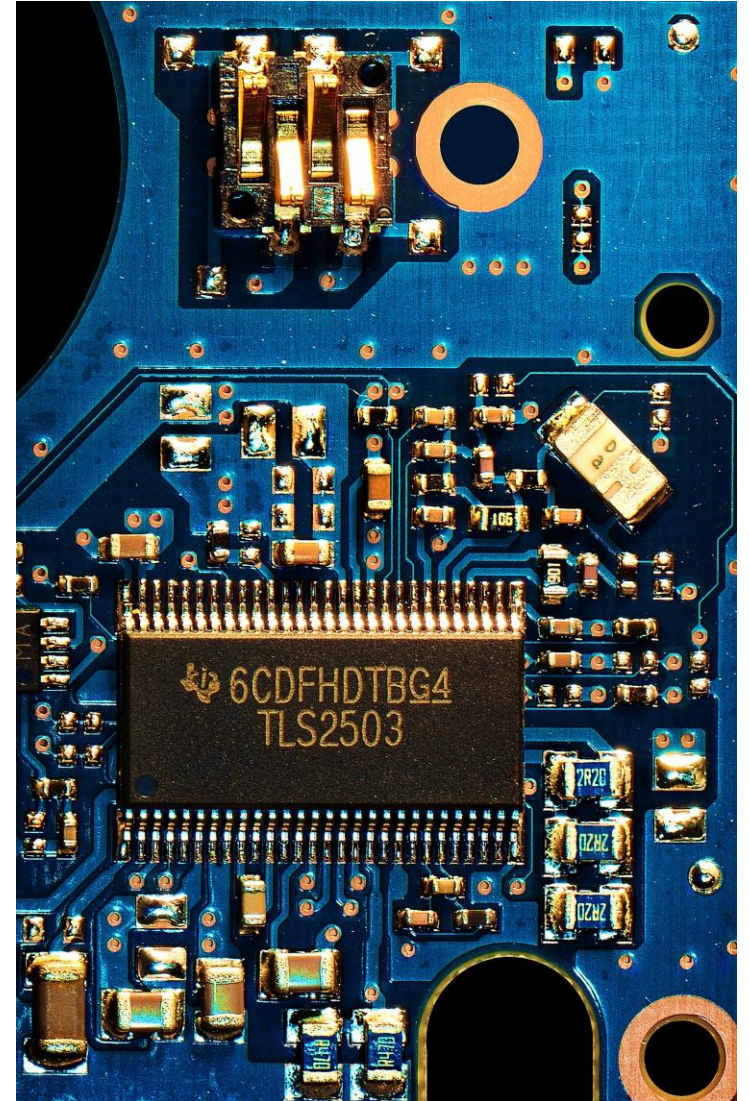
A_1, \dots, A_n are mutually independent

1. C fails if ≥ 1 component fails.

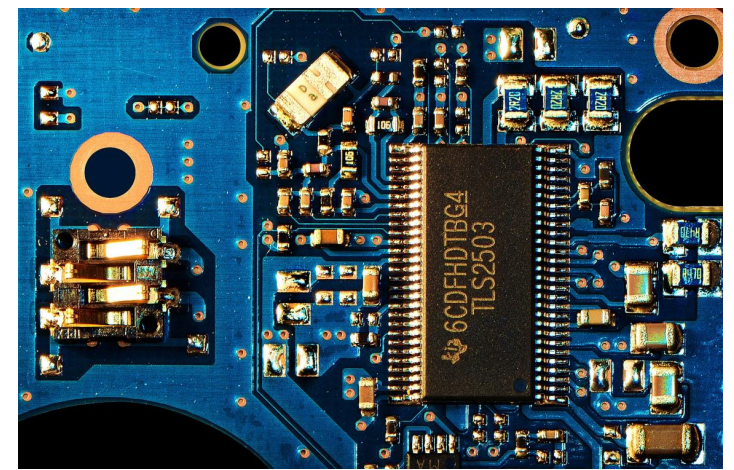
$A = C$ fails.

What is $\Pr(A)$?

We can write the event A in terms of A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n



Circuit C : There are n components C_1, C_2, \dots, C_n
 $\forall i, 1 \leq i \leq n: A_i = C_i \text{ fails}$
 $\Pr(A_i) = p, 0 < p < 1$
 A_1, \dots, A_n are mutually independent
1. C fails if ≥ 1 component fails.
Event $A = C$ fails.



We can write the event A in terms of A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n :

$$A \leftrightarrow A_1 \vee A_2 \vee A_3 \vee \dots \vee A_n$$

Since “logical or” corresponds to union, you may think to apply the sum rule. The problem is that these events are not disjoint. That is, if A_1 happens, it may still be that A_2 also happens.

The actual sample space is all possible combinations of circuits failing. The event A_i consists of all outcomes in which circuit C_i fails.

The sample space is all subsets of circuits that fail.

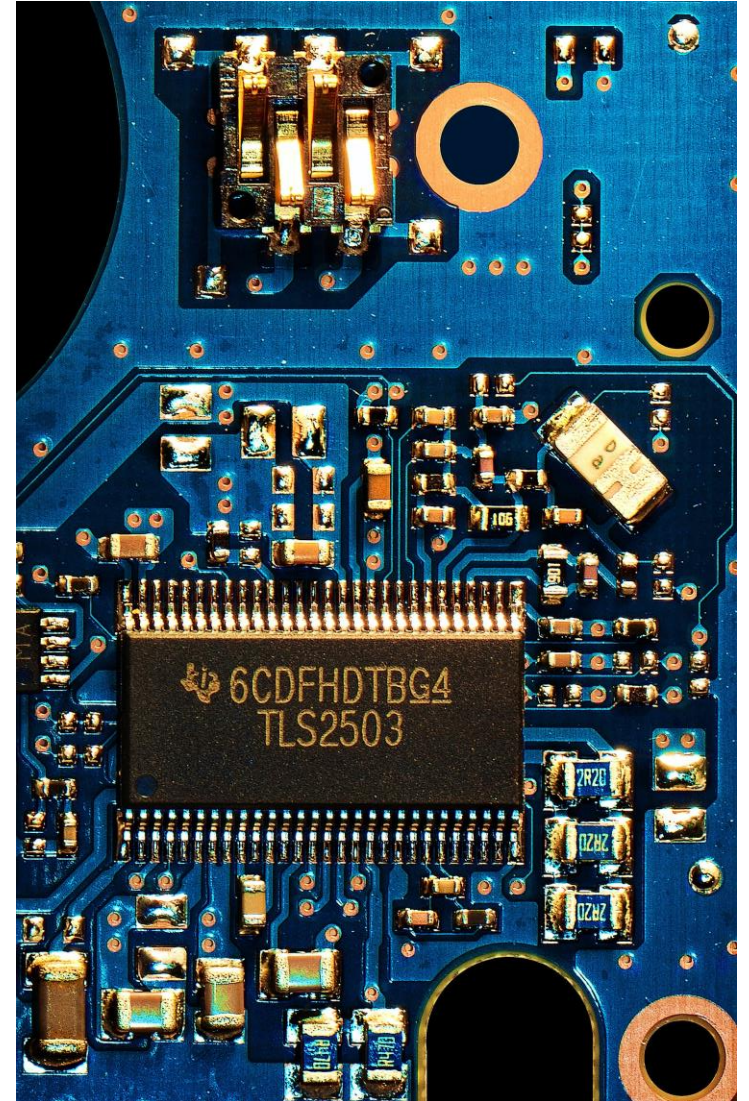
The probability that C_i fails is p .

The probability that C_i does not fail is $(1 - p)$.

If there are i circuits that fail, then there are $n - i$ circuits that don't fail.

Then the probability of an outcome in which i circuits fail is:

$$p^i(1 - p)^{n-i}$$

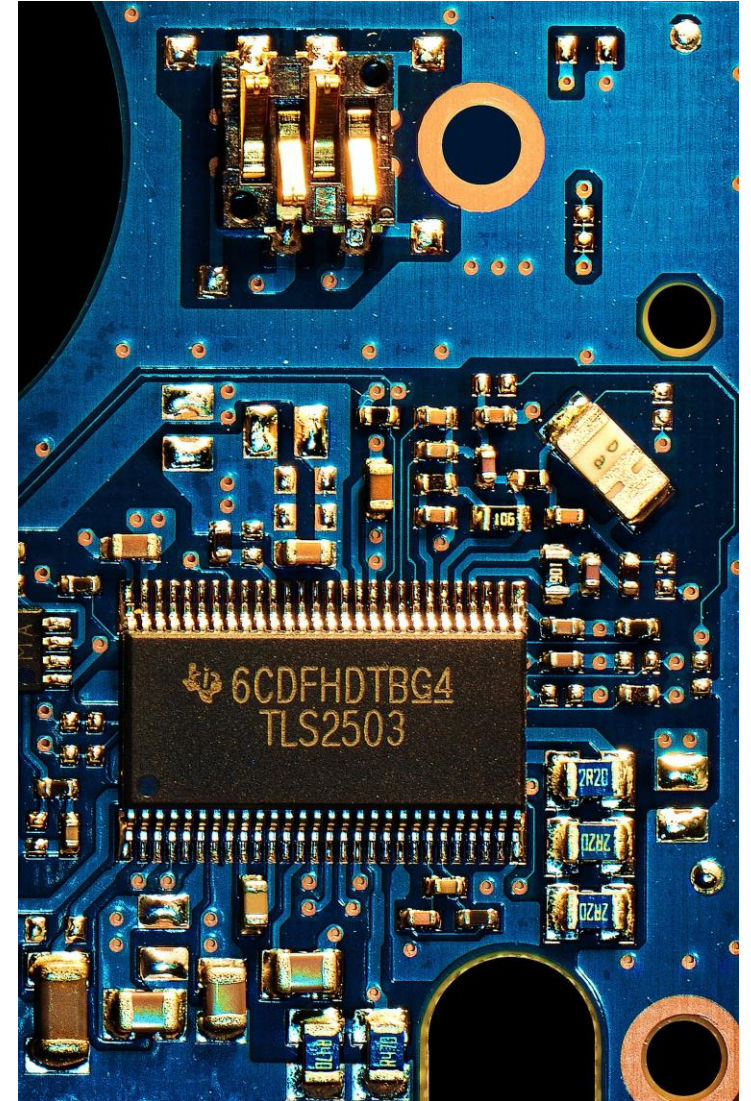


Using Newton, we can verify that all outcomes sum to 1:

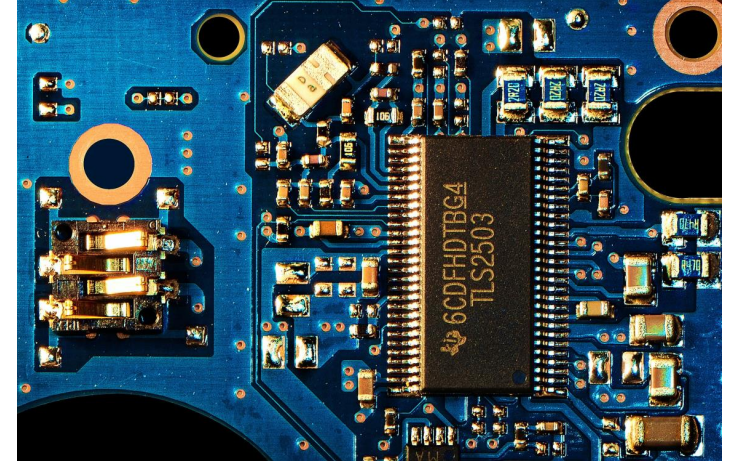
$$\begin{aligned}(p + (1 - p))^n &= \sum_{i=0}^n \binom{n}{i} \cdot p^i \cdot (1 - p)^{n-i} \\ &= 1\end{aligned}$$

An event A_i is the sum of the probabilities of all outcomes in which C_i fails. There are $n - 1$ circuits that are not C_i , so to calculate the probability of all outcomes in which C_i fails:

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \binom{n-1}{i} \cdot p \cdot p^i \cdot (1 - p)^{n-1-i} \\ &= p \cdot (p + (1 - p))^{n-1} \\ &= p \cdot 1^{n-1} \\ &= p\end{aligned}$$



Circuit C : There are n components C_1, C_2, \dots, C_n
 $\forall i, 1 \leq i \leq n: A_i = C_i$ fails
 $\Pr(A_i) = p, 0 < p < 1$
 A_1, \dots, A_n are mutually independent
1. C fails if ≥ 1 component fails.
 $A = C$ fails.



We can write the event A in terms of A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n :

$$A \leftrightarrow A_1 \vee A_2 \vee A_3 \vee \dots \vee A_n$$

If we were using “logical and” we could use the fact that these are mutually independent to compute the probability. That is:

$$\Pr(A_1 \wedge A_1 \wedge \dots \wedge A_n) = \Pr(A_1) \cdot \Pr(A_2) \cdot \dots \cdot \Pr(A_n).$$

So we want to turn “logical or” into “logical and”. We can use DeMorgan’s law.

Circuit C : There are n components C_1, C_2, \dots, C_n

$\forall i, 1 \leq i \leq n$: $A_i = C_i$ fails

$\Pr(A_i) = p, 0 < p < 1$

A_1, \dots, A_n are mutually independent

1. C fails if ≥ 1 component fails.

$A = C$ fails.

$$A \leftrightarrow A_1 \vee A_2 \vee A_3 \vee \dots \vee A_n$$

By DeMorgan's:

$$\bar{A} \leftrightarrow \bar{A}_1 \wedge \bar{A}_2 \wedge \bar{A}_3 \wedge \dots \wedge \bar{A}_n$$

And

$$\begin{aligned}\Pr(\bar{A}) &= \Pr(\bar{A}_1 \wedge \bar{A}_2 \wedge \bar{A}_3 \wedge \dots \wedge \bar{A}_n) \\ &= \Pr(\bar{A}_1) \cdot \Pr(\bar{A}_2) \cdot \dots \cdot \Pr(\bar{A}_n)\end{aligned}$$

We know these terms.

$$\begin{aligned}\Pr(\bar{A}_i) &= 1 - \Pr(A_i) \\ &= (1 - p)\end{aligned}$$

Thus:

$$\begin{aligned}\Pr(\bar{A}) &= \Pr(\bar{A}_1) \cdot \Pr(\bar{A}_2) \cdot \dots \cdot \Pr(\bar{A}_n) \\ &= (1 - p) \cdot (1 - p) \cdot \dots \cdot (1 - p) \\ &= (1 - p)^n\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Pr(A) &= 1 - \Pr(\bar{A}) \\ &= 1 - (1 - p)^n\end{aligned}$$

When $n \rightarrow \infty$:

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} [1 - (1 - p)^n] \\ &= 1 - 0 \\ &= 1\end{aligned}$$

Circuit C : There are n components C_1, C_2, \dots, C_n

$\forall i, 1 \leq i \leq n$: $A_i = C_i$ fails

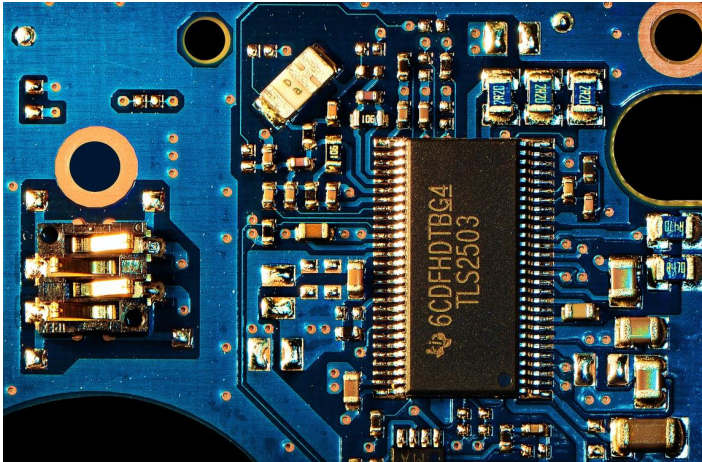
$\Pr(A_i) = p, 0 < p < 1$

A_1, \dots, A_n are mutually independent

1. C fails if ≥ 1 component fails.

$A = C$ fails.

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \Pr(A) = 1$$



2. C fails when all components fail

$A = C$ fails.

$$A \leftrightarrow A_1 \wedge A_2 \wedge \dots \wedge A_n$$

$$\Pr(A) = \Pr(A_1 \wedge A_2 \wedge \dots \wedge A_n)$$

$$= \Pr(A_1) \cdot \Pr(A_2) \cdot \dots \cdot \Pr(A_n)$$

(because mutually independent)

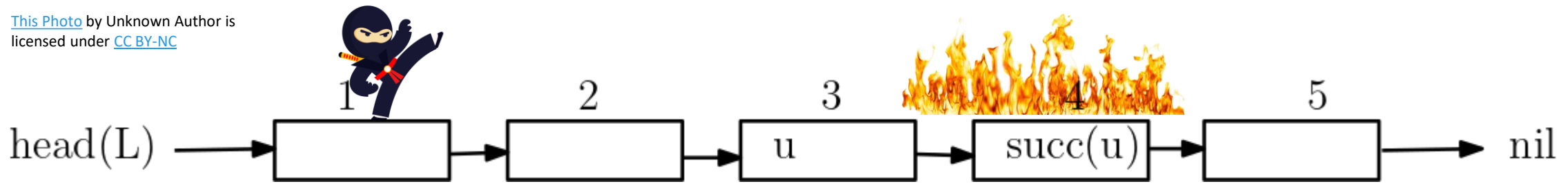
n times

$$= p \cdot p \cdot \dots \cdot p$$
$$= p^n$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \Pr(A)$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p^n$$

$$= 0$$



Linked List with n nodes

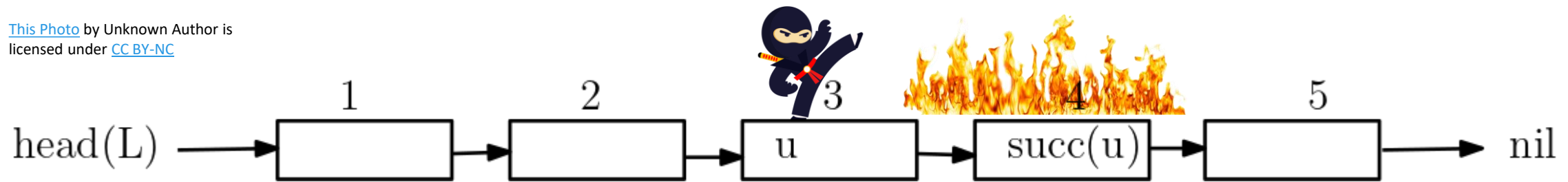
In a linked list we start at head. If we want to see element 3, then we must walk through the linked list from head to 1 to 2 to 3.

Task: Choose a uniformly random node in L .

That means we choose any node $\in \{1..5\}$ with equal probability, i.e., $\frac{1}{5}$, or in general for a list of n elements, $\frac{1}{n}$.

As a tool we have a function $\text{Random}(i)$ which returns an integer from the range $\{1..i\}$ uniformly at random.

The value given by $\text{Random}(i)$ does not depend on previous or future calls to $\text{Random}(i)$ – i.e., they are mutually independent.



Linked List with n nodes

Task: Choose a uniformly random node in L .

Random(i) returns a uniformly random element in the range $\{1, 2, 3, \dots, i\}$, independent of previous calls to Random().

Scenario 1. We know n .

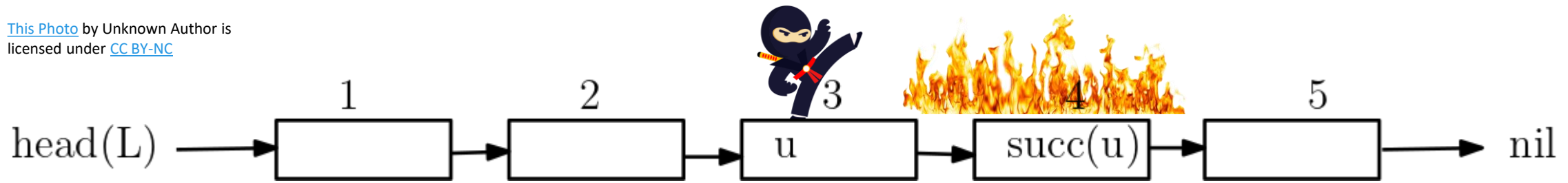
If we know n then there is a simple solution.

Algorithm n is known:

Let $i = \text{Random}(n)$.

Walk through the linked list until we are at location i .

Return the element at location i .



Linked List with n nodes

Task: Choose a uniformly random node in L .

$\text{Random}(i)$ returns a uniformly random element in the range $\{1, 2, 3, \dots, i\}$, independent of previous calls to $\text{Random}()$.

1. We know n .
2. We don't know n .

We can find n by traversing the list once and counting all elements.

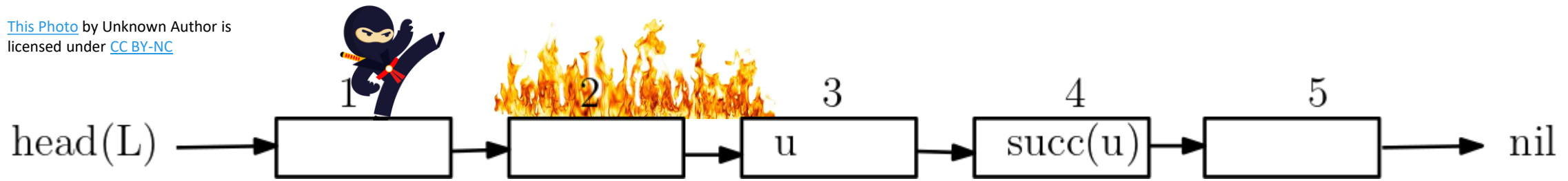
Algorithm n is not known:

Let $i = \text{Random}(n)$.

Walk through the linked list until we are at location i .

Return the element at location i .

Requires 2 traversals.



Linked List with n nodes

Task: Choose a uniformly random node in L .

$\text{Random}(i)$ returns a uniformly random element in the range $\{1, 2, 3, \dots, i\}$, independent of previous calls to $\text{Random}()$.

1. We know n .
2. We don't know n .
3. We don't know n , we can traverse only once (it's a bit stream).

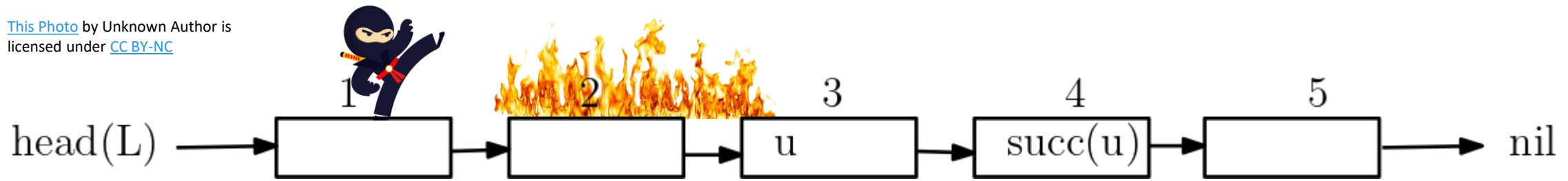
We can do one traversal, front to back –

(the list is on fire and you are being pursued by ninjas)

and we must return a node (say the head) with probability $\frac{1}{5}$.

But we do not know there are 5 nodes.

Here is the algorithm:



ReturnRandomNode(L):

```
u = head(L)
i = 1      // nodes seen so far
while u ≠ nil:
    r = Random(i)
    if r = 1, x = u
    u = succ(u)
    i = i + 1
return x
```

Say we are at element i .

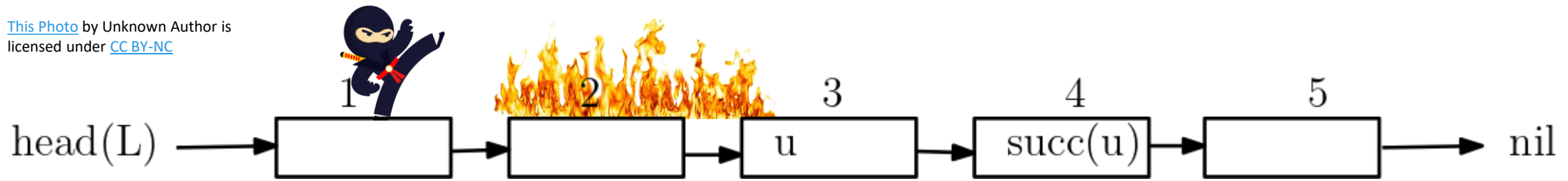
$r = \text{Random}(i)$

Thus $r \in \{1..i\}$, and

$$\Pr(r = 1) = \frac{1}{i}$$

If $r = 1$ then we select element u .

So element u is selected (at this time) with probability $\frac{1}{i}$.



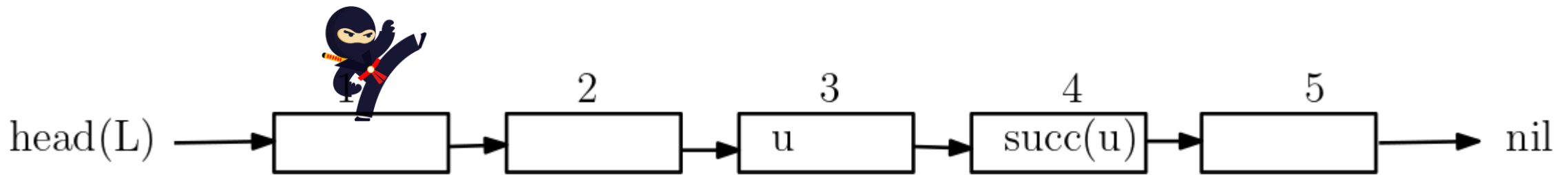
`ReturnRandomNode(L):`

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u = head(L)
i = 1          // nodes seen so far
while u ≠ nil:
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    u = succ(u)
    i = i + 1
return x
```

Starting at location 1, we select the head with probability $\frac{1}{1} = 1$.

Location 2: $r = \text{Random}(i)$, thus $r \in \{1, 2\}$.

$$\Pr(r = 1) = \frac{1}{2}.$$



`ReturnRandomNode(L):`

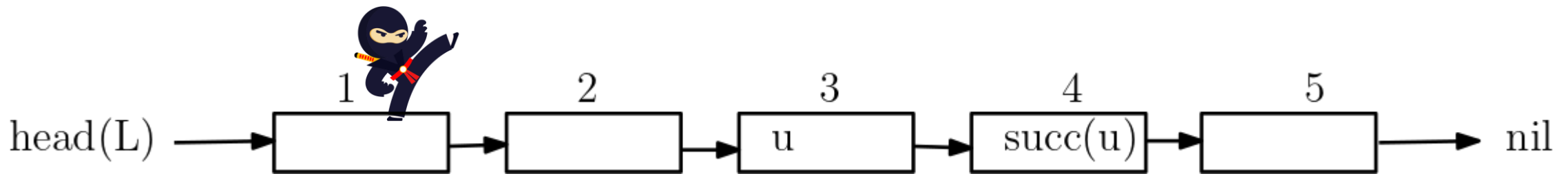
```
u = head(L)
i = 1      // nodes seen so far
while u ≠ nil:
    r = Random(i)
    if r = 1, x = u
    u = succ(u)
    i = i + 1
return x
```

First time through we choose `head(L)` with probability 1.

Next Loop: $i = 2$. if $r = 1$, $x = u$
if $r = 2$, $x = \text{head}(L)$

Next Loop: $i = 3$. if $r = 1$, $x = u$
if $r = \{2, 3\}$, x doesn't change

Next Loop: $i = 4$. if $r = 1$, $x = u$
if $r = \{2, 3, 4\}$, x doesn't change
etc.



`ReturnRandomNode(L):`

```
u = head(L)
i = 1      // nodes seen so far
while u ≠ nil:
    r = Random(i)
    if r = 1, x = u
    u = succ(u)
    i = i + 1
return x
```

First time through we choose `head(L)` with probability 1.

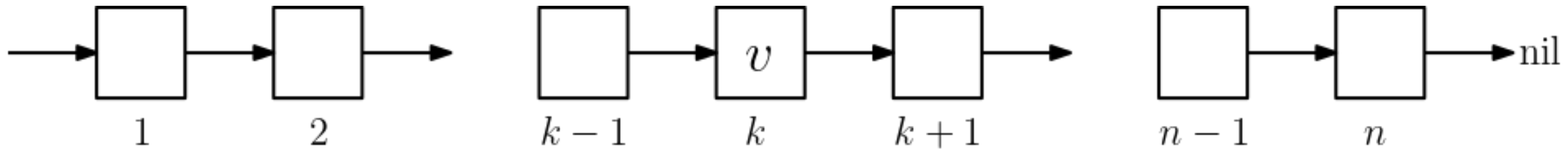
$$\Pr(x = u) = 1$$

Next Loop: `i = 2`. if `r = 1`, `x = u` $\Pr(x = u) = \frac{1}{2}$
if `r = 2`, `x = head(L)`

Next Loop: `i = 3`. if `r = 1`, `x = u` $\Pr(x = u) = \frac{1}{3}$
if `r = {2,3}`, `x` doesn't change

Next Loop: `i = 4`. if `r = 1`, `x = u` $\Pr(x = u) = \frac{1}{4}$
if `r = {2,3,4}`, `x` doesn't change

etc.



`ReturnRandomNode(L):`

```

u = head(L)
i = 1      // nodes seen so far
while u ≠ nil:
    r = Random(i)
    if r = 1, x = u
    u = succ(u)
    i = i + 1
return x

```

At the end of the algorithm, we know n .

We will select an arbitrary node v at location k .

To show: $\Pr(x = v) = \frac{1}{n}$.

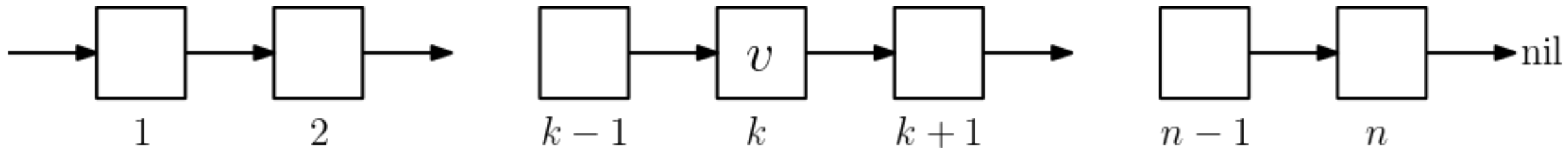
Events:

A = Algorithm returns v

For $1 \leq i \leq n$:

$A_i = x$ changes during iteration i

We know $\Pr(A_i) = 1/i$.



ReturnRandomNode(L):

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u = head(L)
i = 1      // nodes seen so far
while u ≠ nil:
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    if r = 1, x = u
    u = succ(u)
    i = i + 1
return x
```

Events:

A = Algorithm returns v

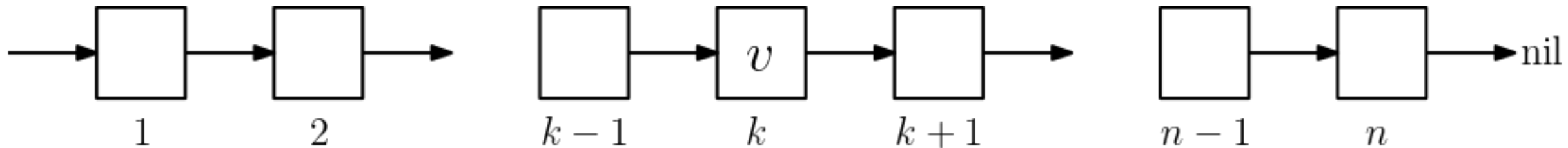
For $1 \leq i \leq n$:

$A_i = x$ changes during iteration i

We know $\Pr(A_i) = 1/i$. Express A in terms of A_i .

If we returned v , then in that step we had $r = 1$ with probability $1/k$.

Does it matter what happened in the previous $k - 1$ steps?



ReturnRandomNode(L):

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u = head(L)
i = 1      // nodes seen so far
while u ≠ nil:
    r = Random(i)
    if r = 1, x = u
    u = succ(u)
    i = i + 1
return x

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Events:

A = Algorithm returns v

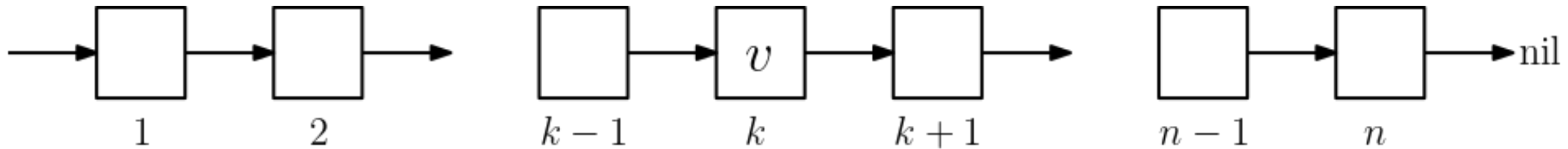
For $1 \leq i \leq n$:

$A_i = x$ changes during iteration i

If we returned v , then in that step we had $r = 1$ with probability $1/k$.

What has to happen now?

In step $k + 1$ it must be that x does not change.
 In step $k + 2$ it must be that x does not change.
 In step $k + 3$ it must be that x does not change.



ReturnRandomNode(L):

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i = 1      // nodes seen so far
while u ≠ nil:
    r = Random(i)
    if r = 1, x = u
    u = succ(u)
    i = i + 1
return x

```

Events:

A = Algorithm returns v

For $1 \leq i \leq n$:

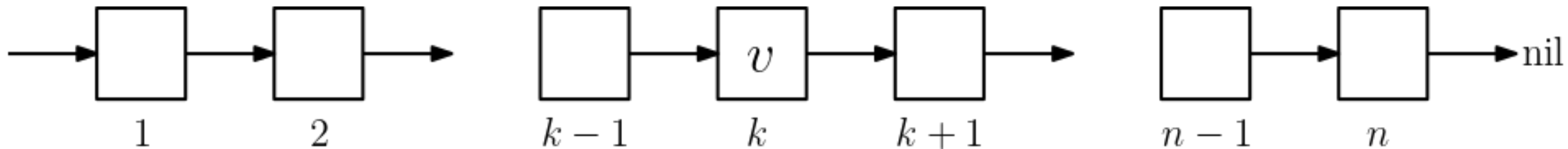
$A_i = x$ changes during iteration i

$$A = A_k \wedge \bar{A}_{k+1} \wedge \bar{A}_{k+2} \wedge \cdots \wedge \bar{A}_n$$

Since the calls to Random(i) are mutually independent, and each event A_i is determined by a call to Random(i), all events A_i are mutually independent. Thus:

$$\Pr(A) = \Pr(A_k \wedge \bar{A}_{k+1} \wedge \bar{A}_{k+2} \wedge \cdots \wedge \bar{A}_n)$$

$$\Pr(A) = \Pr(A_k) \cdot \Pr(\bar{A}_{k+1}) \cdot \Pr(\bar{A}_{k+2}) \cdot \cdots \cdot \Pr(\bar{A}_n)$$



ReturnRandomNode(L):

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    i = i + 1
return x

```

Events:

A = Algorithm returns v

For $1 \leq i \leq n$:

$A_i = x$ changes during iteration i

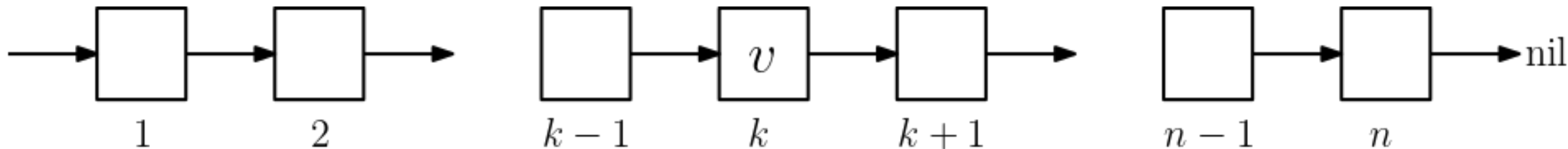
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$$\Pr(A) = \Pr(A_k) \cdot \Pr(\bar{A}_{k+1}) \cdot \Pr(\bar{A}_{k+2}) \cdot \cdots \cdot \Pr(\bar{A}_n)$$

$$\Pr(A_k) = \frac{1}{k}$$

$$\Pr(\bar{A}_{k+1}) = 1 - \Pr(A_{k+1}) = 1 - \frac{1}{k+1}$$

$$1 - \frac{1}{k+1} = \frac{k+1}{k+1} - \frac{1}{k+1} = \frac{k}{k+1}$$



ReturnRandomNode(L):

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u = head(L)
i = 1      // nodes seen so far
while u ≠ nil:
    r = Random(i)
    if r = 1, x = u
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    i = i + 1
return x

```

Events:

A = Algorithm returns v

For $1 \leq i \leq n$:

$A_i = x$ changes during iteration i

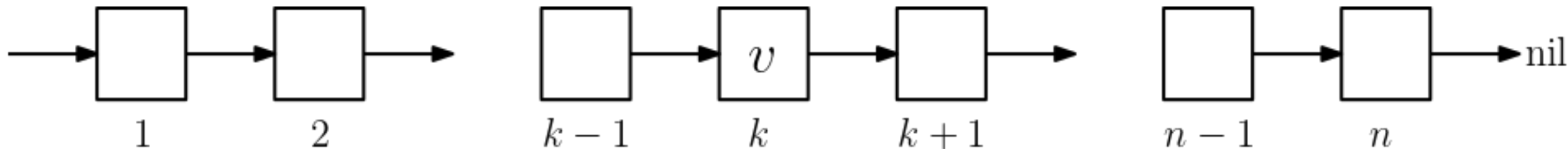
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$$\Pr(A) = \Pr(A_k) \cdot \Pr(\bar{A}_{k+1}) \cdot \Pr(\bar{A}_{k+2}) \cdot \cdots \cdot \Pr(\bar{A}_n)$$

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$$\Pr(\bar{A}_{k+2}) = 1 - \Pr(A_{k+2}) = 1 - \frac{1}{k+2}$$

$$1 - \frac{1}{k+2} = \frac{k+2}{k+2} - \frac{1}{k+2} = \frac{k+1}{k+2}$$



ReturnRandomNode(L):

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i = 1      // nodes seen so far
while u ≠ nil:
    r = Random(i)
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```

Events:

A = Algorithm returns v

For $1 \leq i \leq n$:

$A_i = x$ changes during iteration i

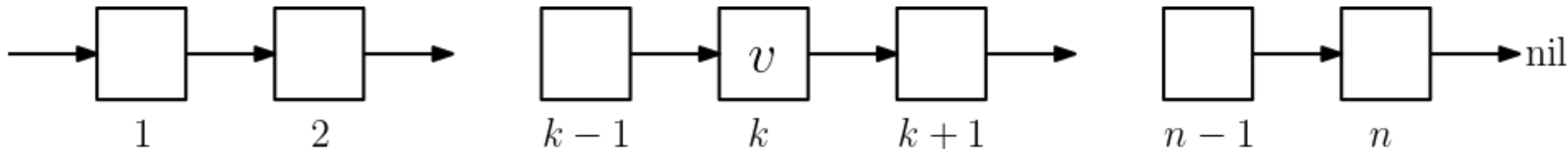
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$$\Pr(A) = \Pr(A_k) \cdot \Pr(\bar{A}_{k+1}) \cdot \Pr(\bar{A}_{k+2}) \cdot \cdots \cdot \Pr(\bar{A}_n)$$

$$\Pr(A_k) = \frac{1}{k}$$

$$\Pr(\bar{A}_{k+3}) = 1 - \Pr(A_{k+3}) = 1 - \frac{1}{k+3}$$

$$1 - \frac{1}{k+3} = \frac{k+3}{k+3} - \frac{1}{k+3} = \frac{k+2}{k+3}$$



ReturnRandomNode(L):

```

u = head(L)
i = 1      // nodes seen so far
while u ≠ nil:
    r = Random(i)
    if r = 1, x = u
    u = succ(u)
    i = i + 1
return x

```

Events:

A = Algorithm returns v

For $1 \leq i \leq n$:

$A_i = x$ changes during iteration i

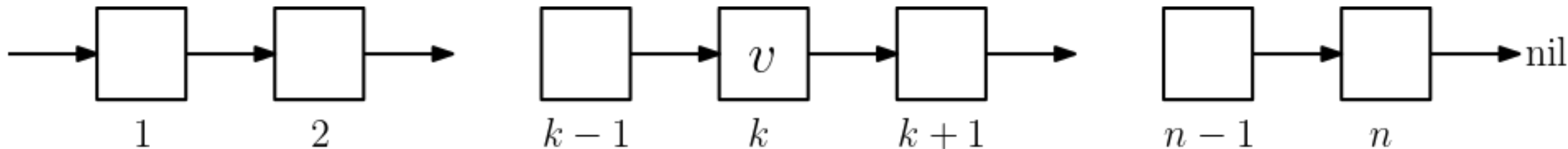
$$\Pr(A) = \Pr(A_k \wedge \bar{A}_{k+1} \wedge \bar{A}_{k+2} \wedge \cdots \wedge \bar{A}_n)$$

$$\Pr(A) = \Pr(A_k) \cdot \Pr(\bar{A}_{k+1}) \cdot \Pr(\bar{A}_{k+2}) \cdot \cdots \cdot \Pr(\bar{A}_n)$$

$$\Pr(A_k) = \frac{1}{k}$$

$$\Pr(\bar{A}_n) = 1 - \Pr(A_n) = 1 - \frac{1}{n}$$

$$1 - \frac{1}{n} = \frac{n}{n} - \frac{1}{n} = \frac{n-1}{n}$$



ReturnRandomNode(L):

```

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Events:

A = Algorithm returns v

For $1 \leq i \leq n$:

$A_i = x$ changes during iteration i

$$\Pr(A) = \Pr(A_k \wedge \bar{A}_{k+1} \wedge \bar{A}_{k+2} \wedge \cdots \wedge \bar{A}_n)$$

$$\Pr(A) = \Pr(A_k) \cdot \Pr(\bar{A}_{k+1}) \cdot \Pr(\bar{A}_{k+2}) \cdot \cdots \cdot \Pr(\bar{A}_n)$$

$$= \frac{1}{k} \cdot \frac{k}{k+1} \cdot \frac{k+1}{k+2} \cdot \cdots \cdot \frac{n-2}{n-1} \cdot \frac{n-1}{n}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\cancel{k}} \cdot \frac{\cancel{k}}{\cancel{k+1}} \cdot \frac{\cancel{k+1}}{\cancel{k+2}} \cdot \cdots \cdot \frac{\cancel{n-2}}{\cancel{n-1}} \cdot \frac{\cancel{n-1}}{n}$$

$$= \frac{1}{n}$$

Long Runs in Random Bitstrings

Want to write a *random bitstring* of length n .

Flip a fair coin n times, where all flips are mutually independent.

If H write 0

If T write 1

A *run* is a sequence of bits that have the same value.

10**1111**101001010
 5 1's
 6 0's
100101**000000**1

Should we expect to find long runs in random bitstrings?

If we define *long* as $\log n$ bits then yes.

$$\Pr(\text{run of } \log n \text{ bits}) \approx 1 - \frac{1}{n^2}$$

As $n \rightarrow \infty$, $\Pr(\text{run of } \log n \text{ bits}) \rightarrow 1$.

We should be surprised if there is *not* a run of $\log n$ bits in a long bitstring.

Long Runs in Random Bitstrings

Let R be a random bitstring of length n .

Let $k \leq n$ be an integer.

Event: $A = R$ contains a run of length k

For each $i, 1 \leq i \leq n - k + 1$:

A_i = there is a run of length k starting at i

Example: If $k = 5$, then A_3 occurs in the bitstring below.

We will find a lower bound on $\Pr(A)$.

Show if k is slightly less than $\log n$, then
 $\Pr(A) \geq 1 - \frac{1}{n^2}$.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0

If $k = 4$, then A_3 and A_4 both occur.

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For each $i, 1 \leq i \leq n - k + 1$:

A_i = there is a run of length k starting at i

$$A = A_1 \vee A_2 \vee \cdots \vee A_{n-k+1}$$

Thus

$$\Pr(A) = \Pr(A_1 \vee A_2 \vee \cdots \vee A_{n-k+1})$$

These events are not pairwise disjoint. If A_3 happens, then $\Pr(A_4) = \frac{1}{2}$. Thus we would need *inclusion/exclusion*.

We can try the complement rule:

$$\bar{A} = \bar{A}_1 \wedge \bar{A}_2 \wedge \cdots \wedge \bar{A}_{n-k+1}$$

And

$$\Pr(\bar{A}) = \Pr(\bar{A}_1 \wedge \bar{A}_2 \wedge \cdots \wedge \bar{A}_{n-k+1}).$$

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Event: $A = R$ contains a run of length k

For each $i, 1 \leq i \leq n - k + 1$:

$A_i =$ there is a run of length k starting at i

We know $\Pr(\bar{A}_i) = 1 - \Pr(A_i)$.

Let r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n be the bits in R .

$$\Pr(r_i = 0) = \frac{1}{2} \text{ and } \Pr(r_i = 1) = \frac{1}{2}.$$

$$A_i = (r_i = r_{i+1} = \dots = r_{i+k-1} = 1) \text{ or } (r_i = r_{i+1} = \dots = r_{i+k-1} = 0)$$

$$A = A_1 \vee A_2 \vee \dots \vee A_{n-k+1}$$

Thus

$$\Pr(A) = 1 - \Pr(\bar{A})$$

$$\Pr(\bar{A}) = \Pr(\bar{A}_1 \wedge \bar{A}_2 \wedge \dots \wedge \bar{A}_{n-k+1}).$$

These are disjoint events, thus

$$\Pr(A_i) = \Pr(r_i = r_{i+1} = \dots = r_{i+k-1} = 1) + \Pr(r_i = r_{i+1} = \dots = r_{i+k-1} = 0)$$

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Event: $A = R$ contains a run of length k

For each $i, 1 \leq i \leq n - k + 1$:

A_i = there is a run of length k starting at i

$$A = A_1 \vee A_2 \vee \cdots \vee A_{n-k+1}$$

Thus

$$\Pr(A) = 1 - \Pr(\bar{A})$$

$$\Pr(\bar{A}) = \Pr(\bar{A}_1 \wedge \bar{A}_2 \wedge \cdots \wedge \bar{A}_{n-k+1}).$$

$$\Pr(A_i) = \Pr(r_i = r_{i+1} = \cdots = r_{i+k-1} = 1) + \Pr(r_i = r_{i+1} = \cdots = r_{i+k-1} = 0)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2^k} + \frac{1}{2^k} = 2 \cdot \frac{1}{2^k} = \frac{1}{2^{k-1}}.$$

$$\Pr(\bar{A}_i) = 1 - \Pr(A_i)$$

$$= 1 - \frac{1}{2^{k-1}}.$$

However, $\bar{A}_1, \bar{A}_2, \dots, \bar{A}_{n-k+1}$ are not mutually independent.

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Event: $A = R$ contains a run of length k

For each $i, 1 \leq i \leq n - k + 1$:

$A_i =$ there is a run of length k starting at i

$$A = A_1 \vee A_2 \vee \cdots \vee A_{n-k+1}$$

Thus

$$\Pr(A) = 1 - \Pr(\bar{A})$$

$$\Pr(\bar{A}) = \Pr(\bar{A}_1 \wedge \bar{A}_2 \wedge \cdots \wedge \bar{A}_{n-k+1}).$$

Divide R into blocks of length k .

Block1	Block2	Block3	Block4	Block5	Block6	Block7
10110	11001	10000	11111	10100	00000	10101

Let $B_i =$ Block i contains a run of length k .

In the above string with $k = 5$, B_4 and B_6 both occur.

Events $\bar{B}_1, \bar{B}_2, \dots, \bar{B}_{n/k}$ are mutually independent, since the blocks do not overlap.

If \bar{A} occurs then $\bar{B}_1 \wedge \bar{B}_2 \wedge \cdots \wedge \bar{B}_{n/k}$ occurs (but not necessarily the converse).

Long Runs in Random Bitstrings

Let R be a random bitstring of length n .

Let $k \leq n$ be an integer.

Event: $A = R$ contains a run of length k

For each $i, 1 \leq i \leq n - k + 1$:

A_i = there is a run of length k starting at i

$$A = A_1 \vee A_2 \vee \cdots \vee A_{n-k+1}$$

Thus

$$\Pr(A) = 1 - \Pr(\bar{A})$$

$$\Pr(\bar{A}) = \Pr(\bar{A}_1 \wedge \bar{A}_2 \wedge \cdots \wedge \bar{A}_{n-k+1}).$$

Thus $\Pr(\bar{A}) \leq \Pr(\bar{B}_1 \wedge \bar{B}_2 \wedge \cdots \wedge \bar{B}_{n/k})$, and

$$\Pr(A) \geq 1 - \Pr(\bar{B}_1 \wedge \bar{B}_2 \wedge \cdots \wedge \bar{B}_{n/k})$$

Since $\bar{B}_1, \bar{B}_2, \dots, \bar{B}_{n/k}$ are mutually independent:

$$\Pr(\bar{B}_1 \wedge \bar{B}_2 \wedge \cdots \wedge \bar{B}_{n/k}) = \Pr(\bar{B}_1) \cdot \Pr(\bar{B}_2) \cdot \cdots \cdot \Pr(\bar{B}_{n/k}).$$

$$\Pr(\bar{B}_i) = \Pr(\bar{A}_i) = 1 - \frac{1}{2^{k-1}}$$

Long Runs in Random Bitstrings

Let R be a random bitstring of length n .

Let $k \leq n$ be an integer.

Event: $A = R$ contains a run of length k

For each $i, 1 \leq i \leq n - k + 1$:

$A_i =$ there is a run of length k starting at i

$$A = A_1 \vee A_2 \vee \cdots \vee A_{n-k+1}$$

$$\Pr(A) = 1 - \Pr(\bar{A})$$

$$\Pr(\bar{B}_1 \wedge \bar{B}_2 \wedge \cdots \wedge \bar{B}_{n/k})$$

$$= \Pr(\bar{B}_1) \cdot \Pr(\bar{B}_2) \cdot \dots \cdot \Pr(\bar{B}_{n/k}).$$

$$\Pr(\bar{B}_i) = \Pr(\bar{A}_i) = 1 - \frac{1}{2^{k-1}}$$

$$\Pr(\bar{A}) \leq \left(1 - \frac{1}{2^{k-1}}\right)^{n/k}$$

$1 - x \leq e^{-x}$, thus

$$1 - \frac{1}{2^{k-1}} \leq e^{-\frac{1}{2^{k-1}}} = e^{-2/2^k}$$

$$\Pr(\bar{A}) \leq \left(e^{-\frac{2}{2^k}}\right)^{\frac{n}{k}} \leq e^{-2n/k2^k}$$

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For each $i, 1 \leq i \leq n - k + 1$:

A_i = there is a run of length k starting at i

$$A = A_1 \vee A_2 \vee \cdots \vee A_{n-k+1}$$

$$\Pr(A) = 1 - \Pr(\bar{A})$$

$$\Pr(\bar{A}) \leq \left(e^{-\frac{2}{2^k}}\right)^{\frac{n}{k}}$$

$$\leq e^{-2n/k2^k}$$

If we choose $k = \log n - 2 \log \log n$:

$$2^k = 2^{\log n - 2 \log \log n}$$

$$2^k = \frac{2^{\log n}}{2^{2 \log \log n}} = \frac{n}{\log^2 n}$$

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Let $k \leq n$ be an integer.

Event: $A = R$ contains a run of length k

For each $i, 1 \leq i \leq n - k + 1$:

A_i = there is a run of length k starting at i

$$A = A_1 \vee A_2 \vee \cdots \vee A_{n-k+1}$$

$$\Pr(A) = 1 - \Pr(\bar{A})$$

$$\frac{2n}{k2^k} = \frac{2 \log^2 n}{k}$$

$$= \frac{2 \log^2 n}{\log n - 2 \log \log n}$$

$$\geq \frac{2 \log^2 n}{\log n} = 2 \log n$$

$$= \frac{2 \ln n}{\ln 2} \geq 2 \ln n$$

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Event: $A = R$ contains a run of length k

For each $i, 1 \leq i \leq n - k + 1$:

A_i = there is a run of length k starting at i

$$A = A_1 \vee A_2 \vee \cdots \vee A_{n-k+1}$$

$$\Pr(A) = 1 - \Pr(\bar{A})$$

$$\Pr(\bar{A}) \leq e^{-\frac{2n}{k2^k}}$$

$$\leq e^{-2 \ln n}$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{n^2}.$$

Thus

$$\Pr(A) \geq 1 - \frac{1}{n^2}.$$