

# Math381 Assignment 5

Yuchen AN

June 28, 2023

For assignment5, we want do an analysis of a dice game with Markov chains.  
Consider with following game:

You start with a score of zero and set the goal score of M. On each turn, you will roll a six-sided, fair dice and the outcome of that roll will be your new score. You add the new score to your total score. You continue rolling and changing the score until you reach a score of M or more.

Now, you first roll a dice and get a number. That number is your current score.

Then, starting with the second roll, the sum of score is determined by the following situations:

1. If the sum is M or greater, the game ends.
2. If not, and the sum of score is a prime number or twice a prime number, you divide your sum by 2 to get your new score.
3. Otherwise, your new score is the sum.

We investigate this game using Markov chains. Suppose our target score is 11. We can model this with a Markov chain with twelve states:0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11. The states 0 through 10 indicated our current sum, and state 11 indicates that we have a reached a sum of 11 or more. We start in state 0 with a sum of zero. The state 11 is the one absorbing state. If we get to the 11 state , then the game is over. We never change states ever again. The following matrix shows that the probability of transitioning from 11 to 11 is 1, which means that we are guaranteed to stay in that state.

We use the Sage to generate the transition matrix.

Let A be the transition matrix for this chain:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{6} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

The transition matrix A is in canonical form. We can divide the matrix A into four sub-matrices,J,O,Q,R. J is an identity matrix. O is a matrix of all zeros. Q and R are non-negative matrices. See the following picture for details. P means matrix A in this case.

$$P = \left( \begin{array}{c|c} Q & R \\ \hline O & J \end{array} \right)$$

We can find non-negative matrix Q.

$$Q = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{6} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{1}{6} & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{1}{6} & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{6} & 0 & \frac{1}{6} & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{6} & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{6} & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{6} & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Let  $N = (I - Q)^{-1}$ .

$$N = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{4997}{8304} & \frac{2921}{2076} & \frac{4509}{2768} & \frac{1}{6} & \frac{4145}{8304} & \frac{1}{6} & 0 & \frac{2677}{4152} & \frac{1433}{2768} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{173}{351} & \frac{173}{366} & \frac{173}{381} & 0 & \frac{173}{45} & 0 & 0 & \frac{173}{132} & \frac{173}{2768} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{963}{1384} & \frac{963}{501} & \frac{2589}{1384} & 0 & \frac{363}{357} & 0 & 0 & \frac{567}{489} & \frac{681}{807} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1384}{501} & \frac{346}{501} & \frac{3507}{1384} & 0 & \frac{1384}{357} & 0 & 0 & \frac{692}{489} & \frac{1384}{807} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1384}{753} & \frac{346}{753} & \frac{3887}{1384} & 1 & \frac{1241}{243} & 0 & 0 & \frac{909}{1384} & \frac{1819}{2768} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{2768}{27} & \frac{692}{108} & \frac{2768}{189} & 0 & \frac{2768}{243} & 0 & 0 & \frac{1384}{90} & \frac{2768}{87} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{173}{265} & \frac{173}{265} & \frac{173}{1855} & 0 & \frac{173}{1001} & 0 & 0 & \frac{173}{557} & \frac{173}{1123} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{2768}{49} & \frac{692}{49} & \frac{2768}{343} & 0 & \frac{2768}{441} & 1 & 0 & \frac{1384}{197} & \frac{2768}{427} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1384}{21} & \frac{346}{21} & \frac{1384}{147} & 0 & \frac{1384}{189} & 0 & 1 & \frac{692}{381} & \frac{1384}{183} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{692}{9} & \frac{173}{18} & \frac{692}{63} & 0 & \frac{692}{81} & 0 & 0 & \frac{346}{15} & \frac{692}{375} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{346}{346} & \frac{173}{173} & \frac{346}{346} & 0 & \frac{346}{346} & 0 & 0 & \frac{173}{173} & \frac{346}{346} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

We sum the first row of N to get the expected number of turns until absorbing state 11.  
The sum is

$$\frac{27539}{4152} \approx 6.63270712909$$

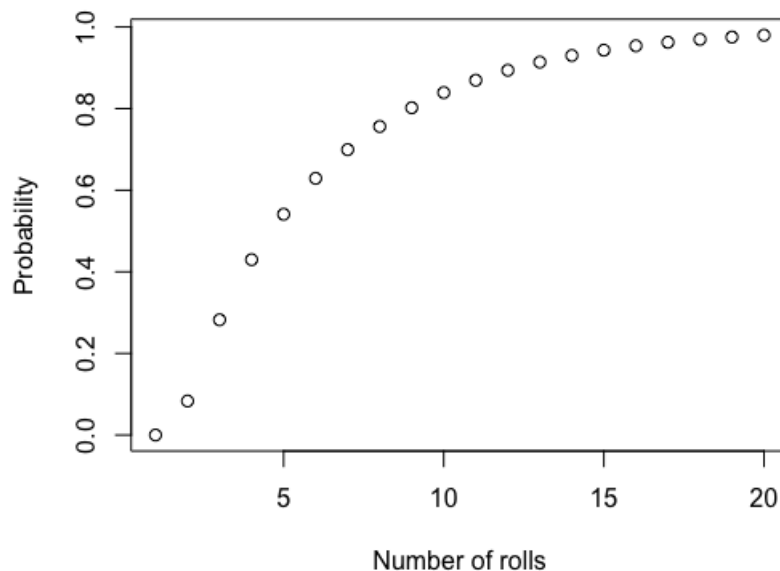
So, on average, it will take about 6.633 rolls until the sum is 11 or greater.

By using Markov chain transition matrix, we calculate the probability that the game ends on the first turn, on the second turn, on the third turn, etc. I made a table to show the results. Column A gives the probability that we are in state 11 after i throws. Column B gives the probability that we reach state 11 on throw i.

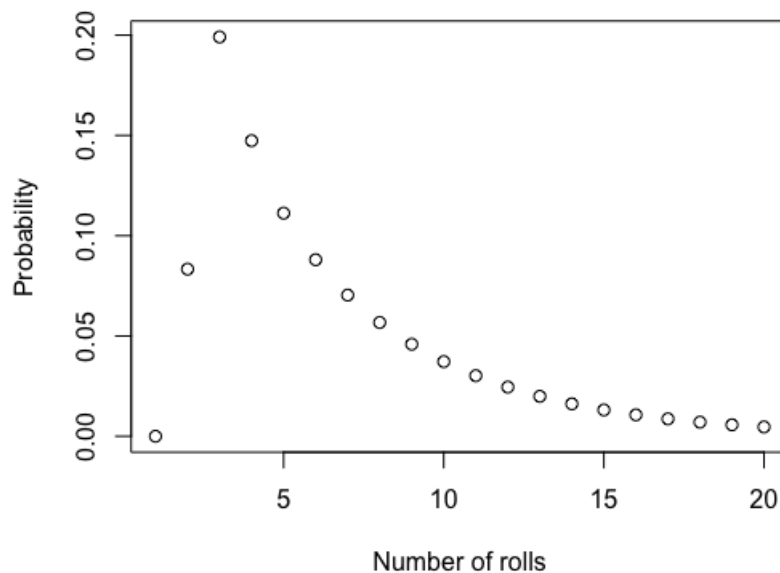
i	A	B
1	0	0
2	0.08333	0.08333
3	0.28241	0.19908
4	0.42978	0.14737
5	0.54102	0.11124
6	0.62905	0.08803
7	0.69943	0.07038
8	0.75616	0.05673
9	0.80205	0.04590
10	0.83926	0.03722
11	0.86946	0.03020
12	0.89398	0.02452
13	0.91389	0.01991
14	0.93006	0.01617
15	0.94318	0.01313
16	0.95385	0.01067
17	0.96252	0.00867
18	0.96955	0.00703
19	0.97527	0.00572
20	0.97991	0.00464

We find that the game is most likely to end on the 3rd roll because the probability to reach state 11 is highest on 3rd roll. After the 3rd roll, the probability to reach state 11 decreases as the number of rolls increases. For example, it is rarely for a player to roll a dice 20 times to end the game. The median game length is 5 because the the probability that we are in state 11 after 5 throws is 54.1%. That means that the probability that we are in state 11 is about 50% if the number of throws less than 5 or greater than 5. We'll use two plots to show the results visually and gain a better understanding of the data.

The probability that we are in state 11 after  $i$  throws.



The probability that we reach state 11 on throw  $i$ .

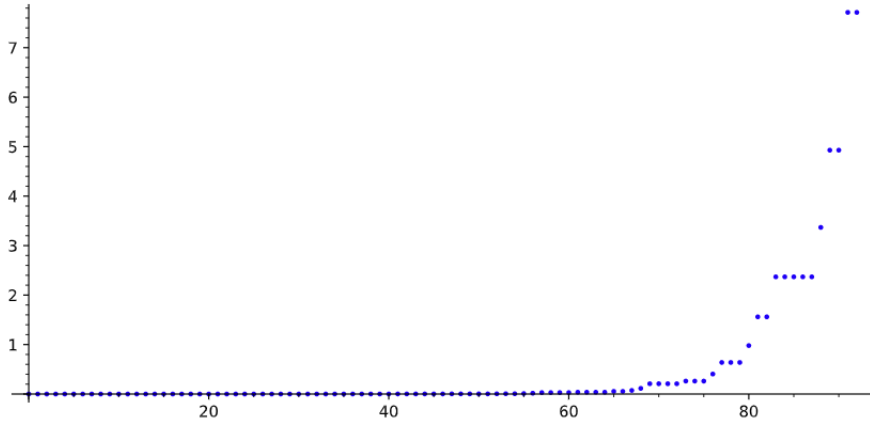


Now, we want to investigate how the expected number of turns in the game changes with the value of

M. By changing M, I got different expected number of turns. I created a table and a plot to present the data.

M	Expected number of turns
7	3.21666666666667
8	4.69444444444444
9	5.21604938271605
10	5.61471193415638
11	6.63270712909441
12	8.83373786407767
13	9.14252966558792
14	12.1767869282315
15	19.6035714285714
16	34.1369047619048
17	34.4702380952381
18	53.3490259740260
19	53.9853896103896
20	66.0488544474394
21	66.2941374663073
22	66.5803009883199
23	94.1469561257021
24	134.376348769248
25	134.863563560751
26	135.146772320258
27	192.721007162810
28	288.296701919756
29	288.593649179113
30	424.882070068740
31	425.411576597165
32	616.050360276331
33	616.295643295199
34	616.581806817211
35	906.404029183090
36	1336.36970822159
37	1336.86500233924
38	1836.65439867993
39	2961.80914097008
40	5161.98531030702
41	5162.31864364035
42	8397.66625611477
43	8398.30261975113
44	10441.1752609488
45	10441.4205439676
46	10441.7067074896
47	15614.5815342510
48	23288.7985743155
49	23289.2938684332
50	23289.5752409822
51	23289.9035089561
52	23290.1947235530
53	23290.4274150926
...	...
...	...
98	7.71404157329257e7
99	7.71404161106427e7

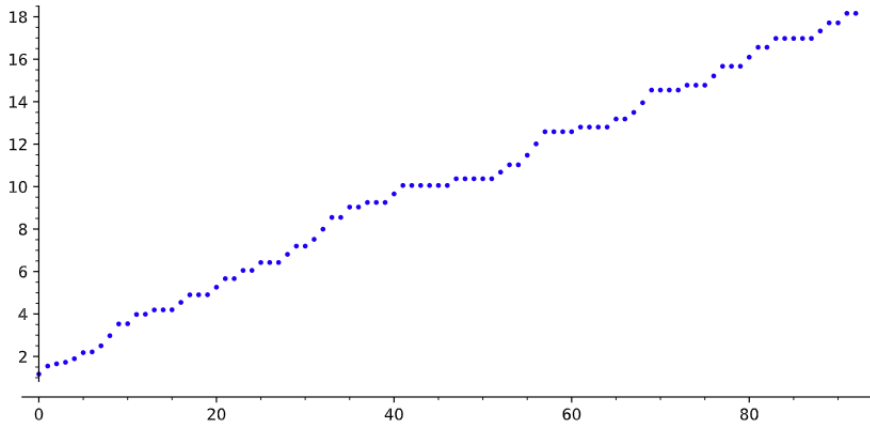
Expected number of turns from M=7 to M =99.



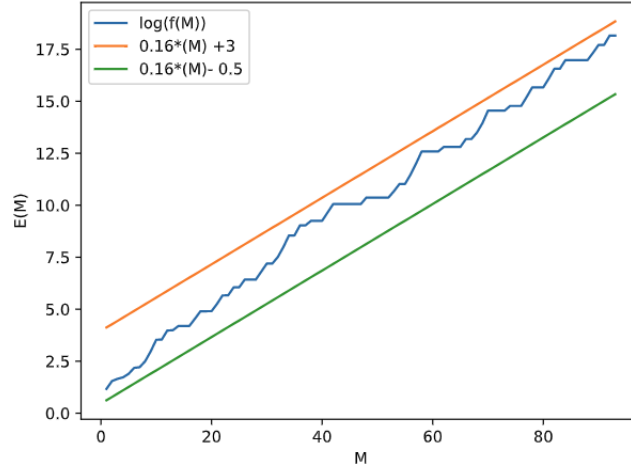
From the plot above, we find that the expected number of turns in the game increases as the value of  $M$  increases. Let  $f(M)$  be the expected number of turns with a goal score of  $M$ . The  $f(M)$  increases rapidly but not smoothly and it tends to infinity as  $M$  tends to infinity. I can get the expected value when  $M=299$ , which is  $f(M) = 6.6061772873821e19$ . However, it takes about five minutes to get this number. The long running time makes it difficult or even impossible to calculate expected number of turns for larger value of  $M$ . So I will stop this program at  $M=299$ .

From the plot above, we can see that the function  $f(M)$  has a irregular behavior, which makes it hard to predict its behavior. Thus, to better investigate the behavior of  $f(M)$ , we try different functions to see what that looks like. I find that  $\log(f(M))$  is close to being linear. So  $\log(f(M))$  looks like a good match.

The plot of  $\log(f(M))$  looks like this:



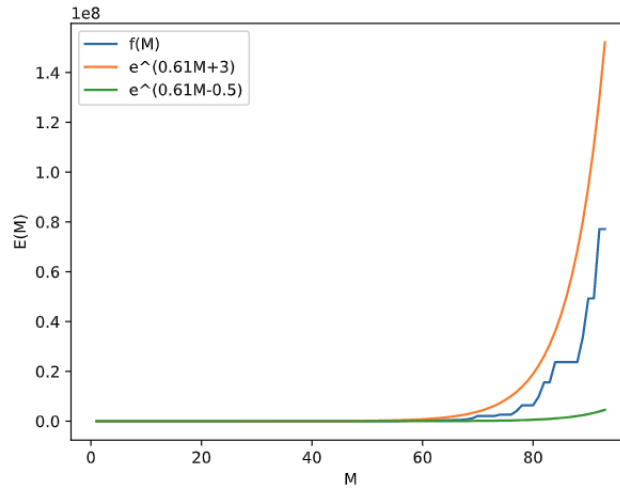
Since  $\log(f(M))$  is approximately linear, we can draw two different lines on the plot such that  $g(M) < f(\log(M)) < h(M)$ :



From the graph, we see the expected number of rolls to end the game for each  $M$  all lie between the orange line and green line. Then, we can conclude that:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{for } 7 \leq M \leq 100 \\ & 0.16M + 3 < \log(f(M)) < 0.16M - 0.5 \\ & e^{0.16M+3} < f(M) < e^{0.16M-0.5} \end{aligned}$$

The plot for  $e^{0.16M+3} < f(M) < e^{0.16M-0.5}$  looks like this:



We can conclude that as the value of  $M$  get larger, the expected number of turns will get larger. We get the upper bound and lower bound on  $f(M)$ . The value of the bounds will increase as the value of  $M$  increase. Hence, if value of  $M$  tends to infinity, the expected number of turns tends to infinity.

Appendix:

Here is the Sage code for this assignment:

```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
R=[]
H= []
J = []
## To create transition matrix with different goal score.
for n in range(7,100):
    A = zero_matrix(QQ,n+1,n+1)
```

```

for i in range(6):
    A[0,i+1]=1/6
A[n,n]=1;
for i in range(1,n):
    for j in range(6):
        roll = j+1
        sum = i + roll
        if sum >= n:
            put = n
        else:
            if(is_prime(sum) or is_prime(floor(sum/2))):
                put = floor(sum/2)
            else:
                put = sum
        A[i,put]+=1/6
Q=A[:n,:n]
F=(matrix.identity(n)-Q).inverse()
sum = 0
for i in range(n):
    sum = sum +F[0][i]
log_sum = log(sum*1.)
R.append(log_sum)
H.append(0.16*(n) +3)
J.append(0.16*(n)- 0.5)
y1 = R
y2 = H
y3 = J
x= range(1,94)
fig, ax = plt.subplots()
ax.plot(x, y1, label='log(f(M))')
ax.plot(x, y2, label='0.16*(M) +3')
ax.plot(x, y3, label = '0.16*(M)- 0.5')
ax.legend()
ax.set_xlabel('M')
ax.set_ylabel('E(M)')
plt.show()

```