

## Algebraic solution

Let  $X$  be the random variable denoting the number of throws required to observe consecutive sixes.

When we throw the coin for the first time we observe (NOT SIX) with probability  $\frac{5}{6}$  and (SIX) with probability  $\frac{1}{6}$ . In the former case the whole game is as good as starting anew except the new random variable measuring the (number of throws to get consecutive sixes) is  $X + 1$ .

In the latter case i.e. we observe a (SIX) at the first throw, when we throw the dice for a second time one of the following happens. We either get a (SIX) with probability  $\frac{1}{6}$  and game ends. In this case the random variable  $X$  takes the value 2.

Or we get a (NOT SIX) with probability  $\frac{5}{6}$  and the rest of the game is as good as starting new with the new random variable having value  $X + 2$ .

To conclude we arrive at the following relation:

$$E(X) = \frac{5}{6} \cdot E(X + 1) + \frac{1}{6} \left( \frac{5}{6} \cdot E(X + 2) + \frac{1}{6} \cdot 2 \right)$$

Solving for  $E(X)$  we arrive at  $E(X) = 42$