

Random Multiplicative Walks on the Integers Modulo n

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Random walks

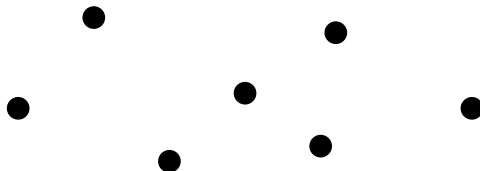
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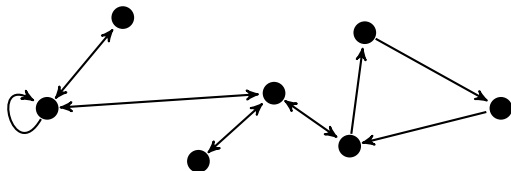
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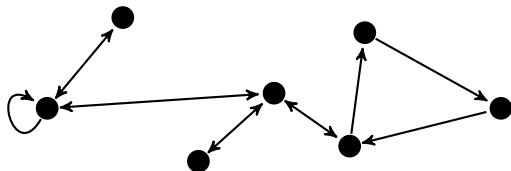
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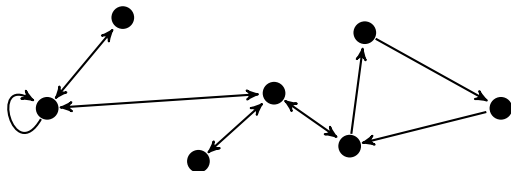
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A state is **absorbing** if it is not possible to leave that state.

Random walks on groups

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Note that since the elements of S generate G , this walk will be transitive, and there are no absorbing elements.

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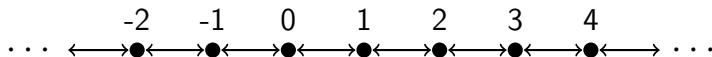
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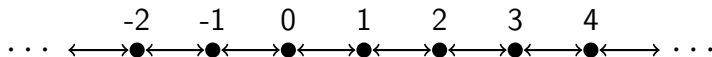
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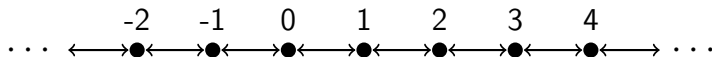


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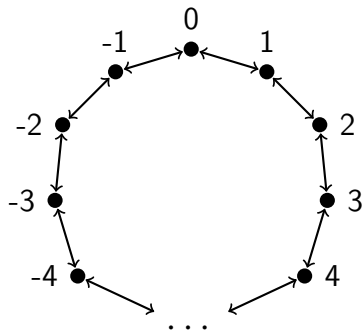
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Since elements may not have inverses, the walk may not be transitive.

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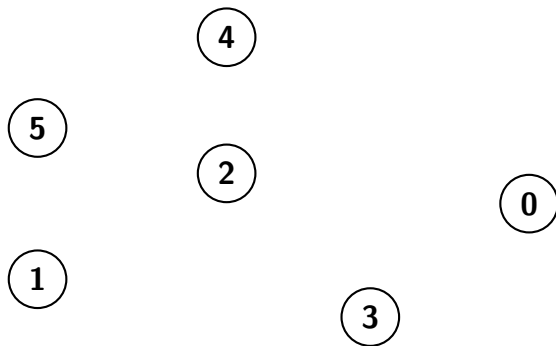
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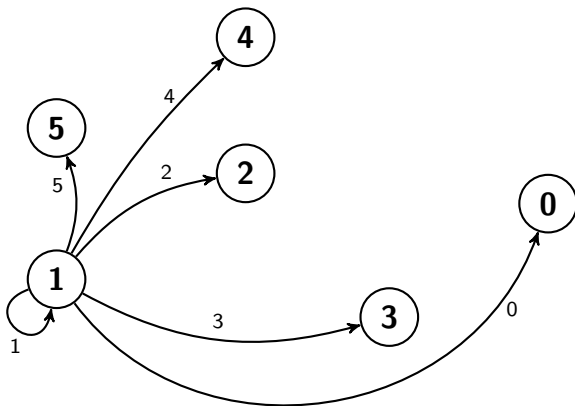
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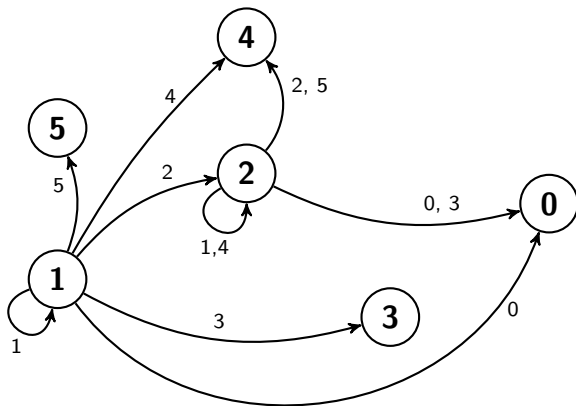
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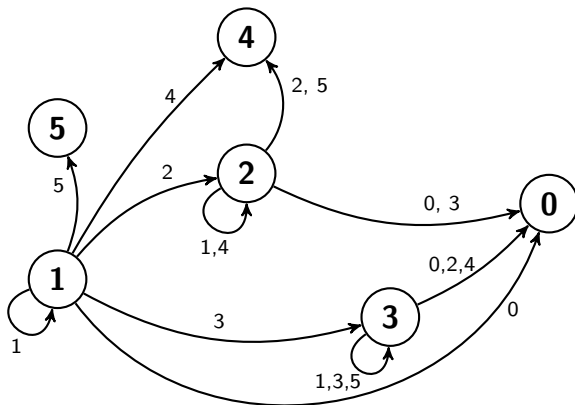
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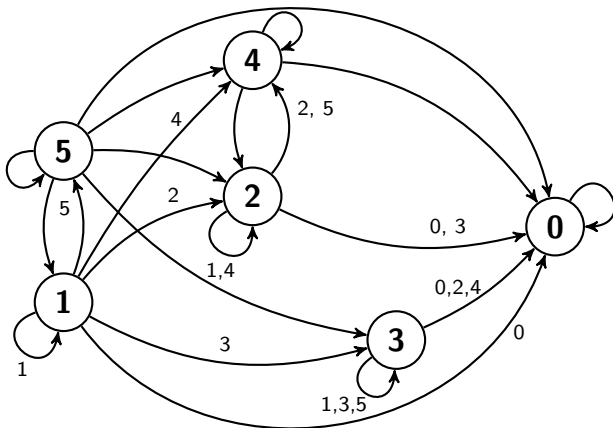
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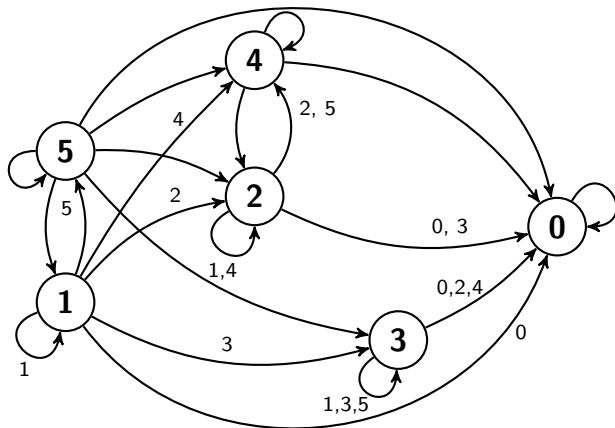
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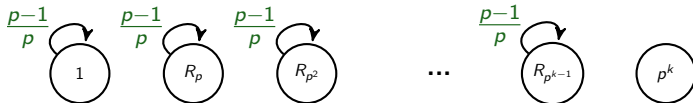
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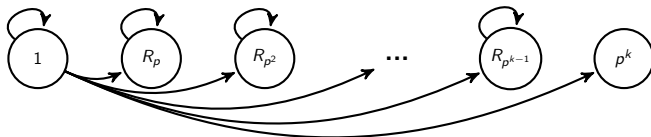


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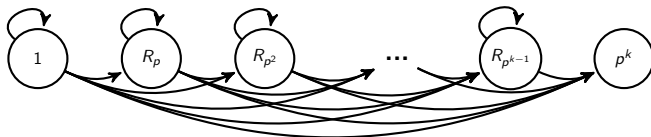
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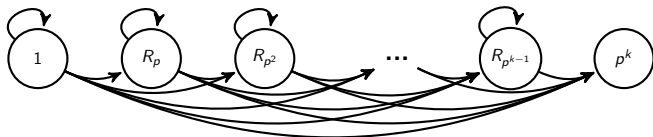
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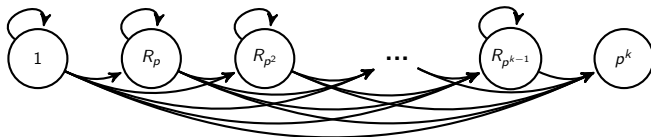
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$$\begin{aligned} a(n) &= \mathbb{E}[X] = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}[X > i] = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} (1 - \mathbb{P}[X \leq i]) \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left(1 - \prod_{p|n} \mathbb{P}[X_p \leq i] \right) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left(1 - \prod_{p|n} \left(1 - \left(\frac{p-1}{p} \right)^i \right) \right) \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \sum_{\substack{d|n \\ d \neq 1}} (-1)^{\omega(d)+1} \frac{\varphi(d)^i}{d^i} = \sum_{\substack{d|n \\ d \neq 1}} \frac{(-1)^{\omega(d)+1}}{1 - \frac{\varphi(d)}{d}} = \sum_{\substack{d|n \\ d \neq 1}} (-1)^{\omega(d)+1} \frac{d}{d - \varphi(d)}. \end{aligned}$$

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The asymptotic behavior of $P_i(n)$, $B(n)$ and their friends have been studied by Alladi, De Koninck, Erdős, Ivić, Naslund, Pomerance and others.

Estimates

Is $P_1(n)$ or $B(n)$ a better estimate for $a(n)$?

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Theorem (Wheeler, 1990)

The integers with $P_1(n) > P_2(n)^2$ have density 0.62432... the Golomb-Dickman constant.

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Balasubramanian: $K_2 = \frac{8}{3}\zeta(3/2)$.

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“On average:” $a(n) \approx P_1(n) + \left(1 - \frac{\pi}{4}\right) P_2(n)$.

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Can similar results be obtained about the variance of the time to reach $0 \pmod{n}$?

Thank you!