

1.  
a)

Our strategy is to roll until we hit a number greater than 2.

**Reasoning:**

We work by cases:

**Case Rolling 1 at n=1:**

We have a 5/6 probability of being better off by rolling any number greater than 1.

```
0.6
>>> payoff( [1,1] )
0.36
>>> payoff( [1,2] )
0.72
>>> payoff( [1,3] )
1.08
>>> payoff( [1,4] )
1.44
>>> payoff( [1,5] )
1.7999999999999998
>>> payoff( [1,6] )
2.16
```

Chance of profit = ~83.34%

Probability 5/6

**Case Rolling 2 at n=1;**

In this case we'll only be better off if we roll a 4,5 or 6 after making our max profit percentage chance (1/2) or 50%

However, getting a 4 increases our profit by 10%.

Getting a 5 increases our profit by 50%, and a 6 increases it by 80%. At the same time getting a 1 or a 2 leads to 40% loss and a 3 leads to 10% loss. So our incentive for profit is more.

Therefore we must roll the dice again.

**Case Roll a 3 at n=1:**

1/6 chance of being better off only if we get a six after this roll.

Mathematically speaking, every other number we get leads to a loss. So 1/6 profit probability is too less to move forward.

### Case 4/5/6 at n=1:

No way of being better off so it is smarter to stop at this turn. Any other number we get after this would lead to a loss.

b)

**Expected Value of our stopping time** =  $\text{summation}(n \cdot (2/6)^{n-1} \cdot (2/3)) = 1.5$

**Which means in discrete values T = 1.**

c)

Although our strategy (after  $10^7$  simulations) reduces tau to **~1.3496** because we're assuming a rational gamblers technique.

Giving us a payoff of **2.29**

$$\text{sum}(k=3,4,5,6) (3/5)^n \cdot (1/3)^{n-1} \cdot (1/6) = 2.25$$

~close to our simulated payoff of **2.29**

2.

Marginal benefit  $\geq$  Marginal cost

$$(3/5) \cdot (\text{New } X) \geq (\text{Old } X)$$

**Only then do we have an incentive to play again.**

**Consider number of possible beneficial outcomes  $X_2$  to be y. Then,  $y = N - X_2 + 1$**

Chances of profit =  $y/N$

We will only take the next step if  $y/N \geq 1/2$

Now, considering the probabilities, a successive iteration is beneficial only if:  
 $y/N \cdot (3/5) \cdot (\text{new outcome}) \geq ((N-y)/N) \cdot (\text{old outcome})$

Hence, our strategy is to first decide  $X_2$  with the formula  $(3/5) \cdot X_2 \geq X_1$  then find y using:  
 $N - X_2 + 1$  then calculating  $y/N$  if  $y/N \geq 1/2$  we play again else we stop playing.

This formula:  $y/N \cdot (3/5) \cdot (\text{new outcome}) \geq ((N-y)/N) \cdot (\text{old outcome})$  calculates the probability of that profit percentage with new outcome.