

# Probability overview

Preview:

$$S = k_B \ln (\# \text{ States of system})$$

[constant energy]

Random walk - brownian



# Independent events

flipping (fair) coin

probability of an outcome  
doesn't depend on anything  
(previously)

Coin flipping : H, T

H	T	T
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50% 50%

100% / 0

Exclusive outcomes

probabilities add to 1

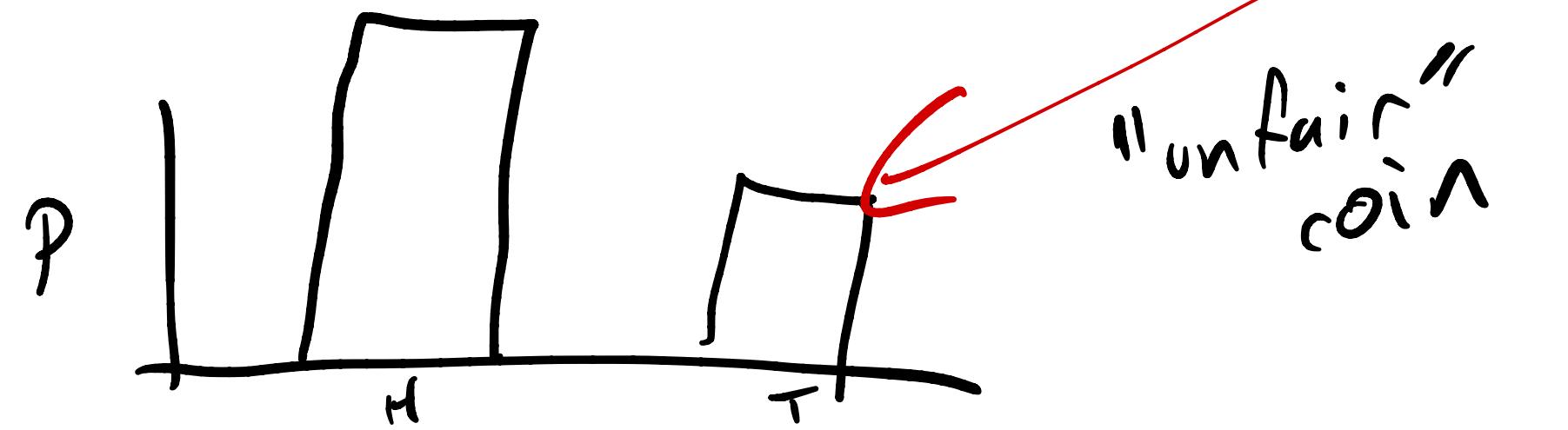
$$1 = P_H + P_T$$

6-sided die

1	2	3
4	5	6

$$1 = P_1 + P_2 + \dots + P_6$$

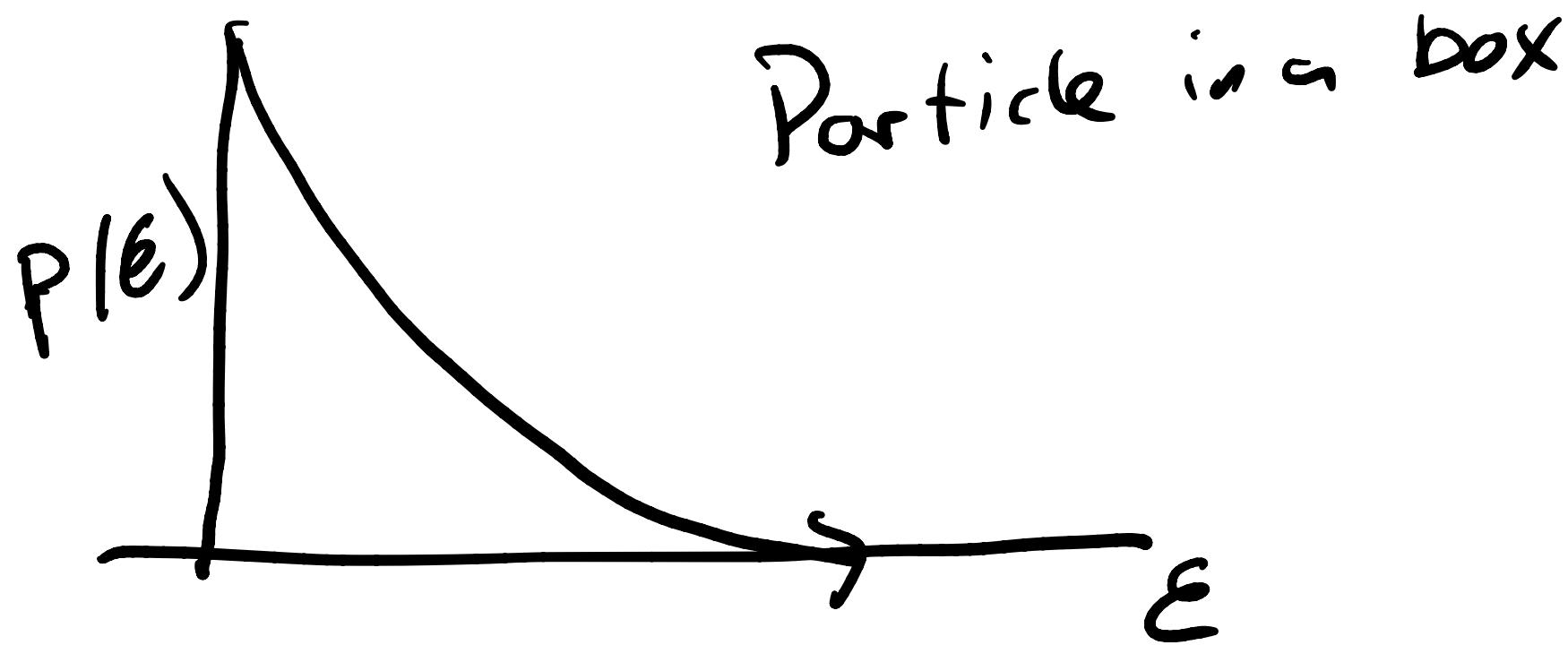
Distribution lots of times  
coin (bar chart)

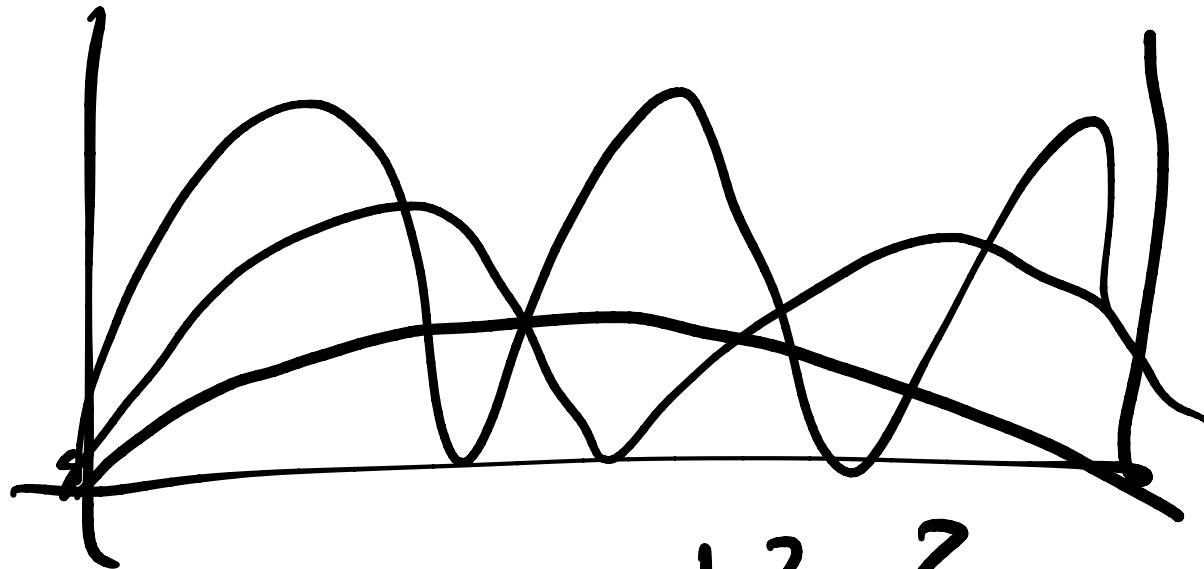


Later Temperature  $T$

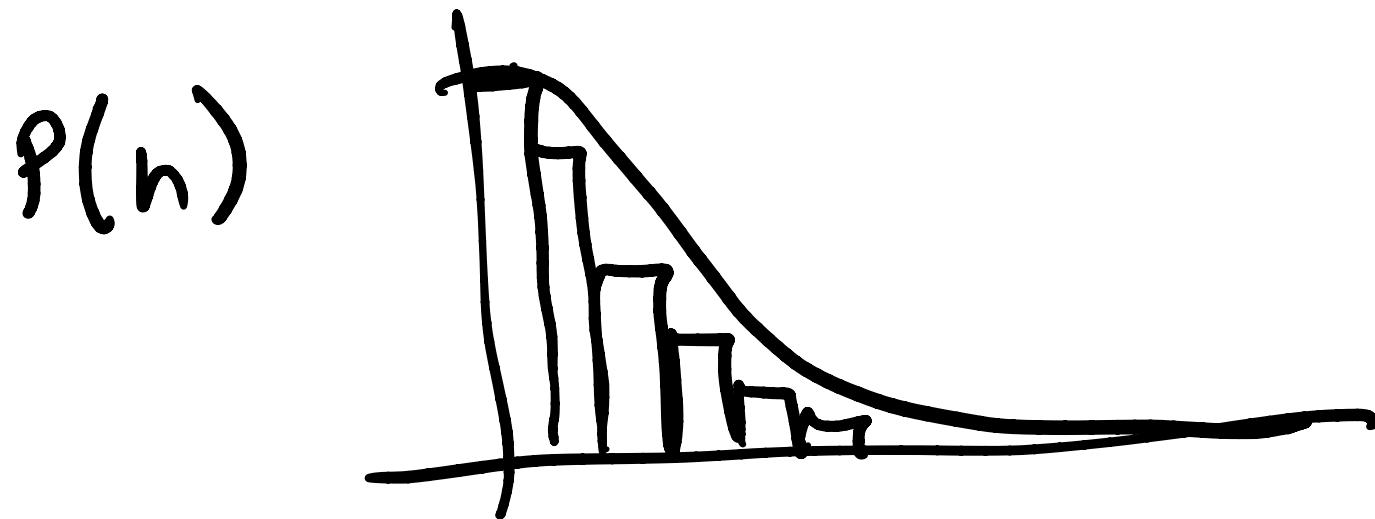
prob of molecule being in state

$$P(\epsilon_{\text{state}}) \propto e^{-\epsilon/k_B T}$$





$$E_n = \frac{\hbar^2 n^2}{8mL^2}$$



$$c^{-\frac{E}{k_B T}}, e^{-\frac{n^2}{n}}$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} p(n)$$

# Combine probabilities

"Logical operation"

And      "A"    A

Or

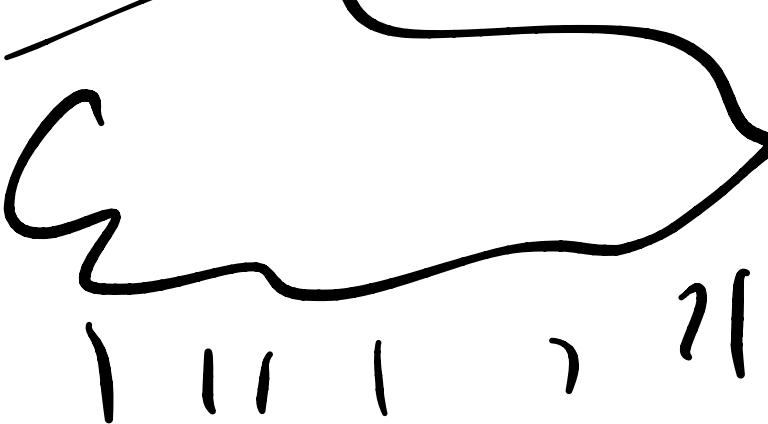
"V"    V    and/or  
or but not  
both

Single event

M	M	M	3
4	5	6	
2/6 = 1/3			

$$P_1 \cap P_2 = 0$$

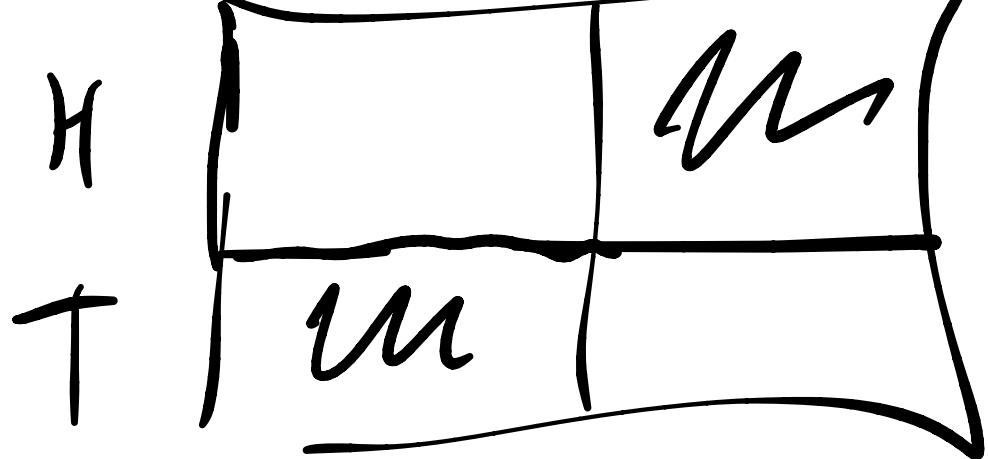
$$P_1 \cup P_2 = P_1 + P_2$$



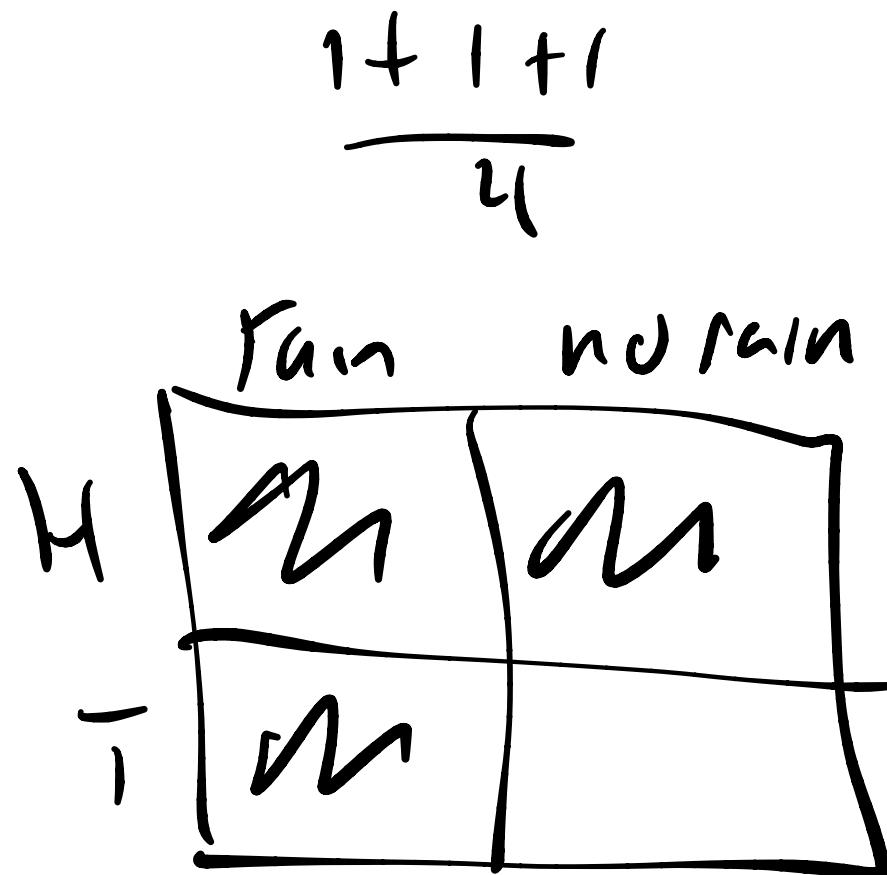
$P_{\text{rain}} \cup P_{\text{Head}}$

$\oplus$   $\frac{1+1}{4}$

rain      no rain



exclusive OR



and + or

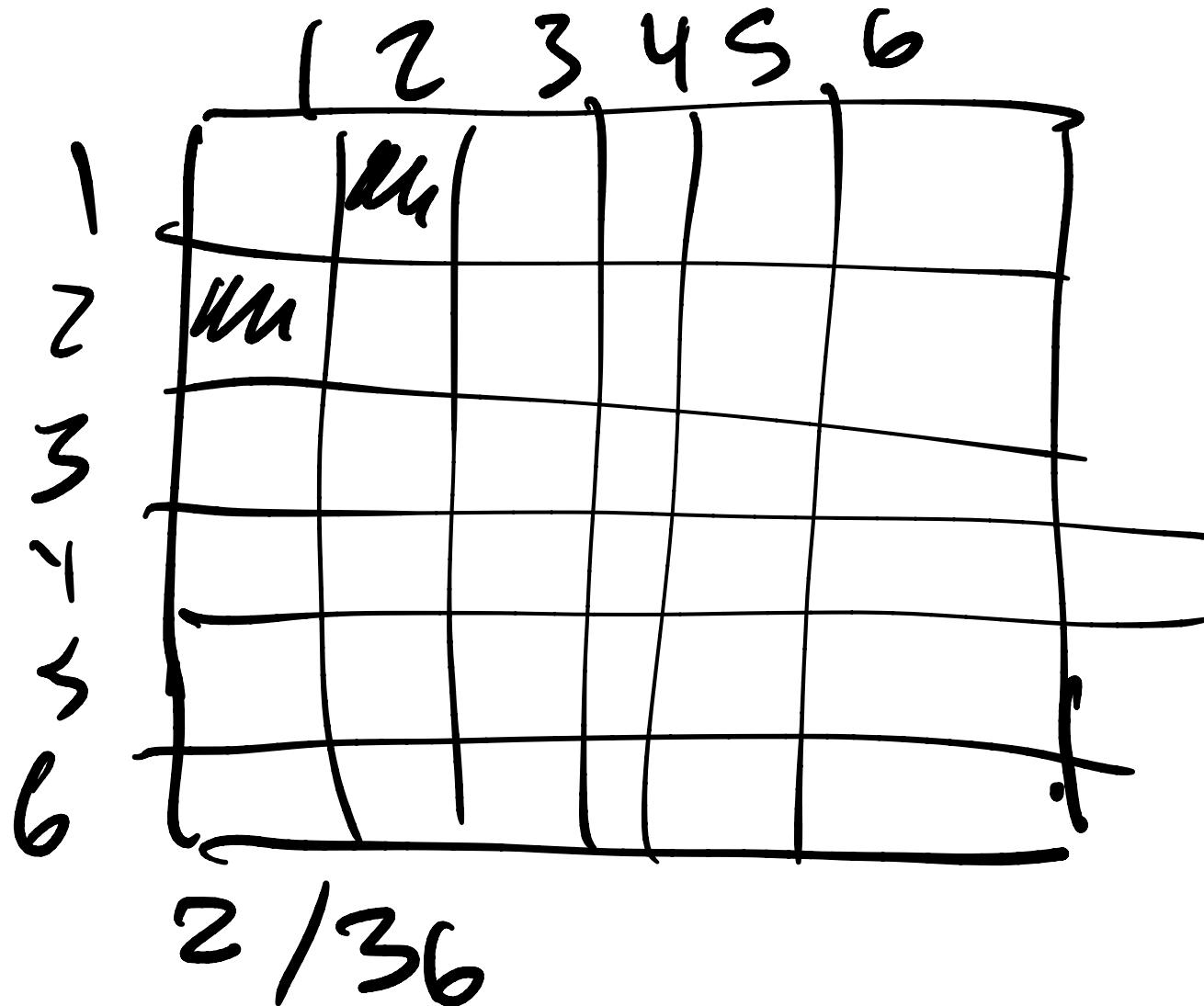


$$P_{\text{rain}} \cap P_{\text{Head}}$$

for single event

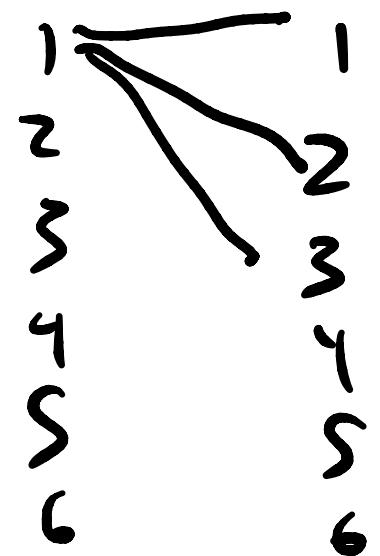
# Probability of independent events

roll a die twice



$$P_1 \cap P_2$$

person<sup>1</sup>      person<sup>2</sup>



	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	n	0	n	1/n	n	
2		n				
3		t				
4		1				
5		1				
6		1				

roll 1 is a 1

roll 2 is a 2

Sequence of events

Coin flip

(random walk to

flip a coin  $N$  times

(S)



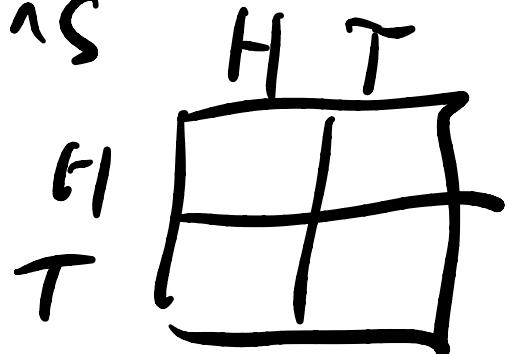
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H H H H  
H H H HT  
H H H T H  
HHH TT  
HHHT H H  
HHT HT } 4  
HHT TH  
HHT TT

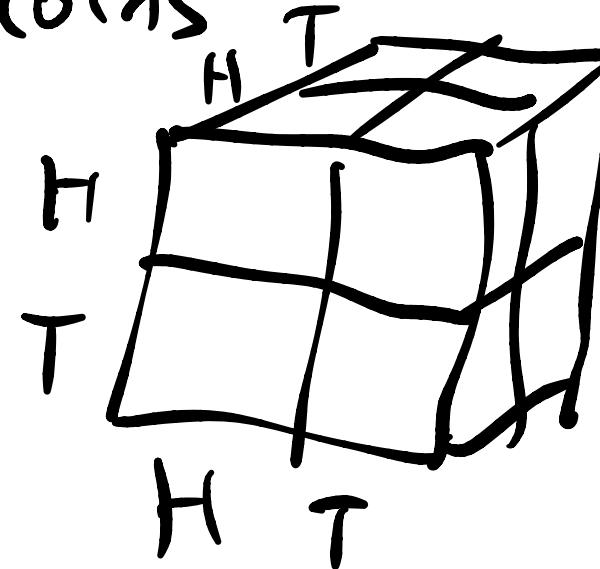
HT HHH  
HT HHT  
HTHTH  
HTHTT  
HTT HH  
HTT HT  
HTTT TH  
HTTT TT

+ mother 16 w/ T first

2 coins



3 coins



2, 2x2, 2x2x2

In general  $2^N$

Particular sequence

Eg  $P_{HHTTT} = \frac{1}{2^5}$

$$P_{H\cap H\cap T\cap T\cap T} = P_H \cdot P_H \cdot P_T \cdot P_T \cdot P_T$$
$$\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2}$$

Prob of <sup>exactly</sup> 2H (83T) in 5 events

What is number of ways to  
order  $N$  things =  $N!$  <sup>(distinguishable)</sup>

ABC	$\{$	A BC	3 things
		{ A C B	• 2 things
3 thing	$\{$	B AC	• 1 thing
		{ B CA	
	$\{$	C AB	<u>3 · 2 · 1</u>
		{ C BA	3!

5 coin outcomes

	—	—	—	—	—	
2 H	H.	H <sub>2</sub>	H	H	<u>H</u>	H <sub>2</sub> H
3 H	H <sub>1</sub> — H <sub>2</sub> —				H <sub>2</sub>	H <sub>1</sub>
	H <sub>1</sub> — — H <sub>2</sub> —				H <sub>2</sub>	H <sub>1</sub>
	H <sub>1</sub> — — — H <sub>2</sub>				H <sub>2</sub>	H <sub>1</sub>
5 · 4 · 3						

$m$  things in  $N$  slots

$$\frac{N!}{(N-m)!} = N \cdot (N-1) \cdot (N-2) \cdots (N-m)$$

but if indistinguishable

# ways to arrange  $m$  things

$$m!$$

$$\frac{N!}{(N-m)! \cdot (m)!} = \binom{N}{m} \quad N \text{ choose } m$$

$$\frac{N!}{(N-m)!m!} = \binom{N}{m}$$

$$N_H + N_T = N$$

↑  
m

$$N_T = N - N_H$$

Same formula for

choosing 2 H or 3 T  
in 5 slots