

Every couple prefers to have a girl over a boy. There's a 50% chance that a child is a girl, 50% chance of being a boy. Children's genders are mutually indep.

Every couple will continue having children until they have one girl.  
After a long time, what will be the proportion of girls to boys in this society?

1. BBG  
 2. G  
 3. BG

$X_B = \# \text{ of boys for a couple}$   
 $X_G = \text{" " girls " " "}$

$E[X_G] = 1 \cdot 1 = 1$       $E[X_B] = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left[ \left( \frac{1}{2} \right)^{i+1} \cdot i \right] = 1$

$\frac{X_G}{1}$	$\frac{P_n[X_G=1]}{1}$	$\frac{X_B}{0}$	$\frac{P_n[X_B=0]}{1/2}$
		1	$1/2 \cdot 1/2 = 1/4$
		2	$(1/2)^2 \cdot 1/2 = 1/8$

# 1 How Many Marbles?

Leanne has 6 marbles, 2 red, 2 blue, and 2 green. She picks three marbles uniformly at random without replacement. Let  $X$  denote the number of blue marbles she draws.

(a) What is  $\mathbb{P}[X=0]$ ,  $\mathbb{P}[X=1]$ , and  $\mathbb{P}[X=2]$ ?

$$P_X[X=0] = \frac{\binom{4}{3}}{\binom{6}{3}} = \frac{4}{20} = \frac{1}{5}$$

$$P_X[X=1] = \frac{\binom{2}{1}\binom{4}{2}}{\binom{6}{3}} = \frac{2 \cdot 6}{20} = \frac{3}{5}$$

$$P_X[X=2] = \frac{\binom{2}{2}\binom{4}{1}}{\binom{6}{3}} = \frac{1 \cdot 4}{20} = \frac{1}{5}$$

3 red, 2 bl, 2 gr

$$\frac{\binom{3}{3}}{\binom{6}{3}} = \frac{10}{35} = \frac{2}{7}$$

$$\frac{2 \cdot 10}{35} = \frac{4}{7}$$

$$\frac{1 \cdot 7}{35} = \frac{1}{7}$$

(b) What do your answers you computed in part (a) add up to?

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(c) Compute  $\mathbb{E}[X]$  from the definition of expectation.

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = \sum_{\text{possible } x} x P_X[X=x] = 0 \cdot \frac{1}{5} + 1 \cdot \frac{3}{5} + 2 \cdot \frac{1}{5} = \boxed{1}$$

(d) Suppose we define indicators  $X_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq 3$ , where  $X_i$  is the indicator variable that equals 1 if the  $i$ th marble is a blue marble and 0 otherwise. Compute  $\mathbb{E}[X]$  using linearity of expectation.

(e) Are the  $X_i$  indicators independent? Does this affect your solution to part (d)?

(d)

$$X = \sum_{i=1}^3 X_i$$

$$X_i = \mathbb{1}\{i^{\text{th}} \text{ marble is blue}\}$$

$$\mathbb{E}[X] = \mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{i=1}^3 X_i\right]$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^3 \mathbb{E}[X_i]$$

$$= \mathbb{E}[X_1] + \mathbb{E}[X_2] + \mathbb{E}[X_3]$$

$$= \frac{2}{6} + \frac{2}{6} + \frac{2}{6} = 1$$

$$\mathbb{E}[X_2 | X_1 = 1] = \frac{1}{5} \quad \mathbb{E}[X_2] = \frac{2}{6}$$

$$\mathbb{E}[X_2 | X_1 = 0] = \frac{2}{5}$$

2 Linearity

Solve each of the following problems using linearity of expectation. Explain your methods clearly.

(a) In an arcade, you play game A 10 times and game B 20 times. Each time you play game A, you win with probability  $1/3$  (independently of the other times), and if you win you get 3 tickets (redeemable for prizes), and if you lose you get 0 tickets. Game B is similar, but you win with probability  $1/5$ , and if you win you get 4 tickets. What is the expected total number of tickets you receive?

(b) A monkey types at a 26-letter keyboard with one key corresponding to each of the lower-case English letters. Each keystroke is chosen independently and uniformly at random from the 26 possibilities. If the monkey types 1 million letters, what is the expected number of times the sequence "book" appears?

$$\mathbb{E}[\# \text{ of "book"}] = \mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{i=1}^{1,000,000-3} A_i\right] = \frac{999,997}{26^4} \approx 2.17$$

7 letters

$A_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if "book" starts at } i \\ 0 & \text{o/w} \end{cases}$

1000,000 - 3 = 999,997

1 - 3

b o o k

### 3 Ball in Bins

You are throwing  $k$  balls into  $n$  bins. Let  $X_i$  be the number of balls thrown into bin  $i$ .

(a) What is  $\mathbb{E}[X_i]$ ?

(b) What is the expected number of empty bins?

(c) Define a collision to occur when a ball lands in a nonempty bin (if there are  $n$  balls in a bin, count that as  $n - 1$  collisions). What is the expected number of collisions?