

Laplace's law of succession

$$\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{H}) = \sum_j \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{H} \mid A_j) \mathbf{P}(A_j)$$

What is the chance the sun will rise tomorrow?

Laplace's law of succession

$$\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{H}) = \sum_j \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{H} \mid A_j) \mathbf{P}(A_j)$$

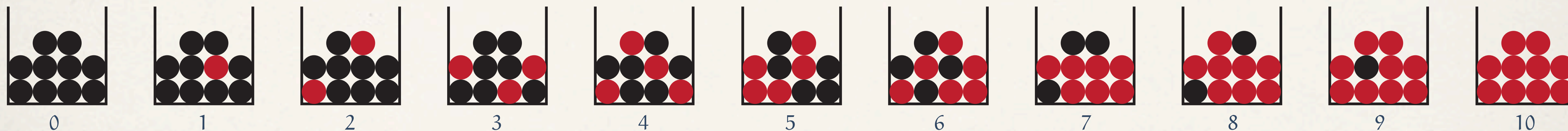
What is the chance the sun will rise tomorrow?

Placing the most ancient epoch of history at five thousand years ago, or at 1,826,213 days, and the sun having risen constantly in the interval at each revolution of twenty-four hours, it is a bet of 1,826,214 to 1 that it will rise again tomorrow.

— P. S. Laplace, *Théorie Analytique des Probabilités* (1812).

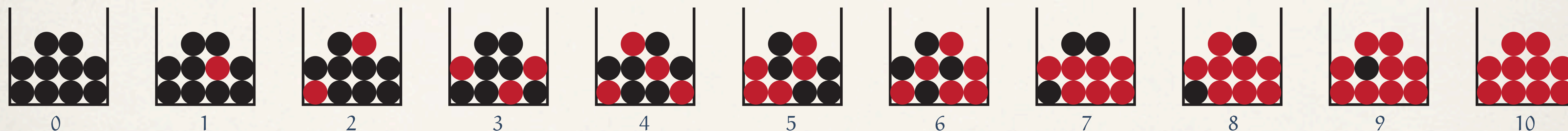
Non-sequitur: an urn model

$$\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{H}) = \sum_j \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{H} \mid A_j) \mathbf{P}(A_j)$$



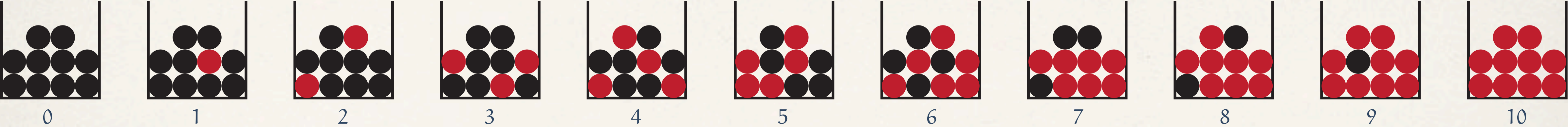
Non-sequitur: an urn model

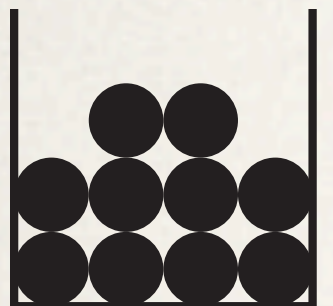
$$\mathbf{P}(H) = \sum_j \mathbf{P}(H \mid A_j) \mathbf{P}(A_j)$$



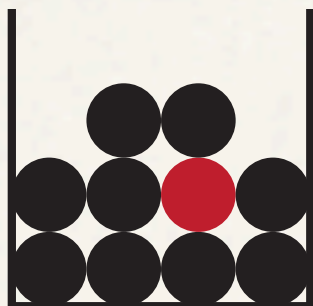
- * Given $N + 1$ urns labelled $0, 1, \dots, N$, each containing N balls: urn k contains k red balls and $N - k$ black balls.
 - * An urn is first selected at random from the $N + 1$ urns.
 - * Balls are repeatedly drawn with replacement from the chosen urn.
- * Given that r red balls were drawn in a row, what is the chance that the $(r+1)$ th draw results in a red ball?

$$\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{H}) = \sum_j \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{H} \mid A_j) \mathbf{P}(A_j)$$

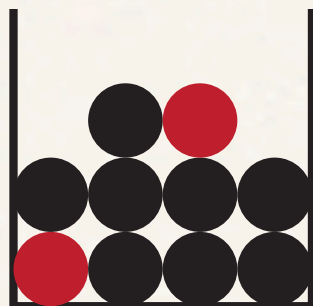




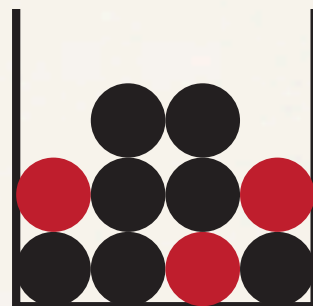
0



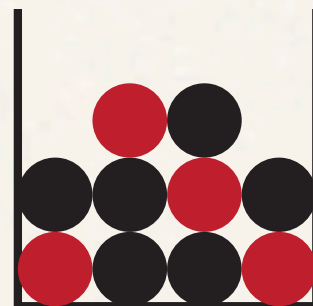
1



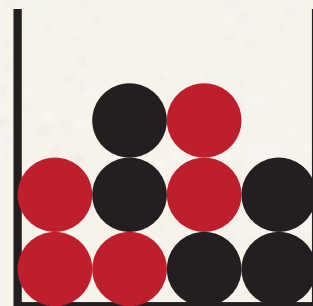
2



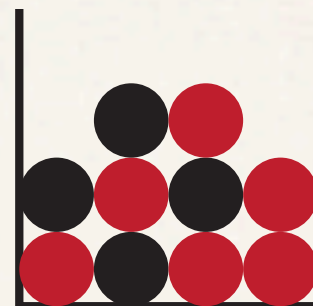
3



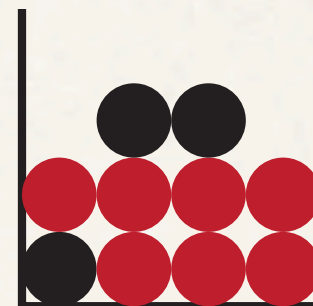
4



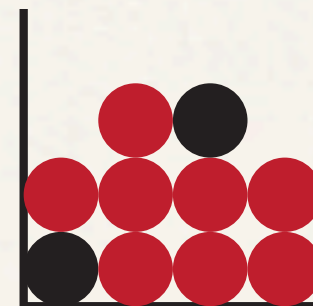
5



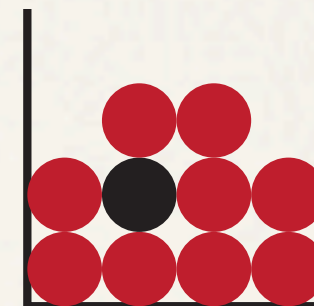
6



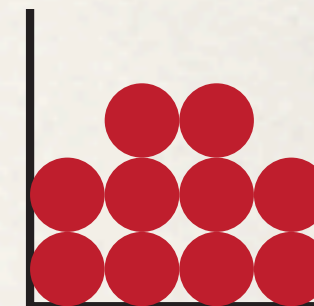
7



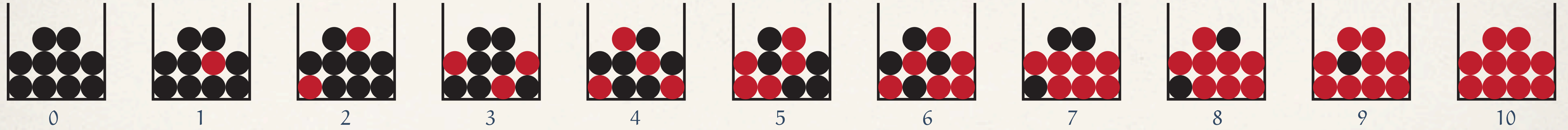
8



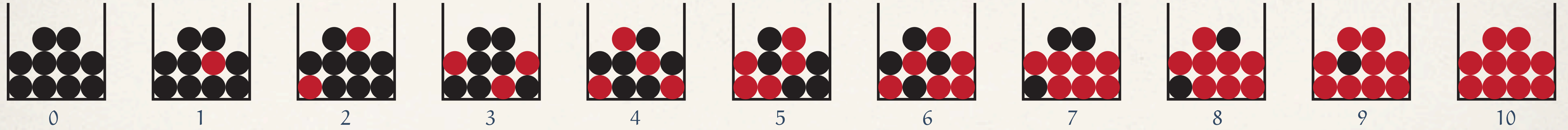
9



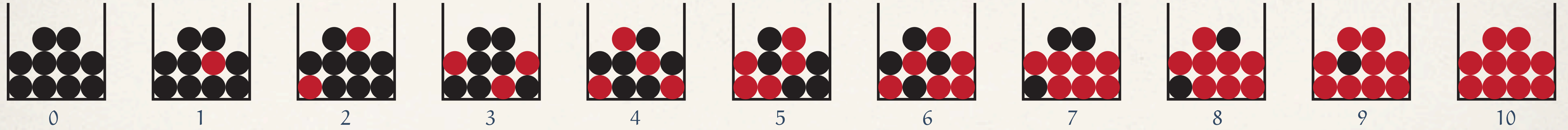
10



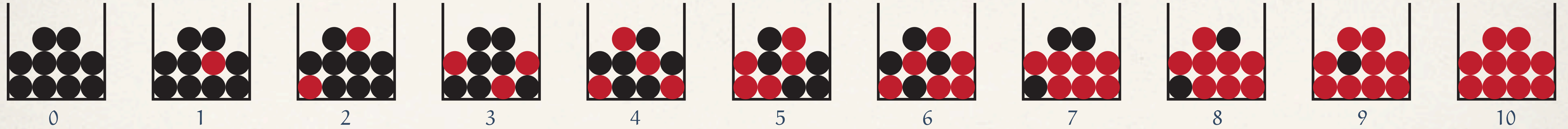
- * *Sample space* Ω : set of sequences (urn; 1st ball, ..., rth ball, (r+1)th ball); the sample points are of the form $\omega = (x; y_1, \dots, y_r, y_{r+1})$ where $x \in \{0, 1, \dots, N\}$ and $y_1, \dots, y_r, y_{r+1} \in \{\text{red}, \text{black}\}$.



- * *Sample space* Ω : set of sequences (urn; 1st ball, ..., rth ball, (r+1)th ball); the sample points are of the form $\omega = (x; y_1, \dots, y_r, y_{r+1})$ where $x \in \{0, 1, \dots, N\}$ and $y_1, \dots, y_r, y_{r+1} \in \{\text{red}, \text{black}\}$.
- * The *events of interest*:



- * *Sample space* Ω : set of sequences (urn; 1st ball, ..., rth ball, (r+1)th ball); the sample points are of the form $\omega = (x; y_1, \dots, y_r, y_{r+1})$ where $x \in \{0, 1, \dots, N\}$ and $y_1, \dots, y_r, y_{r+1} \in \{\text{red}, \text{black}\}$.
- * The *events of interest*:
 - * For $k = 1, \dots, r, r+1$, let $H_k := \text{first } k \text{ draws show red} = \{ (x; y_1, \dots, y_r, y_{r+1}) : y_1 = \dots = y_k = \text{red} \}$.

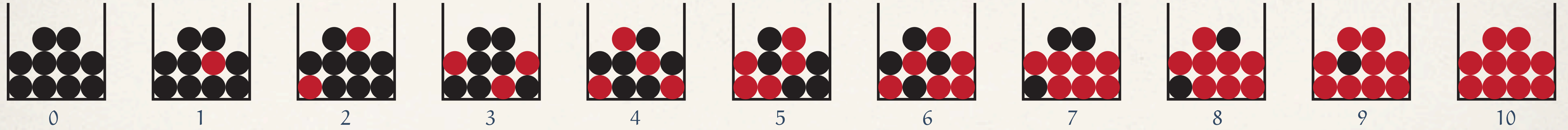


* *Sample space* Ω : set of sequences (urn; 1st ball, ..., rth ball, (r+1)th ball); the sample points are of the form $\omega = (x; y_1, \dots, y_r, y_{r+1})$ where $x \in \{0, 1, \dots, N\}$ and $y_1, \dots, y_r, y_{r+1} \in \{\text{red}, \text{black}\}$.

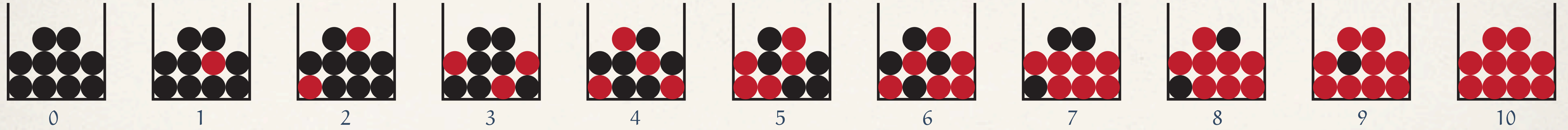
* The *events of interest*:

* For $k = 1, \dots, r, r+1$, let $H_k := \text{first } k \text{ draws show red} = \{ (x; y_1, \dots, y_r, y_{r+1}) : y_1 = \dots = y_k = \text{red} \}$.

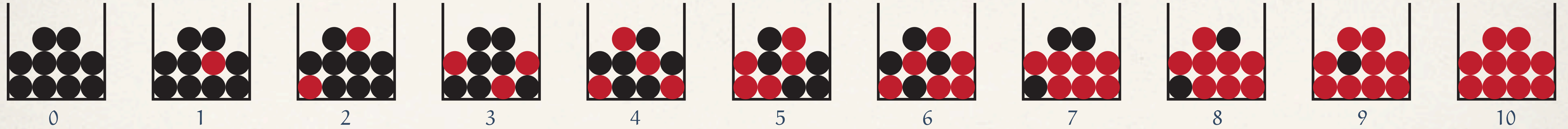
* For $j = 0, 1, \dots, N$, let $A_j := j\text{th urn is chosen} = \{ (x; y_1, \dots, y_r, y_{r+1}) : x = j \}$.



- * *Sample space* Ω : set of sequences (urn; 1st ball, ..., rth ball, (r+1)th ball); the sample points are of the form $\omega = (x; y_1, \dots, y_r, y_{r+1})$ where $x \in \{0, 1, \dots, N\}$ and $y_1, \dots, y_r, y_{r+1} \in \{\text{red}, \text{black}\}$.
- * The *events of interest*:
 - * For $k = 1, \dots, r, r+1$, let $H_k := \text{first } k \text{ draws show red} = \{ (x; y_1, \dots, y_r, y_{r+1}) : y_1 = \dots = y_k = \text{red} \}$.
 - * For $j = 0, 1, \dots, N$, let $A_j := j\text{th urn is chosen} = \{ (x; y_1, \dots, y_r, y_{r+1}) : x = j \}$.
- * The implicit *probability measure* \mathbf{P} :



- * *Sample space* Ω : set of sequences (urn; 1st ball, ..., rth ball, (r+1)th ball); the sample points are of the form $\omega = (x; y_1, \dots, y_r, y_{r+1})$ where $x \in \{0, 1, \dots, N\}$ and $y_1, \dots, y_r, y_{r+1} \in \{\text{red}, \text{black}\}$.
- * The *events of interest*:
 - * For $k = 1, \dots, r, r+1$, let $H_k := \text{first } k \text{ draws show red} = \{ (x; y_1, \dots, y_r, y_{r+1}) : y_1 = \dots = y_k = \text{red} \}$.
 - * For $j = 0, 1, \dots, N$, let $A_j := j\text{th urn is chosen} = \{ (x; y_1, \dots, y_r, y_{r+1}) : x = j \}$.
- * The implicit *probability measure* \mathbf{P} :
 - * Random urn selection: $\mathbf{P}(A_0) = \mathbf{P}(A_1) = \dots = \mathbf{P}(A_N) = 1/(N+1)$.



- * *Sample space* Ω : set of sequences (urn; 1st ball, ..., rth ball, (r+1)th ball); the sample points are of the form $\omega = (x; y_1, \dots, y_r, y_{r+1})$ where $x \in \{0, 1, \dots, N\}$ and $y_1, \dots, y_r, y_{r+1} \in \{\text{red}, \text{black}\}$.
- * The *events of interest*:
 - * For $k = 1, \dots, r, r+1$, let $H_k := \text{first } k \text{ draws show red} = \{ (x; y_1, \dots, y_r, y_{r+1}) : y_1 = \dots = y_k = \text{red} \}$.
 - * For $j = 0, 1, \dots, N$, let $A_j := j\text{th urn is chosen} = \{ (x; y_1, \dots, y_r, y_{r+1}) : x = j \}$.
- * The implicit *probability measure* \mathbf{P} :
 - * Random urn selection: $\mathbf{P}(A_0) = \mathbf{P}(A_1) = \dots = \mathbf{P}(A_N) = 1/(N+1)$.
 - * Conditional probabilities for given urn: $\mathbf{P}(H_k \mid A_j) = j^k / N^k$.