

Let the generative function for  $n$  drones  $f_n(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} p_{n,t=k} x^k$

Where  $p_{n,t=k}$  is the probability that the last drone starts at time  $t = k$   
by decomposing an even for  $n+1$  drones with the time the  $n^{th}$  start :

$$f_{n+1}(x) = f_n\left(\frac{n}{n+1}x\right) \times g_{n+1}(x)$$

$$\text{where } g_{n+1}(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n+1} \left(\frac{n}{n+1}\right)^k x^{k+1} = \frac{x}{n+1} \times \frac{1}{1 - \frac{n}{n+1}x} = \frac{x}{n+1 - nx}$$

so we have  $f_{n+1}(x) = f_n\left(\frac{n}{n+1}x\right) \times \frac{x}{n+1 - nx}$  and  $f_1(x) = x$

$$\text{it is easy to show that : } f_n(x) = \frac{1}{n} x^n \prod_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{n - kx}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f_{n+1}(x) &= f_n\left(\frac{n}{n+1}x\right) \times \frac{x}{n+1 - nx} \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \left(\frac{n}{n+1}x\right)^n \left(\prod_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{n - k\left(\frac{n}{n+1}x\right)}\right) \times \frac{x}{n+1 - nx} \\ &= \frac{1}{n+1} x^{n+1} \left(\prod_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{n}{n+1} \times \frac{1}{n - k\left(\frac{n}{n+1}x\right)}\right) \times \frac{1}{n+1 - nx} \\ &= \frac{1}{n+1} x^{n+1} \left(\prod_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{n+1 - kx}\right) \times \frac{1}{n+1 - nx} = \frac{1}{n+1} x^{n+1} \prod_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{n+1 - kx} \end{aligned}$$

By observing that the sum of drone speeds increases by one at each second, we have  $\text{Sum}(v)=t$

and so the traveled distance for end  $t=k$  is  $S_d = 1 + 2 + \dots + k = \frac{k(k+1)}{2}$

so the expected distance is  $E(n) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} p_{n,t=k} \frac{k(k+1)}{2}$

as  $f'_n(x) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} p_{n,t=k} k x^{k-1}$  and  $f''_n(x) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} p_{n,t=k} k(k-1) x^{k-2}$

$f'_n(1) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} p_{n,t=k} k$  and  $f''_n(1) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} p_{n,t=k} k(k-1)$

and  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} p_{n,t=k} k(k+1) = f''_n(1) + 2f'_n(1)$

so  $E(n) = \frac{1}{n} \left( \frac{f''_n(1)}{2} + f'_n(1) \right)$

We can show :  $f'_n(1) = nS_1(n)$  and  $f''_n(1) = n^2S_2(n) + n^2S_1(n)^2 - 2nS_1(n)$

so  $E(n) = \frac{1}{n} \left( \frac{f''_n(1)}{2} + f'_n(1) \right) = \frac{n}{2} [S_2(n) + (S_1(n))^2]$

$$\text{where } S_1(n) = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k} \text{ and } S_2(n) = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{k^2}$$

$$\text{From } f_n(x) = \frac{1}{n} x^n \prod_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{n-kx} \text{ and } f_n(1) = 1$$

$$f'_n(x) = f_n(x) \times \left[ \frac{n}{x} + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{k}{n-kx} \right]$$

$$\text{so } f'_n(1) = f_n(1) \times \left[ n + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{k}{n-k} \right] = 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \left( 1 + \frac{k}{n-k} \right)$$

$$= 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{n}{n-k} = n \sum_{k'=1}^n \frac{1}{k'} = n S_1(n)$$

$$\text{From } f'_n(x) = f_n(x) \times \left[ \frac{n}{x} + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{k}{n-kx} \right]$$

$$f''_n(x) = f'_n(x) \times \left[ \frac{n}{x} + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{k}{n-kx} \right] + f_n(x) \times \left[ \frac{n}{x} + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{k}{n-kx} \right]'$$

$$= f'_n(x) \times \left[ \frac{n}{x} + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \frac{k}{n-kx} \right] + f_n(x) \times \left[ \frac{-n}{x^2} + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \left( \frac{k}{n-kx} \right)^2 \right]$$

$$\text{so } f''_n(1) = n^2 S_1(n)^2 + \left[ -n + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \left( \frac{k}{n-k} \right)^2 \right]$$

$$= n^2 S_1(n)^2 - 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \left( \left( \frac{k}{n-k} \right)^2 - 1 \right)$$

$$= n^2 S_1(n)^2 - 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \left( \frac{2kn - 2n^2 + n^2}{(n-k)^2} \right)$$

$$= n^2 S_1(n)^2 - 2 - 2 \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \left( \frac{n}{(n-k)} \right) + 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \left( \frac{n^2}{(n-k)^2} \right)$$

$$= n^2 S_1(n)^2 - 2n S_1 + n^2 S_2(n)$$