

**If A_n Has 6n Dyes in a Box, With Which He Has To Fling [at least] n Sixes,
Then A_n Has An Easier Task Than A_{n+1} , at Eaven Luck**

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The probability of A_n succeeding, $1 - \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \binom{6n}{k} (\frac{1}{6})^k (\frac{5}{6})^{6n-k}$, from which the monotonicity is not obvious, can be rewritten (using `zeillim` in the package `EKHAD` accompanying [PWZ]) as:

$$1 - \sum_{m=0}^{n-1} \frac{2(94500m^4 + 214830m^3 + 171573m^2 + 56243m + 6250)(6m)!5^{5m+2}}{(5m+5)!m!6^{6m+5}},$$

from which the monotonicity is obvious. This generalizes, from $n = 1, 2$, to general n , a statement first proved, in 1693, by Mr. Isaac Newton, in response to a question of Mr. Samuel Pepys.

References

[PN] S. Pepys and I. Newton, *correspondence*, reproduced in *American Statistician*, Oct. 1960, 27-30.

[PWZ] M. Petkovsek, H.S. Wilf, and D. Zeilberger, “ $A=B$ ”, A.K.Peters, 1996. The accompanying Maple package `EKHAD` can be downloaded from the URLs given below.

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Supported in part by the NSF. This version: 11/24/95. First version: Sep. 11, 1995.