

Bloomberg

Engineering

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee: Expressing Probabilities as Floating-Point Values

CppCon 2022
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John Lakos
Senior Architect

TechAtBloomberg.com

first things first

Welcome to my talk

Outline

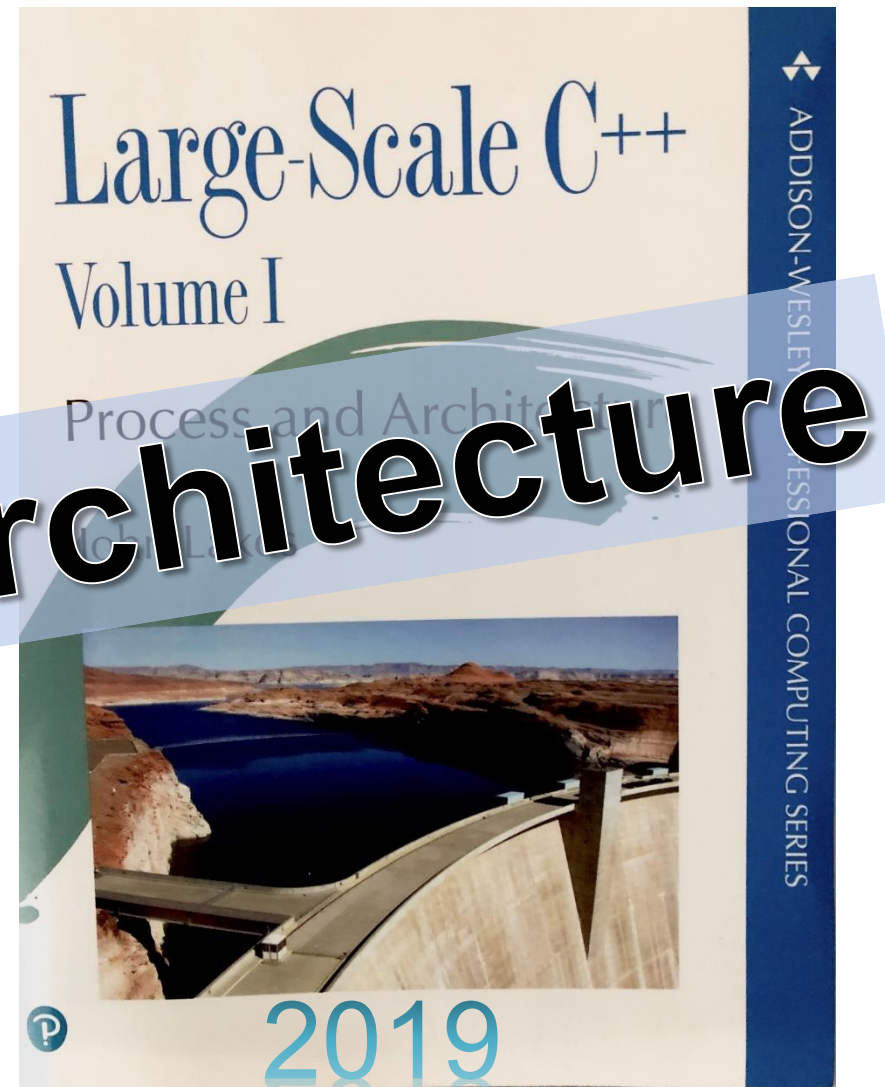
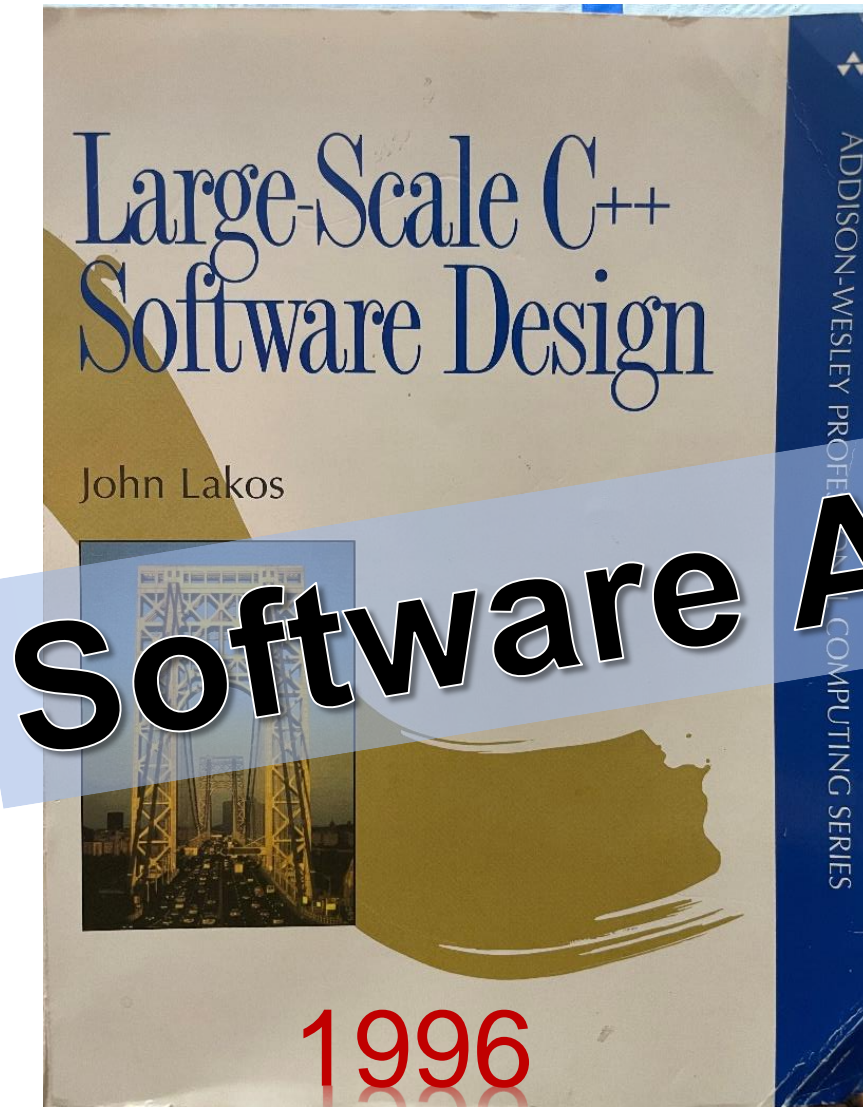
1. Introduction
2. Reprise “Birthday Problem”
3. Quantify Dinosaur Pee
4. Discuss floating-point values
5. Answer four questions

Introduction

Who am I?

John Lakos

- I work at Bloomberg in New York City (c. 2001)
- I'm active with the C++ Standards Committee:
 - Initial engagement (c. 2005)
 - Voting member (c. 2007)
- I've written a few books:
 - Large-Scale C++ Software Design (c. 1996)
 - Large-Scale C++ (Volume I):
Process and Architecture (c. 2019)
 - Embracing Modern C++ *Safely* (c. 2021)







noexcept: CppCon`21

**EMBRACING
MODERN C++
SAFELY**



JOHN LAKOS | VITTORIO ROMEO | ROSTISLAV KHLBNIKOV | ALISDAIR MEREDITH

Working on some more books...

- C++ Allocators for the Working Programmer **(CAWP) – 2023** **ISBN: 9780138060725**
- Practical Contract-Driven Programming **(PCDP) – 2024**
- Embracing Modern C++ *Safely* (2nd Ed.) **(EMC++S2ed) – 2025**
- Large-Scale C++ Volume III:
Verification and Testing
(LSC++V3:V&T) – TBD

Large-Scale C++ Volume III:

Verification & Testing

Topics Covered

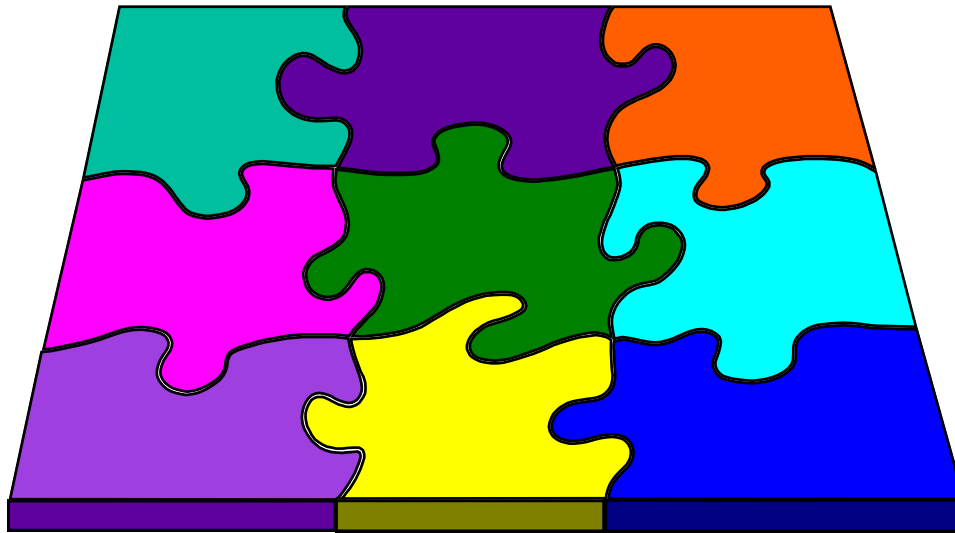
- Ch. 7: Component-Level Testing
 - The absolute need for unit testing
- Ch. 8: Test-Data Selection Methods
 - Identifying test data systematically
- Ch. 9: Test-Case Implementation Techniques
 - Rendering individual test cases effectively
- Ch. 10: Test-Case Ordering
 - Exploiting previously tested, more primitive functionality

Ch. 8: Test-Data Selection Methods

How do we choose our test inputs (“test vectors”)?

- **Ad hoc** – whatever makes sense
- **Boundary conditions** – look at the edges of our algorithms
- **Area testing** – try everything in an area or region
- **Orthogonal dimensions** – choosing a canonical value and then varying each dimension independently
- **Random/statistical** – relying on chance to detect unanticipated problems
- **Depth-Ordered Enumeration** – systematic testing around the origin of a design space
- **Category partitioning** – systematic testing based on equivalence classes

Data Selection: Boundary Conditions



Boundary Conditions

There are at least three kinds of boundaries to consider:

Those...

1. *Defined* by the Interface
2. *Created* by the Implementation
3. *Imposed* by the Platform

Boundary Conditions

Recall the birthday problem:

What is the probability that two or more people in a room of n people have the same birthday?



Boundary Conditions

Birthday Problem

- What is the *minimum number* of people we would need in a room for the probability that “*at least two* of them have the same birthday” is *greater than 50%*?
- Simplifying Assumptions:
 - Only the day of the year matters.
 - All years have 365 days (no leap years)
 - Birthdays are uniformly distributed over the days of the year.
- How does the probability vary with the number of people in the room?

Boundary Conditions

Birthday Function

- Let's design a function that provides a probability value in the range [0.0 .. 1.0] as a function of the number of people in a room.
- What is the interface?
 - Function Name? Return Type? Parameter Name & Type?
- What is the contract?
 - What does it do? How wide should we make it?
 - *Essential Behavior?* (What must happen on valid input?)
 - *Undefined Behavior?* (What input values are not allowed?)

Boundary Conditions

Birthday Function

```
double sameBirthday(int numPeople);  
    // Return the probability that at least  
    // two of the specified (randomly-  
    // chosen) 'numPeople' were born on the  
    // same day of the same month.  People  
    // born on February 29th are excluded.  
    // The behavior is undefined unless  
    // '0 <= numPeople'.
```

Boundary Conditions

sameBirthday

$$P(1) = 0$$

$$P(2) = 0/365 + 365/365 * 1/365$$

$$P(3) = 1/365 + 364/365 * 2/365$$

$$P(4) = P(3) + (1 - P(3)) * 3/365$$

$$P(5) = P(4) + (1 - P(4)) * 4/365$$

. . .

$$P(363) = P(362) + (1 - P(362)) * 362/365$$

$$P(364) = P(363) + (1 - P(363)) * 363/365$$

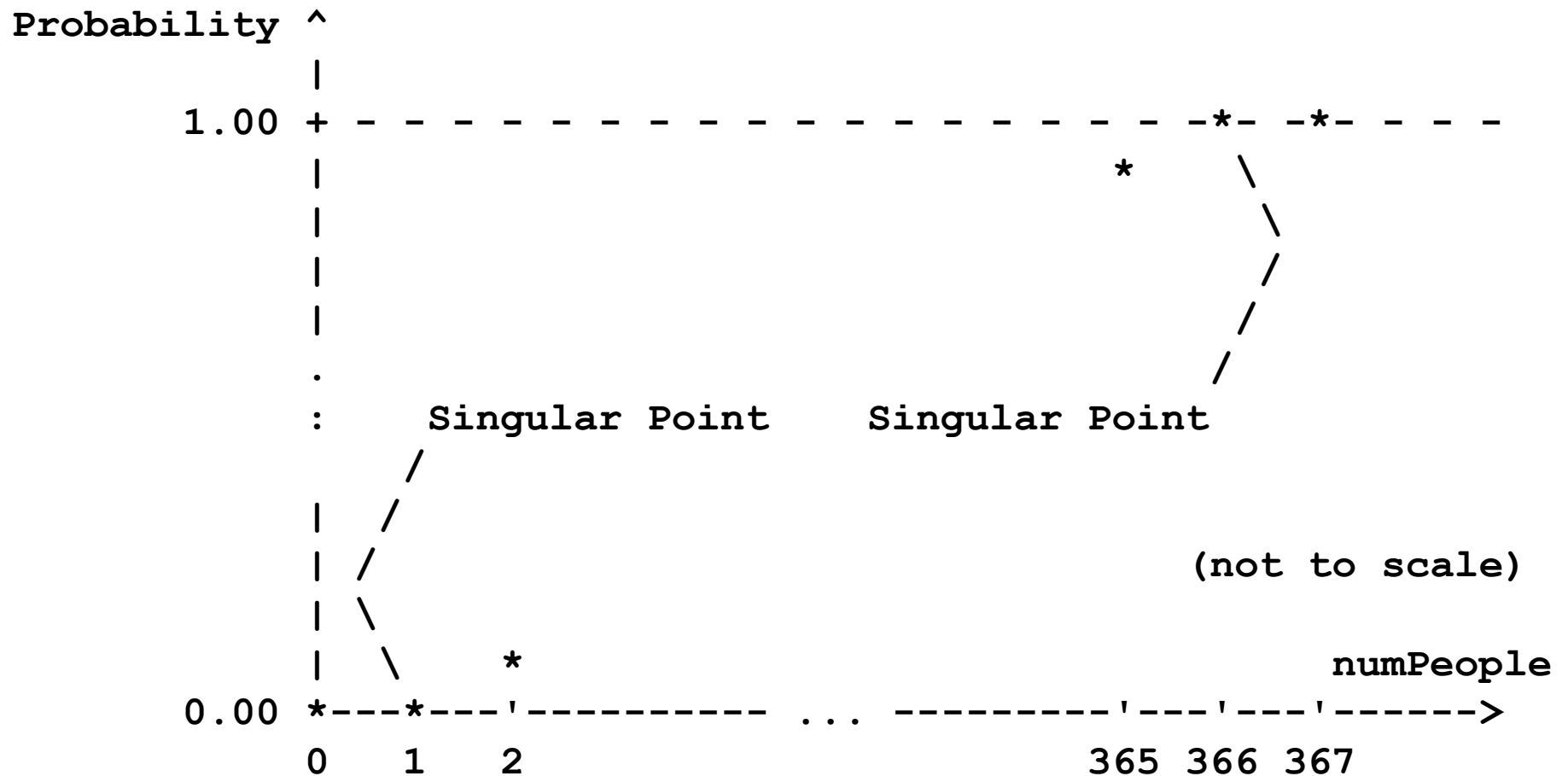
$$P(365) = P(364) + (1 - P(364)) * 364/365$$

$$P(366) = P(365) + (1 - P(365)) * 365/365 = 1$$

$$P(367) = 1$$

Boundary Conditions

sameBirthday



Designing Component-Level Function Tests

Boundary Conditions

sameBirthday

```
ASSERT(0.0 == sameBirthday(0)); // external interface boundary
ASSERT(0.0 == sameBirthday(1)); // internal singular point
ASSERT(0.0 < sameBirthday(2)); // internal interface boundary
```

```
ASSERT(1.0 > sameBirthday(365)); // internal interface boundary
ASSERT(1.0 == sameBirthday(366)); // internal singular point
ASSERT(1.0 == sameBirthday(367)); // internal interface boundary
```

```
ASSERT(1.0 == sameBirthday(INT_MAX);
                                // external interface boundary
                                // also platform boundary
```

Designing Component-Level Function Tests

Boundary Conditions

sameBirthday

```
ASSERT(0.0 == sameBirthday(0)); // external interface boundary  
ASSERT(0.0 == sameBirthday(1)); // internal singular point  
ASSERT(0.0 < sameBirthday(2)); // internal interface boundary
```

```
ASSERT(1.0 > sameBirthday(365)); // internal interface boundary  
ASSERT(1.0 == sameBirthday(366)); // internal singular point  
ASSERT(1.0 == sameBirthday(367)); // internal interface boundary
```

```
ASSERT(1.0 == sameBirthday(368)); // external interface boundary  
// also platform boundary
```

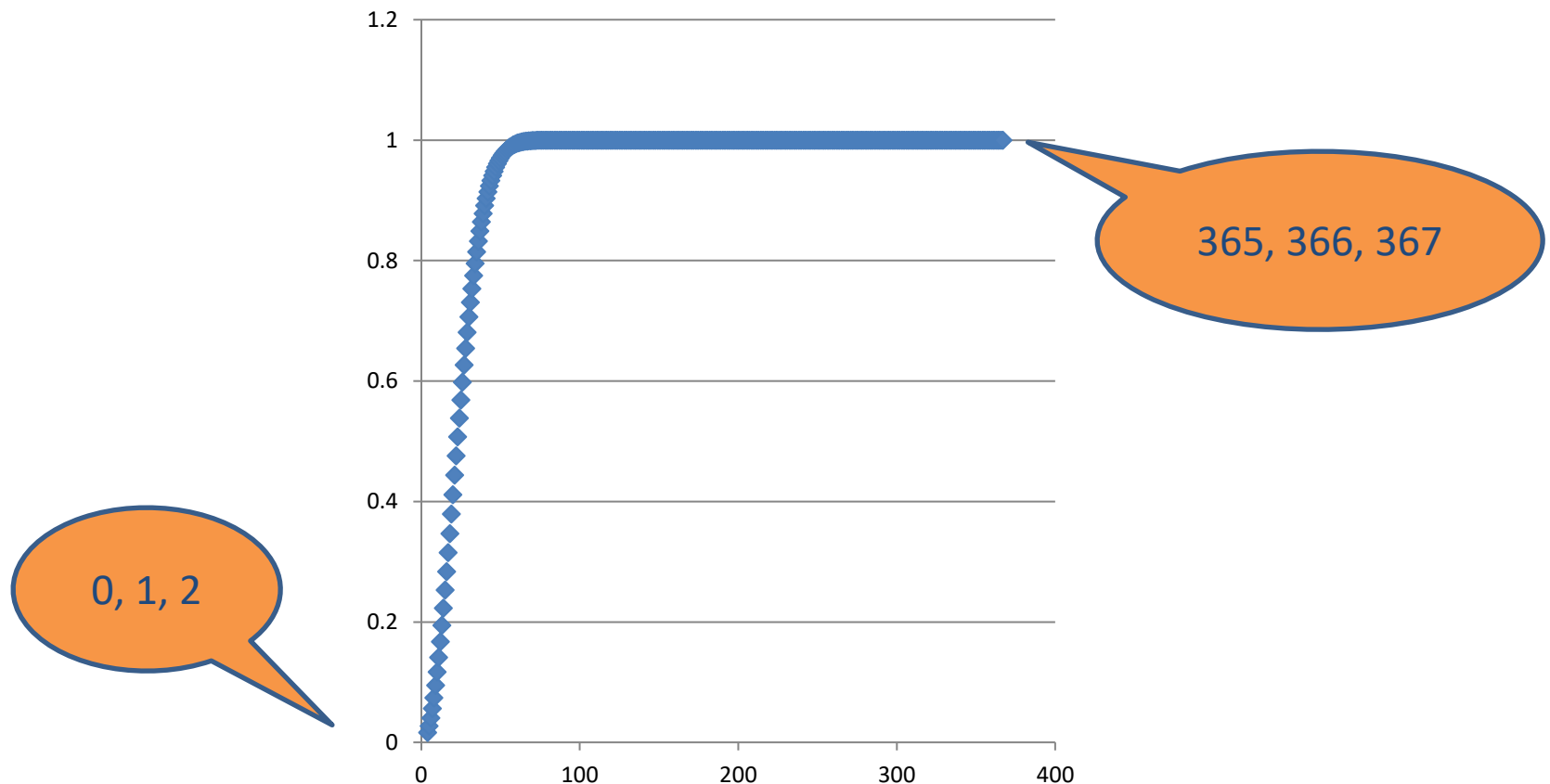
Assertion Failure!

WHY?

Designing Component-Level Function Tests

Boundary Conditions

sameBirthday

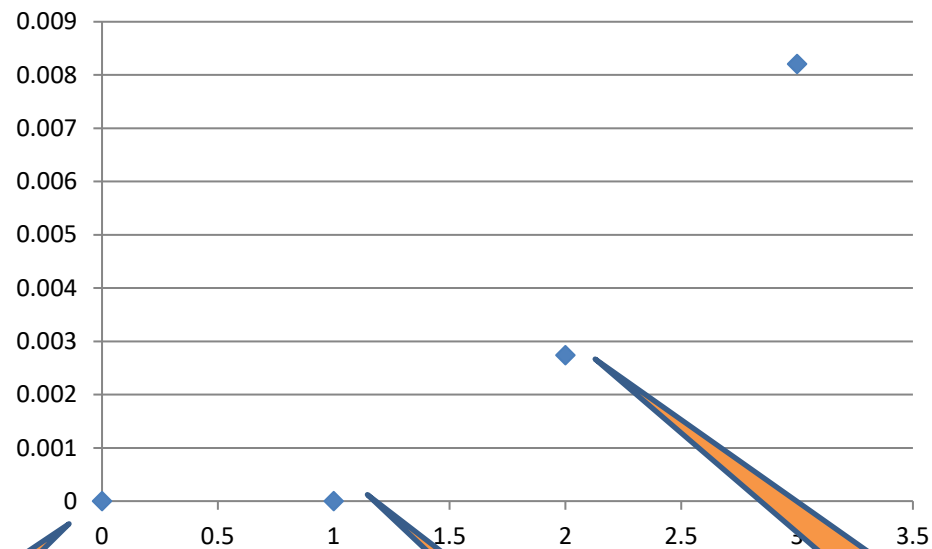


Designing Component-Level Function Tests

Boundary Conditions

sameBirthday

0	0
1	0
2	0.00274
3	0.008204
4	0.016356



0: OK

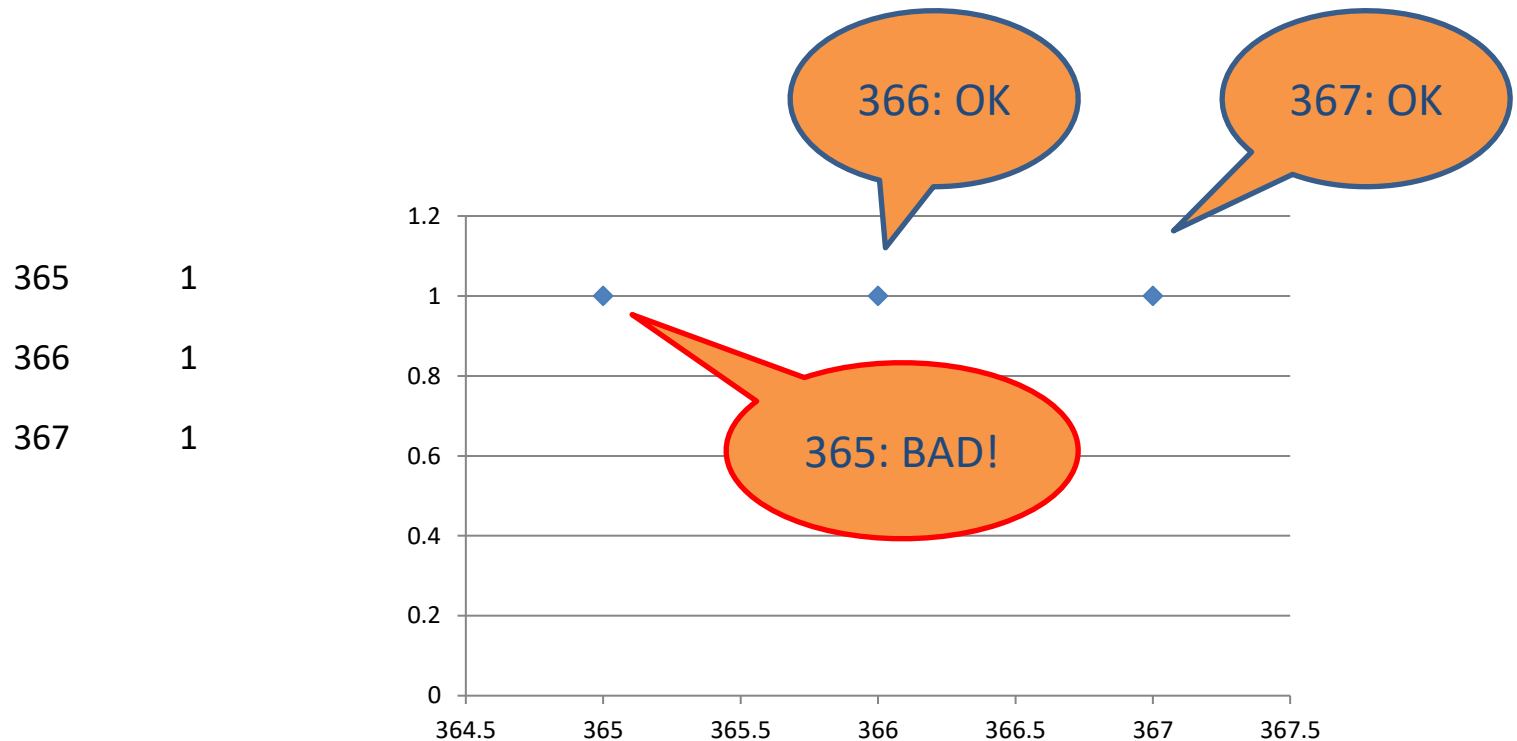
1: OK

2: OK

Designing Component-Level Function Tests

Boundary Conditions

sameBirthday

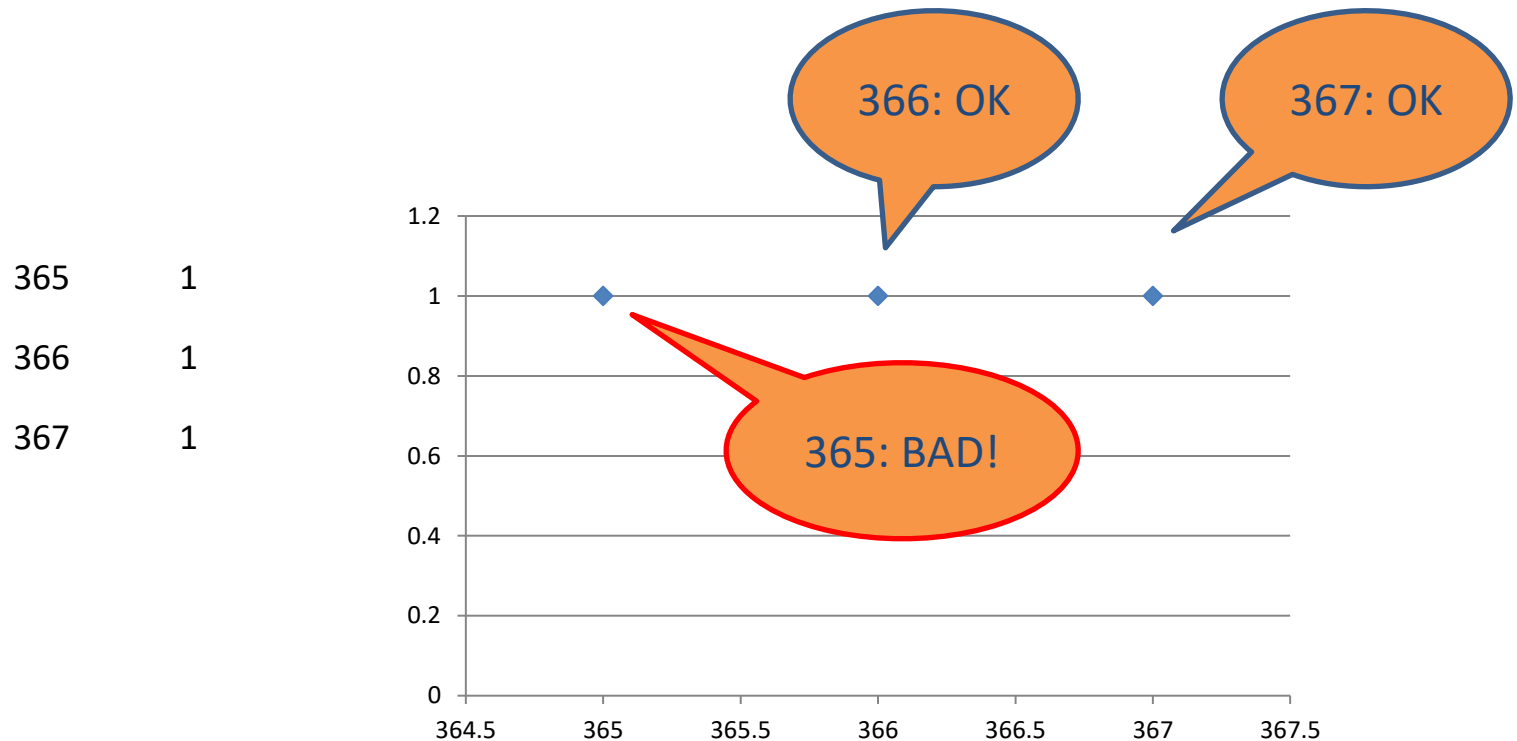


```
ASSERT(1.0 > sameBirthday(365)); // FAIL
```

Designing Component-Level Function Tests

Boundary Conditions

sameBirthday

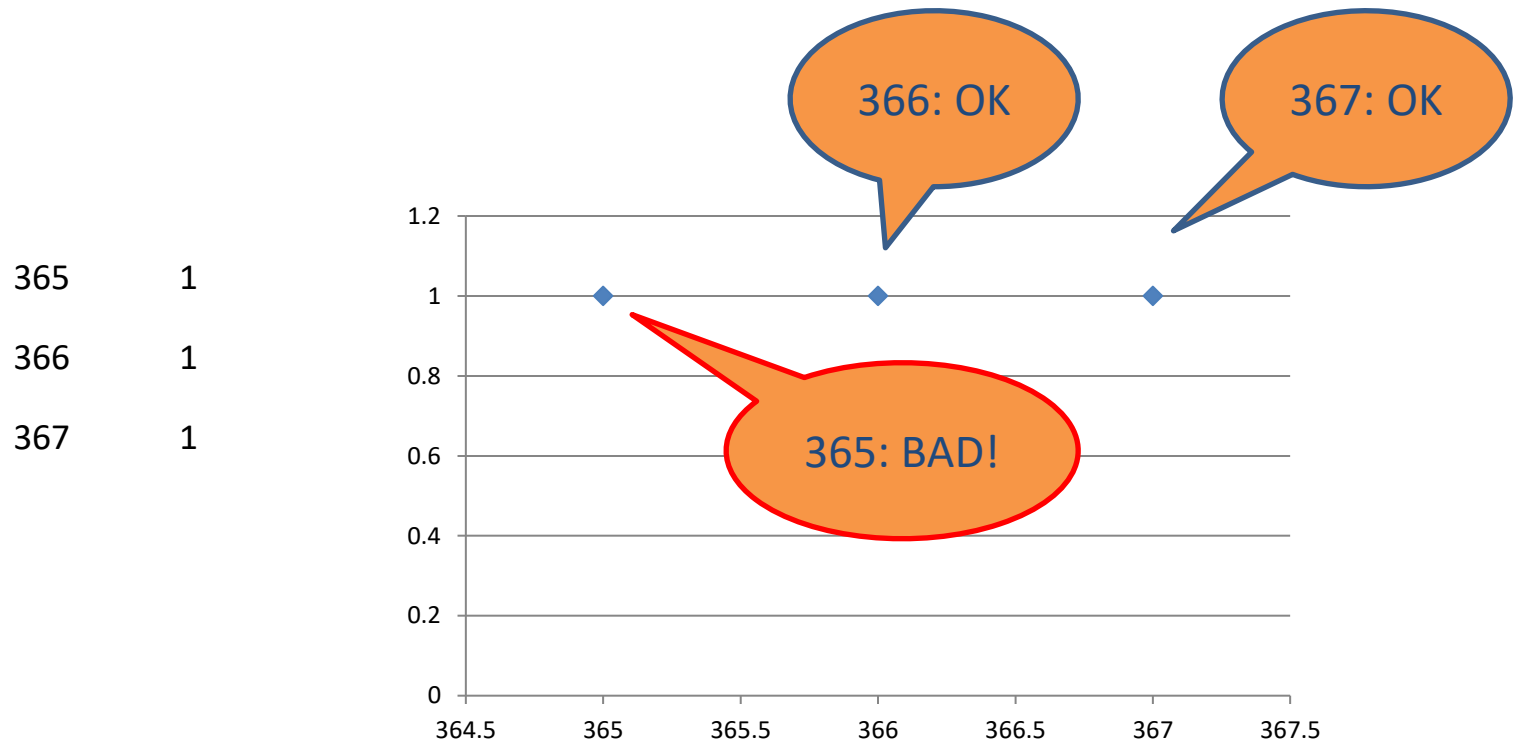


```
ASSERT(1.0 > sameBirthday(364)); // FAIL
```

Designing Component-Level Function Tests

Boundary Conditions

sameBirthday



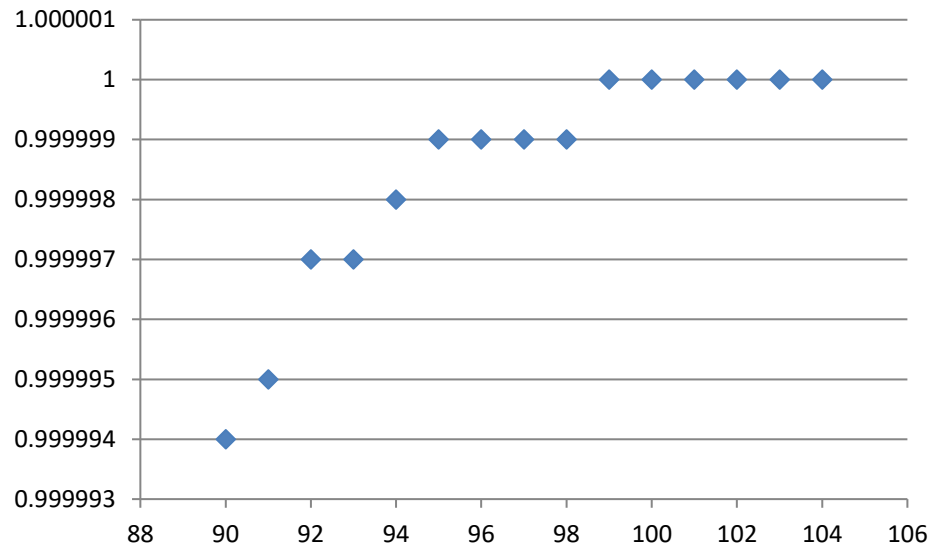
```
ASSERT(1.0 > sameBirthday(363)); // FAIL
```


Designing Component-Level Function Tests

Boundary Conditions

sameBirthday

```
90 0.999994
91 0.999995
92 0.999997
93 0.999997
94 0.999998
95 0.999999
96 0.999999
97 0.999999
98 0.999999
99      1
100     1
101     1
102     1
103     1
104     1
105     1
```



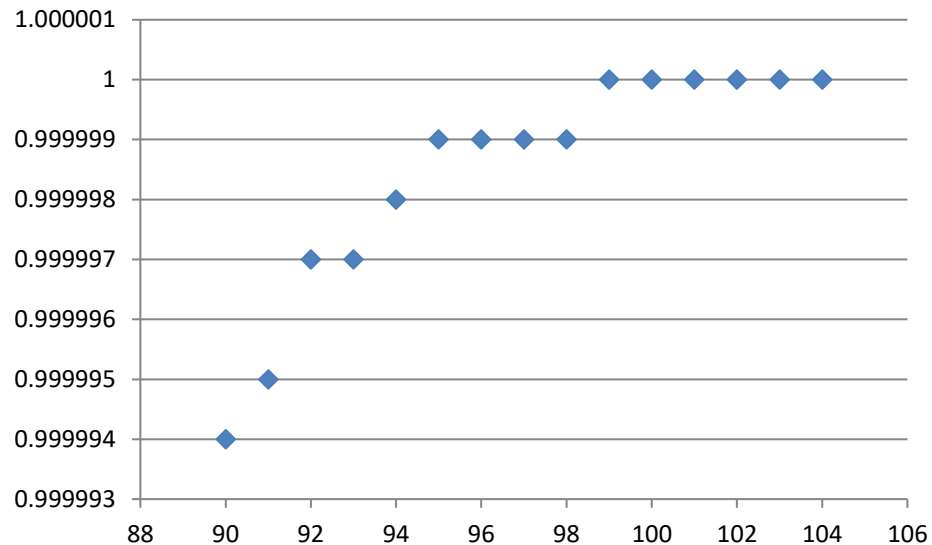
```
ASSERT(1.0 > sameBirthday(98)) ; // SUCCESS
```

Designing Component-Level Function Tests

Boundary Conditions

sameBirthday

90	0.999994
91	0.999995
92	0.999997
93	0.999997
94	0.999998
95	0.999999
96	0.999999
97	0.999999
98	0.999999
99	1
100	1
101	1
102	1
103	1
104	1
105	1



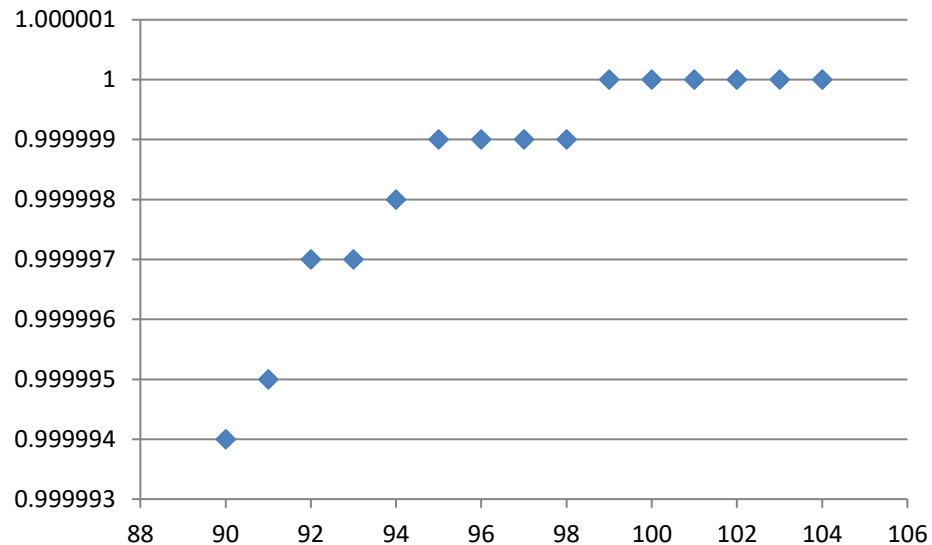
```
ASSERT(1.0 > sameBirthday(99)) ; // SUCCESS
```

Designing Component-Level Function Tests

Boundary Conditions

sameBirthday

```
90 0.999994
91 0.999995
92 0.999997
93 0.999997
94 0.999998
95 0.999999
96 0.999999
97 0.999999
98 0.999999
99      1
100     1
101     1
102     1
103     1
104     1
105     1
```



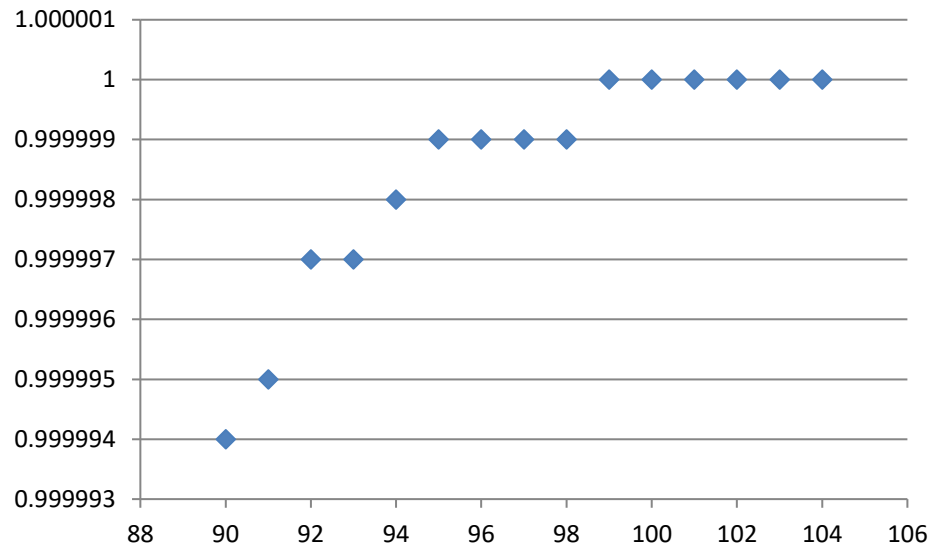
```
ASSERT(1.0 > sameBirthday(100)); // SUCCESS
```

Designing Component-Level Function Tests

Boundary Conditions

sameBirthday

90	0.999994
91	0.999995
92	0.999997
93	0.999997
94	0.999998
95	0.999999
96	0.999999
97	0.999999
98	0.999999
99	1
100	1
101	1
102	1
103	1
104	1
105	1



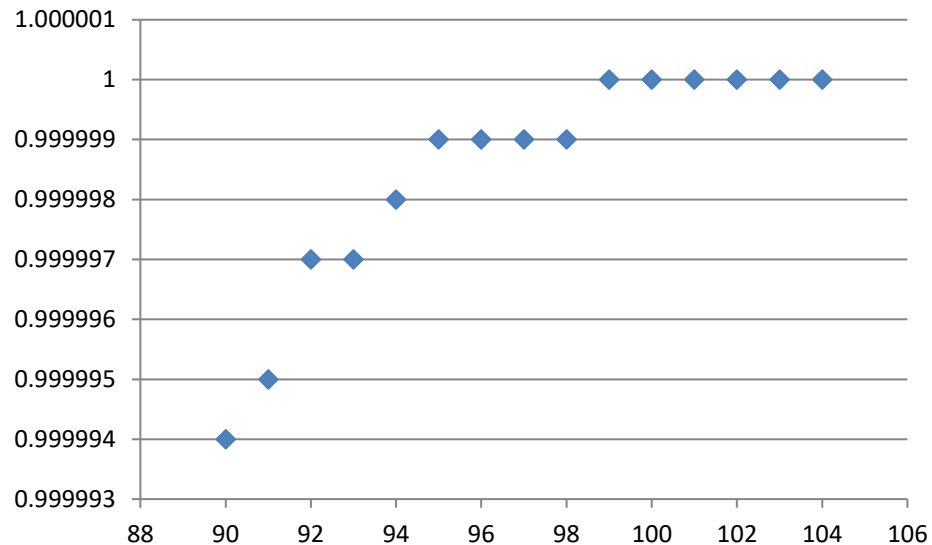
```
ASSERT(1.0 > sameBirthday(101)); // SUCCESS
```

Designing Component-Level Function Tests

Boundary Conditions

sameBirthday

90	0.999994
91	0.999995
92	0.999997
93	0.999997
94	0.999998
95	0.999999
96	0.999999
97	0.999999
98	0.999999
99	1
100	1
101	1
102	1
103	1
104	1
105	1



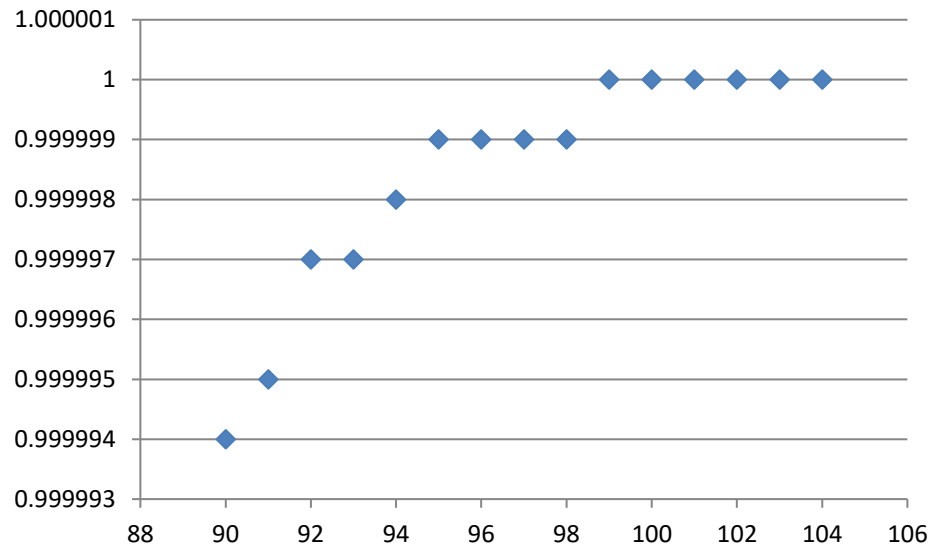
```
ASSERT(1.0 > sameBirthday(102)); // SUCCESS
```

Designing Component-Level Function Tests

Boundary Conditions

sameBirthday

90	0.999994
91	0.999995
92	0.999997
93	0.999997
94	0.999998
95	0.999999
96	0.999999
97	0.999999
98	0.999999
99	1
100	1
101	1
102	1
103	1
104	1
105	1



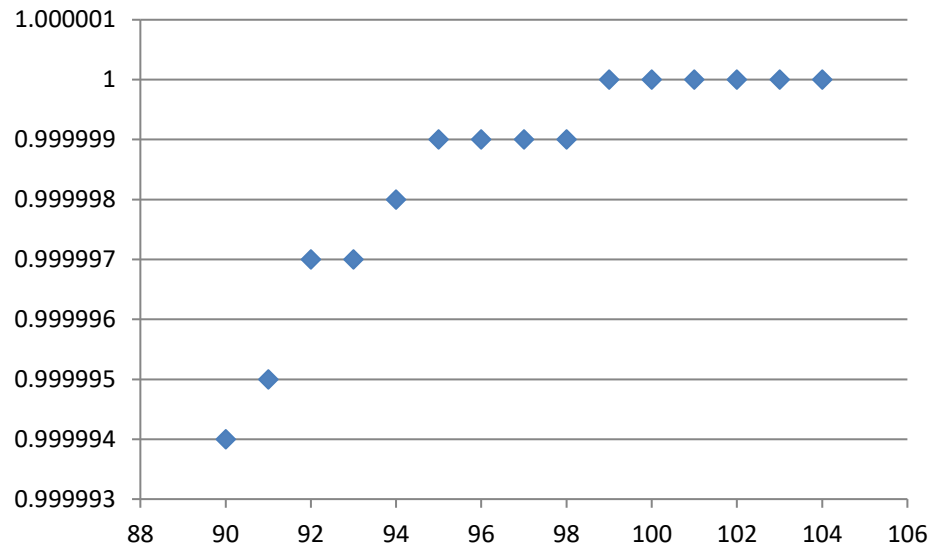
```
ASSERT(1.0 > sameBirthday(103)); // SUCCESS
```

Designing Component-Level Function Tests

Boundary Conditions

sameBirthday

90	0.999994
91	0.999995
92	0.999997
93	0.999997
94	0.999998
95	0.999999
96	0.999999
97	0.999999
98	0.999999
99	1
100	1
101	1
102	1
103	1
104	1
105	1



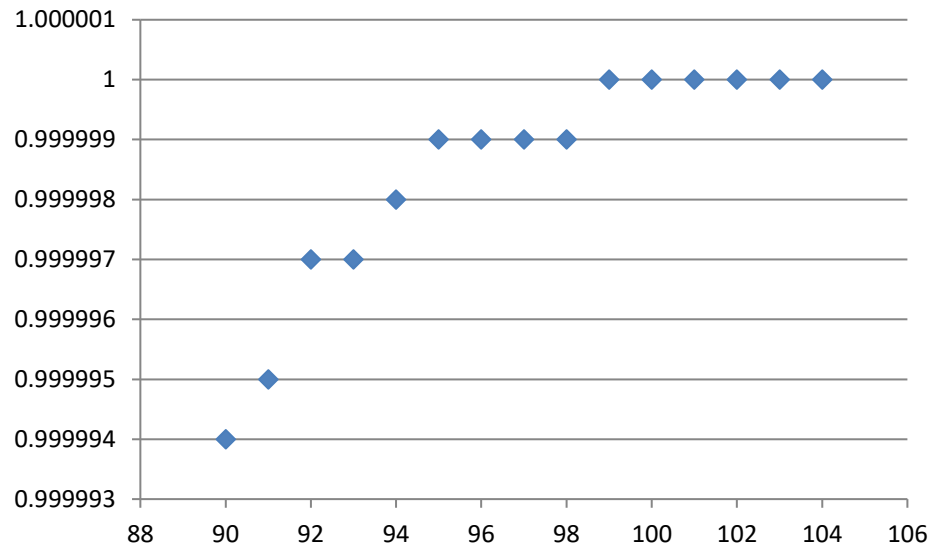
```
ASSERT(1.0 > sameBirthday(110)); // SUCCESS
```


Designing Component-Level Function Tests

Boundary Conditions

sameBirthday

```
90 0.999994
91 0.999995
92 0.999997
93 0.999997
94 0.999998
95 0.999999
96 0.999999
97 0.999999
98 0.999999
99      1
100     1
101     1
102     1
103     1
104     1
105     1
```



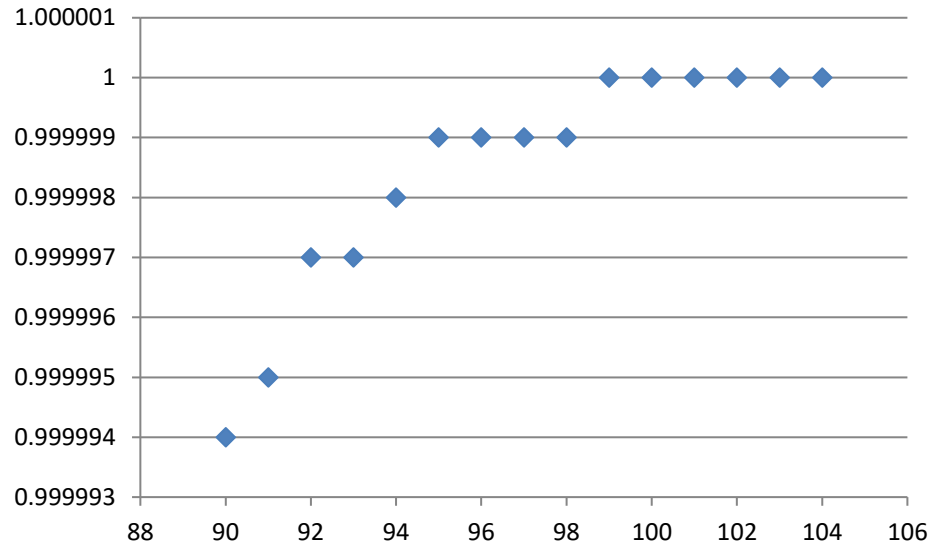
```
ASSERT(1.0 > sameBirthday(120)); // SUCCESS
```

Designing Component-Level Function Tests

Boundary Conditions

sameBirthday

```
90 0.999994
91 0.999995
92 0.999997
93 0.999997
94 0.999998
95 0.999999
96 0.999999
97 0.999999
98 0.999999
99      1
100     1
101     1
102     1
103     1
104     1
105     1
```



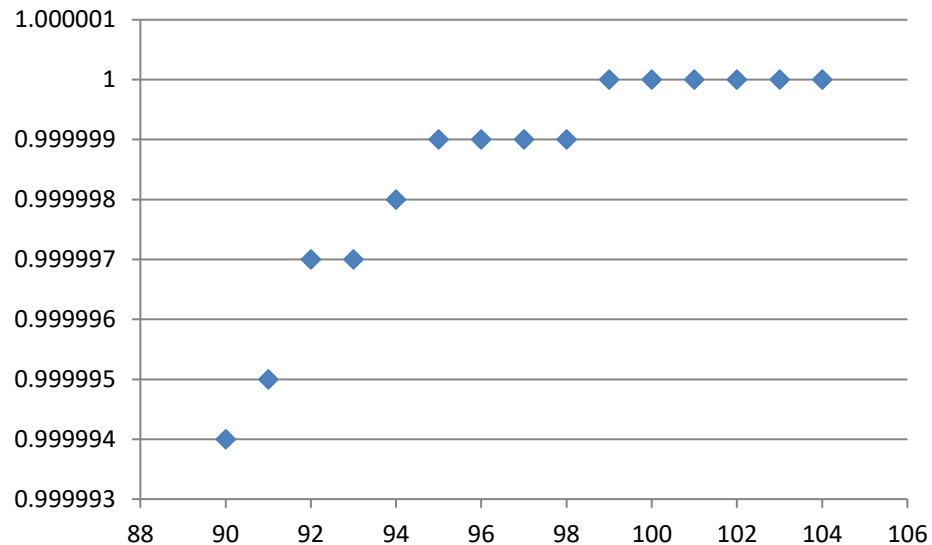
```
ASSERT(1.0 > sameBirthday(150)); // SUCCESS
```

Designing Component-Level Function Tests

Boundary Conditions

sameBirthday

90	0.999994
91	0.999995
92	0.999997
93	0.999997
94	0.999998
95	0.999999
96	0.999999
97	0.999999
98	0.999999
99	1
100	1
101	1
102	1
103	1
104	1
105	1



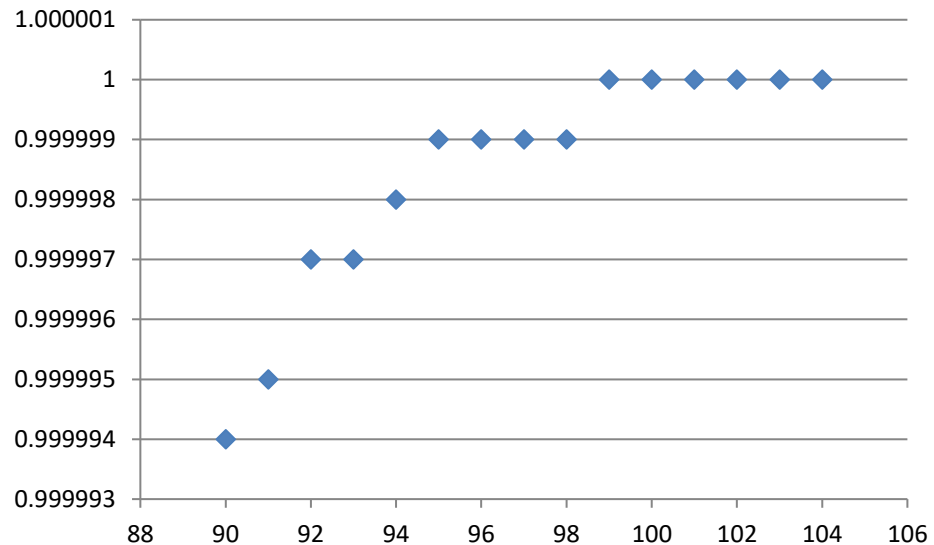
```
ASSERT(1.0 > sameBirthday(200)); // FAIL
```

Designing Component-Level Function Tests

Boundary Conditions

sameBirthday

90	0.999994
91	0.999995
92	0.999997
93	0.999997
94	0.999998
95	0.999999
96	0.999999
97	0.999999
98	0.999999
99	1
100	1
101	1
102	1
103	1
104	1
105	1



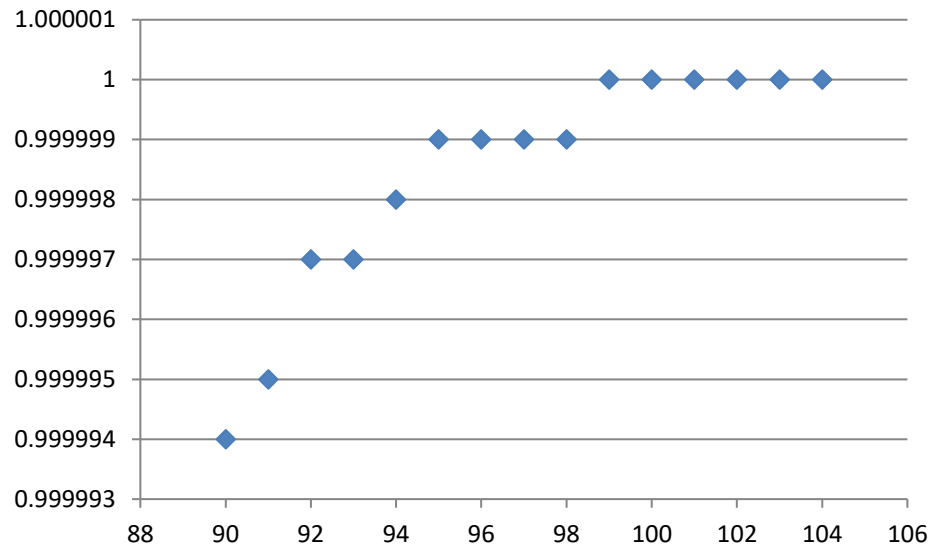
```
ASSERT(1.0 > sameBirthday(175)); // SUCCESS
```

Designing Component-Level Function Tests

Boundary Conditions

sameBirthday

90	0.999994
91	0.999995
92	0.999997
93	0.999997
94	0.999998
95	0.999999
96	0.999999
97	0.999999
98	0.999999
99	1
100	1
101	1
102	1
103	1
104	1
105	1



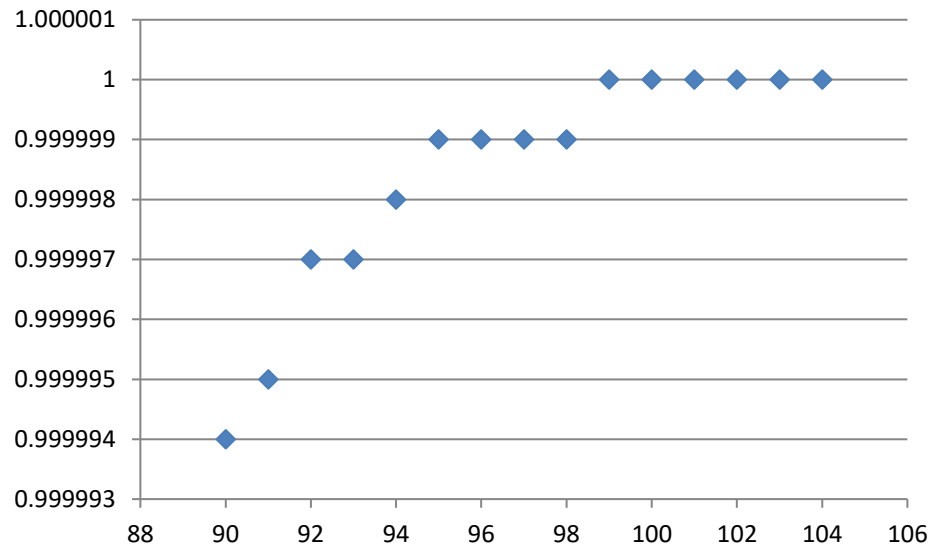
```
ASSERT(1.0 > sameBirthday(185)); // FAIL
```

Designing Component-Level Function Tests

Boundary Conditions

sameBirthday

90	0.999994
91	0.999995
92	0.999997
93	0.999997
94	0.999998
95	0.999999
96	0.999999
97	0.999999
98	0.999999
99	1
100	1
101	1
102	1
103	1
104	1
105	1



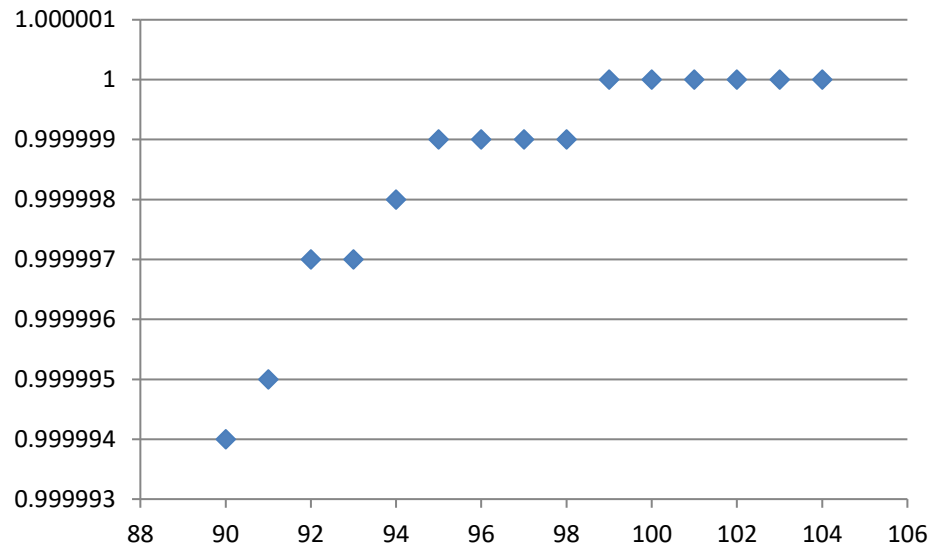
```
ASSERT(1.0 > sameBirthday(180)); // SUCCESS
```

Designing Component-Level Function Tests

Boundary Conditions

sameBirthday

```
90 0.999994
91 0.999995
92 0.999997
93 0.999997
94 0.999998
95 0.999999
96 0.999999
97 0.999999
98 0.999999
99      1
100     1
101     1
102     1
103     1
104     1
105     1
```



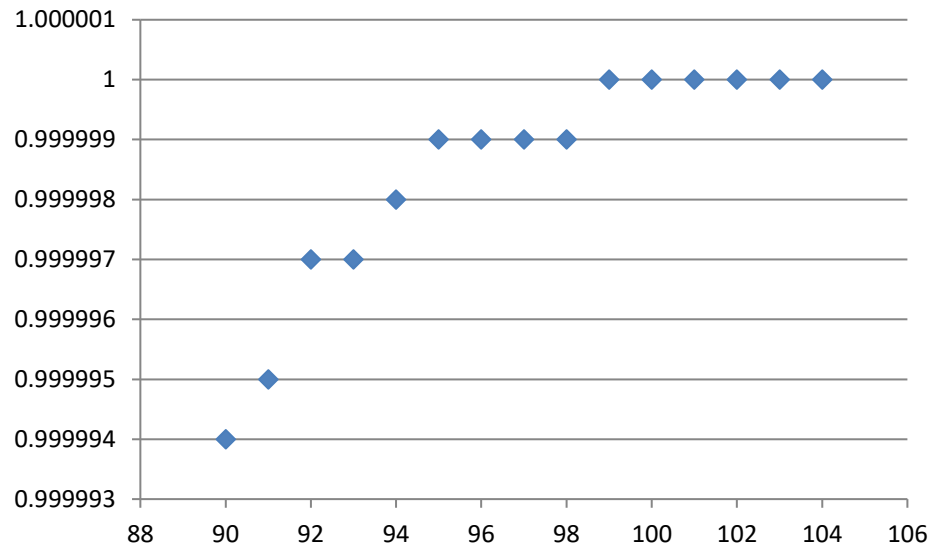
```
ASSERT(1.0 > sameBirthday(182)); // SUCCESS
```


Designing Component-Level Function Tests

Boundary Conditions

sameBirthday

90	0.999994
91	0.999995
92	0.999997
93	0.999997
94	0.999998
95	0.999999
96	0.999999
97	0.999999
98	0.999999
99	1
100	1
101	1
102	1
103	1
104	1
105	1



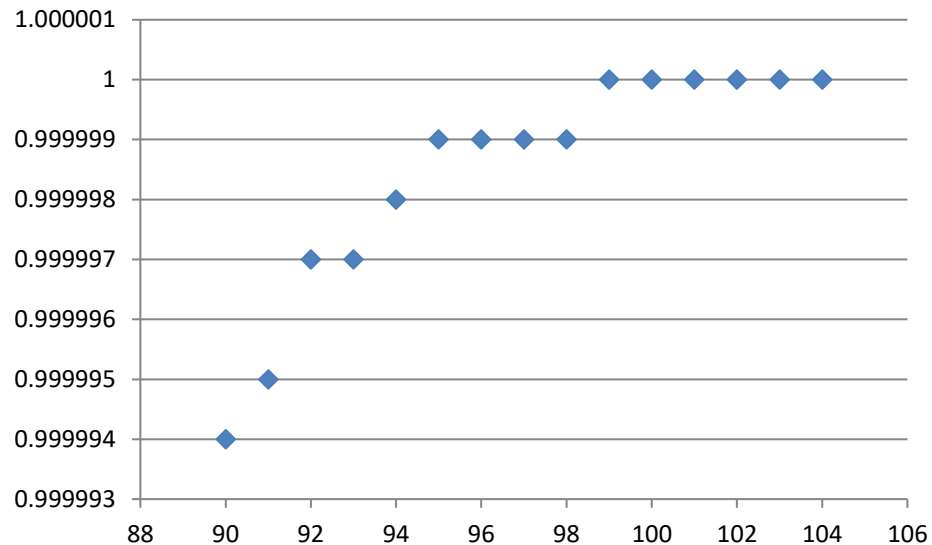
```
ASSERT(1.0 > sameBirthday(184)); // FAIL
```

Designing Component-Level Function Tests

Boundary Conditions

sameBirthday

90	0.999994
91	0.999995
92	0.999997
93	0.999997
94	0.999998
95	0.999999
96	0.999999
97	0.999999
98	0.999999
99	1
100	1
101	1
102	1
103	1
104	1
105	1

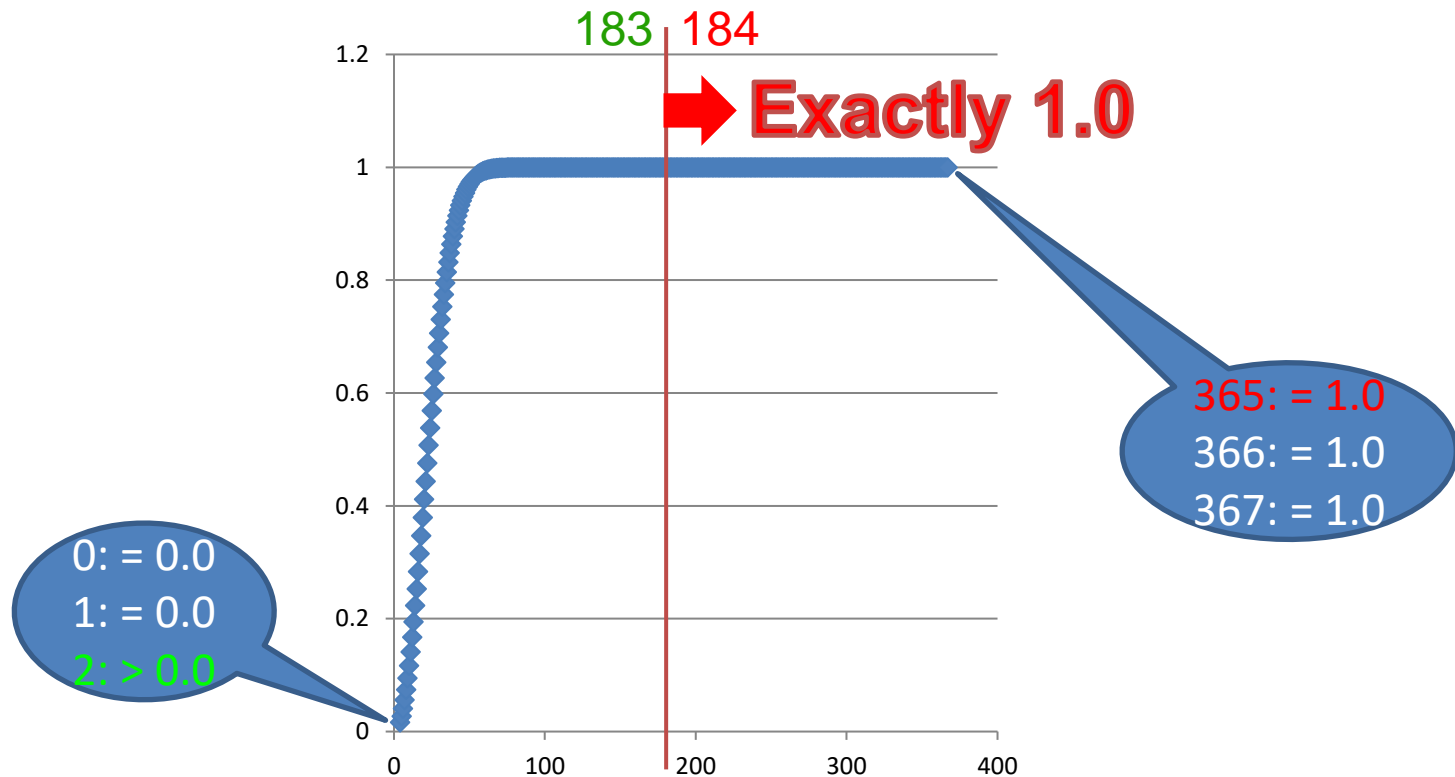


```
ASSERT(1.0 > sameBirthday(183)); // SUCCESS
```

Designing Component-Level Function Tests

Boundary Conditions

sameBirthday



Boundary Conditions

`sameBirthday`

So, what's
wrong with our
implementation?

Designing Component-Level Function Tests

Boundary Conditions

sameBirthday

```
#include <assert.h>

double sameBirthday(int numPeople)
{
    assert(0 <= numPeople);

    if (numPeople > 365) {
        return 1.0;
    }

    double probability = 0.0;

    for (int i = 1; i < numPeople; ++i) {
        probability += (1.0 - probability) * i / 365.0;
    }

    return probability;
}
```

Boundary Conditions

`sameBirthday`

We have encountered a
platform-imposed
boundary condition
between 183 and 184
people!

Designing Component-Level Function Tests

Boundary Conditions

Using a double to represent “Almost One”

[illegible]

Almost One: $1 - 2^{-52} = 0.9999\ 9999\ 9999\ 9999$

$$0 \quad 0111111111 \quad 000$$
$$+ 2^0 * [1 + 0/2 + 0/4 + 0/8 + 0/16 + \dots + 0 * 2^{-51} + 0 * 2^{-52}]$$

One: **1** = 1.0000 0000 0000 0000

Designing Component-Level Function Tests

Boundary Conditions

Using a double to represent “*Almost Zero*”

[illegible]
$$+ 2^{-1022} * [0/2 + 0/4 + 0/8 + 0/16 + \dots + 0 * 2^{-51} + 1 * 2^{-52}]$$

Almost Zero: $2^{-1074} = 4.9406\ 5645\ 8412\ 466 \times 10^{-324}$

[illegible]
$$+ 2^{-1022} * [0/2 + 0/4 + 0/8 + 0/16 + \dots + 0 * 2^{-51} + 0 * 2^{-52}]$$

Zero: $0 = \underline{0.0}$ ← zero exponent & mantissa (sign bit is ignored)

Boundary Conditions

~~sameBirthday~~

- How can we fix our implementation for `sameBirthday`?
 - We can't: No viable implementation exists!
- What should we do?
 - Rework our interface & contract.
- How?
 - Use what we've learned about non-uniformity in the dynamic range of IEEE-754 `double` values.

Designing Component-Level Function Tests

Boundary Conditions

uniqueBirthday

- We can express the probability $P(N)$ that no two of N people have the same birthday:

$$P(N) = \frac{365}{365} \times \frac{364}{365} \times \frac{363}{365} \times \frac{362}{365} \times \dots \times \frac{365-N}{365} = \frac{365!}{(365-N)! \times 365^N}$$

$$P(365) = \frac{365!}{365^{365}} \cong e^{-365} \times \sqrt{2\pi \times 365}$$
$$\cong 1.45 \times 10^{-157}$$

*Stirling's approx.**

$$>> 4.9406\ 5645\ 8412\ 466 \times 10^{-324}$$

- With `double uniqueBirthday(int numPeople)`, we can at least REPRESENT the results for the entire range of valid inputs.

**Stirling's approximation: $n! = n^n e^{-n} \sqrt{2\pi n} (1 + \dots)$*

Boundary Conditions

uniqueBirthday

```
double uniqueBirthday(int numPeople);  
    // Return the probability that at least  
    // no two of the specified (randomly-  
    // chosen) 'numPeople' were born on the  
    // same day of the same month. People  
    // born on February 29th are excluded.  
    // The behavior is undefined unless  
    // '0 <= numPeople'.
```

Designing Component-Level Function Tests

Boundary Conditions

sameBirthday

```
#include <assert.h>

double sameBirthday(int numPeople)
{
    assert(0 <= numPeople);

    if (numPeople > 365) {
        return 1.0;
    }

    double probability = 0.0;

    for (int i = 1; i < numPeople; ++i) {
        probability += (1.0 - probability) * i / 365.0;
    }

    return probability;
}
```

Designing Component-Level Function Tests

Boundary Conditions

uniqueBirthday

```
#include <assert.h>

double uniqueBirthday(int numPeople)
{
    assert(0 <= numPeople);

    if (numPeople > 365) {
        return 0.0;
    }

    double probability = 1.0;

    for (int i = 364; i >= 366 - numPeople; --i) {
        probability *= (1.0 - probability) * i/365.0;
    }

    return probability;
}
```

Designing Component-Level Function Tests

Boundary Conditions

uniqueBirthday

```
#include <assert.h>

double uniqueBirthday(int numPeople)
{
    assert(0 <= numPeople);

    if (numPeople > 365) {
        return 0.0;
    }

    double probability = 1.0;

    for (int i = 364; i >= 366 - numPeople; --i) {
        probability *= i/365.0;
    }

    return probability;
}
```

Designing Component-Level Function Tests

Boundary Conditions

uniqueBirthday

```
#include <assert.h>

double uniqueBirthday(int numPeople)
{
    assert(0 <= numPeople);

    if (numPeople > 365) {
        return 0.0;
    }

    double probability = 1.0;

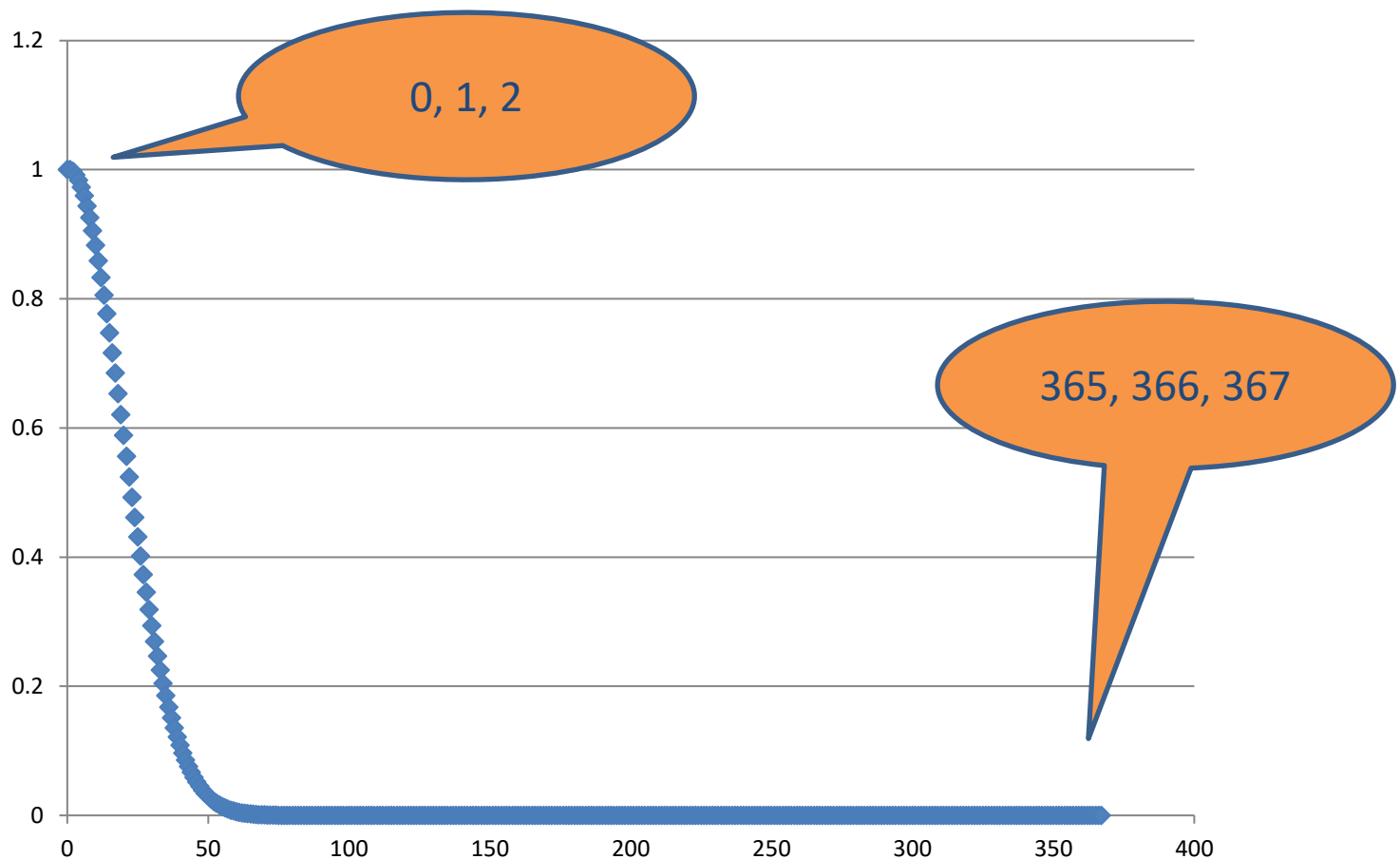
    for (int i = 364; i >= 366 - numPeople; --i) {
        probability *= i/365.0;
    }

    return probability;
}
```


Designing Component-Level Function Tests

Boundary Conditions

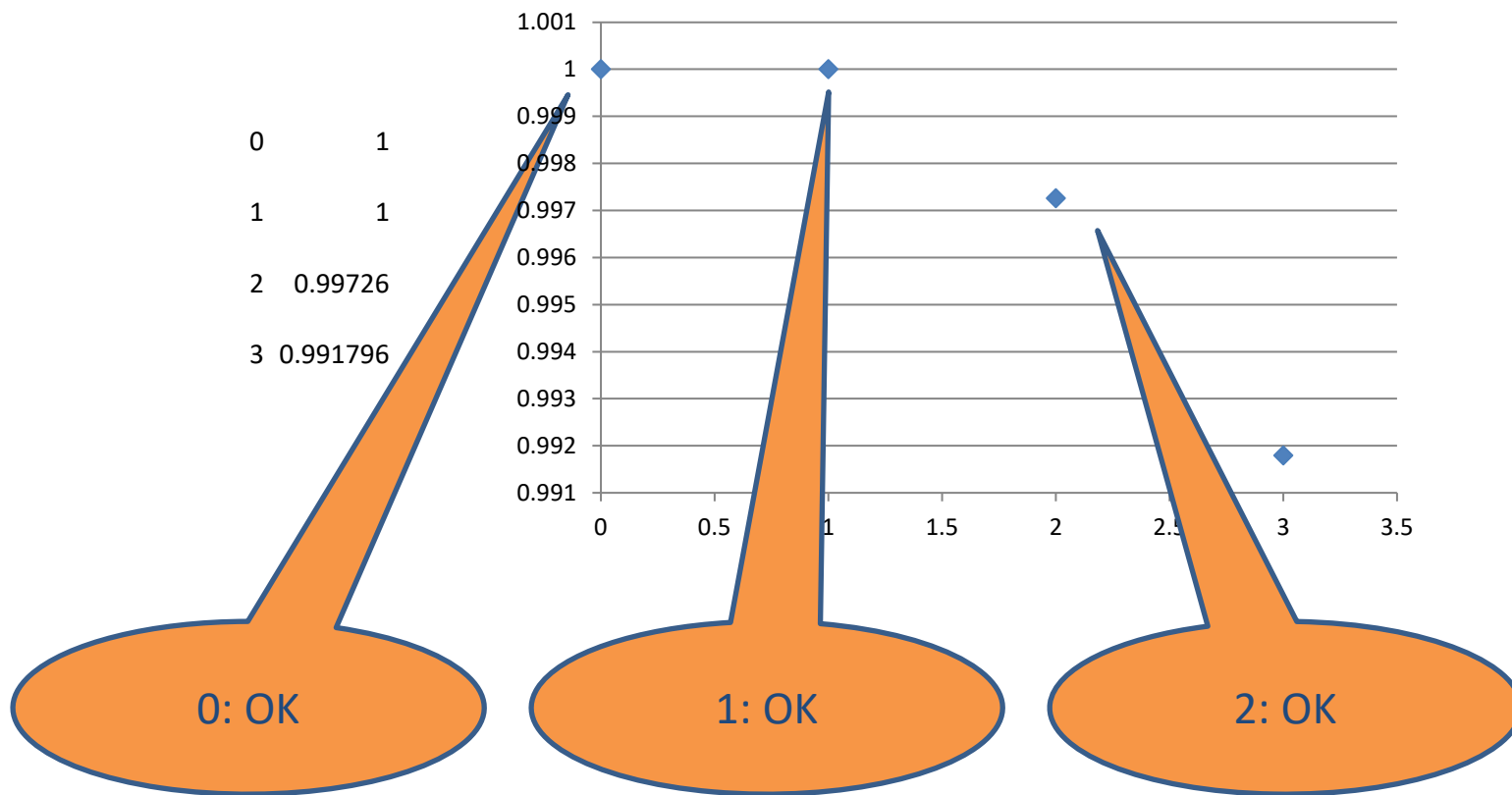
uniqueBirthday



Designing Component-Level Function Tests

Boundary Conditions

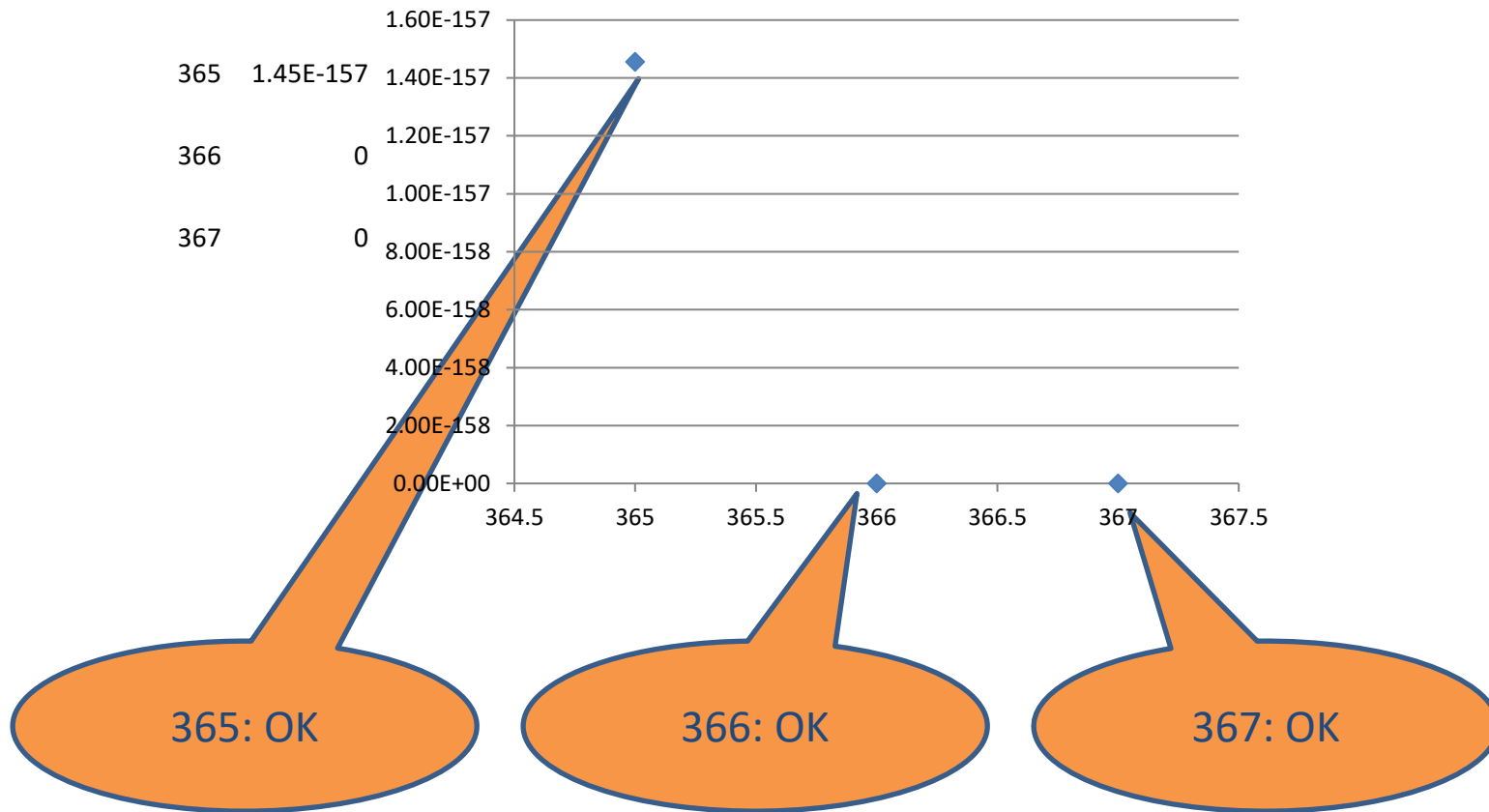
uniqueBirthday



Designing Component-Level Function Tests

Boundary Conditions

uniqueBirthday

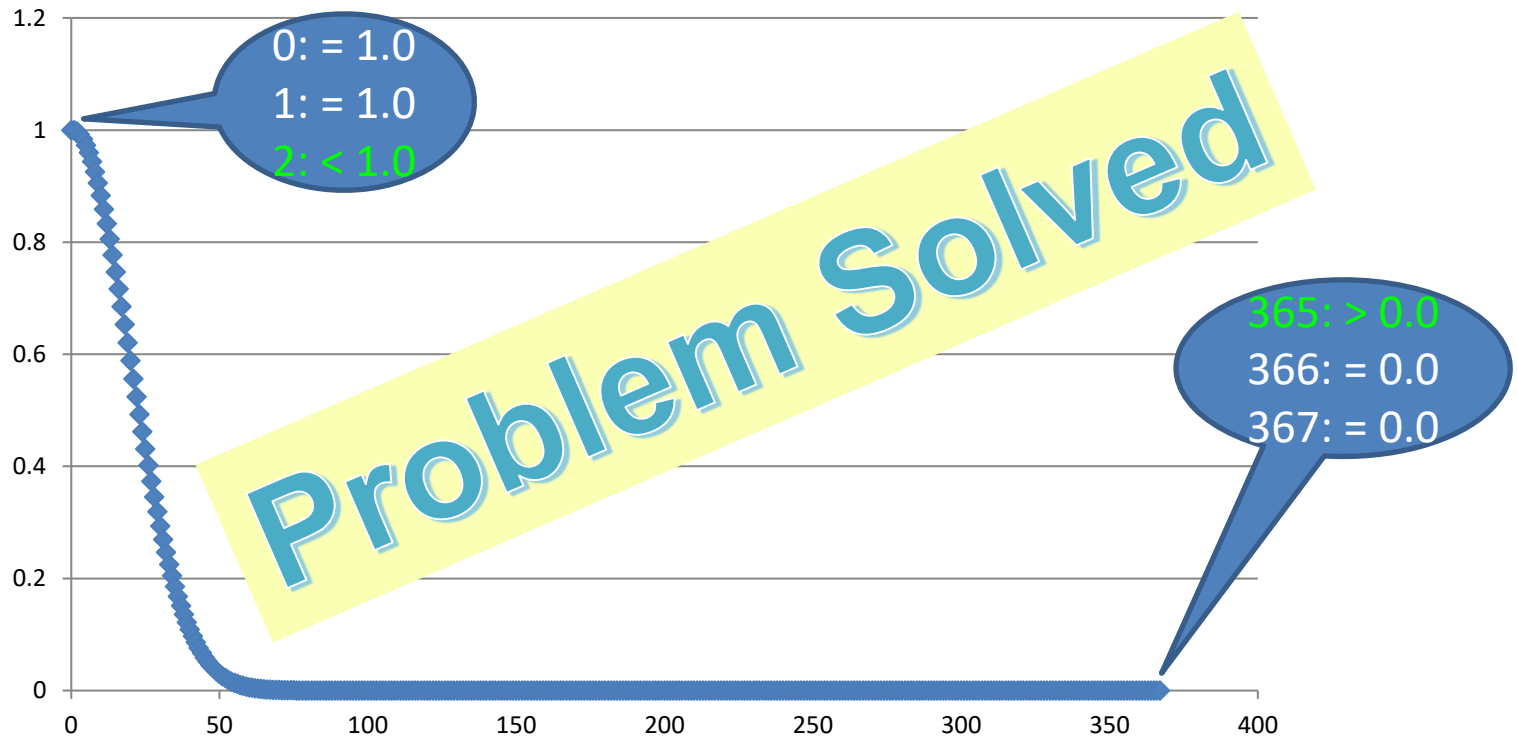


Designing Component-Level Function Tests

Boundary Conditions

uniqueBirthday

```
double uniqueBirthday(int n);
```



Boundary Conditions

Observations

- We cannot expect to know everything *a priori*.
- The purpose of our initial testing here was to verify certain basic assumptions.
- Creating just a few thoughtful tests at critical *interface boundaries* helped us to discover important *platform boundaries*, which, in turn, led us to redesign our function's interface.
- Thorough testing does not necessarily tell us how to solve a problem; it does, however, alert us to when we haven't done so yet.



Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Combinatorics is fun!

Today's main topic:

How much of the
world's water is
dinosaur pee?

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

How did this topic come up?



Meet my stepdaughter Ava

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

How did this topic come up?

Considerations

Many dinosaurs peeing

Many liters of water on earth

Many millions of years of peeing

Many molecules in a liter of water

Could it be that every molecule of water on earth is tainted?

What is the probability of that?

What's your intuition?

I came up with four questions

Assume that *all* dinosaurs have equal access to *all* water (e.g., no polar ice caps).

Remember your answers and score yourself at the end of the talk.

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Question 1

What *proportion* of the Earth's water is dinosaur pee today?

- (a) 0
- (b) almost 0
- (c) some
- (d) almost 1
- (e) 1

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Question 2

What is the **probability** that *ALL* molecules of **water** on earth were once **inside a dinosaur**?

- (a) 0
- (b) almost 0
- (c) somewhere in the middle
- (d) almost 1
- (e) 1

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Question 3

Suppose the *expected* amount of untainted water turns out to be on the order of a single molecule; what would then be the probability that ALL the molecules were tainted?

- (a) 0
- (b) almost 0
- (c) somewhere in the middle
- (d) almost 1
- (e) 1

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Question 4

If I have an 8-ounce (236.5 ml) glass of water today, what is the **probability** that it has no dinosaur pee in it?

- (a) 0
- (b) almost 0
- (c) somewhere in the middle
- (d) almost 1
- (e) 1

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Question Recap

Record your answers now please

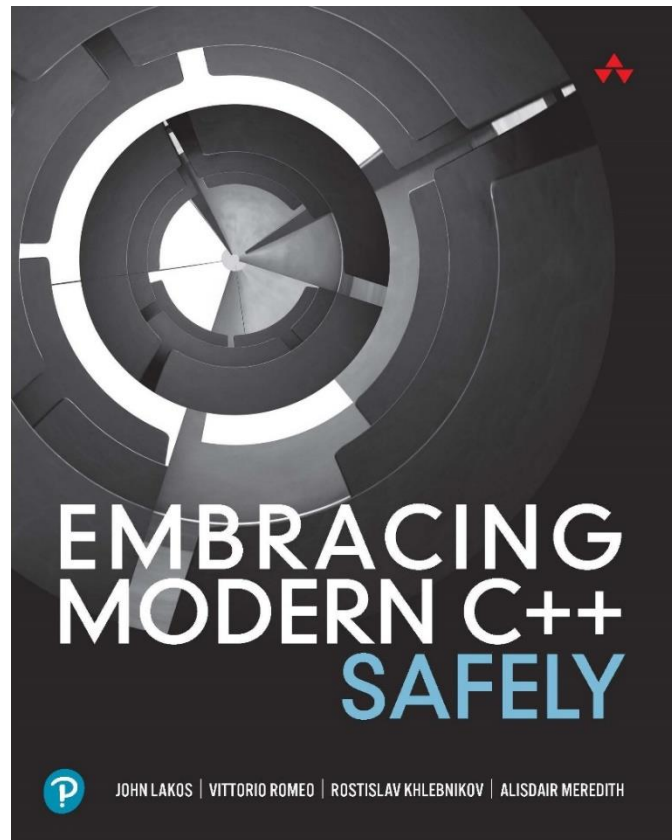
1. What fraction of all water is pee?
2. What's the chance every molecule is pee?
3. What would ans. **2.** be if ans. **1.** were "*all but 1 molecule*"?
4. What's the chance my cup of water is pure?

Answers: (a) **0** (b) **0+** (c) **~0.5** (d) **1-** (e) **1**

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

The answers would have to wait!

I was busy writing EMC++S!



Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

The answers would have to wait!

Over time, I accumulated some facts:

- Dinosaurs lived for about **165 million years**.
- Earth has about **1.26e21 liters (kg*)** of water.
1,260,000,000,000,000,000,000 liters
(1,260 Billion Billion liters)

Open question

How much water did dinosaurs drink per year?

*Note that a kg and a liter of H₂O are the same at 1 ATM and 4° C.

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Finally, I was done with EMC++S

I used the simplifying assumption:

- All dinosaurs have access to all water

I also made a WAG (wild-ass guess):

- Dinosaur mass = animal mass today

More Facts:

- All animals today = $\sim 4e9$ tons = $3.62874e12$ kg
- A reptile pees between 10-30 ml per kg per day.

Let's call it 20 ml/kg/day of dino pee

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Q1. How much water is pee?

Deriving the *annual* rate of dino pee

total dinosaur mass: $3.62874e12$ kg

daily rate of dino pee per kg: 20 ml/day/kg

total *daily* dino pee:

$0.02 \text{ liter/day/kg} * 3.62874e12 \text{ kg} = 7.25748e10 \text{ liter/day}$

total *annual* dino pee:

$365.25 \text{ day/year} * 7.25748e10 \text{ liter/day}$
 $= 2.6507946e13 \text{ liter/year}$

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Q1. How much water is pee?

Recall differential equations

Let $y(t)$ = untainted water (liters) at time t .

Let R = initial fractional rate (time⁻¹) at which water is consumed...
(...and peed).


$$\frac{dy}{dt} = -Ry$$

$$\frac{dy}{y} = -Rdt$$

$$\int \frac{1}{y} dy = \int -R dt$$

$$\ln y = -Rt + \text{Constant}$$

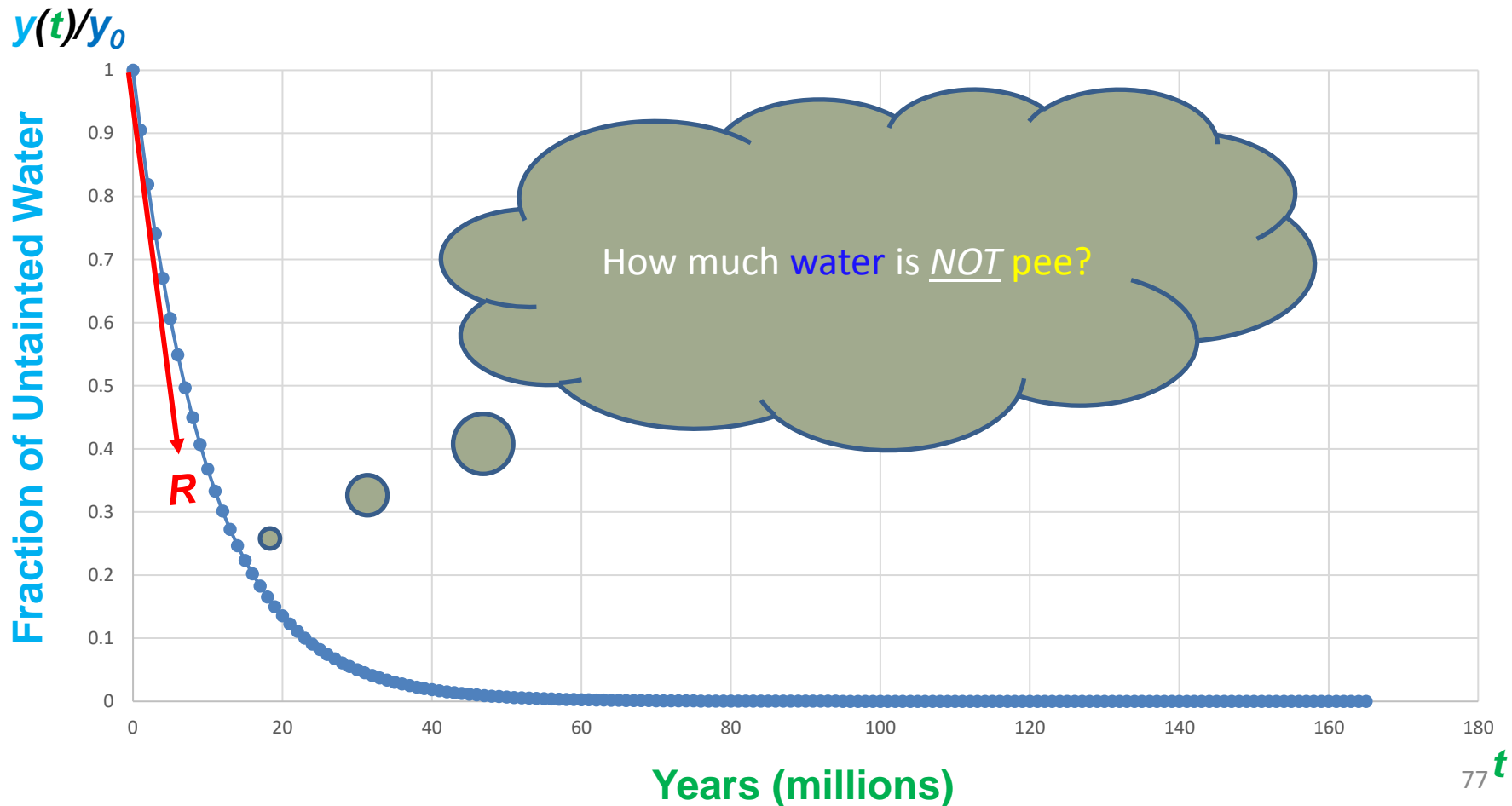
$$y(t) = y_0 e^{-Rt}$$

 Total Water

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Q1. How much water is pee?

Modeling the problem with e^{-Rt}



Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Q1. How much water is pee?

Deriving the annual rate of decay, R

$$\begin{aligned} R &= \frac{\text{AnnualPee}}{y_0 = \text{TotalWater}} \\ &= \frac{2.6507946\text{e}13 \text{ liters/year}}{1.26\text{e}21 \text{ liters}} \\ &= 2.10381\text{e-}08/\text{year} \end{aligned}$$

Note: $R = -\ln(1 - \text{AnnualPee}/\text{TotalWater})$ but, for sufficiently small x , $e^{-x} \approx 1 - x$

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Q1. How much water is pee?

Plug in the **R** and **t** and get the answer

$$y(t) = y_0 e^{-Rt}$$

$$\frac{y(165,000,000)}{y_0} = e^{-2.10381e-08 * 165,000,000}$$

units: $\frac{\text{years}}{\text{years}^{-1} * \text{years}} = \text{unit-less}$

$$= e^{-3.465}$$

$$= 0.031077024$$

Answer → $= 3.11\% \text{ (untainted) (D?)}$
(Almost all?)

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Q1. How much water is pee?

What if we use daily R and t ?

$$R_{\text{daily}} = \frac{R}{365.25} \quad t_{\text{daily}} = 365.25t$$

$$\begin{aligned} y_{\text{daily}}(t_{\text{daily}}) &= y_0 e^{-R_{\text{daily}} t_{\text{daily}}} \\ &= y_0 e^{-365.25 \frac{Rt}{365.25}} \\ &= y_0 e^{-Rt} = y(t) \end{aligned}$$

No Difference!

It all cancels out.

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Q1. How much water is pee?

Another Model: **discrete probability**

Let t be time (in units of **years**)— i.e., $\Delta_t = 1$ **year**

Let R be the fractional decay rate (in units of **time**⁻¹)

Let y be the expected quantity of **pure** water:

$$y(t) \cong y_0(1 - R\Delta_t)^{t/\Delta_t}$$

Why?

Q1. How much water is pee?

Another Model: **discrete probability**

Because...

$$e^x = \lim_{\mu \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{x}{\mu} \right)^\mu$$

(We'll talk about **compounding** shortly)

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

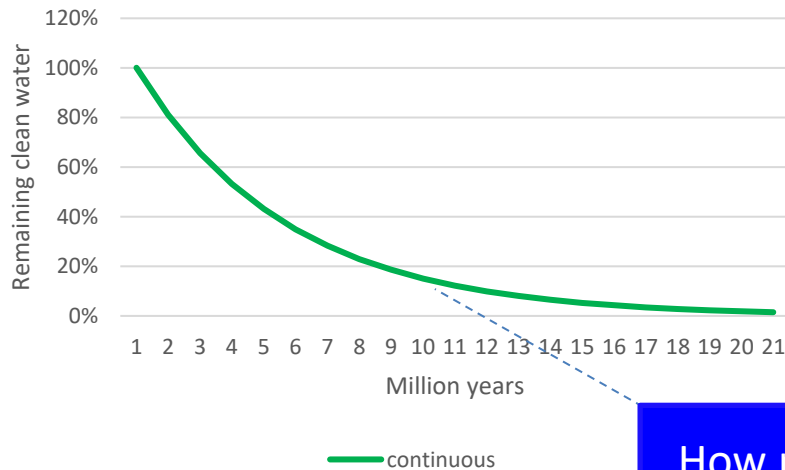
Q1. How much water is pee?

Another Model: **discrete probability**

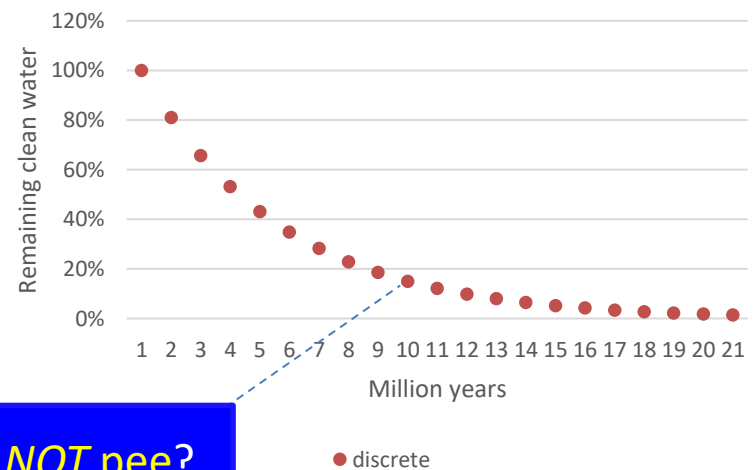
$$y(t)/y_0 = e^{-Rt}$$

$$y(t)/y_0 \cong (1 - R\Delta_t)^{t/\Delta_t}$$

$y(t)/y_0$ Decay using a continuous model



$\sim y(t)/y_0$ Decay using a discrete model



How much is NOT pee?

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Q1. How much water is pee?

Does **discrete probability** make a difference?

million years	continuous	discrete (annual)	difference*
0	1.000000000000000	1.000000000000000	0.000000000000000
25	0.59099217614322	0.59099217287355	0.00000000378656
50	0.34927175226250	0.34927174839780	0.00000000447565
75	0.20641687293497	0.20641686950896	0.00000000396761
100	0.12199075692852	0.12199075422885	0.00000000312644
125	0.07209558290654	0.07209558091219	0.00000000230962
150	0.04260792543225	0.04260792401787	0.00000000163796
165	0.03107702434069	0.03107702320593	0.00000000131415

Data:

$t \leq 165\text{M years}$ (ours)

$R = 2.10381\text{e-}8/\text{year}$ (ours)

How much is *pure*?

*difference = $\text{abs}(\text{discrete} - \text{continuous})$

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Compound Interest

$$A = P(1 + I)^N$$

A = final amount

P = principal

I = interest rate
(annual)

N = time periods
(years)

$$A_k = P(1 + I/k)^{kN}$$

k = compounding factor

For daily compounding $k \cong 365.25$

Note, financial products that have daily compounding are often marketed with a different annual percentage rate (APR). For example, a 2% APR results from a 1.98% rate compounded daily.

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Compounding

Let t be time (in units of **years**)— i.e., $\Delta_t = 1 \text{ year}$

Let R be the fractional decay rate (in units of **time⁻¹**)

Let y be the expected quantity of **pure** water (**liters**)

$$y(t) \cong y_0(1 - R\Delta_t)^{t/\Delta_t}$$

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Compounding

Let t be time (in units of **years**)— i.e., $\Delta_t = 1 \text{ year}$

Let R be the fractional decay rate (in units of **time⁻¹**)

Let y be the expected quantity of **pure** water (**liters**)

Let k be the compounding factor:

$$y(t) \cong y_0 \left(1 - \frac{R}{k} \Delta_t \right)^{kt/\Delta_t}$$

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

How much water is pee?

Using *infinite precision* with our data

compounding cycle	k	$y(t)/y_0$	error* (%)
continuous	$k \rightarrow \infty$	0.03107702434070	0
per day	365.25	0.03107702433759	0.00000000999716
per year	1	0.03107702320593	0.00000365146361
per 10 years	10^{-1}	0.03107701299304	0.00003651463471
per 100 years	10^{-2}	0.03107691086412	0.00036514620805
per 1,000 years	10^{-3}	0.03107588957926	0.00365144817284
per 10,000 years	10^{-4}	0.03106567715860	0.03651309073776
per 100,000 years	10^{-5}	0.03096359581703	0.36499158486497
per 1,000,000 years	10^{-6}	0.02994713891235	3.63575809563761

$$* \text{ error} = 100 \times \frac{|\text{discrete} - \text{continuous}|}{\text{continuous}}$$

Data:
t = 165M years (ours)
R = 2.10381e-8/year (ours)

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Q1. How much water is pee?

Other attempts at this problem

I watched a great video on this subject by *In-que-ri-ty*.

Inquery19: <https://youtu.be/i67uCBegsyU>

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

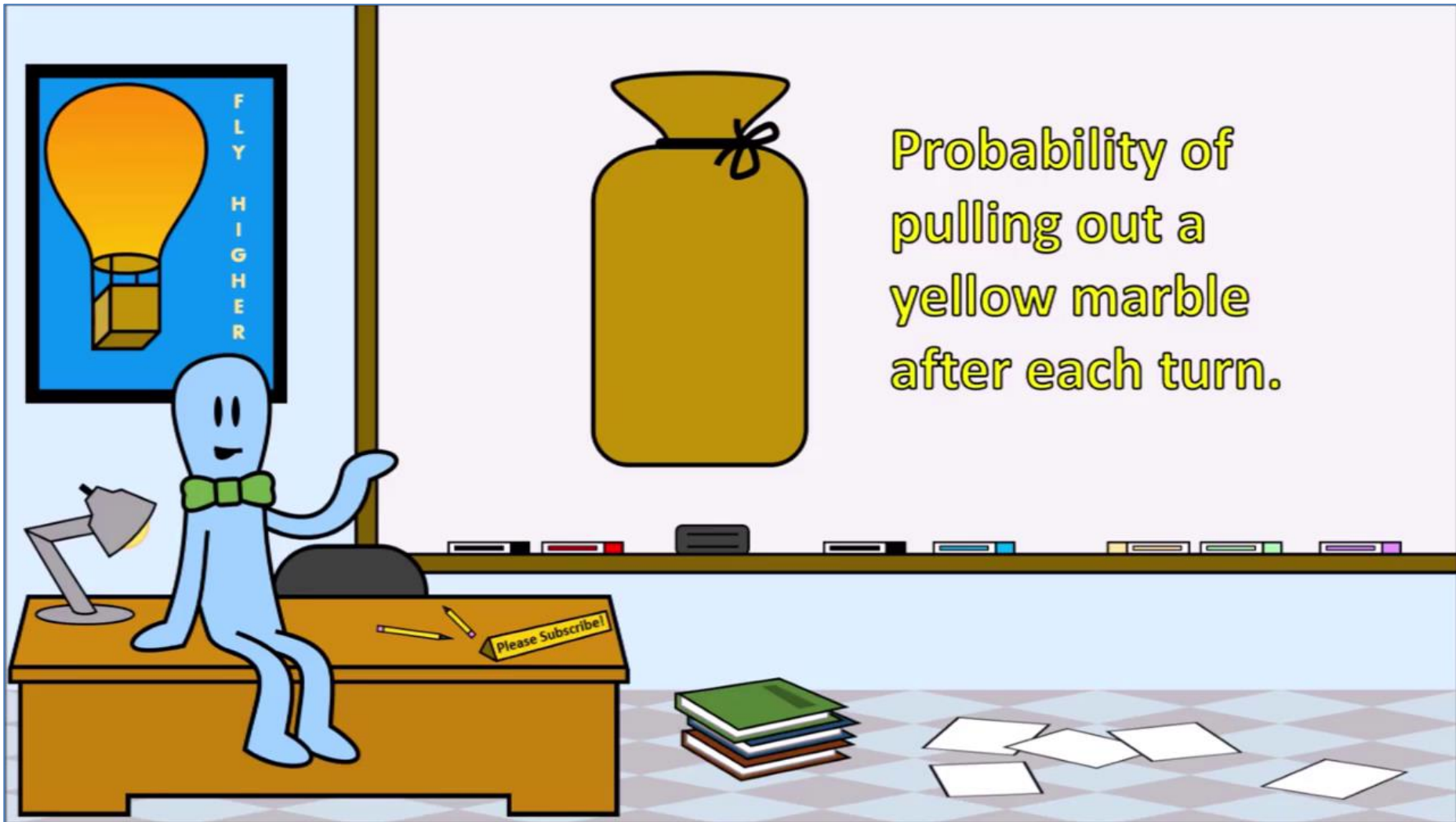
Inquerity's Approach



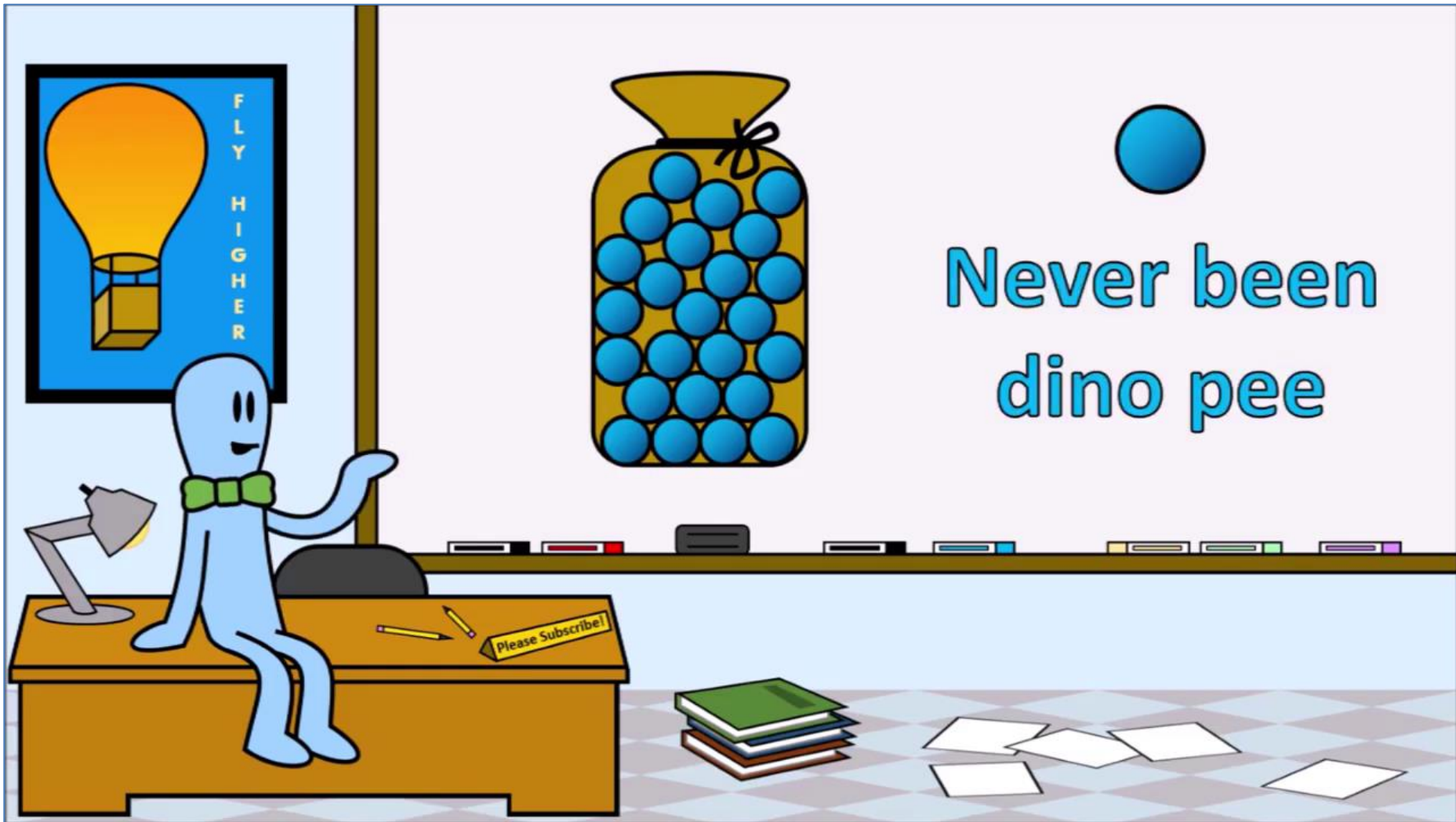
Inquerity's Approach



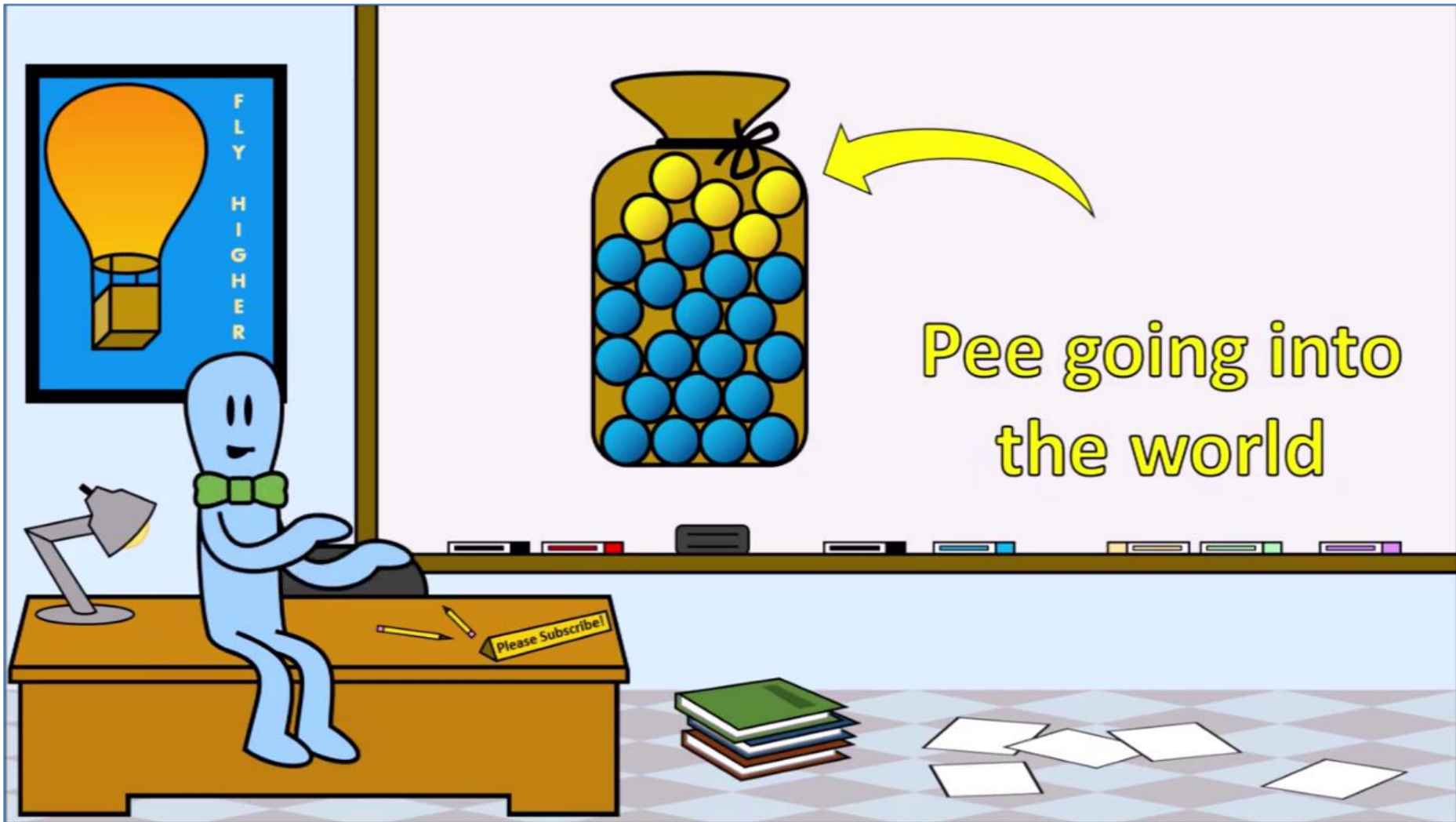
Inquerity's Approach



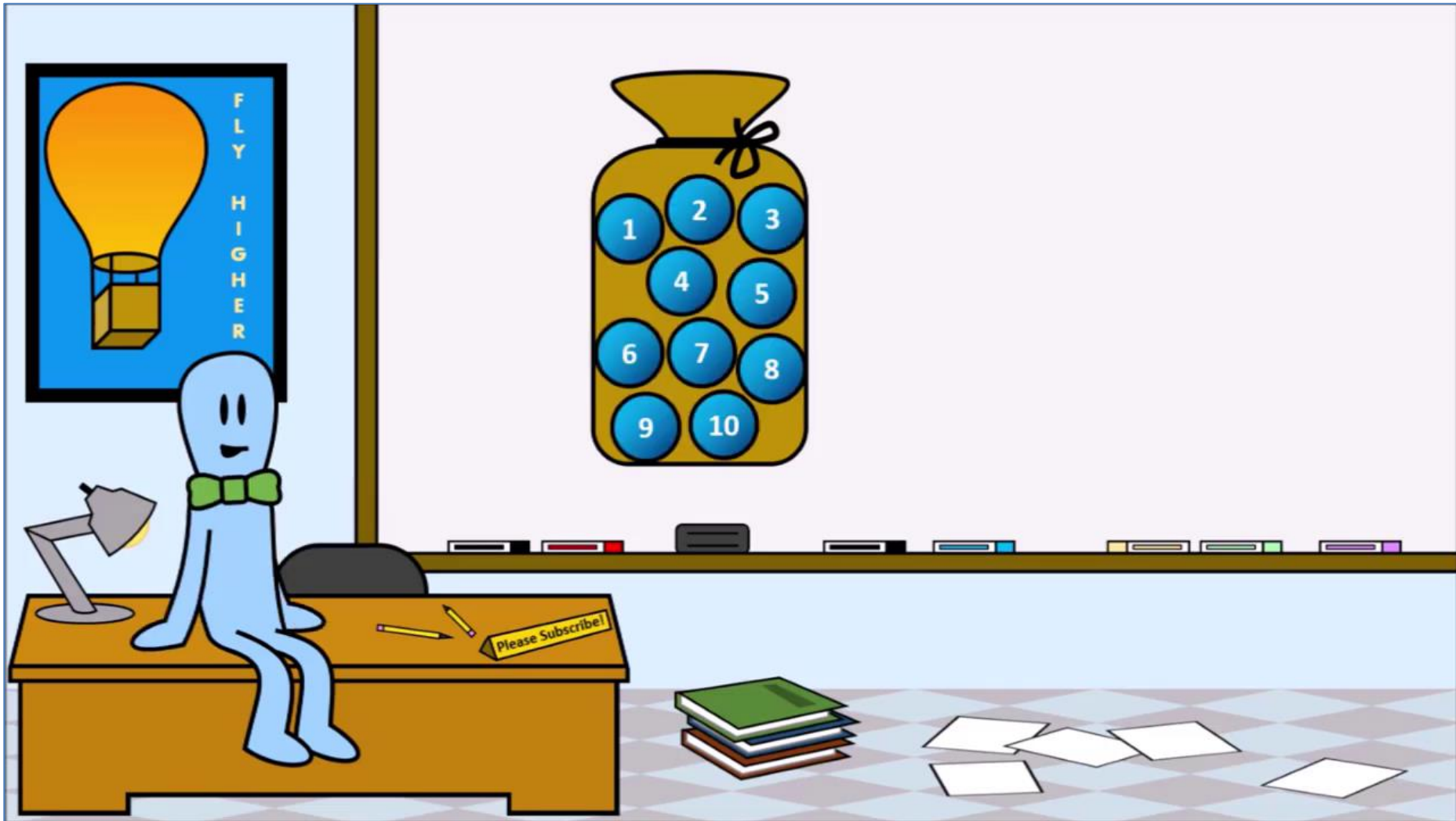
Inquerity's Approach



Inquerity's Approach



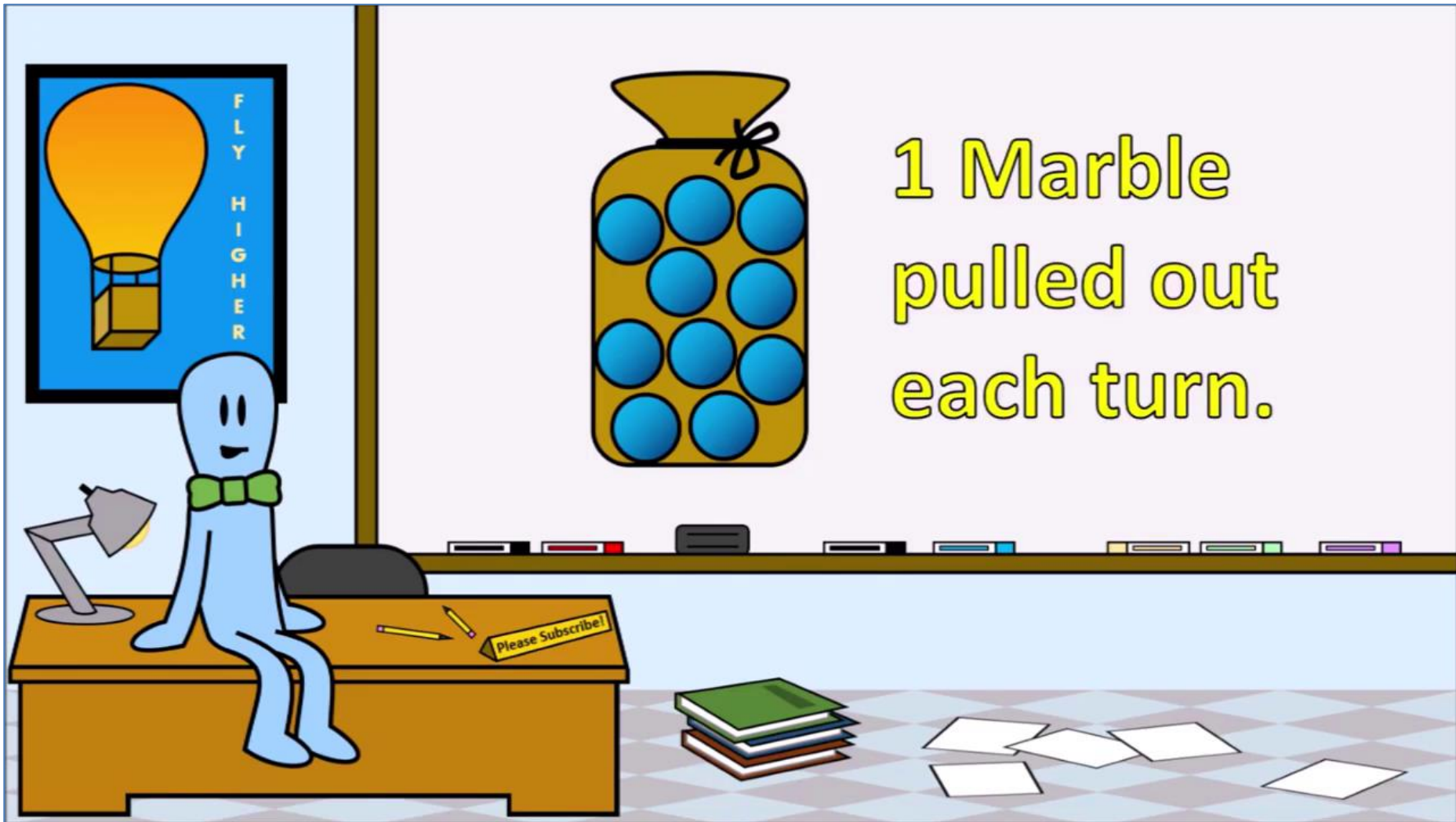
Inquerity's Approach



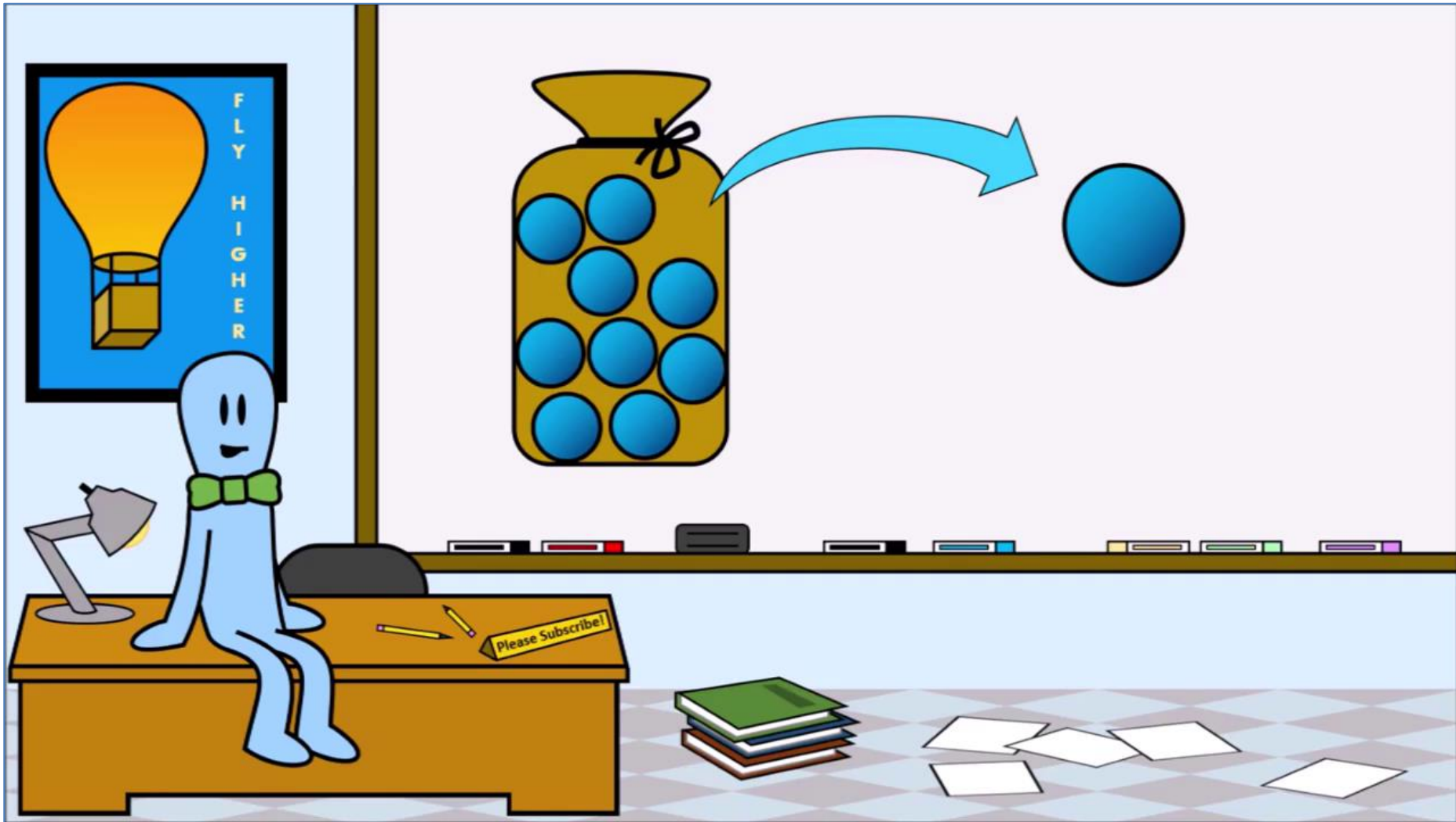
Inquerity's Approach



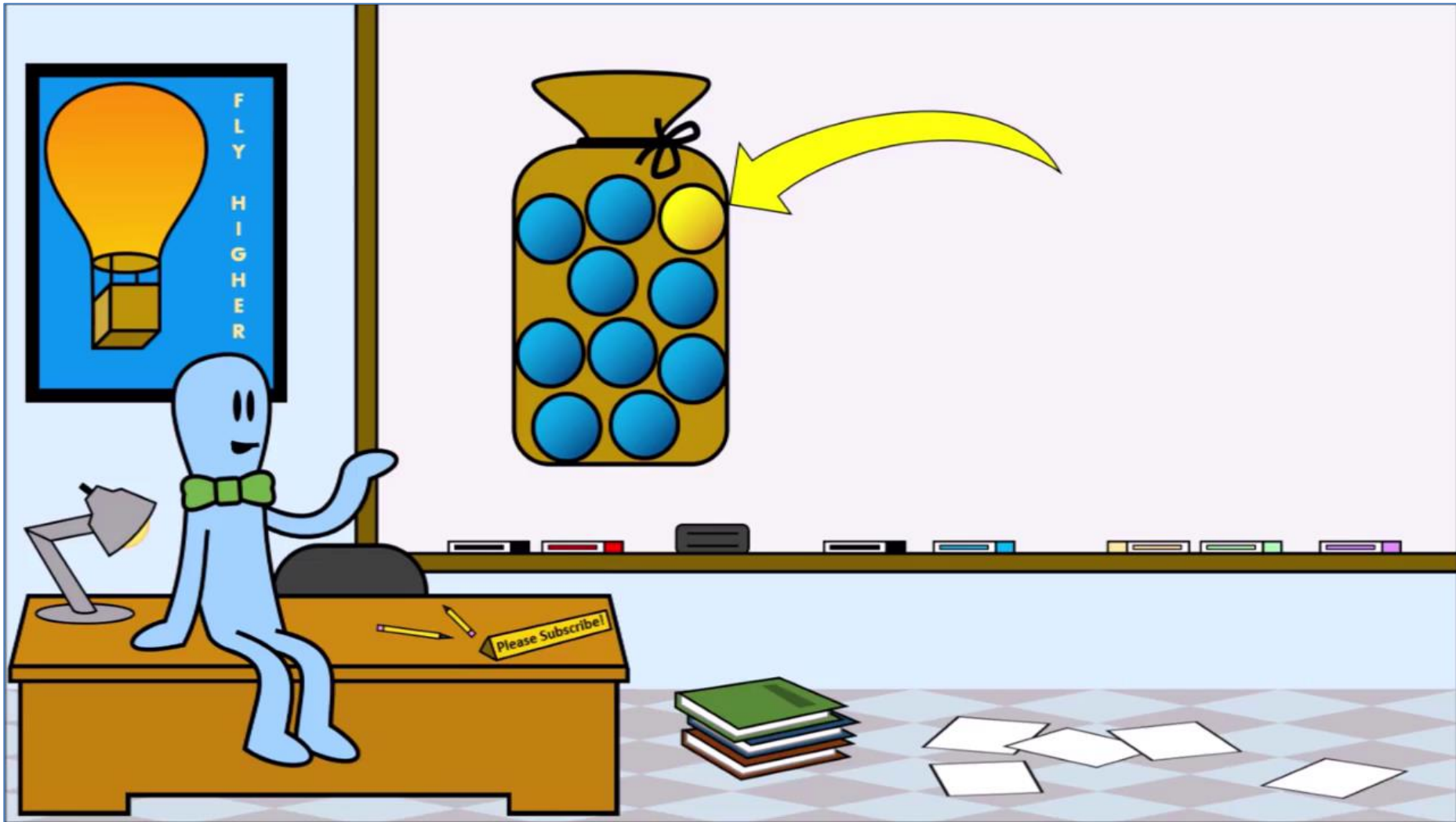
Inquerity's Approach



Inquerity's Approach



Inquerity's Approach



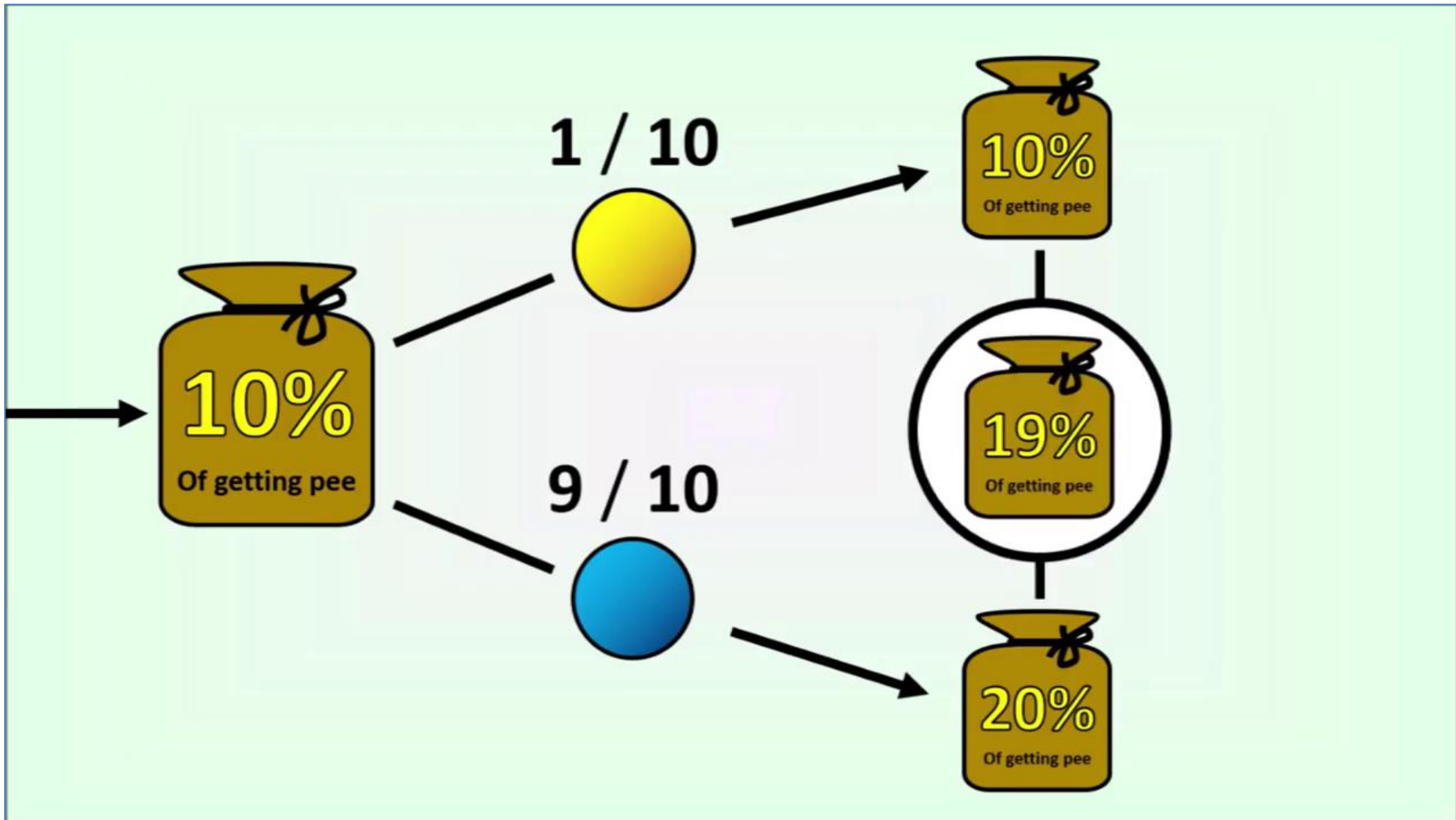
Inquery's Approach



Inquerity's Approach



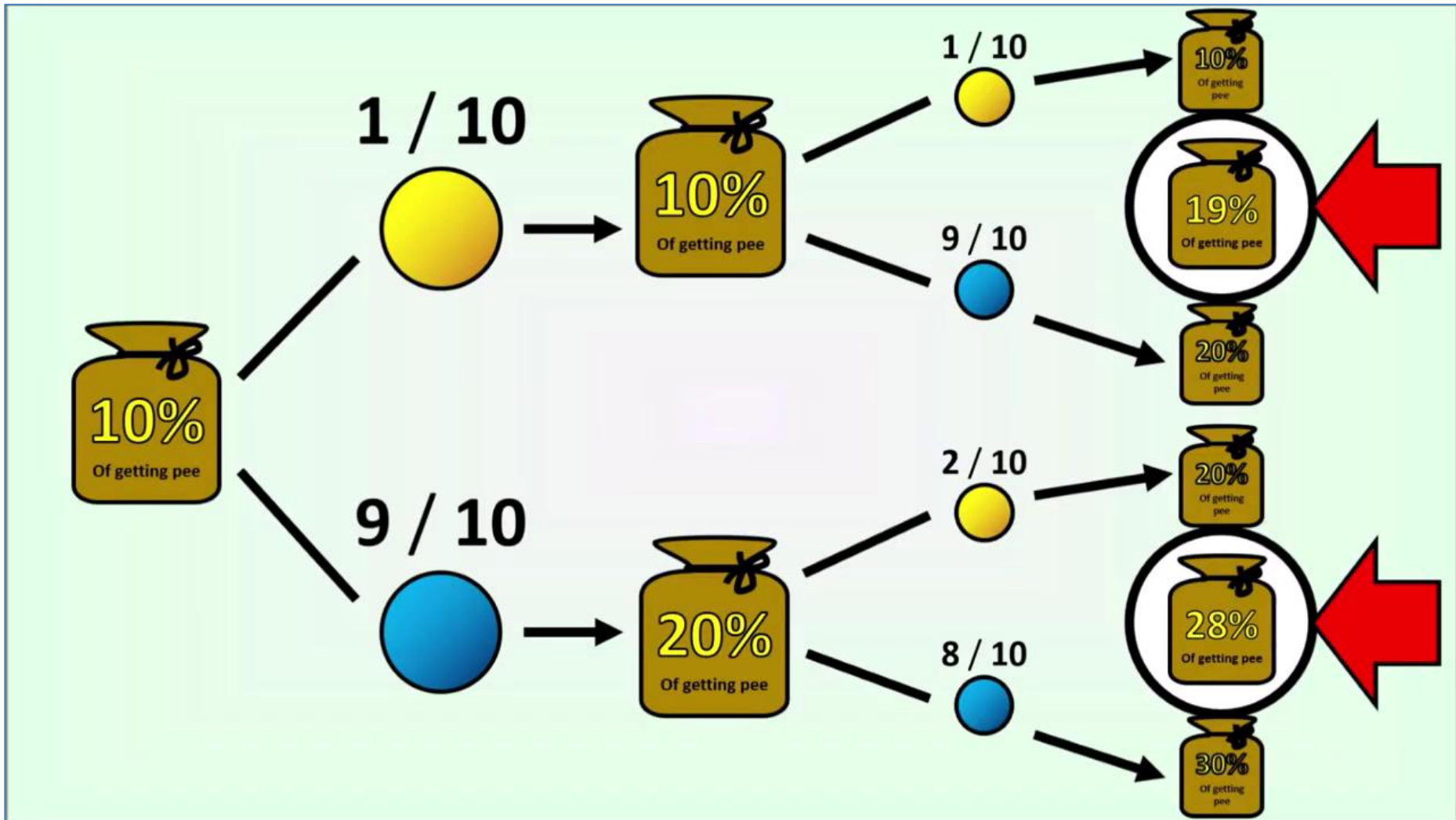
Inquerity's Approach



Inquerity's Approach



Inquerity's Approach



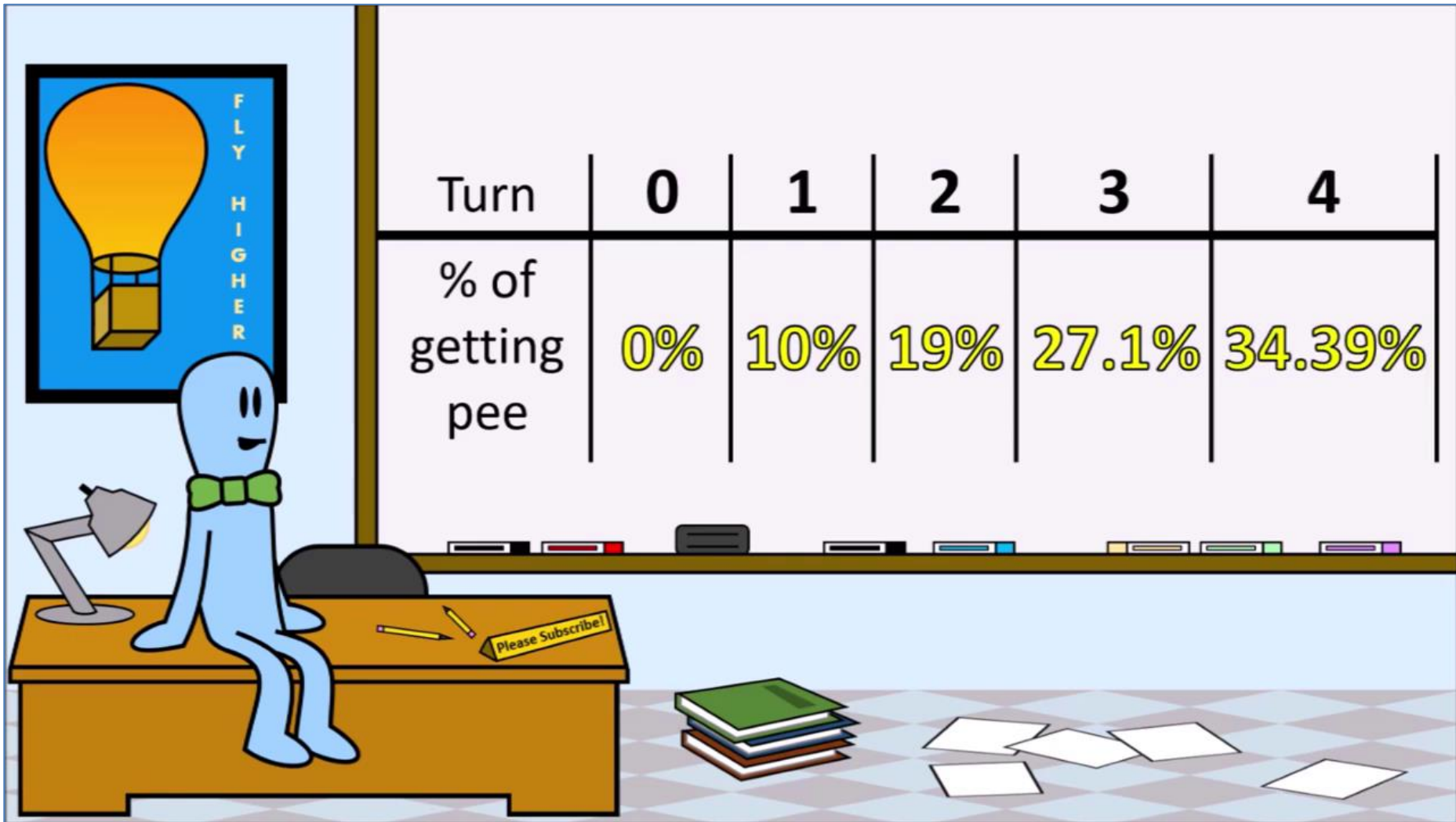
Inquerity's Approach



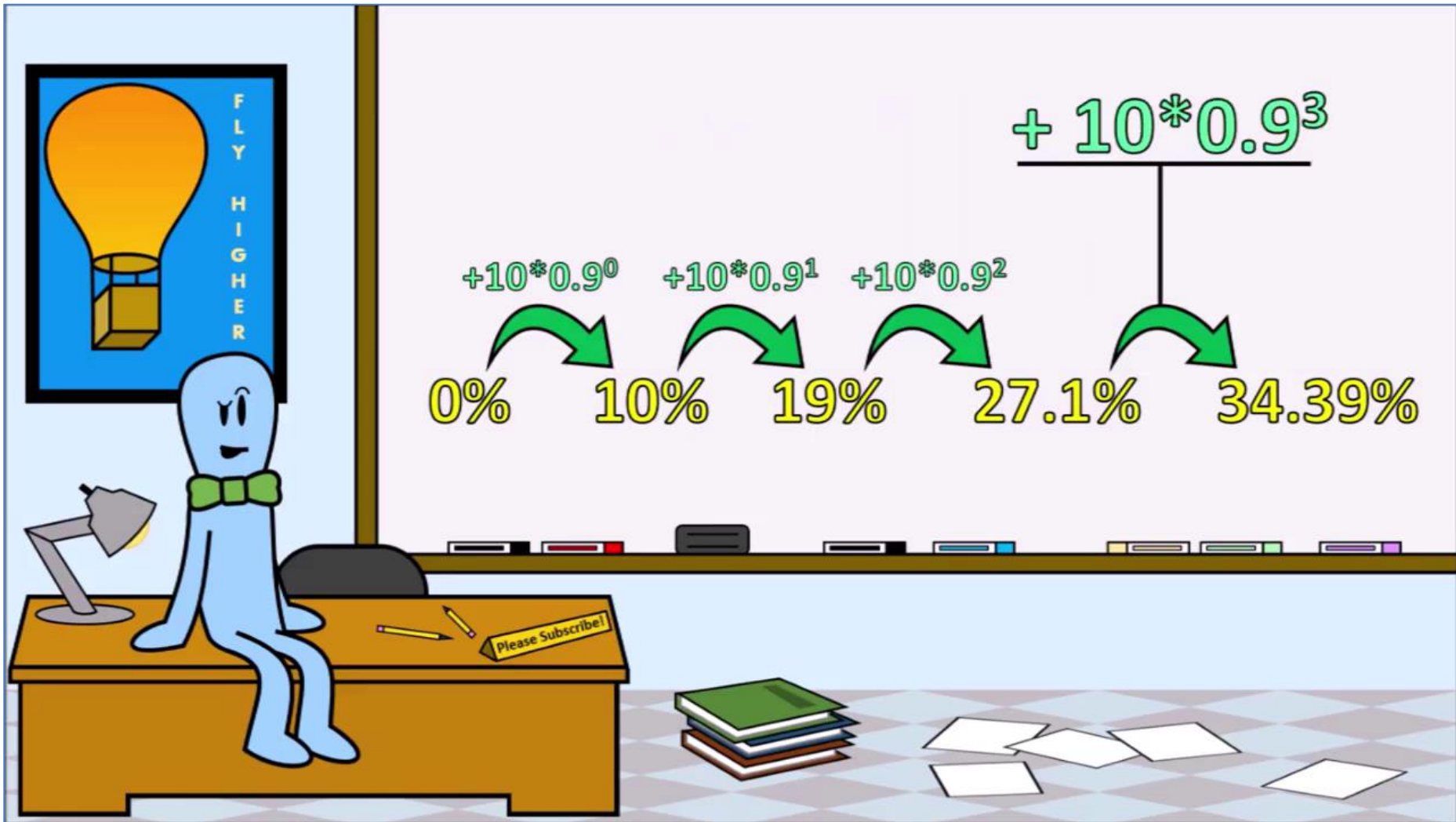
Inquerity's Approach



Inquerity's Approach



Inquerity's Approach



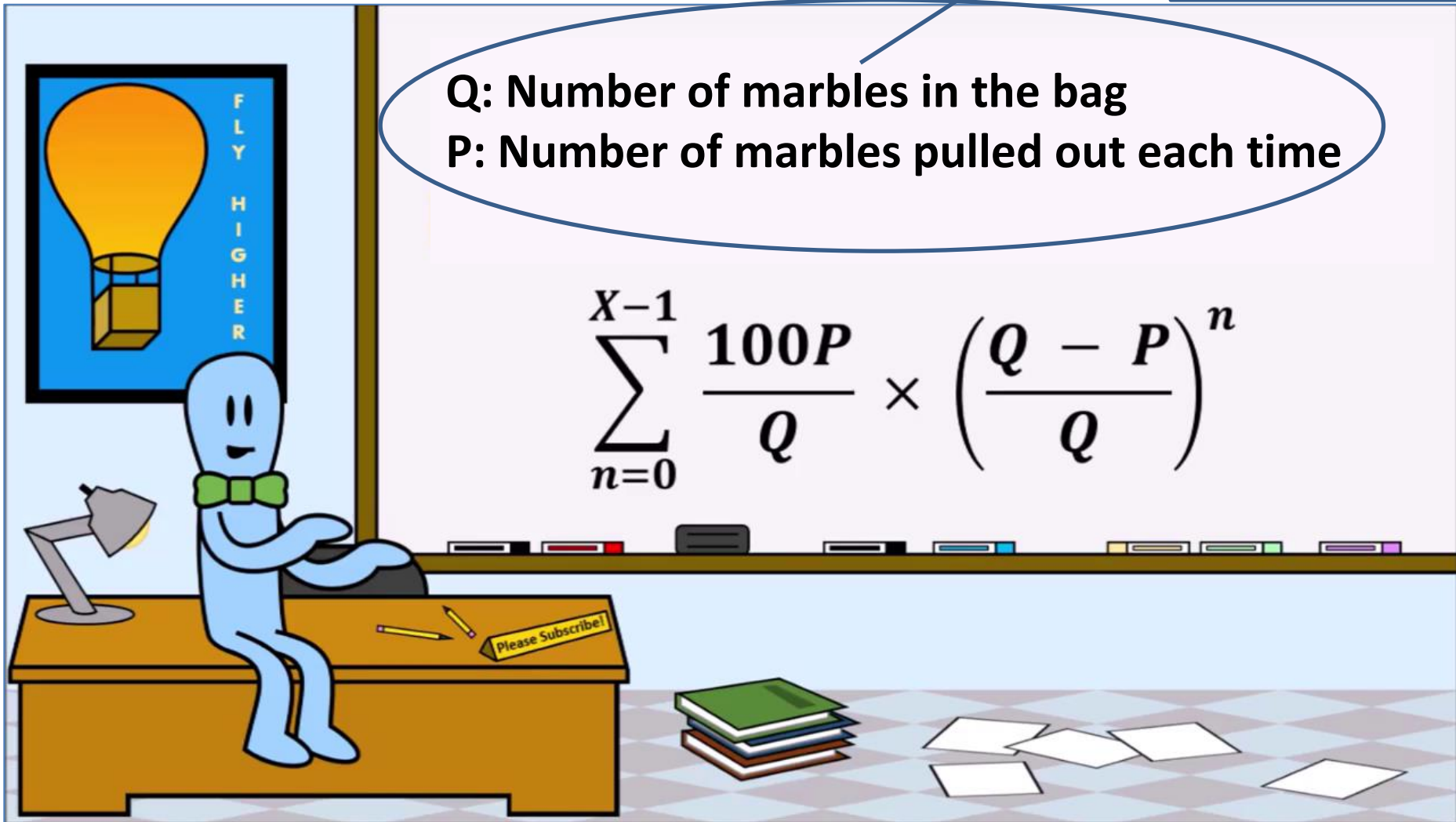
Inquiry's Approach

I added these two annotations for this presentation.

Q: Number of marbles in the bag

P: Number of marbles pulled out each time

$$\sum_{n=0}^{X-1} \frac{100P}{Q} \times \left(\frac{Q - P}{Q} \right)^n$$



Inquiry's Approach

Deriving the *geometric sum* formula

$$\%Pee = \sum_{n=0}^{X-1} \frac{100P}{Q} \times \left(\frac{Q-P}{Q}\right)^n$$

Not like *our* **R**

$$\text{Let } R = 1 - \frac{P}{Q}$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{X-1} 100 \times (1 - R) \times R^n$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } A &= 100 \times \frac{P}{Q} \\ &= 100 \times (1 - R) \end{aligned}$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{X-1} AR^n = A + AR + AR^2 + \dots + AR^{X-1}$$

Inquiry's Approach

Deriving the *geometric sum* formula

$$S = \sum_{n=0}^{X-1} AR^n = AR^0 + AR^1 + AR^2 + \dots + AR^{X-2} + AR^{X-1}$$

$$RS = AR^1 + AR^2 + \dots + AR^{X-2} + AR^{X-1} + AR^X$$

$$S - RS = AR^0 + \cancel{AR^1} + \cancel{AR^2} + \dots + \cancel{AR^{X-2}} + \cancel{AR^{X-1}} - \cancel{AR^1} - \cancel{AR^2} - \dots - \cancel{AR^{X-2}} - \cancel{AR^{X-1}} - AR^X$$

$$S(1 - R) = AR^0 - AR^X$$

$$S = \frac{AR^0 - AR^X}{1 - R}$$

$$= \frac{A(1 - R^X)}{1 - R}$$

Inquery's Approach

Deriving the *geometric sum* formula

Now plugging Inquery's symbols

$$R = 1 - \frac{P}{Q}$$

$$A = 100 \times \frac{P}{Q} = 100 \times (1 - R)$$

into *geometric sum* formula

$$\sum_{n=0}^{X-1} AR^n = \frac{A(1 - R^X)}{1 - R}$$

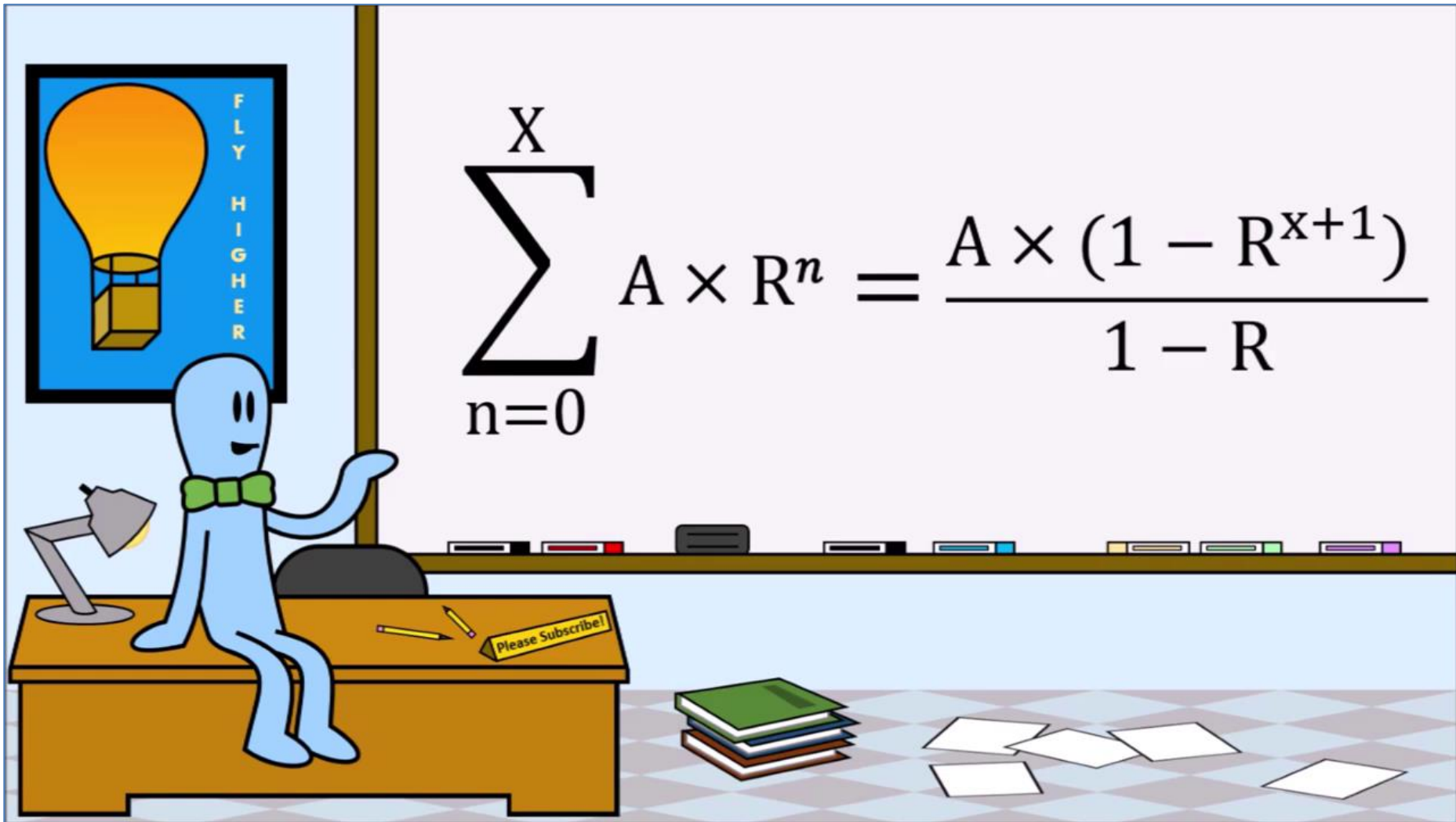
we get

$$\%Pee = \sum_{n=0}^{X-1} \frac{100P}{Q} \times \left(\frac{Q-P}{Q}\right)^n = 100 \times \frac{P}{Q} \times \frac{(1 - (1 - \frac{P}{Q})^X)}{1 - (1 - \frac{P}{Q})}$$

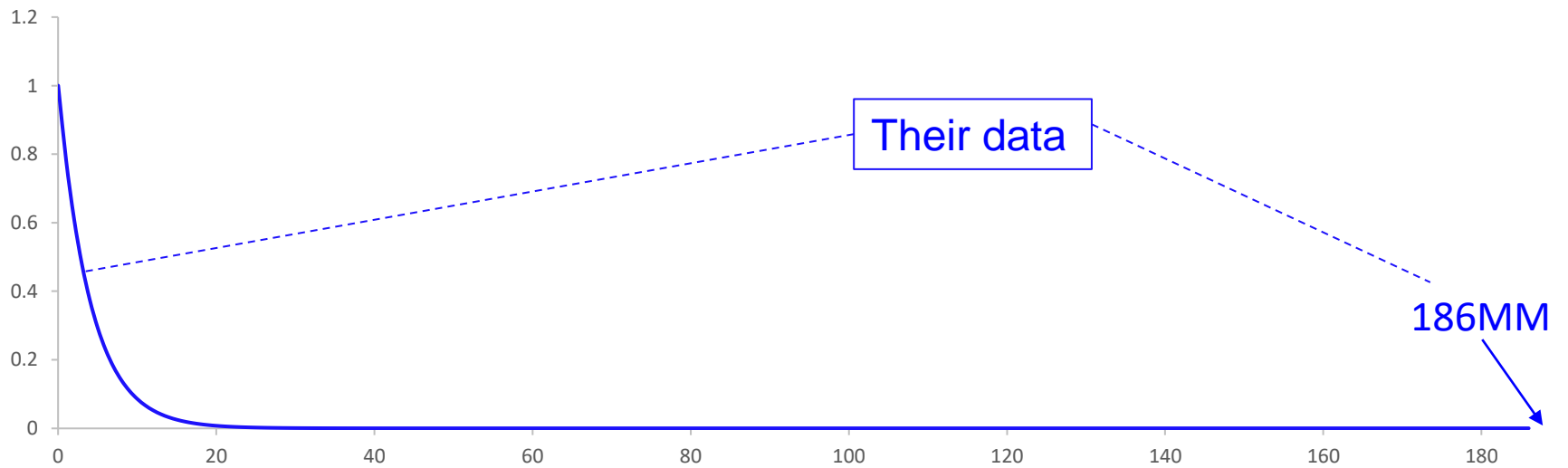
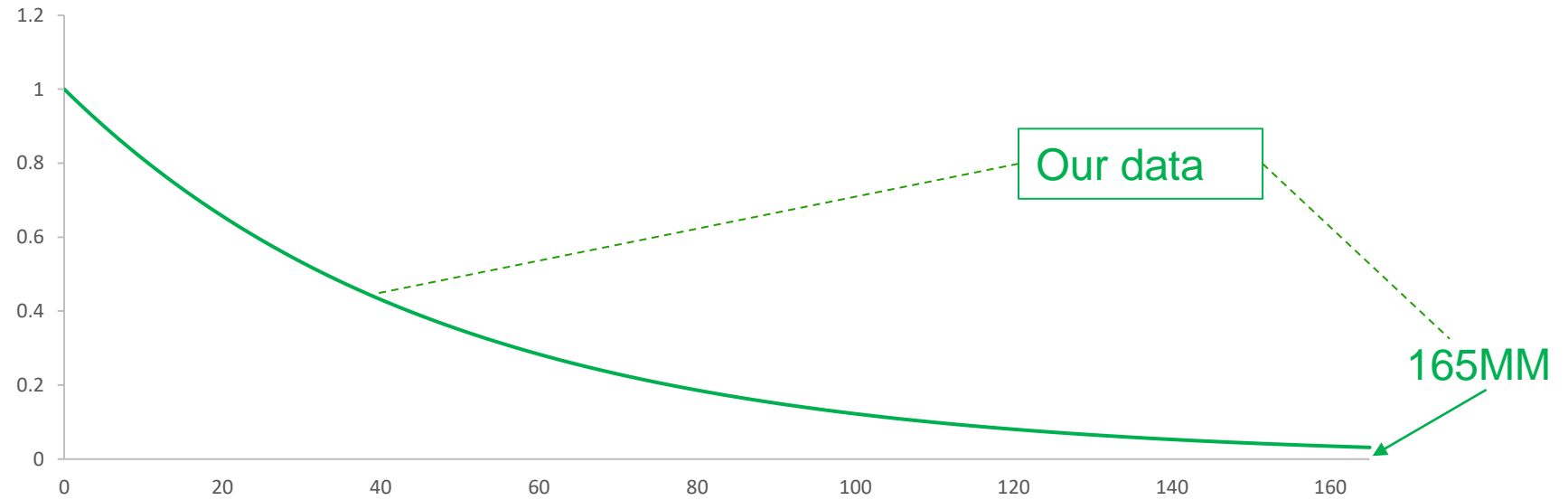


We'll meet again

Inquery's Approach



Inquerity's Approach



Inquerity used “Alternative Facts”

1. Time scale:

- a. We used 165,000,000 years.
- b. They used 186,000,000 years.

1.

(~10% more)

Inquiry's Approach

Assuming *our* **pee** rate

$$y(t) = y_0 e^{-Rt}$$

Our time scale:

$$\begin{aligned} y(165,000,000)/y_0 &= e^{-2.10381e-08*165,000,000} \\ &= 0.0311 = 3.11\% \text{ untainted} \end{aligned}$$

Their time scale:

$$\begin{aligned} y(186,000,000)/y_0 &= e^{-2.10381e-08*186,000,000} \\ &= 0.0200 = 2.00\% \text{ untainted} \end{aligned}$$

Inquiry's Approach

Pure water remaining after 186M years

Using *infinite precision* with **our rate** and Inquiry's **time scale**

compounding cycle	k	$y(t)/y_0$	error* (%)
continuous	$k \rightarrow \infty$	0.0199787394168875	0
per day	365.25	0.0199787394146360	0.0000000112695
per year	1	0.0199787385945236	0.0000041161953
per 10 years	10^{-1}	0.0199787311932486	0.0000411619509
per 100 years	10^{-2}	0.0199786571805470	0.0004116192662
per 1,000 years	10^{-3}	0.0199779170583381	0.0041161683756
per 10,000 years	10^{-4}	0.0199705163166065	0.0411592548932
per 100,000 years	10^{-5}	0.0198965569936879	0.4113493923953
per 1,000,000 years	10^{-6}	0.0191618274674012	4.0889063741219

$$* \text{ error} = 100 \times \frac{|\text{discrete} - \text{continuous}|}{\text{continuous}}$$

Data:
t = 186M years (theirs)
R = 2.10381e-8/year (ours)

Inquery's Approach

Assuming *our* **pee** rate

Does discrete probability make a difference?

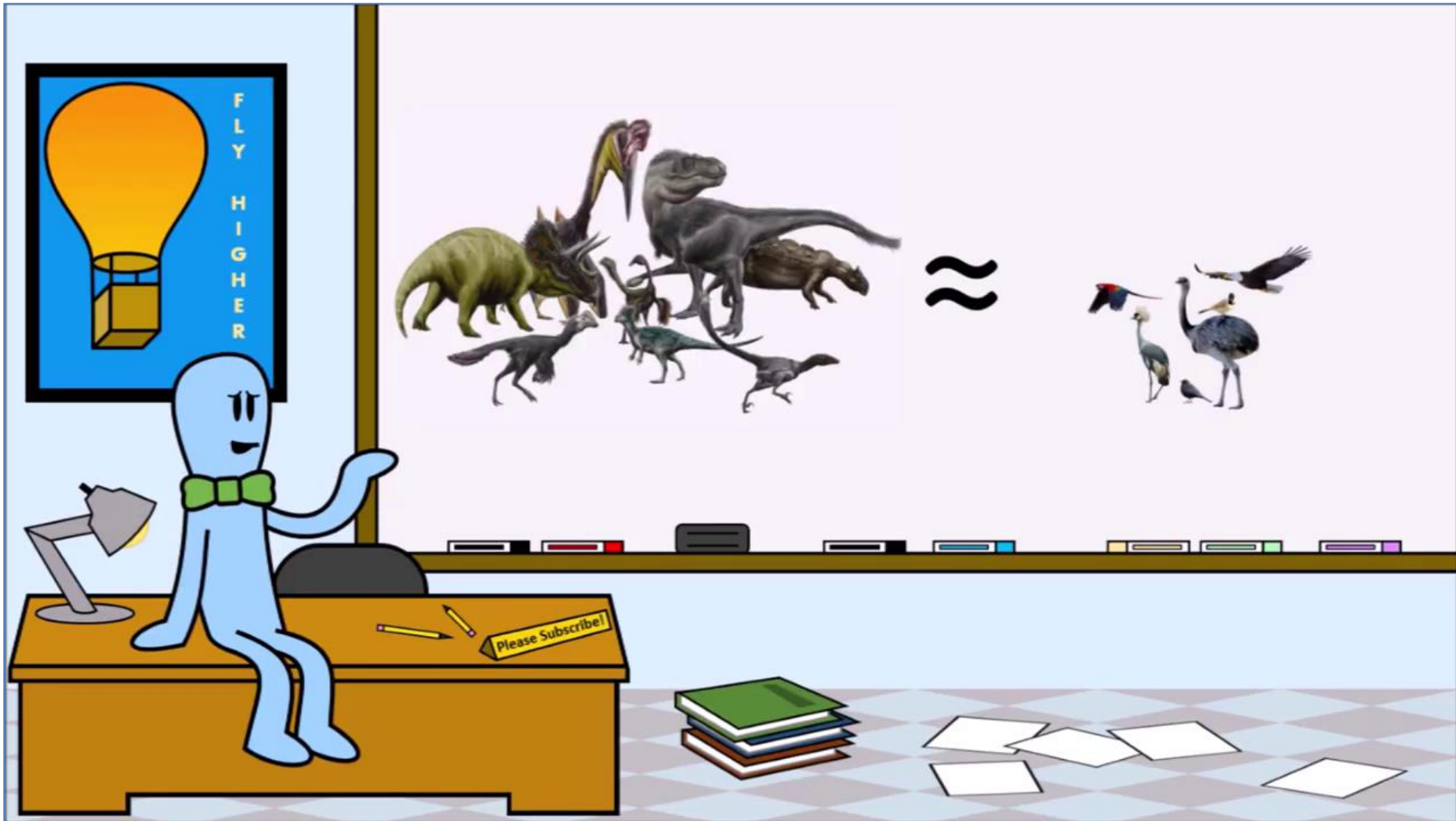
million years	continuous	discrete (annual)	difference*
0	1.000000000000000	1.000000000000000	0.000000000000000
25	0.59099217614322	0.59099217287355	0.00000000378656
50	0.34927175226250	0.34927174839780	0.00000000447565
75	0.20641687293497	0.20641686950896	0.00000000396761
100	0.12199075692852	0.12199075422885	0.00000000312644
125	0.07209558290654	0.07209558091219	0.00000000230962
150	0.04260792543225	0.04260792401787	0.00000000163796
165	0.03107702434069	0.03107702320593	0.00000000131415
175	0.02518095057216	0.02518094959696	0.00000000097520
186	0.01997873941689	0.01997873859452	0.00000000082237

*difference = abs(discrete – continuous)

Data:

R = 2.10381e-8/year (ours)

Inquerity's Approach



Inquerity used birds to estimate dinosaur pee

Inquiry used “Alternative Facts”

- Inquiry's pee rate was based on a *bird model* and *domestic turkey* water consumption.

2. Pee rate:

- a. We estimated $2.650e13$ liters/year
- b. They estimated $3.097e14$ liters/year

1.

(~10x more)

Inquery's Approach

Deriving their daily rate of decay, R_{daily}

$$\begin{aligned} R_{daily} &= \frac{DailyPee}{TotalWater} \\ &= \frac{8.48e11 \text{ kg/day}}{1.26e21 \text{ kg}} \\ &= 6.73015873e-10/\text{day} \end{aligned}$$

Multiply by 365.25 days/year

$$R = R_{annual} = 2.45819048e-8/\text{year}$$

Inquerity's Approach

Pure water remaining after 186M years

Using *infinite precision* with *Inquerity's* data

compounding cycle	k	$y(t)/y_0$	error* (%)
continuous	$k \rightarrow \infty$	$1.3900648155 \times 10^{-20}$	0
per day	365.25	$1.3900647941 \times 10^{-20}$	0.0000015385932
per year	1	$1.3900570037 \times 10^{-20}$	0.0005619698639
per 10 years	10^{-1}	$1.3899866999 \times 10^{-20}$	0.0056195648148
per 100 years	10^{-2}	$1.3892838455 \times 10^{-20}$	0.0561822679091
per 1,000 years	10^{-3}	$1.3822736851 \times 10^{-20}$	0.5604868419451
per 10,000 years	10^{-4}	$1.3139803625 \times 10^{-20}$	5.4734464241540
per 100,000 years	10^{-5}	$7.8505325107 \times 10^{-21}$	43.5239823105508
per 1,000,000 years	10^{-6}	$1.6234881670 \times 10^{-23}$	99.8832077361464

$$* \text{ error} = 100 \times \frac{|\text{discrete} - \text{continuous}|}{\text{continuous}}$$

Data:
 t = 186M years (theirs)
 R = 6.73016e-10/day (theirs)

Inquerity's Approach

Assuming *their* pee rate

Does discrete probability make a difference?

million years	continuous	discrete (annual)	difference*
0	1.000000000000000	1.000000000000000	0.000000000000000
25	0.00214315261380	0.00214315099499	$1.61880391399 \times 10^{-9}$
50	$4.593103126 \times 10^{-6}$	$4.593096187 \times 10^{-6}$	$6.9386850585 \times 10^{-12}$
75	$9.843720970 \times 10^{-9}$	$9.843698664 \times 10^{-9}$	$2.230598310 \times 10^{-14}$
100	$2.109659632 \times 10^{-11}$	$2.109653258 \times 10^{-11}$	$6.374014392 \times 10^{-17}$
125	$4.521322555 \times 10^{-14}$	$4.521305480 \times 10^{-14}$	$1.707560056 \times 10^{-19}$
150	$9.689884253 \times 10^{-17}$	$9.689840338 \times 10^{-17}$	$4.391472497 \times 10^{-22}$
165	$2.426333242 \times 10^{-18}$	$2.426321146 \times 10^{-18}$	$1.209580044 \times 10^{-23}$
175	$2.076690076 \times 10^{-19}$	$2.076679096 \times 10^{-19}$	$1.098019091 \times 10^{-24}$
186	$1.390064815 \times 10^{-20}$	$1.390057003 \times 10^{-20}$	$7.811745352 \times 10^{-26}$

*difference = abs(discrete – continuous)

Data:

R = 6.73016e-10/day (theirs)

Inquery's Approach

Pure water remaining after 165M years

Using *infinite precision* with *Inquery's* rate

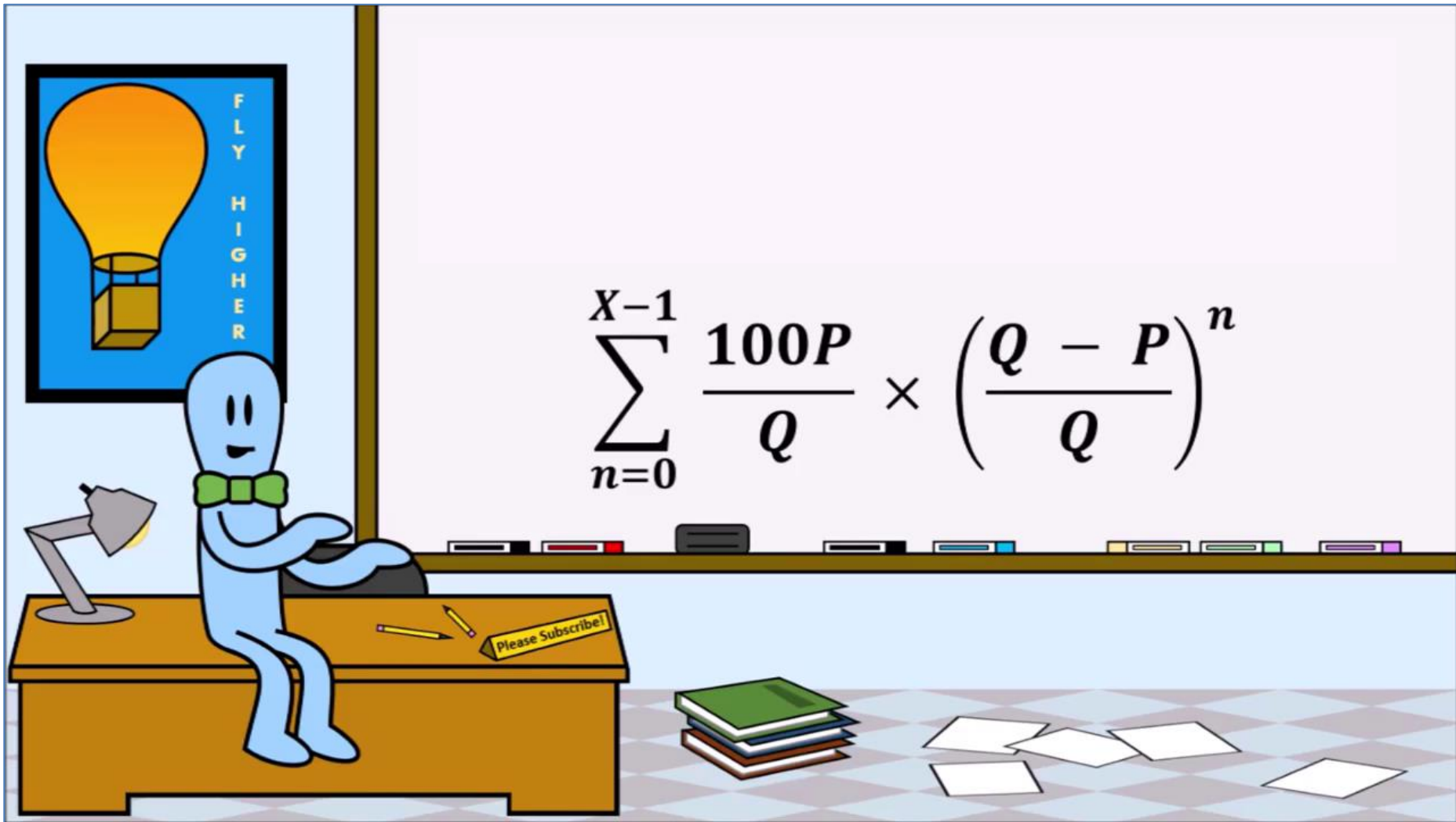
compounding cycle	k	$y(t)/y_0$	error* (%)
continuous	$k \rightarrow \infty$	$2.4263348435 \times 10^{-18}$	0
per day	365.25	$2.4263348104 \times 10^{-18}$	0.0000013648815
per year	1	$2.4263227477 \times 10^{-18}$	0.0004985217954
per 10 years	10^{-1}	$2.4262138880 \times 10^{-18}$	0.0049851134721
per 100 years	10^{-2}	$2.4251255416 \times 10^{-18}$	0.0498406880240
per 1,000 years	10^{-3}	$2.4142671348 \times 10^{-18}$	0.4973636993121
per 10,000 years	10^{-4}	$2.3081530972 \times 10^{-18}$	4.8707929451980
per 100,000 years	10^{-5}	$1.4616054550 \times 10^{-18}$	39.7607688451025
per 1,000,000 years	10^{-6}	$6.0738395589 \times 10^{-21}$	99.7496701836063

$$* \text{ error} = 100 \times \frac{|\text{discrete} - \text{continuous}|}{\text{continuous}}$$

Data:

t = 165M years (ours)
R = 6.73016e-10/day (theirs)

Inquerity's Approach



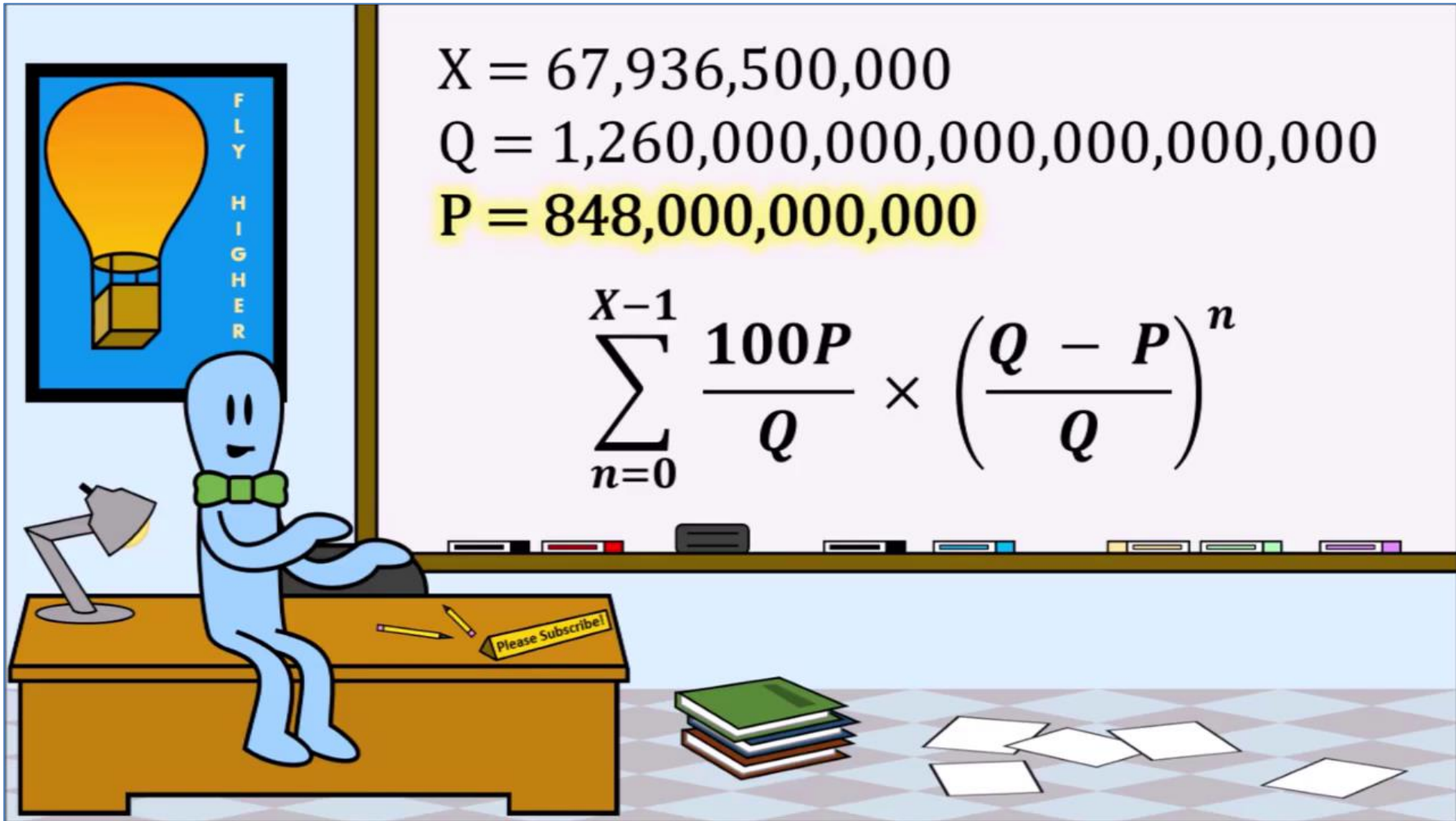
Inquiry's Approach

$$X = 67,936,500,000$$

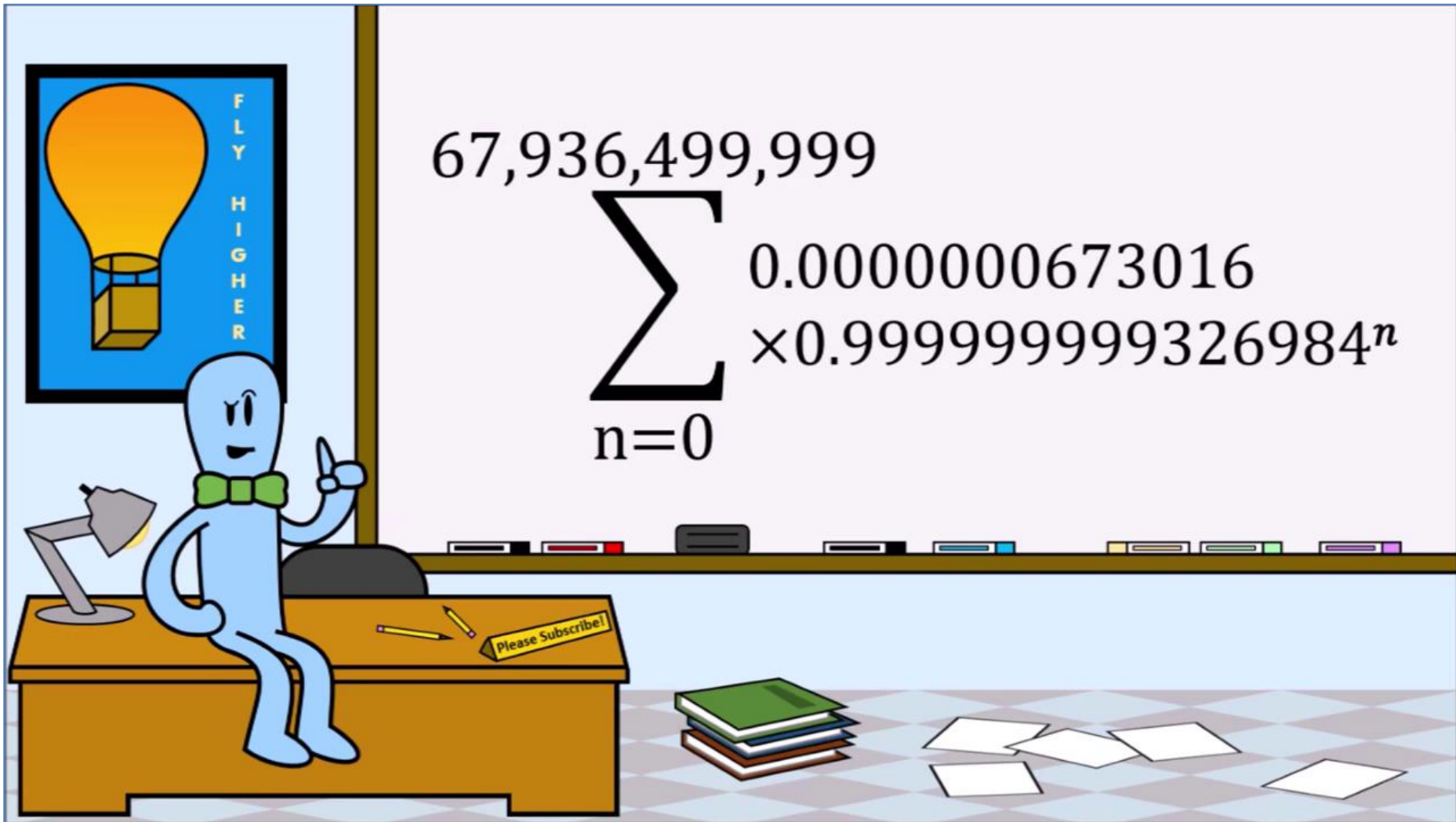
$$Q = 1,260,000,000,000,000,000,000,000$$

$$P = 848,000,000,000$$

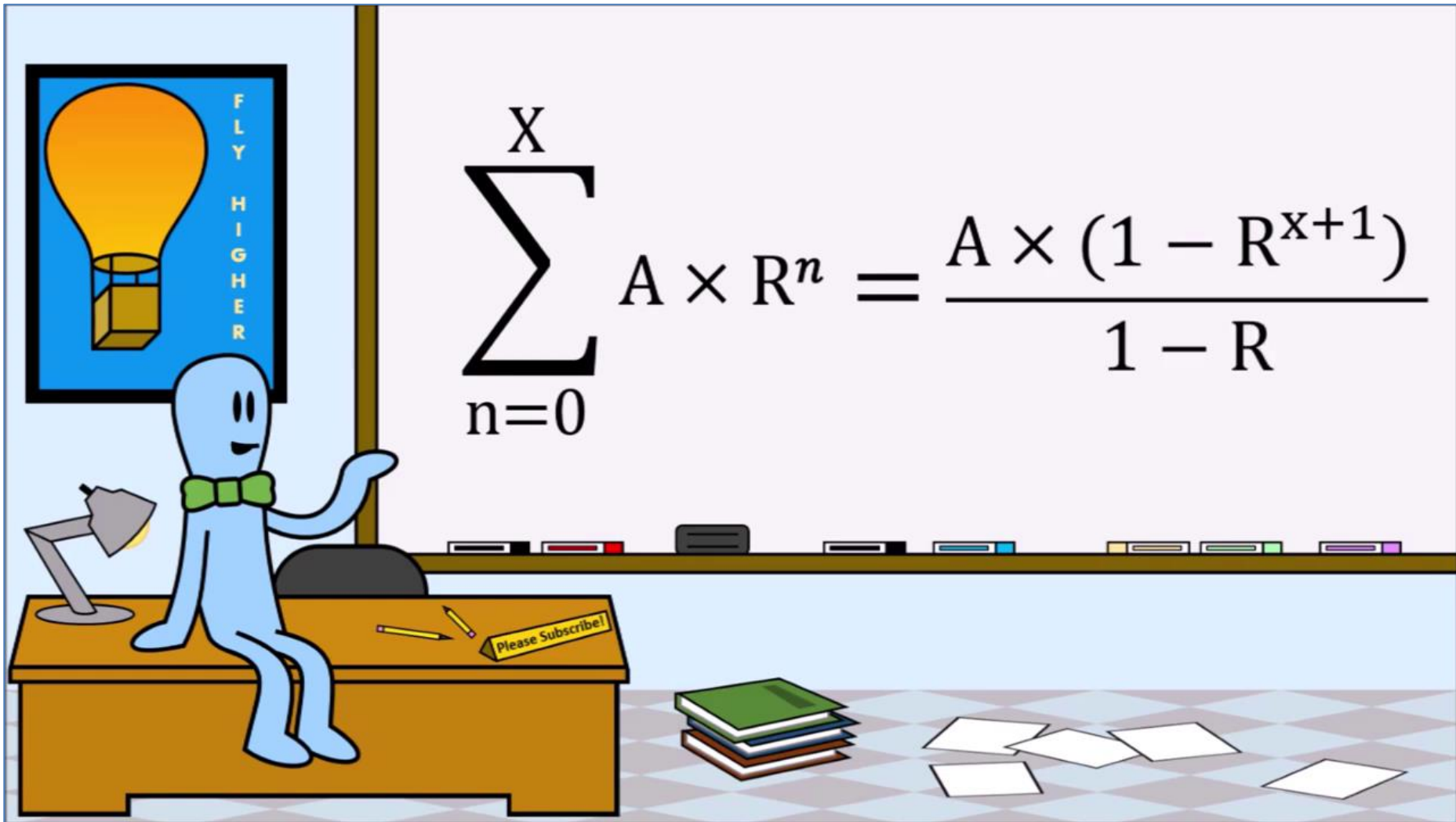
$$\sum_{n=0}^{X-1} \frac{100P}{Q} \times \left(\frac{Q - P}{Q} \right)^n$$



Inquerity's Approach



Inquiry's Approach



Inquiry could have canceled out $(1 - R)$

Inquery's Approach

So, what did they type into Google?

$$R = 1 - P/Q = 0.9999999999326984$$

$$A = 100 * P/Q = 0.0000000673016$$

$$X+1 = 67936500000$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^X AR^n = \frac{A(1 - R^{X+1})}{1 - R}$$

$$\frac{0.0000000673016 \times (1 - 0.9999999999326984^{67936500000})}{1 - 0.9999999999326984}$$

$$(0.0000000673016 * (1 - (0.9999999999326984^{67936500000}))) / (1 - 0.9999999999326984)$$

Inquiry's Approach

The image shows a Google search interface. The search bar contains the expression: $(0.0000000673016 * (1 - (0.999999999326984^{67936500000}))) / (1 - 0.999999999326984)$. Below the search bar, the text "About 0 results (0.30 seconds)" is displayed. A calculator interface is shown, displaying the same expression in the input field and the result **100.000003524** in the output field. The calculator has a grid of buttons for various mathematical functions and operations.

Google

(0.0000000673016 * (1 - (0.999999999326984⁶⁷⁹³⁶⁵⁰⁰⁰⁰⁰))) / (1 - 0.999999999326984)

All Maps Videos Shopping Images More Settings Tools

About 0 results (0.30 seconds)

100.000003524

Rad | Deg x! () % AC

Inv sin ln 7 8 9 ÷

π cos log 4 5 6 ×

e tan √ 1 2 3 −

Ans EXP x^y 0 . = +

More info

Inquiry's Approach

Google

$$(0.0000000673016 * (1 - (0.999999999326984^{67936500000}))) / (1 - 0.999999999326984)$$

All Maps Videos Shopping Images More Settings Tools

About 0 results (0.30 seconds)

100.000003524

What happened here?

What?

Inquiry's Approach

What went wrong?

$$\sum_{n=0}^X AR^n = \frac{A(1 - R^{X+1})}{1 - R}$$

$R = 1 - P/Q$	$= 0.9999999999326984$
$A = 100 * P/Q$	$= 0.0000000673016$
$X+1$	$= 67936500000$

- ☐ General rounding error?
- ☐ Problem with $\frac{A}{1-R}$?
- ☐ Problem with $\frac{A/100}{1-R}$?
- ☐ Problem with $1 - R^{X+1}$?
- ☐ Problem with R^{X+1} ?

Inquiry's Approach

The screenshot shows a Google search for the formula: $(0.0000000673016 * (1 - (0.999999999326984^{67936500000}))) / (1 - 0.999999999326984)$. The search results show "About 0 results (0.23 seconds)". Below the results is a calculator interface with the same formula entered and the result **100.000003524** displayed. The calculator interface includes buttons for Rad, Deg, x!, (,), %, AC, Inv, sin, ln, 7, 8, 9, ÷, π, cos, log, 4, 5, 6, ×, e, tan, √, 1, 2, 3, −, Ans, EXP, x^y, 0, ., =, and +.

$$\frac{A(1-R^{X+1})}{1-R} = \frac{0.0000000673016 \times (1 - 0.999999999326984^{67936500000})}{1 - 0.999999999326984}$$

Inquery's Approach

The screenshot shows a Google search interface. The search bar contains the expression $0.0000000673016 / (1 - 0.999999999326984)$. Below the search bar, the results section shows "About 0 results (0.17 seconds)". A calculator widget is displayed, showing the same expression and the result 100.000003524 . The calculator interface includes buttons for Rad, Deg, x!, (,), %, AC, Inv, sin, ln, 7, 8, 9, ÷, π, cos, log, 4, 5, 6, ×, e, tan, √, 1, 2, 3, −, Ans, EXP, x^y, 0, ., =, and +. A "More info" link is visible at the bottom right of the calculator.

$$\frac{A}{1-R} = \frac{0.0000000673016}{1 - 0.999999999326984}$$

Inquery's Approach

The screenshot shows a Google search interface. The search bar contains the expression $0.000000000673016/(1-0.999999999326984)$. Below the search bar, the results section shows "About 0 results (0.24 seconds)". A calculator widget is displayed, showing the same expression and the result 1.00000003524 . The calculator interface includes buttons for Rad, Deg, x!, (,), %, AC, Inv, sin, ln, 7, 8, 9, ÷, π, cos, log, 4, 5, 6, ×, e, tan, √, 1, 2, 3, −, Ans, EXP, x^y, 0, ., =, and +. A "More info" link is visible at the bottom right of the calculator widget.

$$\frac{A/100}{1-R} = \frac{0.000000000673016}{1 - 0.999999999326984}$$

Inquiry's Approach

The screenshot shows a Google search interface. The search bar contains the expression $1-(0.999999999326984^{67936500000})$. Below the search bar, the 'All' tab is selected. The results section shows 'About 0 results (0.25 seconds)'. A calculator interface is displayed, showing the expression $1 - (0.999999999326984^{67\ 936\ 500\ 000}) =$ and the result **1**. The calculator has buttons for Rad, Deg, x!, (,), %, AC, Inv, sin, ln, 7, 8, 9, ÷, π, cos, log, 4, 5, 6, ×, e, tan, √, 1, 2, 3, −, Ans, EXP, x^y, 0, ., =, and +. A 'More info' link is at the bottom right of the calculator interface.

$$\underline{R^{X+1}} = \underline{1 - 0.999999999326984^{67936500000}}$$

Inquiry's Approach

The screenshot shows a Google search interface. The search bar contains the expression $0.999999999326984^{67936500000}$. Below the search bar, the 'All' tab is selected. The search results show 'About 0 results (0.19 seconds)'. A calculator widget is displayed, showing the input $0.999999999326984^{67936500000}$ and the result $1.3900667e-20$. The calculator interface includes buttons for Rad, Deg, x!, (,), %, AC, Inv, sin, ln, 7, 8, 9, ÷, π, cos, log, 4, 5, 6, ×, e, tan, √, 1, 2, 3, −, Ans, EXP, x^y, 0, ., =, and +. A 'More info' link is visible at the bottom right of the calculator widget.

$$\underline{R^{X+1}} = \underline{0.999999999326984^{67936500000}}$$

Inquiry's Approach


$$(0.0000000673016*(1-(0.99999999326984^{67936500000}))))/(1-0.99999999326984)$$

 NATURAL LANGUAGE
 MATH INPUT

 EXTENDED KEYBOARD
 EXAMPLES
 UPLOAD
 RANDOM

Input interpretation

$$\frac{6.73016 \times 10^{-8} (1 - 0.99999999326984^{67936500000})}{1 - 0.99999999326984}$$

Result

More digits

99.999999999999999999860993520593007436413938402937490595623601785...

Number line



Number name

one hundred

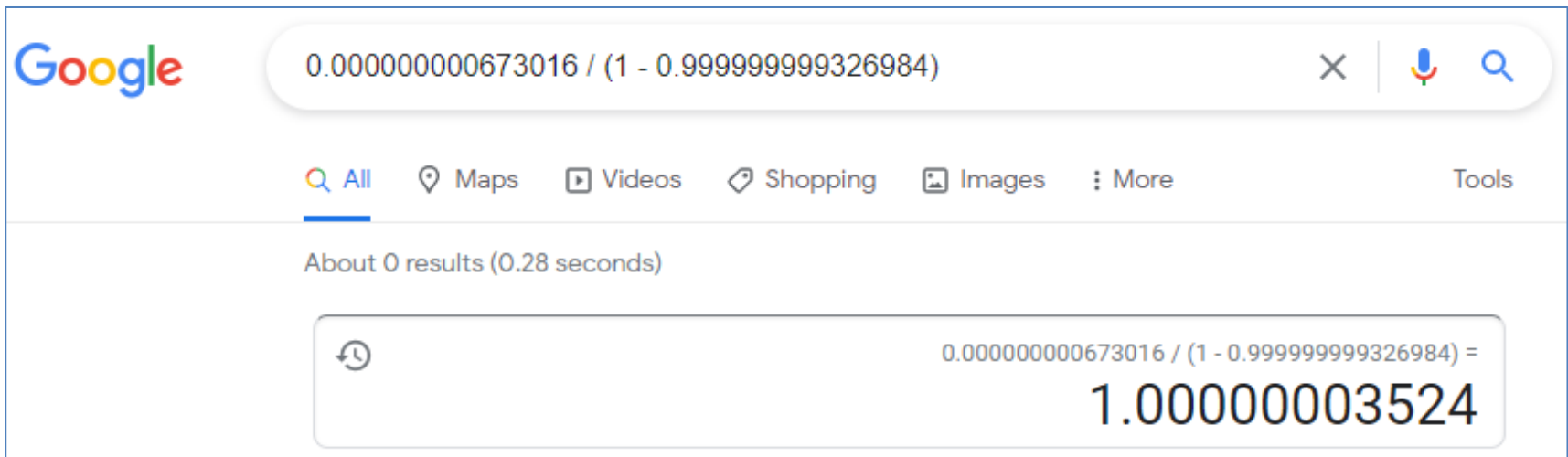
99.99999999999999999999999986099352059...

199s

Inquery's Approach

What went wrong?

Google Calculator employs a double.



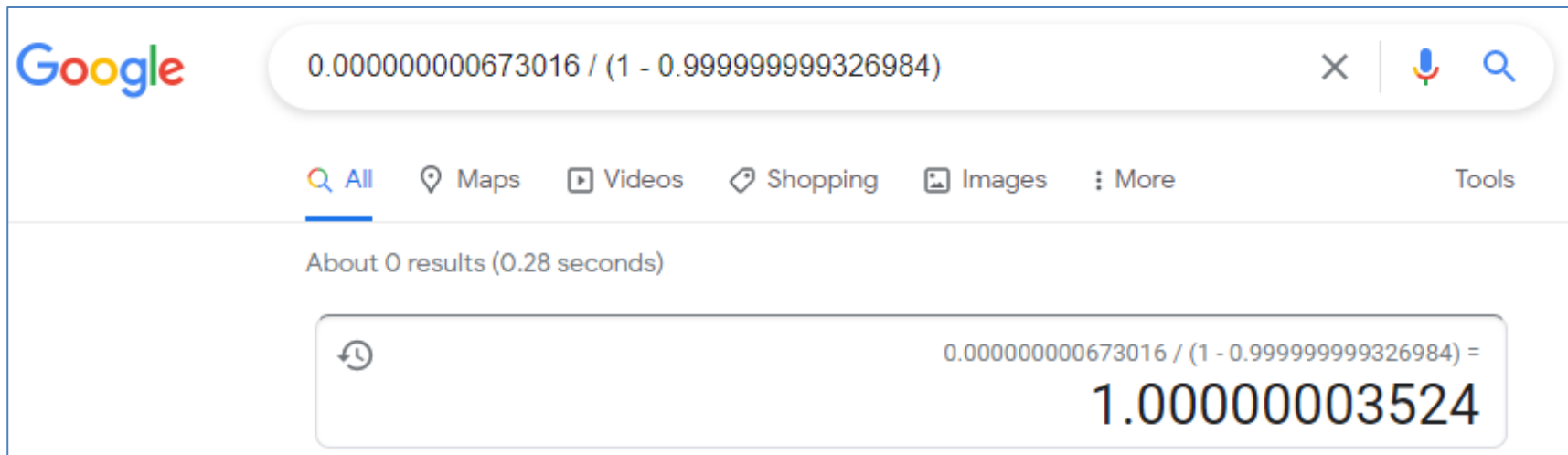
A

```
double x = 0.000000000673016; // 6.73015999999999984E-10
double y = 1 - x;                // 9.999999999326984024E-1
double z = 1 - y;                // 6.73015976282442807E-10
double w = x / z;                // 100.00000352407045 > 1
```

Inquery's Approach

What went wrong?

Google Calculator employs a double.



$$\text{float: } \text{nan} \quad \frac{A}{1-R} = \frac{0.0000000673016}{1 - 0.999999999326984}$$

double: 100.00000352407045 – same as Google

__float80: 99.999999996066898857

__float128: 99.999999999999999999860993296613380

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Is $v \approx 1 - (1 - v)$?

$$v = 10^{-1}$$

Equation	Decimal	Binary
$v = 10^{-1}$	0.1000000015	00111101110011001100110011001101
$1 - v$	0.8999999762	00111111011001100110011001100110
$1 - (1 - v)$	0.1000000238	00111101110011001100110011011010000
$1 - (1 - (1 - v))$	0.8999999762	00111111011001100110011001100110

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Is $v \approx 1 - (1 - v)$?

$$v = 10^{-2}$$

Equation	Decimal	Binary
$v = 10^{-2}$	0.0099999998	00111100001000111101011100001010
$1 - v$	0.9900000005	00111111011111010111000010100100
$1 - (1 - v)$	0.00999999905	00111100001000111101011100000000
$1 - (1 - (1 - v))$	0.9900000005	00111111011111010111000010100100

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Is $v \approx 1 - (1 - v)$?

$$v = 10^{-3}$$

Equation	Decimal	Binary
$v = 10^{-3}$	0.0010000000	00111010100000110001001001101111
$1 - v$	0.9990000129	00111111011111111011111001110111
$1 - (1 - v)$	0.0009999871	00111010100000110001001000000000
$1 - (1 - (1 - v))$	0.9990000129	00111111011111111011111001110111

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Is $v \approx 1 - (1 - v)$?

$$v = 10^{-4}$$

Equation	Decimal	Binary
$v = 10^{-4}$	0.0001000000	00111000110100011011011100010111
$1 - v$	0.9998999834	0011111101111111111100101110010
$1 - (1 - v)$	0.0001000166	00111000110100011100000000000000
$1 - (1 - (1 - v))$	0.9998999834	0011111101111111111100101110010

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Is $v \approx 1 - (1 - v)$?

$$v = 10^{-5}$$

Equation	Decimal	Binary
$v = 10^{-5}$	0.0000100000	00110111001001111100010110101100
$1 - v$	0.9999899864	0011111101111111111111111101011000
$1 - (1 - v)$	0.0000100136	0011011100101000000000000000000000
$1 - (1 - (1 - v))$	0.9999899864	00111111011111111111111111111101011000

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Is $v \approx 1 - (1 - v)$?

$$v = 10^{-6}$$

Equation	Decimal	Binary
$v = 10^{-6}$	0.0000010000	00110101100001100011011110111101
$1 - v$	0.9999989867	0011111101111111111111111111101111
$1 - (1 - v)$	0.0000010133	00110101100010000000000000000000
$1 - (1 - (1 - v))$	0.9999989867	0011111101111111111111111111101111

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Is $v \approx 1 - (1 - v)$?

$$v = 10^{-7}$$

Equation	Decimal	Binary
$v = 10^{-7}$	0.0000001000	001100111101011010111111110010101
$1 - v$	0.9999998808	001111110111111111111111111111110
$1 - (1 - v)$	0.0000001192	00110100000000000000000000000000
$1 - (1 - (1 - v))$	0.9999998808	001111110111111111111111111111110

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Is $v \approx 1 - (1 - v)$?

$$v = 10^{-8}$$

Equation	Decimal	Binary
$v = 10^{-8}$	0.0000000100	00110010001010111100110001110111
$1 - v$	1.0000000000	00111111100000000000000000000000
$1 - (1 - v)$	0.0000000000	00000000000000000000000000000000
$1 - (1 - (1 - v))$	1.0000000000	00111111100000000000000000000000

Floating-Point Subtraction Algorithm

=====

Subtracting floating point numbers

=====

***** Express the two numbers in IEEE 754 format (float):**

***** Increase the smaller exponent so it matches the larger, shifting the mantissa to the right.**

The FPU keeps track of excess bits.

***** Now do the subtraction:**

***** Now we need to normalize (make the “hidden bit” equal to 1):**

***** Round rule:**

if $LSB+1=0$, do nothing.

if $LSB+1=1$ {

round;

if $LSB+2=1$ and no bits afterwards, apply nearest (even) rule (select even one from 2 nearest ones;)

otherwise, just do rounding (select closest one).

}

Note that if there is overflow during round-up (i.e., if all mantissa bits are 1, and the $LSB+$ bits lead to a round up, an extra left shift is performed and the mantissa bits all become 0). See Intel Architecture Software Developer’s Manual - Floating-Point Unit – Page 17.

***** Normalize again if necessary**

(due to rounding carry)

=====

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Example: $1 - 10^{-1}$

Subtracting 0.1 from 1.0

*** Express the two numbers in IEEE 754 format (float):

```
1.0000000000e+00: : [ 0 01111111 (1) 000000000000000000000000 ]
1.0000000149e-01: : [ 0 01111011 (1) 10011001100110011001101 ]
```

*** Increase the smaller exponent so it matches the larger,

shifting the mantissa to the right. In this case, we do it four times:

```
1.0000000149e-01: : [ 0 01111011 (1) 10011001100110011001101 ]
                    [ 0 01111100 (0) 110011001100110011001101 ]
                    [ 0 01111101 (0) 0110011001100110011001101 ]
                    [ 0 01111110 (0) 00110011001100110011001101 ]
                    [ 0 01111111 (0) 000110011001100110011001101 ]
```

*** Now do the subtraction:

```
1.0000000000e+00: : [ 0 01111111 (1) 000000000000000000000000 ]
-
                    [ 0 01111111 (0) 000110011001100110011001101 ]
=
                    [ 0 01111111 (0) 11100110011001100110011001101 ]
```

*** Now we need to normalize (make the "hidden bit" equal to 1):

```
[ 0 01111111 (0) 11100110011001100110011001101 ]
[ 0 01111110 (1) 11001100110011001100110011011 ]
```

*** Round

```
[ 0 01111110 (1) 11001100110011001100110011011 ]
8.9999997616e-01: : [ 0 01111110 (1) 11001100110011001100110 ]
```

*** Now need to re-normalize (if required):

```
8.9999997616e-01: : [ 0 01111110 (1) 11001100110011001100110 ]
```

*** Compare with FPU result:

```
8.9999997616e-01: : [ 0 01111110 11001100110011001100110 ]
```

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Example: $1 - 10^{-2}$

Subtracting 0.01 from 1.0

*** Express the two numbers in IEEE 754 format (float):

```
1.0000000000e+00: : [ 0 01111111 (1) 000000000000000000000000 ]
9.9999997765e-03: : [ 0 01111000 (1) 01000111101011100001010 ]
```

*** Increase the smaller exponent so it matches the larger,
shifting the mantissa to the right. In this case, we do it seven times:

```
9.9999997765e-03: : [ 0 01111000 (1) 01000111101011100001010 ]
                    [ 0 01111001 (0) 101000111101011100001010 ]
                    [ 0 01111010 (0) 0101000111101011100001010 ]
                    [ 0 01111011 (0) 00101000111101011100001010 ]
                    [ 0 01111100 (0) 000101000111101011100001010 ]
                    [ 0 01111101 (0) 0000101000111101011100001010 ]
                    [ 0 01111110 (0) 00000101000111101011100001010 ]
                    [ 0 01111111 (0) 000000101000111101011100001010 ]
```

*** Now do the subtraction:

```
1.0000000000e+00: : [ 0 01111111 (1) 000000000000000000000000 ]
-
[ 0 01111111 (0) 000000101000111101011100001010 ]
=
[ 0 01111111 (0) 111111010111000010100011101110 ]
```

*** Now we need to normalize (left-shift and decrease exponent):

```
[ 0 01111111 (0) 111111010111000010100011101110 ]
[ 0 01111110 (1) 11111010111000010100011101110 ]
```

*** Round: nearest (even)

```
[ 0 01111110 (1) 11111010111000010100011101110 ]
9.9000000954e-01: : [ 0 01111110 (1) 11111010111000010100100 ]
```

*** Now need to re-normalize (if required):

```
9.9000000954e-01: : [ 0 01111110 (1) 11111010111000010100100 ]
```

*** Compare with FPU result:

```
9.9000000954e-01: : [ 0 01111110 11111010111000010100100 ]
```

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Example: $1 - 10^{-3}$

Subtracting 0.001 from 1.0

*** Express the two numbers in IEEE 754 format (float):

```
1.0000000000e+00: : [ 0 01111111 (1) 000000000000000000000000 ]
1.0000000475e-03: : [ 0 01110101 (1) 00000110001001001101111 ]
```

*** Increase the smaller exponent so it matches the larger,

shifting the mantissa to the right. In this case, we do it ten times:

```
1.0000000475e-03: : [ 0 01110101 (1) 00000110001001001101111 ]
                    [ 0 01110110 (0) 1000001100010010011011111 ]
                    [ 0 01110111 (0) 0100000110001001001101111 ]
                    [ 0 01111000 (0) 0010000011000100100110111 ]
                    [ 0 01111001 (0) 000100000110001001001101111 ]
                    [ 0 01111010 (0) 000010000011000100100110111 ]
                    [ 0 01111011 (0) 00000100000110001001001101111 ]
                    [ 0 01111100 (0) 00000010000011000100100110111 ]
                    [ 0 01111101 (0) 0000000100000110001001001101111 ]
                    [ 0 01111110 (0) 0000000010000011000100100110111 ]
                    [ 0 01111111 (0) 00000000010000011000100100110111 ]
```

*** Now do the subtraction:

```
1.0000000000e+00: : [ 0 01111111 (1) 000000000000000000000000 ]
-
                    [ 0 01111111 (0) 00000000010000011000100100110111 ]
=
                    [ 0 01111111 (0) 111111111011111001110110110010001 ]
```

*** Now we need to normalize:

```
[ 0 01111111 (0) 111111111011111001110110110010001 ]
[ 0 01111110 (1) 11111111011111001110110110110010001 ]
```

*** Round:

```
[ 0 01111110 (1) 11111111011111001110110110110010001 ]
```

```
9.9900001287e-01: : [ 0 01111110 (1) 11111111011111001110111 ]
```

*** Now need to re-normalize (if required):

```
9.9900001287e-01: : [ 0 01111110 (1) 11111111011111001110111 ]
```

*** Compare with FPU result:

```
9.9900001287e-01: : [ 0 01111110 11111111011111001110111 ]
```


Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Example: $1 - 10^{-7}$

Subtracting 0.0000001 from 1.0

*** Express the two numbers in IEEE 754 format (float):

```
1.0000000000e+00: : [ 0 01111111 (1) 000000000000000000000000 ]
1.00000000117e-07: : [ 0 01100111 (1) 10101101011111110010101 ]
```

*** Increase the smaller exponent so it matches the larger,

shifting the mantissa to the right. In this case, we do it 24 times:

```
1.00000000117e-07: : [ 0 01100111 (1) 10101101011111110010101 ]
[ 0 01101000 (0) 110101101011111110010101 ]
[ 0 01101001 (0) 011010110101111110010101 ]
[ 0 01101010 (0) 0011010110101111110010101 ]
[ 0 01101011 (0) 000110101101011111110010101 ]
[ 0 01101100 (0) 0000110101101011111110010101 ]
[ 0 01101101 (0) 0000011010110101111110010101 ]
[ 0 01101110 (0) 00000011010110101111110010101 ]
[ 0 01101111 (0) 000000011010110101111110010101 ]
[ 0 01110000 (0) 0000000011010110101111110010101 ]
[ 0 01110001 (0) 0000000001101011010111110010101 ]
[ 0 01110010 (0) 0000000000110101101011110010101 ]
[ 0 01110011 (0) 0000000000011010110101110010101 ]
[ 0 01110100 (0) 0000000000001101011010110010101 ]
[ 0 01110101 (0) 0000000000000110101101010010101 ]
[ 0 01110110 (0) 000000000000001101011010010101 ]
[ 0 01110111 (0) 0000000000000001101011010010101 ]
[ 0 01111000 (0) 00000000000000001101011010010101 ]
[ 0 01111001 (0) 000000000000000001101011010010101 ]
[ 0 01111010 (0) 0000000000000000001101011010010101 ]
[ 0 01111011 (0) 00000000000000000001101011010010101 ]
[ 0 01111100 (0) 000000000000000000001101011010010101 ]
[ 0 01111101 (0) 0000000000000000000001101011010010101 ]
[ 0 01111110 (0) 00000000000000000000001101011010010101 ]
[ 0 01111111 (0) 000000000000000000000001101011010010101 ]
```

Example: $1 - 10^{-7}$

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Example: $1 - 10^{-8}$

Subtracting 0.00000001 from 1.0

*** Express the two numbers in IEEE 754 format (float):

1.00000000000000000000e+00: [0 01111111 (1) 000000000000000000000000]

9.99999993922529029078e-09: [0 01100100 (1) 01010111100110001110111]

*** Increase the smaller exponent so it matches the larger,
shifting the mantissa to the right. In this case, we do it 27 times:

9.99999993922529029078e-09: [0 01100100 (1) 01010111100110001110111]
[0 01100101 (0) 101010111100110001110111]
[0 01100110 (0) 0101010111100110001110111]
[0 01100111 (0) 00101010111100110001110111]
[0 01101000 (0) 000101010111100110001110111]
[0 01101001 (0) 0000101010111100110001110111]
[0 01101010 (0) 00000101010111100110001110111]
[0 01101011 (0) 000000101010111100110001110111]
[0 01101100 (0) 0000000101010111100110001110111]
[0 01101101 (0) 00000000101010111100110001110111]
[0 01101110 (0) 000000000101010111100110001110111]
[0 01101111 (0) 0000000000101010111100110001110111]
[0 01110000 (0) 00000000000101010111100110001110111]
[0 01110001 (0) 000000000000101010111100110001110111]
[0 01110010 (0) 0000000000000101010111100110001110111]
[0 01110011 (0) 00000000000000101010111100110001110111]
[0 01110100 (0) 000000000000000101010111100110001110111]
[0 01110101 (0) 0000000000000000101010111100110001110111]
[0 01110110 (0) 00000000000000000101010111100110001110111]
[0 01110111 (0) 000000000000000000101010111100110001110111]
[0 01111000 (0) 0000000000000000000101010111100110001110111]
[0 01111001 (0) 00000000000000000000101010111100110001110111]
[0 01111010 (0) 000000000000000000000101010111100110001110111]
[0 01111011 (0) 0000000000000000000000101010111100110001110111]
[0 01111100 (0) 00000000000000000000000101010111100110001110111]
[0 01111101 (0) 000000000000000000000000101010111100110001110111]
[0 01111110 (0) 0000000000000000000000000101010111100110001110111]
[0 01111111 (0) 00000000000000000000000000101010111100110001110111]

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Floating-Point Type Accuracy

	Mantissa bits	# of decimal digits around 1 precision	Smallest normal > 0	# of decimal digits around 0
float	23	7.2	2^{-126}	38.2
double	52	15.9	2^{-1022}	307.9
long double	64	19.6	2^{-16382}	4931.8
__float128	112	34.0	2^{-16382}	4931.8

Inquiry's Approach

Pure water remaining after 165M years

Using `__float128` with *our* data

compounding cycle	k	$y(t)/y_0$	error* (%)
continuous	$k \rightarrow \infty$	0.03107702434070	0.000000000000003
per day	365.25	0.03107702436966	0.00000009318755
per year	1	0.03107702320596	0.00000365136619
per 10 years	10^{-1}	0.03107701299304	0.00003651462674
per 100 years	10^{-2}	0.03107691086412	0.00036514620902
per 1,000 years	10^{-3}	0.03107588957926	0.00365144817291
per 10,000 years	10^{-4}	0.03106567715860	0.03651309073774
per 100,000 years	10^{-5}	0.03096359581703	0.36499158486500
per 1,000,000 years	10^{-6}	0.02994713891235	3.63575809563764

$$* \text{ error} = 100 \times \frac{|\text{discrete} - \text{continuous}|}{\text{continuous}}$$

Data:
t = 165M years (ours)
R = 2.10381e-8/year (ours)

Inquiry's Approach

Pure water remaining after 165M years

Using `__float80` with *our* data

compounding cycle	k	$y(t)/y_0$	error* (%)
continuous	$k \rightarrow \infty$	0.03107702434070	0.000000000000003
per day	365.25	0.03107702436966	0.00000009318755
per year	1	0.03107702320596	0.00000365136619
per 10 years	10^{-1}	0.03107701299304	0.00003651462674
per 100 years	10^{-2}	0.03107691086412	0.00036514620902
per 1,000 years	10^{-3}	0.03107588957926	0.00365144817291
per 10,000 years	10^{-4}	0.03106567715860	0.03651309073774
per 100,000 years	10^{-5}	0.03096359581703	0.36499158486500
per 1,000,000 years	10^{-6}	0.02994713891235	3.63575809563764

$$* \text{ error} = 100 \times \frac{|\text{discrete} - \text{continuous}|}{\text{continuous}}$$

Data:
t = 165M years (ours)
R = 2.10381e-8/year (ours)

Inquiry's Approach

Pure water remaining after 165M years

Using double with *our* data

compounding cycle	k	$y(t)/y_0$	error* (%)
continuous	$k \rightarrow \infty$	0.03107702434070	0.000000000000002
per day	365.25	0.03107708234327	0.00018664134340
per year	1	0.03107702300165	0.00000430879926
per 10 years	10^{-1}	0.03107701301647	0.00003643922319
per 100 years	10^{-2}	0.03107691086479	0.00036514407125
per 1,000 years	10^{-3}	0.03107588957936	0.00365144786791
per 10,000 years	10^{-4}	0.03106567715858	0.03651309079918
per 100,000 years	10^{-5}	0.03096359581703	0.36499158487144
per 1,000,000 years	10^{-6}	0.02994713891235	3.63575809563677

$$* \text{ error} = 100 \times \frac{|\text{discrete} - \text{continuous}|}{\text{continuous}}$$

Data:
t = 165M years (ours)
R = 2.10381e-8/year (ours)

Inquiry's Approach

Pure water remaining after 165M years

Using `float` with *our* data

compounding cycle	k	$y(t)/y_0$	error* (%)
continuous	$k \rightarrow \infty$	0.03107703104615	0.00002157688344
per day	365.25	1.0	3117.81129697925906
per year	1	1.0	3117.81129697925906
per 10 years	10^{-1}	0.01956707425416	37.03684741614751
per 100 years	10^{-2}	0.03199512138963	2.95426305576596
per 1,000 years	10^{-3}	0.03107588957936	0.00365144786791
per 10,000 years	10^{-4}	0.03105368465185	0.07510271444032
per 100,000 years	10^{-5}	0.03096382319927	0.36425991171359
per 1,000,000 years	10^{-6}	0.02994706295431	3.63600251428315

$$* \text{ error} = 100 \times \frac{|\text{discrete} - \text{continuous}|}{\text{continuous}}$$

Data:
t = 165M years (ours)
R = 2.10381e-8/year (ours)

Inquerity's Approach

Pure water remaining after 186M years

Using `__float128` with *Inquerity's* data

compounding cycle	k	$y(t)/y_0$	error* (%)
continuous	$k \rightarrow \infty$	$1.3900648155 \times 10^{-20}$	0.00000000000002
per day	365.25	$1.3900647916 \times 10^{-20}$	0.0000017184243
per year	1	$1.3900570037 \times 10^{-20}$	0.0005619697115
per 10 years	10^{-1}	$1.3899866999 \times 10^{-20}$	0.0056195648640
per 100 years	10^{-2}	$1.3892838455 \times 10^{-20}$	0.0561822679079
per 1,000 years	10^{-3}	$1.3822736850 \times 10^{-20}$	0.5604868419449
per 10,000 years	10^{-4}	$1.3139803625 \times 10^{-20}$	5.4734464241542
per 100,000 years	10^{-5}	$7.8505325107 \times 10^{-21}$	43.5239823105510
per 1,000,000 years	10^{-6}	$1.6234881670 \times 10^{-23}$	99.8832077361464

$$* \text{ error} = 100 \times \frac{|\text{discrete} - \text{continuous}|}{\text{continuous}}$$

Data:
t = 186M years (theirs)
R = 6.73016e-10/day (theirs)

Inquiry's Approach

Pure water remaining after 186M years

Using `__float80` with *Inquiry's* data

compounding cycle	k	$y(t)/y_0$	error* (%)
continuous	$k \rightarrow \infty$	$1.3900648155 \times 10^{-20}$	0.00000000000002
per day	365.25	$1.3900647916 \times 10^{-20}$	0.0000017184243
per year	1	$1.3900570037 \times 10^{-20}$	0.0005619697115
per 10 years	10^{-1}	$1.3899866999 \times 10^{-20}$	0.0056195648640
per 100 years	10^{-2}	$1.3892838455 \times 10^{-20}$	0.0561822679079
per 1,000 years	10^{-3}	$1.3822736850 \times 10^{-20}$	0.5604868419449
per 10,000 years	10^{-4}	$1.3139803625 \times 10^{-20}$	5.4734464241542
per 100,000 years	10^{-5}	$7.8505325107 \times 10^{-21}$	43.5239823105510
per 1,000,000 years	10^{-6}	$1.6234881670 \times 10^{-23}$	99.8832077361464

$$* \text{ error} = 100 \times \frac{|\text{discrete} - \text{continuous}|}{\text{continuous}}$$

Data:
 t = 186M years (theirs)
 R = 6.73016e-10/day (theirs)

Inquery's Approach

Pure water remaining after 186M years

Using double with *Inquery's* data

compounding cycle	k	$y(t)/y_0$	error* (%)
continuous	$k \rightarrow \infty$	$1.3900648155 \times 10^{-20}$	0.00000000000001
per day	365.25	$1.3900670339 \times 10^{-20}$	0.0001595903162
per year	1	$1.3900570117 \times 10^{-20}$	0.0005613959873
per 10 years	10^{-1}	$1.3899866992 \times 10^{-20}$	0.0056196104371
per 100 years	10^{-2}	$1.3892838455 \times 10^{-20}$	0.0561822722312
per 1,000 years	10^{-3}	$1.3822736851 \times 10^{-20}$	0.5604868421384
per 10,000 years	10^{-4}	$1.3139803625 \times 10^{-20}$	5.4734464241426
per 100,000 years	10^{-5}	$7.8505325107 \times 10^{-21}$	43.5239823105558
per 1,000,000 years	10^{-6}	$1.6234881670 \times 10^{-23}$	99.8832077361464

$$* \text{ error} = 100 \times \frac{|\text{discrete} - \text{continuous}|}{\text{continuous}}$$

Data:
t = 186M years (theirs)
R = 6.73016e-10/day (theirs)

Inquiry's Approach

Pure water remaining after 186M years

Using `float` with *Inquiry's* data

compounding cycle	k	$y(t)/y_0$	error* (factor)
continuous	$k \rightarrow \infty$	$1.3900707186 \times 10^{-20}$	0.000004246636
per day	365.25	1.0	$7.19390915 \times 10^{19}$
per year	1	$5.5060133639 \times 10^{-20}$	2.960975993712
per 10 years	10^{-1}	$1.8169225719 \times 10^{-20}$	0.307077592095
per 100 years	10^{-2}	$1.4548599632 \times 10^{-20}$	0.046613040613
per 1,000 years	10^{-3}	$1.3847289410 \times 10^{-20}$	0.003853371112
per 10,000 years	10^{-4}	$1.3133968919 \times 10^{-20}$	0.058373766584
per 100,000 years	10^{-5}	$7.8505361258 \times 10^{-21}$	0.770662274811
per 1,000,000 years	10^{-6}	$1.6234889958 \times 10^{-23}$	855.220657544416

$$* \text{ error} = \frac{\max(\text{discrete}, \text{continuous})}{\min(\text{discrete}, \text{continuous})} - 1$$

Data:
t = 186M years (theirs)
R = 6.73016e-10/day (theirs)

Inquerity's Approach

Inquerity's *geometric sum* formula

Recall Inquerity's formula:

$$\%Pee = 100 \times \frac{P}{Q} \times \frac{(1 - (1 - \frac{P}{Q})^x)}{1 - (1 - \frac{P}{Q})}$$

$1 - (1 - x) = x$ (usually ☺):

$$\%Pee = 100 \times \frac{P}{Q} \times \frac{(1 - (1 - \frac{P}{Q})^x)}{\frac{P}{Q}}$$

Cancel out the $\frac{P}{Q}$:

$$\%Pee = 100 \times (1 - (1 - \frac{P}{Q})^x)$$

Or, alternatively:

$$\%Pure = 100 \times (1 - \frac{P}{Q})^x$$

Inquiry's Approach

Q1. How much water is pee?

They employed **discrete probability**

And arrived at a “correct” formula:

Let t be the number of time units

Let R be the decay rate per unit time

Let z be the *expected* fraction of tainted water

How small is this?

$$z(t) = 1 - (1 - R)^t$$

How small is this?

Q1. How much water is pee?

Houston, they had a problem !

- Recall `sameBirthday(n)` cannot be represented with a `double` when `n` is greater than 183.
- They could not represent $1 - (1 - R)^t$ as a `double` or even a long `double`.
- They could, however, represent $1 - R$ as a `double`, as we have demonstrated.

1 - very small
= BAD IDEA

Inquiry's Approach

Q1. How much water is pee?

They employed **discrete probability**

And arrived at a “correct” formula:

Let t be the number of time units

Let R be the decay rate per unit time

Let z be the *expected* fraction of **tainted** water

Let w be the *expected* fraction of **pure** water, $1-z$

$$w(t) = (1 - R)^t$$

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Q1. How much **water** is **pee**?

Untainted Water

		Time (years)	
		165,000,000	186,000,000
Rate of Decay (per year)	$R = 2.10381e - 08$ (My Rate)	3.11% 3.94e19 Liters	2.00% 2.54e19 Liters
	$R = 2.45794e - 07$ (~10X My Rate)	2.44e-16% ~3070 Liters	1.40e-18% ~17.6 Liters

Final Answer: (d) Almost 100%

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Range of Numbers

	<i>largest</i> < 1	
float	0.9999 9994	7.2
double	0.9999 9999 9999 9999	15.9
long double (80 bits)	0.999 999 999 999 999 999 94	19.6
__float128	0.999 999 999 999 999 999 999 999 999 999 999 9	34.0

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Range of Numbers

[illegible]

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

smallest > 0

Q2. What's the chance it's all pee?

What is Expected Value?

Expected Value (E) vs. Probability (P)

$$E[X] = \sum_i x_i P(X = x_i)$$

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Flipping Coins

1 Coin

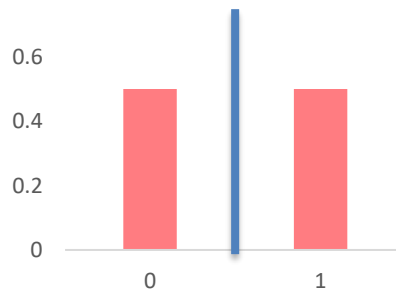


Expected number of heads?

0.5

Probability of exactly 1 head?

$\frac{1}{2}$



Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Flipping Coins

2 Coins

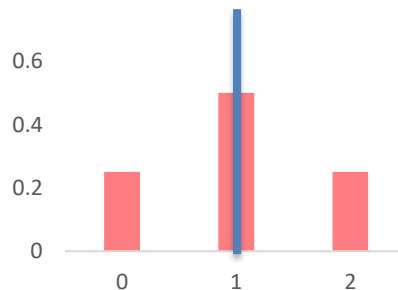


Expected number of heads?

1.0

Probability of exactly 1 head?

$\frac{2}{4}$



Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Flipping Coins

3 Coins

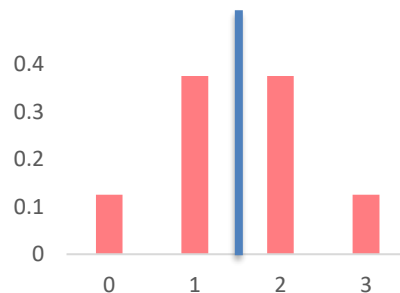


Expected number of heads?

1.5

Probability of exactly 1 head?

$\frac{3}{8}$



Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Flipping Coins

4 Coins

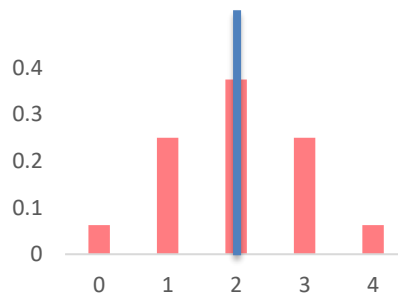


Expected number of heads?

2

Probability of exactly 1 head?

$$\frac{4}{16}$$



Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Flipping Coins

5 Coins

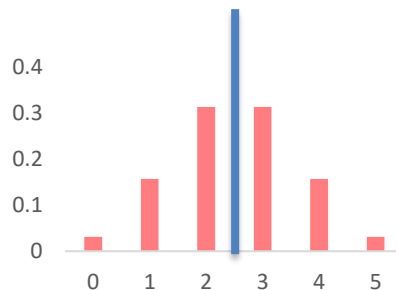


Expected number of heads?

2.5

Probability of exactly 1 head?

$$\frac{5}{32}$$



Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Flipping Coins

6 Coins

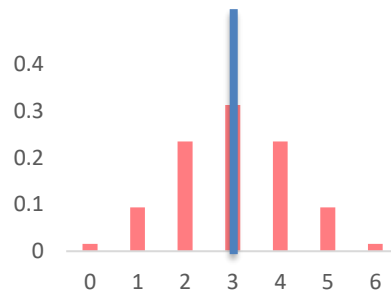


Expected number of heads?

3

Probability of exactly 1 head?

$$\frac{6}{64}$$



Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Flipping Coins

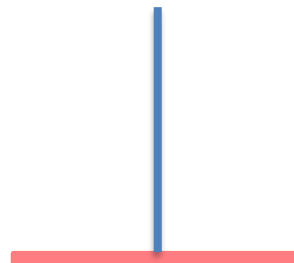
0 Coins

Expected number of heads?

0

Probability of exactly 1 head?

0

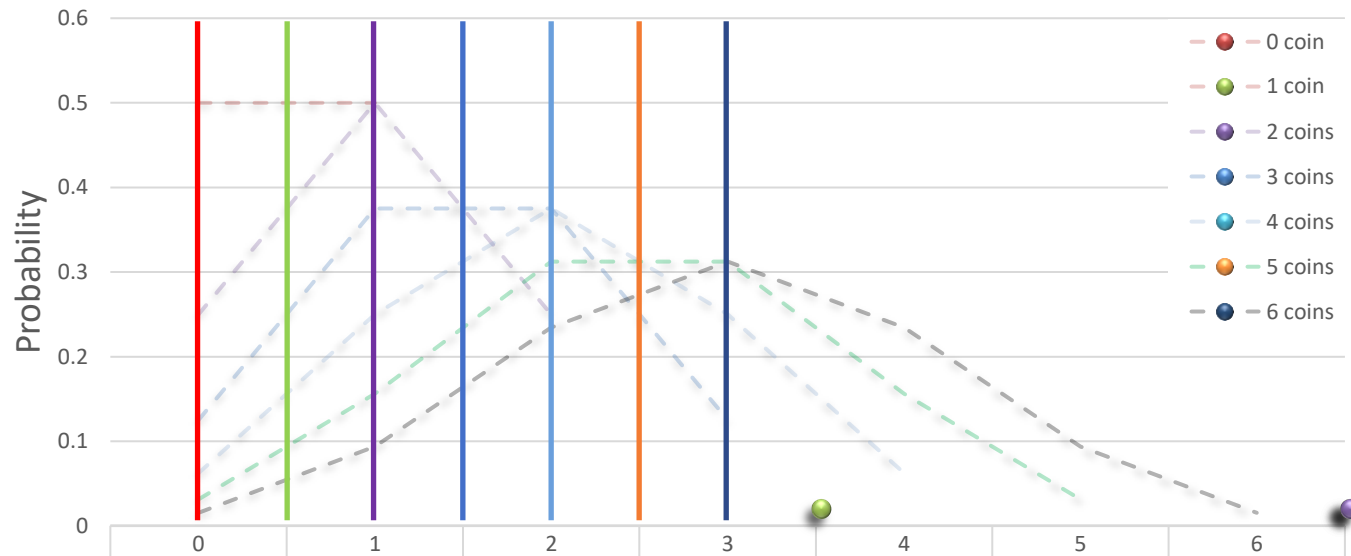


Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Summary: Expected Value vs. Probability

$$E[X] = \sum_i x_i P(X = x_i)$$

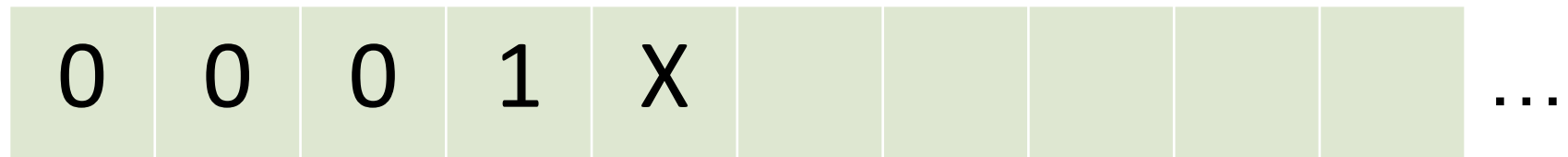
Probability distributions for coin tossing



	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
0 coin	0						
1 coin	0.5	0.5					
2 coins	0.25	0.5	0.25				
3 coins	0.125	0.375	0.375	0.125			
4 coins	0.0625	0.25	0.375	0.25	0.0625		
5 coins	0.03125	0.15625	0.3125	0.3125	0.15625	0.03125	
6 coins	0.015625	0.09375	0.234375	0.3125	0.234375	0.09375	0.015625

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Expected number of zero bits Random Large Unsigned Integer

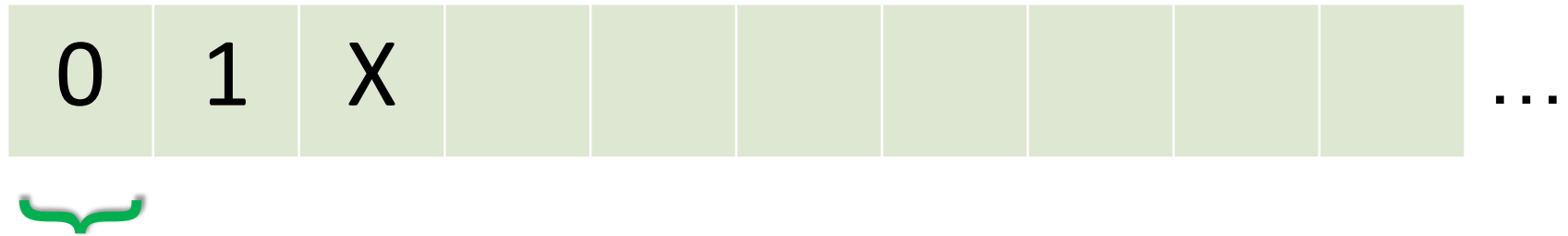


First N bits

Probability first N are all 0 bits

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Expected number of zero bits Random Large Unsigned Integer



N = 1

$$P(\text{exactly } N \text{ leading } 0 \text{ bits}) = 0.25$$

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

**Expected number of zero bits
Random Large Unsigned Integer**

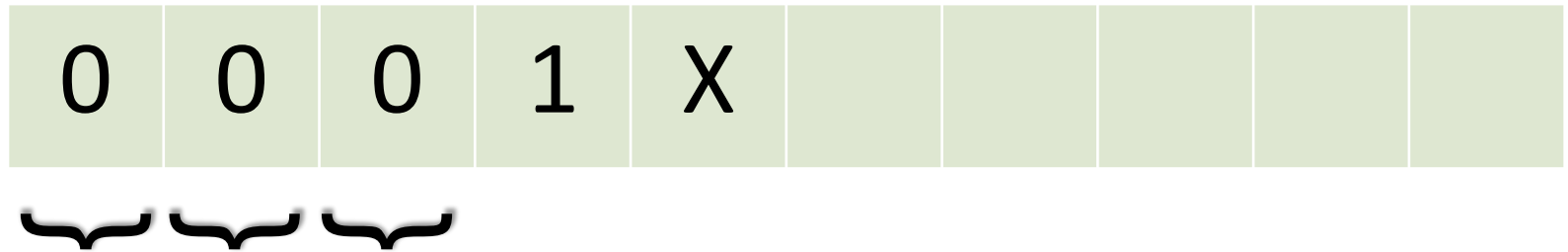


N = 2

$$P(\text{exactly } N \text{ leading } 0 \text{ bits}) = 0.125$$

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

**Expected number of zero bits
Random Large Unsigned Integer**



N = 3

$$P(\text{exactly } N \text{ leading } 0 \text{ bits}) = 0.0625$$

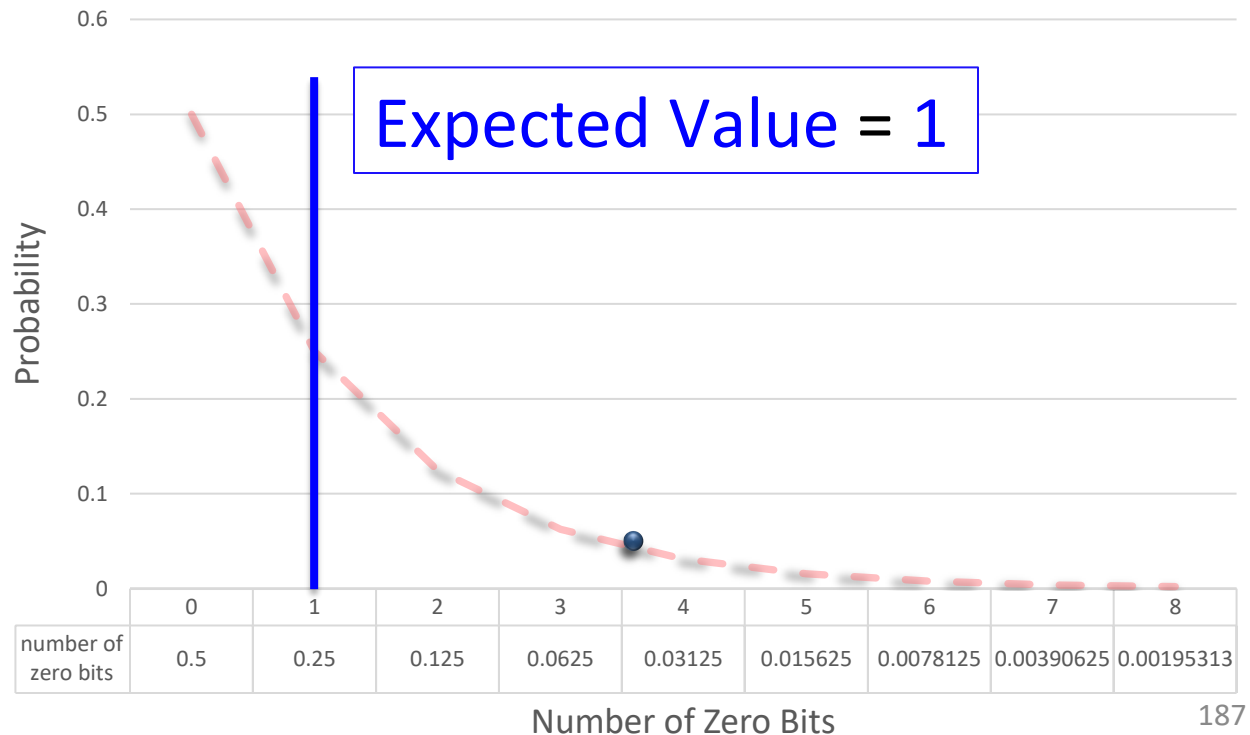
Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Expected number of zero bits

$$E[\# \text{ zero bits}] = \sum_i i * P(\text{zeros} = i) = \sum_i i * 2^{-(i+1)} = 1$$

Probability distribution for count of zero bits

Number of zero bits	Probability
0	0.5
1	0.25
2	0.125
3	0.0625
...	...



Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Q2. What's the chance it's all pee?

Fact

Molecules per liter (kg) of water = $3.334e25$

$$\begin{aligned} M &= \text{Expected \# tainted water molecules:} \\ 0.97 * 3.334e25 \text{ molecules/kg} * 1.26e21 \text{ kg} &= \\ \mathbf{4.07e46 \text{ molecules}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} N &= \text{total \# water molecules:} \\ 3.334e25 \text{ molecules/kg} * 1.26e21 \text{ kg} &= \\ \mathbf{4.2e46 \text{ molecules}} \end{aligned}$$

Q2. Expected Value vs. Probability

$$\text{Recall: } E[X] = \sum_i x_i P(X = x_i)$$

$$P = e^{-Rt}$$

$$E = P * N = P * (\underbrace{1 + 1 + 1 + \dots + 1 + 1 + 1}_N)$$

$$E = P * N = \underbrace{P * 1 + P * 1 + \dots + P * 1 + P * 1}_N$$

Probability
that a specific
molecule is
pure

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Q2. What's the chance it's all pee?

Probability any specific molecule is:

$$\frac{M}{N} = 0.97$$

Probability all N molecules are tainted:

$$\left(\frac{M}{N}\right)^N = 10^{-5.76e44}$$

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Q2. What's the probability all is tainted?

The world contains $4.2e46$ molecules

$$P(\text{all clean}) = P(\text{molecule tainted})^{4.2E46}$$

$$= 0.97^{4.2E46}$$

$$= e^{\ln(0.97^{4.2E46})}$$

$$= 10^{4.2E46 * \ln(0.97) * \log_{10}(e)}$$

$$= 10^{4.2E46 * (-0.031593) * 0.43429}$$

$$= 10^{4.2E46 * (-0.031593) * 0.43429}$$

$$= 10^{-5.7628E44}$$

$$= 0. \underbrace{0000000000 \dots 00}_{5.76 * 10^{44} \text{ zeros}} 1$$

$5.76 * 10^{44}$ zeros

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Q2. Chance every molecule is pee?

Probability

All Pee

		Time (years)	
		165,000,000	186,000,000
Rate of Decay (per year)	$R = 2.10381e - 08$ (My Rate)	10^{-5e44} ($5 * 10^{44}$ zeros)	10^{-4e44} ($4 * 10^{44}$ zeros)
	$R = 2.45794e - 07$ (~10X My Rate)	10^{-4e28} ($4 * 10^{28}$ zeros)	10^{-2e26} ($2 * 10^{26}$ zeros)

Final Answer: (b) Almost 0

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Q3. What is Q2 if Q1 is 'all but 1'?

A single untainted molecule is *expected:*

We rely on the well-known result that

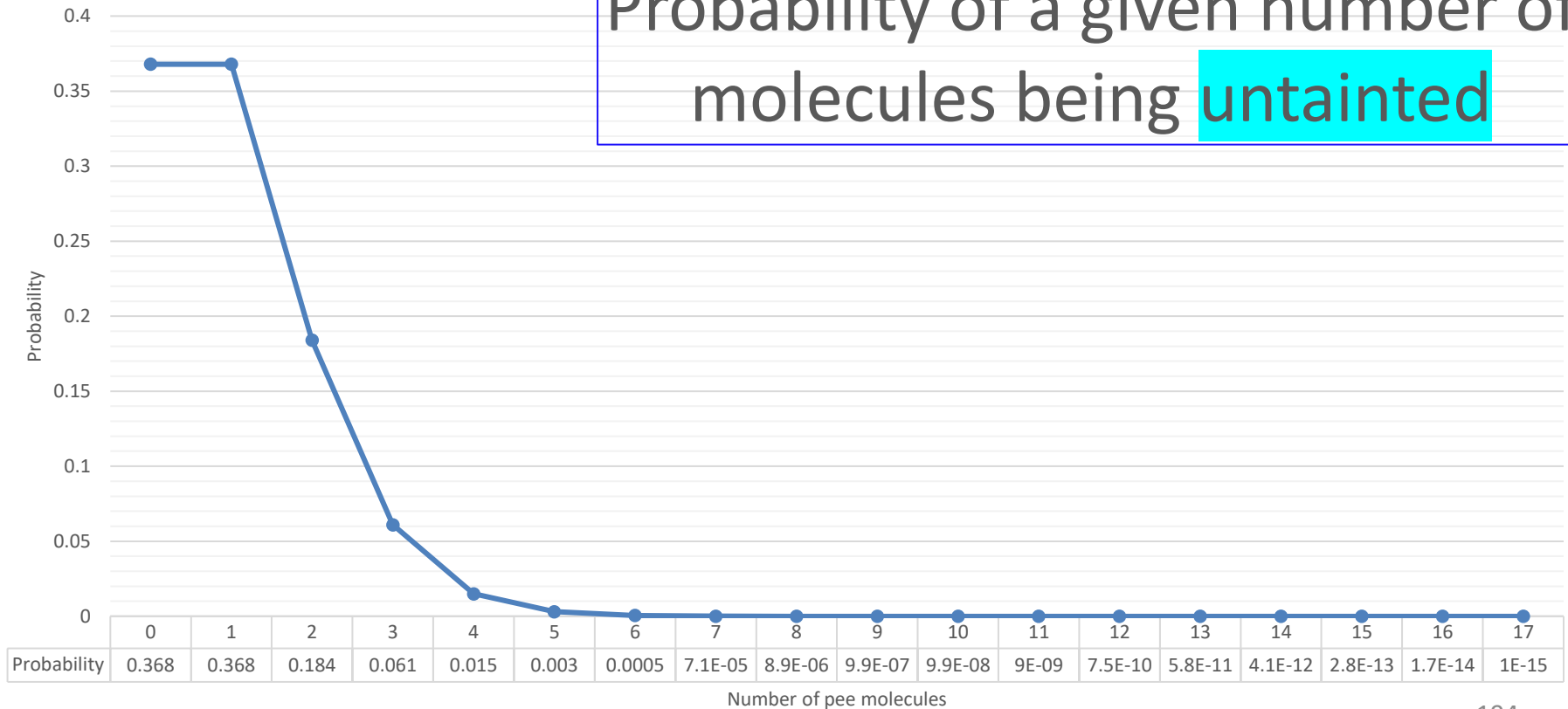
$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right)^n = \frac{1}{e}$$

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Q3. What is Q2 if Q1 is 'all but 1'?

Probability Density Function and Expected Value

Probability of a given number of molecules being untainted



Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Q3. Q2 if Q1 answer were 'all but 1'

Probability

All Pee if $E = 1/N$

Time (years)

165,000,000

186,000,000

Rate of Decay
(per year)

$R = 2.10381e - 08$
(My Rate)

$R = 2.45794e - 07$
(~10X My Rate)

$$\frac{1}{e} = 36.7879\%$$

Final Answer: (c) near middle

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Q4. Chance my cup is pure?

1 cup = 250 ml water = 8.3×10^{24} molecules

$$\begin{aligned} P(\text{all clean}) &= P(\text{molecule clean})^{8.3E24} \\ &= 0.03^{8.3E24} \\ &= e^{\ln(0.03)^{8.3E24}} \\ &= 10^{8.3E24 * \ln(0.03) * \log_{10}(e)} \\ &= 10^{8.3E24 * (-3.47054) * 0.43429} \\ &= 10^{8.3E24 * (-3.47054) * 0.43429} \\ &= 10^{-1.2501E25} \end{aligned}$$

$$= 0.\underbrace{00000000\dots001}_{1.25 * 10^{25} \text{ zeros}}$$

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Q4. Chance my cup is **pure water**?

Probability

All **Pure**

		Time (years)	
		165,000,000	186,000,000
Rate of Decay (per year)	$R = 2.10381e - 08$ (My Rate)	$10^{-1.2e25}$ (10^{25} zeros!)	$10^{-1.4e25}$ (10^{25} zeros!)
	$R = 2.45794e - 07$ (~10X My Rate)	10^{-1e26} (10^{26} zeros!)	10^{-2e26} ($2 * 10^{26}$ zeros!)

Final Answer: (b) Almost 0

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Question Recap

How did you do?

1. What fraction of all water is pee?

(a) ~~0~~ (b) 0+ (c) ~0.5 (d) 1- (e) ~~1~~

2. What's the chance every molecule is pee?

(a) ~~0~~ (b) 0+ (c) ~0.5 (d) 1- (e) ~~1~~

3. What would ans. **2.** be if ans. **1.** were "*all but 1 molecule*"?

(a) ~~0~~ (b) 0+ (c) ~0.5 (d) 1- (e) ~~1~~

4. What's the chance my cup of water is pure?

(a) ~~0~~ (b) 0+ (c) ~0.5 (d) 1- (e) ~~1~~

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Takeaways

1. Dinosaurs created a lot of pee.
2. Molecules are *very* small.
3. Even if there's almost no *expected* water left, the *probability* that all the remaining water is pee is *very* small indeed.
4. Just like the *birthday problem*, we need to think about how we can avoid representing values *very, very* close to 1 — as even a long double might not get the job done.

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

The Takeaway

To x ,
or $1 - x$,
that is the
question.

Quantifying Dinosaur Pee

Dino-steak



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