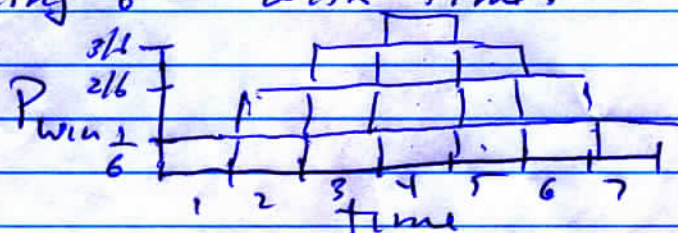


## Thought experiment

MRN 064

A gaming table is unfair. A magnet changes the probability of a die rolling a "winning 6" with time.



A person rolls a win. What is the best estimate of the time the dice was rolled. Obviously at the time of maximum probability,  $t=4$ .

This is an application of the principle of max. Likelihood.

But what is the certainty of the estimate? Suppose I were to have had 6 rolls per time interval. The wins would be 1-2-3-4-3-2-1, 16 wins, but only 4, or 25% are in the  $t=4$  interval.  $\frac{10}{16} = 62.5\%$  are in intervals 3-5.

Note that I am using here  $P_{win}(t)$  as if it were a distribution for  $t$  (whereas it is actually a distribution for wins)

By this argument I can use the max. Likelihood fn for a parameter on the dist for that parameter