
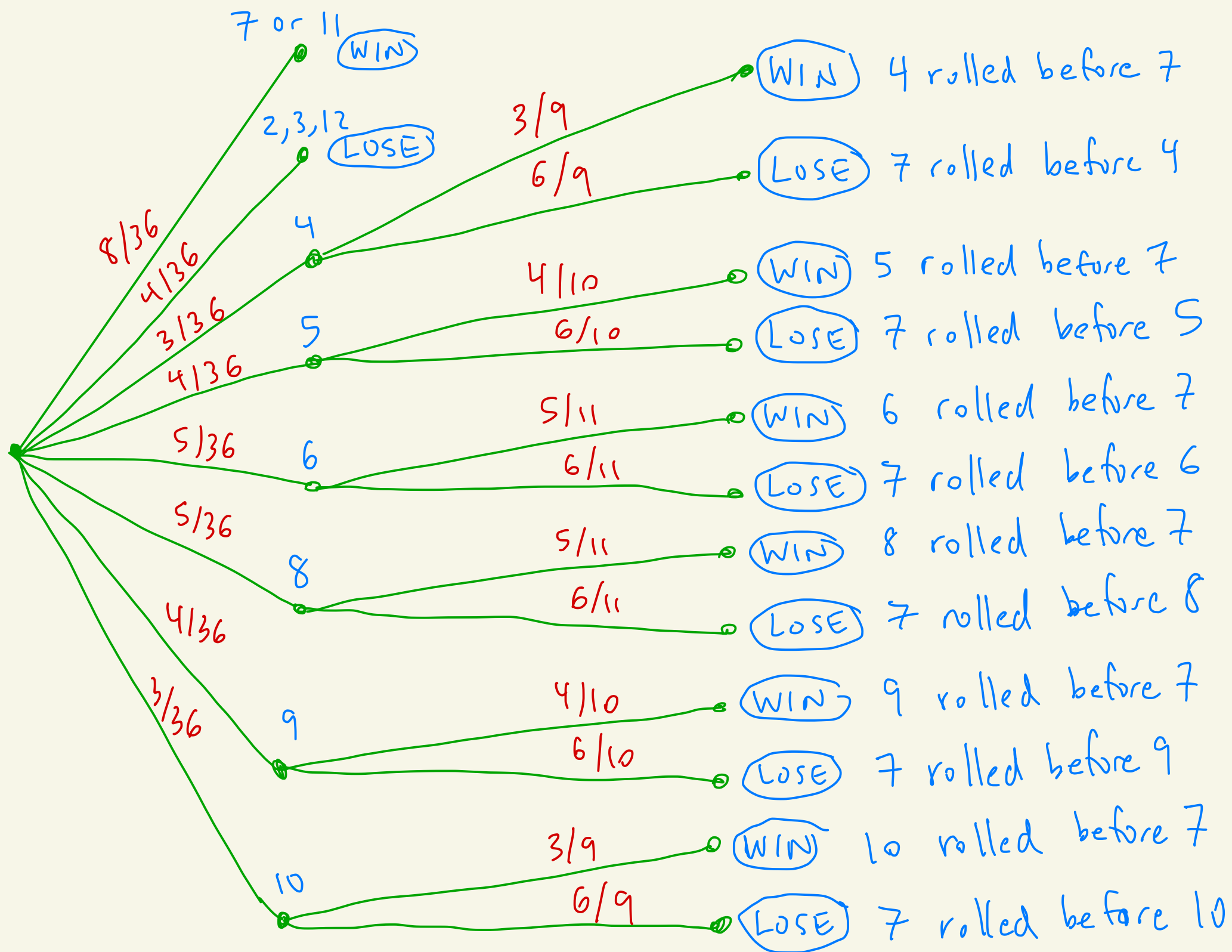


Math 4740

4/16/25





The probability of winning the pass line bet is

$$\begin{aligned} & \underbrace{\frac{8}{36}}_{7 \text{ or } 11} + \underbrace{\frac{3}{36} \cdot \frac{3}{9}}_{\text{point 4 and we win}} + \underbrace{\frac{4}{36} \cdot \frac{4}{10}}_{\text{point 5 and we win}} \\ & + \underbrace{\frac{5}{36} \cdot \frac{5}{11}}_{\text{point 6 and we win}} + \underbrace{\frac{5}{36} \cdot \frac{5}{11}}_{\text{point 8 and we win}} + \underbrace{\frac{4}{36} \cdot \frac{4}{10}}_{\text{point 9 and we win}} \\ & + \underbrace{\frac{3}{36} \cdot \frac{3}{9}}_{\text{point 10 and we win}} = \boxed{\frac{244}{495}} \approx \boxed{0.4929} \end{aligned}$$

probability of losing pass line bet is

$$1 - \frac{244}{495} = \boxed{\frac{251}{495}} \approx \boxed{0.5071}$$

Suppose we bet \$1 on the pass line. Let X be the amount won or lost.

$$E[X] = (\$1) P(X = \$1) + (-\$1) P(X = -\$1)$$

↑
pass line
pays 1:1

$$= (\$1) \left(\frac{244}{495} \right) + (-\$1) \left(\frac{251}{495} \right)$$

$$= -\$ \frac{7}{495} \approx -\$0.01414, \dots$$

On average if we played this bet many times we would lose about 1.4¢ per \$1 wagered.

The casino allows another type of bet. It's called a "free odds" bet.

It's allowed after a point is made.

The free odds bet is paid out at the true odds making it a "fair bet".

That is the expected value of this bet is \$0.

Payouts for "free odds" bet


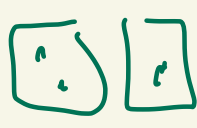
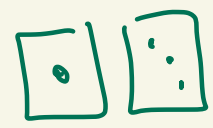
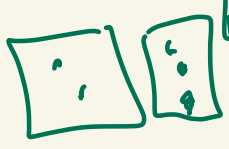
point	payout
4	2:1
5	3:2
6	6:5
8	6:5
9	3:2
10	2:1

Ex: Suppose we bet
\$10 on the pass line.

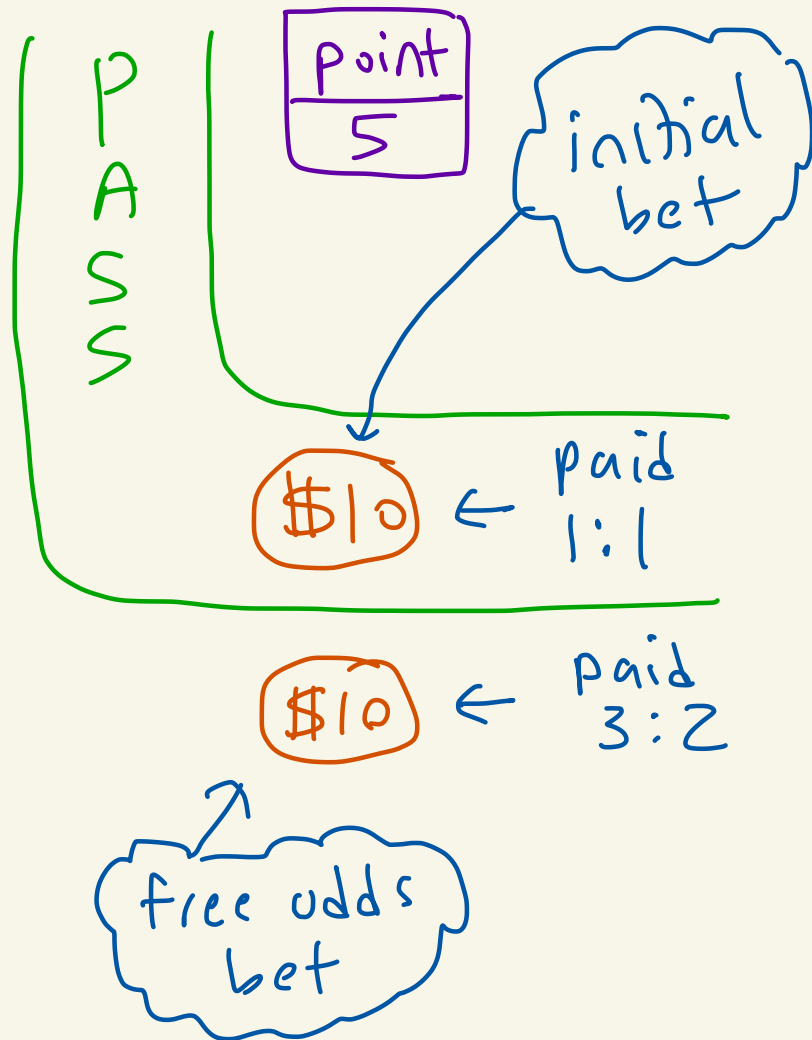
Let's say the come out roll
is a 5. Now that a

point is made we can add a "free odds" bet.

Let's say we bet another \$10.

come out roll		5
roll 2		3
roll 3		4
roll 4		5

← We win



$$\begin{aligned} \text{Winnings} &= (\$10)\left(\frac{1}{1}\right) + (\$10)\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) \\ &= \$10 + \$15 = \$25 \end{aligned}$$

How much would we have lost if 7 came before 5?

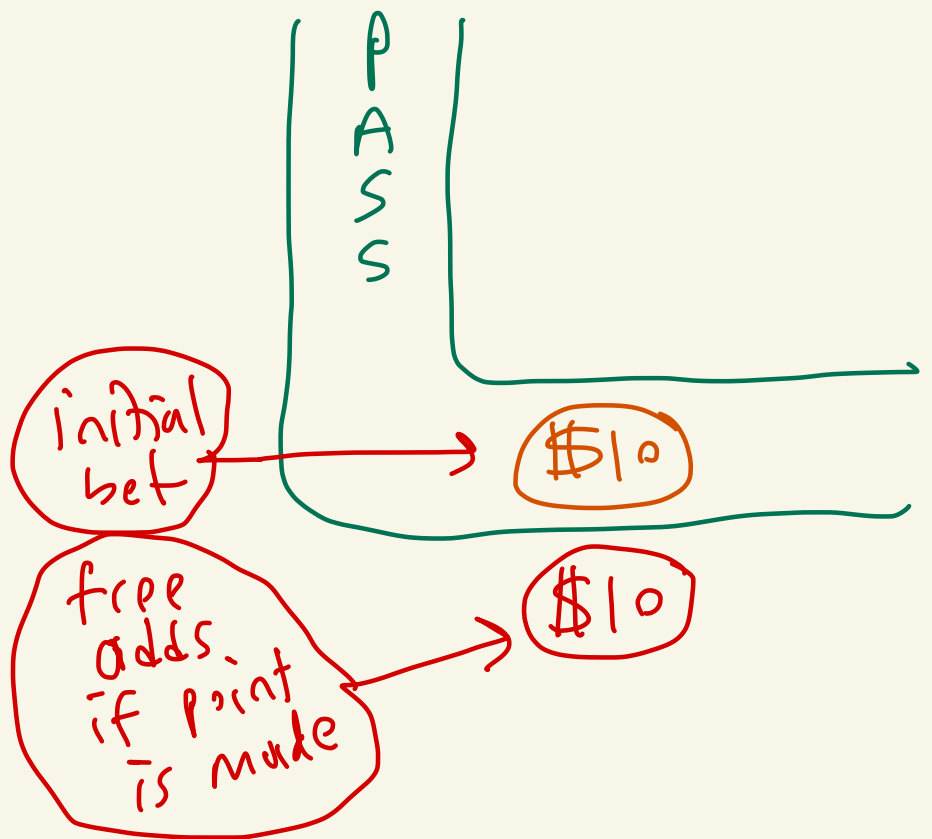
$$\underbrace{\$10}_{\text{initial}} + \underbrace{\$10}_{\text{free odds}} = \$20$$

Let's look at the expected value of the above free odds bet.

Suppose you bet \$10 on the pass line and if a point is made you bet another \$10 as a free odds bet.

Let X be the amount won or lost.

Let's calculate $E[X]$.



$$E[X] = \underbrace{\left(\frac{8}{36}\right)(\$10)}_{\text{come out roll is 7 or 11}} + \underbrace{\left(\frac{4}{36}\right)(-\$10)}_{\text{come out roll is 2, 3, 12}}$$

$$+ \underbrace{2 \cdot \left(\frac{3}{36}\right)\left(\frac{3}{9}\right)(\$30)}_{\text{point is 4 or 10 and we win}} + \underbrace{2 \cdot \left(\frac{3}{36}\right)\left(\frac{6}{9}\right)(-\$20)}_{\text{point is 4 or 10 and we lose}}$$

$\$10 \leftarrow 1:1$ initial
 $\$20 \leftarrow 2:1$ free odds

 $\$30$

$-\$10 \leftarrow$ initial
 $-\$10 \leftarrow$ free odds

 $-\$20$

$$+ 2 \cdot \left(\frac{4}{36}\right) \left(\frac{4}{10}\right) (\$25) + 2 \cdot \left(\frac{4}{36}\right) \left(\frac{6}{10}\right) (-\$20)$$

point is 5 or 9
and we win

$$\begin{array}{r} \$10 \leftarrow 1:1 \text{ initial} \\ \$15 \leftarrow 3:2 \text{ free odds} \\ \hline \$25 \end{array}$$

point is 5 or 9
and we lose

$$\begin{array}{r} -\$10 \leftarrow \text{initial} \\ -\$10 \leftarrow \text{free odds} \\ \hline -\$20 \end{array}$$

$$+ 2 \cdot \left(\frac{5}{36}\right) \left(\frac{5}{11}\right) (\$22) + 2 \cdot \left(\frac{5}{36}\right) \left(\frac{6}{11}\right) (-\$20)$$

point is 6 or 8
and we win

$$\begin{array}{r} \$10 \leftarrow 1:1 \text{ initial} \\ \$12 \leftarrow 6:5 \text{ free odds} \\ \hline \$22 \end{array}$$

point is 6 or 8
and we lose

$$\begin{array}{r} -\$10 \leftarrow \text{initial} \\ -\$10 \leftarrow \text{free odds} \\ \hline -\$20 \end{array}$$

$$= -\$ \frac{14}{99} \approx -\$ 0.1414...$$

We lose about 14.14¢ per game played with this strategy in the long run.

Let's put the above in "per \$1 bet" terms so we can compare it to the first analysis of just betting \$1 on the pass line.

Let's see what the average amount bet is when we do the \$10 initial bet and then the \$10 free odds bet.

$$\left(\begin{array}{l} \text{average} \\ \text{amount} \\ \text{bet} \end{array} \right) = \underbrace{(\$10) \left(\frac{12}{36} \right)}_{\text{come out roll is 7, 11, 2, 3, 12}} + \underbrace{(\$20) \left(\frac{24}{36} \right)}_{\text{come out roll is 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10 (point made)}}$$

$$\approx \boxed{\$16.67}$$

Expected value per dollar bet is

$$\frac{-\$0.1414}{\$16.67} = \boxed{-\$0.0085}$$

So we lose about 0.85¢ per dollar wagered. Compare that to losing 1.414¢ per dollar wagered with just \$1 bet on pass line.