

## Re: coin puzzle

**Source:** <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.math/2005-02/5670.html>

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**From:** |-|erc (h\_at\_r.c)

**Date:** 02/15/05

Date: Wed, 16 Feb 2005 00:25:32 +1000

"Alan Smaill" <smail@SPAMinf.ed.ac.uk> wrote in

> > > > > *One person turns a coin over at times 0, 1/2, 3/4, 7/8 ...*

> > > > >

> > > > > *The coin is head up at the start.*

> > > > >

> > > > > *Is it head or tail up at time 1?*

> > > > >

> > > > > *It's in a quantum state -- indeterminate until you observe it.*

> > > > >

> > > > > *(I'm curious why comments at the level of physics are raised*

> > > > > *to my question, and not Herc's, which equally supposes something*

> > > > > *impossible according to current physics)*

> > > >

> > > > *My question is well formed, yours is a self negating statement since you*

> > > > *added that the end of an infinite line is present.*

> > >

> > > *Certainly not; you can pick up a coin, turn it over, and put*

> > > *it back down in the same place, can't you?*

> > > *Even easier than getting infinitely many people together,*

> > > *I dare say.*

> > >

> > > *There is no infinite line here, everything happens in a bounded space.*

> > > *My assumptions are no more problematic than yours.*

> > >

> > > *So, answer the question: heads or tails?*

> > >

> >

> >

> > *You're either an idiot or a stupid liar.*

> > *together with the assumption of infinite flip*

> > *speed at the singularity  $t=1$ ,*

> > *you're scenerio is impossible, mine is possible.*

>

> *Let's see -- in your original puzzle*

> *with infinitely many people, how fast are the tosses happening, then?*

>

> > *In my puzzle, you \*roll\* the coin futher and further away,*

> > *the contradiction at t=1*  
 > > *is solved, the coin forms an infinitely long sequence and you see*  
 > > *any flip in N*  
 > > *but not the end.*  
 >  
 > *I'm not asking about your version of my puzzle;*  
 > *I'm asking about mine --*  
 > *a perfectly simple puzzle by your standards.*  
 >  
 > > *That's 4 times I've told you, take your petty counter example*  
 > > *to your own thread.*  
 >  
 > *Just stop whining and answer my question:*  
 > *heads or tails?*  
 >  
 > > *Note : still everyone has avoided the question how long the*  
 > > *coin sequence is while*  
 > > *still not unique.*  
 >  
 > *Just like Herc avoids answering my question.*  
 >

You're like a kid posting  $1/0 = ?$  on Einstein's blackboard at the unveiling of relativity smiling as you wet your nappy.

Every time you're told to get lost you point at the equation with glee and give a screaming cry mine mine mine mine.

for the 5th time, your puzzle is completely unrelated to the problem I posted. your reasoning is completely flawed at every level.

> >> *Certainly not; you can pick up a coin, turn it over, and put*  
 > >> *it back down in the same place, can't you?*

This is completely erroneous! NO YOU CANNOT PUT IT DOWN AT TIME T=1.

I have mapped the number line  $0...oo$  onto  $0..1$  and posed a standard question on infinite sequences.

We don't continue the calculations to  $t=1$ , we examine the behaviour as it approaches. At  $t=1$  all the sequences have reached  $oo$  length. To correctly interpret this in the new coordinates just means the sequences are non terminating. Non terminating sequences, whether from  $1..oo$  or  $0..1$  are the subject matter. wet nappies deserve their own thread.

its not your fault your brainfart is so exciting for you, self contradicting statements like yours take up 90% of mathematics resources.

this is for your benefit, learn some comprehension and learn some netiquette on posting rights.

I posted :  
 |||

oo people flip coins oo times each.

they start at time t=0,  
flip coin2 at time t=1/2,  
flip coin3 at time t=3/4,  
..

at time t=1 everyone has flipped oo coins

you start 1 toss later, and have to come up with a unique sequence, you can direct the coins outcome.

1st coin at time t=1/2  
2nd coin at time t=3/4  
3rd coin at time t=7/8  
....

At what time have you (probabilistically) come up with a unique sequence?

|||||

You made a small but relevant point

|||||

One person turns a coin over at times 0, 1/2, 3/4, 7/8 ...

The coin is head up at the start.

Is it head or tail up at time 1?

--

Alan Smaill

|||||

I interpreted the concern into the framework of the problem

|||||

"Alan Smaill" <smaill@SPAMinf.ed.ac.uk> wrote in >

> One person turns a coin over at times 0, 1/2, 3/4, 7/8 ...

>

> The coin is head up at the start.

>

> Is it head or tail up at time 1?

>

This is a clarification question I take it.

The coin is pushed 1 coin width every turn and is infinitely far away so you can't see it.

You can however travel any distance towards the last coin flip.

Herc

|||||

I gave you enough information to answer the original problem, I intercepted and you

|||||

No, it's always in the same place -- it's flipped over on the spot.

|||||

No that's absurd. You LISTEN, You THINK, You COOPERATE, You ADAPT.

Nobody is interested in 1/oo, the topic is infinite sequences, do not ask irrelevant poorly defined impossible questions when my post is clearly defined.

Herc