

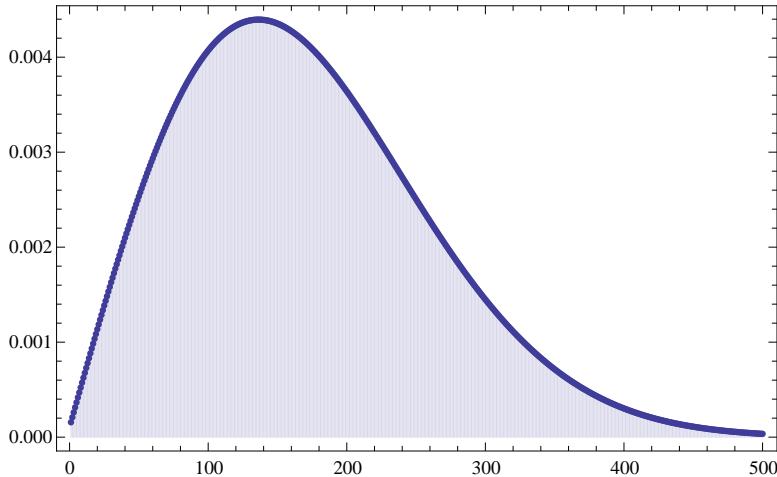
Photos Problem

Statement of Problem

In summary, pictures are selected at random from among 19,134 possible unique pictures and displayed on a computer screen using a screen-saver. Let X be the number of pictures you need to view until you see the same one at least twice.

Solution

```
p = 19134;
k = Range[p];
y = Table[{r - 1, 1 - (Times @@ ((p - Range[k[[r]]]) / N[p]))}, {r, 2, p}];
pf = Transpose[{Range[p - 2], Differences[(Last /@ y)]]];
ListPlot[Take[pf, 500], Filling -> Axis,
PlotRange -> All, Axes -> False, Frame -> True, AxesOrigin -> {0, 0}]
```



mean

```
 $\mu = \text{Total}[\text{Times}[\text{Sequence} @\#] & /@ \text{pf}]$ 
```

171.033

```
prob = Last /@ pf;
Take[prob, 10];
```

Variance

```
Sqrt[Total[(Range[1, Length[prob]] - μ)^2 × prob]]]
```

```
90.2771
```

Probability that X is less than 160 or 161 is about 50%

```
{Total[Take[prob, 160]], Total[Take[prob, 161]]}
```

```
{0.499264, 0.503529}
```