Exercise 1.21

How many times does a typical person blink her eyes in a lifetime?

Solution

Let's say people blink once every 3 seconds on average while they're awake, sleep 8 hours per day on average, and live until 70 on average.

$$\frac{1 \text{ blink}}{3 \text{ sec}} \times \frac{60 \text{ sec}}{1 \text{ min}} \times \frac{60 \text{ min}}{1 \text{ hr}} \times \frac{24 \text{ hr}}{1 \text{ day}} \times \frac{365 \text{ days}}{1 \text{ year}} \times \frac{70 \text{ years}}{1 \text{ lifetime}} \times \frac{16 \text{ hours awake}}{24 \text{ hours}} \approx 5 \times 10^8 \; \frac{\text{blinks}}{\text{lifetime}}$$