What are...Monte Carlo experiments?

Or: The shotgun method

Buffon and needles



"Suppose we have a floor made of parallel strips of wood, each the same width (1 unit), and we drop a needle (L) onto the floor. What is the probability (p) that the needle will lie across a line between two strips?" It is $p = \frac{2L}{\pi}$

Shooting at circles



The probability (p) of a point landing in the circle is $p = \frac{\text{area}(\text{circle})}{\text{area}(\text{square})} = \frac{\pi}{4}$



Enter, the theorem/philosophy!

A Monte Carlo experiment uses random sampling to get numerical results

Widely applicable

Comparison of convergence



Monte Carlo in discrete mathematics



	Double matching	Triple matching	Quadruple matching
Number of matchings	1	0	0
At least probabilities	0.5073	0.01271	0.00017

How often do people share the same birthday? Use Monte Carlo!

Thank you for your attention!

I hope that was of some help.