

WARWICK PUBLIC LECTURE in Mathematics and Statistics

From Lotteries to Polls to Monte Carlo



Professor Jeff Rosenthal (University of Toronto)
Wednesday, 3rd May 2017, 6.15pm
MS.02, Maths and Stats, University of Warwick

FREE and aimed at a general audience

Just how unlikely is it to win a lottery jackpot? If you flip 100 coins, how close will the number of heads be to 50? How many dying patients must be saved to demonstrate that a new medical drug is effective? Why do strange coincidences occur so often? If a poll samples 1,000 people, how accurate are the results? How did statistics help to expose the Ontario Lottery Retailer Scandal? If two babies die in the same family without apparent cause, should the parents be convicted of murder? Why do casinos always make money, even though gamblers sometimes win and sometimes lose? And how is all of this related to Monte Carlo Algorithms, an extremely popular and effective method of scientific computing?

FREE refreshments provided afterwards!
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For enquiries, please contact A.Law@warwick.ac.uk