

For jupyter notebook and extra files visit [project repo](#)

```
In [38]: import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
from math import pi
import random
```

Introduction

For our estimation of pi, we are using the Monte Carlo method. [Wikipedia](#) has a verbose article and was the main source I used in the creation of my algorithm. Monte Carlo methods tend to follow a pattern of first defining a domain of possible inputs, generating inputs from some probability distribution over the domain, performing some deterministic computation of the outputs and finally aggregating the results.

Approximating π

Define domain $D = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid -1 \leq x \leq 1 \text{ and } -1 \leq y \leq 1\}$.

Define n to be the amount of points contained in D and r to be the amount of points within an inscribed unit circle.

Then the ratio's of surface area should relate to the ratio of points r and n we have the approximation.

$$\frac{\pi}{4} \approx \frac{r}{n}$$

$$\pi \approx \frac{4*r}{n}$$

```
In [78]: #Monte Carlo pi estimator
def estimate_pi(n):
    #Create random points within unit square
    x = np.random.uniform(0,1,n)
    y = np.random.uniform(0,1,n)

    #Get sum of all points where the distance from center
    # is less than 1 (inside unit circle)
    r = np.sum(np.sqrt((x)**2+(y)**2)<1)

    return 4 * r / n
```

One issue that I've seen some peers run into with this project was the efficiency of the estimator, while my code could be improved, I found a decent performance uplift with calculating r. First note that I am creating a boolean mask. Then using numpys aggregate

function sum can quickly take the amount of true values as 1 and return the sum. Note that count_nonzero also has the same effect.

```
In [79]: x = np.random.uniform(0,1,20)
y = np.random.uniform(0,1,20)
mask = np.sqrt((x)**2+(y)**2)<1
sum = np.sum(mask)
sum_alternate = np.count_nonzero(mask)
display(mask,sum,sum_alternate)
```

```
array([False,  True,  True,  True,  True,  True,  True,  True, False,
        True,  True,  True,  True,  True, False,  True,  True,  True,
        True,  True])
np.int64(17)
np.int64(17)
```

To show this efficiency I asked Gemini to create an estimator and it gave this (I removed the comments it made for sizing, and also made fixed code to specify the np random library method).

```
In [80]: def estimate_pi_gemini(num_points):
points_in_circle = 0
total_points = num_points

for _ in range(total_points):
    x = random.uniform(-1, 1)
    y = random.uniform(-1, 1)

    distance_squared = x**2 + y**2

    if distance_squared <= 1:
        points_in_circle += 1

pi_estimate = 4 * points_in_circle / total_points
return pi_estimate
```

Using the [IPython timeit magic command](#) we can compare the resulting function call times, on my M4 mac I get a x25 performance increase with 1×10^6 points. If this function ends up getting called several hundred times, we will, this results in large performance uplift.

```
In [ ]: %timeit estimate_pi(int(1e6))
%timeit estimate_pi_gemini(int(1e6))
```

```
7.83 ms ± 18.7 µs per loop (mean ± std. dev. of 7 runs, 100 loops each)
196 ms ± 155 µs per loop (mean ± std. dev. of 7 runs, 10 loops each)
```

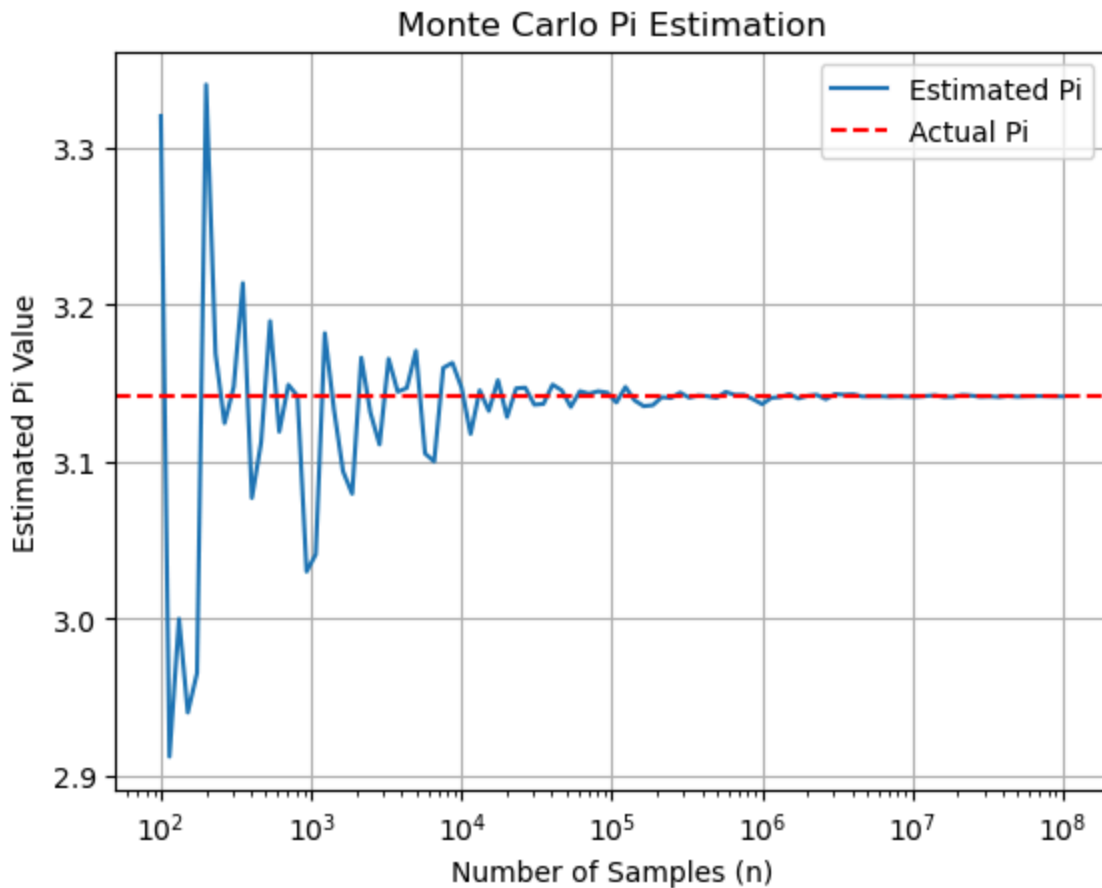
Moving on with the converge of π with increasing sample sizes. Before designing and running this code I had an intuition that the accuracy of the monte carlo method would increase or that the absolute value of the error would decrease. However I had forgotten how to model this... although I did know it had something to do with the [central limit](#)

[theorem](#). First I defined a range of values n to test, for this I just used a logspace of base 10 from exponent 2 to 8. ($10^2 \dots 10^8$) with 100 [logarithmically spaced](#) values.

```
In [136... #Part 2 Convergence with n_range
n_range = np.logspace(2, 8, num = 100, base=10, dtype = 'int64')
pi_est_list = np.zeros((100,), dtype=np.float64)
error_list = np.zeros((100,), dtype=np.float64)

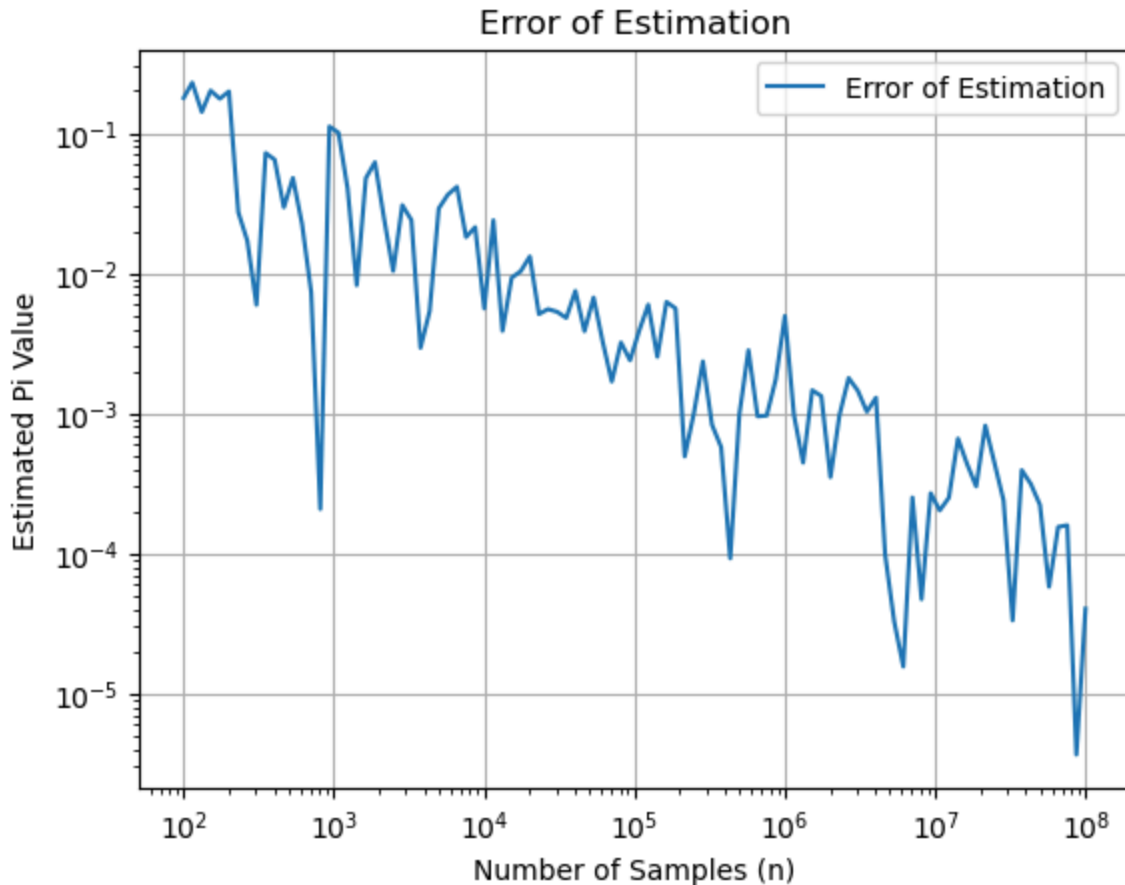
for i, n in enumerate(n_range):
    pi_est = estimate_pi(n)
    pi_est_list[i] = pi_est
    error_list[i] = abs(pi_est - pi)

#Plotting results
plt.plot(n_range, pi_est_list, label='Estimated Pi')
plt.axhline(y=pi, color='r', linestyle='--', label='Actual Pi')
plt.xscale('log')
plt.xlabel('Number of Samples (n)')
plt.ylabel('Estimated Pi Value')
plt.title('Monte Carlo Pi Estimation')
plt.legend()
plt.grid()
```



After plotting the values we can observe that the estimate is converging to π . While looking at this I got curious as to the rate at which the error was decreasing.

```
In [137... plt.plot(n_range, error_list , label='Error of Estimation')
plt.xscale('log')
plt.yscale('log')
plt.xlabel('Number of Samples (n)')
plt.ylabel('Estimated Pi Value')
plt.title('Error of Estimation')
plt.legend()
plt.grid()
```



We can observe some sort of exponential relationship, after a bit of googling I found that I was empirically finding the [standard error](#) of the distribution. The standard error is defined as $\sigma_x = \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$. After even further research I found a paper that proves the "Root mean square error of the Monte Carlo approximation is

$$\mathcal{E}_M = \frac{\sigma[X]}{\sqrt{M}}$$

([The MonteCarlo method in a nutshell](#)) In our example we are sampling a point and checking if it falls within the circle. This is a Bernoulli trial where we can define $X=1$ if inside, $X=0$ if outside. From earlier we show that the probability of success is

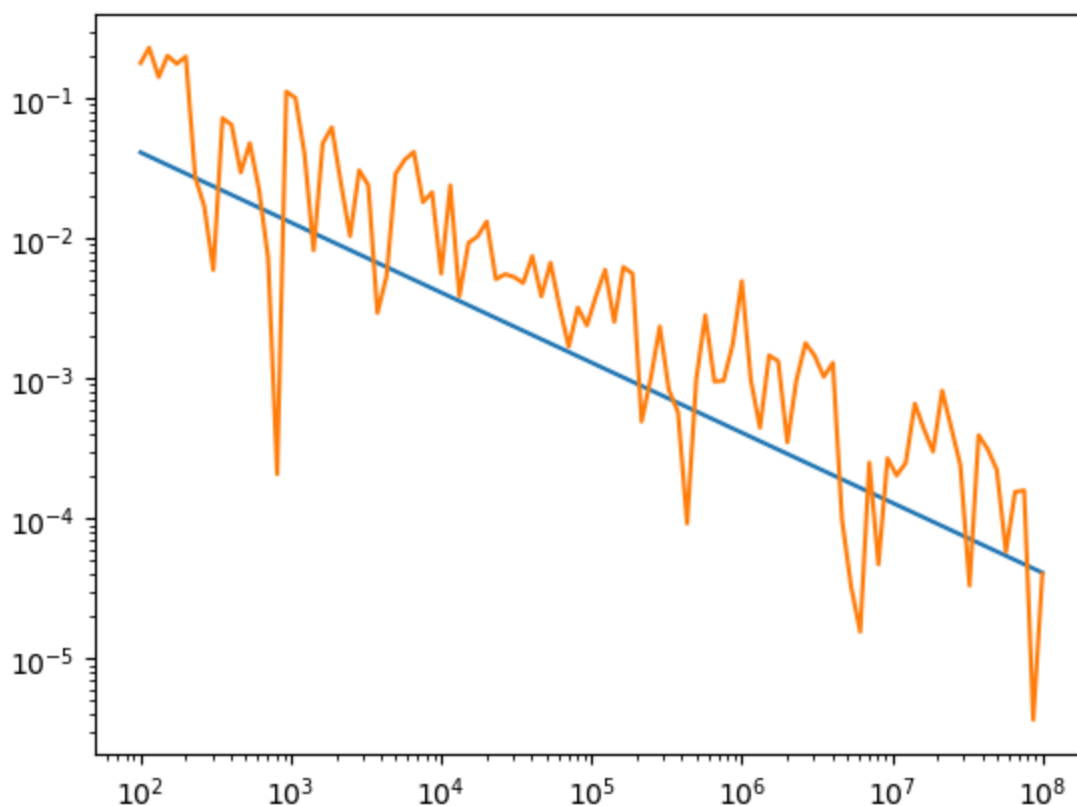
$p = P(X = 1) = \frac{\pi/4}{1} = \frac{\pi}{4}$ The variance of this is simply $\sigma^2 = p(1 - p)$ Thus in our case

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{\pi}{4} \left(1 - \frac{\pi}{4}\right)$$

$$\sigma = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{4} \left(1 - \frac{\pi}{4}\right)}$$

$$\sigma \approx 0.4106$$

```
In [138... plt.plot(n_range, (0.4106)/np.sqrt(n_range))
plt.plot(n_range, error_list, label='Error of Estimation')
plt.xscale('log')
plt.yscale('log')
```



Finally we want to choose 3 values of n , and repeat the experiment 500 times. According to the central limit theorem my sampling of π 's will be normally distributed with mean near π and standard deviation proportional to $\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$

```
In [101... def RSamplesOfPi(r, n):
    rOfN = np.zeros((r,))
    for i in range(r):
        rOfN[i] = estimate_pi(n)
    return rOfN
```

```
In [152... sample1 = np.array(RSamplesOfPi(500, 10**3))
sample2 = np.array(RSamplesOfPi(500, 10**4))
sample3 = np.array(RSamplesOfPi(500, 10**5))

print(f"Sample 1 Mean: {np.mean(sample1)}, 1/sqrt(n): {1/np.sqrt(10**3)} Stc
```

```

print(f"Sample 2 Mean: {np.mean(sample2)}, 1/sqrt(n): {1/np.sqrt(10**4)} Std Dev: {1/np.sqrt(10**4)}")
print(f"Sample 3 Mean: {np.mean(sample3)}, 1/sqrt(n): {1/np.sqrt(10**5)} Std Dev: {1/np.sqrt(10**5)}")

plt.hist(sample1, bins=23, alpha=0.5, label='n=10^3')
plt.hist(sample2, bins=23, alpha=0.5, label='n=10^4')
plt.hist(sample3, bins=23, alpha=0.5, label='n=10^5')

#plt.axvline(x=pi, color='r', linestyle='--', label='Actual Pi')
plt.xlabel('Estimated Pi Value')
plt.ylabel('Frequency')
plt.title('Distribution of Pi Estimates for Different Sample Sizes')
plt.legend()
plt.show()

```

Sample 1 Mean: 3.143704, 1/sqrt(n): 0.03162277660168379 Std Dev: 0.054693403477933264

Sample 2 Mean: 3.141704, 1/sqrt(n): 0.01 Std Dev: 0.016550375947391643

Sample 3 Mean: 3.14183056, 1/sqrt(n): 0.003162277660168379 Std Dev: 0.0052417798967907825

