



# Fun with Simulations: Stochastic Darts...

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Darts for Geeks: Statistician Cracks the  
Game's Secrets

## Darts for Geeks: Statistician Cracks the Game's Secrets

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[http://www.wired.com/magazine/2009/11/st\\_darts/](http://www.wired.com/magazine/2009/11/st_darts/)

# A Statistician Plays Darts

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## Abstract

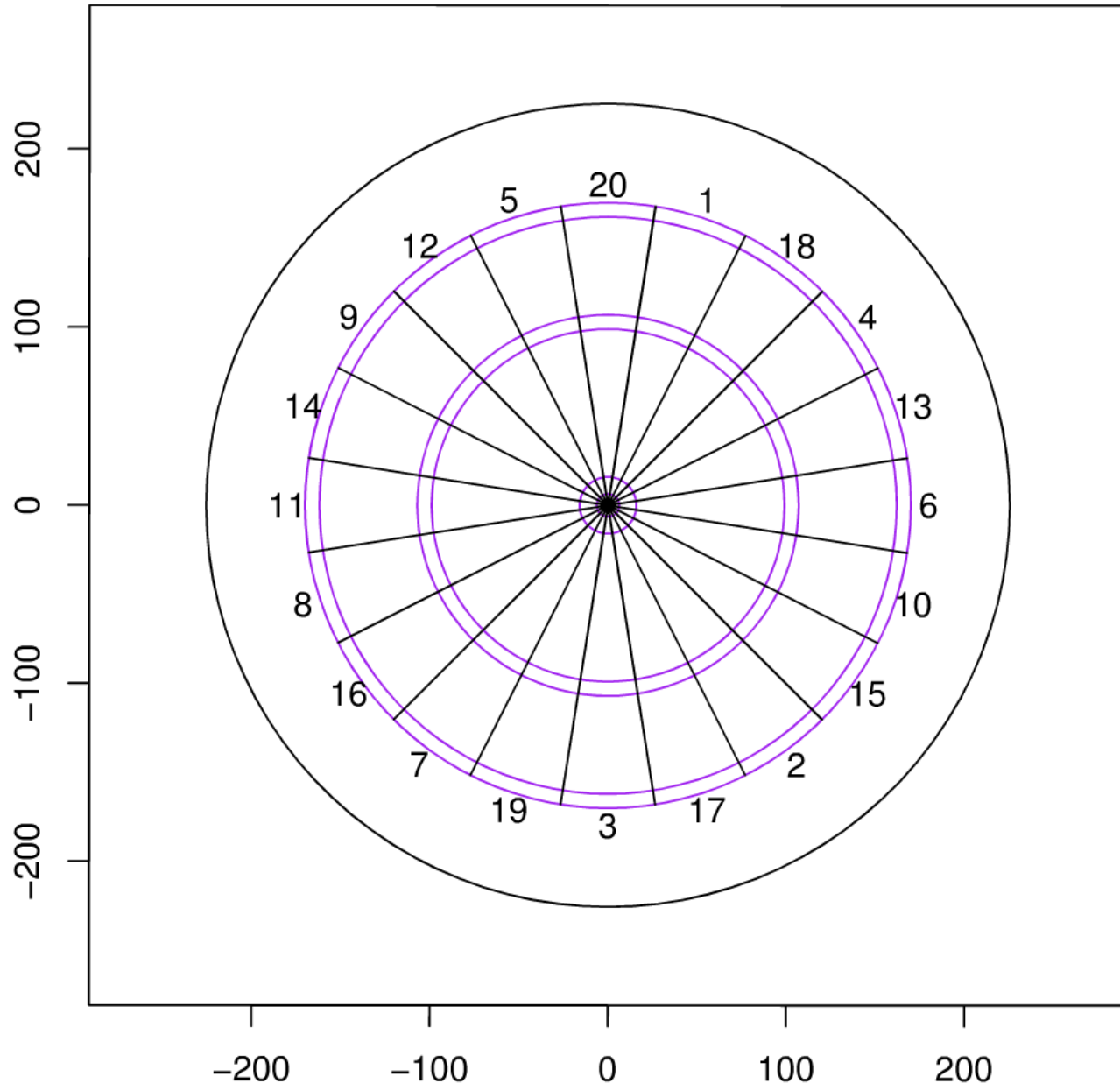
Darts is enjoyed both as a pub game and as a professional competitive activity. Yet most players aim for the highest scoring region of the board, regardless of their skill level. By modeling a dart throw as a 2-dimensional Gaussian random variable, we show that this is not always the optimal strategy. We develop a method, using the EM algorithm, for a player to obtain a personalized heatmap, where the bright regions correspond to the aiming locations with high (expected) payoffs. This method does not depend in any way on our Gaussian assumption, and we discuss alternative models as well.

Keywords: *EM algorithm, importance sampling, Monte Carlo, statistics of games*

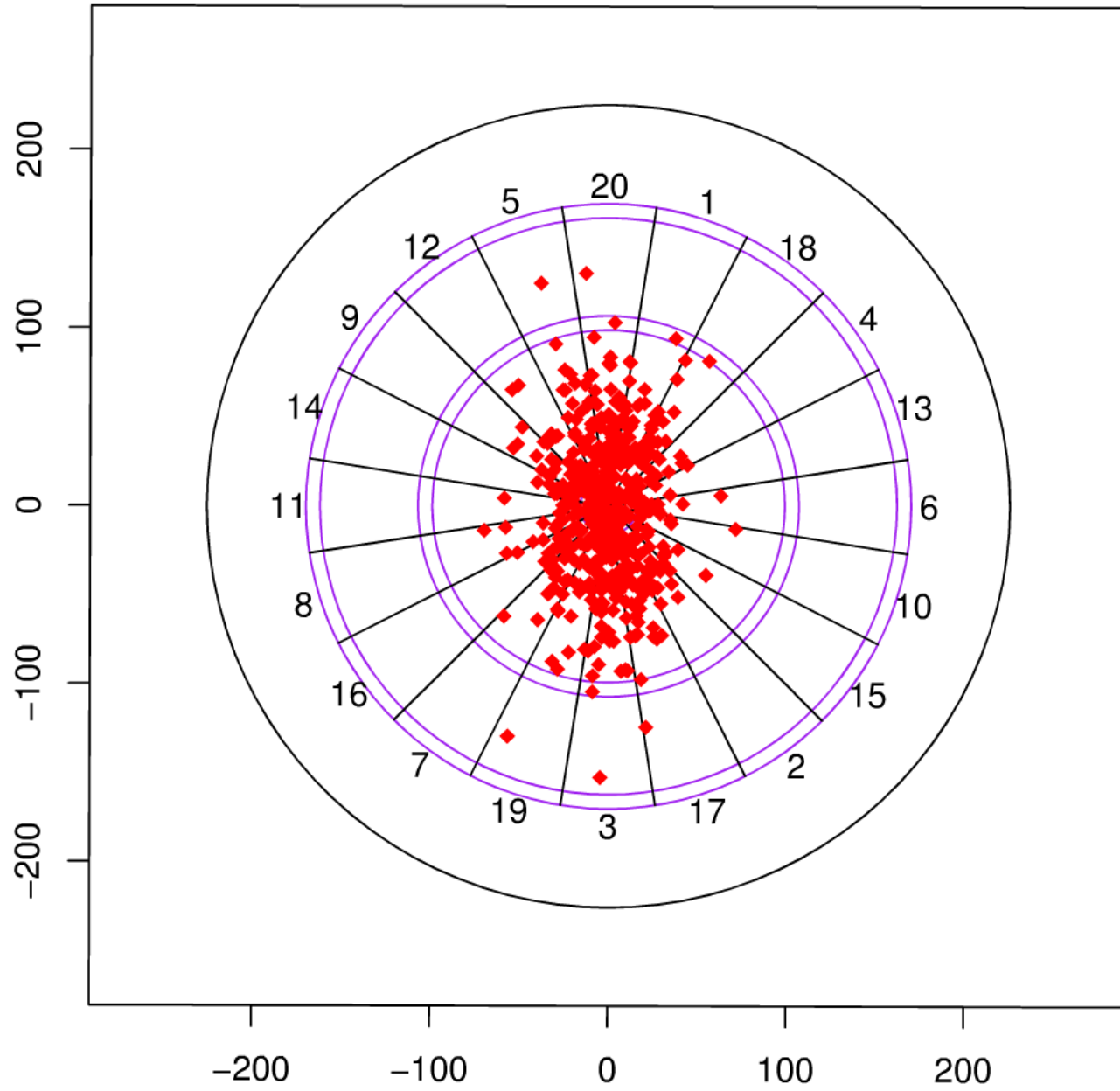
<http://www-stat.stanford.edu/~ryantibs/darts/darts.pdf>

Hey... I can do this!

# Dart Board

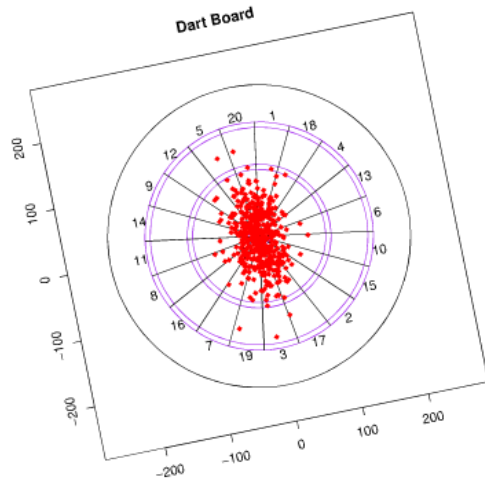
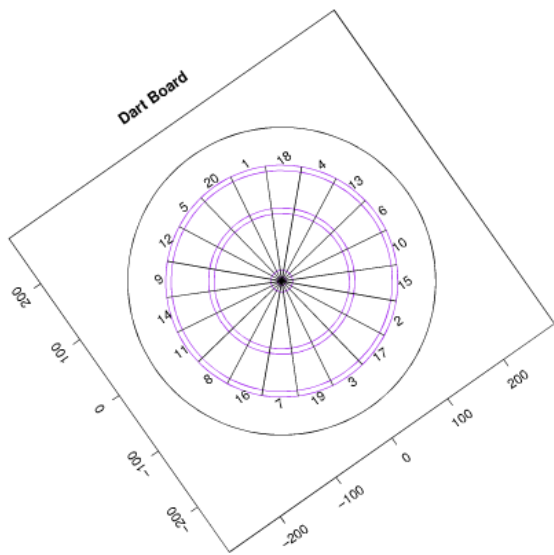


# Dart Board



```
> scoreThrow(-66, -8)
[1] 11
```





```
> plot2D(xou, -50, -8)  
[1] 12
```



Structure

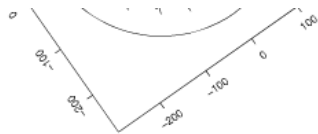


Simulation



Valuation

do this!



Simulation



Valuation

That's similiar to (re)insurance modeling

Umm... That seems easy enough.

From the McKinsey report:  
- To be successful  
- Think longer, think broader  
- Make a long-term, strategic plan  
- Be successful with the right team and resources

# That's similiar to (re)insurance

Umm... That seems easy enough.

Hope the distribution is right.  
Are they working on it?  
How do I explain this to my risk committee?  
How is capital going to be allocated against this deal?  
Is this consistent with my long-term

I hope the distributions are right...

Are they screwing us?

How do I explain this to my risk committee?

How is capital going to be allocated against this deal?

Is this correlated with anything else in our reinsurance book?

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Dart source code and more at [CerebralMastication.com](http://CerebralMastication.com)