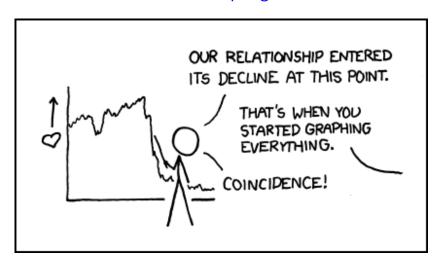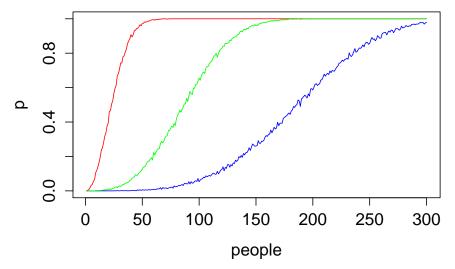# Birthday Matches
18.05 Spring 2014

Birthday Matches

There are *n* people gathered in a room. What is the probability that at least 2 of them will have the same birthday?

- Use an R simulation to estimate this for various *n*.
- Find the smallest value of *n* for which the probability of a match is greater than .5.
- Explore how the number of trials in the simulation affects the variability of our estimates.

At least 2, 3, or 4 people match

Here's Johnny

Johnny Carson attempt 1
http://www.cornell.edu/video/
the-tonight-show-with-johnny-carson-feb-6-1980-excerpt

Attempt 2 after getting hate mail from mathematicians
http://www.cornell.edu/video/
the-tonight-show-with-johnny-carson-feb-7-1980-excerpt

Attemp 3 http://www.cornell.edu/video/
the-tonight-show-with-johnny-carson-feb-8-1980-excerpt

Here is the full NY Times article
http://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2012/10/01/
its-my-birthday-too-yeah/

18.05 Introduction to Probability and Statistics
Spring 2014