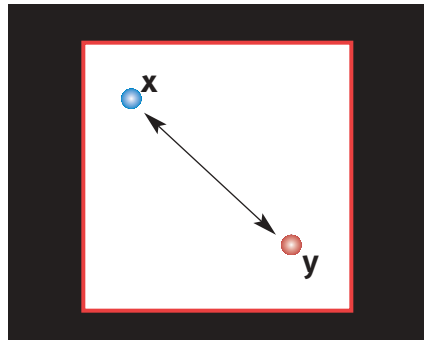


THIS ISSUE'S PUZZLES

What is the mean distance between two random points in a unit square? An exact expression of the answer is required (no computer simulations). The exact expression must not contain any unsolved integrals.

Please submit the answer only to puzzles@actuary.org or by mail to



Contingencies, 1100 Seventeenth Street NW, Seventh Floor, Washington, DC 20036, Attn: Becky Horst. No solution is required. Please submit your answer as soon as possible to make the solvers list, especially those outside the United States.

ANSWER TO LAST ISSUE'S PUZZLE

A fair coin is flipped until the total number of heads is equal to the total number of tails. What is the expected number of flips this will take?

The answer is infinity. Between this puzzle and the previous one it leads to an interesting paradox, that the two totals will eventually equal, but the expected number of flips is infinite for it to happen.

JULY/AUGUST SOLVERS

Bob Bartholomew, John Cook, Mark Evans, Yan Fridman, James Hickman, Harold Ingraham, Lee Michelson, Michael L. Miller, Christopher Monsour, Dave Oakden, David Promislow, George Salmons, Al Spooner

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