

Cal Poly Department of Mathematics

Puzzle of the Week

April 17-23, 2012

From Kent Morrison:

Let D denote a rectangle (with width a and height b , say) which is centered on the origin and has sides parallel to the axes. Suppose that n points are chosen (uniformly) randomly inside D . What is the probability that they all lie on the same side of some line through the origin?

Solutions should be submitted to Morgan Sherman:

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before next Tuesday. Those with correct and complete solutions will have their names listed on the puzzle's web site (see below) as well as in next week's email announcement. Anybody is welcome to make a submission.

<http://www.calpoly.edu/~sherman1/puzzleoftheweek>