

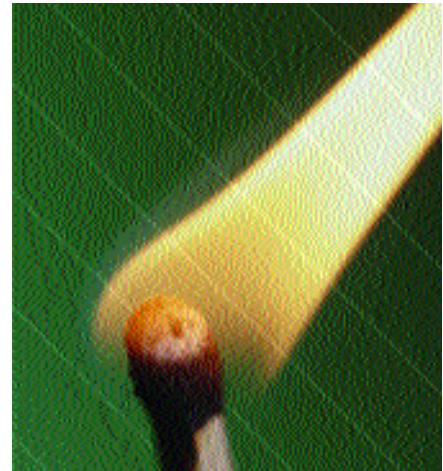
Matchstick

THIS ISSUE'S PUZZLE

Consider an infinite number of parallel lines, spaced one inch apart from each other. If you dropped a one-inch match on this set of lines at random, then what is the probability the match would cross a line?

ANSWER TO LAST ISSUE'S PUZZLE

Two ferry boats leave opposite sides of a river at the same time, both traveling at right angles to the shore. Each boat travels at a constant speed, though different from each other. They pass each other 500 yards from the closest shore. Each boat



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takes 15 minutes to unload and reload passengers. On the return trip they pass each other 300 yards from the shore. How wide is the river?

THE ANSWER IS: 1,200 yards

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Please mail all answers and any suggestions for future puzzles to Michael Shackelford, 2600 South Town Center Drive, #1158, Las Vegas, NV 89135 or e-mail to wizardofodds@lvcm.com. The names of those who send correct solutions will be acknowledged in a future issue of *Contingencies*.