Re: define the division of X/Y

Source: http://sci.tech−archive.net/Archive/sci.math/2006−10/msg02849.html

- *From*: schoenfeld.one@xxxxxxxxx
- *Date*: 10 Oct 2006 21:22:24 −0700

Proginoskes wrote:

> schoenfeld.one@xxxxxxxxx wrote:
>
> > Proginoskes wrote:
> >
> > > Mike wrote:
> > >
> > > > where X and Y are two random variables...
> > > >
> > > > What is the precise and rigorous condition
> > > > on Y to avoid the "dividing by
> > > > zero" problem?
> > >
> > > Hmm. Making sure Y is nonzero would do it.
> > >
> > > Making the probability that
> > > Y is zero equal to zero might also do it.
> >
> > That's an insufficient condition.
> >
> > The probabiltiy of drawing 5 out of the Naturals is 0.
>
> What distribution are you using?
>
> The probability
> of drawing a 0.5 out of the set [0,1] is 0. It does not mean that they
> cannot ever be drawn.
>
> But things such as the expected value (and moments) can still be
> calculated if the probability of dividing by zero is 0.

> And I did NOT mean that "probability of event E = 0" is the same as "E cannot happen". The more precise statement of my intention was: "Y is nonzero almost everywhere".

If P(Y == 0) = 0 does not imply that X/Y is well defined for all X in Reals, Y in Reals, then how P(Y==0)=0 help with the OP's question?

−−− Christopher Heckman

> ,
> mailx oracle@xxxxxxxxxxxxx
> Subject: Division by Zero
>
> I swear, these humans are getting dumber by the minute ...
> −−− C
> .

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