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Book Notices

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Statistical Adjustment

This book appears to be destined to exert considerable influence on the statistical analysis of data gathered in the industrial, economic, sociological, and biological fields. The emphasis, as the title suggests, is throughout placed upon the adjustment of observed data by the method of "least squares." The author demonstrates the wide applicability of this method, first by introducing a few simple illustrations, next by developing the fundamental theory, and finally by considering conditions without and conditions with parameters. Throughout, systematic computing forms are included to enable a user of the method of least squares to reach a numerical conclusion efficiently—a conclusion that may be used for action.

This volume may be used as a text in advanced courses in statistical methods, but is likely to find greater usefulness among research workers and practicing statisticians. As a novelty, the case in which both \( x \) and \( y \) observations are subject to error is discussed and illustrated as the second of four examples appended at the close of the formal development.

The author has spent sixteen years in the government service, in the Bureau of the Census and the Bureau of the Budget, and has had opportunity to test in practice the methods outlined in this book.—E. L. Green.