

RESEÑAS / BOOK REVIEWS

STATISTICS FOR REAL-LIFE SAMPLE SURVEYS

S Dorofeev and P. Grant, (2006)

Cambridge University Press

x + 266 pp..

ISBN 0-521-67465-4

£24.99

This should be considered as an introductory book for practical sampling, which assumes some statistical knowledge. A good percent of the book is devoted to how are the general procedures for dealing with sampling and data analysis. If you have a good book on survey sampling do not buy it. If you are a beginner it can be of use.

It is composed of five chapters. The first deals with a presentation of the basics of random sampling. The second one is devoted to the discussion of how weighting can be used for dealing with some of the problems that appear in practice. The third one is concerned with how the studied weighting procedures affect the statistical properties of the methods. Chapter Four is devoted to presents Test of Hypothesis. The fifth chapter revisits the use of weighting, using some measures of relationship between variables. Some proofs, statistical tables, and similar issues appear in a series of appendixes. The book ends with a list of references.

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SAS COMPARISON FOR NONPARAMETRIC STATISTICS

J. R. Scott and J.J. Higgins (2006)

Duxbury Press

v+98pp

The main motivation of this book is to sustain the so called 'natural way of looking to no parametric procedures'. That is: use permutation based tests and don not worry on computational complexity, implement them through the basic ancient ideas, Monte Carlo methods, or smoothing. The essential is that the capabilities of modern computers can deal with the solution. As expected from the title the common recipe recommend SAS package usage together with some intensive computing method. I think that is good to revive the ancient reasoning, but the instrumental at hand in no parametric is more capable in general. I think that to give a look at permutation tests is a good exercise, for statisticians coming from mathematics, as we commonly do in probability by discussing how the considerations on the observed frequency sustains the realms of it, at the end.. The book is a good complement to the books in the classic used for teaching non parametric theory and methods courses. Use it for homework and programming.

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