

RESEÑAS / BOOK REVIEWS

MISSING DATA AND SMALL AREA ESTIMATION

N. T. Longford (2005)

Springer Verlag

ISBN 1-852-33760-5

This book covers the main problems appearing in two key aspects of practical statistics. The existence of missing data and surveying social domains. Each chapter contains a set of exercises, computing references and suggestions for further reading.

The book is divided into 3 parts.

The first 5 chapters are concerned with missing data and they conform part 1. The basic finite population sampling estimation concepts are discussed in the first chapter. The nature of non-responses is the theme of the second chapter. The author discusses the intermingles of the dialectic of complete-incomplete data and of no respondent mechanisms. An example is used for illustrating how they work in practice. The use of single computation in the solution proposed and the EM algorithm is presented in chapter 3. Chapter 4 is concerned with multiple imputations and some issues related with measuring data and data editing are discussed.

5 chapters are concerned with small area estimators and are the contents of part 2. Similarity is the theme of the first chapter, of this part. How an estimator performs is discussed at large. Chapter 7 is devoted to estimation procedures and the related computing aspects are posed together with the model selection problematic. The following chapter highlights how to deal with auxiliary variables and the the capability of increasing the accuracy. Chapter 9 develops the variances an other accuracy measures of different small area estimators. This part ends with the study of 4 cases in chapter 10.

Part 3 consists of a single chapter and can be considered as admonitory because its consists of a series of arguments on the mistakes, usually present in small area studies, such as adopting a model without having evidence of whether it is a good approximation or not, the usefulness of synthetic estimators and their role in applications

If your involved in sampling research and you are well statistically prepared this is a good book for your library.

F. S. Singh

Bhat & Sarkar Consultors

PARAMETRIC AND SEMIPARAMETRIC MODELS WITH APPLICATIONS TO RELIABILITY , SURVIVAL ANALYSIS AND QUALITY OF LIFE

M. Nikulin, N. Balkrihsna, M. Meshsh and N. Liminios (2004)

Birkhäuser

ISBN 0-8176-3231-X

Xv+600

€128,00

Parametric and semiparametric analysis are used for studying reliability, survival and life quality. These themes usually present the need of using such models. It contains a series of survey articles that cover the general theoretical problems and the mutual connections and recent applications.

The book is self contained and the authors of the chapters are renowned experts in their respective fields.

P. R. Paul
Bhat & Sarkar Consultors

THEORY AND APPLICATIONS OF RECENT ROBUST METHODS

M. Huber, G. Pison, A. Struyf and S. van Aelst (2004)

Birkhäuser ISBN 3-7643-7060-2

X+410 €108,00

This book contains the proceedings of the International Conference of Robust Statistics held in 2000 in Antwerp, Belgium. The contents deal with all the aspects of robust statistics. The papers are concerned with new theoretical methods, empirical properties of known methods, challenging applications and computing supports.

It is an excellent book and is suitable for Phd courses.

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