

short appendices devoted to standard elementary theorems, a bibliography with seventy-two entries, and a useful index. The chapter headings follow:

- Chapter I. Complex Symmetric, Antisymmetric and Orthogonal Matrices
- Chapter II. Singular Bundles of Matrices
- Chapter III. Matrices with Nonnegative Elements
- Chapter IV. Applications of the Theory of Matrices to the Study of Systems of Linear Differential Equations
- Chapter V. The Routh-Hurwitz Problem and Related Questions.

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44[K].—JOSEPH BERKSON, “Tables for use in estimating the normal distribution by normit analysis,” *Biometrika*, v. 44, 1957, p. 411–435.

In a quantal response assay a number of independent tests are made at each of a number of dose levels, and the result of each test is graded as “success” or “failure”. If the probability of “success” at dose metameter value x is assumed to follow the “normal” law

$$P(x) = 1/\sqrt{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{(x-\mu)/\sigma} e^{-t^2/2} dt$$

the method of “normit analysis” is proposed by Berkson as a replacement for the familiar (iterative) method of “probit analysis” for estimating the parameters μ and σ .

Suppose that the dose metameter values used are x_1, \dots, x_k , that n_i tests are made at level x_i , and that r_i of these tests result in success. Let

$$p_i = \begin{cases} 1/(2n_i) & \text{if } r_i = 0 \\ r_i/n_i & \text{if } 0 < r_i < n_i \\ 1 - 1/(2n_i) & \text{if } r_i = n_i, \end{cases}$$

$X_i = X(p_i)$, where $X(p)$ is defined by the relation

$$p = (1/\sqrt{2\pi}) \int_{-\infty}^{X(p)} e^{-u^2/2} du,$$

$$Z_i = (1/\sqrt{2\pi}) e^{-X_i^2/2},$$

$$w_i = Z_i^2/p_i(1 - p_i).$$

The method consists of a weighted regression analysis, which is facilitated by tables which give for each p_i the corresponding values of w_i and $w_i X_i$.

In table 2 w_i and $w_i X_i$ are given to 6D for $p = 0.001(0.001)0.500$. (For $p > \frac{1}{2}$, $w(p) = w(1 - p)$ and $wX(p) = -wX(1 - p)$.) For moderate n_i interpolation may be avoided by use of Table 1, which gives w_i and $w_i X_i$, also to 6D, for all combinations of r_i and n_i for which $1 < n_i \leq 50$ and $0 \leq r_i \leq n/2$. (For $r > n/2$, $w(r, n) = w(n - r, n)$ and $wX(r, n) = -wX(n - r, n)$.) It is stated that the entries in both tables are correct to within ± 1 in the final digit.

PAUL MEIER

University of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois