STATISTICAL SEMINVARIANTS AND THEIR SETIMATES WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON THEIR RELATION TO ALGEBRAIC INVARIANTS

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INTRODUCTION

An important portion of algebraic invariant theory has been that devoted to a certain class of invariants called seminvariants, semi-invariants, or more rarely, half-invariants. Of these terms, "seminvariant" seems to be the one now commonly accepted. The same three terms have been applied at various times and by various writers to a system of moment functions of importance in statistical theory. The statistician using these terms has frequently done so with an apology for appropriating a term of the algebraist. As a portion of this paper we shall show that the moment functions of this system are actually algebraic seminvariants, and that there are other systems of moment functions which are equally entitled to the name seminvariant.

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