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VOLUME VI

EFFECTS OF POLLUTION ON HEALTH

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CONTENTS OF PROCEEDINGS VOLUMES I, II, III, IV, V, AND VI

Volume I—Theory of Statistics

General Theory

R. J. BERAN, Upper and lower risks and minimax procedures. C. R. BLYTH and D. M. ROBERTS, On inequalities of Cramér-Rao type and admissibility proofs. J. OOSTERHOFF and W. R. VAN ZWET, The likelihood ratio test for the multinomial distribution. W. E. STRAWDERMAN, On the existence of proper Bayes minimax estimators of the mean of a multivariate normal distribution.

Sequential Analysis

P. J. BICKEL and J. YAHAV, On the Wiener process approximation to Bayesian sequential testing problems. YU. V. LINNIK and I. V. ROMANOVSKY, Some new results in sequential estimation theory. R. MILLER, Sequential rank tests—one sample case. R. A. WIJSMAN, Examples of exponentially bounded stopping time of invariant sequential probability ratio tests when the model may be false.

Asymptotic Theory

R. R. BAHADUR and M. RAGHAVACHARI, Some asymptotic properties of likelihood ratios on general sample spaces. D. M. CHIBISOV, On the normal approximation for a certain class of statistics. J. HÁJEK, Local asymptotic minimax and admissibility in estimation. R. A. JOHNSON and G. G. ROUSSAS, Applications of contiguity to multiparameter hypotheses testing. J. KIEFER, Iterated logarithm analogues for sample quantiles when $p_n \downarrow 0$. L. LE CAM, Limits of experiments. M. D. PERLMAN, On the strong consistency of approximate maximum likelihood estimators. P. SWITZER, Efficiency robustness of estimators.

Nonparametric Procedures

R. E. BARLOW and K. A. DOKSUM, Isotonic tests for convex orderings. Z. W. BIRNBAUM, Asymptotically distribution free statistics similar to Student's t . K. A. DOKSUM, Decision theory for some nonparametric models. J. M. HAMMERSLEY, A few seedlings of research. A. W. MARSHALL and F. PROSCHAN, Classes of distributions applicable in replacement with renewal theory implications. R. PYKE, Spacings revisited. H. RUBIN, On large sample properties of certain nonparametric procedures. I. R. SAVAGE and J. SETHURAMAN, Asymptotic distribution of the log likelihood ratio based on ranks in the two sample problem. I. VINCZE, On some results and problems in connection with statistics of the Kolmogorov-Smirnov type.

Regression Analysis

T. W. ANDERSON, Efficient estimation of regression coefficients in time series. D. R. BRILLINGER, The spectral analysis of stationary interval functions. H. BÜHLMANN, Credibility procedures. W. G. COCHRAN, Some effects of errors of measurement on linear regression. L. J. GLESER and I. OLKIN, Estimation of a regression model with an unknown covariance matrix. J. M. HOEM, On the statistical theory of analytic graduation.

Multivariate Analysis

C. R. RAO and S. K. MITRA, Generalized inverse of a matrix and its applications. H. CHERNOFF, Metric considerations in cluster analysis. F. N. DAVID, Measurement of diversity. L. A. GOODMAN, Some multiplicative models for the analysis of cross classified data. T. ORCHARD and M. A. WOODBURY, A missing information principle: theory and applications. M. SOBEL and G. H. WEISS, Recent results on using the play the winner sampling rule with binomial selection problems. M. ZELEN, Exact significance tests for contingency tables imbedded in a 2^n classification.

Volume II—Probability Theory

Introduction

J. L. DOOB, William Feller 1906–1970. M. KAC, William Feller, *in memoriam*. L. K. SCHMETTERER, Alfréd Rényi, *in memoriam*.

Measure Theory

D. W. MÜLLER, Randomness and extrapolation. R. M. BLUMENTHAL and H. H. CORSON, On continuous collections of measures. G. DEBREU and D. SCHMEIDLER, The Radon-Nikodým derivative of a correspondence. R. DUDLEY, A counterexample on measurable processes. Z. FROLÍK, Projective limits of measure spaces. W. HILDENBRAND, Metric measure spaces of economic agents. C. IONESCU TULCEA, Liftings commuting with translations. J. H. B. KEMPERMAN, On a class of moment problems. D. MAHARAM, Consistent extensions of linear functionals and of probability measures. H. ROSENTHAL, On the span in L^p of sequences of independent random variables. L. K. SCHMETTERER, On Poisson laws and related questions. M. L. STRAF, Weak convergence of stochastic processes with several parameters.

Inequalities

D. L. BURKHOLDER, B. J. DAVIS, and R. F. GUNDY, Integral inequalities for convex functions of operators on martingales. S. DAS GUPTA, M. L. EATON, I. OLKIN, M. PERLMAN, L. J. SAVAGE, and M. SOBEL, Inequalities on the probability content of convex regions for elliptically contoured distributions.

Combinatorial Analysis

P. DOUBILET, G.-C. ROTA, and R. STANLEY, On the foundations of combinatorial theory, VI: the idea of generating function.

Ergodic Theory

S. KAKUTANI, Strictly ergodic symbolic dynamical systems. W. KRIEGER, On unique ergodicity. D. S. ORNSTEIN, On the root problem in ergodic theory.

Gaussian Processes

J. FELDMAN, Sets of boundedness and continuity for the canonical normal process. A. M. GARSIA, Continuity properties of Gaussian processes with multidimensional time parameter. G. KALLIANPUR and M. NADKARNI, Supports of Gaussian measures. R. Š. LIPTSER and A. M. SHIRYAYEV, Statistics of conditionally Gaussian random sequences. M. B. MARCUS and L. A. SHEPP, Sample behavior of Gaussian processes. S. OREY, Growth rate of certain Gaussian processes.

Central Limit Theorem

R. N. BHATTACHARYA, Recent results on refinements of the central limit theorem. R. F. COGBURN, The central limit theorem for Markov processes. A. DVORETZKY,

Asymptotic normality of sums of dependent random variables. B. V. GNEDENKO, Limit theorems for sums of a random number of positive independent random variables. M. ROSENBLATT, Central limit theorem for stationary processes. V. V. SAZONOV, On a bound for the rate of convergence in the multidimensional central limit theorem. C. STEIN, A bound for the error in the normal approximation to the distribution of a sum of dependent random variables.

Volume III—Probability Theory

Passage Problems

Yu. K. BELYAYEV, Point processes and first passage problems. A. A. BOROVKOV, Limit theorems for random walks with boundaries. N. C. JAIN and W. E. PRUITT, The range of random walk. H. ROBBINS and D. SIEGMUND, On the law of the iterated logarithm for maxima and minima. A. D. SOLOVIEV, Asymptotic distribution of the moment of first crossing of a high level by a birth and death process.

Markov Processes—Potential Theory

R. G. AZENCOTT and P. CARTIER, Martin boundaries of random walks on locally compact groups. J. L. DOOB, The structure of a Markov chain. S. PORT and C. STONE, Classical potential theory and Brownian motion. S. PORT and C. STONE, Logarithmic potentials and planar Brownian motion. K. SATO, Potential operators for Markov processes.

Markov Processes—Trajectories—Functionals

R. GETTOOR, Approximations of continuous additive functionals. K. ITÔ, Poisson point processes attached to Markov processes. J. F. C. KINGMAN, Regenerative phenomena and the characterization of Markov transition probabilities. E. J. McSHANE, Stochastic differential equations and models of random processes. P. A. MEYER, R. SMYTHE, and J. WALSH, Birth and death of Markov processes. P. W. MILLAR, Stochastic integrals and processes with stationary independent increments. D. W. STROOCK and S. R. S. VARADHAN, On the support of diffusion processes with applications to the strong maximum principle. D. W. STROOCK and S. R. S. VARADHAN, Diffusion processes.

Point Processes, Branching Processes

R. V. AMBARTSUMIAN, On random fields of segments and random mosaic on a plane. H. SOLOMON and P. C. C. WANG, Nonhomogeneous Poisson fields of random lines with applications to traffic flow. D. R. COX and P. A. W. LEWIS, Multivariate point processes. M. R. LEADBETTER, On basic results of point process theory. W. J. BÜHLER, The distribution of generations and other aspects of the family structure of branching processes. P. S. PURI, A method for studying the integral functionals of stochastic processes with applications: III. W. A. O'N. WAUGH, Uses of the sojourn time series for the Markovian birth process. J. GANI, First emptiness problems in queueing, storage, and traffic theory. H. E. DANIELS, Kuhn-Grün type approximations for polymer chain distributions. L. KATZ and M. SOBEL, Coverage of generalized chess boards by randomly placed rooks. R. HOLLEY, Pressure and Helmholtz free energy in a dynamic model of a lattice gas. D. MOLLISON, The rate of spatial propagation of simple epidemics. W. H. OLSON and V. R. R. UPPULURI, Asymptotic distribution of eigenvalues or random matrices.

Information and Control

R. S. BUCY, *A priori* bounds for the Riccati equation. T. FERGUSON, Lose a dollar or double your fortune. H. J. KUSHNER, Necessary conditions for discrete parameter stochastic optimization problems. P. VARAIYA, Differential games. E. C. POSNER and E. R. RODEMICH, Epsilon entropy of probability distributions.

Volume IV—Biology and Health

Clinical Trials and Sequential Procedures

B. W. BROWN, Statistical aspects of clinical trials. D. KODLIN and M. F. COLLEN, Automated diagnosis in multiphasic screening. W. F. TAYLOR and P. O'BRIEN, Some practical problems in clinical trials. D. DARLING, When is a fixed number of observations optimal? H. ROBBINS and D. SIEGMUND, On a class of stopping rules for testing parametric hypotheses. B. J. FLEHINGER and T. A. LOUIS, Sequential medical trials with data dependent treatment allocation. D. HOEL and M. SOBEL, Comparisons of sequential procedures for selecting the best binomial population.

Population Studies and Branching Processes

H. WEINER, Critical age dependent branching processes. S. KARLIN and J. MCGREGOR, Equilibria for genetic systems with weak interaction. N. KEYFITZ, The mathematics of sex and marriage. F. N. DAVID, Measurement of diversity: multiple cell contents. W. A. O'N. WAUGH, Models and approximations for synchronous cellular growth. G. L. YANG and C. L. CHIANG, A time dependent simple stochastic epidemic. D. FEARN, Galton-Watson processes with generation dependence. J. KLOTZ, Markov chain clustering of births by sex.

Biostatistics ✓

C. L. CHIANG, An equality in stochastic processes. M. TARTER and S. RAMAN, A systematic approach to graphical methods in biometry. F. N. DAVID, Applications of Neyman's $C(\alpha)$ techniques. P. S. PURI and S. SENTURIA, On a mathematical theory of quantal response assays. G. M. SOUTHWARD and J. R. VAN RYZIN, Estimating the mean of a random binomial parameter.

Cellular Phenomena and Carcinogenesis

P. CLIFFORD, Nonthreshold models of the survival of bacteria after irradiation. M. R. WHITE, Studies of the mechanism of induction of pulmonary adenomas in mice. C. GUILLIER, Evaluation of the internal exposure due to various administered dosages of urethane to mice.

Psychological Aspects of Observational Studies

I. R. SAVAGE and M. WEBSTER, Source of evaluations reformulated and analyzed. J. YERUSHALMY, Self-selection—a major problem in observational studies.

Volume V—Darwinian, Neo-Darwinian, and
Non-Darwinian Evolution

Darwinian and Non-Darwinian Evolution Theory

J. F. CROW, Darwinian and non-Darwinian evolution. G. L. STEBBINS and R. C. LEWONTIN, Comparative evolution at the levels of molecules, organisms, and populations. M. KIMURA and T. OHTA, Population genetics, molecular biometry, and evolution. J. L. KING, The role of mutation in evolution.

DNA, RNA, Amino acid Sequences

T. H. JUKES, Comparison of polypeptide sequences. R. J. MACINTYRE, Studies of enzyme evolution by subunit hybridization. H. VOGEL and E. ZUCKERKANDL, The evolution of polarity relations in globins. H. VOGEL, Two dimensional analysis of polarity changes in globin and cytochrome *c*. D. KOHNE, J. CHISCON, and B. HOYER, Evolution of mammalian DNA.

Population Studies and Evolution

- F. AYALA, Darwinian *versus* non-Darwinian evolution in natural populations of *Drosophila*.
 R. W. ALLARD and A. L. KAHLE, Patterns of molecular variation in plant populations.
 W. BODMER and L. CAVALLI-SFORZA, Variation in fitness and molecular evolution.

Role of Theory in Evolutionary Studies

- L. L. GATLIN, Evolutionary indices. T. A. REICHERT, The amount of information stored in proteins and other short biological code sequences. R. BELLMAN, Hierarchies of control processes and the evolution of consciousness. R. HOLMQUIST, Theoretical foundations of paleogenetics. W. J. EWENS, Statistical aspects of the non-Darwinian theory.

Volume VI—Effects of Pollution on Health

Programs and Studies of Governmental Agencies

- J. R. GOLDSMITH, Statistical problems and strategies in environmental epidemiology.
 J. V. BEHAR, Application of computer simulation techniques to problems in air pollution.
 J. R. TOTTER, Research programs of the Atomic Energy Commission's Division of Biology and Medicine relevant to problems of health and pollution. J. F. FINKLEA, M. F. CRANMER, D. I. HAMMER, L. J. McCABE, V. A. NEWILL, and C. M. SHY, Health intelligence for environmental protection: a demanding challenge. W. B. RIGGAN, D. I. HAMMER, J. F. FINKLEA, V. HASSELBLAD, C. R. SHARP, R. M. BURTON, and C. M. SHY, CHESS, a community health and environmental surveillance system. W. C. NELSON, V. HASSELBLAD, and G. R. LOWRIMORE, Statistical aspects of a community health and environmental surveillance system. M. G. SIRKEN, Survey strategies for estimating rare health attributes.

Radiation and Health Controversy

- E. J. STERNGLASS, Environmental radiation and human health. M. H. DEGROOT, Statistical studies of the effect of low level radiation from nuclear reactors on human health. J. W. GOFMAN and A. R. TAMPLIN, Epidemiologic studies of carcinogenesis by ionizing radiation. E. A. TOMPKINS, P. M. HAMILTON, and D. A. HOFFMAN, Infant mortality around three nuclear power reactors. V. L. SAILOR, Population exposure to radiation: natural and man-made. H. W. PATTERSON and R. H. THOMAS, Radiation and risk—the source data. E. LANDAU, Radiation and infant mortality—some hazards of methodology.

Problems of Monitoring

- E. B. HOOK, Monitoring human birth defects: methods and strategies. G. D. FRIEDMAN and M. F. COLLEN, A method for monitoring adverse drug reactions. A. D. KEITH, Chemical induction of mutagenesis and carcinogenesis. M. C. CLARK, D. GOODMAN, and A. C. WILSON, The biochemical approach to mutation monitoring in man. F. S. GOULDING, X-ray fluorescence—an improved analytical tool for trace element studies. R. E. BARLOW, Averaging time and maxima for air pollution concentrations.

Pollutants in Food Chains

- R. W. RISEBROUGH, Effects of environmental pollutants upon animals other than man. H. L. ROSENTHAL, Implications of environmental strontium 90 accumulation in teeth and bone of children. T. D. STERLING, Problems in determining if a commonly used herbicide (2,4,5-T) has an effect on human health. B. E. VAUGHAN, Ecological and environmental problems in the application of biomathematics.

Ecological Studies

W. R. GAFFEY, Possible manifestations of worsening environmental pollution. R. W. GILL, Effects of toxicity on ecosystems. H. B. MESSINGER, Demographic data for local areas. W. WINKELSTEIN, Utility or futility of ordinary mortality statistics in the study of air pollution effects.

**Skeletal Plans for a Comprehensive Health-Pollution Study,
Discussion and Epilogue**

J. R. GOLDSMITH, Skeletal plan for a comprehensive epidemiologic study of pollution: effects of exposure on growth and development of children. A. C. HEXTER, Skeletal plan for a study of daily mortality. J. NEYMAN, Skeletal plan for a comprehensive statistical health-pollution study. H. K. URY, Some skeletal plans for studying health effects of air pollution. E. L. SCOTT, Summary of Panel Discussion. J. NEYMAN, Epilogue of the health-pollution conference.

PREFACE

Berkeley Symposia on Mathematical Statistics and Probability have been held at five year intervals since 1945, with the Sixth Symposium marking a quarter of a century of this activity. The purpose of the Symposia is to promote research and to record in the *Proceedings* the contemporary trends in thought and effort. The subjects covered in the Berkeley statistical Symposia range from pure theory of probability through theory of statistics to a variety of fields of applications of these two mathematical disciplines. The fields selected are those that appear especially important either as a source of novel statistical and probabilistic problems or because of their broad interdisciplinary character combined with particular significance to the society at large. A wide field of application traditionally represented at the Berkeley Symposia is the field of biology and health problems. Physical sciences, including astronomy, physics, and meteorology are also frequently represented. Volume 5 of the *Proceedings* of the Fifth Symposium was entirely given to weather modification.

With the help of advisory committees and of particular scholars, the participants of the Berkeley Symposia are recruited from all countries of the world, hopefully to include representatives of all significant schools of thought. In order to stimulate fruitful crossfertilization of ideas, efforts are made for the symposia to last somewhat longer than ordinary scholarly meetings, up to six weeks during which days with scholarly sessions are combined with excursions to the mountains and other social events. The record shows that, not infrequently, novel ideas are born at just such occasions.

According to the original plans, the entire Sixth Berkeley Symposium was to be held during the summer of 1970, with the generous support of the University of California, through an allocation from the Russell S. Springer Memorial Foundation, of the National Science Foundation, of the National Institutes of Health, of the Office of Naval Research, of the Army Research Office, and of the Air Force Office of Scientific Research. This help is most gratefully acknowledged. Certain circumstances prevented the Biology-Health Section from being held in 1970 and the meeting held in that year, from June 21 to July 18, was concerned with mathematical domains of probability and statistics. The papers presented at that time, and also some that were sent in by the individuals who were not able to attend personally, fill the first three volumes of these *Proceedings*. Volume 1 is given to theory of statistics and Volumes 2 and 3 to the rapidly developing theory of probability.

The Biology-Health Section of the Sixth Symposium had to be postponed to 1971. Every postponement of a scholarly meeting involves a disruption of the plans and all kinds of difficulties. Such disruption and difficulties certainly occurred in the present case. As originally planned, the Biology-Health Section of the Sixth Symposium was to be comparable to that of the Fifth, the *Proceedings* of which extended close to 1,000 pages in print. This is much larger than

Volume 4 of the present *Proceedings* that summarizes the Biology-Health Section held from June 16 to 21, 1971. However, the losses suffered in some respects have been compensated by gains in others. Those gains are reflected in Volumes 5 and 6 of these *Proceedings*.

During the fall of 1970 we became much impressed by the development and rapid growth of a new field of biological studies which includes the areas known as "non-Darwinian" and "neo-Darwinian" studies of evolution. These are studies based on the structure of macromolecules present in many now living species and performing in them similar functions. One example is the hemoglobin molecule, carried by all mammals as well as by fish. The differences among the homologous macromolecules in different species are usually ascribed to mutations that are in some sense inconsequential, and are supposed to occur more or less at a uniform rate. The number of differences between any two species is indicative of the time that elapsed from the moment of separation from the presumed common ancestor. The probabilistic-statistical problems involved in such studies include the estimation of philogenetic trees of several species and, in particular, the estimation of the time since two species separated from their ancestor.

It was found that, with only a few exceptions, mathematical statisticians are not familiar with the new domain and that, at the same time, a great many biologists make strong efforts to treat the statistical problems themselves. A joint meeting of biologists and statisticians was clearly indicated and a separate conference, especially given to novel studies of evolution, was held from April 9 to 12, as part of the Biology-Health Section of the Sixth Berkeley Symposium. It is summarized in Volume 5 of these *Proceedings*. Somewhat unexpectedly, it appeared that the new field of studies of evolution involves controversies that are just as sharp as those that occasionally enliven the meetings of mathematical statisticians . . .

We were introduced to problems of evolution treated on the level of macromolecules by Professor T. H. Jukes, V. N. Sarich, and A. C. Wilson. Their very interesting seminar talks and later their advice on the organization of the conference on evolution are highly appreciated.

While studies of evolution involve observational research, particularly that concerned with the relation between classical population genetics and novel findings on the level of molecular biology, the whole domain is clearly conceptual. Contrary to this, the third part of the Biology-Health Section of the Sixth Symposium was totally given to observational studies in a domain of great importance to society at large and of great public interest.

The domain in question, a highly controversial domain, is that of the relation between environmental pollution and human health. The growing population in the United States and in other countries needs more electric power, more automobiles, and other products. The relevant industries are eager to satisfy these needs. However, the expanded industrial activity, unavoidably conducted with an eye on costs, leads to pollution of the environment. The controversies at

public hearings, in the daily press, and in scholarly publications center around the question whether the currently adopted standards of safety are sufficient or not. The volume of research, largely statistical, surrounding this question is immense. The intention that the *Proceedings* provide a cross section of contemporary statistical work dictated the organization of a special conference entirely given to the problem of health and pollution. This conference, held from July 19 to 22, is summarized in Volume 6 of these *Proceedings*. In organizing the conference we benefitted greatly from the advice of Dr. S. W. Greenhouse of the National Institutes of Health, of Professor B. Greenberg of Chapel Hill, North Carolina, and of Drs. J. M. Hollander and H. W. Patterson of the Berkeley Lawrence Laboratory.

The first purpose of the Health-Pollution Conference was to take stock of the studies already performed. The second and the ultimate purpose was to see whether a novel statistical study is called for, hopefully more comprehensive and more reliable than those already completed. With this in mind, invitations to the conference were issued to Federal and State governmental agencies concerned with health and pollution, to authoritative scholarly institutions, and to a number of particular individual scholars known to have worked on one or another aspect of this problem.

As a special stimulus for thought on the entire problem of pollution and health, its present state and the future, the invitations to the conference were formulated to include a call for submission of skeletal plans for a fresh comprehensive statistical study, capable of separating the effects of particular pollutants. Four such plans were submitted and they are published in Volume 6.

All the participants had complete freedom of expression, both in their prepared papers and in their contributions to the discussion. Thus it is likely that the goal of providing a realistic cross section of contemporary statistical research on the problem is reasonably approached. Also it is not unlikely that the present state of knowledge on human health and pollution, and the scholarly level of the substantive studies prepared are fairly reflected in these *Proceedings*.

In addition to funds provided by the University of California and the National Institutes of Health, the Health-Pollution Conference was organized using a grant from the Atomic Energy Commission, Division of Biology and Medicine. This help is gratefully acknowledged.

The organization and the running of three distinct scholarly meetings, one in April, another in June, and the third in July 1971, each attended by some 100 to more than 300 participants, would not have been possible without the willing, efficient, and cheerful help and cooperation of the staff of the Department of Statistics and the Statistical Laboratory. Our most hearty thanks go to our successive "ministers of finance," Mrs. Barbara Gaugl and Mrs. Freddie Ruhl, who watched the sinking balances and surveyed the legality of proposed expenditures, some appropriate under one grant and not under another, etc. In addition to financial matters, Mrs. Gaugl supervised the local arrangements for scholarly sessions, for several social events and for servicing the participants. In this she

was efficiently helped by Mrs. Dominique Cooke, by Miss Judy Whipple and by a number of volunteers from among the graduate students in the Department. Mrs. Cooke and Miss Whipple had their own very important domain of activities: to keep straight the correspondence and the files. Coming in addition to the ordinary university business, this was no mean job and the performance of the two ladies is highly appreciated.

All the above refers to the early part of the year 1971 and up to the end of the conferences. Then the manuscripts of the papers to be published in the *Proceedings* started to arrive, totalling 1849 typewritten pages, not counting figures and numerical tables. This marked a new phase of the job in which we enjoyed the cooperation of another group of persons, who prepared the material for the printers. At the time, the team of editors, Miss Carol Conti, Mrs. Margaret Darland, and Miss Jean Kettler, under the able guidance of Mrs. Virginia Thompson and supervised by Professor LeCam, Chairman of the Organizing Committee, worked assiduously on proofs of papers in Volumes 1, 2 and 3. The arrival of the material for Volumes 4, 5, and 6, unavoidably involving some correspondence with the authors and conferences at the University Press, created heavy burden. We are very grateful to the four ladies whose cooperation has been inspiring to us.

Last but not least, our hearty thanks to the University of California Press, Mr. August Frugé and his colleagues for their help, cooperation and also their patience when confronted with piles of manuscripts which we hoped to see published both excellently as in the past quarter of a century and "right away, yesterday!"

J. NEYMAN

E. L. SCOTT

L. LE CAM (CHM.)

CONTENTS

Programs and Studies of Governmental Agencies

• J. R. GOLDSMITH—Statistical Problems and Strategies in Environmental Epidemiology	1
J. V. BEHAR—Application of Computer Simulation Techniques to Problems in Air Pollution	29
J. R. TOTTER—Research Programs of the Atomic Energy Commission's Division of Biology and Medicine Relevant to Problems of Health and Pollution	71
J. F. FINKLEA, M. F. CRANMER, D. I. HAMMER, L. J. McCABE, V. A. NEWILL, and C. M. SHY—Health Intelligence for Environmental Protection: a Demanding Challenge	101
W. B. RIGGAN, D. I. HAMMER, J. F. FINKLEA, V. HASSELBLAD, C. R. SHARP, R. M. BURTON, and C. M. SHY—CHESS, a Community Health and Environmental Surveillance System	111
W. C. NELSON, V. HASSELBLAD, and G. R. LOWRIMORE—Statistical Aspects of a Community Health and Environmental Surveillance System	125
M. G. SIRKEN—Survey Strategies for Estimating Rare Health Attributes	135

Radiation and Health Controversy

E. J. STERNGLOSS—Environmental Radiation and Human Health	145
M. H. DEGROOT—Statistical Studies of the Effect of Low Level Radiation from Nuclear Reactors on Human Health	223
J. W. GOFMAN and A. R. TAMPLIN—Epidemiologic Studies of Carcinogenesis by Ionizing Radiation	235
E. A. TOMPKINS, P. M. HAMILTON, D. A. HOFFMAN—Infant Mortality Around Three Nuclear Power Reactors	279

V. L. SAILOR—Population Exposure to Radiation: Natural and Man-made	291
H. W. PATTERSON and R. H. THOMAS—Radiation and Risk—the Source Data	313
E. LANDAU—Radiation and Infant Mortality—Some Hazards of Methodology	345

Problems of Monitoring

E. B. HOOK—Monitoring Human Birth Defects: Methods and Strategies	355
G. D. FRIEDMAN and M. F. COLLEN—A Method for Monitoring Adverse Drug Reactions	367
A. D. KEITH—Chemical Induction of Mutagenesis and Carcinogenesis	383
M. C. CLARK, D. Goodman, and A. C. WILSON—The Biochemical Approach to Mutation Monitoring in Man	393
F. S. GOULDING—X-ray Fluorescence—an Improved Analytical Tool for Trace Element Studies	401
R. E. BARLOW—Averaging Time and Maxima for Air Pollution Concentrations	433

Pollutants in Food Chains

R. W. RISEBROUGH—Effects of Environmental Pollutants upon Animals Other than Man	443
H. L. ROSENTHAL—Implications of Environmental Strontium 90 Accumulation in Teeth and Bone of Children	465
T. D. STERLING—Problems in Determining if a Commonly Used Herbicide (2,4,5-T) Has an Effect on Human Health	479
B. E. VAUGHAN—Ecological and Environmental Problems in the Application of Biomathematics	495

Ecological Studies

W. R. GAFFEY—Possible Manifestations of Worsening Environmental Pollution	511
R. W. GILL—Effects of Toxicity on Ecosystems	521
H. B. MESSINGER—Demographic Data for Local Areas	533
W. WINKELSTEIN—Utility or Futility of Ordinary Mortality Statistics in the Study of Air Pollution Effects	539

Skeletal Plans for a Comprehensive Health-Pollution Study, Discussion and Epilogue

J. R. GOLDSMITH—Skeletal Plan for a Comprehensive Epidemiologic Study of Pollution: Effects of Exposure on Growth and Development in Children	555
A. C. HEXTER—Skeletal Plan for a Study of Daily Mortality	559
J. NEYMAN—Skeletal Plan of a Comprehensive Statistical Health-Pollution Study	561
H. K. URY—Some Skeletal Plans for Studying Health Effects of Air Pollution	567
E. L. SCOTT—Summary of Panel Discussion	571
J. NEYMAN—Epilogue of the Health-Pollution Conference	575