

STATISTICS COLLOQUIUM

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“Comparison of Separate Families of Hypotheses”

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ABSTRACT

The simplest situation for formal examination of the adequacy of a family of models arises when the family is imbedded in a larger family and the contribution of the additional parameters is examined. In this talk it is supposed that there are two or more families that may be numerically close but nevertheless are separate in the sense that a distribution in one of the families cannot be recovered exactly within the other. A simple example from reliability theory arises when one family is that of exponential distributions and the other is that of log normal distributions. Some rather old work on this is reviewed and then some newer implications developed.