2.7 Detection Limits and Precision with Analytical Data .......... 45
2.8 Sample Size .............................................. 46
2.9 Mean and Variance of Spatially Distributed Samples:
Kriging .................................................. 47

3 Theoretical Distributions: Binomial, Poisson
and Normal Distributions ..................................... 61
3.1 The Binomial Distribution .................................... 61
3.2 The Poisson Distribution .................................... 68
3.3 The Normal Distribution .................................... 70
3.4 The Links Between Certain Theoretical Probability
Distributions ................................................ 74

4 Statistical Inference: Estimation and Hypothesis Tests ........ 77
4.1 The Central Limit Theorem ................................... 77
4.2 Estimation .................................................... 79
4.2.1 Standard Error of the Sample Mean .................... 79
4.2.2 Confidence Interval That Contains the Population Mean .. 79
4.2.3 Confidence Intervals by the Bootstrap Method ......... 80
4.2.4 Estimation and Bayesian Statistics .................... 81
4.2.5 Error Bars and Confidence Regions on Graphs ........ 82
4.3 Hypothesis Testing .......................................... 89
4.4 Mechanics of Hypothesis Testing ........................... 91
4.5 Further Considerations in Hypothesis Testing ............. 92
4.5.1 Selecting $H_0$: One- and Two-Tailed Tests .......... 92
4.5.2 Selecting $\alpha$ ........................................ 93
4.5.3 Choosing a Test Statistic and a Sampling Distribution .. 93
4.5.4 Interpreting the Decision ................................ 94
4.5.5 Communicating the Result .............................. 96
4.6 Sampling Distributions Used in Hypothesis Tests .......... 98
4.6.1 The t-Distribution (Comparing Means) ............... 98
4.6.2 The F-Distribution (Comparing Variances $s_1^2, s_2^2$) .. 99
4.7 Multiple Independent Variables: Paired Samples
and Randomised Block Design ................................ 101
4.8 Comparing Multiple Samples:
Analysis of Variance ("ANOVA") ............................ 103
4.9 ANOVA: Identifying Important Variables
in a Multi-Variable System .................................. 106
4.10 Informal Uses of Probability to Assess "Importance" ....... 109

5 Comparing Frequency-Distribution Curves .................... 111
5.1 The Empirical Rule to Compare with the Normal
Distribution ................................................. 111
5.2 Linearisation Using Normal-Probability Paper to Compare
with the Normal Distribution ............................... 111
5.3 Normal Scores to Compare with the Normal
Distribution .................................................. 113
5.4 Standardisation of Observations to Compare
with the Normal Distribution ........................................ 113
5.5 Cumulative Frequency Distributions ......................... 115
5.5.1 Application of Cumulative Frequency Plots
in Sedimentology .................................................. 116
5.5.2 Interpreting Natural Processes from Frequency
Distributions ......................................................... 117
5.6 Log-Frequency Distributions; the Logarithmic
and Other Transformations ......................................... 120
5.7 Quantified Comparison of Frequency Distributions:
Non-parametric Statistics ........................................... 123
5.7.1 \( \chi^2 \)-Distribution and Goodness-of-Fit ................. 123
5.7.2 \( \chi^2 \)-Distribution and Contingency Tables ......... 126
5.7.3 \( \chi^2 \)-Distribution and Single-Sample Variance .... 129
5.8 Kolmogorov-Smirnov Two-Sample Test ...................... 129

6 Regression: Linear, Curvilinear and Multilinear .......... 133
6.1 Control and Response Variables ............................. 133
6.2 Associated Variables Without Clear Control .............. 135
6.3 Lurking Variables .............................................. 136
6.4 Basis of Linear Regression ..................................... 138
6.5 An Introduction to the Correlation Coefficient ............ 140
6.6 Confidence Interval About the Regression Line ............ 140
6.7 The Major-Axis Line and the Reduced Major-Axis Line ... 141
6.8 Linearisation to Facilitate Regression Analysis .......... 141
6.9 Directly Fitting Curves to the Data ......................... 144
6.10 Multiple Regression ........................................... 152

7 Correlation and Comparison of Variables .................... 157
7.1 Covariance and the Correlation Coefficient (R) .......... 159
7.2 Spearman's Rank-Correlation Coefficient (R_s) ......... 159
7.3 Coefficient of Determination, \( R^2 \) .......................... 161
7.4 Significance of Correlation ................................... 161
7.5 Confidence in the Regression Line ......................... 162
7.6 Progress, Problems and Pitfalls
with Simple Linear Regression ............................... 164
7.7 Special Cases in Correlation ................................. 172
7.7.1 Co-linear Variables ......................................... 172
7.7.2 The Bivariate Normal Distribution ..................... 174
7.7.3 Constant Sums, Ratios and the Closure Restraint .... 175
7.7.4 Pearce Element Ratios ..................................... 178
7.7.5 Triangular Diagrams ....................................... 178
7.7.6 Multiple and Partial Correlation ......................... 179
7.8 Multivariate Situations ....................................... 181
7.9 Linear Discriminant Function Analysis (LDFA) ........... 183
7.10 Cluster Analysis .............................................. 184
### Sequences, Cycles and Time Series

- **8.1** Runs Analysis .................................................. 190
- **8.2** Rank Correlation .................................................. 191
- **8.3** Markov Chain Analysis: Identifying Cyclicity .......... 192
- **8.4** Time Series ....................................................... 194
- **8.5** Stationary and Non-stationary Behaviour ................. 197
- **8.6** Cumulative Sum Plot (CUSUM) ........................... 200
- **8.7** Moving Averages .................................................. 201
- **8.8** Regression Lines and Curve Fitting ....................... 203
- **8.9** Data Stacking Where the Control Period Is Predictable 204
- **8.10** Autocorrelation to Reveal Periodicity ..................... 204
- **8.11** Isolating Fixed Waveforms by Fourier Analysis ........... 207
- **8.12** Deconvolution ..................................................... 209
- **8.13** Power Spectra of Geomagnetic Secular Variation ........ 212
- **8.14** Time-Series Analysis of Geomagnetic Polarity .......... 219
- **8.15** Precise, Time-Proxied Series .............................. 219

### Circular Orientation Data ........................................... 221

- **9.1** Axes, Directions or Unit Vectors and Vectors .......... 222
- **9.2** Rose Diagrams ...................................................... 228
- **9.3** Idiosyncrasies of Orientation Data ......................... 233
- **9.3.1** Axes ................................................................. 233
- **9.3.2** Unit Vectors ....................................................... 233
- **9.3.3** Vectors .............................................................. 233
- **9.3.4** Special Characteristics of Orientation Data ............. 233
- **9.4** Circular Statistics: No Theoretical Model Assumed ...... 236
- **9.4.1** The Mean Orientation ........................................ 236
- **9.4.2** Mode and Median ................................................ 239
- **9.4.3** Descriptors of Angular Dispersion ....................... 239
- **9.5** Theoretical Orientation Distributions ....................... 241
- **9.5.1** Estimation and Significance with von Mises¹ Model .... 243
- **9.5.2** Estimation with small or Dispersed Samples .......... 245

### Spherical Orientation Data ............................................ 247

- **10.1** Visualising Orientations in Three-Dimensions:
  - the Stereogram ....................................................... 247
- **10.2** Recording and Reporting Three-Dimensional Orientations 252
- **10.3** Field Measurements, Oriented Samples
  - and Associated Errors ............................................... 255
- **10.4** Stereogram Density Contours ............................... 258
- **10.5** The Mean Orientation of an Axis, Direction or Vector .. 262
- **10.6** Theoretical Orientation Distributions
  - in Three Dimensions ............................................... 264
- **10.6.1** Circular Concentration: Fisher Model ................. 269
- **10.6.2** Elliptical Concentration: Bingham Model .............. 273
- **10.6.3** Elliptical Concentration: Henry-Le Goff Bivariate
  - Normal Approximation ........................................... 275
- **10.7** Statistical Models: Circular or Elliptical Clusters² .... 276
10.8 Tests for Preferred Orientation and Confidence Limits for the Mean Orientation .................. 282
10.8.1 Tests for Preferred Orientation .................. 283
10.8.2 Approximate Comparison of Mean Orientations with Confidence Cones .................. 285
10.9 Symmetry Compatibility of Orientation Distributions and Their Causative Processes .................. 285
10.10 The Fabric Ellipsoid .................. 289
10.11 Shape of the Orientation Distribution Ellipsoid .................. 290

11 Spherical Orientation Data: Tensors .................. 293
11.1 Second-Rank Tensors in Geology .................. 294
11.2 Measurement of Second-Rank Tensor Anisotropy .................. 297
11.3 Measurement Procedures for Anisotropy .................. 299
11.4 Interpretations of Anisotropy Using Second-Rank Tensors in Rocks and Minerals .................. 302
11.5 Crystallographic Control of AMS .................. 303
11.6 Property Anisotropy of a Polycrystalline Aggregate .................. 307
11.7 Mean Tensor and its Uncertainty for Multiple Specimens .................. 308
11.8 The Mean Tensor: Hext-Jelinek Statistics .................. 309
11.9 Examples of Tensor Orientation Distributions and the Confidence Cones of Their Principal Axes .................. 310
11.10 Orientation Distributions Involving Multiple Fabrics and Fabric Heterogeneity .................. 316
11.11 Heterogeneous or Multiple Fabrics and the Mean Orientation of Sample Tensors .................. 317
11.12 Specimen-Level Uncertainty and Its Contribution to Sample-Mean-Tensor Confidence Limits .................. 320
11.12.1 Jelinek Statistics .................. 320

12 Appendix .................. 327

Appendix I: Errors in Compound Quantities .................. 327

Appendix II: Notes on the Manual Use of Stereograms .................. 328
Plotting Lines, Planes and Poles to Planes .................. 328
Great Circles, Small Circles; Dip Plunge and Rake .................. 331
Rotations: For Convenient Viewing or for Tectonic Restorations .................. 332
Contouring .................. 334

References .................. 337