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COMMUNICATION TO THE EDITOR

Inches and Dollars

I've just taken a ruler to my bookshelf, and I note that the last two years—namely calendar 1971 and 1972—occupy, unbound, just 10½ inches. By coincidence, this is the exact amount occupied by the first eight years; namely, October 1954 to, but not including, October 1962.

Without arguing whether the material in either of these 10½ inch parcels is good or better or what have you, has the TIMS Council really determined whether the membership is better served by quadrupling the bulk of the publication? I guess, if we wanted to, we could publish an inch a year or a foot a year. There's obviously a correlation (and I expect it's close to linear) between inches and dollars.

Sincerely yours,
Robert E. Machol

Working Papers

The following M.S. Theses were recently received from Robert A. Agnew, at the Air Force Institute of Technology:

THOMAS, J. R., *Distribution Free Methods for the Chance-Constrained Programming Model*, AD 741414.

TOWER, T. R., *Sequential Inventory Control and Optimization through Stochastic Approximation*, AD 741451.

They are available from the Defense Documentation Center using the specified identification numbers.

ERRATUM:
A NOTE ON SHARPE'S ALGORITHM FOR MINIMIZING THE SUM OF ABSOLUTE DEVIATIONS IN A SIMPLE REGRESSION PROBLEM*

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We wish to thank Professor Max A. Woodbury for pointing out an error in our definition of "absolute deviation correlation coefficient" $\bar{R}$ on p. 225 of the above paper. The expression read:

$$\bar{R} = 1 - [\{R_{mad}(Y/X) + R_{mad}(X/Y)\}/2]$$

* Vol. 19, No. 2 (October 1972), pp. 222–225.