

## **K. Krishnamoorthy (2006): Handbook of statistical distributions with applications**

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The stated purpose of this book (and associated software) is "...to provide users with quick and easy access to table values, important formulas, and results of the many commonly used, as well as some specialized, statistical distributions." The author achieves this objective, and this volume should be well received by researchers and graduate students in a wide range of fields. This book is certainly a very readable and self-contained source of the key information relating to many of the standard discrete and continuous univariate distributions.

The author's own *StatCalc* software is supplied on CD-ROM and is designed to run on a PC. This software provides a simple means of computing critical values, moments, minimum sample sizes, *etc.* associated with each of the distributions covered in the book. The author has verified the accuracy of the results provided by *StatCalc*, and adequate information is provided to assure the user of this product's quality. It is not indicated if Mac or UNIX versions of *StatCalc* are available.

A reasonable range of the usual univariate distributions (twenty seven in all) is covered in this volume. The only multivariate distribution that is discussed is the bivariate normal. There is no pretence at a fully comprehensive coverage, and the boundaries that the author has set for himself are quite reasonable given the intended readership. For a more complete discussion, one would consult [Johnson et al. \(1994, 2005\)](#), for example.

As readable and useful as this book is, it is not without its shortcomings. For this reviewer these include the exceptionally sparse index, and the fact that doubly-non-central distributions are not discussed. One could also quibble over minor issues, such as the fact that the discussion of Student's *t* distribution relates only to the standardized case.

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