
Preface

The material of this volume was inspired by papers presented at BIOSTAT2006, an international conference organized by the University of Cyprus and the European Seminar—“Mathematical Methods in Survival Analysis, Reliability and Quality of Life.” The conference was a part of a series of conferences, workshops, and seminars organized or co-organized by the European Seminar over the years. BIOSTAT2006 took place in Limassol, Cyprus between May 29 to 31, 2006 with great success. It attracted over 100 participants from 30 countries. The aim of this event was to bring together scientists from all over the world that work in statistics in general and advance knowledge in fields related to biomedical and technical systems. The publication of this volume comes at a very special time because this year we are celebrating the tenth anniversary of the inauguration of the European Seminar.

The volume consists of selected papers presented at BIOSTAT2006 but it also includes other invited papers. The included papers nicely blend current concerns and research interests in survival analysis and reliability. There is a total of 37 papers which for the convenience of the readers are divided into the following nine parts.

- COX MODELS, ANALYSES, AND EXTENSIONS
- RELIABILITY THEORY - DEGRADATION MODELS
- INFERENCE ANALYSIS
- ANALYSIS OF CENSORED DATA
- QUALITY OF LIFE
- INFERENCE FOR PROCESSES
- DESIGNS
- MEASURES OF DIVERGENCE, MODEL SELECTION, AND SURVIVAL MODELS
- NEW STATISTICAL CHALLENGES

The editors would like to thank all the authors for contributing their work to this book as well as all the anonymous referees for an excellent job in reviewing the papers and making their presentation the best possible. We would also like to thank Professor Alex Karagrigoriou whose help was invaluable during the organization of the conference as well as the preparation of this volume.

Thanks are also due to Professor N. Balakrishnan for his constant support and guidance, to Mr. Thomas Grasso for his assistance in the production of this volume and to Mrs. Debbie Iscoe for a highly professional job in typesetting this volume in a camera-ready form. Special thanks are due to the Department of Mathematics and Statistics of the University of Cyprus which financially supported the publication of this volume.

Nicosia, Cyprus

F. Vonta

Bordeaux, France

M. Nikulin

Compiègne, France

N. Limnios

Paris, France

C. Huber-Carol