

	Preface to the Third Edition	ix
Chapter 1	Uncertainties in Measurements	1
1.1	Measuring Errors	1
1.2	Uncertainties	5
1.3	Parent and Sample Distributions	6
1.4	Mean and Standard Deviation of Distributions	12
Chapter 2	Probability Distributions	17
2.1	Binomial Distribution	17
2.2	Poisson Distribution	23
2.3	Gaussian or Normal Error Distribution	27
2.4	Lorentzian Distribution	31
Chapter 3	Error Analysis	36
3.1	Instrumental and Statistical Uncertainties	36
3.2	Propagation of Errors	39
3.3	Specific Error Formulas	41
3.4	Application of Error Equations	46
Chapter 4	Estimates of Mean and Errors	51
4.1	Method of Least Squares	51
4.2	Statistical Fluctuations	60
4.3	Probability Tests	63
4.4	χ^2 Test of a Distribution	65
Chapter 5	Monte Carlo Techniques	75
5.1	Introduction	75
5.2	Random Numbers	78

5.3	Random Numbers from Probability Distributions	81	11.4	<i>F</i> Test	204
5.4	Specific Distributions	84	11.5	Confidence Intervals	208
5.5	Efficient Monte Carlo Generation	94	11.6	Monte Carlo Tests	212
Chapter 6	Least-Squares Fit to a Straight Line	98	Appendixes		
6.1	Dependent and Independent Variables	98	A	Numerical Methods	218
6.2	Method of Least Squares	102	A.1	Polynomial Interpolation	218
6.3	Minimizing χ^2	104	A.2	Basic Calculus: Differentiation and Integration	222
6.4	Error Estimation	107	A.3	Numerical Differentiation and Integration	226
6.5	Some Limitations of the Least-Squares Method	110	A.4	Cubic Splines	228
6.6	Alternate Fitting Methods	111	A.5	Roots of Nonlinear Equations	231
Chapter 7	Least-Squares Fit to a Polynomial	116	A.6	Data Smoothing	235
7.1	Determinant Solution	116	B	Matrices	238
7.2	Matrix Solution	122	B.1	Determinants	238
7.3	Independent Parameters	127	B.2	Solution of Simultaneous Equations by Determinants	243
7.4	Nonlinear Functions	135	B.3	Matrix Inversion	245
Chapter 8	Least-Squares Fit to an Arbitrary Function	142	C	Graphs and Tables	248
8.1	Nonlinear Fitting	142	C.1	Gaussian Probability Distribution	248
8.2	Searching Parameter Space	148	C.2	Integral of Gaussian Distribution	250
8.3	Grid-Search Method	151	C.3	Linear-Correlation Coefficient	252
8.4	Gradient-Search Method	153	C.4	χ^2 Distribution	253
8.5	Expansion Methods	156	C.5	<i>F</i> Distribution	259
8.6	The Marquardt Method	161	C.6	Student's <i>t</i> Distribution	259
8.7	Comments	163	D	Histograms and Graphs	267
Chapter 9	Fitting Composite Curves	168	D.1	Making a Graph	268
9.1	Lorentzian Peak on Quadratic Background	168	D.2	Graphical Estimation of Parameters	269
9.2	Area Determination	170	D.3	Histograms and Frequency Plots	272
9.3	Composite Plots	174	D.4	Graphics Routines	274
Chapter 10	Direct Application of the Maximum-Likelihood Method	179	E	Computer Routines in Fortran	275
10.1	Introduction to Maximum Likelihood	180	E.1	Routines from Chapter 5	278
10.2	Computer Example	187	E.2	Routines from Chapter 6	281
Chapter 11	Testing the Fit	194	E.3	Routines from Chapter 7	283
11.1	χ^2 Test for Goodness of Fit	194	E.4	Routines from Chapter 8	287
11.2	Linear-Correlation Coefficient	197	E.5	Routines from Chapter 9	294
11.3	Multivariable Correlations	201	E.6	Routines from Chapter 10	295
			E.7	Routines from Chapter 11	298

E.8	Routines from Appendix A	300
E.9	Routines from Appendix B	303
	References	307
	Answers to Selected Exercises	309
	Index	313