



FACSIMILE MEMO

To : Dr Ricardo R Stone
Paradigm Shift Consulting
From : Jan W Merks
Matrix Consultants Limited
Date : 1995 04 12
Fax : (208) 232-3464
Pages : five (5)
Subject : **ASTM Guide D5549-94**

Dear Dr Stone:

Thanks for your letter of April 1, 1995. The essence of my inquiry is to find out whether ASTM E-11 has repealed the requirement of functional independence and abolished the concept of degrees of freedom. I found out that the above guide refers to the kriged estimate (a distance weighted average) and to the kriged variance.

I do not dispute the validity of the distance weighted average but do challenge the validity of the variance of a set of distance weighted averages. I should point out that calculating kriged estimates and covariances and variances of kriged estimates is the most popular geostatistical pastime. The question is then whether ASTM E-11 has approved this variant of probability and statistics in an effort to reduce the high cost for data acquisition in contaminated site evaluations.

I appreciate that you are my ASTM E-11 contact. For your information I have transmitted a few notes some of which you may have on file. I plan to call you on April 13 at 7:30AM Vancouver time and explain the nature of my inquiry in some detail.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JW Merks", is written over a light-colored background.

JW Merks
President

Attachments : Degrees of Freedom Skill Test
David's Geostatistical Proficiency Test
Merks's Statistical Proficiency Test
A Study into Over-Smoothing

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