

ON THE UNBIASED ESTIMATE OF  
INTRA-CLASS CORRELATION

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ON THE UNBIASED ESTIMATE OF  
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## PREFACE

The purpose of this thesis is the examination of the intra-class correlation ratio, a statistic commonly used by geneticists in breeding programs. An unbiased estimate of this intra-class correlation ratio is considered in the first part of the thesis. Biased estimates are sometimes desirable because of simplicity of computations. In the second part of this thesis one such estimate is examined for bias.

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CHAPTER I  
INTRODUCTION

Let us consider the model

$$(1.1) \quad y_{ij} = \mu + \alpha_i + e_{ij} \quad \begin{array}{l} i = 1, 2, \dots, m+1 \\ j = 1, 2, \dots, c \end{array}$$

where the  $e_{ij}$  and the  $\alpha_i$  are uncorrelated, and where

$$\begin{aligned} e_{ij} &\sim \text{NID}(0, \sigma^2) \\ \alpha_i &\sim \text{NID}(0, \sigma_w^2) \end{aligned}$$

We shall use the symbol  $E$  to denote mathematical expectation and the notation  $e_{ij} \sim \text{NID}(0, \sigma^2)$  to mean the  $e_{ij}$ 's are distributed normally and independently with mean zero and variance  $\sigma^2$ . Also we will adhere to the following notation:

$$Y_{i.} = \sum_j y_{ij}, \quad Y_{.j} = \sum_i y_{ij}, \quad Y_{..} = \sum_{i,j} y_{ij}.$$

We can now make the following analysis of variance.

TABLE I

Source	d. f	MS	EMS
Total	$c(m+1) - 1$		
Between classes	$m$	$\frac{1}{m} \left[ \sum_i \frac{Y_{i.}^2}{c} - \frac{Y_{..}^2}{c(m+1)} \right] = B$	$\sigma^2 + c\sigma_w^2$
Within classes	$n$	$\frac{1}{n} \left[ \sum_{i,j} y_{ij}^2 - \sum_i \frac{Y_{i.}^2}{c} \right] = W$	$\sigma^2$

We are concerned with the problem of estimating the intra-class correlation ratio

$$(1.2) \quad \rho^2 = \frac{\sigma_w^2}{\sigma^2 + \sigma_w^2}$$

where the variance components,  $\sigma^2$  and  $\sigma_w^2$ , are defined in Table I.

It follows from our analysis of variance that the sum of squares divided by the expected mean square is distributed as the Chi-Square distribution with degrees of freedom associated with the source of variation. Symbolically we have that

$$(1.3) \quad \frac{nW}{\sigma^2} \sim \chi^2(n)$$

and

$$(1.4) \quad \frac{mB}{\sigma^2 + c\sigma_w^2} \sim \chi^2(m).$$

CHAPTER II  
AN UNBIASED ESTIMATE

The problem we will investigate in this section is to find an unbiased estimator of  $\rho^2$ .

Theorem I. In the one way classification as given by (1.1), an unbiased estimator of  $\rho^2$  is

$$(2.1) \quad \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} (-1)^i \frac{1}{c^i} \left[ \frac{1}{F_1} \left( \frac{B}{W} \right) - 1 \right]^i$$

where  $(F_1)^i = F_i$ .

Proof: We shall first express  $\rho^2$  as a function of the ratio  $\sigma_w^2/\sigma^2$  and proceed to find an unbiased estimate of this ratio.

It follows from (1.2) that

$$1 - \rho^2 = 1 - \frac{\sigma_w^2}{\sigma^2 + \sigma_w^2} = \frac{\sigma^2}{\sigma^2 + \sigma_w^2}$$

Dividing both numerator and denominator by  $\sigma^2$  we obtain

$$1 - \rho^2 = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{\sigma_w^2}{\sigma^2}} = \frac{1}{1 + r} \quad \text{where } r = \frac{\sigma_w^2}{\sigma^2}$$

Now

$$1 - \rho^2 = (1 + r)^{-1} = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} (-r)^i$$

with the condition that  $r^2 < 1$ . More explicitly we have

$$1 - \rho^2 = 1 - r + r^2 - r^3 + \dots$$



and

$$(2.2) \quad \rho^2 = r - r^2 + r^3 - r^4 + \dots$$

This relationship expresses the ratio  $\rho^2$  in terms of the ratio  $r$ . It is obvious that to find an unbiased estimator of  $\rho^2$ , we need only to find a function such that the expected value of this function equals the infinite series expressed above as  $\rho^2$ .

We shall obtain a function  $V_t$  such that  $E(V_t) = r^t$ ,  $t > 0$ .

It is known from (1.3) and (1.4) that the ratio

$$(2.3) \quad u = \frac{\frac{B}{\sigma^2 + c\sigma_w^2}}{\frac{W}{\sigma^2}} \sim F(m, n)$$

where  $F(m, n)$  denotes the  $F$  distribution with  $m$  degrees of freedom in the numerator and  $n$  degrees of freedom in the denominator.

It follows that

$$E(u) = E\left[\frac{\sigma^2}{\sigma^2 + c\sigma_w^2} \frac{B}{W}\right] = \frac{\sigma^2}{\sigma^2 + c\sigma_w^2} E\left(\frac{B}{W}\right) = F_1$$

and

$$\frac{1}{F_1} E\left(\frac{B}{W}\right) = \frac{\sigma^2 + c\sigma_w^2}{\sigma^2} = 1 + cr,$$

where  $F_1$  is the first moment of the  $F$  distribution and equals  $m/(m-2)$ . From this equality we obtain a function  $V_1$  such that

$$E\left\{\frac{1}{c} \left[ \frac{1}{F_1} \left(\frac{B}{W}\right) - 1 \right]\right\} = E(V_1) = r.$$

Thus we have obtained a function  $V_1$  such that the expected value of  $V_1$  is equal to  $r$ .

Now we shall examine a function,  $u^t$ , such that the expected value of  $u^t$  is equal to the  $t^{\text{th}}$  moment,  $F_t$ , of the  $F$  distribution

about the origin, i. e.,

$$F_t = \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{m+2t}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{n-2t}{2}\right) \left(\frac{n}{m}\right)^t}{\Gamma\left(\frac{m}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)}, \quad t < \frac{n}{2}.$$

Obviously

$$E \left[ \frac{\sigma^2}{\sigma^2 + c\sigma_w^2} \frac{B}{W} \right]^t = F_t$$

and, therefore,

$$\frac{1}{F_t} E \left( \frac{B}{W} \right)^t = (1 + cr)^t.$$

Now let us examine this equality:

for  $t = 1$  :

$$\frac{1}{F_1} E \left( \frac{B}{W} \right) = (1 + cr)$$

so

$$E(V_1) = E \left\{ \frac{1}{c} \left[ \frac{1}{F_1} \left( \frac{B}{W} \right) - 1 \right] \right\} = r.$$

for  $t = 2$  :

$$\frac{1}{F_2} E \left( \frac{B}{W} \right)^2 = (1 + cr)^2 = 1 + 2cr + c^2 r^2$$

so

$$E(V_2) = E \left\{ \frac{1}{c^2} \left[ \frac{1}{F_2} \left( \frac{B}{W} \right)^2 - 2 \frac{1}{F_1} \left( \frac{B}{W} \right) + 1 \right] \right\} = r^2.$$

for  $t = 3$  :

$$\frac{1}{F_3} E \left( \frac{B}{W} \right)^3 = (1 + cr)^3 = 1 + 3cr + 3c^2 r^2 + c^3 r^3$$

so

$$E(V_3) = E \left\{ \frac{1}{c^3} \left[ \frac{1}{F_3} \left( \frac{B}{W} \right)^3 - 3 \frac{1}{F_2} \left( \frac{B}{W} \right)^2 + 3 \frac{1}{F_1} \left( \frac{B}{W} \right) - 1 \right] \right\} = r^3$$

For  $t = 4$  :

$$\frac{1}{F_4} E\left(\frac{B}{W}\right)^4 = (1 + cr)^4 = 1 + 4cr + 6c^2r^2 + 4c^3r^3 + c^4r^4$$

so

$$E(V_4) = E\left\{\frac{1}{c^4} \left[ \frac{1}{F_4} \left(\frac{B}{W}\right)^4 - 4 \frac{1}{F_3} \left(\frac{B}{W}\right)^3 + 6 \frac{1}{F_2} \left(\frac{B}{W}\right)^2 - 4 \frac{1}{F_1} \left(\frac{B}{W}\right) + 1 \right]\right\} = r^4$$

For  $t = 5$  :

$$\frac{1}{F_5} E\left(\frac{B}{W}\right)^5 = (1 + cr)^5 = 1 + 5cr + 10c^2r^2 + 10c^3r^3 + 5c^4r^4 + c^5r^5$$

so

$$E(V_5) = E\left\{\frac{1}{c^5} \left[ \frac{1}{F_5} \left(\frac{B}{W}\right)^5 - 5 \frac{1}{F_4} \left(\frac{B}{W}\right)^4 + 10 \frac{1}{F_3} \left(\frac{B}{W}\right)^3 - 10 \frac{1}{F_2} \left(\frac{B}{W}\right)^2 + 5 \frac{1}{F_1} \left(\frac{B}{W}\right) - 1 \right]\right\} \\ = r^5$$

Upon examination of the binomial  $\frac{1}{c^t} (a + b)^t$  we find that with  $a = \frac{1}{F_1} \left(\frac{B}{W}\right)$  and  $b = -1$  we can expand the binomial for different values of  $t$  and obtain our functions  $V_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ . It follows that

$$E(V_t) = E\left\{\frac{1}{c^t} \left[ \frac{1}{F_1} \left(\frac{B}{W}\right) - 1 \right]^t\right\} = r^t.$$

It is necessary to define what we mean by  $\left(\frac{1}{F_1}\right)^t$ . In this thesis, we shall use the subscript on the  $F$  to act as an exponent in our expansion. Thus,  $\left(\frac{1}{F_1}\right)^t = \frac{1}{F_t}$ .

We now have a function  $V_t$  which is an unbiased estimate of  $r^t$  and, therefore, we can obtain an unbiased estimate for  $\rho^2$ .

## CHAPTER III

### A COMMON BIASED ESTIMATE

For purposes of simplicity, the quantity

$$(3.1) \quad \hat{\rho}^2 = \frac{B - W}{B + (c - 1)W}$$

is commonly used as an estimator of  $\rho^2$ . This is a consistent estimator of  $\rho^2$ . We will examine this estimator for bias. First we will find the expected value of  $\hat{\rho}^2$ .

$$(3.2) \quad E(\hat{\rho}^2) = E\left[\frac{B - W}{B + (c - 1)W}\right] = E\left[1 - c \frac{W}{B + (c - 1)W}\right] = 1 - cE\left[\frac{W}{B + (c - 1)W}\right]$$

since  $\frac{B - W}{B + (c - 1)W} = 1 - \frac{cW}{B + (c - 1)W}$ . If we divide numerator and denominator by  $B$  we get

$$(3.3) \quad E(\hat{\rho}^2) = 1 - cE\left[\frac{\frac{W}{B}}{1 + (c - 1)\frac{W}{B}}\right].$$

Let us examine the distribution of  $\frac{W}{B} = X$ . Using the same assumptions as in (2.3) we know that

$$\frac{\frac{W}{\sigma^2}}{\frac{B}{\sigma^2 + c\sigma_w^2}} \sim F(n, m)$$

Let  $K = \frac{\sigma^2 + c\sigma_w^2}{\sigma^2}$ . Then  $y = KX \sim F(n, m)$ . Hence the expected

value of  $\hat{\rho}^2$  is determined by first finding  $E\left[\frac{X}{1 + (c - 1)X}\right]$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
E\left[\frac{X}{1+(c-1)X}\right] &= \int_0^\infty \frac{X}{1+(c-1)X} \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{m+n}{2}\right) \left(\frac{n}{m}\right)^{n/2} (KX)^{(n-2)/2} d(KX)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{m}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) \left(1+\frac{n}{m}KX\right)^{(n+m)/2}} \\
&= \int_0^\infty \frac{\frac{y}{K}}{1+(c-1)\frac{y}{K}} \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{m+n}{2}\right) \left(\frac{n}{m}\right)^{n/2} y^{(n-2)/2} dy}{\Gamma\left(\frac{m}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) \left(1+\frac{n}{m}y\right)^{(n+m)/2}}
\end{aligned}$$

The substitution  $y = \frac{mz}{n(1-z)}$  transforms this integral to

$$\begin{aligned}
E\left[\frac{X}{1+(c-1)X}\right] &= \int_0^1 \frac{\frac{mz}{Kn(1-z)}}{1+\frac{c-1}{K}\frac{mz}{n(1-z)}} \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{m+n}{2}\right) z^{(n/2-1)}(1-z)^{(m/2-1)}}{\Gamma\left(\frac{m}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)} \\
&= \int_0^1 \frac{\frac{m}{Kn}}{1+\left(\frac{c-1}{K}\frac{m}{n}-1\right)z} \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{m+n}{2}\right) z^{(n/2-1)}(1-z)^{(m/2-1)}}{\Gamma\left(\frac{m}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)} \\
(3.4) \quad &= \frac{m}{Kn} \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{m+n}{2}\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{m}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)} \int_0^1 \frac{1}{(1-w^2z)} z^{n/2} (1-z)^{(m/2-1)} dz
\end{aligned}$$

where

$$-w^2 = \frac{c-1}{K} \frac{m}{n} - 1$$

and

$$-1 < -w^2 < 0$$

Now using the identity

$$1-z = \left[ (1-w^2z) + (w^2-1)z \right]$$

we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
E\left[\frac{X}{1+(c-1)X}\right] &= \frac{m}{Kn} \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{m+n}{2}\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{m}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)} \int_0^1 (1-w^2z)^{-1} z^{n/2} \left[ (1-w^2z) + (w^2-1)z \right]^{-1} \\
&\quad (1-z)^{(m/2-2)} dz
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{m}{Kn} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{m+n}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{n}{2}) \Gamma(\frac{m}{2})} \left[ \int_0^1 z^{n/2} (1-z)^{(m/2-2)} dz + (w^2-1) \int_0^1 (1-w^2z)^{-1} \right. \\
&\quad \left. z^{(n/2+1)} (1-z)^{(m/2-2)} dz \right] \\
&= \frac{m}{Kn} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{m+n}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{n}{2}) \Gamma(\frac{m}{2})} \left[ B(\frac{n}{2}+1, \frac{m}{2}-1) + (w^2-1) \int_0^1 z^{(n/2+1)} (1-z)^{(m/2-3)} \right. \\
&\quad \left. + (w^2-1)^2 \int_0^1 (1-w^2z)^{-1} z^{(n/2+2)} (1-z)^{(m/2-3)} dz \right] \\
&= \frac{m}{Kn} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{m+n}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{m}{2}) \Gamma(\frac{n}{2})} \left[ B(\frac{n}{2}+1, \frac{m}{2}-1) + (w^2-1) B(\frac{n}{2}+2, \frac{m}{2}-2) \right. \\
&\quad \left. + (w^2-1)^2 \int_0^1 z^{(n/2+2)} (1-z)^{(m/2-4)} dz \right. \\
&\quad \left. + (w^2-1)^3 \int_0^1 (1-w^2z)^{-1} z^{(n/2+3)} (1-z)^{(m/2-4)} dz \right] \\
&= \frac{m}{Kn} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{m+n}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{m}{2}) \Gamma(\frac{n}{2})} \left[ B(\frac{n}{2}+1, \frac{m}{2}-1) + (w^2-1) B(\frac{n}{2}+2, \frac{m}{2}-2) \right. \\
&\quad \left. + (w^2-1)^2 B(\frac{n}{2}+3, \frac{m}{2}-3) \right. \\
&\quad \left. + (w^2-1)^3 \int_0^1 (1-w^2z)^{-1} z^{(n/2+3)} (1-z)^{(m/2-4)} dz \right] \\
&\quad (3.5) \\
&= \frac{m}{Kn} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{m+n}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{m}{2}) \Gamma(\frac{n}{2})} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^{m/2-1} (w^2-1)^{i-1} B(\frac{n}{2}+i, \frac{m}{2}-i) \right. \\
&\quad \left. + (w^2-1)^{m/2} \int_0^1 (1-w^2z)^{-1} z^{\frac{m+n}{2}-1} dz \right]
\end{aligned}$$

where  $B(m, n) = \int_0^1 z^{m-1} (1-z)^{n-1} dz$ ,  $m, n > 0$ , is the Beta function. Let us examine the quantity  $(1 - w^2 z)^{-1}$ . Since  $0 \leq z \leq 1$  and  $-1 < -w^2 < 0$  we shall expand  $(1 - w^2 z)^{-1}$  into an infinite series, i.e.,

$$(3.6) \quad (1 - w^2 z)^{-1} = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} (w^2 z)^i .$$

The integral

$$\int_0^1 (1 - w^2 z)^{-1} z^{\left(\frac{m+n}{2} - 1\right)} dz$$

can now be written as

$$\int_0^1 \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} (w^2 z)^i z^{\left(\frac{m+n}{2} - 1\right)} dz .$$

Interchanging the summation and integral signs we obtain

$$\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} (w^2)^i \int_0^1 z^{\left(\frac{m+n}{2} + i - 1\right)} dz = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} (w^2)^i \frac{1}{\frac{m+n}{2} + i} .$$

Using this result in (3.5) we have

$$\begin{aligned} E \left[ \frac{X}{1 + (c-1)X} \right] &= \frac{m}{Kn} \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{m+n}{2}\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{m}{2}\right) \Gamma\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^{\frac{m}{2}-1} (w^2 - 1)^{i-1} B\left(\frac{n}{2} + i, \frac{m}{2} - i\right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + (w^2 - 1)^{m/2} \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} (w^2)^i \frac{1}{\frac{m+n}{2} + i} \right] . \end{aligned}$$

Examination of the last summation in the brackets yield a result which can be computed.

$$\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{(w^2)^i}{\frac{m+n}{2} + i} = \sum_{j=\frac{m+n}{2}}^{\infty} \frac{(w^2)^{\left(j - \frac{m+n}{2}\right)}}{j} \quad \text{if } j = \frac{m+n}{2} + i$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= (w^2)^{-\frac{m+n}{2}} \sum_{j=\frac{m+n}{2}}^{\infty} \frac{(w^2)^j}{j} \\
&= (w^2)^{-\frac{m+n}{2}} \left[ \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{(w^2)^j}{j} - \sum_{j=1}^{\frac{m+n}{2}-1} \frac{(w^2)^j}{j} \right] \\
&= (w^2)^{-\frac{m+n}{2}} \left[ -\ln(1-w^2) - \sum_{j=1}^{\frac{m+n}{2}-1} \frac{(w^2)^j}{j} \right].
\end{aligned}$$

So (3.7)

$$\begin{aligned}
E\left[\frac{X}{1+(c-1)X}\right] &= \frac{m}{Kn} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{m+n}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{m}{2})\Gamma(\frac{n}{2})} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^{\frac{m}{2}-1} (w^2-1)^{i-1} B\left(\frac{n}{2}+i, \frac{m}{2}-i\right) \right. \\
&\quad \left. + (w^2-1)^{m/2} (w^2)^{-\frac{m+n}{2}} \left\{ -\ln(1-w^2) - \sum_{j=1}^{\frac{m+n}{2}-1} \frac{(w^2)^j}{j} \right\} \right]
\end{aligned}$$

is a form of the expected value which is convenient for using a desk calculator. Now substituting in (3.3) we can obtain the expected value of  $\hat{\rho}^2$ .

A program for the calculation of the expected value of  $\hat{\rho}^2$  was written for use on the IBM 650 Data Processing Computer. The formula used for computations was

$$\begin{aligned}
E(\rho^2) &= 1 - cE\left[\frac{X}{1+(c-1)X}\right] \\
&= 1 - c \frac{m}{Kn} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{m+n}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{n}{2})\Gamma(\frac{m}{2})} \int_0^1 (1-w^2z)^{-1} z^{n/2} (1-z)^{\frac{m}{2}-1} dz
\end{aligned}$$



where

$$\frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{m+n}{2}\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{m}{2}\right)\Gamma\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)} = \frac{1}{B\left(\frac{m}{2}, \frac{n}{2}\right)} = \frac{1}{\int_0^1 z^{\frac{m}{2}-1} (1-z)^{\frac{n}{2}-1} dz}$$

A subroutine of Simpson's rule was used for the two integrations with increments of .01 from 0 to 1.

The values obtained by this method were very close to the values obtained by the results of computing (3.7) for different values of  $m$ ,  $n$ , and  $\rho^2$ . The results are shown in the tables in the appendix. A few of the results are plotted on the graphs in the appendix to show the bias incurred by using the estimate

$$\frac{B - W}{B + (c - 1)W}$$

CHAPTER IV  
HERITABILITY RATIO

Geneticists often use the statistic

$$(4.1) \quad h^2 = \frac{4\sigma_w^2}{\sigma^2 + \sigma_w^2}$$

called the heritability ratio, which is based on the model defined by (1.1). We may now use the results of Theorem I to obtain an unbiased estimate of  $h^2$ . We shall now examine some of the properties of  $h^2$ .

The ratio  $h^2$  has the limits

$$(4.2) \quad 0 \leq h^2 \leq 1$$

Substituting  $4\rho^2$  for  $h^2$  we have

$$0 \leq 4\rho^2 \leq 1$$

or

$$(4.3) \quad 0 \leq \rho^2 \leq 1/4$$

By definition

$$0 \leq \frac{\sigma_w^2}{\sigma^2 + \sigma_w^2} \leq 1/4$$

and dividing both numerator and denominator by  $\sigma^2$  we obtain

$$0 \leq \frac{r}{1+r} \leq 1/4$$

Now solving for  $r$  we have

$$(4.4) \quad 0 \leq r \leq 1/3$$

From (2.2) we have

$$\rho^2 = r - r^2 + r^3 - r^4 + \dots$$

We can estimate  $\rho^2$  by one or more of the terms on the right-hand side of the equation and approximate the bias by using (4.4). For example, the bias is less than .111... when we use  $r$  as an estimator of  $\rho^2$ . If we estimate  $\rho^2$  by  $r - r^2$  the bias is less than .037...

In many cases the limits on  $h^2$  are

$$(4.5) \quad 0 \leq h^2 \leq 1/2 .$$

In this case the corresponding limits on  $r$  will be

$$(4.6) \quad 0 \leq r \leq 1/7 .$$

If we now approximate  $\rho^2$  by  $r$  our bias would be less than .0204...

If we approximate  $\rho^2$  by  $r - r^2$  our bias would be less than .00291...

Thus we can estimate  $h^2$  to any desired accuracy by using more terms with higher powers of  $r$ .

## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSIONS

This thesis gives an unbiased estimator for the intra-class correlation ratio. This estimator, stated in Theorem I, is in the form of an infinite series. A few terms of this series will, in most problems, yield the desired accuracy needed. For many problems in genetics the first, or the first and second, terms will suffice. In all cases an approximation to the bias can be computed easily.

The estimator examined in Chapter III may be used to estimate the intra-class correlation ratio. The graphs in the appendix exhibit the amount of bias that occurs for different degrees of freedom. The estimator very closely approximates  $\rho^2$  when the degrees of freedom are large. The amount of bias increases as the degrees of freedom decrease. For small degrees of freedom, the estimator given in Theorem I may be used to obtain more accuracy in the experiment. The tables and graphs in the appendix are for guidance in determining which estimator should be selected for use in experiments.

APPENDIX

TABLE II

Expected values of  $\hat{\rho}^2$  for  $m = 1$  and selected values of  $\rho^2$  and  $c$ .

$\rho^2 \backslash c$	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.9
2	-0.025	0.101	0.242	0.415	0.681
4	0.069	0.207	0.348	0.512	0.753
6	0.093	0.240	0.385	0.550	0.785
8	0.105	0.259	0.408	0.575	0.806
10	0.112	0.272	0.426	0.595	0.822

TABLE III

Expected values of  $\hat{\rho}^2$  for  $m = 2$  and selected values of  $\rho^2$  and  $c$ .

$\rho^2 \backslash c$	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.9
2	0.017	0.163	0.322	0.509	0.765
4	0.067	0.219	0.375	0.551	0.789
6	0.080	0.237	0.393	0.568	0.801
8	0.087	0.246	0.404	0.579	0.810
10	0.091	0.253	0.413	0.588	0.819

TABLE IV

Expected values of  $\hat{\rho}^2$  for  $m = 4$  and selected values of  $\rho^2$  and  $c$ .

$\rho^2 \backslash c$	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.9
2	0.061	0.228	0.405	0.601	0.840
4	0.082	0.252	0.426	0.616	0.844
6	0.087	0.259	0.433	0.620	0.846
8	0.089	0.263	0.436	0.622	0.847
10	0.091	0.265	0.438	0.624	0.848

TABLE V

Expected values of  $\hat{\rho}^2$  for  $m = 6$  and selected values of  $\rho^2$  and  $c$ .

$\rho^2 \backslash c$	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.9
2	0.076	0.252	0.436	0.636	0.864
4	0.088	0.268	0.449	0.644	0.866
6	0.092	0.272	0.454	0.646	0.866
8	0.093	0.275	0.456	0.648	0.866
10	0.094	0.276	0.457	0.648	0.867

TABLE VI

Expected values of  $\hat{\rho}^2$  for  $m = 8$  and selected values of  $\rho^2$  and  $c$ .

$\rho^2 \backslash c$	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.9
2	0.083	0.265	0.452	0.652	0.874
4	0.092	0.276	0.462	0.658	0.875
6	0.094	0.279	0.465	0.659	0.876
8	0.095	0.281	0.466	0.661	0.876
10	0.096	0.282	0.467	0.661	0.876



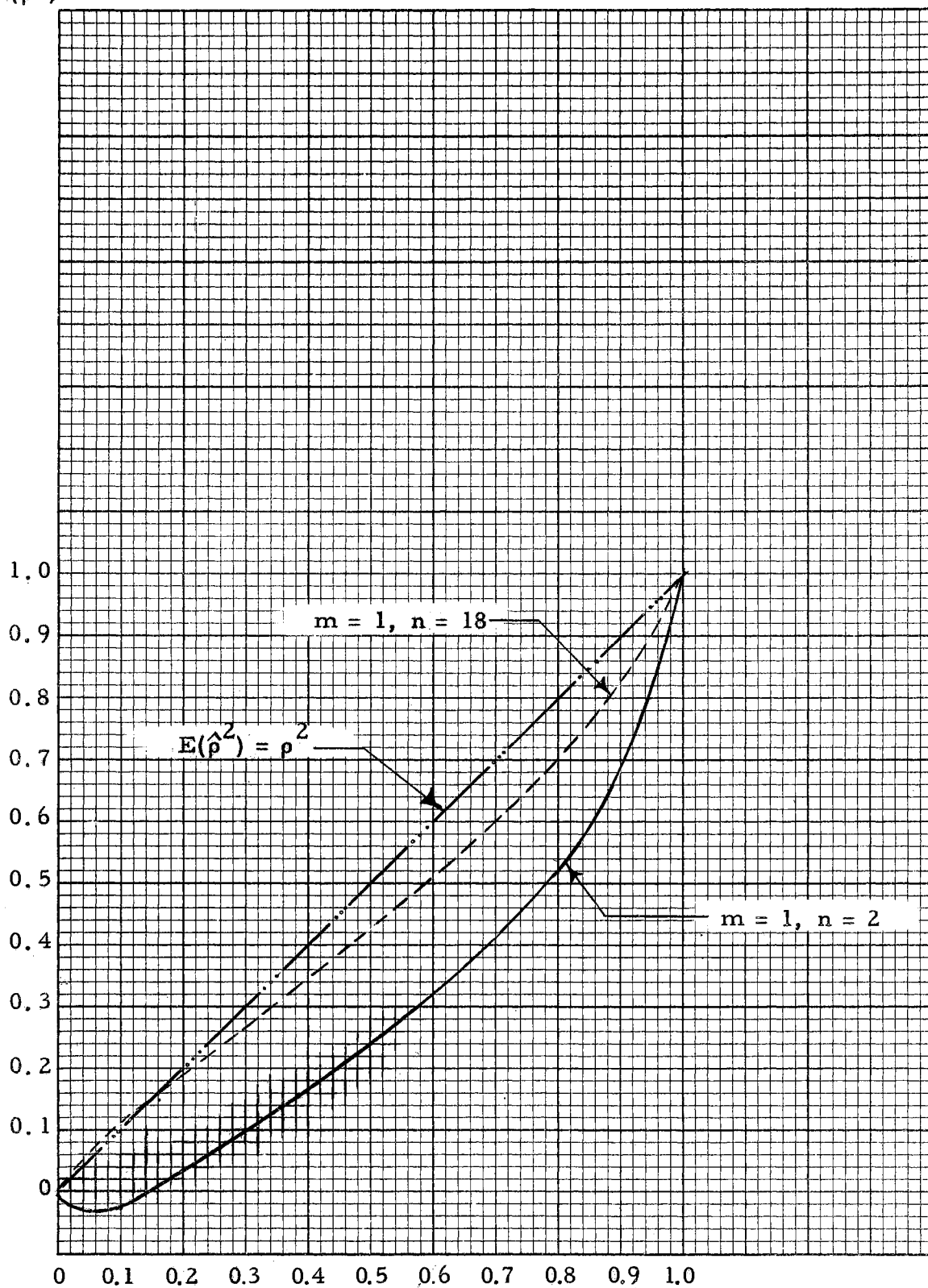
$E(\hat{\rho}^2)$ 

Fig. 1

Expected value of  $\hat{\rho}^2$  for  $m = 1$  and  $n = 2, 18$

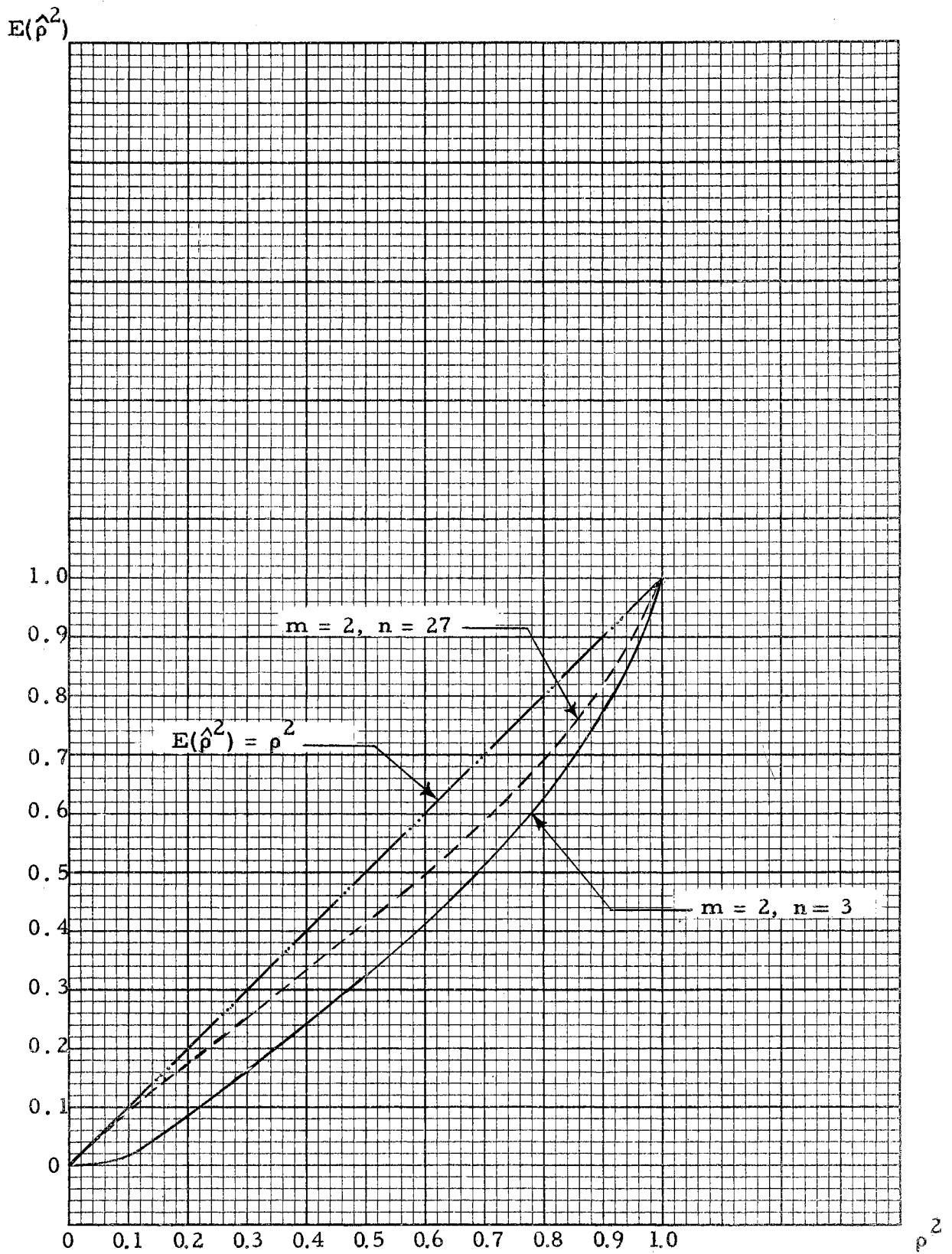


Fig. 2

Expected value of  $\hat{\rho}^2$  for  $m = 2$  and  $n = 3, 27$

$E(\hat{\rho}^2)$

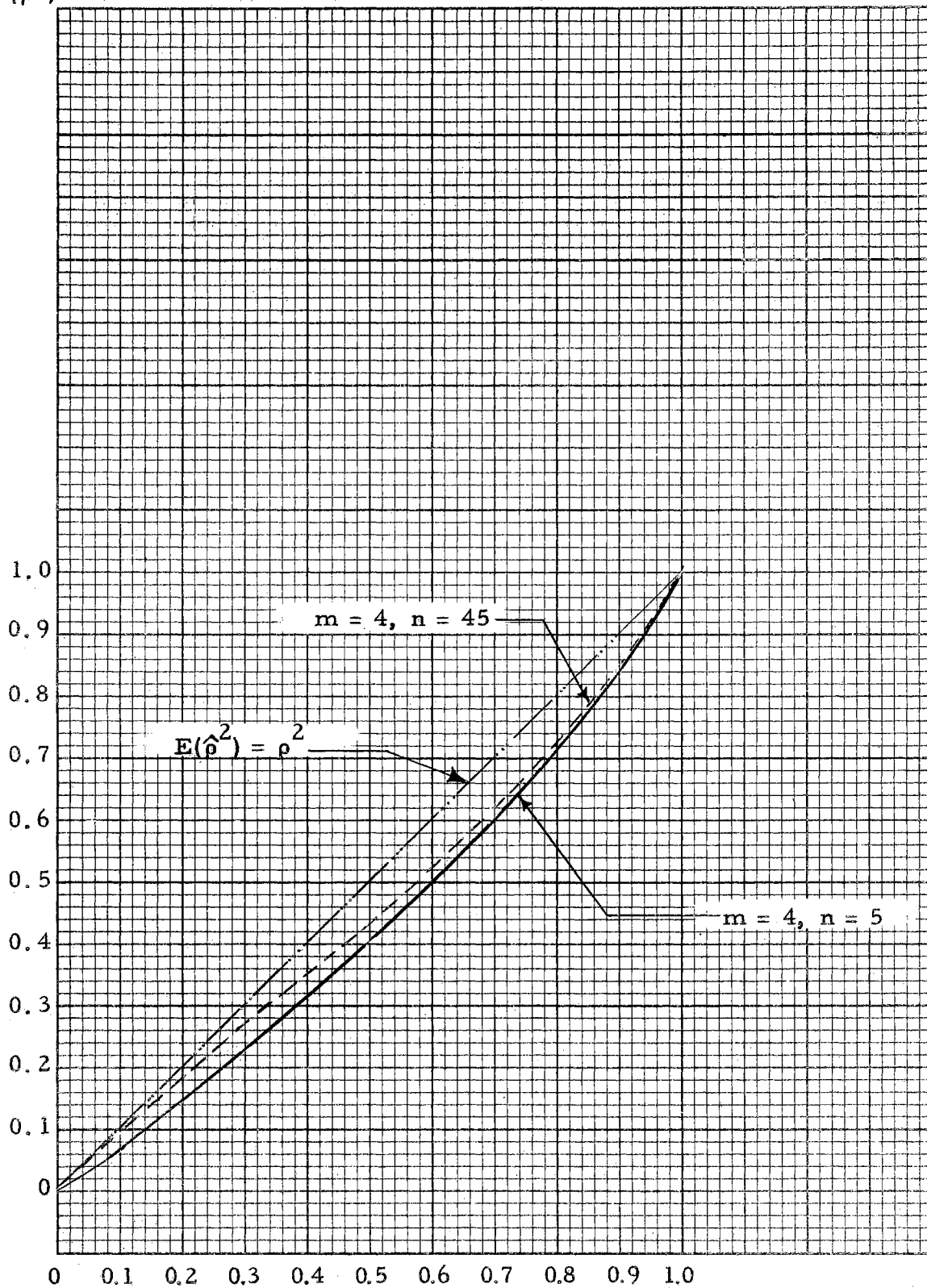


Fig. 3

Expected value of  $\hat{\rho}^2$  for  $m = 4$  and  $n = 5, 45$

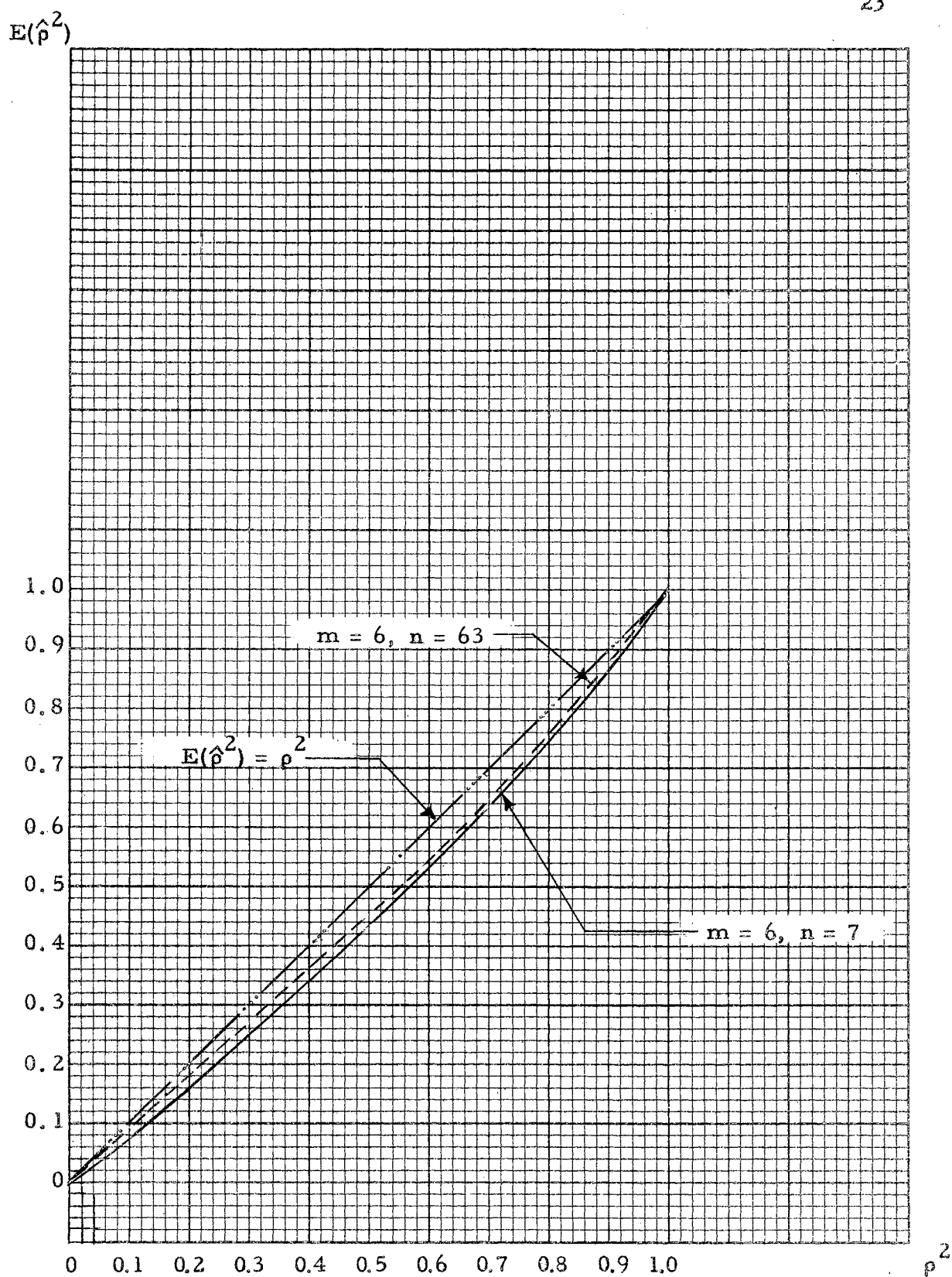


Fig. 4

Expected value of  $\hat{\rho}^2$  for  $m = 6$  and  $n = 7, 63$

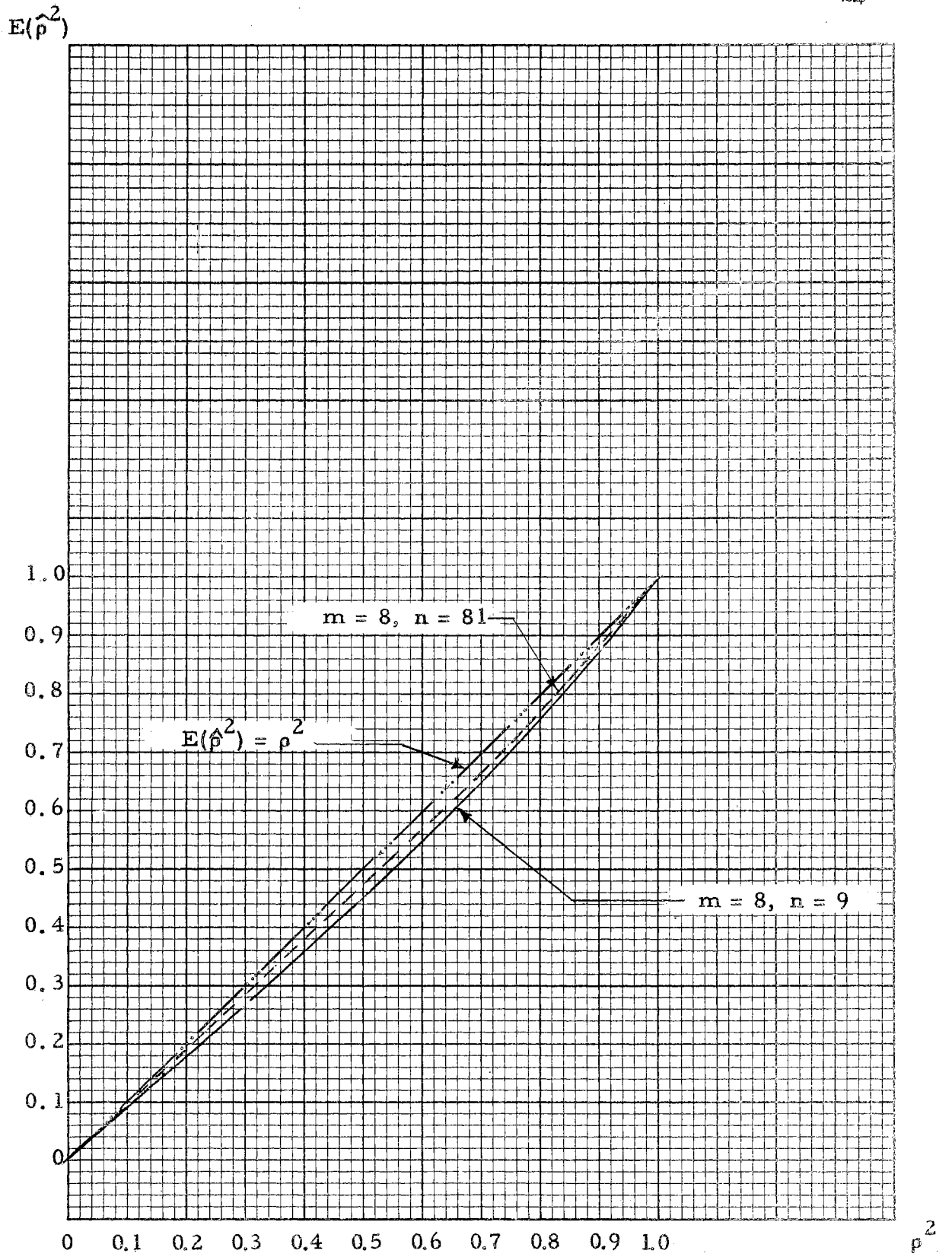


Fig. 5

Expected value of  $\hat{\rho}^2$  for  $m = 8$  and  $n = 9, 81$

VITA

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