

JAROSLAV HÁJEK, 1926-1974

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Jaroslav Hájek died in Prague on June 10, 1974, at the age of 48. He worked till his last days, although suffering severely from a longlasting kidney disease. His untimely death is a heavy loss for mathematical statistics as a science as well as for his students and co-workers all over the world. Hájek's results and ideas have significantly influenced the development of many aspects of mathematical statistics since the late fifties and they continue to stimulate further research and progress.

Jaroslav Hájek was born in Poděbrady, Czechoslovakia, on February 4, 1926. He attended the Technical University in Prague from 1945 to 1949, leaving with the degree of a statistical engineer. After a postgraduate fellowship under the guidance of J. Novák, he received the C. Sc. degree (equivalent to the Ph. D.) in 1955. From 1954 to 1964 he worked as a researcher at the Mathematical Institute of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences. In 1964 Hájek was appointed Head of the Department of Mathematical Statistics at Charles University in Prague, with appointment to Professor in 1966. He was a visiting professor at the University of California at Berkeley in the academic year 1965-66 and at the Florida State University in 1969-70. Hájek was a Fellow of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, Associate Editor of the *Annals of (Mathematical) Statistics* from 1970, and member of the editorial board of four other international journals. For his outstanding contribution to mathematical statistics, he was awarded the Klement Gottwald National Prize in 1973.

Hájek's contribution to statistics (and probability) is of great scope. It includes research in the theory of rank tests, parametric estimation, probability sampling, statistical inference in stochastic processes and various other specializations. The striking feature of Hájek's papers is the originality of his ideas: results were usually achieved by developing new methods of proof, which then provided useful tools for the solution of many related problems.

In a series of papers, later included (unified and complemented) in the monograph (1967: 4), Hájek investigated properties of linear rank statistics and tests based on them. Linear rank statistics are of the form $S = \sum_{i=1}^N c_i a(R_i)$, where the R_i are the ranks of independent random variables X_i with distribution functions F_i , the c_i are regression constants, and the $a(i)$ are rank scores, all symbols depending on N in general. Hájek (1961: 27) gave necessary and sufficient conditions of the Lindeberg type for the asymptotic normality of S under the null

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