

15th May, 1959

Dr. Frank Yates,
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Statistics, Department,
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England.

My dear Frank,

Thanks for the improved value. When I get an opportunity I propose to insert such a note as the following:

The most profitable value of λ to adopt is in fact the solution of the equation

$$s_3(\lambda) = 3\lambda s_4(\lambda)$$

where

$$s_3(\lambda) \text{ stands for } \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{l(n+\lambda)^3}$$

and

$$s_4(\lambda) \text{ for } \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{l(n+\lambda)^4}$$

The solution has been evaluated by Mr. Howard Simpson as .66141408.

I do not know whether Simpson has a doctorate or whether he is likely to publish a note to which I could refer.

Sincerely yours,

R. A. Fisher