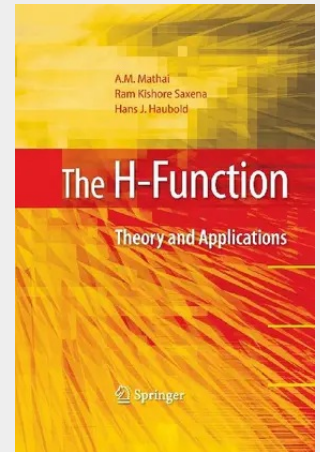


The H-Function

Theory and Applications

The H-function or popularly known in the literature as Fox's H-function has recently found applications in a large variety of problems connected with reaction, diffusion, reaction-diffusion, engineering and communication, fractional differential and integral equations, many areas of theoretical physics, statistical distribution theory, etc. One of the standard books and most cited book on the topic is the 1978 book of Mathai and Saxena. Since then, the subject has grown a lot, mainly in the fields of applications. Due to popular demand, the authors were requested to upgrade and bring out a revised edition of the 1978 book. It was decided to bring out a new book, mostly dealing with recent applications in statistical distributions, pathway models, nonextensive statistical mechanics, astrophysics problems, fractional calculus, etc. and to make use of the expertise of Hans J. Haubold in astrophysics area also. It was decided to confine the discussion to H-function of one scalar variable only. Matrix variable cases and many variable cases are not discussed in detail, but an insight into these areas is given. When going from one variable to many variables, there is nothing called a unique bivariate or multivariate analogue of a given function. Whatever be the criteria used, there may be many different functions qualified to be bivariate or multivariate analogues of a given univariate function. Some of the bivariate and multivariate H-functions, currently in the literature, are also questioned by many authors.

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