

**Hutton, Jane**

**What does “propensity” add?** (English) [Zbl 1442.62219](#)  
*Stat. Sci.* 31, No. 4, 549-551 (2016).

Summary: In [ibid. 31, No. 4, 521–540 (2016; [Zbl 1442.62221](#))], *N. D. Singpurwalla* addressed the important challenge of modelling a unique individual. He proposes “propensity” as an approach to describing the reliability or life time of “one of a kind”. My view is that mathematical modelling is only possible when we assume that nonunique features provide sufficient information for statistical prediction to be useful. As far as possible, we should test our assumptions. However, contrary to a popular perception of Hume, we always rely on some beliefs.

**MSC:**

[62N05](#) Reliability and life testing

[62A01](#) Foundations and philosophical topics in statistics

[62P30](#) Applications of statistics in engineering and industry; control charts

Cited in 1 Review

**Full Text:** [DOI](#) [Euclid](#)

**References:**

- [1] Clark, S. R. L. (2016). Atheism considered as a Christian sect. *Philosophy*90 277-303.
- [2] Hutton, J. L. (1995). Statistics is essential for professional ethics. *J. Appl. Philos.*12 253-261.
- [3] Pearl, J. (2009). *Causality: Models, Reasoning, and Inference*, 2nd ed. Cambridge Univ. Press, Cambridge. · [Zbl 1188.68291](#)
- [4] Rizopoulos, D. (2012). *Joint Models for Longitudinal and Time-to-Event Data*. Chapman & Hall/CRC, Boca Raton, FL. · [Zbl 1284.62032](#)
- [5] Rogers, J. K. and Hutton, J. L. (2013). Joint modelling of pre-randomisation event counts and multiple post-randomisation survival times with cure rates: Application to data for early epilepsy and single seizures. *J. Appl. Stat.*40 546-562. · [Zbl 07265814](#)

This reference list is based on information provided by the publisher or from digital mathematics libraries. Its items are heuristically matched to zbMATH identifiers and may contain data conversion errors. It attempts to reflect the references listed in the original paper as accurately as possible without claiming the completeness or perfect precision of the matching.