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Two New Zealand pioneer econometricians

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Notes

1. The matrix treatment of correlation and scatter analysis was originally promoted by Frisch (1929).
2. The Guinness book of records and internet list some astonishing recently recorded feats of memory and mental arithmetic of the same genre as those demonstrated by Aitken. Daniel Tammet (an autistic savant) is said to have recited π to 22,514 digits in 5 hours 9 minutes and 24 seconds. (Guinness Book of Records, 1995, p. 26). Colin Coates (a PhD student at Imperial College) recited two 13 digit numbers multiplied together in 70 seconds. (Guinness Book of Records, 1995, p. 26). Coates' writing, is a record for a 13 digit number multiplied by another 13 digit number in 70 seconds. (Guinness Book of Records, 1995, p. 26).
3. The Guinness Book of Records (1995) lists on page 26 that Aitken's article in the Guinness Book of Records (1923).



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Peter C.B. Phillips

This is a solicited article based on the keynote speech delivered by the author at the New Zealand Association of Economists Conference held at Wellington, New Zealand in June 2009.

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