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## A Test-Book on the Method of Least Squares

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By Mansfield Merriman

Rarebooksclub.com, United States, 2012. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 246 x 189 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1911 Excerpt: .of a measurement a unit in length,  $R$  the probable error of the total observed length, and  $\frac{1}{l}$  that observed length. Then (26) reduces to (37)  $R = r\sqrt{l}$  that is, the probable error of a measurement of a line increases with the square root of its length. For example, the value of  $r$  for measurements with an engineer's tape on smooth ground is about 0.005: hence, for a line 100 feet long,  $R$  is 0.05 feet, and for a line 1,000 feet long,  $R$  is 0.16 feet. Since, by (18), weights are inversely as the squares of probable errors, and, by (37), the squares of probable errors are directly as the lengths of lines, it follows that the weights of linear measurements are inversely as their lengths, or (38)  $\frac{1}{l} : \frac{1}{l'} :: l' : l$ . Hence, if the weight of a measurement of a unit...



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