My dear Fieller,

Thanks for your letter. Of course I did not wish to interfere with your arrangements. I was only giving my personal reaction.

I imagine that the discrepancy may well be due to the mission, in one treatment or the other, of some latent assumption. e.g. it would seem to me that the T₁, T₂ treatment would appropriate when x and y are known to be independently distributed, but that your treatment is more general and makes no such assumption. In inductive reasoning generality has not the same meaning as when reasoning is deductive for in the latter we are under no obligation to take into account data which we do not use. Consequently, the more general treatment in a sense includes and supersedes the less general. This, however, is not at all true in inductive reasoning where we ought to expect a different result whenever we ignore any datum of the problem.