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**Jeremy F Entner\*** ([jentner@syr.edu](mailto:jentner@syr.edu)), Syracuse University, 215 Carnegie, Mathematics Department, Syracuse, NY 13244, and **Pinyuen Chen**. *Methods of nonparametric selection of the least dispersed of  $k$  multivariate populations.*

Given  $k$  multivariate populations  $\pi_i = \pi(P_i)$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d, d > 1$ , with absolutely continuous distributions  $P_i$ , defined on random variables  $X_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ , we propose procedures for selecting the "least dispersed" member from a group of  $k$  populations. We define our measure of dispersion in terms of the volume of the smallest regions, based on Tukey's halfspace depth, to contain at least  $p$  probability. (Received September 05, 2012)