REVIEW


James Berger's new textbook is a welcome addition to the small collection of books now used to introduce mathematical statistics at the graduate level. It concentrates on the decision-theoretic approach in general, and on Bayesian decision theory in particular; but it seeks to relate these to classical statistical methods and to introduce the student to the issues that divide Bayesians from nonBayesians. It is a friendly book; it is written in a more chatty style than is customary for graduate-level statistics texts, and it is generous with examples. Overall, it should be much more accessible than Ferguson's [1967] *Mathematical Statistics: A Decision Theoretic Approach*. Its mathematical level is similar to that of Bickel and Doksum's [1977] *Mathematical Statistics*: the student needs a strong background in calculus but need not have studied measure theory. I am looking forward to teaching from the book.

UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS

Glenn Shafer

REFERENCES
