PSYCHOMETRIKA—VOL. 47, NO. 1
MARCH, 1982
REVIEWS

REVIEWS

James O. Berger. *Statistical Decision Theory: Foundations, Concepts, and Methods.* New York: Springer-Verlag, 1980. pp. 427. $24.00.

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

Bickel, P. J. & Doksum, K. A. *Mathematical Statistics: Basic Ideas and Selected Topics.* San Francisco: Holden-Day, 1977.

Ferguson, T. S. *Mathematical Statistics: A Decision Theoretic Approach.* New York: Academic Press, 1967.