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### [The advanced theory of statistics.](#)

Author(s) : [KENDALL, M. G.](#)

Book : [The advanced theory of statistics.](#) 1946 No.2nd Ed pp.vii + 521 pp.

Abstract : This volume completes the first comprehensive attempt which has been made to present the theory of statistics as a formal mathematical study, and the author is commended for the immense pains he has taken to gather so much material from the multiplicity of sources. The volume of work which has been done can be seen in the most useful bibliography of titles, extending over 62 closely printed pages, which the book concludes. Even this is only a selection. The main sections dealt with in the book are (1) the logic of statistical inference, comprising chapters on estimation, confidence intervals and fiducial inference, (2) tests of significance, including the general theory of such tests, (3) regression and multivariate analysis, (4) analysis of variance

of sampling enquiries, and (5) the study of time-series.

The practical statistical worker who is not a professional mathematician will find part hard reading. For the rest he will be concerned to supplement his knowledge of statistical tests gleaned from the first volume by the more advanced methods for two and more variables, and in particular regression analysis. In this connection many worked examples will be of very great assistance to him. The biologist will turn with interest to the sections on analysis of variance and experimental design which have been expounded many times, generally from the non-mathematical point of view, but it is important to keep in mind the assumptions behind the common tests. It is valuable, therefore, to have a mathematical exposition. This proceeds logically from special cases of one, two and three-way classifications to the general  $n$ -way classification, followed by examples illustrating the use of the  $z$  test and the transformation method. The principle of randomization then leads up to the practical designs found, for example, in agricultural field experimentation. In a following chapter, unequal plot sizes are dealt with, followed by the missing plot technique and then by a discussion of the relation between these methods and regression analysis; finally the analysis of covariance is expounded. The design of experiments is considered briefly in a separate chapter, which also hints at the various complexities being met in enquiries generally. J. W.

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