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Recent Developments in Information and Decision Processes by Robert E. Machol; Paul

Gray

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unemployment, as well as to those who would like to fill out their knowledge of what has occurred in this field in various parts of the world.

Junta de Planificación, Quito, Ecuador (and the University of Singapore)

ANTHONY BOTTOMLEY

Recent Developments in Information and Decision Processes. Edited by Robert E. Machol and Paul Gray. New York: The Macmillan Company. 1962. x+197 pp. \$8.00.

This BOOK constitutes the proceedings of the April, 1961 session of a continuing series of symposia on Information and Decision Processes held at Purdue University. The book *Information and Decision Processes* (1960), edited by Machol, reports the preceding session. This volume is dedicated to the memory of Professor Harry H. Goode who died shortly before the conference. His paper on deferred decision theory was completed by his colleagues at the University of Michigan.

Savage lectures on behalf of personal probability and Bayesian statistics. One notices quite a change in his thinking from 1954. Among other things, Savage now argues that his work on the foundations should have dramatic consequences for statistical practice. Raiffa gives a progress report on research into "applied" Bayesian statistics going on at the Harvard Business School.

Chung studies the ergodic theoretic implications of the theorem of McMillan, which theorem is used in the proof of Shannon's coding theorem. Tribus relates Jaynes' Principle of Minimum Prejudice (maximum entropy) to the problem of reliability estimation. Wiener discusses the mathematics of self-organizing systems and warns that computermade decisions may be dangerous.

Moriguti applies the theory of Markov chains to the problem of numerical convergence with random rounding. In two papers, Robbins and Samuel discuss the compound decision problem; asymptotic properties of the decision function are presented.

Bellman reviews the basic concepts of dynamic programming. Diamond, Koopmans, and Williamson study the implications for intertemporal behavior of five axioms imposed upon a utility function. It is found that the axioms imply preference for benefits in the immediate future over equal benefits more distant in time. Dunham, Fridshal, and North explore the possibilities of machine generation of mathematical theorems in terms of truth-functional operations; the Herbrand expansion can extend the technique to certain propositions based upon the first-order predicate logic.

The contributions to this symposium are from distinguished researchers from diverse fields. However, much of the material is either review or exploration.

Stanford University KARL SHELL

Linear Programming. By G. HADLEY. Addison Wesley: Reading, Mass. 1962. vii + 520 pp. \$9.75.

What had Shakespeare to say about linear programming? Here you will find the answer. The epigraph for Chapter 5 of this new textbook in linear programming is, "Once more unto the breach, dear friends, once more" (Shakespeare, Henry V, and Hadley, p. 149).