

been responsible for most of the really radical innovations that have been made in the past. Finally, Roger More argues for a closer relationship between the designers and users of CAD/CAM.

If anybody really knows how to get it right, they're not saying - not in this volume, anyway. But what we do have here is a number of pointers to issues that need attention (and the pitfalls that await those who fail to attend to them), together with the outlines of what may prove to be viable approaches to some of those issues. Something useful to be going on with, in fact.

J.F. MILES

**Network Analysis Techniques**

S.K. BHATNAGAR

Wiley, Chichester, 1986. 264 pp. £24.25

ISBN 470 27395 X

New books on network planning are rare these days, and the subject is hardly an exciting, vital one. The main books in use in universities, polytechnics and industry were first written in the 60s, and so the most obvious question to ask of this book is: how does it differ from established books, such as Battersby, Lockyer and Moder, Phillips and Davis? The coverage of material is virtually the same as existing books, with chapters devoted to bar charts, arrow diagrams, precedence diagrams, time analysis, resource planning, generalized networks and the use of computers. Indeed, the book seems curiously stuck in the 60s, with hardly any attempt made to cover the few advances that have arisen since then. Even the discussion of the application of computers to network planning fails to mention the impact that cheap micros and software are making on the application of formal methods of planning.

The development is slow and thorough - painfully so, and bordering on the pedantic in parts.

A good feature is that there are lots of worked examples, which makes the text particularly useful for self-tuition. The author is Chief Engineer on the North East Frontier Railway in India, and so the book includes plenty of problems based on railways. The book has been written and printed in India, and this may perhaps explain why the paper quality is poor, and why definite and indefinite articles are frequently discarded in the text. Some readers may find this irritating.

To sum up, the book gives a sound and thorough coverage of network planning techniques but can hardly be said to be better or more up-to-date than the established books written in the 60s.

E. RITCHIE

**Applied Statistics. A Handbook of BMDP Analyses**

E.J. SNELL

Chapman and Hall, London, 1987. ix + 171 pp. £7.95

ISBN 0 412 28410 3

In 1981, Applied Statistics: Principles and Examples by Sir David Cox and Joyce Snell, hereafter AS81, was published. It rapidly became and remains required reading for all serious students of statistics: statistics, that is, in the sense of data analysis. There can be few practical data analysis courses in higher education for which it is not the set text or, at least, highly recommended reading. AS81 is an outstanding book. In only 45 pages of general discussion and a little over 100 pages of case studies, 24 in all, Cox and Snell succeed in conveying the critical thought,