

**BOOK REVIEW**

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BROCKWELL P.J. & DAVIS R.A.: ITSM: AN INTERACTIVE TIME SERIES MODELLING PACKAGE FOR THE PC. Springer-Verlag, Berlin-Heidelberg, 1991, ix + 104 pp., one 3½" and two 5¼" diskettes. ISBN 3-540-97482-2. Softcover. DM 98.-.

Almost any entomologist who is collecting field data on population dynamics – "time series" – needs an easy means of analysing the results. Most of the books that deal with time series analysis look very unfriendly to a non-mathematician and are very demanding in terms of the effort required to learn the methods. Although the mathematics is indeed complicated, there are now packages for non-specialists. The book by Brockwell and Davis is one of them. It is designed to be a practical guide to

the use of programs included on diskettes, which accompany the book.

A detailed step-by-step explanation is given of the many problems that one is likely to be faced with when undertaking a time series analysis. The PEST program enables one to model and analyse data on one species, a "univariate time series", and make forecasts based on these analyses, the SPEC program permits the analysis of one or two species dynamics and other packages allow exponential or moving average smoothing and the building of autoregressive models.

Hardware requirements: IBM PC (386 or higher for a good speed recommended), at least 540 K of RAM available for applications, MS DOS.

*P. Kindlmann*