STATISTICAL METHODS FOR GEOGRAPHY: A STUDENT'S GUIDE, By
Peter A. Rogerson. Los Angeles: Sage publications (3rd edition), 2010.

It should be stated on the outset: this is an excellent textbook recommended for
all geographers, students and teachers alike. The book excels in many aspects: its
content is rich and well balanced, its clarity is superb, and it is replete with examples
and exercises. The book is user-friendly to students who are interested in under-
standing the application of statistical tests and in properly interpreting the results,
rather than in delving in the mathematics involved.

The copy reviewed here is the third and expanded edition of the first one pub-
lished in 2001. According to the author, the book is targeted "to provide undergrad-
uate and beginning graduate students with the background and foundation that is
necessary to be prepared for spatial analysis". In my view this is an understatement;
the book indeed lays very good foundation for more complex methods of spatial
analysis. However, for most graduate students and even for many researchers, the
methods covered in this book supply essential tools for the development of their
theses and research.

Judging the book by its contents, it is quite an achievement to include such a
wealth of topics in a volume of less than 350 pages (including appendices with
statistical tables, mathematical notations and extensions, a rich bibliography, and
an index). The book starts with basic statistics for beginners, including not only de-
scriptive statistics but also probability distributions and sampling methods. It then
gradually incorporates more advanced topics of inferential statistics and hypotheses
testing methods of parametric and non-parametric characteristics. Following the
introduction of the common non-parametric statistics of t-test and ANOVA the
author pays due attention to regression methods, including Logistic Regression and
the complexity derived from the incorporation of spatial aspects as part of the analy-
sis. The final chapter introduces the two popular data reduction methods of factor
and cluster analyses.

Alongside this rich content, the book exposes the reader to many tests now avail-
able in the commonly used statistical packages such as SPSS or STATISTICA. A
partial list of these tests includes the Kolmogorov-Smirnov test for normal distribu-
tion, the Kruskal-Valis test of the means of ranked data, Levene's test for homogene-
ity of variance, and Moran's I for testing spatial autocorrelation.

As expected from a book designed as a guide to students of geography, the book
covers methods of spatial analysis and it is richly sprinkled with examples related
to topics usually handled by geographers. Each chapter is accompanied by well
worked-out examples using SPSS 16.0 for Windows. These examples are very use-
ful for SPSS users. However, they are of a lesser help to users of other statistical
packages. Another possible disadvantage is the absence of a special section for the
popular chi-square test. Instead, the presentation of this test is introduced as an aux-

iliary method for the performance of other assignments. Nevertheless, these minor drawbacks do not detract from the high quality of this textbook as a superb guide to students and researchers alike.

Shaul Krakover
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

RURAL ARAB DEMOGRAPHY AND EARLY JEWISH SETTLEMENT IN PALESTINE: DISTRIBUTION AND POPULATION DENSITY DURING THE LATE OTTOMAN AND EARLY MANDATE PERIODS, by David Grossman. New Brunswick, NJ: Transaction Publishers, 2010.

This book tackles an important issue in recent studies of the Land of Israel—its demographic state on the eve of modern Jewish settlement in Palestine in the late 1880s and changes caused by this process and other factors. In the background of this question stands the policy of the British Mandate regarding Jewish immigration and settlement in Palestine during the 1930s and 1940s. This issue has generated a heated public discussion in recent decades, which is reviewed by Grossman in detail, before turning to his own analysis. He adopts a bottom-top approach, whereby results of a multitude of local analyses are integrated into a comprehensive scene. Using novel methods from human geography, demography and economics this analysis relies on close to 400 sources spanning over 150 years.

The book has 7 chapters. The first two provide the necessary background. Chapter 1 describes the economic, social, political and ecological conditions of the Arab settlement system in Palestine in the second half of the 19th century. It deals primarily with the condition of this rural agrarian farming system and its exposure to the economic growth and capitalism of the West. It thus puts under question the common view that Zionist settlers are responsible for the introduction of these processes.

The second chapter portrays the migration to and settlement of various ethnic groups in Palestine during the 19th century. Grossman puts together the puzzle based on old and new sources. The major insight gained is that, contrary to accepted wisdom, Arab migration began before the mid-19th century and accelerated in its second half. This acceleration originated to a major degree in Ottoman development policy of the empire, including the Land Law of 1858, which predated the establishment of the first Jewish colonies during the 1880s. The latter had an impact only in accelerating Arab migration but shared this impact with other factors. Grossman's conclusion is that due to this process Jewish colonies were therefore allocated by the Ottomans with only spatially and economically marginal lands.

The next chapters comprise the main analytical effort of the book, aimed at examining the issue of whether on not Palestine was already populated prior to the 1st