The Foundations of Statistical Inference

A Discussion

Opened by Professor L. J. Savage
at a meeting of the Joint Statistics Seminar,
Birkbeck and Imperial Colleges,
in the University of London

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Preface

When it became known that Professor L. J. Savage was visiting London in the summer of 1959 and was willing to speak on the applications of subjective probability to statistics, it was arranged that he should address the Joint Statistics Seminar of Birkbeck and Imperial Colleges. The present monograph is based on papers and discussion at that meeting which took place at Birkbeck College on July 27th and 28th.

The monograph is in three parts. Part I is a somewhat expanded form of Professor Savage's opening lecture. Part II gives five short invited contributions that had been prepared in advance of Professor Savage's lecture. A sixth contribution by Professor D. V. Lindley is not reproduced here, but has appeared in expanded form as a paper in the *Proceedings of the Fourth Berkeley Symposium*. The discussion recorded in Part III of the monograph is largely concerned with the issues raised in Professor Savage's lecture. In editing, the order in which the discussion took place has been slightly rearranged and one or two additional statements have been inserted.