The disadvantage of the compromise, especially in the case of [**R**], is that the supporting text is extremely condensed and unmotivated—hence really inaccessible. A teacher who wished to present a typical entry would require a year of preparation to plan the introduction of preparatory material. This is compounded in [**R**] by the lack of references. As one example: "A Fréchet space which is not distinguished", the excellent index tells us what the words mean. The construction is self-contained and very difficult with no reference to author or other source. This is the last item in [**4**] where also a reference is given—it would have been better for this information to be in [**R**]. (The easier construction of a nondistinguished l.c. space is in [**9**].) The reviewer is listed twice on p. 65 in the disguise of the letter *W*. Alas his chance for immortality in connection with *W*-barrelled spaces has been annulled by Steve Saxon's result (not in [**R**]) that *W*-barrelled is equivalent to second category [**9**, #5-2-301].

The index should be emended: Echelon space 61; Normal topology 51.

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R. The subject of this review.

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Convexity theory and its applications in functional analysis, by L. Asimow and A. J. Ellis, Academic Press, London, v + 266 pp., $56.00. ISBN 0-1206-5340-0

This book focuses on the role of compact convex sets in functional analysis. We will begin this review by trying to indicate why this role has been an important one and by giving a brief description of the historical evolution of research in this area. We will then turn to commenting directly on the contents and contribution of the book under review.

One reason for the central role of compact convex sets in functional analysis is their ubiquity—as evidenced by the Banach-Alaoglu theorem that the unit ball of the dual space of a Banach space is weak*-compact. Compact convex sets play a key role, for example, in the fields of function algebras, group