

and a running-time estimate (in terms of problem parameters and computing speed).

As the foregoing indicates, this reviewer is impressed with the authors' efforts to make the book a work of practical value, and the success of those efforts is indicated by the use students have made of it. Although the book does not nearly cover all types of problems that are applicable to computer solution, it includes so many common ones, as well as some uncommon ones, that it is recommended as a useful and convenient reference.

Gaseous Electronics. Transactions of Second All-Union Conf. (Moscow, Oct. 1958). Bulletin of the USSR Academy of Sciences, Physical Series, Vol. 23, No. 8, 1959. Transl. from Russian. 117 pp. Columbia Technical Translations, White Plains, N. Y., 1960. \$20.00. Reviewed by Sanborn C. Brown, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

FOLLOWING closely on the heels of the Second United Nations Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy, held in Geneva, in September 1958, the Academy of Sciences of the USSR held a gaseous electronics conference in Moscow, primarily for Russian physicists working in this field, although a few foreign visitors were invited to attend.

Columbia Technical Translations have issued an English version of the *Transactions* as brought together by the Soviet Academy. It is interesting to note that many of the papers which were given at the Conference were not included in these official *Transactions*. Only those papers which were announced in the original program for the conference were carried. The conference itself did not follow the program at all closely, so that many of the papers which are printed in the *Transactions* were not given, and many of the papers which were given are not contained in the *Transactions*. Interestingly enough my own paper, which I presented as an invited guest, was not announced in the original program but was nevertheless published in its Russian version in *Radiotekhnika i Elektronika*, although without reference to the fact that it was presented to this conference. This was true of a number of other authors, both from the East and from the West, since the papers from the Satellite countries and East Germany were also published separately. Therefore, to a large extent these *Transactions* supplement the presented papers which have been published separately in the Russian journals.

This particular bulletin is of very high quality. One half the papers presented in this collection are high-frequency gas-discharge studies and oscillations of gas-discharge plasmas. Most of the rest of them have to do with diffusion phenomena, excitation functions, charge-transfer phenomena, and spectroscopy. Although some of the papers presented at the conference dealt with more practical applications of gaseous electronics, nothing but the very fundamental studies are included in this bulletin.

mathematical physicist

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