



If your work demands quality data with minimum time and effort, see what the GEOS 8040/7010 System can do for you. This moderately-priced system offers the high standards of performance and utility required for *effective application* resolution nuclear spectroscopy.

Model 7010

is a digital processing, display, and input/output unit with a 1024 channel parallel BCD memory of 10^6 count capacity. It features a built-in cathode-ray-tube display, yet occupies less than 2 cu. ft. A square flat-faced cathode ray tube measuring 3" x 3" provides the useful viewing area of a round 5" cathode ray tube. PLUS: PHA and Multiscaling modes, direct compatibility with most commonly used read-in/readout devices, and continuous channel band selection for display expansion, readout and read-in.

For more information write or phone:
GEOS SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY DIVISION
Geoscience Instruments Corp., Hamden, Conn. 06518
phone: 203/288-5651. Request Data File 78C

Model 8040

is a compact 4096 channel analog-to-digital converter with a 50MHz digitizing rate. It's packaged in an AEC standard NIM configuration of three module widths to enable bin mounting with amplifiers and other instrument modules. The 8040 is directly compatible with the GEOS 4096 Channel Digital Processor and Two-Parameter Input/Display Unit. Stability, linearity and channel profile are excellent, of course.



LETTERS

footnote of the book's conclusion. The footnote gives a totally incorrect interpretation of the physical meaning of P -invariance.

ROBERT G. SACHS
The Enrico Fermi Institute

Citing the literature

In his letter (PHYSICS TODAY, Oct. 1969, page 11) Peter Borchers calls attention to the problem of referring to unpublished work and notes that such references waste the reader's time. I would add that this is but one instance of the difficulties imposed upon the reader by the method of citing references in use by the journals that he mentions (*The Physical Review*, *Physical Review Letters*, and *Journal of Applied Physics*).

A much preferable way of dealing with all references is to cite them by author and date of publication and to list them alphabetically at the end of the paper. Most scientists, reading a paper in a field with which they are familiar, will recognize many papers by authors and date and will not need to interrupt their reading to look up each reference. This method can also lead to an improved writing style, because it is natural to use the authors being cited as the subject of an active verb: for example, "Smith and Jones (1965) have measured ..."

Another dividend is that it is easy, by looking at the alphabetized bibliography, to find out if any particular reference has been included or omitted in a paper. This method of citing references is, of course, widely used in US astronomical literature (for example, *Astrophysical J*, *Astronomical J*).

By adopting the policy of citing papers by author and date, scientific journals improve their readability. The problem noted by Borchers is easily solved within this framework by references in the text of the three following forms: (Smith and Jones, to be published); (Smith and Jones, in preparation); and (Smith and Jones, private communication).

DAVID MORRISON
University of Hawaii

Has science overwhelmed society?

I should like to protest the superficial and self-serving optimism of your guest editorial in the December issue, entitled "Is Your Research Moral?" I