

intuitively simple, their precise formulation and justification tend to be cumbersome. The authors have, however, succeeded in finding a middle ground showing us both precision and intuition, the science and the art. This book is clearly the best available introduction to the subject and can be examined with profit by anyone concerned with complicated particle-transport problems.

GEORGE BELL
Theoretical Division
Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory

Mechanics

By Wallace Arthur, Saul K. Fenster
665 pp. Holt, Rinehart and Winston,
New York, 1969. \$14.95

The prevalent trend to upgrade undergraduate physics courses has resulted in the publication of high-level, mathematically sophisticated undergraduate physics texts. Unquestionably not all students have the proper mathematical sophistication to take full advantage of these newer texts.

This book does not follow the trend. It represents Newtonian mechanics at a more traditional intermediate level. It appears to be addressed to students who are not as proficient in mathematical manipulations as we would like them to be. To help such students, the authors, Wallace Arthur and Saul K. Fenster, have retained a considerable number of intermediate mathematical steps in the solution of problems and in the derivation of pertinent results. Regrettably, from the reviewer's point of view, this help is not coupled with a sufficient repeated stress on the physical principles that frequently provide the motivation for the mathematical techniques. For example, the text repeatedly utilizes the work-energy theorem without any mention of it until the very end of the problem under discussion, when the results are interpreted as attesting the work-energy theorem.

The text begins with a chapter on vector algebra and vector calculus, followed by eight chapters on the kinematics and the dynamics of particle motion. Sufficient stress is given to the very important topics of simple harmonic motion and the central force-field motion of a particle. The reviewer was irked by the treatment of Newton's first law of motion as a special case of the second law. On the

whole, however, the material in this first half of the text is clearly presented and easy to follow.

Chapter 10 provides a brief and elementary introduction into relativistic mechanics. It is marred by a confusing derivation of the dependence of the relativistic mass of a particle on its speed. Chapter 11, on the dynamics of a system of particles, is followed by a chapter on rigid-body motion that includes a discussion of the inherently difficult topics of the motion of a top and the torque-free motion of rigid body. Chapter 13 is a long chapter titled "Mechanics of Deformable Continua." In 85 pages this chapter treats such diverse topics as stress and strain, the bending of beams, vibrating strings and vibrating beams, fluid statics, static fluid flow, viscous fluid flow and sound waves in fluids. It is one of the more formidable chapters in which Fenster's engineering background is clearly evident. The text concludes with a chapter on Lagrange's equations of motion. They are derived from Newton's equations through use of the principle of virtual work.

In summary, what we have here is a generally clear, traditional mechanics text. Although it is not this reviewer's cup of tea, it may appeal to the mathematically weak student to whom this text appears to be directed.

WALTER HAUSER
Professor of Physics
Northeastern University

A Discussion on the Origin And Treatment of Noise in Industrial Environments

E. J. Richards, ed.
(Philosophical Transactions of The Royal Society of London, Series A: Mathematical and Physical Sciences, Vol. 263.) 480 pp. Royal Society, London, 1968. \$14.00

We may not all agree with Macbeth that "life is a tale told by an idiot," but when the Scottish king goes on to describe life as "full of sound and fury," most of us are perfectly willing to acquiesce.

During the past decade a great many conferences have been held on various aspects of the noise problem. This book is the report of the proceedings of such a conference held in the spring of 1967 under the joint auspices of the Royal Society of London and the British Acoustical Society. The

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A VOLUME IN OPTICAL PHYSICS AND ENGINEERING*

Proceedings of a NATO Advanced Study Institute, held in Delft, Netherlands, August 5-23, 1968

Edited by S. S. Mitra and S. Nudelman

Department of Electrical Engineering, University of Rhode Island

This book provides an excellent account of recent studies relating far-infrared radiation to properties of solids. Because it both indicates the scope of the subject and examines important areas in depth, it serves as an invaluable source book for researchers and graduate students in the field of optical physics.

Careful organization and a thorough treatment of material further insure its usefulness. The first six chapters present experimental considerations for recording measurements in the far-infrared spectral region, while they also provide a helpful introduction to the subsequent chapters which deal with theoretical areas in the study of far-infrared properties of solids. Important reference material is included in the body of the work.

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MAGNETIC RESONANCE

Proceedings of the International Symposium on Electron and Nuclear Magnetic Resonance held in Melbourne, August 1969

Edited by C. K. Coogan, Norman S. Ham, and S. N. Stuart

Division of Chemical Physics, CSIRO Chemical Research Laboratories, Clayton, Victoria

and J. R. Pilbrow and G. V. H. Wilson
Department of Physics, Monash University, Clayton, Victoria

This volume does not deal primarily with routine applications; instead, it presents important recent work on the physical aspects of resonance phenomena and advanced theoretical discussion. As a result, it places the reader at the frontiers of research in such areas as high-resolution nuclear magnetic resonance, nuclear quadrupole resonance, wide-line NMR, and the electron spin resonance of radicals and solids.

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