than this if his knowledge is to have any value. There are plenty of simple quantitative examples intended to make sure that the mechanics is understood, but they are less interesting than they might have been because there is no indication whether the data are realistic, and if so whether they are typical of good or of mediocre performances. In spite of these examples, readers who know little physics are likely to be confused by the authors' sloppy use of units.

The final section of the book is about the analysis of movement from direct observation and from film. A few film sequences of first-class athletes are discussed qualitatively. More advanced techniques such as electromyography and the use of force transducers are described briefly.

The authors' knowledge of physiology appears to be poor. For instance, they imply that the efficiency of conversion of chemical energy from food to mechanical work by the human body is likely to be 60-70%. It is well established that the maximum efficiency actually attainable under the most favourable circumstances is about 25%. They also show no awareness of the role of tendon elasticity in saving energy by elastic storage.

Readers who have a good grasp of elementary mechanics will probably be infuriated by this book. Those who have not may be confused by it.

R. McNeill Alexander University of Leeds Leeds, UK

An Introduction to Electromagnetic Theory

P. C. Clemmow 297 pp. Cambridge U. P., New York, 1973. \$16.50 hardcover, \$6.95 paperback

In his preface, P. C. Clemmow, lecturer in theoretical electrodynamics and radio at the University of Cambridge, claims that his book gives reasonable coverage of first and possibly secondyear university work in an "introductory text that is comparatively short but fully explanatory." This is not the case. An Introduction to Electromagnetic Theory is neither fully explanatory nor geared to beginning physics students. It is an intermediate-advanced undergraduate textbook for a course in electromagnetism for physics majors, assuming that they have completed a first course of the Halliday-Resnick type, and also assuming that they have reasonable competence in vector calcu-

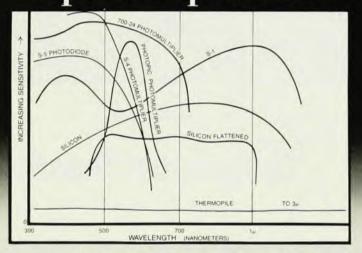
As in any textbook on classical electromagnetism, the topics covered are admittedly fairly conventional. The

book, divided into six chapters, has topics grouped in a somewhat different format, supposedly to emphasize the fundamental unity of the theory. Chapter 1 is a general introduction and discussion of both the electric and the magnetic field. Chapter 2 discusses all four Maxwell equations plus the wave solution. Chapters 3 and 4 are deeper developments of electrostatics and magnetostatics, and an introduction to circuit theory. Chapter 5 describes the properties of electromagnetic waves, waveguides, and radiation fields and chapter 6 discusses the electromagnetic properties of media.

Clemmow does not succeed in his arrangement and presentation of topics. The student does not get a better feel for the underlying unity of electromagnetism; in fact it is quite the contrary. The book flows so poorly and is so tedious to read that the student is left quite unstimulated and quite unsatisfied. There are some nice derivations of certain topics, such as the retarded solution of the wave equation and the skin effect, but these are overshadowed by the general heaviness of the text and the absence of physical insight in many cases.

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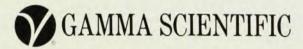
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of each chapter range from very challenging to extremely difficult. This is an unsatisfactory spread for a standard undergraduate text. The author appears here as an adversary to the student, rather than as an educator.

Clemmow's book is a throwback to the times when many physics textbooks were very heavy, unclear, and unsatisfying to read. This book is an example of what the Feynman series, the Berkeley series, and many intermediate and advanced contemporary textbooks are trying to replace.

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