physicist. I rewarded her kind assistance in preparing this review by a free copy of the book, and it is to her joy that I refer.) I would even recommend it to the aforementioned student, should I fail to change his intentions.

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Geomagnetic Diagnosis of the Magnetosphere (Physics and Chemistry in Space, Volume 9)

A. Nishida

256 pp. Springer-Verlag, New York, 1978. \$38.50

The interaction between a magnetized celestial body and a magnetized plasma flow is one of the basic phenomena in cosmic electrodynamics. This subject has evolved from a study of geomagnetic disturbances, namely a study of Earth's magnetic field and the solar wind, which is one of the important subjects in the field of solar-terrestrial physics. In fact, many of the modern concepts, such as the magnetosphere and magnetospheric substorms, have evolved on the basis of a study of geomagnetic disturbances.

There is no doubt that satellites and space-probe observations of our electromagnetic environment have drastically improved our understanding of physical processes involved in the interaction between Earth's magnetic field and the solar wind. However, for a quantitative understanding of this interaction, Earth is still the most important platform for the observations among all "satellites." This is partly because most magnetospheric phenomena manifest themselves in the polar region along magnetic field lines, and thus one can infer the magnetospheric phenomena by setting up networks of observatories.

Among various instruments used in this study, a ground-based magnetometer is one of the oldest and an extensive network of magnetic observatories has been operating for many years. Their geomagnetic observations are widely used in monitoring or diagnosing magnetospheric conditions. It is very appropriate that the "Physics and Chemistry in Space" series has a comprehensive review of this subject. Atsushi Nishida is certainly one of the most appropriate choices to take on this task, since he has considerable experience in the subject.

The author describes clearly and concisely how we use geomagnetic variations on Earth's surface and in space (satellite observations) as a diagnostic tool in understanding various processes in the magnetosphere. A diagnostic tool would, of course, not be reliable unless one fully understands how a specific magnetospheric phenomenon manifests itself as a specific type of geomagnetic variation in

the magnetosphere and on the ground. At the present time, some of the identifications of the manifestation are still controversial. In such cases, the author presents his own view and those of others.

For the readers of PHYSICS TODAY, the major point of this book would be to show how complicated the seemingly simple interaction between a magnetized celestial body and a magnetized plasma flow is—and how far magnetospheric physics has come in understanding this interaction.

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Collective Ion Acceleration. C. L. Olson, U. Schumacher. 238 pp. Springer-Verlag, New York, 1978. \$34.00

Cosmic Rays and Particle Physics-1978 (Proc. of a conf. at the Bartol Research Foundation, Newark, Del., October 1978). T. K. Gaisser, ed. 524 pp. American Inst. of Physics, New York, 1979. \$23.50

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Alkali Halide Vapors: Structure, Spectra, and Reaction Dynamics. P. Davidovits, D. L. McFadden, eds. 542 pp. Academic, New York, 1979. \$55.00

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Excited States in Quantum Chemistry (Proc. of the NATO Advanced Study Institute, Kos, Greece, June, 1978). C. A. Nicolaides, D. R. Beck, eds. 585 pp. Reidel, Dordrecht, The Netherlands, (US dist.: Kluwer Boston, Hingham, Mass.), 1978. \$59.00

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Fluids and Plasmas

Sixth International Conference on Numerical Methods in Fluid Dynamics (Proc. of a conf., Tbilisi, USSR, June 1978). H. Cabannes, M. Holt, V. V. Rusanov, eds. 628 pp. Springer-Verlag, New York, 1979. \$27.00

Plasma Transport, Heating and MHD Theory (Proc. of a workshop, Varenna, Italy, September 1977). T. Stringer, R. Pozzoli, E. Sindoni, J. P. Carnihan, G. G. Leotta, eds. 440 pp. Pergamon, Elmsford, N.Y. 1979. \$44.00

Theory of Magnetically Confined Plasmas (Proc. of a course, Varenna, Italy, September 1977). B. Coppi, T. Stringer, R. Pozzoli, E. Sindoni, J. P. Carnihan, G. G. Leotta, eds. 454 pp. Pergamon, Elmsford, N.Y., 1979. \$50.00

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