

cises are paper and pencil, a ruler, protractor, set square and two drawing compasses. The mathematical skills required include algebra, geometry, trigonometry, logarithms and a knowledge of graphing. Indeed, the author has taken a graphical approach throughout. Solutions are portrayed in the back of the book. Appropriate formulae are given in each exercise, but not always derived or justified, and since the data come already provided, the reader is simply left to the mechanical tasks of plugging in, cranking out and plotting.

While the level of mathematical

knowledge needed to use the book is hardly advanced, it might well prove a deterrent for many students in introductory astronomy courses for non-science majors. The book may prove somewhat useful, however, in a number of other situations:

► as a complement to lecture notes or a standard text in an introductory astronomy course for undergraduates majoring in astronomy;

► in a similar context for above-average high-school students who are taking an elective in astronomy or studying astronomy as part of a physics or earth-

science curriculum;

► as a useful source of chalkboard examples, homework exercises or special projects in either of the above situations; and

► for the armchair astronomy enthusiast who enjoys paper-and-pencil exercises.

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Corrections

The caption accompanying the photograph of Karl Jansky's antenna in the November issue (page 58) was in error. Grote Reber of Bothwell, Tasmania, has informed PHYSICS TODAY that Jansky's apparatus was not a comb but a Bruce antenna.

The bibliographic data listed for the McGraw-Hill *Encyclopedia of Ocean and Atmospheric Sciences* in the January issue (page 83) was incorrect. It should have read: McGraw-Hill *Encyclopedia of Ocean and Atmospheric Sciences* S. P. Parker, ed. 580 pp. McGraw-Hill, New York, 1980. \$34.50

new books

Particles, Nuclei and High-Energy Physics

Elementary Particle Physics: An Introduction. D. C. Cheng, G. K. O'Neill. 431 pp. Addison-Wesley, Reading, Mass., 1979. \$29.50

Perspectives of Fundamental Physics (Proc. of a conf., Rome, September 1978). C. Schaerf. 475 pp. Harwood, New York, 1979. \$40.75

Quantum Radiation of Radioactive Nucleides: A Data Handbook. N. G. Gusev, P. P. Dmitriev. 488 pp. Pergamon, New York, 1979. \$100.00

Electron-Positron Interactions. H. Wiik, G. Wolf. 265pp. Springer, New York, 1979. \$34.80

Atomic, Molecular and Chemical Physics

The Permutation Group in Physics and Chemistry. (Proc. of a symp., Bielefeld, Fed. Rep. Germany, July 1978). J. Hinze, ed. 236 pp. Springer, New York, 1979. \$14.00

Advances in Chemical Physics, Vol. 15. I. Prigogine, S. A. Rice, eds. 504 pp. Wiley-Interscience, New York, 1979. \$42.50

The Transfer of Molecular Energies by Collision: Recent Quantum Treatments. F. A. Gianturco. 335 pp. Springer, New York, 1979. \$19.80

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