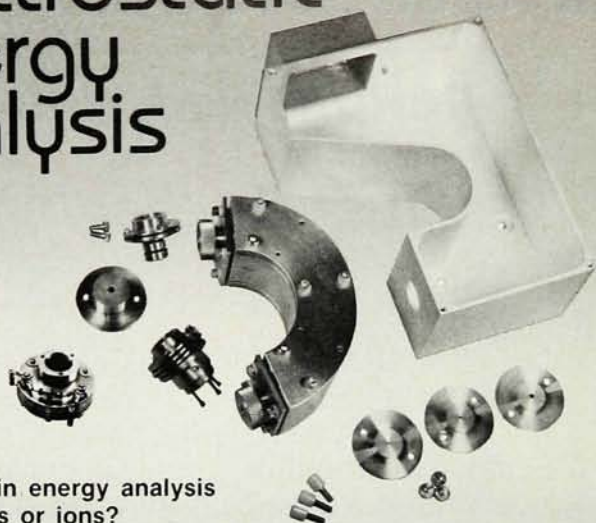


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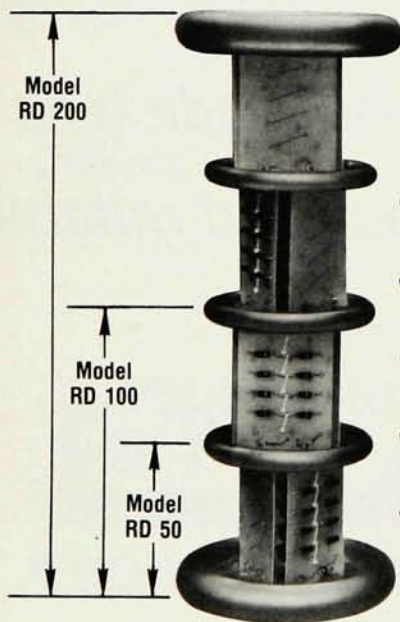
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letters

ment he received. I share Klotz's admiration for John Paul II in every respect but I also think that Ortega's statement is again applicable—Galileo was himself and his circumstance. It seems to me that to be strictly fair one should visualize the entire picture when one talks about Galileo and not just point to the unfair trial that he suffered.

I firmly believe that Galileo was, in a way, the "intellectual heir" of two great Catholic priest-scientists: the German Albertus Magnus and the less well-known Spanish Dominican friar Domingo de Soto. It is generally agreed^{2,3} that Domingo de Soto proved the law of falling bodies over half a century before Galileo started his academic career. Galileo obtained this information from manuscripts prepared³ by four Jesuit priests, professors at the Collegio Romano (today called the Universidad Gregoriana).

It is rather unfortunate that very few people even in the scientific field study in depth this famous question, but many find it easy to attack a particular religious sect or its representative.

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10/85

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The refereeing process

I wish to suggest a change in practice with regard to the refereeing of scientific papers—a change that, for once, seeks better treatment for the referee rather than for the author.

It is very frustrating, after putting substantial work in on a paper and making constructive suggestions for improvement, to hear no more. If the authors accept my suggestions and make modifications, I would like to know it. If they reject them, I would like to see their counter arguments. At the very least, I think it should be standard practice to send each referee a copy of the paper in the form that will be published or a reprint of the published paper.

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