Notes and News

Announcements and other items of crystallographic interest will be published under this heading at the discretion of the Editorial Board. The notes (in duplicate) should be sent to the Executive Secretary of the International Union of Crystallography (J. N. King, International Union of Crystallography, 13 White Friars, Chester CH1 1NZ, England).

Molecular Structure and Dimensions

The International Union of Crystallography and the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre announce the publication of a new volume in this series, Volume 6, entitled Bibliography 1973–74, Organic and Organometallic Crystal Structures. This volume covers the literature till mid 1974 for the principal journals and contains references to over 2000 structure determinations. Entries are arranged in 86 chemical classes and cover organic compounds, complexes and organometallic compounds. The cumulative indexes, which go back to 1935, give references to a total of about 12000 entries.

The price of the new volume is 70 Netherlands guilders (about U.S. $28 at current rates of exchange). Personal copies may be purchased at a reduced price of 50 Netherlands guilders (about $20). Copies are available directly from Oosthoek, Scheltema & Holkema, Emmalaan 27, Utrecht, The Netherlands. Alternatively, orders may be placed with Polycrystal Book Service, P.O. Box 11567, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15238, U.S.A. or with any bookseller. Standing orders may be placed direct with the publishers, which will ensure the earliest possible despatch of subsequent volumes when they are published. Orders may also be placed for the earlier bibliographic volumes and for the numerical data volume A1, Interatomic Distances 1960–1965, Organic and Organometallic Crystal Structures. A further numerical data volume for 1966–69 is in preparation.

Travel fellowships

COSTED, the Committee on Science and Technology in Developing Countries of the International Council of Scientific Unions, announces Travel Fellowships for scientists from developing countries to attend scientific meetings in countries abroad. The travel fellowships will cover the round-trip fare only and will not cover maintenance or break-of-journey and other expenses incurred at the scientific meeting. 'Scientific meetings' include scientific conferences, symposia, projects and training programmes located in a country other than the candidate's own. The duration of the programme should not exceed three months.

Eligibility: Candidates applying for these fellowships should be less than 35 years of age and must be nationals of a developing country in one of the following regions: Mid-American Mainland, the Caribbean, Latin America, Africa, the Arab States, West Asia, South Asia, South East Asia, the Far East and Oceania. The candidate should already have received acceptance for participation at the scientific meeting.

Applications: Candidates should apply to: The Scientific Secretary, COSTED Secretariat, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore-560012, India. The application must include: (i) Biographical information. (ii) Academic particulars including research/industrial experience and present employment. (iii) Details of the scientific meeting and participation at the scientific meeting. (iv) Details of sources of support for covering expenses during the stay abroad. (v) Letters of assessment and recommendation from the convenor of the scientific meeting and from a senior scientist (of the home country) working in the candidate's field of specialization. (vi) An explanatory note (200 words) on the likely benefit to the candidate, with specific reference to the development of future research and development work to be carried out by him in the same field and its relevance to the country's development. Completed applications should be mailed so as to reach the COSTED Secretariat at least three months before the starting date of the proposed programme.

Book Reviews

Works intended for notice in this column should be sent direct to the Book-Review Editor (M. M. Woolfson, Physics Department, University of York, Heslington, York YO1 5DD, England). As far as practicable books will be reviewed in a country different from that of publication.


The study of low-energy electron diffraction (LEED) started in 1927 with the historic experiments of Davison and Germer and their demonstration of the wave nature of the electron. It continued quietly with the studies of Farnsworth who was able to complete a remarkable amount of experimental work before the appropriate ultra-high vacuum technology was widely available. In the early 1960's LEED activity expanded rapidly all over the world largely because of the commercial availability of the appropriate apparatus and a widespread interest in the possibility of determining the atomic structure within the top few atomic monolayers of a solid. Although the strong scattering cross sections of atoms for low-energy electrons were widely appreciated at that time, the implications of strong scattering for the interpretation of LEED measurements were not. Disillusion set in rapidly and widely and very few people continued trying to understand the theoretical and experimental implications of both multiple scattering of electrons and the effects of inelastic excitations upon the elastic scattering intensities.

Dr Pendry has played an important role at this stage in the development of LEED by making significant contributions to the establishment of a theoretical framework and
the use of this theory to solve both the structures of the low-index faces of simple metals and the structures of ordered adsorbates upon these faces. This book describes these developments from the point of view of one of the major protagonists of LEED. It is quite clear that the community of scientists working on LEED have surmounted the first barriers towards using the technique to solve surface structures and Dr Pendry shows how the complicated theoretical treatment necessary is built up and then programmed for the computation of LEED intensities.

After a brief introduction dealing mostly with the elements of the experimental method the book contains descriptions of the theory of scattering processes for low energy electrons, diffraction from rigid lattices, schemes of calculation and perturbation schemes which can save computational time, diffraction modified by thermal vibrations and, finally, the solution of the structure of simple ordered adlayers on low-index metal faces. There are substantial appendices containing programs in Fortran IV for the calculation of LEED intensities, the phase shifts for spherically symmetric ion cores and their temperature dependence and of the structure of simple adlayer systems. The book is offered as a stimulus to the further application of LEED theories to new problems in surface science and it is for this reason that the computer programs have been appended. Although this is extremely useful it might have been wiser to include a clear warning to the potential surface crystallographer pointing out that the theory is not at the point where it can be simply used. These are long, complicated and sophisticated calculations with many approximations ‘built-in’ and the potential investigator should be aware that he is about to commit himself to tens of thousands of hours of effort assessing the validity of the theory/experiment comparisons. He should not be lulled into a false sense of security.

Nevertheless, this important book which will be useful to anyone working with LEED or planning a start in the field because it makes clear many of the theoretical ideas in use now. It is marred by a moderately high incidence of typographical errors which means that the reader will need to check equations rather carefully.

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There have recently been written a number of introductory books on the dynamical properties of solids, but the classic text by Born and Haug has remained the definitive work for all serious workers in the subject. The editors undoubtedly hope that the three books to be published in this series will replace Born and Haug as the standard reference. In this aim the editors are to be praised because there has been considerable progress in the subject during the last twenty years and a new definitive text on the subject would be welcome. Alas, I feel they fail in their aim by choosing the medium of a multiple authorship book. Many of the difficult and subtle aspects of the subject are omitted because none of the authors is prepared to dwell on too much detail, while conversely many of the connections between different aspects of the subject are lost by having them described by different authors using different notations.

Many of the individual chapters are, however, excellent accounts of particular aspects of the subject. I found the three chapters on the microscopic theory of lattice dynamics of metals (Browman and Kagan), semiconductors (Sham) and insulators (Bilz, Gliss and Hanke) particularly good. Even in these cases there is of necessity much overlap between the chapters and they would have been even more useful if they had been written in a common framework by a single author when the reader would have been more easily able to see the similarities and differences between the treatment of the different types of solids, and their relationship to the unrefined phenomenological models described by Hardy.

The three chapters on anharmonic effects I found less appealing. The authors seem to have forgotten that anharmonic effects occur in real crystals on which experimental results can be obtained. There is more to anharmonicity than Green's functions: There is another account of the application of group theory to lattice dynamics, and, surprisingly in such a theoretical book, there is a good description of neutron scattering techniques, mostly as practised at Chalk River, by Dolling.

Unfortunately the price of this book is so high that one must be sure of obtaining value for money before ordering it for the library. Despite the undoubted quality of the individual chapters, I find it disappointing that the editors have not imposed greater discipline on their authors, so that the books could cover the whole of the subject in a more coherent and uniform presentation than is provided at present.

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This book is one of a series entitled Monographs d'Electronique under the general editorship of Professor Pierre Grivet. The intention of the authors is to cover the mathematical techniques which are necessary for an understanding of mechanical waves in crystals, and the associated phenomena of piezoelectric and electro-optic interactions. The book is clearly for engineers with rather more than average mathematical ability; it does not set out to explain the fundamental physics underlying the macroscopic behaviour of the materials which are involved.

Even with this restriction, a very wide range of subject matter has to be covered, and the authors have evidently tried to give the reader a sound grounding in fundamental theory and a list of references which will enable him to