Improved Instrumentation

Chemical Infrared Fourier Transform Spectroscopy. Peter R. Griffiths. Wiley-Interscience, New York, 1975. xii, 340 pp., illus. \$24.95. Chemical Analysis, vol. 43.

In principle, at least, Fourier transform spectroscopy (FTS) provides two important advantages over conventional spectroscopic techniques. "Fellgett's advantage" refers to the fact that in FTS the light detector may obtain information concerning all frequencies of interest at all times. This is sometimes known as the multiplexing advantage. The higher throughput of light possible in FTS may be called "Jacquinot's advantage." These advantages may now be put to use to obtain better infrared spectra faster.

Chemical Infrared Fourier Transform Spectroscopy has two parts. The first part discusses the theory and instrumentation of FTS with particular reference to the commercial instruments available today. Included are a general discussion of the Michelson interferometer (the only type considered) and one of sampling and computing techniques. These discussions are sufficiently detailed to be of quantitative use to individuals working with FTS. Some specific optical systems and data systems are described. A very practical discussion of the signal-to-noise ratio is provided. The second part surveys applications of FTS in both the far-infrared and mid-infrared regions of the spectrum.

To my knowledge, this is a unique book. Much of the information presented either is not available elsewhere, or could be obtained only by much sifting through the literature. I would think this monograph would be essential for anyone working with FTS instrumentation or contemplating doing so. The book is quite readable and contains a great deal of information. Particularly useful are the many reproductions of spectra, which provide standards for comparison and which illustrate the effects of variations in the experimental configuration. The book would have been enhanced as a working reference by a more complete discussion of infrared detection. Such information is readily available elsewhere, however. The large number of figures is certainly welcome, although some of them are not terribly informative and the captions often do not provide a very satisfying explanation. (Nor, in some cases, does the text.) The figures are also marred by numerous errors of typography and

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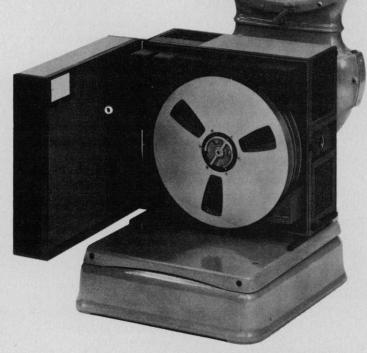
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(Continued on page 286)

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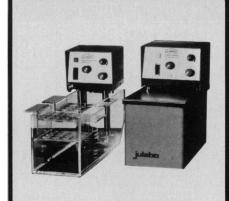
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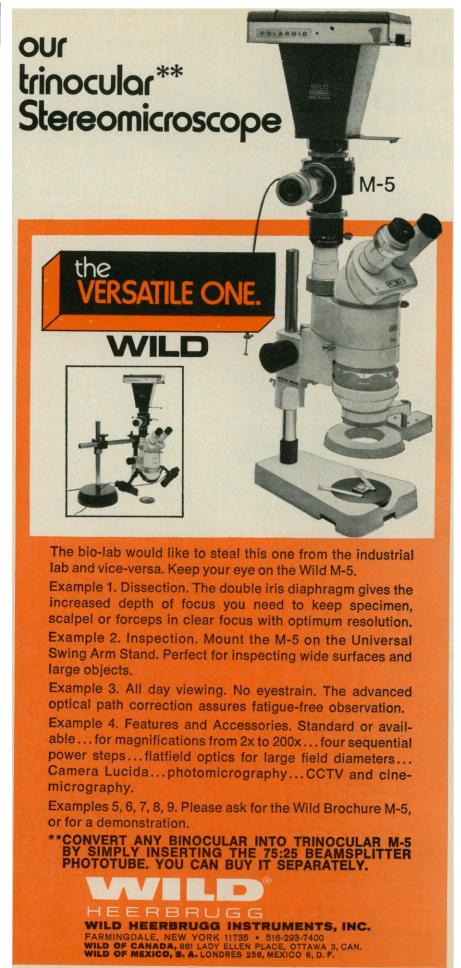
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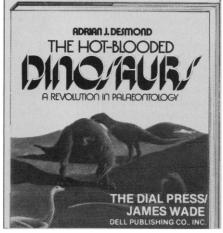
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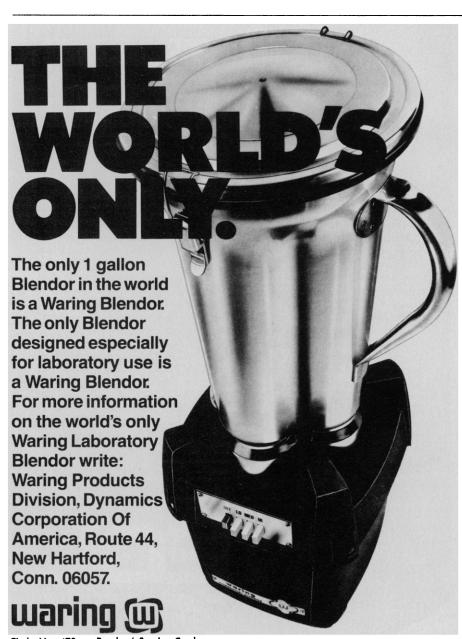
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