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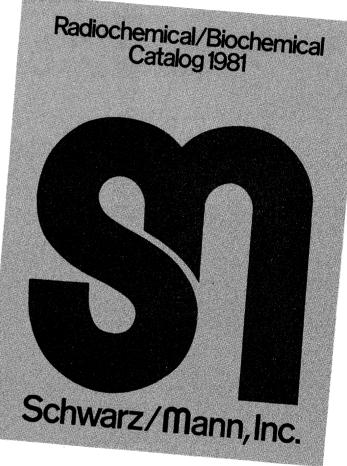
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COVER

Computer-enhanced photo of Saturn (taken 13 November 1980 by Voyager 1) shows Saturn's rings and their shadows against the lighted crescent of the planet. The photo was taken from a distance of 1,570,000 kilometers beyond the planet. The bright, overexposed limb of Saturn is visible through the rings. Radial spokes in the B ring, which appeared dark in pictures taken when Voyager 1 was approaching Saturn, can be seen here as bright markings, suggesting that the spoke particles are a few microns in diameter. The thin F ring displays brightness variations that are caused by nonuniform distribution of material in that ring. See page



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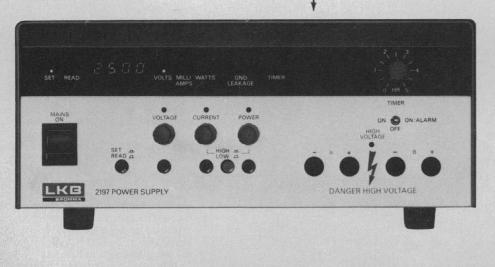
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An Academic Review: Safety Assessment of Artificial Sweeteners

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The symposium will address the basic medical sciences involved in safety assessment and the practical aspects of risk assessment as regards saccharin, cyclamates and other artificial sweeteners. It is particularly timely in light of the June 30th expiration of the Congressional moratorium on banning saccharin.

To generate the indepth understanding the subject area merits, the International Study Center, a New York based non-profit organization of leading university scientists and physicians, is sponsoring the conference. The symposium will feature a panel of some 15 leading scientists and academic physicians who will air matters concerning the safety and risk assessment of artificial sweeteners ... an academic review of these compounds.

SYMPOSIUM CO-CHAIRMEN

Benjamin L. Van Duuren, Sc.D. Professor of Environmental Medicine at New York University School of Medicine and Associate Director of the Institute of Environmental Medicine at the NYU Medical Center. An internationally known expert on chemical carcinogenesis and one of the originators of research on promoters and co-carcinogens. Dr. Van Duuren has published more than 300 scientific papers and is a frequent presentor at major scientific symposia in this country and Europe.

Bernard M. Wagner, M.D. Professor of Pathology at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons and Director of Laboratories at Overlook Hospital. President-elect of the International Academy of Pathologists and Chairman of the Committee on Pathology of the American College of Toxicology. Dr. Wagner has published over 100 scientific papers and is an active participant in international medical symposia.

SYMPOSIUM DETAILS

The symposium will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday, May 12 and 13 at the Holiday Inn–Capitol, located across from the Smithsonian. Ticket prices are \$500 each and include meeting materials and lunch on both days. Early registration is strongly advised.

A limited number of scholarship tickets are available for university faculty; government rates for federal and state officials. Hotel room reservations can be made by calling the Holiday Inn Capitol direct; toll free phone number is 800-424-9130.

For more information and copies of the symposium agenda and list of panelists, call or write the Study Center.

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Recombinant DNA

Edited by John Abelson and Eleanore Butz

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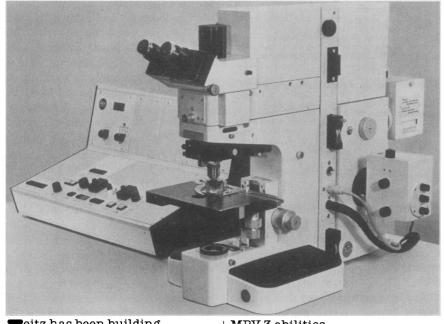


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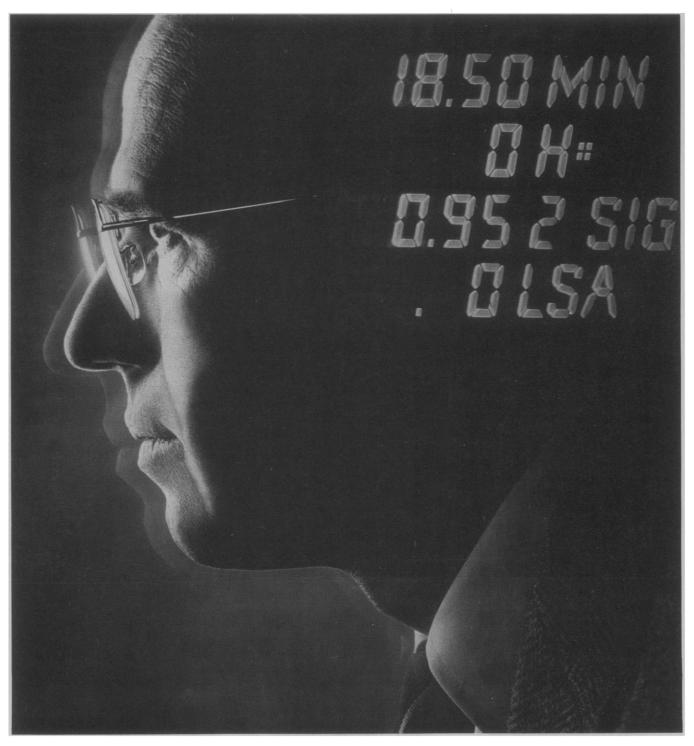
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THE LEADENG EDGE

#lin a series of reports on new technology from Xerox

About a year ago, Xerox introduced the Ethernet network—a pioneering new development that makes it possible to link different office machines into a single network that's reliable, flexible and easily expandable.

The following are some notes explaining the technological underpinnings of this development. They are contributed by Xerox research scientist David Boggs.

The Ethernet system was designed to meet several rather ambitious objectives.

First, it had to allow many users within a given organization to access the same data. Next, it had to allow the organization the economies that come from resource sharing; that is, if several people could share the same information processing equipment, it would cut down on the amount and expense of hardware needed. In addition, the resulting network had to be flexible; users had to be able to change components easily so the network could grow smoothly as new capability was needed. Finally, it had to have maximum reliability—a system based on the notion of shared information would look pretty silly if users couldn't get at the information because the network was broken.

Collision Detection

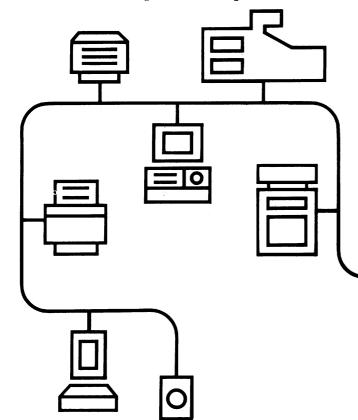
The Ethernet network uses a coaxial cable to connect various pieces of information equipment. Information travels over the cable in packets which are sent from one machine to another.

A key problem in any system of this type is how to control access to the cable: what are the rules determining when a piece of equipment can talk? Ethernet's method resembles the unwritten rules used by people at a party to decide who gets to tell the next story.

While someone is speaking, everyone else waits. When the current speaker stops, those who want to say something pause, and then launch into their speeches. If they *collide* with each other (hear someone else talking, too), they all stop and wait to start up again. Eventually one pauses the shortest time and starts talking so soon that everyone else hears him and waits.

When a piece of equipment wants to use the Ethernet cable, it listens first to hear if any other station is talking. When it hears silence on the cable, the station starts talking, but it also listens. If it hears other stations sending too, it stops, as do the other stations. Then it waits a random amount of time, on the order of microseconds, and tries again. The more times a station collides, the longer, on the average, it waits before trying again.

In the technical literature, this technique is called carrier-sense multiple-access with collision detection. It is a modification of a method developed by researchers at the University of Hawaii and further refined by my colleague Dr. Robert Metcalfe. As long as the interval during which stations elbow each other for control of the cable is short relative to the interval during which the winner uses the cable, it is very efficient. Just as important, it requires no central



control—there is no distinguished station to break or become overloaded.

The System

With the foregoing problems solved, Ethernet was ready for introduction. It consists of a few relatively simple components:

<u>Ether</u>. This is the cable referred to earlier. Since it consists of just copper and plastic, its reliability is high and its cost is low. <u>Transceivers</u>. These are small boxes that insert and extract bits of information as they pass by on the cable. <u>Controllers</u>. These are large scale integrated circuit chips which enable all sorts of equipment, from communicating typewriters to mainframe computers, regardless of the manufacturer, to connect to the Ethernet.

The resulting system is not only fast (transmitting millions of bits of information per second), it's essentially modular in design. It's largely because of this modularity that Ethernet succeeds in meeting its objectives of economy, reliability and expandability.

The system is economical simply because it enables users to share both equipment and information, cutting down on hardware costs. It is reliable because control of the system is distributed over many pieces of communicating equipment, instead of being vested in a single central controller where a single piece of malfunctioning equipment can immobilize an entire system. And Ethernet is expandable because it readily accepts new pieces of infor-

mation processing equipment. This enables an organization to plug in new machines gradually, as its needs dictate, or as

technology develops new and better ones.

About The Author

David Boggs is one of the inventors of Ethernet. He is a member of the research staff of the Computer Science Laboratory at Xerox's Palo Alto Research

Center.

He holds a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering from Princeton University and a Master's degree from Stanford University, where he is currently pursuing a Ph.D.



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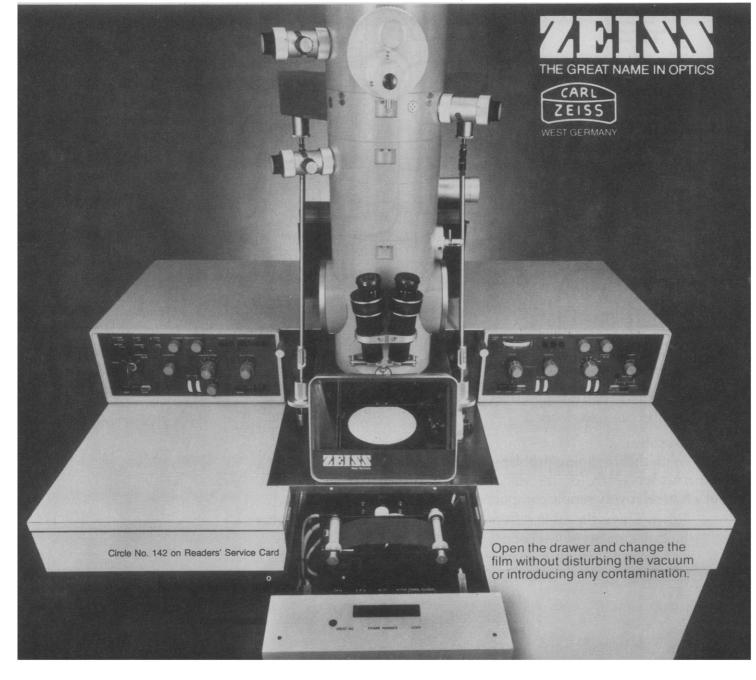
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Voyager Mission to Saturn

Voyager 1 made its closest approach to Saturn on 12 November 1980. On that day, the mission control center at Jet Propulsion Laboratory was the focus of intense worldwide attention. Interest in the Voyager mission to Saturn approached that accorded the first manned lunar landing. This issue contains the first set of scientific reports from the flyby of the planet, its many satellites, and its rings.

The Saturn system is a frigid mysterious world nearly 1.6 billion kilometers (1 billion miles) from Earth. Per unit area, it receives about 1 percent as much sunlight as does Earth. Spacecraft visiting it must be prepared to withstand extreme cold, to operate semi-autonomously, and to convey messages to and receive messages from Earth.

Saturn has a mass 95 times that of Earth. It has an atmosphere that consists mainly of hydrogen, with helium (approximately 11 percent) the next most abundant component. Methane, ammonia, ethane, ethylene, acetylene, and phosphine have also been detected. The temperature decreases from 150 K in the upper atmosphere to a minimum of about 85 K at a pressure of 100 millibars and then increases to about 160 K at 1.4 bars. The planet is obscured by clouds, which move at velocities that are a function of latitude. Eastward wind speeds near the equator as high as 480 meters per second (1100 miles per hour) were observed.

One of the major objectives of the Voyager mission was to gather information about Saturn's satellites. There are 15 of them, including three that were discovered during the flyby. Titan, the largest of the group, is the second largest satellite in the solar system (Jupiter's Ganymede is first) and the only one known to possess a substantial atmosphere. Although it is covered with clouds and haze, Voyager experimenters were able to determine its diameter (5140 kilometers). Using this datum and the mass, they calculated Titan's density to be 1.9, which corresponds to a 50:50 mix of rock and water ice. The atmospheric pressure at the surface of Titan is 1.6 bars and the temperature approximately 93 K. Nitrogen is the main constituent of the atmosphere, with methane next in abundance. At the conditions on the surface of Titan, gaseous, liquid, or solid methane might be present. The other satellites were not obscured by clouds. They were covered with water ice and in some cases are composed mainly of water ice. A striking feature of Mimas is a crater roughly 130 kilometers in diameter. Craters were also observed on most of the other satellites.

Saturn's rings were found to have a far more complex structure than predicted. They consist mainly of water ice. Voyager 1 results indicate that the A and C rings contain particles with effective diameters of 10 and 2 meters, respectively. The Cassini division, a classical ring element separating the A and B rings, itself contains five broad rings with substructure. The F ring has an unusual morphology, with two components that appear kinked and braided.

The foregoing paragraphs mention only a fraction of the information now available about the Saturn system. Moreover, only part of the experimental data has been analyzed thus far. When analysis is complete, a very substantial body of facts will be added. For centuries scientists have attempted to answer three major questions about the solar system: How did it originate? How did it evolve? and How does it operate today? The information gathered with manned and unmanned spacecraft greatly limits the range of permissible speculation. A theory that covers the origin and evolution of the solar system will illuminate processes that have occurred on Earth. Data about atmospheric motions on Earth, Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn will be used to test models of global circulation.

The Voyager 1 mission to Saturn has been another great success in a long series of U.S. exploits in space. The engineers, scientists, and technicians involved in the era of space exploration can take pride in their work. They have participated in one of humanity's greatest achievements.

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