Solar Astronomy

Solar Maximum Analysis. P. A. SIMON, Ed. Published for the Committee on Space Research by Pergamon, New York, 1985. viii, 404 pp., illus. \$99.50. Advances in Space Research, vol. 4, no. 7. From a symposium, Graz, Austria, June 1984.

Solar-Space Observations and Stellar Prospects. J. W. HARVEY, H. S. HUDSON, and R. W. NOYES, Eds. Published for the Committee on Space Research by Pergamon, New York, 1985. vi, 175 pp., illus. \$49.50. Advances in Space Research, vol. 4, no. 8. From a meeting, Graz, Austria, June 1984.

The Committee on Space Research (COSPAR), an organ of the International Council of Scientific Unions, sponsors regular topical symposiums in space physics. These two volumes, which are issues of Advances in Space Research, the journal of COSPAR, contain the proceedings of meetings concerned with recent progress in solar astronomy.

Solar Maximum Analysis presents short contributions on three major topics in solar flare physics: flare buildup, flare energy release, and interplanetary traveling phenomena. These topics were the subjects of international cooperative research efforts during the recent peak of solar activity, August 1979 to February 1981. Observations were made from such satellites as the Solar Maximum Mission, Hinotori, and Solwind, as well as with ground-based radio and optical telescopes.

The reports contain many new and important results on magnetic energy storage, charged particle acceleration, and energy conversion to radiation. For example, M. Hagyard et al. have demonstrated convincingly, for the first time, the role magnetic field shear plays in preflare energy storage.

The proceedings reflect the unsettled state of the subject, which still lacks a consensus on even the most basic physical mechanisms. Is flare energy carried primarily by electron beams or by thermal conduction? Is emerging magnetic flux crucial to the onset of a flare? A reader will find opposing views on these and other topics, and it makes for stimulating reading. However, the proceedings would have been more valuable to the nonexpert if they had included summary papers that integrated the individual contributions and sharpened the outstanding issues.

Solar-Space Observations and Stellar *Prospects* reports recent progress in two active fields in space solar astronomy (observations of surface magnetic fine

structure and of the solar interior) and in a related field in stellar astronomy (stellar oscillations). Like the other volume, these proceedings consist primarily of short papers on space observations. The short reports here are introduced by one or more major reviews on each topic, which add considerably to the coherence and intelligibility of the whole. In my view, the excellent reviews by J. O. Stenflo ("Fine scale structure of solar magnetic fields"), B. Roberts ("The creation of fine structure by magnetic fields"), and D. O. Gough ("Immediate and long-term prospects for helioseismology") are required reading for astronomers of any stripe. The shorter papers, unfortunately, give only a glimpse of the rich data that observations from space yield. I was especially intrigued by a report by C. Fröhlich and J. A. Eddy of a possible secular increase of the total solar irradiance from 1967 to 1983 amounting to 0.025 percent per year and a corresponding increase of the solar diameter of about 0.033 arc seconds per vear.

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Books Received

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Aphasia and Brain Organization. Ivar Reinvang. Plenum, New York, 1985. xii, 195 pp. \$29.50. Ap-plied Psycholinguistics and Communication Disor-

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