

corollaries, including a stability result for the restricted three-body problem. Poincaré discovered the error just before his prize-winning paper went to press in *Acta Mathematica*. For the next six months he worked feverishly to repair the error but found he could not. When he finally admitted that the stable and unstable manifolds could indeed cross at an angle, he saw that the consequences would lead to an incredibly more complex scenario than any mathematician had ever envisioned. Poincaré had glimpsed chaotic behavior. Unfortunately, he had to spend the entire cash award buying back the copies of the journal containing the error.

This and other stories about the history of celestial mechanics are the subject of this delightful book. The authors interweave numerous anecdotes about the personalities involved in the discoveries with technical details of the mathematical ideas themselves. Among other topics, Stephen Smale's discovery of the "horseshoe," the first chaotic dynamical system to be analyzed completely, is described in detail. We read about Smale's exploits on the beaches of Rio where the horseshoe was discovered, and at the same

time get a primer on symbolic dynamics, one of the principal tools used to analyze chaos. We meet Richard McGehee and others involved in the discovery that Newton's laws of motion allow for one of the particles to escape to infinity in finite time without ever encountering a collision or singularity in the equations. The celebrated Kolmogorov–Arnold–Moser theorem (KAM theory) is also elucidated.

So this book is a pleasant mix of things technical and things historical. Some background in dynamical systems theory, or chaos theory, is a must for full appreciation of the technical parts of the book. For the reader interested only in the history, the authors take pains to warn us whenever the going is getting rough. More important, they tell us when the narrative will resume. I hope, though, that readers will not skip the technical stuff, because it really is written in a lively and informative way. Besides, that's where we really get the glimpse of the origins of chaos theory.

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Browsings

The Eighth Day of Creation. Makers of the Revolution in Biology. HORACE FREELAND JUDSON. Second edition. Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, NY, 1996. xxii, 714 pp., illus. \$55, ISBN 0-87969-477-7; paper, \$39, ISBN 0-87969-478-5.

This amplified edition of a 1979 account of the origins of molecular biology (reviewed in *Science* 205, 1119 [1979]) includes an epilogue dealing with developments subsequent to 1970 and, as afterwords, two reprinted essays on Rosalind Franklin and Erwin Chargaff.

Naked Science. Anthropological Inquiry into Boundaries, Power, and Knowledge. LAURA NADER, Ed. Routledge, New York, 1996. xvi, 318 pp., illus. Paper, \$22.95 or C\$31.95. ISBN 0-415-91465-5.

Fifteen essays on the general theme of "science and power, particularly the power of Western science over the other 'sciences' around the globe"; cases examined include navigation in Micronesia, herbal medicine in Mexico, nuclear weapons testing, DNA sequence databases, and Japanese primatology.

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