BOOK REVIEWS

BASIC HYDRAULICS, P. D. Smith, Butterworths, London, 1982. Price: £7·50.

BASIC Hydraulics is primarily aimed at the first and second year undergraduate student who will be concerned with the application of fundamental fluid mechanics theory to civil engineering problems. The book does not attempt to describe the subject of hydraulics in a comprehensive manner nor does it try to cover the BASIC language in any great detail. Rather, the book is aimed at helping students to become proficient in BASIC by actually using the language in an important field of engineering and to use computing as a means of mastering the subject of hydraulics.

Because of the complex nature of many of the fundamental equations some simplification of these equations has been made, together with the frequent use of empirical relationships, in order to make the analysis of specific problems more tractable.

Although not a BASIC manual, an excellent concise introduction to the BASIC language is provided. Throughout the book more than 20 well documented programs are presented.

With this competitively priced text, which is one of a series, the author has responded effectively to the current surge in the use of the microcomputer as an educational and engineering tool.

R. C. SYMBERLIST

BASIC STRESS ANALYSIS, M. J. Iremonger, Butterworths, London, 1982. Price £7·50.

BASIC Stress Analysis aims to help first and second year undergraduate students to become proficient at BASIC programming by applying it to a fundamental engineering subject.

An excellent introduction to the BASIC language is provided. Its conciseness reflects the author's recognition of the ease with which the language can be mastered and applied.

Each chapter contains a summary of the relevant theory, worked examples containing well documented computer programs, and a set of problems. The theory content may be useful as a 'revision note' synopsis of the subject though it is by no means comprehensive, nor does the book try to cover the BASIC langauge in any great detail. Rather, the book is aimed at helping students to become proficient in BASIC by actually using the language in an important field of engineering and to use computing as a means of mastering the subject of stress analysis.

The programs require only limited storage capacity and the problems involve modifying or extending the example programs and writing completely new programs.

This is a competitively priced text and one of an excellent series which introduces programming to engineering students in their own environment.

R. C. SYMBERLIST