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Book review

One and Two Dimensional NMR Spectroscopy, by Atta-ur-Rahman, Elsevier Science Publishers, Amsterdam, 1989, xx + 578 pages, US\$186.75/Dfl.355. ISBN 0-444-87316-3.

The aim of this book is to provide an up-to-date text on recent advances in nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy. The author devotes one chapter to the basic principles of NMR followed by a further three on one dimensional NMR, and finally another fourteen on two-dimensional experiments. Most chapters end with a set of problems and solutions related to the particular technique under discussion. The discussions cover almost all of the NMR techniques the modern organic chemist may avail of when attempting molecular structural characterisation. As the book was written by a natural product chemist there is a strong bias towards the structural elucidation of natural products, and many of the examples in the text and chosen for the problem sets have been isolated within the author's own laboratory. This book deals exclusively with ^1H and ^{13}C experiments, and so will be primarily of greatest interest to the organic chemist.

A disturbing feature of this book, particularly in view of its high price, is the poor quality of its production. Many of the figures, in particular NMR spectra, are poorly reproduced. The number of typographical errors and inconsistencies within the text is irritating, e.g. the inconsistent use of Greek symbols in lists of ^1H shifts and on figures, missing spaces between words, and even omission to fully italicise the Journal name.

This book would benefit greatly from a further session of proof reading by the author and his team. Nevertheless as it stands it will no doubt be viewed by many as a valuable practical guide to the structural elucidation of organic compounds.

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Announcement

The Ninth International Symposium on Organosilicon Chemistry will be held in Edinburgh, Scotland, on 16-20 July 1990. The Second Circular is now available, and may be obtained from:

Dr. J.F. Gibson,
Royal Society of Chemistry,
Burlington House,
London W1V 0BN (U.K.)