

Books

Books is an editorial service for readers' information. To order any book listed or any U.S. book in print, please remit retail price, plus \$2.00 postage and handling charge for each book, to **Science News Books**, 1719 N St., N.W., Washington, DC 20036. To place Visa or MasterCard orders, call 1-800-544-4565. All books sent postpaid. Domestic orders only. Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery.

Conversion Factors — James L. Cook. More than 3,500 conversion factors arranged according to area of application, from volume to time to angular acceleration. Includes units from the British Imperial system, the Centimeter-Gram-Second system, the Meter-Kilogram-Second system and the Systeme International d'Unites (SI). An indispensable reference for students, teachers and scientists who need to convert from newtons to grams, bushels to barrels or leagues to fathoms. Oxford UPr, 1991, 160 p., paperback, \$12.95.

Cosmic Time Travel: A Scientific Odyssey — Barry Parker. This physicist analyzes Einstein's special theory of relativity — which states that time is not absolute — and explores the mysteries of space and time in search of a plausible theory that would allow for the possibility of reversible time travel. Parker explains recent research on time travel, most of which centers on whether one could use wormholes (if they exist) as gateways from one time to another, and discusses theories — many of which are highly speculative — on how to overcome the obstacles that arise. Written for readers with a fundamental understanding of relativity. Plenum Pub, 1991, 308 p., illus., hardcover, \$24.50.

Elephants: The Deciding Decade — Ronald Orenstein, Ed. An excellent introduction to the African elephant and recent efforts to save it from extinction. Spectacular photographs of African mammals, taken by wildlife photographer Brian Beck, accompany chapters written by five experts on elephant conservation. Includes a foreword by Richard Leakey, director of the Kenya Wildlife Service. Sierra, 1991, 160 p., color illus., hardcover, \$35.00.


A Forest of Kings: The Untold Story of the Ancient Maya — Linda Schele and David Freidel. Based on recently interpreted hieroglyphs, this vivid reconstruction portrays the complexity and sophistication of the ancient Maya civilization of the Yucatán and Guatemala, from the construction of the first great pyramids 2,000 years ago through the civilization's decline and eventual destruction with the invasion of the Spaniards. The authors describe a highly skilled and civilized — yet violent and aggressive — society that flourished under powerful kingships. This remarkable history, supplemented by more than 250 maps and illustrations, should interest scholars and general readers alike. Originally published in hardcover in 1990. Morrow, 1992, 542 p., illus., paperback, \$15.00.

Lonely Hearts of the Cosmos: The Story of the Scientific Quest for the Secret of the Universe — Dennis Overbye. A history of cosmology — the scientific effort to determine the origin and fate of the universe — and an introduction to cosmologists who have probed phenomena ranging from black holes to an expanding universe. Writing for the general reader, Overbye conveys the inspiration, excitement and frustration of this cosmic quest. Originally published in hardcover in 1990. HarperCollins, 1992, 437 p., paperback, \$13.00.

The 1992 Information Please® Environmental Almanac. Compiled by the World Resources Institute, this almanac provides state, national and global statistics about environmental issues such as air pollution, water use, waste production and energy use. Begins with chapters dedicated to specific environmental issues, then profiles states and countries, describing their natural resources, environmental statistics and major environmental problems. Includes a ranking of "green" cities in the United States. HM, 1991, 606 p., illus., paperback, \$9.95.

The Wisdom of the Genes: New Pathways in Evolution — Christopher Willis. Writing for the general reader, this biologist presents some evolutionary mysteries, such as the amazing adaptive variation of Hawaiian fruitfly species, and goes on to explain the basics of genetic science and evolutionary theory. Willis elaborates on his hypothesis that evolution has been aided over time by the acquired "wisdom" of all genes. Originally published in hardcover in 1989. Basic, 1991, 351 p., illus., paperback, \$11.95.

**To order by phone from
Science News Books, call:
1-800-544-4565
(Visa or MasterCard Only)**



SCIENCE NEWS
The Weekly Newsmagazine of Science

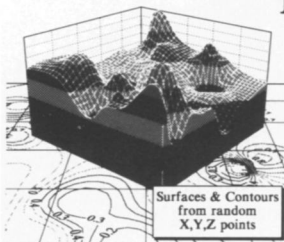
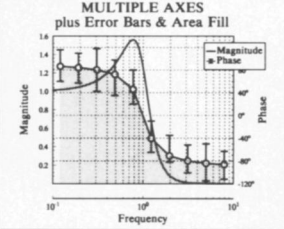
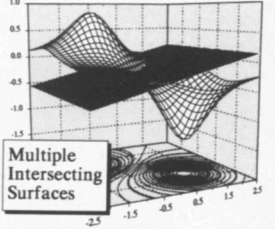
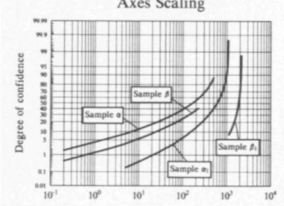
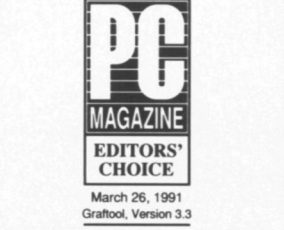
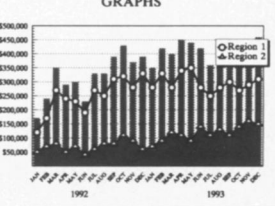
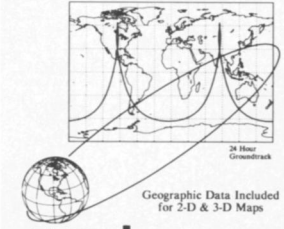
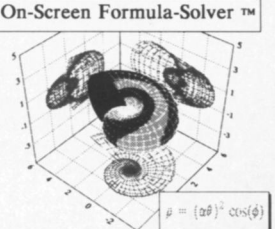



**is now available to the
blind and
physically handicapped
on cassette tapes.**

All inquiries should be made directly to:
**Recorded Periodicals,
Division of Volunteer Services
for the Blind
919 Walnut Street 8th Floor
Philadelphia, Pa. 19107.**

**Only the blind or handicapped
should apply for this service.
There is a nominal charge.**

CAN YOUR GRAPHICS SOFTWARE DO ALL THIS?

 <p>Surfaces & Contours from random X,Y,Z points</p>	 <p>MULTIPLE AXES plus Error Bars & Area Fill</p>	 <p>Multiple Intersecting Surfaces</p>
 <p>LOG & PROBABILITY Axes Scaling</p>	 <p>PC MAGAZINE EDITORS' CHOICE March 26, 1991 Graftool, Version 3.3</p>	 <p>TECHNICAL BUSINESS GRAPHS</p>
 <p>Geographic Data Included for 2-D & 3-D Maps</p>	<p>Experience the power & simplicity of the world's leading PC graphical analysis system. - curve fitting, statistics, zooming, rotation, mouse support, scientific spreadsheet & more!</p>	 <p>On-Screen Formula-Solver™</p>



GRAFTOOL \$495 • Interactive Demo Available • Academic Discounts
Call toll-free for information 1-800-729-4723.
3-D VISIONS
2780 Skypark Drive, Torrance, CA 90505