equations the Greek lower case sigma (σ) was replaced by the
number 6. In one equation this "σ" was included with a real con-
stant containing a 6 (very confusing). These misprints occurred
somewhat randomly throughout the two-volume set. In a few
chapters, such as Chapter 6 of Volume II, the authors assume the
background of the reader is somewhat advanced, and one table
listing the primary gammas of various radionuclides failed to in-
clude the 364 keV gamma of iodine-131, which, in fact, is the
major gamma occurring 81.2% of the time. The reader should,
therefore, be cautioned to independently verify data and equa-
tions.

Because of the detailed nature of this publication it appears that
it is intended as a reference set for radiochemists, radiopharmacy
scientists, and physicists, another would be a valuable resource to
those who teach methods of radionuclide production. As such, I
would recommend these volumes with some reservations due to
the number of typographical errors in equations.

JACK LANCASTER
University of Texas Health Ctr.
San Antonio, Texas

COMPUTED TOMOGRAPHY OF THE THORAX. D. P. Naidich, E.
A. Zerhouni, S. S. Siegelman, Eds. New York, NY, Raven Press,
1983, 336 pp, $65.00

The impact of computed tomography (CT) upon neuroradiology
was immediate and profound. The initial predictions of its con-
tribution to thoracic radiology were, however, pessimistic, and it
is sobering to realize how dramatically technical improvements
and experience have contradicted those earlier views. Proof is this
first text devoted entirely to CT examination of the thorax. The
eleven chapters constitute a thorough and timely review. Orga-
nization is primarily by anatomic area; only the heart is excluded
from this survey of the chest.

The first chapter discusses the principles and technique of CT
and is an excellent and unusually readable treatment of a difficult
but essential subject. Subsequent chapters describe the normal
appearance and pathologic involvement of the great vessels, me-
diastinum, hila, airways, lung parenchyma, pleura and chest wall,
pericardium and diaphragm.

This book illustrates the quality one expects from a work written
by a small number of expert authors. It reads clearly, there is a
uniform approach, and there is little repetition. The danger in
limited authorship, particularly in such a relatively new field as
thoracic CT, is that individual experience may be presented as
dogma, but the authors are to be commended for avoiding this
pitfall. They clearly designate their own opinion as such and ex-
plain their rationale. This feature is particularly relevant in the
discussion of controversial areas, such as examination of the soli-
dary lung nodule, or experimental, such as CT of the pulmonary
interstitial space. The authors provide a good overview of such
topics. Indeed, their references extend well into 1983.

The criticisms I have are minor. Although the CT illustrations
are uniformly excellent, several chest radiographs are poorly re-
produced, thus obscuring the point being made. The organization
of some chapters is puzzling. Why include the trachea, sterno-
clavicular joints and sternum in a chapter entitled "Aortic Arch
and Great Vessels"? Such problems are relatively unimportant
and of the sort to be remedied in future editions.

This volume is a successful description of state-of-the-art CT
of the thorax. It will be useful to all with an interest in chest radi-
ology and should be in the library of any department performing
CT.

JAY PEARLBERG
Henry Ford Hospital
Detroit, Michigan

BOOKS RECEIVED


Technical Advances in Biomedical Physics, P.P. Dendy, D.W. Ernst, and A. Sengun, Eds. The Netherlands, Martinus Nijhoff Publishers BV, 1984, 418 pp, $57.00