

Book Review

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Inorganic structural chemistry

Wiley-VCH, 2006,
268 pp; price £29.95/Euro 47.90
ISBN 13:978-0-470-01864-4
(hardback)/10:0-470-01864-X

This book gives a comprehensive and useful coverage of the area and is written for "advanced" students of chemistry. I would judge it to be very useful reading for graduate student coursework or for undergraduate project activity in the area. Other undergraduate chemistry students who are looking for alternative reading in the structural field will also find the book useful.

The book is fully illustrated with diagrams and is easy to follow. There

are 21 chapters, each with a set of problems for which answers are given at the end of the work. The book is well referenced to either textbooks or to other sources giving more detail. All the main areas of concern for an understanding of structural chemistry are covered and, although the author states that 'basic chemical knowledge' is required, it does actually cover the subject of structural chemistry from its beginnings (e.g. coordination numbers, radius ratio rules, lattice structures, etc.), so I think that an interested first year student would not find the book too intimidating.

I recommend the book to the categories of student mentioned above and at £29.95

it is reasonable value for money. The work is produced in traditional style (black and white, no colour illustrations). Incorporation of a CD ROM to give better graphical details would obviously improve the communication aspects of the book and I think this might be expected by modern students, but I still recommend the work in its own right with its compact yet broad coverage review of the subject.

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