BOOK REVIEW

W. F. Bottke Jr., A. Cellino, P. Paolicchi, and R. P. Binzel: *Asteroids III*, University of Arizona press, Tucson, Arizona, 2003, 1025 pages. ISBN: 0-8165-2281-2.

Third in the University of Arizona press's "Asteroids" series, this volume grew out of the conference held in Palermo in June 2001. However it is more than a conference proceedings, like its predecessors it presents a snapshot of asteroid science; in this case 200 years after the discovery of the first asteroid 1 Ceres. Comprising 50 papers, all written by well-known asteroid scientists it is a fine and readable overview of asteroid science suitable for post-graduate students and scientists in the field. In content it is much like it predecessors with multi-paper sections containing reviews of observations, dynamics, evolution, exploration and interrelations with other bodies. The subject is confined to what is rapidly becoming the "inner" solar system, i.e., the region inside Neptune for Trojans and Centaurs are covered, but there is nothing for the student of the trans-Neptunian region.

Unlike previous volumes it is letter size (8.5 by 11 inches) but in my opinion this makes it much more attractive than previous volumes. The printing is crisp and clear and the halftone and colour illustrations are well reproduced. A fine piece of work consistent with the others in the series and likely to remain just as useful until the asteroids IV conference, whenever that may be.

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