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REAL APPLICATIONS OF ELECTRONIC SENSORS

Graham Long

B.Sc., C.Eng., M.I.E.E.

Manager, York Electronics Centre,
University of York

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To Fiona, Vicky, Alastair and Patrick

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Series Editor's Preface

This book is one in a Series designed to illustrate and explore a range of ways in which scientific knowledge is generated, and techniques are developed and applied. The volumes in this Series will certainly satisfy the needs of students at 'A' level and in first-year higher-education courses, although there is no intention to bridge any apparent gap in the transfer from secondary to tertiary stages. Indeed, the notion that a scientific education is both continuous and continuing is implicit in the approach which the authors have taken.

Working from a base of 'common core' 'A'-level knowledge and principles, each book demonstrates how that knowledge and those principles can be extended in academic terms, and also how they are applied in a variety of contexts which give relevance to the study of the subject. The subject matter is developed both in depth (in intellectual terms) and in breadth (in relevance). A significant feature is the way in which each text makes explicit some aspect of the fundamental processes of science, or shows science, and scientists, 'in action'. In some cases this is made clear by highlighting the methods used by scientists in, for example, employing a systematic approach to the collection of information, or the setting up of an experiment. In other cases the treatment traces a series of related steps in the scientific process, such as investigation, hypothesising, evaluation and problem-solving. The fact that there are many dimensions to the creation of knowledge and to its application by scientists and technologists is the title and consistent theme of all the books in the Series.

The authors are all authorities in the fields in which they have written, and share a common interest in the enjoyment of their work in science. We feel sure that something of that satisfaction will be imparted to their readers in the continuing study of the subject.

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