

F.-L. Deubner, J. Christensen-Dalsgaard and D. Kurtz (eds.), *New Eyes to See Inside the Sun and Stars*, Proceedings of the 185th Symposium of the International Astronomical Union held in Kyoto, Japan, August 18–22, 1997. Kluwer Academic Publishers, Dordrecht, Holland, 487 + XIV pp., 1998, hardbound NLG 350.00/USD 189.00/GBP 119.00, ISBN 0—7923—5075—8.

The subtitle to these symposium proceedings is “Pushing the Limits of Helio- and Astereismology with new Observations from the Ground and from Space”, a preciser abstract than the romantic main title. “Pushing the limits” implies a field both well underway and not yet all done. Indeed, helioseismology is well advanced with its spade of seismometry arrays around our planet and its set of low-noise seismometers onboard SOHO addressing both the low- $l$  and the high- $l$  domains. Its measurement techniques have evolved to high levels of sophistication and exactitude. On the contrary, asteroseismology has no solid detections yet for solar-type stars, though lots of non-acoustic vibration phenomena affect other stars (page 480). These proceedings are therefore a mix varying from detailed measurement recipe and solid conclusion to the largely unknown. The 29 reviews range from wide overview and worthwhile insight to superfluous rehash. The 12 other talks apparently got only a four-page limit, making them mostly show-and-tell advertisements for work to be published elsewhere, a qualification that holds evidently for almost all 64 two-page poster writeups. Thus, a mixed bag offering state-of-the-field information that is valuable to the active researcher. The book belongs in all astronomical libraries, but to is not one for students or long-term perusal. The subject index

is rather incomplete; there is no author index or participant list.

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