

The first chapter is on vectors and has been completely rewritten. Two definitions of vector are given, one in substantially the usual terms, the other as follows: A vector \mathfrak{A} is a function which depends not only on a located point, but also has a value for every direction radiating from the point. These values are its *components*, and must be such that any three of them which form a trirectangular system, when added geometrically, produce that one of the components which has the maximum length. This particular component however has no precedence over the others in importance and no one of the components is the vector, but the entire system of values correlated to the directions. Geometrically, the vector is represented by a pair of spheres tangent at the point in question, with the ensemble of chords drawn through the point, which chords are positive in one sphere and negative in the other. Examples of these "physical vectors" are found in forces, displacements, velocities, accelerations, electric and magnetic fields. This conception of vector as a set of function values, rather than as a directed line segment, or as a hyper-complex number, seems to us more like an attempt at novelty than at usefulness. The gain is not evident. In the text following, the analysis goes back practically to the usual mode of development. A section is added on "Tensoren," a name introduced by Voigt, which are the dyadics of Gibbs and the linear vector operators of Hamilton. Examples are the pressure in a deformed elastic body, elasticity coefficients, conductivities of heat, dielectric constants, and other properties of crystals.

The chapter on geometrical optics covers the usual ground. That on plane waves leads up to the electromagnetic theory of light. These extensive additions are an improvement in the original.

Many small changes have been made throughout, but we need not dwell on them. The criticisms made in the first review, referred to above, still hold in large measure.

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THE title of this memoir is somewhat deceptive, as it does not deal directly with the theory of oscillations, which are