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COVER

Radar image of the Maxwell Montes, a mountain range rising 12 kilometers above the mean planetary radius of Venus. The range, which is about 1000 kilometers long, shows alternating bands of high backscatter (reds and yellows) and low backscatter (blues) in patterns comparable to those of tectonic features (folds and faults) on Earth. The image was taken with the 12.6-centimeter wavelength radar system at Arecibo Observatory, Puerto Rico. See page 644.