

Contents

<i>Preface</i>	<i>page ix</i>
Part I Special Relativity	
1 The Geometry of Special Relativity	3
1.1 Introduction	3
1.1.1 Classical Physical Systems	3
1.1.2 Symmetries	4
1.2 Poincaré Invariance	6
1.2.1 Geometrical Symmetries of Classical Physics	6
1.2.2 Active and Passive Transformations	11
1.2.3 Minkowski Space	12
1.2.4 Topological Structure of the Lorentz Group	13
1.2.5 Rotations and Boosts	17
1.2.6 Simultaneous Dilations and Lorentz Transformations	19
1.3 Time Dilation and Lorentz Contraction	20
1.3.1 Arc Length and Proper Time	20
1.3.2 Time Dilation	21
1.3.3 Lorentz Contraction	22
1.4 Examples and Paradoxes	23
1.4.1 The Time Dilation Paradox	23
1.4.2 The Twin Paradox	25
1.4.3 Doppler Shift	27
1.4.4 The Bandits and the Train	27
1.4.5 The Prisoner's Escape	28
1.4.6 The Moving Cube	29
1.4.7 Tachyons	32

vi	<i>Contents</i>	
2	Relativistic Mechanics	34
2.1	Tensor Formalism	34
2.2	Conservation Laws	39
2.2.1	Conservation Laws Depending Only on Velocity	40
2.2.2	Conservation Laws including Position	45
2.3	Lagrangian Particle Mechanics	48
2.4	Lagrangian Field Theory	51
2.4.1	Internal Symmetries and Conservation Laws	52
2.4.2	Invariance under the Poincaré Group	55
2.4.3	Symmetrization of the Stress Tensor	58
3	Relativistic Electrodynamics	63
3.1	Lagrangian Formulation	63
3.1.1	The Free Maxwell Field	63
3.1.2	Maxwell Field with Source	66
3.2	Potentials and Fields of a Point Charge	68
3.2.1	The Action for a Point Charge	68
3.2.2	Green's Function for the Wave Equation	70
3.2.3	"In" and "Out" Fields	75
3.3	Radiation from a Point Charge	76
3.3.1	The Liénard–Wiechert Potential	76
3.3.2	The Fields of a Point Charge	78
3.4	Regularization and Renormalization	80
3.4.1	Particle Motion with Radiation Reaction	84
3.4.2	Conservation of Energy	89
3.4.3	Hyperbolic Motion	90
Part II General Relativity		
4	The Principle of Equivalence	95
4.1	Gravitational and Inertial Mass	95
4.2	The Eötvös Experiment	96
4.3	Gravitation and Geometry	97
4.4	The Equivalence Principle Revisited	98
5	Differential Geometry	100
5.1	Manifolds	100
5.1.1	Vectors	102
5.1.2	Exterior Calculus	104
5.1.3	Tensor Densities	109
5.2	Affine Spaces	115
5.2.1	Affine Connections	115

<i>Contents</i>		vii
5.2.2	How Γ Transforms	116
5.2.3	Parallel Transport of Tensors and Tensor Densities	118
5.2.4	Covariant Derivatives	119
5.3	Riemannian Manifolds	121
5.3.1	Relation between Affine Connection and Metric	123
5.3.2	Symmetries of the Riemann Tensor	124
5.3.3	Flatness and Curvature	127
6	Gravity	132
6.1	Motion in Curved Spacetime	132
6.1.1	Program for a Theory of Gravity	132
6.1.2	Classical Equations in Covariant Form	132
6.1.3	Tidal Forces	137
6.2	The Gravitational Field	138
6.2.1	Einstein's Equation in Empty Space	138
6.2.2	Alternative Theories	142
6.2.3	The Source of Gravity	143
6.2.4	Action Principle Formulation	144
6.3	Linearized Gravity	150
6.3.1	Simplifying the Field Equation	150
6.3.2	Recovering Newton's Law	151
6.3.3	Gravity Waves	154
7	The Schwarzschild Solution	162
7.1	Isometries	162
7.2	The Exterior Solution	166
7.3	Classic Tests of General Relativity	170
7.3.1	Precession of the Perihelion of Mercury	171
7.3.2	Bending of Starlight	176
7.3.3	Gravitational Redshift	179
7.3.4	What Do They Really Test?	180
7.4	The Interior Solution	184
7.5	The Schwarzschild Singularity	191
7.5.1	Kruskal Coordinates	193
7.5.2	Geometry of the Equatorial Surface	195
7.5.3	Tidal Stress near $r = 0$	197
8	Conservation and Cosmology	200
8.1	Conservation Laws	200
8.1.1	Scalar Conservation Laws	200
8.1.2	The Energy–Momentum Pseudotensor	201

viii	<i>Contents</i>	
8.2	The Universe at Large	203
8.2.1	General Principles	204
8.2.2	The Robertson–Walker Metric	208
8.2.3	Redshift and Luminosity	209
8.3	General Relativity and Cosmology	210
8.3.1	The Friedman Universe	210
8.3.2	The Cosmological Constant	214
8.3.3	Singularities in the Robertson–Walker Metric	215
	Afterword	220
	<i>Appendix A</i> Compendium of Formulas	223
	<i>Appendix B</i> Final Exams	230
B.1	Final Exam, 1966	230
B.2	Final Exam, 1969	231
	<i>Index</i>	234