



A Most Incomprehensible Thing: Notes Towards a Very Gentle Introduction to the Mathematics of Relativity (Paperback)

By Peter Collier

Incomprehensible Books, United Kingdom, 2014. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 2nd Revised edition. 224 x 190 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. A self-study guide to Einstein s wonderful theories of relativity A Most Incomprehensible Thing is aimed at the enthusiastic general reader who wants to move beyond the maths-lite popularisations in order to tackle the essential, but challenging mathematics of Einstein s fascinating theories of special and general relativity. One of the cornerstones of modern physics, relativity is based on the concept of four-dimensional spacetime - curved in the vicinity of mass-energy, flat in its absence. Special relativity helps explain a huge range of non-gravitational physical phenomena and has some strangely counter-intuitive (very weird, in plain English) consequences. These include time dilation, length contraction, the relativity of simultaneity, mass-energy equivalence and an absolute speed limit. General relativity, a theory of gravity, is at the heart of our understanding of cosmology and black holes. To paraphrase Euclid, there is no royal road to relativity - you have to do the mathematics. This introductory, self-study guide is written using straightforward and accessible language, with clear derivations and explanations as well as numerous fully solved problems. For those with minimal mathematical background,...

Reviews

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