Contents

Fo	reword	v
Preface		vii
I	VECTOR CALCULUS	1
1	Introduction and Basic Definitions	2
2	The Scalar Product	5
3	Component Representation of a Vector	9
4	The Vector Product (Axial Vector)	13
5	The Triple Scalar Product	25
6	Application of Vector Calculus	27
	Application in mathematics: Application in physics:	27 31
7	Differentiation and Integration of Vectors	39
8	The Moving Trihedral (Accompanying Dreibein)—the Frenet Formulas	49
	Examples on Frenet's formulas:	55
		ix

9	Surfaces in Space	64
10	Coordinate Frames	68
11	Vector Differential Operations	83
	The operations gradient, divergence, and curl (rotation) Differential operators in arbitrary general (curvilinear) coordinates	83 96
12	Determination of Line Integrals	109
13	The Integral Laws of Gauss and Stokes	112
	Gauss Law: The Gauss theorem: Geometric interpretation of the Gauss theorem: Stokes law:	112 114 115 117
14	Calculation of Surface Integrals	125
15	Volume (Space) Integrals	130
II	NEWTONIAN MECHANICS	133
16	Newton's Axioms	134
17	Basic Concepts of Mechanics	140
	Inertial systems Measurement of masses Work Kinetic energy Conservative forces Potential Energy law Equivalence of impulse of force and momentum change Angular momentum and torque Conservation law of angular momentum Law of conservation of the linear momentum Summary	$ \begin{array}{r} 140\\141\\141\\142\\142\\143\\144\\144\\149\\150\\150\\150\\150\end{array} $
	The law of areas Conservation of orientation	151 151

CONTENTS			xi
	18	The General Linear Motion	159
	19	The Free Fall	163
		Vertical throw Inclined throw	164 166
	20	Friction	172
		Friction phenomena in a viscous medium Motion in a viscous medium with Newtonian friction Generalized <i>ansatz</i> for friction:	172 177 179
	21	The Harmonic Oscillator	196
	22	Mathematical Interlude—Series Expansion, Euler's Formulas	210
	23	The Damped Harmonic Oscillator	214
	24	The Pendulum	229
	25	Mathematical Interlude: Differential Equations	241
	26	Planetary Motions	246
	27	Special Problems in Central Fields	282
		The gravitational field of extended bodies The attractive force of a spherical mass shell The gravitational potential of a spherical shell covered with mass Stability of circular orbits	282 283 285 289
	28	The Earth and our Solar System	295
		General notions of astronomy Determination of astronomic quantities Properties, position, and evolution of the solar system World views On the evolution of the universe Dark Matter	295 296 308 315 325 330
		What is the nature of the dark matter?	338

370

III THEORY OF RELATIVITY	361
29 Relativity Principle and Michelson–Morley Experiment	362

64
e

30 The Lorentz Transformation

Rotation of a three-dimensional coordinate frame	372
The Minkowski space	374
Group property of the Lorentz transformation	383

Properties of the Lorentz transformation	389
Time dilatation	389
Lorentz–Fitzgerald length contraction	394
Note on the invisibility of the Lorentz-Fitzgerald length contraction	396
The visible appearance of quickly moving bodies	398
Optical appearance of a quickly moving cube	398
Optical appearance of bodies moving with almost the speed of light	400
Light intensity distribution of a moving isotropic emitter	404
Doppler shift of quickly moving bodies	407
Relativistic space-time structure—space-time events	412
Relativistic past, present, future	413
The causality principle	414
The Lorentz transformation in the two-dimensional subspace of the Minkowski	
space	415
	Time dilatation Lorentz–Fitzgerald length contraction Note on the invisibility of the Lorentz–Fitzgerald length contraction The visible appearance of quickly moving bodies Optical appearance of a quickly moving cube Optical appearance of bodies moving with almost the speed of light Light intensity distribution of a moving isotropic emitter Doppler shift of quickly moving bodies Relativistic space-time structure—space-time events Relativistic past, present, future The causality principle The Lorentz transformation in the two-dimensional subspace of the Minkowski

32	Addition Theorem of the Velocities	419
	Supervelocity of light, phase, and group velocity	421

CONTENTS

33	The Basic Quantities of Mechanics in Minkowski Space	425
	Lorentz scalars	426
	Four-velocity in Minkowski space	427
	Momentum in Minkowski space	428
	Minkowski force (four-force)	428
	Kinetic energy	433
	The Tachyon hypothesis	442
	Derivation of the energy law in the Minkowski space	444
	The fourth momentum component	445
	Conservation of momentum and energy for a free particle	446
	Relativistic energy for free particles	446
	Examples on the equivalence of mass and energy	448
34	Applications of the Special Theory of Relativity	461
	The elastic collision	461
	Compton scattering	465
	The inelastic collision	468
	Decay of an unstable particle	470
Ind	ex	485

xiii