

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910299782903321
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Titolo	Space-Time Algebra // by David Hestenes
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cham : , : Springer International Publishing : , : Imprint : Birkhäuser, , 2015
ISBN	3-319-18413-X
Edizione	[2nd ed. 2015.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (122 p.)
Disciplina	510 516.36 519 530.15
Soggetti	Mathematical physics Physics Geometry, Differential Mathematical Applications in the Physical Sciences Mathematical Methods in Physics Differential Geometry
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Originally published by Gordon and Breach Science Publishers, New York, 1966.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references.
Nota di contenuto	Preface to the Second Edition -- Introduction -- Part I:Geometric Algebra -- 1.Interpretation of Clifford Algebra -- 2.Definition of Clifford Algebra -- 3.Inner and Outer Products -- 4.Structure of Clifford Algebra -- 5.Reversion, Scalar Product -- 6.The Algebra of Space -- 7.The Algebra of Space-Time -- Part II: Electrodynamics -- 8. Maxwell's Equation -- 9.Stress-Energy Vectors -- 10.Invariants -- 11. Free Fields -- Part III: Dirac Fields -- 12.Spinors -- 13.Dirac's Equation -- 14.Conserved Currents -- 15.C, P, T -- Part IV: Lorentz Transformations -- 16.Reflections and Rotations -- 17.Coordinate Transformations -- 18.Timelike Rotations -- 19.Scalar Product -- Part V:Geometric Calculus -- 20.Differentiation -- 21.Coordinate Transformations -- 22.Integration -- 23.Global and Local Relativity -- 24.Gauge Transformation and Spinor Derivatives -- Conclusion -- Appendices -- A. Bases and Pseudoscalars -- B. Some Theorems -- C.

Sommario/riassunto

This small book started a profound revolution in the development of mathematical physics, one which has reached many working physicists already, and which stands poised to bring about far-reaching change in the future. At its heart is the use of Clifford algebra to unify otherwise disparate mathematical languages, particularly those of spinors, quaternions, tensors and differential forms. It provides a unified approach covering all these areas and thus leads to a very efficient 'toolkit' for use in physical problems including quantum mechanics, classical mechanics, electromagnetism and relativity (both special and general) – only one mathematical system needs to be learned and understood, and one can use it at levels which extend right through to current research topics in each of these areas. These same techniques, in the form of the 'Geometric Algebra', can be applied in many areas of engineering, robotics and computer science, with no changes necessary – it is the same underlying mathematics, and enables physicists to understand topics in engineering, and engineers to understand topics in physics (including aspects in frontier areas), in a way which no other single mathematical system could hope to make possible. There is another aspect to Geometric Algebra, which is less tangible, and goes beyond questions of mathematical power and range. This is the remarkable insight it gives to physical problems, and the way it constantly suggests new features of the physics itself, not just the mathematics. Examples of this are peppered throughout 'Space-Time Algebra', despite its short length, and some of them are effectively still research topics for the future. From the Foreword by Anthony Lasenby.