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Sommario/riassunto	Recent discoveries in astronomy have revolutionized the field of cosmology. While many long-standing questions in cosmology have now been answered, the new data pose new mysteries such as the nature of the ""dark energy"" that dominates the universe. This second edition provides an accessible and thorough text on the physics of cosmology and a lively account of the modern concordance model of the universe, from the big bang to a distant future dominated by dark energy. - ;Recent discoveries in astronomy, especially those made with data collected by satellites such as the Hubble Space Telescope