Record Nr. UNINA9910966444503321 Autore Ungar Abraham A Titolo Beyond the Einstein addition law and its gyroscopic Thomas precession : the theory of gyrogroups and gyrovector spaces / / by Abraham A. Ungar Dordrecht;; Boston,: Kluwer Academic Publishers, c2001 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-280-20689-6 9786610206896 0-306-47134-5 Edizione [1st ed. 2002.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (462 p.) Fundamental theories of physics;; v. 117 Collana Disciplina 530.11 Soggetti Special relativity (Physics) Geometry, Hyperbolic Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Monografia Livello bibliografico Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Includes bibliographical references (p. 381-401) and indexes. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Thomas Precession: The Missing Link -- Gyrogroups: Modeled on Einstein'S Addition -- The Einstein Gyrovector Space -- Hyperbolic Geometry of Gyrovector Spaces -- The Ungar Gyrovector Space -- The MÖbius Gyrovector Space -- Gyrogeometry -- Gyrooprations — the SL (2, c) Approach -- The Cocycle Form -- The Lorentz Group and its Abstraction -- The Lorentz Transformation Link -- Other Lorentz Groups. Sommario/riassunto Evidence that Einstein's addition is regulated by the Thomas precession has come to light, turning the notorious Thomas precession, previously considered the ugly duckling of special relativity theory, into the beautiful swan of gyrogroup and gyrovector space theory, where it has been extended by abstraction into an automorphism generator, called the Thomas gyration. The Thomas gyration, in turn, allows the introduction of vectors into hyperbolic geometry, where they are called gyrovectors, in such a way that Einstein's velocity additions turns out to be a gyrovector addition. Einstein's addition thus becomes a gyrocommutative, gyroassociative gyrogroup operation in the same

way that ordinary vector addition is a commutative, associative group operation. Some gyrogroups of gyrovectors admit scalar multiplication.

giving rise to gyrovector spaces in the same way that some groups of vectors that admit scalar multiplication give rise to vector spaces. Furthermore, gyrovector spaces form the setting for hyperbolic geometry in the same way that vector spaces form the setting for Euclidean geometry. In particular, the gyrovector space with gyrovector addition given by Einstein's (Möbius') addition forms the setting for the Beltrami (Poincaré) ball model of hyperbolic geometry. The gyrogroup-theoretic techniques developed in this book for use in relativity physics and in hyperbolic geometry allow one to solve old and new important problems in relativity physics. A case in point is Einstein's 1905 view of the Lorentz length contraction, which was contradicted in 1959 by Penrose, Terrell and others. The application of gyrogroup-theoretic techniques clearly tilt the balance in favor of Einstein.