



Topology and Geometry for Physicists

By Charles Nash, Siddhartha Sen

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Applications from condensed matter physics, statistical mechanics and elementary particle theory appear in the book. An obvious omission here is general relativity--we apologize for this. We originally intended to discuss general relativity. However, both the need to keep the size of the book within the reasonable limits and the fact that accounts of the topology and geometry of relativity are already available, for example, in **The Large Scale Structure of Space-Time** by S. Hawking and G. Ellis, made us reluctantly decide to omit this topic.

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Editorial Review

Review

"One of the most remarkable developments of the last decade in the penetration of topological concepts into theoretical physics. Homotopy groups and fibre bundles have become everyday working tools. Most of the textbooks on these subjects were written with pure mathematicians in mind, however, and are unnecessarily opaque to people with a less rigorous background. This concise introduction will make the subject much more accessible. With plenty of simple examples, it strikes just the right balance between unnecessary mathematical pedantry and arm-waving woolliness...it can be thoroughly recommended.

--T.W.B. Kibble, PHYSICS BULLETIN

From the Back Cover

This volume provides an easily comprehensible introduction to topological and geometrical methods in theoretical physics and applied mathematics. No detailed knowledge of topology or geometry is required in the reader, and advanced undergraduate or graduate physicists should have no difficulty in understanding the material.

The style and approach of the book reflect the fact that the authors are themselves physicists, and have taken trouble to clarify difficult mathematical concepts and to emphasize their physical motivation. The applications range from condensed matter physics and statistical mechanics to elementary particle theory, while the main mathematical topics are differential forms, homotopy, homology, cohomology, fibre bundles, connection and covariant derivatives and Morse theory.

About the Author

Charles Nash is a Professor of Mathematics at the National University of Ireland. His main research interests are quantum field theory and differential topology.

Siddhartha Sen is Professor Emeritus in Applied Mathematics at the University College of Dublin.

Users Review

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