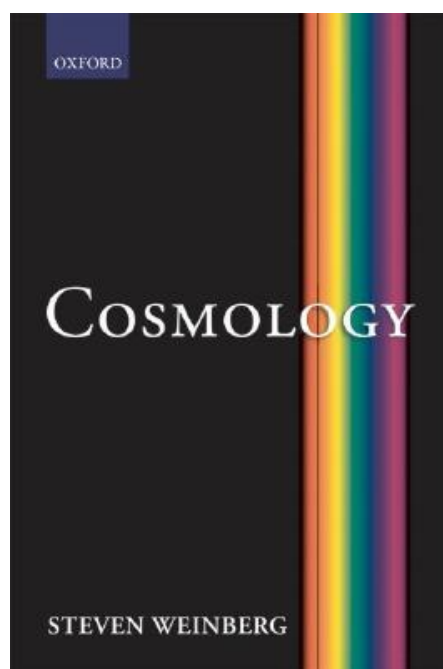




Cosmology

Steven Weinberg

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This book is unique in the detailed, self-contained, and comprehensive treatment that it gives to the ideas and formulas that are used and tested in modern cosmological research. It divides into two parts, each of which provides enough material for a one-semester graduate course. The first part deals chiefly with the isotropic and homogeneous average universe; the second part concentrates on the departures from the average universe. Throughout the book the author presents detailed analytic calculations of cosmological phenomena, rather than just report results obtained elsewhere by numerical computation. The book is up to date, and gives detailed accounts of topics such as recombination, microwave background polarization, leptogenesis, gravitational lensing, structure formation, and multifield inflation, that are usually treated superficially if at all in treatises on cosmology. Copious references to current research literature are supplied. Appendices include a brief introduction to general relativity, and a detailed derivation of the Boltzmann equation for photons and neutrinos used in calculations of cosmological evolution. Also provided is an assortment of problems.

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Covey says

Truly a magisterial overview of the Universe at the largest possible scales of space and time. But don't try reading it before you take a few years of upper-division math and physics.

Nick Black says

Typical Weinberg firehose of excruciating calculation, but a very complete and unified presentation of a tremendous amount of material. I am not a physicist, and do not pretend to have followed much; I had to skip several entire chapters, something which doesn't typically happen (I've studied plenty of math and physics, including astrophysics, and the undergraduate level). Everywhere, though, there's copious references to exquisitely-selected and up-to-date literature (usually several per page), the writing is clear, and the printing is marvelous. Material that I was competent to review, such as that on baryogenesis and stellar nucleosynthesis, was presented with a fresh perspective and utter command of detail, both experimental and theoretical.

Lukasz Glinka says

very good review of modern cosmology.

Alex says

Textbook. Hope you know allot of math and have already studied this stuff for years before cracking this one.
