



An Introduction to Tensors and Group Theory for Physicists

By Nadir Jeevanjee

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The second edition of this highly praised textbook provides an introduction to tensors, group theory, and their applications in classical and quantum physics. Both intuitive and rigorous, it aims to demystify tensors by giving the slightly more abstract but conceptually much clearer definition found in the math literature, and then connects this formulation to the component formalism of physics calculations. New pedagogical features, such as new illustrations, tables, and boxed sections, as well as additional “invitation” sections that provide accessible introductions to new material, offer increased visual engagement, clarity, and motivation for students.

Part I begins with linear algebraic foundations, follows with the modern component-free definition of tensors, and concludes with applications to physics through the use of tensor products. Part II introduces group theory, including abstract groups and Lie groups and their associated Lie algebras, then intertwines this material with that of Part I by introducing representation theory. Examples and exercises are provided in each chapter for good practice in applying the presented material and techniques.

Prerequisites for this text include the standard lower-division mathematics and physics courses, though extensive references are provided for the motivated student who has not yet had these. Advanced undergraduate and beginning graduate students in physics and applied mathematics will find this textbook to be a clear, concise, and engaging introduction to tensors and groups.

Reviews of the First Edition

“[P]hysicist Nadir Jeevanjee has produced a masterly book that will help other physicists understand those subjects [tensors and groups] as mathematicians understand them... From the first pages, Jeevanjee shows amazing skill in finding fresh, compelling words to bring forward the insight that animates the modern mathematical view...[W]ith compelling force and clarity, he provides

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Editorial Review

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The book is divided into two distinct parts, the first one (Chapters 1-3) dealing with linear algebra and tensors, the second focusing on group theory in physics (Chapter 4-6). provide a solid background for students, helping them to understand the more advanced literature on the subject without formal difficulties. this book not only fills a considerable pedagogical gap in the physical and mathematical literature, but also shows to what extent the material arises naturally within any consistent model of natural phenomena.
(Rutwig Campoamor-Stursberg, Mathematical Reviews, Issue 2012 i)

The aim of the monograph is to fill a definite gap in literature by connecting the component formalism intrinsic to physical computations to the abstract but more conceptual formulations of mathematical literature and to present interconnections between tensor analysis and group theory, to demonstrate their physical applications. It is destined for students of advanced-undergraduate level. Every chapter is endowed by exercises and problems. (Boris V. Loginov, Zentralblatt MATH, Vol. 1229, 2012)"

From the Back Cover

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About the Author

Nadir Jeevanjee is a graduate student research assistant at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in Berkeley, CA.

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