CONTENTS


A Motion 1
A.1 Scales in physical laws: Poisson vs. Yukawa . . . 1
A.2 Buckingham's Π-theorem and the Navier-Stokes-equation . . . 2
A.3 Constants of Nature and Planck's system of units . . . 3
A.4 Classical Lagrange-functions . . . 3
A.5 Classical universality and mechanical similarity . . . 5
A.6 Total derivatives in the Lagrange-function . . . 6
A.7 Virial theorem . . . 7
A.8 Galilei-invariance of classical systems . . . 9
A.9 Alternatives to the Lagrange-function . . . 10
A.10 Beltrami-identity and the conservation of energy . . . 11
A.11 Convexity of the Lagrange-function . . . 12
A.12 Lorentz- and Galilei-relativity . . . 12
A.13 Rapidity . . . 15
A.14 Proper time and the relativistic Lagrange-function . . . 16
A.15 Geometric view on motion . . . 16
A.16 Relativistic energy and momentum . . . 18
A.17 Causality and light cones . . . 19

B Waves 21
B.1 Taxonomy of waves . . . 21
B.2 Elastic waves and wave equations . . . 21
B.3 Partial differential equations: hyperbolic vs. elliptic . . . 23
B.4 Relativistic waves and hyperbolicity . . . 24
B.5 Causal structure of spacetime . . . 25
B.6 Dimensionality of spacetime . . . 26
B.7 Huygens-principle . . . 28

C Fields 31
C.1 Lagrange-description of field dynamics . . . 31
C.2 Lagrange-description of scalar field dynamics . . . 31
C.3 Maxwell-electrodynamics and the gauge-principle . . . 32
C.4 Electromagnetic duality and axions . . . 34
C.5 Poynting-law and conservation of energy and momentum . . . 35
C.6 Covariant electrodynamics in matter . . . 37
C.7 Finsler-geometry and Lorentz-forces . . . 38
C.8 Light-cone structure beyond metric spacetimes . . . 39

D Symmetry 41
D.1 Lie-groups and their generation . . . 41
D.2 Generating algebras . . . 41
D.3 Construction of invariants . . . 43
D.4 Symplectic structures and canonical time evolution . . . 43
D.5 Unitary time-evolution in quantum mechanics . . . 44

E Quanta 47
E.1 Schrödinger-equation as a Helmholtz-differential equation . . . 47
E.2 Born's postulate and the conservation of probability . . . 47
E.3 Ehrenfest's theorem . . . 48

E.4 Dispersion of wave packets and propagation with Green-functions . . 50
E.5 Path integrals . . . 51
E.5.1 Phase space path integral . . . 52
E.5.2 Configuration-space path integral . . . 53
E.6 Uncertainty . . . 55
E.7 Relativistic quantum mechanics . . . 55
E.8 Coupling to fields . . . 56

F Mass 59
F.1 Dynamics of gravity . . . 59
F.2 Inertial accelerations and equivalence . . . 60
F.3 Classical Raychaudhury-equation and geodesic deviation . . . 61
F.4 Gravitational lensing . . . 63
F.5 Gravitational field equation . . . 64

G Temperature 67
G.1 Thermal energy . . . 67
G.2 Axioms of thermodynamics . . . 67
G.3 Measuring temperature . . . 68
G.4 Carnot-engines . . . 69
G.5 Thermal wavelength and quantum statistics . . . 70
G.6 Boltzmann-factor and the fundamental postulate . . . 71
G.7 Ultra-relativistic Bose gases and the Planck-spectrum . . . 73
G.8 Entropy . . . 74
G.9 Negative absolute temperatures . . . 76
G.10 Reversibility . . . 77
G.11 Information entropies . . . 77