

<<欧几里德量子引力学EUCLIDEAN QUANTUM GRAVITY>>

图书基本信息

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内容概要

Euclidean approach to quantum gravity was initiated in the seventies in an attempt to understand the difficulties raised by the spacetime singularities of classical general relativity which arise in the gravitational collapse of stars to form black holes and the entire universe in the big bang. An important motivation was to develop an approach capable of dealing with the nonlinear, nonperturbative aspects of quantum gravity due to topologically nontrivial spacetimes. There are important links with Riemannian geometry: Since its inception, the theory has been applied to a number of important physical problems including the thermodynamic properties of black holes, quantum cosmology and the problem of the cosmological constant. This volume is a selection of some of the most influential and important papers on the Euclidean approach to quantum gravity, in which one expresses the Feynman path integral as a sum over Riemannian metrics. It contains sections on the general formalism, black holes, quantum cosmology, wormholes, and gravitational instantons. Compiled by two of the leading proponents of Euclidean quantum gravity, Stephen Hawking and Gary Gibbons, this book should serve as an essential reference as well as an important document of the exciting progress in this area of research.

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书籍目录

. GENERAL FORMALISM 1. One-Loop Divergencies in the Theory of Gravitation 2. The Path-Integral Approach to Quantum Gravity 3. Euclidean Quantum Gravity 4. Path Integrals and the Indefiniteness of the Gravitational Action 5. Proof of the Positive Action Conjecture in Quantum Relativity 6. Zeta Function Regularization of Path Integrals in Curved Spacetime 7. The Conformal Rotation in Perturbative Gravity 8. Quantum Tunneling and Negative Eigenvalues 9. A Relation Between Volume, Mean Curvature and Diameter 10. The Cosmological Constant is Probably Zero . BLACK HOLES 1. Particle Creation by Black Holes 2. Path Integral Derivation of Black-Hole Radiance 3. Black Holes and Thermal Green Functions 4. Action Integrals and Partition Functions in Quantum Gravity 5. Instability of Flat Space at Finite Temperature 6. Thermal Stress Tensor in Static Einstein Spaces 7. Quantum Stress Tensor in Schwarzschild Space-Time . QUANTUM COSMOLOGY 1. Cosmological Event Horizons, Thermodynamics and Particle Creation 2. Gravitational Effects on and of Vacuum Decay 3. Supercooled Phase Transitions in the Very Early Universe 4. Wave Function of the Universe 5. The Quantum State of the Universe 6. Origin of Structure in the Universe WORMHOLES GRAMITATIONAL INSTANTONS

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