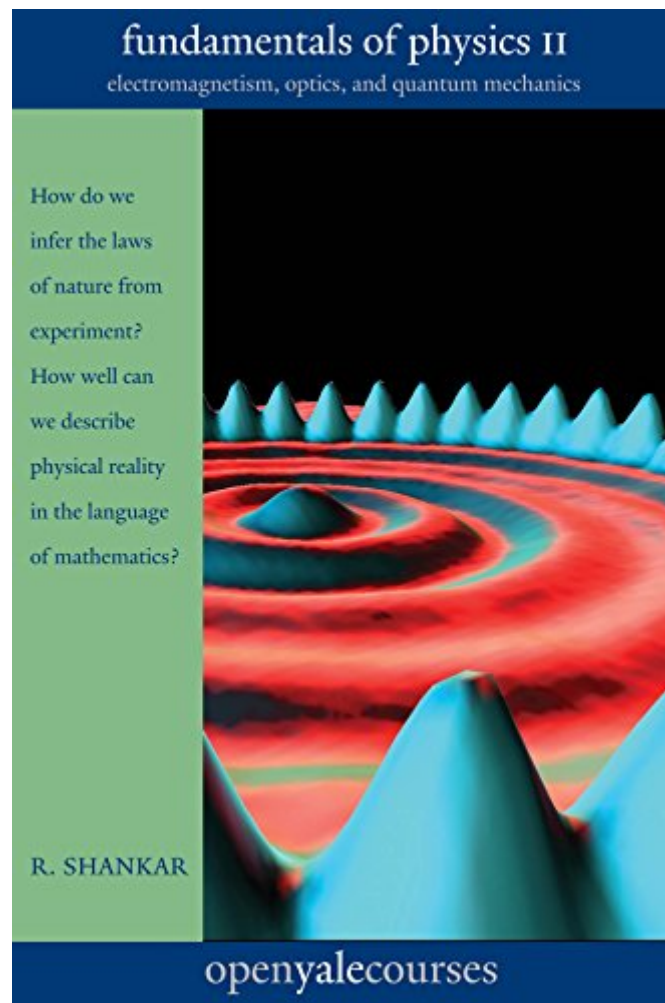


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Fundamentals Of Physics II: Electromagnetism, Optics, And Quantum Mechanics: 2 (The Open Yale Courses Series)



Synopsis

R. Shankar, a well-known physicist and contagiously enthusiastic educator, was among the first to offer a course through the innovative Open Yale Course program. His popular online video lectures on introductory physics have been viewed over a million times. In this second book based on his online Yale course, Shankar explains essential concepts, including electromagnetism, optics, and quantum mechanics. The book begins at the simplest level, develops the basics, and reinforces fundamentals, ensuring a solid foundation in the principles and methods of physics. It provides an ideal introduction for college-level students of physics, chemistry, and engineering; for motivated AP Physics students; and for general readers interested in advances in the sciences.

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Customer Reviews

After reading Shankar's Fundamentals of Physics last year, I couldn't help but get a feeling of satisfaction upon realizing that, in only a little over 400 pages, I had reviewed the essentials of introductory physics in stunning elegance. I credit that book with giving me an intuitive outlook on physics, something that has come in handy in my upper division physics classes. There's something oddly satisfying about Shankar's writing style and the clear expository manner in which he explains

physics. Shankar has a way in which he can explain the essentials of something complicated, without compromising the depth of the subject. Hence, drawing once again on his prodigious skills as a teacher, his Fundamentals of Physics II covers not just the essentials of Electrodynamics and Magnetism, it goes above and beyond to even explain the role of electromagnetism in relativity. Among the other topics included in his masterful book, one can also find a few chapters in optics that contain a nice and neat introduction to the principle of least action. The section on quantum mechanics is very well written, and serves as a very neat introduction to the basic principles of quantum mechanics (for those interested, Shankar wrote another excellent book titled "Principles of Quantum Mechanics." A more advanced text, but worth the read). The mathematics throughout the book is not terribly challenging and will come in handy for future courses. Overall, I am quite satisfied with Shankar's latest entry into the Open Yale course series, as this is a worthy sequel to his previous Fundamentals of Physics textbook. I will be using his new book as a refresher before I take my first serious E & M upper division class at Cal Poly. For anyone who is looking to enhance their physics intuition and knowledge, one can never go wrong with Shankar.

As expected, Fundamentals of Physics II, is yet another gem coming out from Prof. Shankar's pen. Based on his Yale University course, available to everybody at [...], this book is written with superb style and clarity, and will bring joy to every dedicated reader, enthusiastic about physics. It contains amazing and equal amount of conceptual and mathematical detail, and it is the best book I know in explaining use of mathematics in physics. Most importantly, this book (like the Volume I) is different from all other standard textbooks because it demonstrates how physicists think about physics, which is very different from the way physics is presented in our high-school textbooks, and in most of the standard university-level texts. These 584 pages cover Electromagnetism, Optics and Quantum Mechanics with impressive detail and rigor. It is an exciting read due to its smooth flow and humor scattered throughout the book. Students who go through these two volumes with paper and pencil in their hands will in the end have true feeling of accomplishment, and physics majors will build a firm foundation for their further studies of physics. Finally, this book will also prove useful to us, professors, who teach introductory calculus-based physics courses - as a source of permanent inspiration for making our teaching better and better!

Professor Shankar gives a delightful and elegant presentation to physics in his books. I would recommend viewing his courses on youtube or through YaleCourses.

This book has appropriate depth for senior level physics. Very well written.

EXCELLENT BOOK!

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