

LITERATURA

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THE PLACE OF THE THEORY OF RELATIVITY
IN THE AREA OF HUMAN KNOWLEDGE

Summary

The paper has outlined a broad perspective of references for the (particular and general) theory of relativity to various domains of human knowledge and to technique. These references are presented both in their current and historical dimension. The following issues are discussed: 1) the place of the theory of relativity in the development of physics and cosmology, 2) its contribution to the development of mathematics, 3) the significance of the theory of relativity in the development of technique, and 4) the role of the theory of relativity in the development of philosophy.

The theory of relativity is – aside to quantum mechanics – one of the two basic paradigms (relativistic paradigm) of contemporary physics. Likewise it plays a fundamental role in further development of physics, astronomy and cosmology, contributing at the same time to the development of mathematics and philosophy.

The author indicates that it is groundless to refer to the theory of relativity in the efforts to relativise and subjectivise cognitive and axiological questions. The theory of relativity does not relativise all its concepts of magnitudes, but it even confers the absolute status on certain magnitudes, which have been deemed relative before.

Translated by Jan Klos

Słowa kluczowe: teoria względności, kosmologia relatywistyczna, kwantowa grawitacja, unifikacja fizyki, metody globalne, relatywizacja pojęć.

Key words: theory of relativity, relativistic cosmology, quantum gravitation, unification of physics, global methods, relativisation of concepts.

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