## Contents

Acknowledgments	ix
Introduction: The Aim and Structure of These Volumes	xi
CHAPTER ONE	
Classical Accounts of Space and Time	1
The Birth of Physics	1
Newton's First Law and Absolute Space	4
Absolute Time and the Persistence of Absolute	
Space	9
The Metaphysics of Absolute Space and Time	12
CHAPTER TWO	
Evidence for Spatial and Temporal Structure	17
Newton's Second Law and the Bucket Experiment	17
Arithmetic, Geometry, and Coordinates	24
The Symmetries of Space and the Leibniz-Clarke	
Debate	34
CHAPTER THREE	
Eliminating Unobservable Structure	47
Absolute Velocity and Galilean Relativity	47
Galilean Space-Time	54
CHAPTER FOUR	
Special Relativity	67
Special Relativity and Minkowski Space-Time	67
The Twins Paradox	77
Minkowski Straightedge, Minkowski Compass	83
Constructing Lorentz Coordinates	87
CHAPTER FIVE	
The Physics of Measurement	106
The Clock Hypothesis	106
Abstract Boosts and Physical Boosts	114
The "Constancy of the Speed of Light"	120
Deeper Accounts of Physical Principles	124

## Contents

CHAPTER SIX	
General Relativity	126
Curved Space and Curved Space-Time	126
Geometrizing Away Gravity	131
Black Holes and the Big Bang	140
The Hole Argument	146
Suggested Readings on General Relativity	152
CHAPTER SEVEN	
The Direction and Topology of Time	153
The Geometry of Time	153
Time Travel as a Technical Problem	162
The Direction of Time	165
Appendix: Some Problems in Special	
Relativistic Physics	171
References	177
Index	181