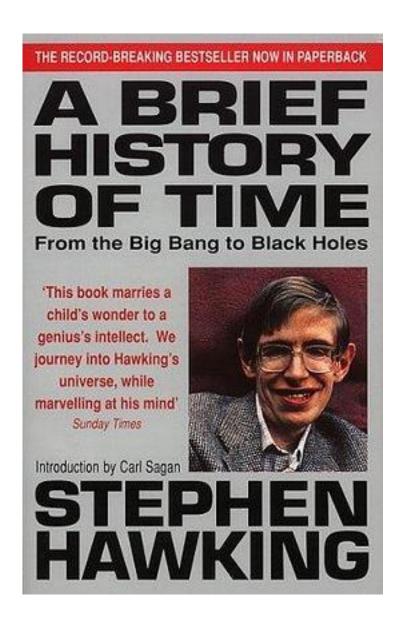
A Brief History of Time



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著者:Stephen Hawking

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#1 NFW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

Published more than two decades ago to great critical acclaim and commercial success, A Brief History of Time has become a landmark volume in science writing. Stephen Hawking, one of the great minds of our time, explores such profound questions as: How did the universe begin—and what made its start possible? Does time always flow forward? Is the universe unending—or are there boundaries? Are there other dimensions in space? What will happen when it all ends?

Told in language we all can understand, A Brief History of Time plunges into the exotic realms of black holes and quarks, of antimatter and "arrows of time," of the big bang and a bigger God—where the possibilities are wondrous and unexpected. With exciting images and profound imagination, Stephen Hawking brings us closer to the ultimate secrets at the very heart of creation.

This landmark volume in scientific writing leads us on an exhilarating journey to distant galaxies, black holes, and alternate dimensions, and includes Professor Hawking's observations about the last decade's advances -- developments that have confirmed many of his theoretical predictions. Makes vividly clear how Professor Hawking's work has transformed our view of the universe.

作者介绍:

Stephen Hawking, who was born on the anniversary of Galileo's death in 1942, held Isaac Newton's chair as Lucasian Professor of Mathematics at the University of Cambridge for thirty years. Widely regarded as the most brilliant theoretical physicist since Einstein, he is also the author of Black Holes and Baby Universes, The Universe in a Nutshell, A Briefer History of Time, The Grand Design, and numerous scientific books and papers.

Biography

In the universe as a whole, the nature of black holes may be one of the most puzzling mysteries. No less puzzling, in the slightly smaller universe of book publishing, is the astounding popular success of Stephen Hawking's 1988 book on the matter, or anti-matter, as it were: A Brief History of Time: From the Big Bang to Black Holes.

Clocking in at just over 200 pages, it was, indeed, brief, but it was hardly the easy read its marketers promised. Nor did it stray much beyond the tone of a scholarly lecture, though at times it did take quick autobiographical peeks into Hawking's personal life. Still, it is just the author's persona that may have been the selling point prompting more than 10 million people worldwide to pick up a copy -- and to have it translated into more than 40 languages in the 10 years since its release.

For Stephen Hawking is an instantly recognizable public figure -- even for those who haven't delved into his so far unprovable theories about black holes. Stricken by amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) -- or Lou Gehrig's disease, as it is called in the States -- while he was working toward his doctorate at Cambridge University, this Englishman is known for the keen wit and intellect that reside within his severely disabled body. He uses a motorized wheelchair to get around and a voice synthesizer to communicate -- a development, he complains, that has given him an American accent. He has

guest-starred, in cartoon form, on an episode of The Simpsons and has appeared in the flesh on Star Trek: The Next Generation, using the benefits of time travel to play poker with Albert Einstein and Isaac Newton. (He has said he doesn't believe in the theory himself, noting that the most powerful evidence of its impossibility is the present-day dearth of time-traveling tourists from the future.)

The son of a research biologist, Hawking resisted familial urging that he major in biology and instead studied physics and chemistry -- as a nod to his father -- when he went to Oxford University as a 17-year-old. In academic writing, Hawking had an extensive career pre-History, starting with The Large Scale Structure of Space-Time, coauthored with G.F.R. Ellis in 1973. But in the late 1980s, faced with the expenses incurred by his illness, he took up Bantam Books' offer to explain the mysteries of the universe to the lay public.

"This is one of the best books for laymen on this subject that has appeared in recent years," The Christian Science Monitor wrote in 1988. "Hawking is one of the greatest theoretical cosmologists of our time. He is greater, by consensus among his colleagues, than other expert authors who have written good popular books on the subject recently. And he is greater, by far, than the 'experts' who have 'explained' quantum physics and cosmology in terms that support a religious agenda." And The New York Times in April 1988 said, "Through his cerebral journeys, Mr. Hawking is bravely taking some of the first, though tentative, steps toward quantizing the early universe, and he offers us a provocative glimpse of the work in progress."

Since then, A Brief History of Time has been republished in an illustrated edition (1996) and as an updated and expanded 10th anniversary edition (1998). In Black Holes and Baby Universes and Other Essays, a collection of 13 essays and the transcript of an extended interview with the BBC, Hawking turned more autobiographical, mixing stories about his studies in college and the beginning of his awareness that he had ALS with thoughts on how black holes can spawn baby universes and on the scientific community's efforts to create a unified theory that will explain everything in the universe. And in The Universe in a Nutshell, his sequel to A Brief History of Time, Hawking takes the same approach as he did in his first bestseller, explaining to the lay reader such ideas as the superstring theory, supergravity, time travel, and quantum theory.

A common current in Hawking's writing -- aside from his grasp of the complexities of the universe -- is a sharp wit. In one of the rare personal reflections in A Brief History of Time, he said he began thinking about black holes in the early 1970s in the evenings as he was getting ready for bed: "My disability makes this rather a slow process, so I had plenty of time." In life, he has a reputation for quickly turning his wheelchair away of a conversation that displeases him, even running his wheels over the toes of the offending conversant.

Even questions about his muse are likely to draw an answer tinged with pointed humor. When Time asked Hawking why he decided to add explaining the universe to a schedule already taxed by his scholarly writing and lecture tours, he answered, "I have to pay for my nurses."

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时间简史

评论

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书评

这本科普读物我前前后后看了6年。2003年初,我浏览了书中所有的彩图、注释及部分 章节,这一切对于当时的我来说充满新奇却也过于深奥。2007年夏,我又拿起了这本平时只当是插画书信手翻看的精装硬皮书,认认真真地读了前五章,到第五章涉及量子 物理时候彻底晕了。于是再次放下了...

7.当爱因斯坦说到"上帝不掷骰子"的时候,他错了。鉴于黑洞给予我们的暗示,上帝不仅掷筛子,而且往往将骰子掷到我们看不见的地方以迷惑我们。 6.我注意到就连那些声称凡事皆为命中注定、我们无法去做任何改变的人,过马路的时候时也会一样的小心翼翼。5.我的目标很简单,就…

本体论哲学家霍金与上帝的终极之战故事有一个冗长的开头。 我们身处的世界是怎样的?自人类文明开始,这类诘问就伴随而生,人们困惑于周边纷 纭复杂的事物和现象,想要知道,这一切都是怎样构成的,又该如何解释它,它的本质 是什么,规律又是什么?哲...

前几天和朋友聊天,我说现在这个时代就是没有力量,没有大哥,只有妖孽。朋友说或许有大哥我们不知道,也许是吧,不过从科学上来讲,这个大哥的存在还没有被我观测到,所以,既无法证实,也无法证伪。妖孽的存在倒是随处可见。 经常性地被一种无边无际的荒谬感击中,反复击中…

初识《时间简史》要回溯到五、六年前,那时的我和同班女生还沉迷在爱因斯坦的大脑构成中不可自拔,突然听说有了本描述宇宙的书,而且作者还是大名鼎鼎的Stephen Hawking(史蒂芬·霍金),立马赶去校外的书店扫荡。可惜书店老板竟以"内容太晦涩"为由只进了一本,权衡再三...

物理学的玄妙之处,在于最精妙的理论,往往是最简单的——题记 1st mov Scherzo—— 乌龟塔风景

《时间简史》的开头,讲了一个有趣的故事。说一位著名的科学家在作完一次关于天文学的演讲后,被一位老妇人全盘反驳了所有观点。老妇人说"世界,实际上是驮在大乌龟背上的...

原文和翻译本结合起来看的,文科出生的科学弱童,有不少疑惑之处 时间简史读书笔记 - 第七章1 关于事件视界的疑问 http://blog.sina.com.cn/s/blog_454797770100cvmx.html时间简史读书笔记 - 第七章2 黑洞和热力学第二定律http://blog.sina.com.cn/s/blog_454797770100cvn4....

首先坦白说明,我18岁,因此论述浅薄请各位指出,后辈虚心听取。 读完时间简史有种很奇妙的感觉,原先不理解为什么学习物理的霍金会被授予PHD(哲 学博士)。现在觉得每一门科学的指向终极都是对世界的理解,那就是哲学,无论是毕 达哥拉斯认为数就是世界,还是霍金以量学引力论...

2001年的夏天,学生年代的学生我们,被一个学生年龄的歌手牵起一阵风潮。谢霆锋在那年推出专辑《玉蝴蝶》,里边两首主打歌"玉蝴蝶"和"潜龙勿用"马上唱遍街头巷尾。"玉蝴蝶"这一首流行曲借着北京爱乐乐团的演出向电影大师奇斯洛夫斯基的 两生花》致敬,而"潜龙勿用"居然...

全书涉及经典力学、电磁力学、相对论、量子力学、弦论等多个方面,对宇宙时空做了 概括精要的解释,堪为现代物理的入门科普书籍。 在牺牲准确性及深度的前提下,全书通篇使用语句描述而只出现了一个方程式。遗憾的 是,由于翻译中文水平欠佳(也许他有自己的方式,不过乏味呆板是...

初中时候看了第一推动丛书翻译的版本,很薄的一本书。那时看到第30页的时候看不下 去了,理由很简单,突然看不懂了。为什么说突然呢,因为在看到全书的第二张图和相 应的文字利用卫星的脉冲和月亮对其反冲的事件讲解相对论的时候,我完全不知道霍金 想表达什么。无数次的重复阅读...

或许这样说是绝对了一些,但是我们确实无法理解彼岸的东西,正如笛卡儿说的:人类 一思考,上帝就发笑。或者如爱因斯坦说的:宇宙中唯有两件事物是无限的:那就是宇 宙的大小与人的蠢笨。然而宇宙的大小我却不能肯定。 霍金当然没有这么说,但是他的说法是: 每一种理论在诞生的时...

有比光更快的速度么?有,那就是思速。这是我编的名词。大清早,一眼望穿窗外巨大的广告牌,我的思想可以穿透到宇宙的边 缘,不,宇宙以最近的理论来说,是无边缘且在膨胀中。那思维可以跟它一起膨胀。没 有人能证实你所想的是对是错。那完美的想像,只属于一个人——你自...

作为一名理工科学生,对HAWKING的经典著作完全可以用"膜拜"来形容.最初读<时间简 史>是在高中,开始是当作课外读物来看,读下之后却发现,这本书的力量已经远远超越了 一本"科普读物",在随书的书签上有句话:"读霍金,懂不懂都是收获."我承认我对书中的理 论只读懂一半,但是它带给我的却...

我在想如果霍金是个正常人的话,这本书会不会还有这么多人买。买这本书的人估计是 冲着霍金而不是书的内容买的。为什么这么说呢?宇宙学的科普书籍,有比这本更好的 书。

本身这本书的翻译就有问题,在这样的基础上,居然还有这么多人写些歌功颂德的书评,我怀疑写这些东西的...

如果嫌《时间简史》看的费劲,推荐这个版本 1、简单 2、插图 3、全彩印4、章节基本独立,相对短的篇幅讲完一个问题 当然,如果觉得这个简单,可以看原版,或者,还出过一个时间简史的插图版。

这个书有多好看不用我去介绍,补充一点虚数时间与宇宙起源的相关知识,可以说明虚数时间的必要性。 美国特副兹大学的亚历山大 维兰金博士在1982年发表了他的"宇宙由虚无创生论",那就是基于存在虚数时间的假设提出的一种宇宙起源假说。由于虚无发生涨落而诞生出来的宇宙种子...

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