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An Introduction to General Relativity and Cosmology, by J. Plebański & A. Krasinski (Cambridge University Press), 2006. Pp. 534, 25.5 × 18 cm. Price £45/\$80 (hardbound; ISBN 0 521 85623 X).

In the time-honoured tradition of many books from CUP, *An Introduction to General Relativity and Cosmology* cannot really be described as an introduction at all. It is not a book for someone looking for a gentle introduction to the subject, but rather an excellent high-level textbook that includes a number of topics that are not readily to be found elsewhere. I recommend it very highly for students who have studied General Relativity already (perhaps having read a real 'introductory' book), and who would like to gain a deeper mathematical insight into the subject. One of the very nice features of the book is the inclusion of extended derivations, which are set out very clearly and which guide the reader helpfully through

advanced topics. In the more mathematical sections (of which there are plenty: gravity really only starts on page 125), the commentaries on some of the theorems give useful insight. The reader will need to be comfortable with mathematics or mathematical physics at advanced undergraduate level to get the most out of the book. The coverage of topics is deliberately inhomogeneous: the standard results are there, but in addition there are some more unusual topics, such as an in-depth discussion of Lemaitre–Tolman(–Bondi) solutions and a rather thorough treatment of the Kerr metric, at a depth which would not be found in most textbooks. For anyone looking for a thorough mathematical treatment of General Relativity, or for a supplement to existing books, this is highly recommended. It is not a standard text by any means, but I would be surprised if there was anyone who didn't find in it something new, interesting, and enlightening. — ALAN HEAVENS.