

THE Physical Universe

ELEVENTH EDITION



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ARTHUR BEISER

Table 15-2 Geologic Time. (The Earth Came into Existence About 4600 Million Years Ago)

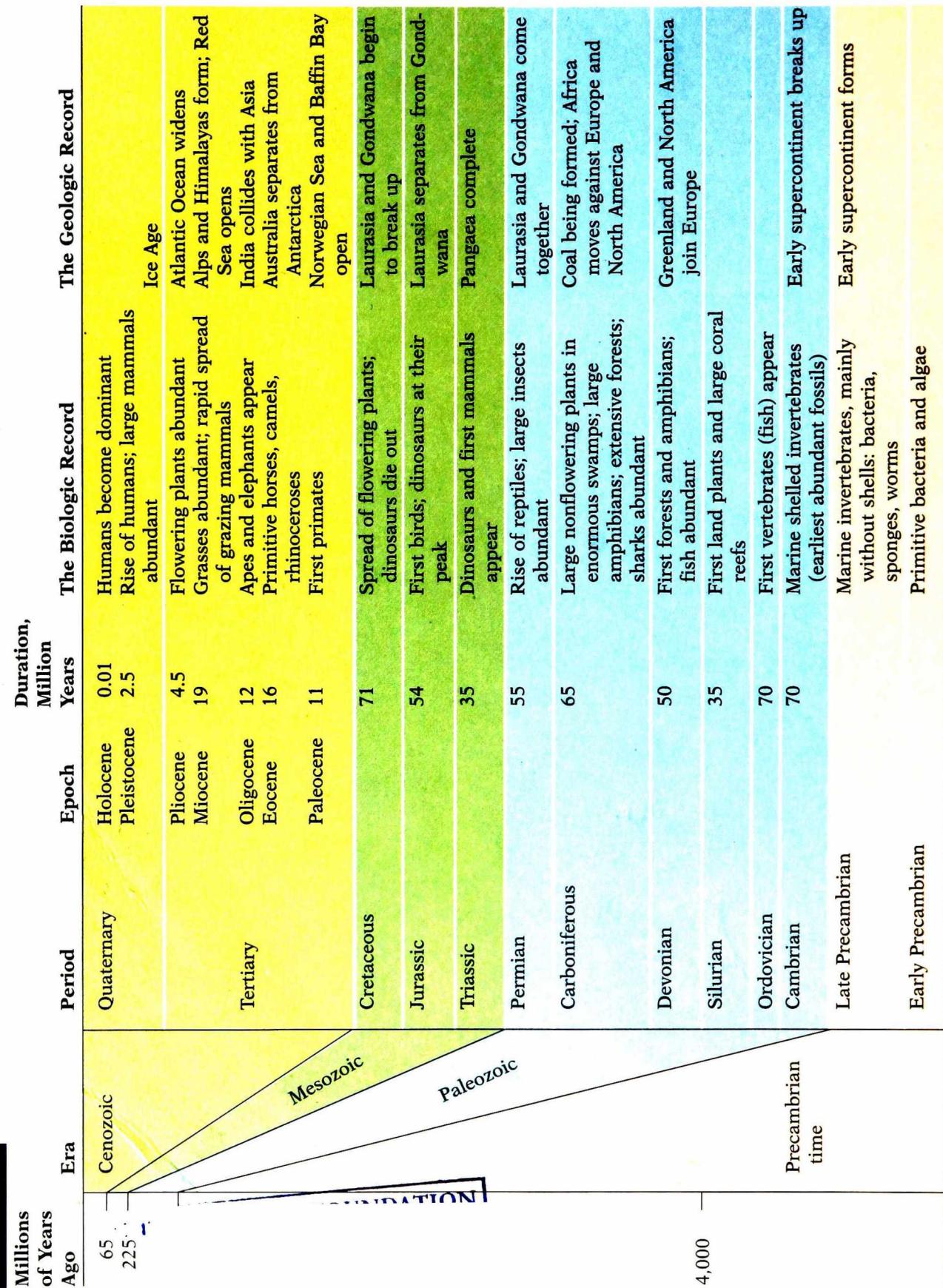


Table 16-1 The Planets

Planet	Symbol	Mean Distance from Sun, Earth = 1 ^a	Diameter, Thousands of km	Mass, Earth = 1 ^b	Mean Density, Water = 1 ^c	Surface Gravity, Earth = 1 ^d	Escape Speed, km/s ^e	Period of Rotation on Axis	Period of Revolution around Sun	Eccentricity of Orbit ^f	Inclination of Orbit to Ecliptic ^g	Known Satellites ^h
Mercury	☿	0.39	4.9	0.055	5.4	0.38	4.3	59 days	88 days	0.21	7°00'	0
Venus	♀	0.72	12.1	0.82	5.25	0.90	10.4	243 days ^f	225 days	0.01	3°34'	0
Earth	⊕	1.00	12.7	1.00	5.52	1.00	11.2	24 h	365 days	0.02	—	1
Mars	♂	1.52	6.8	0.11	3.93	0.38	5.0	24.5 h	687 days	0.09	1°51'	2
Jupiter	♄	5.20	143	318	1.33	2.6	60	10 h	11.9 yr	0.05	1°18'	61
Saturn	♂	9.54	120	95	0.71	1.2	36	10 h	29.5 yr	0.06	2°29'	39
Uranus	♃	19.2	51	15	1.27	1.1	22	16 h ^g	84 yr	0.05	0°46'	24
Neptune	♆	30.1	50	17	1.70	1.2	24	16 h	165 yr	0.01	1°46'	8
Pluto	♇	39.4	2.4	0.03	1.99	0.43	3.2	6 days	248 yr	0.25	17°12'	1

^aThe mean earth-sun distance is called the astronomical unit, where 1 AU = 1.496×10^8 km.

^bThe earth's mass is 5.98×10^{24} kg.

^cThe density of water is 1 g/cm³ = 10^3 kg/m³.

^dThe acceleration of gravity at the earth's surface is 9.8 m/s².

^eSpeed needed for permanent escape from the planet's gravitational field.

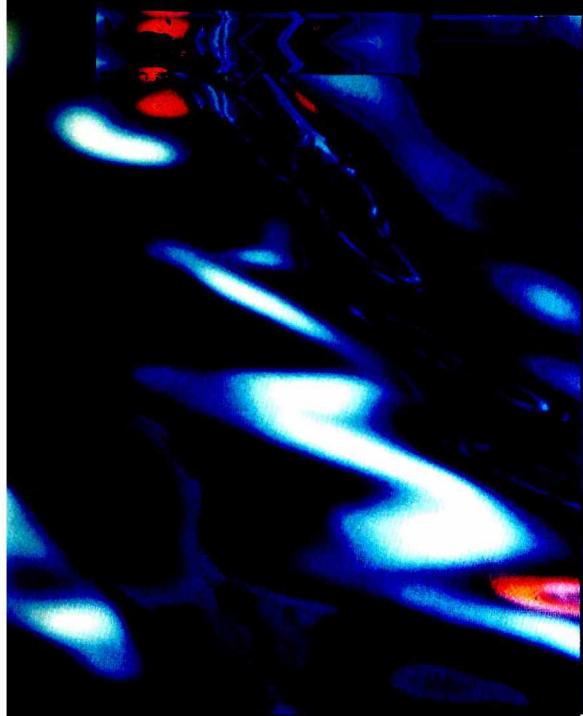
^fVenus rotates in the opposite direction from the other planets.

^gThe axis of rotation of Uranus is only 8° from the plane of its orbit.

^hThe difference between the minimum and maximum distances from the sun divided by the average distance.

ⁱThe ecliptic is the plane of the earth's orbit.

^jProbably more small ones around Jupiter, Saturn and Uranus.



The Physical Universe

Eleventh Edition

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Brief Contents

1	The Scientific Method	1
2	Motion	29
3	Energy	67
4	Matter and Heat	105
5	Electricity and Magnetism	149
6	Waves	193
7	The Nucleus	239
8	The Atom	277
9	The Periodic Law	309
10	Crystals, Ions, and Solutions	343
11	Chemical Reactions	377
12	Organic Chemistry	415
13	Atmosphere and Hydrosphere	455
14	The Rock Cycle	499
15	The Evolving Earth	543
16	The Solar System	593
17	The Stars	641
18	The Universe	675



Contents

Preface *xiii*

1 The Scientific Method 1



How Scientists Study Nature 2

- 1.1 The Scientific Method 2
- 1.2 Why Science Is Successful 5

The Solar System 7

- 1.3 A Survey of the Sky 7
- 1.4 The Ptolemaic System 9
- 1.5 The Copernican System 11
- 1.6 Kepler's Laws 13
- 1.7 Why Copernicus Was Right 16

Universal Gravitation 17

- 1.8 What Is Gravity? 17
- 1.9 Why the Earth Is Round 19
- 1.10 The Tides 20
- 1.11 The Discovery of Neptune 21

How Many of What 22

- 1.12 The SI System 23

Important Terms and Ideas 26

Exercises 26

2 Motion 29



Describing Motion 30

- 2.1 Speed 30
- 2.2 Vectors 33
- 2.3 Acceleration 34
- 2.4 Distance, Time, and Acceleration 37

Acceleration of Gravity 38

- 2.5 Free Fall 38
- 2.6 Air Resistance 42

Force and Motion 43

- 2.7 First Law of Motion 43
- 2.8 Mass 44
- 2.9 Second Law of Motion 45
- 2.10 Mass and Weight 48
- 2.11 Third Law of Motion 49

Gravitation 51

- 2.12 Circular Motion 51
- 2.13 Newton's Law of Gravity 54
- 2.14 Artificial Satellites 56

Important Terms and Ideas 59

Important Formulas 59

Exercises 60

3 Energy 67



Work 68

- 3.1 The Meaning of Work 68
- 3.2 Power 71

Energy 72

- 3.3 Kinetic Energy 72
- 3.4 Potential Energy 75
- 3.5 Energy Transformations 77
- 3.6 Conservation of Energy 79
- 3.7 The Nature of Heat 79

Momentum 80

- 3.8 Linear Momentum 81
- 3.9 Rockets 84
- 3.10 Angular Momentum 84

Relativity 86

- 3.11 Special Relativity 87
- 3.12 Rest Energy 88
- 3.13 General Relativity 91

Energy and Civilization 93

- 3.14** The Energy Problem 93
3.15 The Future 96

Important Terms and Ideas 98

Important Formulas 99

Exercises 99

4 Matter and Heat 105

**Temperature and Heat 106**

- 4.1** Temperature 106
4.2 Heat 109
4.3 Metabolic Energy 111

Fluids 113

- 4.4** Density 113
4.5 Pressure 114
4.6 Buoyancy 118
4.7 The Gas Laws 121

Kinetic Theory of Matter 125

- 4.8** Kinetic Theory of Gases 125
4.9 Molecular Motion and Temperature 126

Changes of State 128

- 4.10** Liquids and Solids 128
4.11 Evaporation and Boiling 129
4.12 Melting 131

Energy Transformations 133

- 4.13** Heat Engines 134
4.14 Thermodynamics 136
4.15 Fate of the Universe 138
4.16 Entropy 139

Important Terms and Ideas 141

Important Formulas 141

Exercises 141

5 Electricity and Magnetism 149

**Electric Charge 150**

- 5.1** Positive and Negative Charge 150
5.2 What Is Charge? 152

5.3 Coulomb's Law 154

- 5.4** Force on an Uncharged Object 156

Electricity and Matter 157

- 5.5** Matter in Bulk 157
5.6 Conductors and Insulators 158
5.7 Superconductivity 160

Electric Current 161

- 5.8** The Ampere 161
5.9 Potential Difference 163
5.10 Ohm's Law 165
5.11 Electric Power 167

Magnetism 170

- 5.12** Magnets 170
5.13 Magnetic Field 171
5.14 Oersted's Experiment 172
5.15 Electromagnets 175

Using Magnetism 176

- 5.16** Magnetic Force on a Current 176
5.17 Electric Motors 178
5.18 Electromagnetic Induction 180
5.19 Transformers 183

Important Terms and Ideas 185

Important Formulas 186

Exercises 186

6 Waves 193

**Wave Motion 194**

- 6.1** Water Waves 194
6.2 Transverse and Longitudinal Waves 195
6.3 Describing Waves 196
6.4 Standing Waves 199

Sound Waves 200

- 6.5** Sound 200
6.6 Doppler Effect 202
6.7 Musical Sounds 203

Electromagnetic Waves 206

- 6.8** Electromagnetic Waves 206
6.9 Types of EM Waves 209
6.10 Light “Rays” 211

Wave Behavior 212

- 6.11** Reflection 212
6.12 Refraction 213
6.13 Lenses 217
6.14 The Eye 221
6.15 Color 224
6.16 Interference 226
6.17 Diffraction 230

Important Terms and Ideas 233*Important Formulas* 234
Exercises 234**7 The Nucleus 239****Atom and Nucleus 240**

- 7.1** Rutherford Model of the Atom 240
7.2 Nuclear Structure 242

Radioactivity 244

- 7.3** Radioactive Decay 245
7.4 Half-Life 248
7.5 Radiation Hazards 249

Nuclear Energy 251

- 7.6** Units of Mass and Energy 251
7.7 Binding Energy 252
7.8 Binding Energy per Nucleon 254

Fission and Fusion 255

- 7.9** Nuclear Fission 255
7.10 How a Reactor Works 258
7.11 Plutonium 260
7.12 A Nuclear World? 260
7.13 Nuclear Fusion 263

Elementary Particles 265

- 7.14** Antiparticles 265
7.15 Fundamental Interactions 268

7.16 Leptons and Hadrons 269**A Physicist at Work:
Timothy C. Miller 271***Important Terms and Ideas* 272
Exercises 273**8 The Atom 277****Quantum Theory of Light 278**

- 8.1** Photoelectric Effect 278
8.2 Photons 279
8.3 What Is Light? 282
8.4 X-Rays 283

Matter Waves 285

- 8.5** De Broglie Waves 285
8.6 Waves of What? 287
8.7 Uncertainty Principle 288

The Hydrogen Atom 290

- 8.8** Atomic Spectra 290
8.9 The Bohr Model 292
8.10 Electron Waves and Orbitals 295
8.11 The Laser 297

Quantum Theory of the Atom 300

- 8.12** Quantum Mechanics 300
8.13 Quantum Numbers 301
8.14 Exclusion Principle 303

Important Terms and Ideas 304*Important Formulas* 304
Exercises 304**9 The Periodic Law 309****Elements and Compounds 310**

- 9.1** Chemical Change 310
9.2 Three Classes of Matter 311
9.3 The Atomic Theory 314