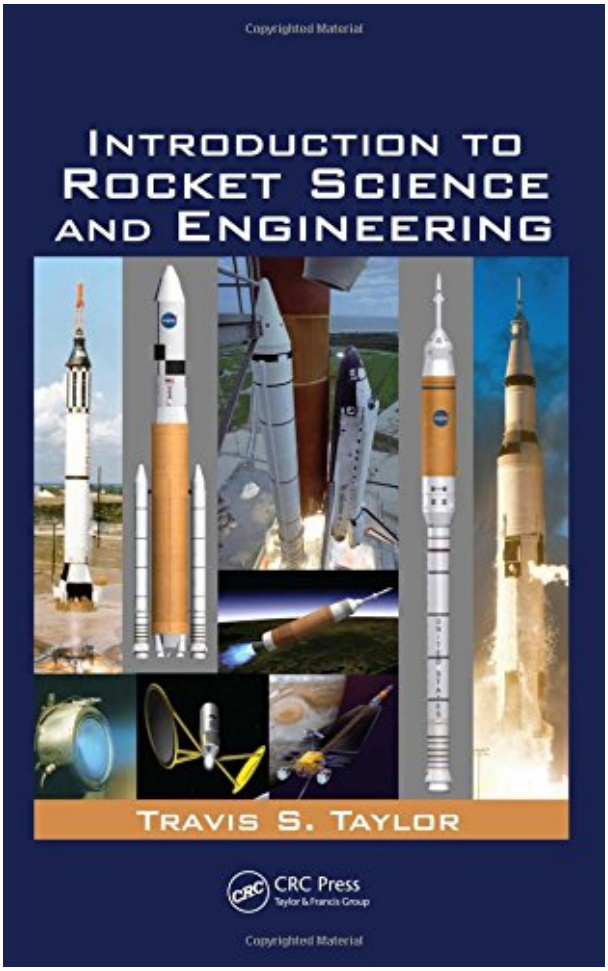
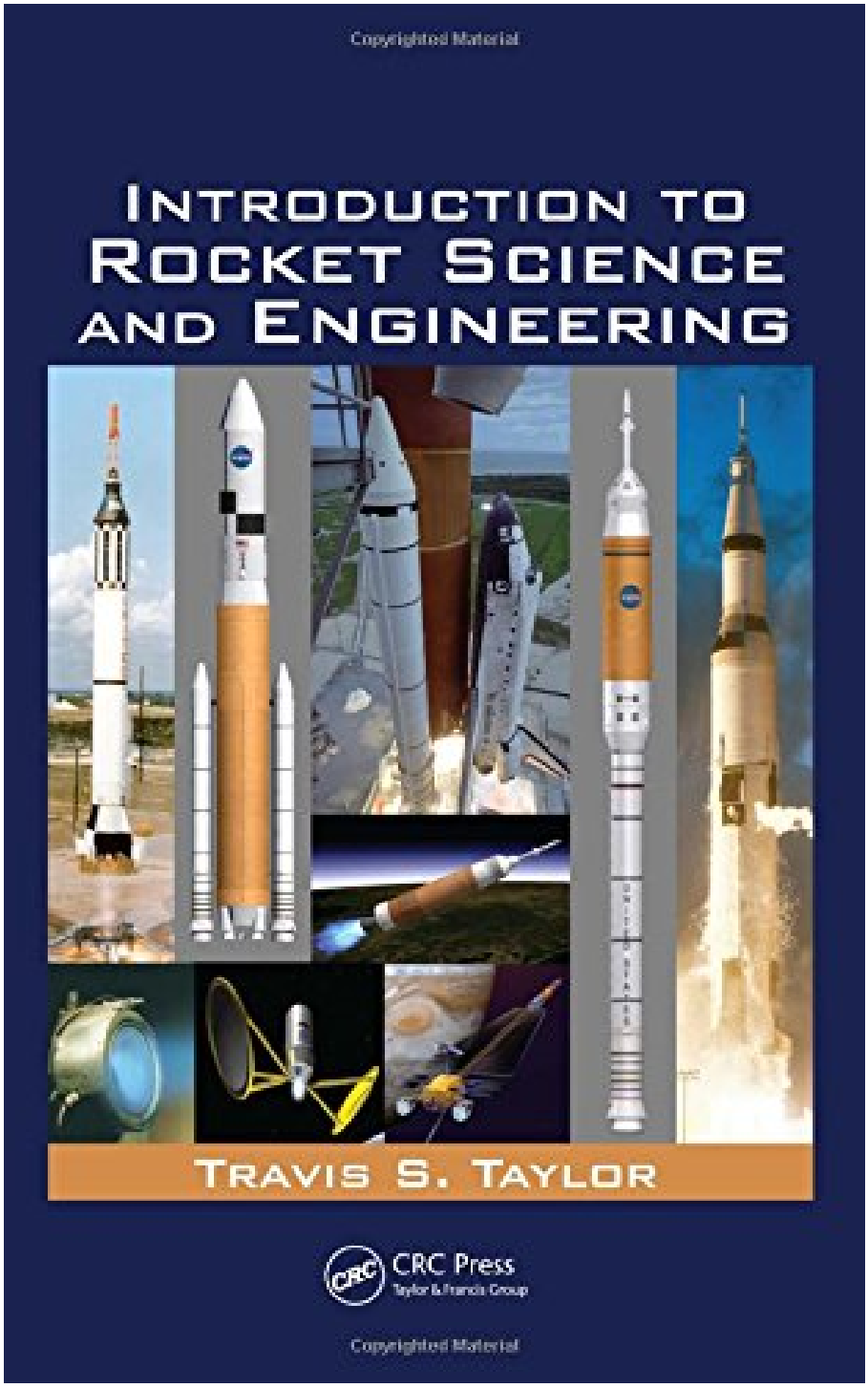
INTRODUCTION TO ROCKET SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING BY TRAVIS S. TAYLOR





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An overall view of the vast spectrum of knowledge needed by practicing rocket scientists and engineers, Introduction to Rocket Science and Engineering presents the history and basics of rocket theory, design, experimentation, testing, and applications. It covers an array of fields, from advanced mathematics, chemistry, and physics to logistics, systems engineering, and politics.

The text begins with a discussion on the discovery and development of rockets as well as the basic principles governing rockets and rocket science. It explains why rockets are needed from economic, philosophical, and strategic standpoints and looks at why the physics of the universe forces us to use rockets to complete certain activities. Exploring how rockets work, the author covers the concepts of thrust, momentum, impulse, and the rocket equation, along with the rocket engine, its components, and the physics involved in the generation of the propulsive force. He also presents several different types of rocket engines and discusses the testing of rocket components, subsystems, systems, and complete products. The final chapter stresses the importance of rocket scientists and engineers to think of the unusual, unlikely, and unthinkable when dealing with the complexities of rocketry.

Taking students through the process of becoming a rocket scientist or engineer, this text supplies a hands-on understanding of the many facets of rocketry. It provides the ideal foundation for students to continue on their journey in rocket science and engineering.

- Sales Rank: #302259 in Books
- Published on: 2009-02-24
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.21" h x .75" w x 6.14" l, 1.30 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 324 pages

About the Author
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34 of 35 people found the following review helpful.
A broad but interesting overview
By calvinnme
This book is an overview. There is no way you can go into depth on the material needed in 300 pages. This is no popular science book either. You need to be familiar with astronomy, physics (mechanics in particular), advanced math through calculus and differential equations, and even some chemistry to get the most from this book. It does try to balance some pretty good explanations with some examples, and there are exercises

at the end of each chapter. Don't expect to be an expert at the end of the book. In fact, I'd say believing that you've been bombarded with enough material that you feel somewhat lost would be a good sign. The point of the book is to give you a feel for the kinds of calculations and sciences that are involved in rocket design so that you can decide if studying these topics in depth is for you. The book does show the author's love of the subject as he discusses motivations and even the kind of "dreamer" that the budding rocket scientist should be. You shouldn't be the type that looks at every problem and sees only limitations. Recommended for the upper level undergraduate physicist or engineer.

The table of contents for this book is hard to come by so I show that next.

23 of 23 people found the following review helpful.
Direct and simple, the way it should be
By Jorge Luis Hevia Casanova
I have recently bought this book in order to learn some basics about rockets, expecting a far more simple text. After reading the whole book, I cannot say I have missed part of my pretty precious spare's time. This is, indeed, one of the most concise and pretty accurate applied's science book I have ever read, and I have read a few now. Don't be afraid of the book's thickness, as someone else stated before, it treats tons of differents fields involved in rocket's design and operation. You should be used to basics physics, and general engineering knowledge to get the point the book tries to reach.

Simple in concept and expected to be more a student's text book than a hard science's book, if you have technical knowledge and have little idea about rockets, this book covers almost everything to design one.

There are, of course, tons of other issues not covered in this book, like pump's cavitation, special equipment for cryo requirements, and so on, but, again, I should state that the latest isn't possible without the previous.

I have enjoyed a lot this book, and I am just a "freak" who enjoys technology in general, including hard science books. Considering that, I highly recommend that book, and it is worth the money it cost.

Remember one thing, and it is the book's title. As it states, it is an introduction, so expect basics on topic. This way, book fully satisfied the title, and surpasses it by far.

4 of 5 people found the following review helpful.
very informative
By Jeff Brown
The topic was well presented. The author does a great job of making rocket science easy to understand. The chapters were organized in a logical and easy to follow manner. This book is excellent for someone who just wants to get an understanding of rocket science while at the same time providing equations and calculations for university classroom study. Well done!

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