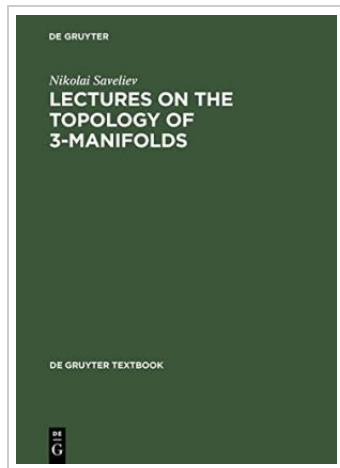



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Lectures on the Topology of 3-Manifolds

By Nikolai Saveliev

Walter de Gruyter. Hard cover. Condition: New. 199 pages. Dimensions: 9.7in. x 6.9in. x 0.6in. Progress in low-dimensional topology has been very fast over the last two decades, leading to the solutions of many difficult problems. One of the consequences of this acceleration of history is that many results have only appeared in professional journals and monographs. These are hardly accessible to students who have completed only a basic course in algebraic topology, or even to some researchers whose immediate area of expertise is not topology. Among the highlights of this period are Cassons results on the Rohlin invariant of homotopy 3-spheres, as well as his L -invariant. The purpose of this book is to provide a much-needed bridge to these modern topics. The book covers some classical topics, such as Heegaard splittings, Dehn surgery, and invariants of knots and links. It proceeds through the Kirby calculus and Rohlins theorem to Cassons invariant and its applications, and gives a brief sketch of links with the latest developments in low-dimensional topology and gauge theory. The book will be accessible to graduate students in mathematics and theoretical physics familiar with some elementary algebraic topology, including the fundamental group, basic homology theory, and Poncar duality on...



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