



Mirror Matter: Pioneering Antimatter Physics

By Robert L. Forward

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For nearly four decades the fictional spaceships of the "Star Trek" universe have been powered by antimatter. But antimatter is not science fiction, and neither is the idea of using it for space propulsion. In *Mirror Matter: Pioneering Antimatter Physics*, renowned physicist Dr. Robert L. Forward and science writer Joel Davis show why, and how. *Mirror Matter* is the answer to the skeptics who say that using antimatter is too risky, too difficult, or too expensive. Forward and Davis describe how to make, capture, store, and use antimatter. *Mirror Matter* explains, step-by-step, how to greatly improve the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of antimatter production; how antimatter can be captured and safely stored until it is used; and how it can improve the propulsion capability of interplanetary rocket engines by one to two orders of magnitude. If the solar system is to one day be our big backyard, it will come about using "mirror matter" for space propulsion.

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Editorial Review

From Library Journal

Antimatter including positrons, antiprotons, and other inverses of "normal" particles has been considered a plaything of research physicists and science fiction writers. But retired physicist Forward and science writer Davis do not limit themselves to relating the history of antimatter. They give some moderately technical information about techniques for production and storage of antiprotons. They also give serious attention to the possibilities for practical use of antimatter, especially in rocket propulsion. Interspersed are brief chapters from the authors' science fiction effort concerning a teenager in 2035 who is fascinated by uses of antimatter. A full-length popular book on this topic is uncommon; this should be welcome in public and academic libraries. Jack W. Weigel, Univ. of Michigan Lib., Ann Arbor

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From the Publisher

This book describes how to make, capture, store, and use antimatter. It is the answer to the skeptics who say that using antimatter is too risky, too difficult, or too expensive. Explains, step-by-step, how to greatly improve the cost-effectiveness of antimatter production, how antimatter can be used in power stations, and how it can improve the propulsion of interplanetary rocket engines by one or two orders of magnitude.

About the Author

Robert L. Forward is a consulting scientist, future technologist, lecturer, and science fact and fiction writer. He is the owner and Chief Scientist of Forward Unlimited, a consultant firm specializing in exotic physics and advanced space propulsion, and a partner and chief scientist of Tethers Unlimited, a partnership formed in 1994 with Dr. Robert P. Hoyt, specializing in highly survivable space tethers. He is the author of ten science fiction novels, the sequel to Dragon's Egg, and three works of science fact plus numerous popular science articles and short stories.

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