1. Record Nr. UNIORUON00429848

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Titolo Die Briefe des Michael Apostoles / Rudolf Stefec

Pubbl/distr/stampa Hamburg, : Verlag Dr. Kovac, 2013

ISBN 978-38-300-7241-6

Descrizione fisica 193 p.; 21 cm.

Lingua di pubblicazione Tedesco

Greco antico

Formato Materiale a stampa

Livello bibliografico Monografia

Record Nr. UNINA9910254590603321

Autore Capellmann Herbert

Titolo The Development of Elementary Quantum Theory / / by Herbert

Capellmann

Pubbl/distr/stampa Cham:,: Springer International Publishing:,: Imprint: Springer,,

2017

ISBN 3-319-61884-9

Edizione [1st ed. 2017.]

Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (VII, 98 p.)

Collana SpringerBriefs in History of Science and Technology, , 2211-4564

Disciplina 530.1201514

Soggetti Physics

Quantum theory

History

History and Philosophical Foundations of Physics

Quantum Physics History of Science

Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese

Formato Materiale a stampa

Livello bibliografico Monografia

Note generali Includes indexes.

Nota di contenuto

Introduction and Outline -- The Fundamental Dierences Between Classical and Quantum Physics -- Planck's Quantum Hypothesis and Einstein's Contributions to the Foundations of Quantum Theory -- The "Old Quantum Theory -- The Quantum Theory of Born, Heisenberg, and Jordan -- Continuous Representations of the New Quantum Laws -- The Consequences of the Basic Quantum Laws on Wave Phenomena and Quantum Uncertainties -- Early Opposition to the Copenhagen Interpretation -- Orthodox Portrayals of the Development of Quantum Mechanics, Comparison and Dierences -- Later Criticism of the Copenhagen Interpretation.

Sommario/riassunto

This book traces the evolution of the ideas that eventually resulted in the elementary quantum theory in 1925/26. Further, it discusses the essential differences between the fundamental equations of Quantum Theory derived by Born and Jordan, logically comprising Quantum Mechanics and Quantum Optics, and the traditional view of the development of Quantum Mechanics. Drawing on original publications and letters written by the main protagonists of that time, it shows that Einstein's contributions from 1905 to 1924 laid the essential foundations for the development of Quantum Theory. Einstein introduced quantization of the radiation field; Born added quantized mechanical behavior. In addition, Born recognized that Quantum Mechanics necessarily required Quantum Optics; his radical concept of truly discontinuous and statistical quantum transitions ("quantum leaps") was directly based on Einstein's physical concepts.