Record Nr. UNINA9910438229403321 The march of time: evolving conceptions of time in the light of **Titolo** scientific discoveries / / Freidel Weinert Pubbl/distr/stampa Heidelberg;; New York,: Springer, 2013 **ISBN** 3-642-35347-9 Edizione [1st ed. 2013.] 1 online resource (289 p.) Descrizione fisica 523.1 Disciplina Soggetti Time - History Discoveries in science - History Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. 1 Evolving Conceptions of Time in the Light of Scientific Discoveries --Nota di contenuto Introduction -- 2 Time and Cosmology -- Greek Astronomy -- Plato and Aristotle -- The Need for Physical Time -- Kant's Cosmology --Time and Causality -- The Topology of Time -- The Metric of Time --Some Advances in the Theory of Time in Classical Physics -- Time in Modern Physics -- The Measurement of Time in Quantum Mechanics --Why Measurement? -- On Permissible Inferences from Scientific Theories -- 3 Flux and Stasis.-Parmenidean Stasis and Heraclitean Flux -- Idealism About Time -- Realism About Time -- Relationism About Time -- The Theory of Relativity and the Block Universe -- Minkowski Spacetime and the Block Universe -- An Alternative Representation of Minkowski Space-Time -- Space-Time and Invariance -- The General Theory of Relativity -- Substantivalism and Relationism About Space-Time -- 4 Symmetry and Asymmetry -- Fundamental Equations and Human Experience -- Entropy and Order -- Reversibility and Irreversibility -- The Role of Boundary Conditions -- The Emergence of Time -- Time in Basic Quantum Mechanics -- Time Travel Scenarios --5 Conclusion -- Bibliography -- Index. The aim of this interdisciplinary study is to reconstruct the evolution of Sommario/riassunto our changing conceptions of time in the light of scientific discoveries. It will adopt a new perspective and organize the material around three central themes, which run through our history of time reckoning:

cosmology and regularity; stasis and flux; symmetry and asymmetry. It

is the physical criteria that humans choose – relativistic effects and time-symmetric equations or dynamic-kinematic effects and asymmetric conditions – that establish our views on the nature of time. This book will defend a dynamic rather than a static view of time.