

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910455292203321
Autore	Berryman Sylvia
Titolo	The mechanical hypothesis in ancient Greek natural philosophy // Sylvia Berryman [[electronic resource]]
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge : , : Cambridge University Press, , 2009
ISBN	1-107-19394-X 0-511-69936-0 1-107-65761-X 1-282-31789-X 9786612317897 0-511-60421-1 0-511-60498-X 0-511-60343-6 0-511-60468-8 0-511-60265-0
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (x, 286 pages) : digital, PDF file(s)
Disciplina	180
Soggetti	Philosophy, Ancient Philosophy of nature - History Mechanism (Philosophy) - History
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Title from publisher's bibliographic system (viewed on 05 Oct 2015).
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 250-273) and indexes.
Nota di contenuto	Mechanics and the mechanical : some problems of terminology -- 'Mechanistic' thought before mechanics? -- Mechanics in the fourth century -- The theory and practice of ancient Greek mechanics -- Ancient Greek mechanics continued : the case of pneumatics -- The philosophical reception of mechanics in antiquity.
Sommario/riassunto	It has long been thought that the ancient Greeks did not take mechanics seriously as part of the workings of nature, and that therefore their natural philosophy was both primitive and marginal. In this book Sylvia Berryman challenges that assumption, arguing that the idea that the world works 'like a machine' can be found in ancient Greek thought, predating the early modern philosophy with which it is

most closely associated. Her discussion ranges over topics including balancing and equilibrium, lifting water, sphere-making and models of the heavens, and ancient Greek pneumatic theory, with detailed analysis of thinkers such as Aristotle, Archimedes, and Hero of Alexandria. Her book shows scholars of ancient Greek philosophy why it is necessary to pay attention to mechanics, and shows historians of science why the differences between ancient and modern reactions to mechanics are not as great as was generally thought.

---