

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910455667403321
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Titolo	The logic and methodology of science in early modern thought : seven studies // Fred Wilson
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Toronto, Ontario ; ; Buffalo, New York ; ; London, England : , : University of Toronto Press, , 1999 ©1999
ISBN	1-282-02861-8 9786612028618 1-4426-8165-9
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (633 p.)
Collana	Toronto Studies in Philosophy
Disciplina	501
Soggetti	Science - Philosophy - History - 17th century Science - Methodology - History - 17th century Electronic books.
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.
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- Introduction -- Study One. Establishing the New Science: Rationalist and Empiricist Responses to Aristotle -- Study Two. Logic under Attack: The Early Modern Period I -- Study Three. Berkeley's Metaphysics and Ramist Logic -- Study Four. Empiricist Inductive Methodology: Hobbes and Hume -- Study Five. 'Rules by Which to Judge of Causes' before Hume -- Study Six. Causation and the Argument A Priori for the Existence of a Necessary Being -- Study Seven. Descartes's Defence of the Traditional Metaphysics -- Notes -- Bibliography -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	During the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, Aristotelian notions of logic and causation came under serious attack. Traditional philosophy speaks of this period as marking a revolution in scientific thought. In this book Fred Wilson reinstates and extends the traditional conception of the scientific revolution and its significance, and explores the goals and directions of the new science according to the differing interpretations of rationalist and empiricist thinkers. Wilson argues for an empiricist approach to scientific method and explanation, and

defends an empiricist as opposed to an Aristotelian account of logic. Calling on an impressive range of intellectual history, he gives a sympathetic account of the earlier Aristotelian philosophy, including such topics as the role of God in explanations, and then proceeds to examine the evolution of the empiricist account of science through a number of early modern figures: Bacon, Descartes, Locke, Hobbes, Berkeley, and Hume. He shows that the new science was characterized not just by its methodology and the kinds of explanations it engendered, but also by a new epistemology and a new understanding of being. A skilled and widely published author in the history of modern philosophy and the philosophy of science, Wilson brings persuasive new argument and detail to his re-evaluation of this important subject.
