Record Nr. UNINA9910785898503321 Thought experiments in philosophy, science, and the arts // edited by **Titolo** Melanie Frappier, Letitia Meynell, and James Robert Brown Pubbl/distr/stampa New York:,: Routledge,, 2013 **ISBN** 1-136-28599-7 1-283-60930-4 9786613921758 1-136-28600-4 0-203-11327-6 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (283 p.) Collana Routledge studies in the philosophy of science;; 11 Altri autori (Persone) **BrownJames Robert** FrappierMelanie MeynellLetitia Disciplina 128.3 128/.3 501 Soggetti Thought experiments Philosophy - Research Research Arts - Research 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 Cover; Title; Copyright; Dedication; Contents; Acknowledgements; List of Figures; List of Contributors; Introduction; 1 Thought Experiment and the Exercise of Imagination in Science; 2 Veridical Idealizations; 3 What Do We See in a Thought Experiment?; 4 The Body, Thought Experiments, and Phenomenology; 5 Thought Experiments from a Kantian Point of View; 6 Can Thought Experiments Be Resolved by Experiment? The Case of Aristotle's Wheel; 7 Chasing the Light: Einstein's Most Famous Thought Experiment; 8 At the Limits of Possibility: Thought Experiments in Quantum Gravity 9 Craig Venter's New Life: The Realization of Some Thought

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## Sommario/riassunto

From Lucretius throwing a spear beyond the boundary of the universe to Einstein racing against a beam of light, thought experiments stand as a fascinating challenge to the necessity of data in the empirical sciences. Are these experiments, conducted uniquely in our imagination, simply rhetorical devices or communication tools or are they an essential part of scientific practice? This volume surveys the current state of the debate and explores new avenues of research into the epistemology of thought experiments.