

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910808948103321
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Titolo	A critical introduction to scientific realism / / Paul Dicken
Pubbl/distr/stampa	London : , : Bloomsbury, , 2016
ISBN	1-4725-7589-X 1-4742-9033-7 1-4725-7588-1
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (223 p.)
Collana	Bloomsbury Critical Introductions to Contemporary Epistemology
Disciplina	501
Soggetti	Realism Science - Methodology Science - Philosophy
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	1. Historical Introduction -- 2. Carnap and Kuhn on Science and Methodology -- 3. The No-Miracles Argument -- 4. The Pessimistic Meta-Induction -- 5. Wholesale and Retail Arguments for Scientific Realism -- 6. Structural Realism -- 7. Constructive Empiricism -- 8. Conclusion -- Bibliography -- Index.
Sommario/riassunto	"What are the reasons for believing scientific theories to be true? The contemporary debate around scientific realism exposes questions about the very nature of scientific knowledge. A Critical Introduction to Scientific Realism explores and advances the main topics of the debate, allowing epistemologists to make new connections with the philosophy of science. Moving from its origins in logical positivism to some of the most recent issues discussed in the literature, this critical introduction covers the no-miracles argument, the pessimistic meta-induction and structural realism. Placing arguments in their historical context, Paul Dicken approaches scientific realism debate as a particular instance of our more general epistemological investigations. The recurrent theme is that the scientific realism debate is in fact a pseudo-philosophical question. Concerned with the methodology of the scientific realism debate, Dicken asks what it means to offer an epistemological assessment of our scientific practices. Taking those practices as a

guide to our epistemological reflections, *A Critical Introduction to Scientific Realism* fills a gap in current introductory texts and presents a fresh approach to understanding a crucial debate."--Bloomsbury Publishing.
