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Nota di contenuto	Contents -- Abbreviations -- I: THE EMERGENCE OF THE PROBLEM -- 1. The Problem of First Principles -- 1. First principles -- 2. Realism -- 3. Dialectic and philosophy -- 4. Puzzles about dialectic -- 5. Aristotle's development -- 6. Aristotle's conception of philosophy -- 7. The emergence of the problem -- 8. Solutions to the problem -- 9. Applications of the solution -- 2. Inquiry and Dialectic -- 10. Aims of inquiry -- 11. The study of method -- 12. Ways to first principles -- 13. Empirical starting-points -- 14. The accumulation of data -- 15. Induction -- 16. The evaluation of theories -- 17. Conclusions on Aristotle's empirical method -- 18. The functions of dialectic -- 19. The starting-point of dialectic -- 20. Dialectical puzzles -- 21. Dialectical puzzles and the aims of dialectic -- 22. The construction of a theory -- 23. The evaluation of dialectical theories -- 24. The special role of dialectic -- 25. Questions about dialectic -- 3. Constructive Dialectic -- 26. Positive functions for dialectic -- 27. The nature of the categories -- 28. Substance and the categories -- 29. Inherence and strong predication -- 30. Substance and quality -- 31. Substance and change -- 32. Substance and essential properties -- 33. The anomaly of differentiae -- 34. The dialectical search for first principles -- 35. The role of dialectic -- 36. The defence of first

principles -- 37. General features of change -- 4. Puzzles about Substance -- 38. Substances and subjects -- 39. Basic subjects -- 40. Matter -- 41. Universals -- 42. The dependent status of universals -- 43. The independence of first substances -- 44. Weaknesses of dialectic
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61. Further developments. -- 6. Conditions for Science -- 62. Science and justification -- 63. Science and universals -- 64. Explanatory properties and basic subjects -- 65. Explanatory properties and the arguments about substance -- 66. Natural priority in demonstration -- 67. Natural priority compared with epistemic priority -- 68. The case for circular demonstration -- 69. The rejection of coherence as a source of justification -- 70. The rejection of an infinite regress -- 71. Foundationalism -- 72. The status of first principles -- 7. Puzzles about Science

Sommario/riassunto

This book emphasises the systemic character of Aristotle's philosophy by examining questions on metaphysics, epistemology, philosophy and mind and ethics. His reliance on dialectic as the method of philosophy appears to conflict with the metaphysical realist view of his conclusions.
