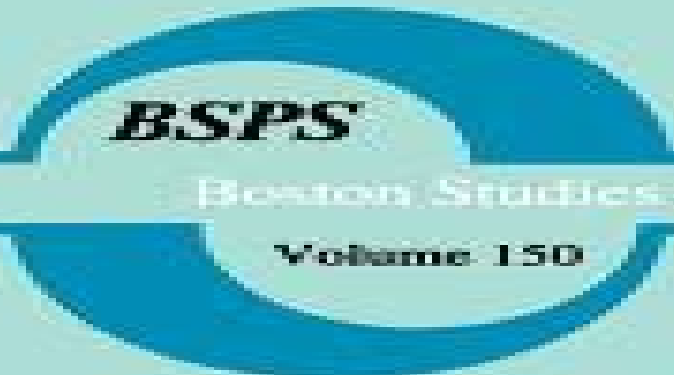




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Some Critical and Historical Perspectives

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Natural Sciences And The Social Sciences Some Critical And Historical Perspectives

E. Agazzi, M. Pauri



Natural Sciences And The Social Sciences Some Critical And Historical Perspectives:

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have been made to make sure that most if not all of the reading materials which are recommended in the book are not only of the highest quality but also freely available on the internet The Reality of the Unobservable E. Agazzi, M.

Pauri, 2013-04-17 Observability and Scientific Realism It is commonly thought that the birth of modern natural science was made possible by an intellectual shift from a mainly abstract and speculative conception of the world to a carefully elaborated image based on observations There is some grain of truth in this claim but this grain depends very much on what one takes observation to be In the philosophy of science of our century observation has been practically equated with sense perception This is understandable if we think of the attitude of radical empiricism that inspired Ernst Mach and the philosophers of the Vienna Circle who powerfully influenced our century's philosophy of science However this was not the attitude of the founders of modern science Galileo for example expressed in a famous passage of the Assayer the conviction that perceptual features of the world are merely subjective and are produced in the anima by the motion and impacts of unobservable particles that are endowed uniquely with mathematically expressible properties and which are therefore the real features of the world Moreover on other occasions when defending the Copernican theory he explicitly remarked that in admitting that the Sun is static and the Earth turns on its own axis reason must do violence to the sense and that it is thanks to this violence that one can know the true constitution of the universe *Meanest Foundations and Nobler*

Superstructures Ofer Gal, 2013-11-11 This book is a historical epistemological study of one of the most consequential breakthroughs in the history of celestial mechanics Robert Hooke's 1635/1703 proposal to compound the celestial motions of the planets of a direct motion by the tangent and an attractive motion towards a central body Newton The Correspondence li 297 Henceforth Correspondence This is the challenge Hooke presented to Isaac Newton 1642/1727 in a short but intense correspondence in the winter of 1679/80 which set Newton on course for his 1687 Principia transforming the very concept of the planetary heavens in the process Herivel 301 De Motu Version III 1 It is difficult to overstate the novelty of Hooke's Programme The celestial motions it suggested those proverbial symbols of stability and immutability were in fact a process of continuous change a deflection of the planets from original rectilinear paths by a central attractive power Correspondence li 313 There was nothing necessary or essential in the shape of planetary orbits Already known to be not circular nor concentric *ibid* Hooke claimed that these apparently closed curves should be understood and calculated as mere effects of rectilinear motions and rectilinear attraction And as Newton was quick to realize this also implied that the planets neither move exactly in ellipse nor revolve twice in the same orbit so that there are as many orbits to a planet as it has revolutions Herivel 301 De Motu Version III **Classics in the History of Greek Mathematics** Jean

Christianidis, 2013-04-18 The twentieth century is the period during which the history of Greek mathematics reached its greatest acme Indeed it is by no means exaggerated to say that Greek mathematics represents the unique field from the wider domain of the general history of science which was included in the research agenda of so many and so distinguished

scholars from so varied scientific communities historians of science historians of philosophy mathematicians philologists philosophers of science archeologists etc while new scholarship of the highest quality continues to be produced This volume includes 19 classic papers on the history of Greek mathematics that were published during the entire 20th century and affected significantly the state of the art of this field It is divided into six self contained sections each one with its own editor who had the responsibility for the selection of the papers that are republished in the section and who wrote the introduction of the section It constitutes a kind of a Reader book which is today one century after the first publications of Tannery Zeuthen Heath and the other outstanding figures of the end of the 19th and the beginning of 20th century rather timely in many respects

Potentiality, Entanglement and Passion-at-a-Distance Robert S. Cohen, M. Horne, J.J. Stachel, 2013-03-14

Potentiality Entanglement and Passion at a Distance is a book for theoretical physicists and philosophers of modern physics It treats a puzzling and provocative aspect of recent quantum physics the apparent interaction of certain physical events that cannot share any causal connection These are said to be entangled in some way but an explanation remains elusive Abner Shimony to whom the book is dedicated and others suggest the need to revive the category of what may be seen as a metaphysical potentiality Abner has described these events without actions to link them as passion at a distance not active but passive The discussions gathered here are written by a truly remarkable cast of scientists and philosophers and shed new light on the most profound puzzles of our times

Bohmian Mechanics and Quantum Theory: An Appraisal J.T. Cushing, Arthur Fine, S. Goldstein, 1996-09-30

We are often told that quantum phenomena demand radical revisions of our scientific world view and that no physical theory describing well defined objects such as particles described by their positions evolving in a well defined way let alone deterministically can account for such phenomena The great majority of physicists continue to subscribe to this view despite the fact that just such a deterministic theory accounting for all of the phenomena of nonrelativistic quantum mechanics was proposed by David Bohm more than four decades ago and has arguably been around almost since the inception of quantum mechanics itself Our purpose in asking colleagues to write the essays for this volume has not been to produce a Festschrift in honor of David Bohm worthy an undertaking as that would have been or to gather together a collection of papers simply stating uncritically Bohm's views on quantum mechanics The central theme around which the essays in this volume are arranged is David Bohm's version of quantum mechanics It has by now become fairly standard practice to refer to his theory as Bohmian mechanics and to the larger conceptual framework within which this is located as the causal quantum theory program While it is true that one can have reservations about the appropriateness of these specific labels both do elicit distinctive images characteristic of the key concepts of these approaches and such terminology does serve effectively to contrast this class of theories with more standard formulations of quantum theory

The Rise of the Social Sciences and the Formation of Modernity J. Heilbrunn, Lars Magnusson, Björn Wittrock, 2013-12-01

This volume offers one of the first systematic analyses of the rise of modern social science Contrary to

the standard accounts of various social science disciplines the essays in this volume demonstrate that modern social science actually emerged during the critical period between 1750 and 1850 It is shown that the social sciences were a crucial element in the conceptual and epistemic revolution which paralleled and partly underpinned the political and economic transformations of the modern world From a consistently comparative perspective a group of internationally leading scholars takes up fundamental issues such as the role of the Enlightenment and the French Revolution in the shaping of the social sciences the changing relationships between political theory and moral discourse the profound transformation of philosophy and the constitution of political economy and statistics

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