

Einstein and the changing worldviews of physics

Lehner, Christoph, editor

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Abstrak

This volume reviews conceptual conflicts at the foundations of physics now and in the past century. The focus is on the conditions and consequences of Einstein's pathbreaking achievements that sealed the decline of the classical notions of space, time, radiation, and matter, and resulted in the theory of relativity. Particular attention is paid to the implications of conceptual conflicts for scientific views of the world at large, thus providing the basis for a comparison of the demise of the mechanical worldview at the turn of the 20th century with the challenges presented by cosmology at the turn of the 21st century. As a whole, the book is focused on the interplay between mathematical concepts and physical ideas throughout history by studying today's scientific world and how it continues to redefine physics in the 21st century.