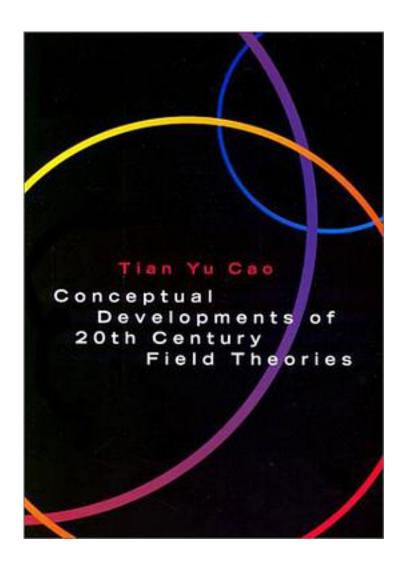
Conceptual Developments of 20th Century Field Theories



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This book gives a broad synthesis of conceptual developments of twentieth-century field theories, from the general theory of relativity to quantum field theory and gauge theory. The author gives a historico-critical exposition of the conceptual foundations of the theories revealing a pattern to the evolution of these conceptions. Theoretical physicists and students of theoretical physics will find in this book an account of the foundational problems of their discipline that will help them understand the internal logic and dynamics of their subject. In addition the book will provide professional historians and philosophers of science, and especially philosophers of physics, with a conceptual basis for further historical, cultural and sociological analysis of the theories discussed. The book also contains much material for philosophical (metaphysical, methodological and semantical) reflection. Finally, the scientifically qualified general reader will find in this book a deeper analysis of contemporary conceptions of the physical world than can be found in popular accounts of the subject.

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一分,剑桥大学科学史和科学哲学博士,美国波士顿大学哲学系教授。曾是英国剑桥大学三一学院和牛津大学万灵学院的研究员;并在美国哈佛大学、麻省理工学院和伦敦经济学院做过访问研究;史密森学会的高级研究员,普林斯顿高等研究院自然科学院和史学院的成员。主要研究方向为当代理论物理学中的概念问题及其历史演变。发表论文50多篇,并编有《量子场论的概念基础》(剑桥大学出版社,1999年)和第20届世界哲学大会会议文集中的第10卷《科学哲学》(哲学文献出版社,2001年)。

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书评

1. 没有学过量子场论,此书有大半内容无法理解。

4.此书为华人学者写的,作者似乎在该领域(哲学)颇有影响。他以哲学视角看待物理 学这一精深学科,沿着历史发展的脉路,又结合了...

我就是不小心在图书馆翻开了这本书的目录,我就是不小心。几何纲领,量子场纲领,规范场纲领,无论是哪一章的标题,都十足的吸引我。我几乎马上就决定要买一本实体 书。这本书从经典电磁学开始讲起一直到规范场论,标准模型。 非常意外的是,几乎80%的内容我是看不懂...

长话短说。以下几点:

1,内容很充实,这点无可厚非,将场论的发展历史写的比较详细。史料很丰富。

2,内容过于复杂,没学过场论的有点很难理解。尤其是量子场论,这部分很难理解,但是作为进一步了解量子场论的话可以作为入门读物,但是不要深究。

3,华人写的书难免有些过干...

从笛卡尔的以太,到法拉第的场,再到如今的作为动力学背景的真空量子场,场的内涵 在变化,场的理念已经完全战胜了超距作用,尤其在标准模型涵盖的三种相互作用中, 但引力那里还是个谜团,在至今最成功的引力理论-广义相对论中,引力乃是物质分布 导致空间弯曲引起,引力子和引力...

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