



## Eight Lectures on Theoretical Physics

*Max Planck*

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# Eight Lectures on Theoretical Physics

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## **Eight Lectures on Theoretical Physics** Max Planck

In 1909 the great German physicist and Nobel Prize winner Max Planck (1858–1947) delivered a series of eight lectures at Columbia University giving a fascinating overview of the new state of physics, which he had played a crucial role in bringing about.

The first, third, fifth, and sixth lectures present his account of the revolutionary developments occasioned when he first applied the quantum hypothesis to blackbody radiation. The reader is given a valuable opportunity to witness Planck's thought processes both on the level of philosophical principles as well as their application to physical processes on the microscopic and macroscopic scales.

In the second and fourth lectures Planck shows how the new ideas of statistical mechanics transformed the understanding of chemical physics. The seventh lecture discusses the principle of least action, while the final one gives an account of the theory of special relativity, of which Planck had been an early champion. These lectures are especially important since they reflect Planck's reconsiderations and rethinking of his original discovery of quantum theory. A new Introduction by Peter Pesic places this book in historical perspective among Planck's works and those of his contemporaries. Now available in this inexpensive edition, it will be of particular interest to students of modern physics and of the philosophy and history of science.

## **Eight Lectures on Theoretical Physics Details**

Date : Published July 18th 1997 by Dover Publications (first published January 1st 1985)

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Author : Max Planck

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## Antonio Baclig says

In lectures given in 1909 at Columbia, Planck covers basically all of theoretical physics, from thermodynamics to mechanics to special relativity. The lectures are equation heavy, and I often wished for more guidance with them, such as definitions of the symbols. The lectures will be something to go back to as my understanding of the field deepens.

It was cool to read Planck's derivation of  $h$ , then realize "hey, that's Planck's constant!", then realize, "oh, that's why they call it Planck's constant .."

## Bob Finch says

These lectures give wonderful insight into Planck's seminal contributions to modern physics, notably his introduction of the quantum. Planck was a gifted lecturer, and this collection is an excellent example of his talent.

## Kumail says

hi

## Pejman Shojaeion says

[illegible]

## Marco Bitetto says

This is an exquisitely written work... It presents the then known physics of the day of Max Plank. It is definitely readable and understandable by anyone that has at least a High School Education.

## Asran says

asran

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## Sneh Pradhan says

Epochal lectures by the father of quantum mechanics , this series covers a plethora of topics from the laws of mechanics , the atomic theory of matter , the theory of equilibrium , the equations for monoatomic and polyatomic gases , the theory of relativity et al . Inundated with a lot of equations , absolutely essential though largely incomprehensible to the general public . (P.S. Great to revisit the derivation of Planck's constant , it's now i know why 'h' is called Planck's constant , after all !!! )

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## Hexagia says

No he encontrado el libro que acabo de leer en Goodreads por lo que he elegido publicar mi reseña en la obra que más se le asemeja.

En noviembre de 1930 Max Planck pronunció en Berlín la conferencia “Positivismo y mundo externo real”, un mensaje de defensa al realismo racional en filosofía de la ciencia y un claro aviso al creciente panorama científicista.

¿Empirismo? Racionalismo? Libre albedrío?... ¿Determinismo o indeterminismo? Que tiene que decir Planck al respecto? Si sienten ustedes admiración por los fundadores de la teoría cuántica, disfrutarán sin duda de sus palabras.

La dialéctica de Planck es aplastante, me fascinó hasta el punto de transcribir los mejores puntos de la conferencia letra por letra. Por ello, pueden ahorrarse comprar este libro leyendo las partes más importantes de la conferencia transcritas en el siguiente post.

<https://hexagia.wordpress.com/2018/02...>

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## Naeem Rezghi says

Has anyone a link for downloading this book?

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## Arkar Kyaw says

Planck wanted to de-anthropomorphize nature and science so much that ends up alienating human from nature. RIP.

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## Ahmad Sharabiani says

Vorträge und Erinnerungen = Eight Lectures on Theoretical Physics, Max Planck

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