

图书基本信息

书名：<<心智实验室：自然科学中的思想实验>>

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内容概要

Although most scientists and philosophers recognize the importance of thought experiments, *The Laboratory of the Mind* is the only full-length study of their nature and function. Beginning with Galileo's argument on falling bodies, James Robert Brown describes numerous examples of the most influential thought experiments from the history of science. He provides a thorough introduction to the subject, and makes the provocative claim that some thought experiments should be understood in the same way that platonists understand mathematical activity: as an intellectual grasp of an independently existing abstract realm. The book concludes with chapters on the nature of Einstein's work and on the interpretation of quantum mechanics which stand as a test of the author's central claims.

Review

"Brown has stimulating things to say about a number of topics, and his book is a model of how to present difficult material clearly and without fuss..." -- David Papineau, *Times Higher Education Supplement*

"Brown's splendid little book . . . is an excellent value . . . an informative read." -- *New Scientist*

"Cogent, lively, enthusiastic . . . A wonderfully stimulating book, highly recommended." -- *Choice*

作者简介

James Robert Brown is Associate Professor of Philosophy at the University of Toronto. He is the author of *The Rational and the Social* (Routledge, 1989).

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