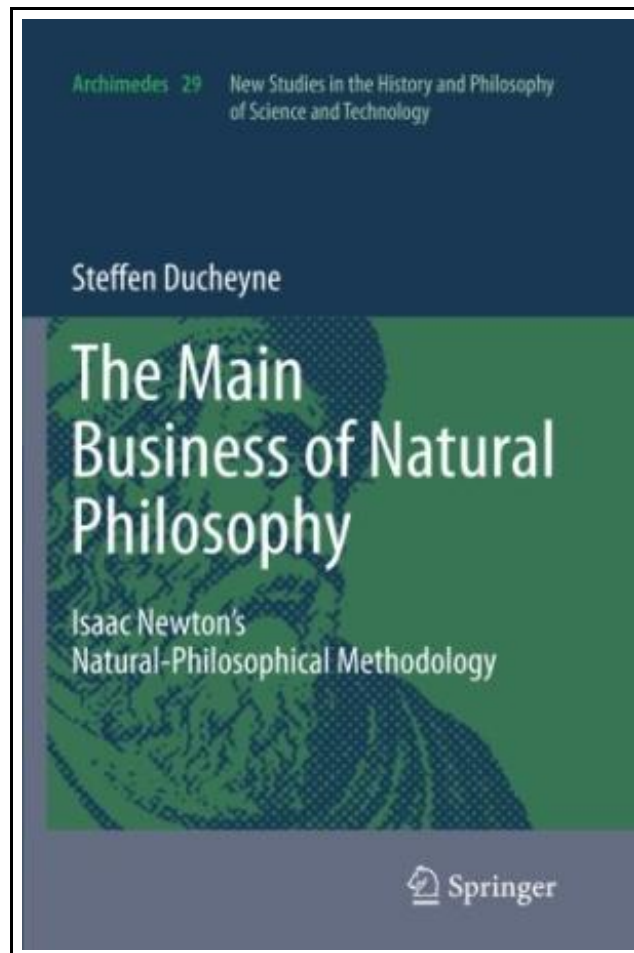


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THE MAIN BUSINESS OF NATURAL PHILOSOPHY: ISAAC NEWTON S NATURAL-PHILOSOPHICAL METHODOLOGY



Springer, Netherlands, 2013. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 2012 ed.. 235 x 155 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.In this monograph, Steffen Ducheyne provides a historically detailed and systematically rich explication of Newton s methodology. Throughout the pages of this book, it will be shown that Newton developed a complex natural-philosophical methodology which encompasses procedures to minimize inductive risk during the process of theory formation and which, thereby, surpasses a standard hypothetico-deductive methodological setting. Accordingly, it will be highlighted that the so-called Newtonian Revolution was not restricted to the empirical and theoretical dimensions of science, but applied equally to the methodological dimension of science. Furthermore, it will be documented that Newton s methodology was far from static and that it developed alongside with his scientific work. Attention will be paid not only to the successes of Newton s innovative methodology, but equally to its tensions and limitations. Based on a thorough study of Newton s extant manuscripts, this monograph will address and contextualize, inter alia, Newton s causal realism, his views on action at a distance and space and time, the status of efficient causation in the /Principia/, the different phases of his methodology, his treatment of force and the constituents of the physico-mathematical models in the context of Book I of the /Principia/, the analytic part of the argument for universal gravitation, the meaning and significance of his *regulae philosophandi*, the methodological differences between his mechanical and optical work, and, finally, the interplay between Newton s theology and his natural philosophy.



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