

On various senses of "conventional" and their interrelation in the philosophy of physics: simultaneity as a case study

Dorato, Mauro (2009) On various senses of "conventional" and their interrelation in the philosophy of physics: simultaneity as a case study.

Full text available as:

Microsoft Word - Requires a viewer, such as Microsoft Word Viewer

Abstract

My aim in this note is to disambiguate various senses of 'conventional' that in the philosophy of physics have been frequently conflated. As a case study, I will refer to the well-known issue of the conventionality of simultaneity in the special theory of relativity, since it is particularly in this context that the above mentioned confusion is present.

Keywords: conventionality, simultaneity, relativity theory

Subjects: Specific Sciences: Physics: Relativity Theory

ID Code: 4854

Deposited By: Dorato, Mauro
Deposited On: 30 August 2009

Send feedback to: philsci-archive@mail.pitt.edu