

Presentism and Quantum Gravity

Monton, Bradley (2001) Presentism and Quantum Gravity.

There is a more recent version of this eprint available. Click here to view it.

Full text available as:

PDF - Requires a viewer, such as Adobe Acrobat Reader or other PDF viewer.

Abstract

There is a philosophical tradition of arguing against presentism, the thesis that only presently existing things exist, on the basis of its incompatibility with fundamental physics. I grant that presentism is incompatible with special and general relativity, but argue that presentism is not incompatible with quantum gravity, because there are some theories of quantum gravity that utilize a fixed foliation of spacetime. I reply to various objections to this defense of presentism, and point out a flaw in Gödel's modal argument for the ideality of time. This paper provides an interesting case study of the interplay between physics and philosophy.

Keywords: presentism, quantum gravity

Subjects: Specific Sciences: Physics: Cosmology

Specific Sciences: Physics: Relativity Theory

ID Code: 591

Deposited By: Monton, Bradley
Deposited On: 26 March 2002

Available Versions of this Item

- Presentism and Quantum Gravity (deposited 26 March 2002) [Currently Displayed]
 - Presentism and Quantum Gravity (deposited 19 May 2005)

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