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"Fermi's Early Work on Quantum Mechanics"

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Fermi's approach to quantum mechanics passes through the study of collision processes. He obtains a first important result in 1924, still within the framework of the old quantum theory, but anticipating the method of virtual photons. In 1926, following, within a few months the advent of wave mechanics, and exploiting his knowledge of diffraction gratings, Fermi finds an elegant quantum solution of a rigid rotator scattering problem.

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