

The Arrival and First Developments of Quantum Mechanics in Milan

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This paper presents Aldo Pontremoli's introduction of matrix mechanics and wave mechanics into advanced physics teaching at the University of Milan and the developments of quantum mechanics by Giovanni Gentile Jr. Trained by Corbino and Rutherford, Pontremoli introduced the new quantum theories into his teaching and was the first professor of Theoretical Physics, being among the winning trio of the first Italian public competition together with Fermi and Persico. Pontremoli's successor as professor of Theoretical Physics in Milan was Giovanni Gentile Jr. At Polvani's suggestion, he addressed the topic of intermediate statistics, that is, quantum physical systems with occupation numbers intermediate between one (Fermi-Dirac statistics) and infinity (Bose-Einstein statistics).

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