

**SISFA – Società Italiana degli Storici della Fisica e dell’Astronomia
Proceedings of the 38th Annual Conference – Messina, Reggio Calabria 2018**

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Abstract

The 38th annual SISFA Congress (2018) developed through various sessions addressing a variety of themes in the history of physics and astronomy from antiquity to the 20th century. Historical collections and the role of instruments in the development of physics and astronomy were among the subjects addressed. The results and potentialities of the history of physics and astronomy were also explored in connection with applications in education and outreach activities.

The year 2018 was particularly dense of important anniversaries, among which the disappearance of Ettore Majorana (1938), the promulgation of the racial laws in Italy (1938), with – among other things – their negative impact on national science, and the birth (1818) of Angelo Secchi, one of the founders of modern astrophysics. Specific topical sessions considered these important figures and events on the basis of up-to-date scholarly research.

A talk presenting the 2018 HYPE initiative, organized jointly by the Italian and the International Physics and History Students Associations, witnessed the remarkable cultural interest of the younger generations for the history of physics and offered their points of view to the audience.

This volume collects the numerous articles presented for the congress proceedings on the various general and topical themes.

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