

Experiments drive ideas
Ideas drive experiments

Field :

Moving electric and magnetic charges created forces.
crucial connections were discovered between Electricity and Magnetism.

Magnetic Field has an actual existence outside the magnet.
(The center of iron filings) - the field persists in vacuum.

In Newtonian System, fields for example gravitational or magnetic fields were not required to have any such physical existence.

(They could be immaterial like laws of nature.)
Faraday through his experiments convincingly demonstrated that fields existed physically and somehow they could propagate through space.

Maxwell - demonstrated the behavior of EM phenomena through his equations. Calculated the speed of transmission and discovered that to be of light.

Maxwell's Equations and Faraday's Field - outside the Newtonian System. - did not behave like billiard balls!

These Energy Carrying fields - outside Common Sense.

Lorentz - interaction between fields and particles.

• Role of Aether

Newton himself had speculated about Aether - to explain all actions at a distance. - gravitation, magnetism, propagation of light. High & vacuum

Motion of the earth through the Aether - (Aether wind)

Velocity of light measurement by Michelson and Morley (1887)

↓ Speed of light
Same in all directions

• Four dimensional space-time continuum
• mass-energy equivalence

Either the ether kind did not exist or there was something very odd about light

- Newtonian picture radically incomplete

The Planck Constant h - quantum hypothesis Oct. 1900

"To-day, I have made a discovery as important as that of Newton" Planck.

Energy is emitted only as a series of 'quanta' or packets. They are very small, nevertheless separate. Newtonian Mechanics based on the assumption that energy emission has a continuous process. (Common sense also) the smoothness does not apply at the level of small.

- Planck came to this idea - as a way of solving a mathematical equation - to avoid the ultraviolet catastrophe
- || not from any specific experiment or intuition

What was to emerge from quantum theory - there is a reality outside the human scale

- Our perception can never be quite right

disproves - seeing is believing

⇒ Newton's "truth" was true for people-sized perception

"It is wrong to think that the task of physics is to find out how nature is. Physics concerns what we can say about nature"

- ① only certain energy states. - only certain orbits.
- ② Limit to causality - we cannot know what orbit will emit next
- ③ epistemological limit also - a frontier beyond which knowledge is not possible.
- ④ our observations affect the world.
- ⑤ Complementary - wave / particle