

Abstracts

Heinrich Hertz: A Short Life (1988 Vol. I [MWSYM])

C. Susskind. "Heinrich Hertz: A Short Life (1988 Vol. I [MWSYM])." 1988 MTT-S International Microwave Symposium Digest 88.1 (1988 Vol. I [MWSYM]): 193-194.

In Berlin he came to the attention of Hermann Helmholtz, whose research student he became while still an undergraduate. Hertz did so well that he was allowed to graduate after three semesters in Berlin (that is, a total of six, instead of the prescribed eight), and then became Helmholtz's postgraduate assistant. He stayed for three years, helping with teaching and working on a variety of topics. One was elasticity, a subject to which he made a lasting contribution by developing the theoretical basis for the measurement of hardness; this work underlies the theory of contact stress analysis to the present day. Then he went as Privatdozent (instructor) to the University of Kiel, where he remained for two years.

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