

Metaphysical Causations

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what is the connection between causation and responsibility is there a best way to theorize philosophically about causation which factors determine and influence what we judge to be the cause of something bringing together interdisciplinary research from experimental philosophy traditional philosophy and psychology this collection showcases the most recent developments and approaches to questions about causation chapters discuss the diverse theoretical ramifications of empirical findings in experimental philosophy of causation providing a comprehensive survey of key issues such as the perception and learning of causal relations omission normative considerations mechanism voluntariness and legal theories of causation with novel contributions from both experts and rising stars advances in experimental philosophy of causation demonstrates the value of empirical work and opens new domains of inquiry at the cutting edge of the field

a singularly powerful and rigorous argument in favor of modern substance dualism in the substance of consciousness a comprehensive defense of contemporary substance dualism two distinguished philosophers deliver a unique and powerful defense of contemporary substance dualism which makes the claim that the human person is an embodied fundamental immaterial and unifying substance multidisciplinary in scope the book explores areas of philosophy cognitive science

neuroscience and the sociology of mind body beliefs the authors present the most comprehensive up to date and rigorous non edited work on substance dualism in the field as well as a detailed history of how property and substance dualism have been presented and evaluated over the last 150 years alongside developing new and updated positive arguments for substance dualism they also discuss key metaphysical notions and distinctions that inform the examination of substance dualism and its alternatives readers will also find a thorough examination of the recent shift away from standard physicalism and the renaissance of substance dualism comprehensive explorations of the likely future of substance dualism in the twenty first century including an exhaustive list of proposed research projects for substance dualists practical discussion of new and rigorous critiques of significant physicality alternatives including emergentism and panpsychism extensive treatments of philosophy of mind debates about the roles played by staunch faint hearted naturalism and theism in establishing or presuming methodology epistemic priorities and prior metaphysical commitments perfect for professional philosophers the substance of consciousness will also earn a place in the libraries of consciousness researchers philosophical theologians and religious studies scholars

capacity building with ngos provides an overview of trends and current thinking about ngo capacity building the challenges and constraints rick james and john hailey analys some of the cultural and contextual constraints that undermine our ability to implement appropriate and effective capacity building interventions

the effectiveness of causes presents a strong view of causation seen as an operation between participants in events and not as a relation holding between events themselves in it emmet proposes that other philosophical views of cause and effect

provide only a world of events each of which is presented as an unchanging unit such a world she contends is a zeno universe since transitions and movement are lost emmet offers a more complex interpretation of the various forms of causal dependence she sees immanent causation in the mere persistence of things where effects are not temporarily separable from causes and she considers the operation of efficacious grace this is a new approach to the traditional problem and provides stimulating implications for the other metaphysical questions and for the philosophy of science

when you light a match it is the striking of it which causes the lighting the presence of oxygen in the room is a background condition to the lighting but in virtue of what is the striking a cause while the presence of oxygen is a background condition when a fragile glass breaks it manifests a disposition to break when struck however not everything that breaks manifests this disposition so under what conditions does something in breaking manifest fragility after some therapy a man might stop being irascible and he might lose the disposition to become angry at the slightest provocation if he does then he will have lost the disposition after an internal change can someone lose or gain a disposition merely as a result of a change in its external circumstances facts about the structure of society can it seem explain other facts but how do they do it are there different kinds of structural explanations many things are said to be causes a rock when we say that the rock caused the window to break and an event when we say that the striking of the window caused its breakage which kind of causation causation by events or causation by things is more basic in causation explanation and the metaphysics of aspect bradford skow defends answers to these questions his answers rely on a pair of connected distinctions first is the distinction between acting or doing something and not acting second is the distinction between situations in which an event happens and situations in which instead something is in some state the first distinction is used to draw the second an event happens if and only if something

does something

the spanish jesuit francisco suarez 1548 1617 was an eminent philosopher and theologian whose *disputationes metaphysicae* was first published in spain in 1597 and was widely studied throughout europe during the seventeenth century the *disputationes metaphysicae* had a great influence on the development of early modern philosophy and on such well known figures as descartes and leibniz this is the first time that disputations 17 18 and 19 have been translated into english the metaphysical disputations provide an excellent philosophical introduction to the medieval aristotelian discussion of efficient causality the work constitutes a synthesis of monumental proportions problematic issues are lucidly delineated and the various arguments are laid out in depth disputations 17 18 and 19 deal explicitly with such issues as the nature of causality the types of efficient causes the prerequisites for causal action causal contingency human free choice and chance

it is widely supposed that david hume invented and espoused the regularity theory of causation holding that causal relations are nothing but a matter of one type of thing being regularly followed by another it is also widely supposed that he was not only right about this but that it was one of his greatest contributions to philosophy strawson here argues that the regularity theory of causation is indefensible and that hume never adopted it in any case strawson maintains that hume did not claim that causation in the natural world is just a matter of regular succession that such a dogmatic metaphysical claim about the nature of reality would have been utterly contrary to his fundamental philosophical principles and that he rightly took it for granted that there was more to causation than regularity of succession claiming only that regularity of succession was all that we could ever know of causation

physical causation discusses in a systematic way an original positive account of causation the conserved quantities account of causal processes that phil dowe has been developing over the past ten years dowe offers a clear and original account of causation based firmly in contemporary science this is an important original book that will be widely discussed among philosophers and students working in contemporary metaphysics and philosophy of science and also scientists with an interest in foundational issues

the facts of causation now available in paperback is essential reading for students and anyone interested in reading one of the ground breaking theories in metaphysics

carolina sartorio argues that only the actual causes of our behaviour matter to our freedom although this simple view of freedom clashes with most theories of responsibility including the most prominent actual sequence theories currently on offer sartorio argues for its truth the key she claims lies in a correct understanding of the role played by causation in a view of that kind causation has some important features that make it a responsibility grounding relation and this contributes to the success of the view also when agents act freely the actual causes are richer than they appear to be at first sight in particular they reflect the agents sensitivity to reasons where this includes both the existence of actual reasons and the absence of other counterfactual reasons so acting freely requires more causes and quite complex causes as opposed to fewer causes and simpler causes and is compatible with those causes being deterministic the book connects two different debates the one on causation and the one on the problem of free will in new and illuminating ways

this element presents the main attempts to account for causation as a metaphysical concept in terms of 1 regularities and laws of nature 2 conditional probabilities and bayes nets 3 necessitation between universals and causal powers 4 counterfactual dependence 5 interventions and causal models and 6 processes and mechanisms none of these accounts can provide a complete reductive analysis however some provide the means to distinguish several useful concepts of causation such as total cause contributing cause direct and indirect cause and actual cause moreover some of these accounts can be construed so as to complement each other the last part presents some contemporary debates on the relation between grounding and causation eliminativism with respect to causation in physics the challenge against downward causation from the closure and exclusion principles robust and proportional causation and degrees of causation this title is also available as open access on cambridge core

this work systematically investigates a range of solutions for the philosophical problem of mental causation the premises constituting the problem are analyzed then a survey is developed of the most popular theories on mental causation harbeck demonstrates why most of these canonical solutions must be considered deficient in a third part the new compatibilists approach to mental causation is explored which is characterized by assertion of a non identity but non distinctness principle the last part offers an alternative solution to the problem on the basis of a certain set of counterfactual conditionals which are jointly taken to provide a definition of causal proportionality that improves the existing definitions it is shown that a specific and hitherto widely neglected version of causal overdeterminationism must be considered the most successful solution to the problem

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