

Metaphysics of science between metaphysics and science

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Abstract

The paper argues that metaphysics depends upon science when it comes to claims about the constitution of the real world. That thesis is illustrated by considering the examples of global supervenience, the tenseless vs. the tensed theory of time and existence, events vs. substances, and relations vs. intrinsic properties. An argument is sketched out for a metaphysics of a four-dimensional block universe whose content are events and their sequences, events consisting in physical properties instantiated at space-time points, these properties being relations rather than intrinsic properties.

Keywords: metaphysics of science, supervenience, block universe, relations

Subjects: General Issues: Realism/Anti-realism

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