

Knowledge and Reality

Causation

Primary Readings

- (!) **Lewis, D.**, 'Causation', *Journal of Philosophy* 70 (1973), pp. 556-67. (Reprinted with postscript in Lewis, D., *Collected Papers*, vol. 2, OUP (1986), and in Sosa and Tooley).
- (!) **Mackie, J. L.**, 'Causes and Conditions', *American Philosophical Quarterly* 2 (1965), pp. 245-64. (Reprinted in Sosa and Tooley).
- (!) **Carroll, J., and Schaffer, J.m.**, 'Causation and Laws of Nature', in Sider, T., Hawthorne, J., Zimmerman, D., (eds.), *Contemporary Debates in Metaphysics* (Blackwell, 2007).
- **Salmon, W.**, 'Causality: Production and Propagation', in *Proceedings of the Biennial Meeting of the Philosophy of Science Association* (1980), vol. 2, pp. 49-69. (Reprinted in Sosa and Tooley)
- **Field, H.**, 'Causation in a Physical World', in Loux, M., and Zimmerman, D. (eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Metaphysics*, OUP (2003).
- **Kim, J.**, 'Causes and Counterfactuals', *Journal of Philosophy* 70 (1973), pp. 570-572. (Reprinted in Sosa and Tooley).
- **Anscombe, E.**, 'Causality and Determination', in Sosa and Tooley.
- **Davidson D.**, 'Casual Relations', *Journal of Philosophy* 64 (1967), pp. 691-703. (Reprinted in Davidson D., *Essays on Actions and Events* and in Sosa and Tooley).

Useful Collections

- Sosa E., and Tooley, M. (eds.), *Causation*, OUP (1993).

Background Readings:

- Lowe, J., *A Survey of Metaphysics*, OUP (2002), part III, ch. 8-10.
- Menzies, P., 'Counterfactual theories of causation', *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*.

Questions:

- (1) Can causation be explained in terms of counterfactual conditionals?
- (2) Can causation be explained using purely non-causal terms?
- (3) Can causation be reduced to occurrent non-modal facts?
- (4) What is the relation between causation and laws of nature?