

FOREWORD

Perspectivalism (or perspectivism) is basically the view that the facts in a certain domain depend in some interesting sense on our perspective on the matter. For example, perspectivalism about causation would be the view that causal facts (such as the fact that we brought this issue into existence) obtain only relative to what kind of causality we have in mind, what alternative causes we are considering, what frame of reference we choose, etc.

Recently, such perspectivalist positions attracted quite some attention, and shed new light on the realism vs. anti-realism debate, i.e. one of the most central and well-respected debates in philosophy. Certainly, philosophers ought to explain to us *to what extent, and in what sense, the world depends on our perspective on the matter*. This issue collects five new articles which depart from this idea.

In ‘Carving The World As We Please’, I draw renewed attention to Goodman’s metaphysical stripe of perspectivalism, and identify the main issues with it.

In ‘Scientific Perspectivism and Its Foes’, Michela Massimi defends an epistemic version of perspectivism as a middle ground between traditional realism and constructivism.

In ‘What Generates the Realism/Anti-Realism Dichotomy?’, Jesse Mulder argues that the realism vs. anti-realism debate rests on the debatable assumption that there is a fundamental gap between reality as it is in itself and reality as it is for us.

In ‘Putting Realism in Perspectivism’, Ioannis Votsis explores whether perspectivalism (of various sorts) conflicts with realism, and

argues that the former's more interesting variants are in fact reconcilable with the latter.

In 'Causation in Perspective. Are All Causal Claims Equally Warranted?', Erik Weber and Leen De Vreese address the question whether perspectivalism concerning causality entails the predicament that all causal claims are equally warranted.

These five articles form part of the proceedings of the *Perspectivalism Workshop* organized by the Centre for Logic and Philosophy of Science in Ghent in January 2012. I am very grateful to all authors for their excellent contributions to the issue. Special thanks go to Anjan Chakravartty and Anna-Sofia Maurin for their keynote lectures, to all reviewers, and to Erik Weber and Maarten Van Dyck for co-organization.

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