

Absolute Becoming, Relational Becoming, and the Arrow of Time

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Abstract

My first and main claim is that physics cannot provide empirical evidence for the objectivity (mind-independence) of absolute becoming, for the simple reason that it must presuppose it, at least to the extent that classical (i.e., non-quantum) spacetime theories presuppose an ontology of events. However, the fact that a theory of absolute becoming must be situated in the a priori realm of metaphysics does not make becoming completely irrelevant for physics, since my second claim will consist in showing that relational becoming, once appropriately defined and understood, properly belongs to the tangled set of issues usually referred to with the label " the arrow of time " . In this respect it is argued that the arrow of becoming is more fundamental both than the causal arrow and of other well-known physical processes that are temporally asymmetric.

Keywords: Time, Spacetime Physics, Becoming, Minkowski spacetime, Presentism, Eternalism, Metaphysics

Subjects: [Specific Sciences: Physics: Relativity Theory](#)

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