

## Refutation of Whewell's axiom of causality

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We assume the method and apparatus of Meth8/VL4 with  $\tau$  as the designated *proof* value,  $F$  as contradiction,  $N$  as truthity (non-contingency), and  $C$  as falsity (contingency). Results are a 16-valued truth table in row-major and horizontal.

LET  $p$ ;  $q$ ;  $r$ ;  $s$ : effect or reaction; cause or action; magnitude of effect; magnitude of cause;  
 $\sim$  Not;  $\&$  And;  $\setminus$  Not And;  $+$  Or;  $-$  Not Or;  $>$  Imply.

From: [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Axiom\\_of\\_Causality](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Axiom_of_Causality)

"According to William Whewell [1794-1866] the concept of causality depends on three axioms: (4.1)

1. Nothing takes place without a cause (1.1)
2. The magnitude of an effect is proportional to the magnitude of its cause (2.1)
3. To every action there is an equal and opposed reaction. (3.1)

A similar idea is found in western philosophy for ages (sometimes called principle of universal causation (PUC) or law of universal causation, for example:

In addition, everything that becomes or changes must do so owing to some cause; for nothing can come to be without a cause. — Plato in Timaeus

[The m]odern version of PUC is connected with Newtonian physics, but is also criticized for instance by David Hume. ... Kant opposed Hume in many aspects, defending the objectivity of universal causation."

$\#q > p$  ; TTCT TTCT TTCT TTCT (1.2)

$((r=(p \setminus q)) \& (s=(q \setminus p))) > (((s=r) > (q=p)) + (((s > r) > (q > p)) + ((s < r) > (p > q))))$  ;  
 TTTT TTTT TTTT TTTT (2.2)

$\#q > (\#p = \sim \#q)$  ; TTTC TTTC TTTC TTTC (3.2)

**Remark:** Weakening Eq. 3.2 to  $\#q > (\#p > \sim \#q)$  produces the same truth table.

$((\#q > p) \& (((r=(p \setminus q)) \& (s=(q \setminus p))) > (((s=r) > (q=p)) + (((s > r) > (q > p)) + ((s < r) > (p > q)))))) \& (\#q > (\#p = \sim \#q))$  ;  
 TTCC TTCC TTCC TTCC (4.2)

Eqs. 2.2 is tautologous. Eqs. 1.2, 3.2, and 4.2 as rendered are *not* tautologous. This means the concept of causality as produced from Whewell's three axioms is refuted.

**Remark:** From a metaphysical view, the axiom of causality is a bar to miracle because first cause is always assumed. This is overcome with the axiom "The necessity of effect implies the possibility of cause *or* no cause":  $\#q > \%(p + \sim p)$  ; TTTT TTTT TTTT TTTT .