



CAUSAL MAPPING IS EASIER IF WE ARE REALIST ABOUT CAUSATION

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Causal mapping is easier if we are realist about causation. We can say that narrative accounts are full of claims about causal powers, that X had the power to affect Y, and X did exercise that power and Y was affected (perhaps in this particular case in spite of or with the assistance of other things).

Causal realism invites us to say that things **have the causal power** to affect other things.

The weird thing is that most physical and natural scientists think about causation in a realist way, but in the social sciences we tell ourselves not to because it isn't scientific (!).

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