

What Breathes Fire into the Equations?

Since the 17th century discovering the laws of nature has been the primary goal of fundamental physics. While it is the task of scientists to discover what laws there are, it is the task of philosophers to explain *what laws are*. In Stephen Hawking's words the philosophical question is "What breathes fire into the equations?" In recent metaphysics there is a debate between Humean and non-Humean answers to Hawking's question. In the course of dealing with a serious objection to Lewis' account I sketch an alternative, "the Package Deal Account" (PDA). The PDA transcends the dispute between Humean and non-Humean accounts in a manner that may strike one as a kind of Kantian compromise. In my talk after some table setting I explain and defend the PDA of laws.