

The book was found

# Depth: An Account Of Scientific Explanation



## Synopsis

What does it mean for scientists to truly understand, rather than to merely describe, how the world works? Michael Strevens proposes a novel theory of scientific explanation and understanding that overhauls and augments the familiar causal approach to explanation. What is replaced is the test for explanatorily relevant causal information: Strevens discards the usual criterion of counterfactual dependence in favor of a criterion that turns on a process of progressive abstraction away from a fully detailed, physical causal story. The augmentations include the introduction of a new, non-causal explanatory relevance relation—entanglement—and an independent theory of the role of black-boxing and functional specification in explanation. The abstraction-centered notion of difference-making leads to a rich causal treatment of many aspects of explanation that have been either ignored or handled inadequately by earlier causal approaches, including the explanation of laws and other regularities, with particular attention to the explanation of physically contingent high-level laws, idealization in explanation, and probabilistic explanation in deterministic systems, as in statistical physics, evolutionary biology, and medicine. The result is an account of explanation that has especially significant consequences for the higher-level sciences: biology, psychology, economics, and other social sciences.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 536 pages

Publisher: Harvard University Press (January 15, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0674031830

ISBN-13: 978-0674031838

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 1.5 x 9.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: Be the first to review this item

Best Sellers Rank: #699,432 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #266 in Books > Textbooks >

Humanities > Philosophy > Epistemology #331 in Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Philosophy

> Logic #594 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Philosophy > Epistemology

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Depth: An Account of Scientific Explanation Diversity and the Tropical Rain Forest: A Scientific

American Library Book (Scientific American Library Series) Know Your Bible Perpetual Calendar:

365 Days of Explanation and Inspiration from the Two-Million-Copy Bestseller Luther's Small

Catechism, with Explanation Hidden Teachings of Tibet: An Explanation of the Terma Tradition of Tibetan Buddhism White Lotus: An Explanation of the Seven-Line Prayer to Guru Padmasambhava Relativity: The Special and the General Theory--A Clear Explanation that Anyone Can Understand Pass The 65: A Plain English Explanation To Help You Pass The Series 65 Exam PMP Understand Earned Value Measurements: Detailed Explanation, Examples, and 50+ solved problems The Art of Explanation: Making Your Ideas, Products, and Services Easier to Understand Chess For Kids: How to play chess for kids with a simple explanation of the chess rules for kids and other fun facts about chess The Spiritual Gifts: A Biblical Explanation of the Gifts of the Spirit Catholic and Christian: An Explanation of Commonly Misunderstood Catholic Beliefs Perspective Depth & Distance (Watercolour Painting Tips & Techniques) The Mastery of Mimodrame: An In-Depth Study of Mime Technique Art Fundamentals: Color, Light, Composition, Anatomy, Perspective, and Depth The Art of Fermentation: An In-Depth Exploration of Essential Concepts and Processes from Around the World Pathways To Pure Power: Learning the Depth of Love's Power (Spirit-Filled Life Bible Discovery Guides) Ecclesiastes: Wisdom For Living Well: An In-depth Bible Study CommVault Storage Policies: An in depth guide to storage policy design and implementation

[Dmca](#)