A Co-Citation Network for Philosophy

Leading Works and Discussion Communities

The graph shows co-citation patterns for just over the 500 most-cited items from 1993 to mid-2013, based on over 34,000 references in 2,262 articles published in four leading generalist, English-language philosophy journals: Nous, Mind, the Journal of Philosophy, and the Philosophical Review. The cutoff for inclusion is having received at least ten citations. The colors of the nodes represent the results of a community-detection algorithm applied to the co-citation matrix. Communities are identified inductively. Edge width indicates relative frequency of co-citation. The key gives an approximate topical description of each citation community and one of its central items.

Metaphysics
David Lewis (1986), On the Plurality of Worlds
Metaphysics/Language, Saul Kripke (1980), Naming and Necessity
Philosophy of Mind, David Chalmers (1996), The Conscious Mind
Epistemology, Timothy Williamson (2000), Knowledge and Its Limits
Philosophy of Mind, Jerry Fodor (1980), A Theory of Content
Metaphysics, David Parfit (1986), Reasons and Persons
Ethics and Political Philosophy, John Rawls (1971), A Theory of Justice

Women in Philosophy

A notable feature of the graph is the relative absence of items written by women. Of the 520 items, 19 are by women—3.6 percent of the total. Their names and locations are shown below. By comparison, 6.3 percent of the items are by David Lewis. There are 15 women authors in total. Three of the items are in the top 100: Ruth Millikan’s Language, Thought, and Other Biological Categories (1984, ranked 47th), Christine Korsgaard’s The Sources of Normativity (1996, 75th), and Dorothy Edgington’s “On Conditionals” (1995, 82nd). Christine Korsgaard has three items in the dataset. Ruth Millikan and Philippa Foot have two each. The other women are Barbara Herman, Penelope Maddy, Lynne Rudder Baker, Nancy Cartwright, Gila Sher, G.E.M. Anscombe, Susan Hurley, Sally Haslanger, L.A. Paul, Linda Zagzebski, and Judith Jarvis Thomson.

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Data: World of Science
Style Visualization: A Practical Introduction is published by Princeton University Press.