

## **Mark Sprevak, Making friends with representationalism about computation**

This paper examines the conditions under which physical systems implement computations. An important division between theories that attempt to answer this question is whether representation is, or is not, involved in implementation (representationalism vs. non-representationalism). This choice has major repercussions for philosophy of mind. Indispensability of representation provides an argument for the representational theory of mind (Fodor). Non-representationalism opens up the space for a cognitive science shorn of semantic commitments which have to date proved hard to naturalise (Chomsky). Representationalism appears to offer a number of explanatory advantages over non-representationalism. However, representationalism faces a number of serious challenges before it can make good on a promise of an explanatory edge. This paper explores those challenges, and shows how a representationalist might respond.