

# The Transformation of Modern Causality in Heidegger's Thought

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The article presents an analysis of the notion of causality in Heideggerian terms. The modern notion of causality presupposes the Cartesian notion of extended space, the principle of sufficient ground (reason), the notion of object as accessible through mathematical description and the notion of linear time. These notions have been critiqued and transformed in Heidegger's thought on Being as unconcealing. Hence the new possibility of conceiving causality as unconcealing – which presupposes another, non-algebraic, notion of space, a temporalized principle of ground, another notion of constant presence and, last but not least, the notion of ecstatic time. The article demonstrates that Heidegger's notion of ecstatic time both implies and presupposes the critique and transformation of the modern notion of causality.

**Keywords:** apriorism, Aristotle, causality, Heidegger, temporality

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## INTRODUCTION

Heidegger's ontology has been presented largely in existential terms or in terms of the philosophy of culture. Lithuanian scholars have recently contributed a lot to the field. Sodeika, for instance, has recently (2017) devoted much attention to the Heideggerian notion of boredom and Šerpytytė (2017) has presented a large study on nihilism which owes a lot to her reading of Heidegger, especially the lectures on Nietzsche. The two, alongside D. Bacevičiūtė, co-authored a study (2015) of the transformations in ontology to which Heidegger contributed a great deal. The thought of Šliogeris (2017, 2017a), which is also a search for novel ontology, has been shaped by Heidegger's notions of *Zuhandenheit* and thingness. Sverdiolas (2007) also sought to adapt the notion of *Zeug* in his Aristotelian-Heideggerian musings on the possibilities of reinterpreting the Western tradition of thought to match current cultural experiences. Kačerauskas, in addition to translating *Being and Time* (Heidegger 2014), provided a comprehensive overview of key Heideggerian principles and interpretations (Kačerauskas, Vėželis 2016) both in the context of the industry of culture and also with some attention to Heidegger's relation to Aristotle and the Greeks. Most recently, Heidegger's *Zeug* has been discussed extensively in the context of his philosophy of technology (Mickevičius 2017, 2018; Čapanauskas 2017).<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Other Lithuanian contributions to the field include Stasiulis (2018), Vabalaitė (2017), Vėželis (2016), Aleksandravičius (2010), Sodeika (2010), Saldukaiytė (2009), Kačerauskas (2008, 2007, 2006, 2005), Čepulis (2006), Rubavičius (2003), Girnius (2002), Šliogeris (1989).

This article shall present how the ontological basis of the modern notion of causality has been taken up and transformed in Heidegger's thought. The transformation of the notion of causality is co-dependent on two segments: a transformation of the notion of the principle of ground and a transformation of the notion of time. Accordingly, the article is split into two chapters. The first one shall discuss the way Heidegger's reading of Kant and Aristotle amounts to transforming the principle of ground. The second one shall keep in mind the results presented in the first one and, further, employ Hobbes' formulation of the modern notion of efficient causation to demonstrate that it relies on a 'misreading' of Aristotelian aetiology as well as on the inauthentic notion of time. Thus this article shall exhibit the way Heidegger both destructs the modern notion of causality and *retrieves* (wieder-holt) the authentic aetiology of ecstatic time.

The modern version of the principle of sufficient ground may be formulated as logical (and atemporal) or as aetiological/causal (and temporal). There is a correspondence between these two formulations in that they both share the *antecedent-consequent* structure:

antecedent/cause: if/because something (A) exists;

consequent/effect: then/therefore something else than A, (B) must exist.

Both formulations are co-substantiated by the ancient principle of ground, or subject/substance – what the *Greeks* termed *ὑποκειμενον* and *οὐσία*. Also, the logical (atemporal) formulation is the more substantial one because, as it has been correctly indicated by thinkers like Spinoza and Bergson, the temporal sequence of causes and effects is, in terms of mechanistic philosophy, in principle pre-given and thus a 'non-being' – a mere illusion with respect to eternity where it exists, as it were, all at once. The two – logical and aetiological – versions of the principle of sufficient reason are equiprimordial and they ground the geometrical (which, in essence, equals deterministic) notion of presence.

Hence, the principle of ground is threefold: first of all, it means 1) substantiality as the ground of an entity, then 2) logicity as the ground of a proposition and 3) causality as the ground of activity. Nevertheless, in all of its three forms, it is dependent (in terms of the history of Being) on the Aristotelian notion of *οὐσία*, or – more generally – of the Greek revelation of Being in terms of *constant presence*. The Greek unconcealment of Being in terms of *constancy* of presence is, according to Heidegger, the pre-conceptual source of those notions.

However, the ancient meaning of *οὐσία* as retrieved by Heidegger is in contradiction with the modern atemporal reading. Hence, the Heideggerian retrieval amounts to an undermining – and a transformation – of the ontological basis of the modern notion of causality. Heidegger accomplishes this huge task by re-reading Aristotle's thinking on *οὐσία* with the emphasis on its essential relation to *κίνησις*. According to the thinker, the opposition of Being and time and, accordingly, of eternity and temporality was alien to Greek thought which, for this reason, stands in sharp contrast with the modern approach based on Christian heritage. Heidegger aligns his own thought with the Greek one, therefore his rethinking of *der Satz vom Grund* in a temporal horizon which this article shall present has nothing to do with prioritizing time against timelessness (as in Bergsonian philosophies). Rather, it completely disposes of the duality of 'timelessness' ('eternity') and 'temporality'.

In the following chapters, this article shall exhibit how the Heideggerian notion of *Da-sein* is coincidental with the Heideggerian retrieval of Aristotle's thought and, accordingly, with the Heideggerian critique and transformation of the modern notion of causality.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> The modern paradigm is discussed in Saulius 2016; Stasiulis 2016; Čiurlionis 201; Dumčienė, Saulius 2017.

## THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE PRINCIPLE OF GROUND

### The Temporality of Object

Dasein, as thrown project, understands Being from a temporal horizon. The notion of temporality results from an interpretation of *κίνησις* as a horizon from which *φύσις* is thought by Aristotle. *Φύσις* is projected in terms of *κίνησις*. This notion is both *physical* and *metaphysical*, just like *physical* and *logical* versions of the principle ground are, basically, one. *Φύσις* and *κίνησις*, like Being and time, are inseparable, and therefore the principle of ground must be rethought in terms of this temporality of Being.

Aristotle says (Phys. 185a): ἡμῖν δ' ὑποκείσθω τὰ φύσει ἢ πάντα ἢ ἔνια κινούμενα εἶναι. Heidegger renders it as: 'from the outset it should be (a settled issue) for us that those beings that are by *φύσις*, whether all of them or some of them [those not in rest], are moving beings (i.e. determined by movedness) (Bewegtheit)' (Heidegger 1998: 186; Heidegger 1979: 243). By 'from the outset' Heidegger indicates the aprioric character of *kinesis*. As is well-known, Aristotle, in his conception of movement, prioritizes rest. But we must take into account that *φύσει ὄντα* 'are in movedness even when they stand still and rest. Rest is a kind of movement; only that which is able to move (das Bewegliche) can rest' (Heidegger 1998: 189; Heidegger 1979: 247). Aristotle *er-sieht* – has an aprioric/metaphysical insight of – *κίνησις* as crucial in the projection of Being, like, in Heidegger, temporality is the crucial horizon for the understanding of Being. Thus, the issue of movedness is of utmost importance when considering the subject-matter of *Physics* – *φύσις*, or Being: 'this means that defining the essence of being is impossible without an essential insight into movedness as such' (Heidegger 1998: 187; Heidegger 1979: 244). *Φύσις* and *κίνησις*, like Being and time, are inseparable, and also the principle of ground must be rethought in terms of this temporality of Being.

The use of the notion of apriorism is not accidental because Kant's transcendentalism serves, for Heidegger, as the bridge from the Cartesian notion of space/matter/motion and, for that matter, Cartesian dualism in general to the retrieval of original Greek thought. According to Heidegger, Kant's main impact consisted in opening the possibility for a rethinking of identity (the object and the causal relation) by demonstrating the inseparability of a priori forms of the understanding (*Verstand*) from the a priori forms of sensibility/intuition (*Anschauung*). Now that understanding had to be united with intuition – and, crucially, with the aprioric form of time – logic, which had been 'atemporal', had to be resubstantiated and transformed (Heidegger 1984: 152–153). Heidegger also does precisely this when he equates *Dasein* with *nous* and thinks it in terms of its temporal horizon. Heidegger builds on Kant's notion of schematism to unite sensibility, understanding and reason (which he interprets ontologically as opposed to 'epistemologically') to infuse logic (which since Aristotle has stagnated and has become the basis of cybernetic (informational) causality) with a characteristic of *freedom* as of temporal unconcealment.

In Heidegger's thought, constant presence is given as a unity of future and past, which is gathered (*gesammelt*) by Being (ground-less). Identity consists in the unconcealment as in the unity of the three temporal ecstasies. Also, identity is what warrants the object of scientific endeavor: 'If science could not be sure in advance of the identity of its object in each case, it could not be what it is. By this assurance, research makes certain that its work is possible' (Heidegger 1969: 26). The philosophy of Kant has made possible a new consideration of identity, thus, of logic in general and of the object of science. The essential unity of the transcendental

form of the understanding with the transcendental form of sensibility (of time and of space) meant that identity (object) itself had to be reconsidered from the horizon of time.

This article will now take a closer look at Heideggerian analyses of Kant's philosophy as linking identity (the object of logic and science) with aprioric temporality and of Aristotle's philosophy as giving rise to identity and the principle of ground from the temporal horizon to see how Heidegger moves beyond the principle of ground towards the ontology of Being as *Abgrund*.

### Through Kant to Aristotle to 'Another Thinking'

According to Kant, the object is conceived when 'the relation [between entities] <...> is that of "If...then", ("because... therefore")' (Heidegger 1987: 138): 'Because the sun shines, the rock will now become warm', or 'The sun warms the rock' (ibidem: 138). Heidegger calls our attention to the fact that this connection, conceived in terms of the principle of reason (ground), is different from the 'every time when..., then...' connection ('Every time when I see the sun, the stone gets warm') because the latter has to do merely with a 'succession of the perceptions' (ibidem: 138). That is, in the latter case we deal merely with the *inauthentic* conception of time as of a sequence of moments. Only when the mind captures the constant 'if... – then...' connection, it deals with an object and an *eigentlich* cognition. The object is grasped by abstracting from the temporal way of conceiving things in terms of a sequence of one after another; but, crucially, the grasp of the object preserves the apriority of temporality. Hence, for Heidegger, revealing constant presence is not linked to doing away with temporality but to retaining time as the gathering of the three ecstasies. So the 'if..., then...' connection presupposes the authentic conception of time and for this reason the conception of object can be transformed by demonstrating its origination from the authentic horizon of temporality and its structure.

Thus Heidegger progresses from the philosophy of Kant to the philosophy of Aristotle wherein the (onto)logical principles of identity and non-contradiction were formulated, and he sets on reconstructing its horizon of temporality, or movedness.

As Heidegger presents his phenomenological construal of Aristotle, he claims it to be of utmost importance to understand 'the logic of the grasp of an object' and to raise the issue of 'how an object becomes primordially accessible?' (Heidegger 1994: 20). In the set of lectures on Plato's *Sophist* he analyses the origin of the grasp of the constant presence (as described in the first book of Aristotle's *Metaphysics*), he demonstrates that an object becomes available to the agent whose being consists in activity, or movedness, in the interconnectivity of references (Heidegger 2003: 51). At first, the Aristotelian agent, just as the Kantian transcendental subject, discovers among this interconnectivity the 'everytime time when..., then...' connection, which is consequently transformed into the more stable, constant, connection of the 'if..., then...' Thus one progresses from the pre-presentification/presenting (*Gegenwärtigen*) of performing everyday work to the *outward look* (*Aussehen*, *εἶδος*), that is, to the presentation (*Präsentation*) of the insight of essence (ibidem: 51–52; Heidegger 1992: 75). The grasp of (constant) essence arises via the grasp of (temporal) skill (*τέχνη*), hence in the former 'the temporal characters only step into the background; they do not disappear' (Heidegger 2003: 53). And this 'because..., therefore...' ('if..., then...') connection *is* the connection of ground (reason) and consequence (ibidem: 53). So the connection of ground and consequence (its constant presence) and the interconnectivity of references are in advance inscribed into each other.

It is crucial that the general insight of the constant presence always 'returns' to separate cases, to the presenting of a specific situation. Heidegger's thought both preserves the Greek

distinction between *καθόλου* and *καθ' ἕκαστον* and emphasizes their unity, which is, as it were, a circle moving from the specific to the general to the specific, etc. It is co-primordial with the distinction and unity of *σοφία* and *φρόνησις*, which in turn have given rise to our traditional distinction between theory and practice. In contrast, involving the grasp of an object into the moving presenting means the Heideggerian unity of practice and theory (see Stasiulis 2016a).

Such is 'the temporal meaning of the way in which circumspect taking care [=moving presenting] becomes modified into the theoretical discovery of things objectively present in the world', referred to in the title of one of the chapters of *Being and Time* (Heidegger 1996: 322). In the chapter, accordingly, Heidegger demonstrates that the proposition (which corresponds to the object grasped by the mind) originates ontologically from the circumspect (*umsichtig*) using and working, or from the situative deliberation (*Überlegung*) which is essential to it, while of this deliberation is characteristic the transcendental schema of 'if..., then...' (Heidegger 2006: 359). This deliberation, or judgment, which is orienting in its circumstances is said to have the existential meaning of *Gegenwärtigung*, with the *Vergegenwärtigung* (objectifying, representing as an object) as merely a mode of it (Heidegger 2006: 359). According to Heidegger, this presenting deliberation, of which the 'if..., then...' schema is characteristic, is only possible because of the view of the whole of *Zeug* (tools/utensils/useful things) because '[c]ircumspection moves in the relevant relations of the context of useful things at hand' (Heidegger 1996: 328; Heidegger 2006: 359). This passage illustrates well how by means of Kantian transcendentalism Heidegger's thinking in *Being and Time* moves from the Kantian insight concerning the temporality of object – by showing the involvement of the 'if..., then...' into the interconnectivity of *Zeug* (utensils) – to the ontological origin of the concept of cognition in Aristotle (*Being and Time* is based on a transcendental and phenomenological re-reading of Aristotle).

In *Being and Time* this interconnectivity is said to be pre-predicative (Heidegger 2006: 359) and hence, possibly, non-thematic. Aristotle's thought is also said to be *implicitly* based on this interconnectivity. What Heidegger sets up to do is to supply an explicit description of that interconnectivity because his own thought must start in the context of the present-at-hand Cartesian conception which in turn stands on the shoulders of the Greek concept of constant presence. In this precise sense his thought must be considered more fundamental than both the Cartesian and the Aristotelian one because it sets out to show the ontological origin of them both. *Being and Time* supplies the transcendental basis for the two modes of treating the world and hence the presupposition of a new revelation of Being which later unfolds as 'another thinking'.

## THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE NOTION OF CAUSE

### Efficient Causality as the Relation of Potency and Act

Heidegger claims that, in the West, being has always been understood in terms of *work* (*product, creation*) (*Werk*). His notion of *Werk* coincides with his notion of intentionality. He sees Cartesian ontology as derived from intending *constant presence as finished product*. *Being and Time* describes intentionality in terms of working at a product because it allows a consistent transition from a Cartesian (mechanistic) ontology to a non-Cartesian one. The Heideggerian *Dasein*, especially from the point of view of 'another thinking', means the place where Being unconceals, where it is at work/it produces an *ἔργον* – where *Kraft*, or *δύναμις*, puts itself to movement, or work, that is, where *ἐν-έργεια* takes place. Hence, the notion of Being, or presence, depends on how *δύναμις* (potency), *ἐνέργεια* (act) and their relation are conceived.

Our analysis of the notion of causality now proceeds by showing how Hobbes' mechanistic philosophy and Heidegger's ontology are both related and differ in that they are two different readings of Aristotelian notion of 'potentiality' – 'actuality'.

What is the relation between the Aristotelian notion of 'potency' and 'act' and the modern notion of causality? This article will treat the modern notion of causality as formulated in Hobbes.

Hobbes takes up the Aristotelian division of causes into *c. materialis*, *c. efficiens*, *c. formalis*, *c. finalis* but it reduces them to two because, according to him, formal and final causes are but efficient causes (Hobbes 1839: 117). Hobbes says, for instance, that if one first conceives something to be rational ['rationality' is the essence, i.e. the formal cause, of 'man'], then he knows the same to be a man, and therefore it is nothing but efficient cause (ibidem: 117). Thus, for Hobbes, efficient cause is a consequent of an antecedent, the ground of a consequence. For him, the relation of cause (*causa*) and effect (*effectus*) is identical to the relation of potentiality (potential) and act (*actus*): 'Correspondent to *cause* and *effect*, are power and act' (Hobbes 1839a; Hobbes 1839: 113).

The Latin version of *De Corpore* calls these two notions *potentia et actus* while the original English version names them *power and act* (Hobbes 1839a: 127) (in accordance with the original sense of Aristotle's *δύναμις* as well as with its Heideggerian translation as *Kraft*).<sup>3</sup> The power of the agent (*agens*) and the efficient cause for Hobbes are the same but considered differently (Hobbes 1839: 113). The power of the agent is also termed *active power* (*potentia activa*), while the power of the patient (*patientis*) – *passive power* (*potentia passiva*) (Hobbes 1839: 113–114). The latter corresponds to material cause, with the difference consisting in that *causa materialis* refers to past tense, while *potentia passiva* – to future tense. When both – active and passive – powers, or *causa efficiens* and *causa materialis*, meet, they form a full or entire (*plena* or *integra*) power, or cause, and produce an act (as it is called with respect to power) or an effect (as it is called with respect to cause). 'An entire cause is always sufficient for the production of its effect (*ad producendum effectum*), if the effect be at all possible' (Hobbes 1839a: 122; Hobbes 1839: 108); cause is the sufficient ground. And every effect has its necessary cause: 'whatsoever effect is produced (*productus*) at any time, the same is produced by a necessary cause (*causa necessaria*)' (Hobbes 1839a: 123; Hobbes 1839: 109).

Hence, Hobbes understands Aristotelian *potentia* and *actus* (*δύναμις* and *ἐνέργεια*) as cause and effect and he reduces all four *aitia* to the principle of sufficient ground (interpreted as efficient causality). Also, this principle of ground is also linked to the inauthentic construal of time in terms of a sequence of nows (which may also be traced back to the treatment of time in Aristotle's *Physics*). The cause is prior to the effect which it is about to cause, and the effect succeeds the cause. The effect is caused in the very 'same instant, in which the cause is entire' (Hobbes 1839a: 128), but the efficient and the material causes must meet *beforehand*. Moreover, the English philosopher himself declares that he adheres to the usual conception of time as a sequence – 'for this word *time* comprehends the notion of *former* and *latter* (*prius* et *posterius*), or of succession in the motion of a body, in as much as it is first *here* then *there*'

<sup>3</sup> As some scholars who tend to equate potentiality with mere *possibilitas* challenge this Heideggerian translation (e.g. Gonzalez 2006), let us note that the Heideggerian translation is in fact based on age-long usage as well as correct. Whereas translating it as *possibilitas*, mere possibility, would mean losing its primary sense of *δύναμις* (as unfolded in Heidegger 1990). Translating *δύναμις* as *Kraft* points directly to power as ability and to the origin of the principle of ground from the notion of *τέχνη* and *ἔργον*. It is precisely this meaning which eventually gets lost in the mechanistic-formalistic (logistic and cybernetic, or informational) notion.



(ibidem: 95; Hobbes 1839: 84) – and adds that his conception ‘agrees with the definition of Aristotle, *time is the number of motion according to former and latter* (Hobbes 1839a: 95), *tempus est numerus motus secundum prius et posterius*’ (Hobbes 1839: 84).

### The Destruction of the Modern Notion of Causality

Heidegger's thought destructs two basic assumptions of modern causality as formulated by Hobbes: the first one is the very notion of efficient cause, and the second one is the related notion of time as a sequence of nows. With the same move, it retrieves the original Aristotelian aetiological notion, while this retrieval ‘merges’ authentic causality (aetiology) and true temporality.

First of all, Heidegger's philosophy deals with the ontological origin of and with the difference between modern causality and Aristotelian causality. According to the German thinker, *causa, casus* are related to *cadere, to fall*, and it means that which brings it about that something ‘falls out’ as a result, as an effect, and in the modern notion of causality it is precisely the *causa efficiens* which sets the standard for all causality (Heidegger 1992b: 222). But this Latin translation of *αἴτιον* – of being responsible for (‘guilty of’) something else – does not match the Greek meaning: everything, that was later termed ‘causality’ and as such sought in Greek thought, in the original realm of Greek thought had nothing to do with bringing about or effecting (ibidem: 222). More precisely, it had nothing to do with deed as *actio*, from which some result follows – a consequence.

In Heidegger's thought, deed/acting/action is understood not as causing a consequence but in the sense of *wirken*: but the fundamental trait of *wirken and Werk* does not lie in the words *efficere* and *effectus* but in the fact that something is brought to unconcealment (Heidegger 1992a: 248). Where the Greeks speak of what was in Latin called *causa efficiens*, stresses Heidegger, they never mean a resulting of an effect (ibidem: 248). What makes the entity in the sense of unconcealing never causes it as an effect of making, like *causa efficiens* does: Aristotle's doctrine neither uses a corresponding term nor knows the cause termed by it (Heidegger 1992b: 221). Thus *wirken* as making (creating) must be understood not in terms of causing an effect but in terms of producing (her-stellen), bringing into presence (Anwesen) (Heidegger 2000: 43).

Heidegger pays a close attention to the fact that the word *tun, do* (which means *wirken*), belongs to the indogermanic root *dhe*, from which also the Greek *θέσις* derives. Activity of nature is understood in precisely this meaning of unconcealing: the unfolding of *φύσις* (nature) is precisely a doing, in the precise sense of *θέσις* (Heidegger 2000: 42). In the primordial Greek thought there was no opposition between *φύσις* and *θέσις* upon which subsequent oppositions of nature and spirit, object and subject, mechanicism and voluntarism are based. For this reason the notion of Dasein, which makes away with both modern Cartesian dualism in general and efficient causality in specific, nears to the Greek notion, or retrieves it.

The same structure of unconcealing (intentionality) (*θέσις*) is characteristic of the movement of both ‘nature’ and Dasein (as ‘spirit’ or ‘Man’) (e.g. Heidegger 1992: 247). The analysis of *Welt* and *Umwelt*, presented in *Being and Time*, is by no means an analysis of ‘merely’ the subjective sphere; it describes *φύσις* itself, its *Wirklichkeit*. This Heideggerian analysis enables one to understand the Aristotelian notion of ‘natural’ – *φύσει* – entity (understood in terms of being produced) as of always oriented in a certain direction and having a spatiality which is primordially linked to this orientation – its place as movement upwards or downwards. Heidegger emphasizes that ‘direction’ is not primarily a ‘spatial’ concept but rather its meaning of a spatial concept related to the object of ‘nature’ or geometry derives from an ontologically prior orientation in an environment of – put it in the words of ‘Phenomenological Interpretations of

Aristotle' – 'factual life' (Heidegger 1994: 144). It is merely in the physical worldview relying on a Cartesian geometric notion of space that 'upwards' and 'downwards' appear as 'subjective' or merely 'relative' while, in fact, they should be conceived in terms of entity as of a product of the unconcealing of Being, existing in a connectivity of references.<sup>4</sup>

Secondly, Heidegger points out the cognation, through the indogermanic root *uerg*, of the German *Werk* and the Greek *ἔργον* (Heidegger 2000: 44). His *Wirklichkeit* is the reading of *ἐνέργεια* as of unconcealing and *im-Werk-Währen* (preserving in the product) (ibidem: 44), but not as *actus* which the Romans, like subsequently Hobbes, conceive as a result of *operatio*. Importantly, making as causing an effect – after the Greek sense has completely blurred – was, in modernity, related to the inauthentic notion of time: 'Eventually, the quest for the relation of cause and effect brings to the fore the one-after-the-other and so the flow of time' (ibidem: 44). While in fact causality as unconcealing acting, or making, must be conceived not in terms of inauthentic time, but as a unity of temporal ecstasies.

Kant's demonstration that temporality as transcendently a priori paved the way for the Heideggerian reconsidering of the principle of ground and the retrieval of Aristotelian *οὐσία*, *λόγος* and *ἐνέργεια*. Nevertheless, Kant's philosophy did conceive time in 'traditional' terms, as the now-time, that is, inauthentically. Heidegger keeps pointing out that Kant, just like Hume, 'interprets causality as a rule of succession in time' (ibidem: 44). Therefore Heidegger, as he takes up the Kantian insight into the aprioric character of temporality, also sets on revealing temporality itself in more fundamental terms. As both the grasp of the object and causality are a priori dependent on temporality, the transformation of the notion of temporality is at the time the transformation of the notions of object and causality.

The unity of the temporal ecstasies is a Heideggerian reading of the unity of 'potency' and 'act' – or, more correctly, of *δύναμις* and *ἐνέργεια*.

## CONCLUSIONS

Heidegger's 'another thinking' is rooted in the musing on presence as unconcealment which has the structure of the three temporal ecstasies. It leads to a criticism of the modern notion of causality as it has grown out of the inauthentic understanding of presence coupled with the inauthentic understanding of temporality. On the other hand, authentic presence and authentic temporality are identical to each other. In order to get to the bottom of presence as unconcealment, Heidegger has to go back to the Greek thought – where he pays a special attention to Aristotle's thought and his aetiology. The retrieval of this aetiology amounts to undermining the ontological basis of the modern notion of causality as well as to the contour of Heidegger's own ontology of presence.

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<sup>4</sup> Why the world, or Dasein as *λόγος*, is Being's house or chamber, its *Wohnzeug*, its *οὐσία*? Heidegger cares to reveal a possibility of an authentic unconcealing of Being which is not based on Cartesian metaphysics. The (post-)Cartesian scientific endeavour is not rejected but, rather, preserved while also transforming its metaphysical basis.



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## Moderniojo priešastingumo transformacija M. Heideggerio mąstyme

### *Santrauka*

Straipsnyje pateikiama heidegeriška priešastingumo sampratos analizė. Modernioji priešastingumo samprata remiasi karteziškąja tįsios erdvės samprata, pakankamo pagrindo principu, matematinio aprašymo prieinamo objekto samprata ir linijinio laiko samprata. M. Heideggeriui mąstant apie būtį kaip išslaptinimą, šios sampratos buvo kritiškai aptartos ir transformavosi. Todėl kilo nauja galimybė suvokti priešastingumą kaip išslaptinimą – o šis numato kitą, ne algebrinę, erdvės sampratą, pagrindo principo temporalizaciją, kitokią nekintančio esmo sampratą ir, žinoma, ekstatinio laiko sampratą. Parodoma, kad heidegeriškoji ekstatinio laiko samprata ir kyla iš moderniosios priešastingumo sampratos kritikos bei transformacijos.

**Raktažodžiai:** apriorizmas, Aristotelis, Heideggeris, laikiškumas, priešastingumas