

# Karim P.Y. Thébault

## Curriculum Vitae

Cotham House  
University of Bristol  
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### Areas of Specialisation and Competence

- AOS Philosophy of Physics, General Philosophy of Science, Theoretical Physics
- AOC Philosophy of Social Science

### Academic Employment

- 2017- **Senior Lecturer**, *Department of Philosophy*, University of Bristol.
- 2015-2017 **Lecturer**, *Department of Philosophy*, University of Bristol.
- 2012-2015 **Assistant Professor**, *Munich Center for Mathematical Philosophy*, LMU Munich.

### Education

- 2012 **PhD in Philosophy**, *University of Sydney*.  
Supervisors: Huw Price, and Dean Rickles
- 2007 **MSc in Theoretical Physics**, *Imperial College London*.
- 2005 **BA in Physics and Philosophy**, *Hertford College*, University of Oxford.

### Publications

#### Journal Articles and Contributions

20. **Superpositions of the cosmological constant allow for singularity resolution and unitary evolution in quantum cosmology**, with S. Gryb, *Physics Letters B*, forthcoming
19. **The Problem of Time**, in *Routledge Companion to Philosophy of Physics* (Routledge), forthcoming
18. **What can we learn from analogue experiments?**, in *Why Trust a Theory* (CUP), forthcoming
17. **Models on the Move: Migration and Imperialism**, with Seamus Bradley, *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science Part A*, in press, DOI: 10.1016/j.shpsa.2017.11.008, 2017
16. **Modelling inequality** with Seamus Bradley and Alexander Reutlinger, *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, 69(3): 691-718, 2018

15. **Confirmation via analogue simulation: what dumb holes could tell us about gravity** with Radin Dardashti and Eric Winsberg  
*British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, 68(1):55-89, 2017
14.  **$\Psi$ -Epistemic Quantum Cosmology?**, with Peter Evans and Sean Gryb,  
*Studies in History and Philosophy of Modern Physics*, 56 1-12, 2016
13. **Regarding the 'Hole Argument' and the 'Problem of Time'**, with Sean Gryb, *Philosophy of Science*, 83(4): 563-584, 2016
12. **Time remains** with Sean Gryb  
*British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, 67(3): 663-705, 2016
11. **Schrödinger evolution for the universe: reparametrization**  
with Sean Gryb  
*Classical and Quantum Gravity*, 33 (6), 2016
10. **Quantization as a guide to ontic structure**  
*British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, 67 (1), 89-114, 2016
9. **Dispositions and the principle of least action revisited** with Benjamin Smart  
*Analysis*, 75(3), 386-395, 2015
8. **Many worlds: incoherent or decoherent?** with Richard Dawid  
*Synthese*, 192(5) 1559-1580, 2015
7. **Against the empirical viability of the Deutsch-Wallace-Everett approach to quantum mechanics** with Richard Dawid  
*Studies in the History and Philosophy of Modern Physics*, 47 55-61, 2014
6. **Unsharp humean chances in statistical physics: a reply to Beisbart** with Luke Glynn, Radin Dardashti, and Mathias Frisch  
*New Directions in the Philosophy of Science*, Springer, Volume 5, pp 531-542, 2014
5. **Symmetry and evolution in quantum gravity** with Sean Gryb  
*Foundations of Physics*, 44 (3) 305-348, 2014
4. **Three denials of time in the interpretation of canonical gravity**  
*Studies in the History and Philosophy of Modern Physics*, 43 (4), 277-294, 2012
3. **The role of time in relational quantum theories** with Sean Gryb  
*Foundations of Physics*, 42 (9), 1210-1238, 2012
2. **Symplectic reduction and the problem of time in nonrelativistic mechanics**  
*British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, 63 (4): 789-824, 2012
1. **Symmetry, reduction and quantisation; how should we interpret quantum Hamiltonian constraints?**  
*Symmetry*, 3(2) 134-154, 2011

## Book reviews

2. **The disunity of philosophy of science as a worrying hypothesis**, Review of 'Physical Theory: Method and Interpretation' edited by Lawrence Sklar  
International Studies in Philosophy of Science, (forthcoming)
1. **Review of 'Geometric Possibility' by Gordon Belot**  
Philosophy in Review, 32 (2), 2012

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## Visiting Activities

- Sept. 2011 **Visiting Fellow**, *Tilburg Centre for Logic and Philosophy of Science*.  
July 2011 **Official Visitor**, *Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics*.

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## Selected Presentations

### Invited Presentations

- June 2017 Conference on the Philosophical Foundations of Quantum Gravity, Geneva  
June 2017 The Philosophy of Howard Stein, Chicago  
May 2017 Physics Research Seminar, University of Nottingham  
May 2017 Philosophy Research Seminar, University of Lausanne  
May 2017 Philosophy Research Seminar, University of Geneva  
March 2017 BSPS Ordinary Meeting  
Jan. 2017 Philosophy Research Seminar, University of Stirling  
Nov. 2016 Philosophy Research Seminar, University of Edinburgh  
July 2016 What Hasn't Worked in Quantum Gravity and Why?, MPIWG  
July 2016 The Hole Shebang, LSE  
May 2016 Realism and Underdetermination in Quantum Theory, Leeds  
Feb. 2016 Bristol-Leuven Workshop, Bristol  
Dec. 2015 Why Trust A Theory?, LMU Munich  
Nov. 2015 Philosophy of Physics Research Seminar, University of Oxford  
Nov. 2015 SIGMA Club, The London School of Economics  
Nov. 2015 Geometry, Topology, and Gravity Workshop, Bristol  
Sept. 2015 Department of Philosophy, University of Bristol  
March 2015 German Physical Society Spring Meeting, TU Berlin  
Sept. 2014 Department of Philosophy, University of Toronto  
Sept. 2014 Quantum Gravity Seminar, Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics  
Sept. 2014 Rotman Institute of Philosophy, University of Western Ontario  
March 2013 Sydney Foundations of Physics Seminar, University of Sydney  
Jan. 2013 Colloquium in Philosophy of Science, Munich Center for Mathematical Philosophy

- Oct. 2011 Institute for Theoretical Physics, University of Utrecht
- Nov. 2011 Research Seminar in Epistemology and Philosophy of Science, Tilburg  
Center for Logic and Philosophy of Science, University of Tilburg
- Nov. 2010 Philosophy of Physics Research Seminar, University of Oxford
- Contributed Presentations
- Sept. 2017 European Philosophy of Science Association, Exeter
- July 2017 BSPS Annual Conference, Edinburgh
- Sept. 2015 Biannual Meeting of the European Philosophy of Science Association,  
Dusseldorf
- Nov. 2014 Biannual Meeting of the Philosophy of Science Association, Chicago
- Sept. 2014 European Congress of Analytic Philosophy, Bucharest
- July 2013 British Society for the Philosophy of Science Annual Conference, Exeter
- July 2013 Loops 13, Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics
- May 2013 Bucharest Colloquium in Analytic Philosophy, Bucharest
- March 2013 Deutsche Physikalische Gesellschaft Tagungen, Jena
- April 2013 Irvine-Pittsburgh-Princeton Conference on the Mathematical and Con-  
ceptual Foundations of Physics, Pittsburg
- July 2011 British Society for the Philosophy of Science Annual Conference, Sussex
- Dec. 2010 Perimeter Institute and Australian Foundations Collaboration Annual  
Meeting, Brisbane
- July 2010 British Society for the Philosophy of Science Annual Conference, Dublin
- July 2010 16th U.K. and European Meeting on the Foundations of Physics, Aberdeen

## Grants, Awards and Prizes

- 2017 **AHRC Early Career Grant Grant**, Principal Investigator (€275,000)
- 2015 **Workshop Grant** with James Ladyman, IAS Bristol (€ 2,400)
- 2013 **Research Mini-Grant**, University of Sydney (€ 7,000)
- 2013 **Conference Grant** with Stephan Hartmann, German Research Founda-  
tion (DFG) (€ 12,000)
- 2011 **Visiting Fellowship**, University of Tilburg, (€2,250)
- 2011 **Lucy Firth Publication Prize**, University of Sydney, (€ 800)
- 2008 **PhD Scholarship Award**, University of Sydney, (€30,000)
- 2008 **PhD Scholarship Award**, States of Jersey, (€38,000)
- 2007 **Bursary for Postgraduate Education**, States of Jersey (€6,000)

## Professional Activities

- Honorary Secretary of The British Society for the Philosophy of Science (2017-2018)

- Grant application reviewer for European Research Council, National Science Foundation (USA) and the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research.
- Peer reviewer for British Journal for the Philosophy of Science, Erkenntnis, Synthese, Analysis, European Journal for Philosophy of Science, Philosophy of Science, Studies in the History and Philosophy of Modern Physics, Studies in the History and Philosophy of Science, Einstein Studies Series, International Journal of Modern Physics D, SIGMA.