

Karim P.Y. Thébault

Curriculum Vitae

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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, Philosophy of Probability

Academic Employment

- 2015- **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*.
Dissertation Title: Symmetry, Ontology and the Problem of Time.
Principal Supervisor: Huw Price, Associate Supervisor: Dean Rickles
- 2007 **MSc in Theoretical Physics**, *Imperial College London*.
Dissertation Title: Observables, Time and Gravity
Supervisor: Jonathan Halliwell
- 2005 **BA in Physics and Philosophy**, *Hertford College*, University of Oxford.
Grade: II.1

Publications

Journal Articles and Contributions

16. **Ψ -Epistemic Quantum Cosmology?**
with Peter Evans and Sean Gryb
Studies in History and Philosophy of Modern Physics, 56 1-12.
15. **Regarding the ‘Hole Argument’ and the ‘Problem of Time’**
with Sean Gryb
Philosophy of Science, 83(4): 563-584
14. **Modelling inequality** with Seamus Bradley and Alexander Reutlinger
British Journal for the Philosophy of Science, (forthcoming)
13. **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, (forthcoming)

12. **Time remains** with Sean Gryb
British Journal for the Philosophy of Science, 67(3): 663-705
 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

Visiting Activities

Sept. 2011 **Visiting Fellow**, *Tilburg Centre for Logic and Philosophy of Science*.

July 2011 **Official Visitor**, *Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics*.

Selected Presentations

Invited Presentations

- 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. 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 Conceptual 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 Foundation (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)

Teaching and Supervision Experience

Full Courses Lectured

- 2016 **Epistemology**, BA Course, University of Bristol
- 2016 **Introduction to Metaphysics**, BA Course, University of Bristol
- 2015 **Anti-Realism in the Philosophy of Science**, BA/MA Course, LMU Munich
- 2012,2013 **Introduction to Philosophy of Physics**, BA Course, LMU Munich
- 2012,2013 **Understanding Scientific Theory Change**, BA Course, LMU Munich
- 2013,2014 **Advanced Topics in the Philosophy of Physics**, BA/MA Course LMU Munich
- 2013 **Reduction and Emergence in Physics**, BA/MA Course, LMU Munich

Students Supervised

- 2014 **MA Thesis Supervisor**, Cameron Beebe, LMU Munich
- 2014 **BA Thesis Supervisor**, Hannah Ochner, LMU Munich
- 2012-2015 **PhD Thesis Associate Supervisor**, Radin Dardashti, LMU Munich

Undergraduate Tutor

- 2010 **Metaphysics, Ethics and Aesthetics**, University of Sydney
- 2010 **Analytical Thinkings**, University of Sydney

Professional and Administrative Experience

Conferences Organisation

- 2016 **Principal Conference Organiser**, Quantum Foundations and the Problems of Time, University of Bristol (approx. 25 participants)
- 2015 **Principal Conference Organiser**, The Problem of Time in Perspective, LMU Munich (approx. 30 participants)
- 2013 **Principal Conference Organiser**, Foundations of Physics 2013, LMU Munich (approx. 130 participants)

2013 **Principal Conference Organiser**, Quantum Gravity in Perspective, LMU Munich (approx. 30 participants)

2015 **Conference Co-Organiser**, Munich Graduate Workshop in Mathematical Philosophy, LMU Munich (approx. 40 participants)

2013 **Conference Co-Organiser**, Reduction and Emergence in Sciences, LMU Munich (approx. 50 participants)

2013 **Conference Co-Organiser**, Reduction and Emergence in Physics, LMU Munich (approx. 30 participants)

Administrative Duties

2015- **Seminar Series Organiser**, Work in Progress Seminar, Department of Philosophy, University of Bristol

2012-2015 **Principal Colloquium Organiser**, Colloquium in Philosophy of Science, Munich Center for Mathematical Philosophy (budget approx €10,000 p.a.)

2010-11 **Colloquium Co-Organiser**, University of Sydney Foundations of Physics Seminar

Peer Review

British Journal for the Philosophy of Science, Erkenntnis, Synthese, 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