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Education and Academic Career

March 2020–present Assistant Professor – University of Turin

2018 Full Professor Habilitation at the University of Tübingen

Habilitation Thesis: *‘What is Truth?’: Einstein on Rods and Clocks in Relativity Theory*

2017–2019: University of Tübingen - DFG-Research Fellow (Eigene Stelle) - [GI945/1-2](#)

2015–: contributing editor-Einstein Paper Project, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA

2015–2016 in Pasadena (Interruption of the DFG Project), currently external collaboration.

2013: Associate Professor Habilitation (Italian National Scientific Habilitation) - nr. 70

2012–2017: University of Tübingen - DFG-Research Fellow (Eigene Stelle) - [GI945/1-1](#)

2012: University of Tübingen (Interim Assistant Position)

2010–2012: University of Tübingen (PostDoc Grant - University of Turin/Piedmont Region)

2007–2009: University of Turin (PostDoc Grant - University of Turin/Piedmont Region)

2006: Post-Doc Grant - Universität Tübingen (DAAD)

2001–2005: University of Zurich - University of Turin (Double Ph.D., Philosophy)

Dissertation: *Realtà e Negazione. Il principio kantiano delle Anticipazioni della Percezione nella storia delle sue interpretazioni* (Prof. Helmut Holzhey)

Final grade: Summa cum laude

1994–1999: University of Turin (M.A., Philosophy)

Master-thesis: *August Stadler interprete di Kant* (Prof. Andrea Poma)

Final grade: 110/110 cum laude

Other Grants and Fellowships

2017: Senior Visiting Fellow (Edelstein Center - University of Jerusalem)

2016: Senior Visiting Fellow (Munich Center for Mathematical Philosophy, LMU)

2015–2016: Contributing Editor Einstein Paper Project, Caltech (local residence)

2013–14: Visiting Fellow (Center for Philosophy of Science, University of Pittsburgh)

2010–11: Visiting Fellow (John J. Reilly Center, University of Notre Dame)

2006: German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) Grant (University of Tübingen)

2001–2002: Research Grant (University of Zurich - Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

1998–1999: Erasmus Exchange Program (University of Bremen)

External Funding Received

2017-2019: DFG Fellowship (Eigene Stelle) - [GI945/1-2](#) €183.000

2012-2016: DFG Fellowship (Eigene Stelle) - [GI945/1-1](#) €274.500

2007-2012: 2 Post-Doc Positions 50% co-fin. by the Piedmont Region (Italy) ([L.R. n. 4/ 2006 art.](#)) €88.000

Service to the Profession and the Community

Reviewer for *British Journal for the History of Philosophy*, *Synthese*, *European Journal for Philosophy of Science*, *Oxford University Press*, *Journal for General Philosophy of Science*, *Studies in the History and Philosophy of Science*, *Philosophy of Science*, *HOPOS: The Journal of the International Society for the History of Philosophy of Science*

Organization of an HPS summer school at the University of Tübingen, Forum Scientiarum, now in its sixth year. Invited lecturers: Don Howard (2012), Robert DiSalle (2013), Michel Janssen, with Jürgen Renn (2014); John Norton, with Stephan Hartmann (2015); Guido Bacciagaluppi, with Chris Fuchs (2016); Harvey Brown, with Dennis Lehmkuhl (2017); Thomas Ryckman with Jerome Van Dongen (2018)

Languages

Italian (native speaker); English, German (fluent); French (reading), Latin and ancient Greek (reading)

References

Diana L. Kormos-Buchwald (California Institute of Technology); diana_buchwald@caltech.edu

Michael Heidelberger (University of Tübingen); michael.heidelberger@uni-tuebingen.de

Don Howard (University of Notre Dame); dhoward1@nd.edu

John Norton (University of Pittsburg); jdnorton@pitt.edu

Thomas A. Ryckman (Stanford University); tryckman@stanford.edu

Refereed Papers

Submitted

- **2021c.** “Geometrization Vs. Unification. The Reichenbach-Einstein Quarrel About the *Fernparallelismus* Field Theory”. *Synthese*. Under review.

Published

- **2021b.** “‘Geometrization of Physics’ vs. ‘Physicalization of Geometry’. The Untranslated Appendix to Reichenbach’s *Philosophie der Raum-Zeit-Lehre*”. In: *From Philosophy of Nature to Physics. Logical Empiricism and the Natural Sciences*. Ed. by Sebastian Lutz and Ádám Tamas Tuboly. London and New York: Routledge, pp. 224–261. ISBN: 978-1-138-36735-7.
- **2020b.** “Nothing but Coincidences. The Point-Coincidence Argument and Einstein’s Struggle with the Meaning of Coordinates in Physics”. *European Journal for the Philosophy of Science*. DOI: [10.1007/s13194-020-00332-7](https://doi.org/10.1007/s13194-020-00332-7).
- **2020c.** “‘Like Thermodynamics before Boltzmann’. On Einstein’s Distinction between Constructive and Principle Theories”. *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science. Part B: Studies in History and Philosophy of Modern Physics* 71, pp. 118–157. DOI: [10.1016/j.shpsb.2020.02.005](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.shpsb.2020.02.005).
- **2019f** (with Don Howard). “Einstein’s Philosophy of Science”. In: *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. Ed. by Edward N. Zalta. Fall.
- **2018e.** “‘Physics Is a Kind of Metaphysics’. Émile Meyerson and Einstein’s Late Rationalistic Realism”. *European Journal for the Philosophy of Science* 8.3, pp. 783–829. DOI: [10.1007/s13194-018-0211-y](https://doi.org/10.1007/s13194-018-0211-y).
- **2017d.** “Lorentz Contraction vs. Einstein Contraction. Reichenbach and the Philosophical Reception of Miller Aether-Drift Experiments”. In: *Proceeding of the Fourth International Conference on the Nature and Ontology of Spacetime*. Ed. by Anguel Stefanov and Marco Giovanelli. Montreal: Minkowski Institute Press, pp. 125–155. ISBN: 978-1-927763-47-6.
- **2017e.** “Traditions in Collision. The Emergence of Logical Empiricism Between the Riemannian and Helmholtzian Traditions”. *HOPOS: The Journal of the International Society for the History of Philosophy of Science* 7, pp. 328–380. DOI: [10.1086/693424](https://doi.org/10.1086/693424).
- **2016k.** “The Sensation and the Stimulus. Psychophysics and the Prehistory of the Marburg School”. *Perspectives on Science* 25.3, pp. 287–323. DOI: [10.1162/POSC_a_00244](https://doi.org/10.1162/POSC_a_00244).
- **2016l.** “‘... But I still Can’t Get Rid of a Sense of Artificiality’: The Einstein-Reichenbach Debate on the Geometrization of the Electromagnetic Field”. *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science. Part B: Studies in History and Philosophy of Modern Physics* 54, pp. 35–51. DOI: [10.1016/j.shpsb.2016.04.001](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.shpsb.2016.04.001).
- **2016m.** “Hermann Cohen’s *Das Princip der Infinitesimal-Methode*. The History of an Unsuccessful Book”. *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science* 58, pp. 9–23. DOI: [10.1016/j.shpsa.2016.02.002](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.shpsa.2016.02.002).
- **2015e.** “‘Das Problem in ein Postulat verwandeln’: Cassirer und Einsteins Unterscheidung von konstruktiven und Prinzipien-Theorien”. In: *Husserl, Cassirer, Schlick - ‘Wissenschaftliche Philosophie’ im Spannungsfeld von Phänomenologie, Neukantianismus und logischem Empirismus*. Ed. by Matthias Neuber. Vienna: Springer, pp. 150–175. DOI: [10.1007/978-3-319-26745-6_8](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-26745-6_8).
- **2014c.** “‘But One Must Not Legalize the Mentioned Sin. Phenomenological vs. Dynamical Treatments of Rods and Clocks in Einstein’s Thought”. *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science. Part B: Studies in History and Philosophy of Modern Physics* 48, pp. 20–44. DOI: [10.1016/j.shpsb.2014.08.012](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.shpsb.2014.08.012).
- **2013b.** “Erich Kretschmann as a Proto-Logical-Empiricist. Adventures and Misadventures of the Point-Coincidence Argument”. *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science. Part B: Studies in History and Philosophy of Modern Physics* 44.2, pp. 115–134. DOI: [10.1016/j.shpsb.2012.11.004](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.shpsb.2012.11.004).
- **2013c.** “Leibniz-Äquivalenz vs. Einstein-Äquivalenz. Was man von der Logisch-Empiristischen (Fehl-)Interpretation des Punkt-Koinzidenz-Arguments lernen kann”. *Philosophia Naturalis* 50.1, pp. 115–164. DOI: [10.3196/003180213809359774](https://doi.org/10.3196/003180213809359774).
- **2013d.** “The Forgotten Tradition. How the Logical Empiricists Missed the Philosophical Significance of the Work of Riemann, Christoffel and Ricci”. *Erkenntnis* 78 (6), pp. 1219–1257. DOI: [10.1007/s10670-012-9407-2](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10670-012-9407-2).
- **2013e.** “Talking at Cross-Purposes. How Einstein and the Logical Empiricists never Agreed on what they were Disagreeing About”. *Synthese* 190 (17), pp. 3819–3863. DOI: [10.1007/s11229-012-0229-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-012-0229-1).

- **2011c.** “Leibniz, Kant und der moderne Symmetriebegriff”. *Kant-Studien* 102.4, pp. 422–454. DOI: [10.1515/kant.2011.030](https://doi.org/10.1515/kant.2011.030).
- **2010b.** “Urbild und Abbild. Leibniz, Kant und Hausdorff über das Raumproblem”. *Journal for General Philosophy of Science* 41.2, pp. 283–313. DOI: [10.1007/s10838-010-9139-4](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10838-010-9139-4).
- **2008.** “Kant, Helmholtz, Riemann und der Ursprung der geometrischen Axiome”. *Philosophia naturalis* 45 (2), pp. 236–269. DOI: [10.3196/003180209789471263](https://doi.org/10.3196/003180209789471263).

Books

Authored Books

- **2011b.** *Reality and Negation - Kant's Principle of Anticipations of Perception. An Investigation of Its Impact on the Post-kantian Debate*. Dordrecht et al.: Springer. ISBN: 978-94-007-0064-2.
- **2003a.** *August Stadler interprete di Kant*. Napoli: Guida. ISBN: 8871885945.

Edited Books

- **2018f** (with Diana Kormos-Buchwald), eds. *Collected Papers of Albert Einstein*. Princeton: Princeton University Press. ISBN: 978-0691-17881-3. Contributing Editor to vol. 15.
- **2017f** (with Anguel Stefanov), eds. *General Relativity 1916–2016*. Proceeding of the Fourth International Conference on the Nature and Ontology of Spacetime. Montreal: Minkowski Institute Press. ISBN: 978-1-927763-46-9.

Other Publications

- **2016i.** “‘Zwei Bedeutungen des Apriori’ Hermann Cohens Unterscheidung zwischen metaphysischem und transzendentelem *a priori* und die Vorgeschichte des Relativierten *a priori*”. In: *Philosophie und Wissenschaft bei Hermann Cohen / Philosophy and Science in Hermann Cohen*. Ed. by Christian Damböck. Dordrecht: Springer, pp. 177–203. DOI: [10.1007/978-3-319-58023-4_9](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-58023-4_9).
- **2016j.** “*Gradus realitatis*. Die intensive Größe bei Kant und im Neukantianismus”. In: *Intensität und Realität. Systematische Analysen zur Problemgeschichte von on Gradualität, Intensität und quantitativer Differenz in Ontologie und Metaphysik*. Ed. by Thomas Leinkauf and Thomas Kisser. Boston: De Gruyter, pp. 141–170. DOI: [10.1515/9783110345148-010](https://doi.org/10.1515/9783110345148-010).
- **2016n.** “Rev. Jimena Canales, The Physicist and the Philosopher: Einstein, Bergson, and the Debate That Changed Our Understanding of Time”. *Isis* 108 (3), pp. 732–733. DOI: [10.1086/693840](https://doi.org/10.1086/693840).
- **2014b.** “Rev. of Neuber, Matthias, Die Grenzen des Revisionismus: Schlick, Cassirer und das Raumproblem”. *Journal for General Philosophy of Science* 45.2, pp. 393–401. ISSN: 09254560, 15728587. DOI: [10.1007/s10838-014-9252-x](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10838-014-9252-x).
- **2007.** “Kants Grundsatz der ‘Antizipationen der Wahrnehmung’ und seine Bedeutung für die theoretische Philosophie des Marburger Neukantianismus”. In: *Kant im Neukantianismus: Fortschritt oder Rückschritt?* Ed. by Marion Heinz and Christian Krijnen. Würzburg: Königshausen und Neumann, pp. 37–55.
- **2005.** “La distinzione kantiana tra ‘concetto’ e ‘intuizione’ e il problema della realtà delle ‘relazioni’”. *Annuario Filosofico* 10, pp. 113–146.
- **2003b.** “Grandezza intensiva e grandezza infinitesimale. Hermann Cohen e il principio kantiano delle Anticipazioni della percezione”. *Annuario filosofico* 19, pp. 275–318.

Recent Talks

Recent Invited Talks

- **May 22, 2021.** *Reichenbach and Feld-Parallelismus Field-Theory*. Einstein and the Philosophers. Naples, Italy.

- **Sept. 10, 2019.** *Reichenbach and the Unified Field Theory Program.* Oxford-Notre-Dame-Bonn Seminar. Oxford, UK.
- **Sept. 4, 2019.** *Reichenbach and the The Problem of Geometrization in Physics.* Notre Dame-Oxford-Bonn Workshop in the Philosophy of Physics. Oxford, UK.
- **July 22, 2019.** *Reichenbach and the Unified Field Theory Program.* All Things Reichenbach. Munich, Germany.
- **June 6, 2019.** *Einstein and Meyerson. At Boundaries between the History of Philosophy and the History of Physics.* Crossing the Boundaries: Reassessing Historical Epistemology between Science and Philosophy. Turin.
- **Jan. 22, 2019.** *Only Point-Coincidences. Adventures and Misadventures of the Point-Coincidence Argument.* University of Bonn. Bonn.
- **Mar. 22, 2018.** *'Physics is a Kind of Metaphysics'. Meyerson's Influence of Einstein Rationalistic Realism.* New York University. Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.
- **Sept. 13, 2017.** *Einstein and Meyerson. On Einstein's Constructive Realism.* Thinking about Space and Time: 100 Years of Applying and Interpreting General Relativity. Bern.
- **Nov. 2, 2016.** *Metaphysical vs. Transcendental a priori. Hermann Cohen and the Pre-History of the Relativized a priori.* Interdisziplinäre Zentrum für Wissenschafts- und Technikforschung, Bergische Universität Wuppertal, Germany.
- **Oct. 26, 2016.** *Why Reichenbach Did Not Believe That General Relativity Geometrizes Gravity. The Einstein-Reichenbach Correspondence on the Role of 'Geometrization in Physics'.* MCMP, Munich, Germany.
- **May 31, 2016.** *100 Years of Point-Coincidences. Adventures and Misadventures of the Point-Coincidence Argument.* Fourth International Conference on the Nature and Ontology of Spacetime. Varna, Bulgaria.
- **July 6, 2015.** *'What is truth?' Einstein on Rods and Clocks in Relativity Theory.* Gravity and Geometry: Centenary Perspectives on General Relativity. University of Western Ontario, Canada.
- **Mar. 16, 2015.** *Rods and Clocks in Relativity Theory.* 100 years of General Relativity: On the foundations of space-time theories. Berlin, Germany.

Recent Contributed Talks (Peer Reviewed)

- **Oct. 22, 2020.** *Nothing but Coincidence. Bergmann and the Pre-History of the Problem of Observables in General Relativity.* &HPS. Virginia Tech, USA.
- **July 22, 2018.** *'Physics is a Kind of Metaphysics'. Émile Meyerson's Influence on Einstein Rationalistic Realism.* &HPS7. Hannover, Germany.
- **July 9, 2018.** *Debunking the Myth. On Einstein's Use of Implicit Definitions.* HOPOS; Symposium on Implicit Definitions. Groningen, Netherlands.
- **Sept. 6, 2017.** *'Physics is a Kind of Metaphysics'. Émile Meyerson's Influence on Einstein Rationalistic Realism.* EPSA17 -. University of Exeter, UK.
- **July 28, 2017.** *'Physics is a Kind of Metaphysics'. Émile Meyerson's Influence on Einstein Rationalistic Realism.* BSPS2017. University of Bristol, UK.
- **Sept. 6, 2016.** *How Reichenbach did not believe that General Relativity Geometrized Gravity? Reichenbach and Einstein on Geometrization in Physics.* 2nd International Conference on the History of Physics, Echophysics. Pöllau, Austria.
- **July 16, 2016.** *Einstein and Reichenbach on the Geometrization of the Electromagnetic Field.* UK and European Meeting on the Foundations of Physics. London, UK.
- **July 4, 2016.** *The Einstein-Reichenbach Correspondence on Geometrization in Physics.* &HPS. Edinburgh, Scotland.
- **June 23, 2016.** *The Einstein-Reichenbach Debate on the Geometrization of the Electromagnetic Field.* HOPOS. Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- **June 10, 2016.** *Prinzipienfuchser. Epistemological Reflexions on Einstein's Principle Theories.* First Principles in Science. Munich, Germany.
- **Apr. 11, 2015.** *'Two Meanings of the a priori'. Hermann Cohen's Distinction between Metaphysical and Transcendental a priori.* BSHP. York, UK.
- **Mar. 1, 2015.** *Einstein and Reichenbach on the Geometrization of the Gravitational Field.* DPG-Frühjahrstagung. Hamburg, Germany.

- **June 25, 2014.** *A Matter of Principles. Cassirer and Einstein's Distinction between Principle and Constructive Theories.* HOPOS. Ghent, Belgium.
- **July 30, 2013.** *A Dialogue of the Deaf. Einstein and Logical Empiricist on Rods and Clocks in General Relativity.* UK and European Meeting on the Foundations of Physics. Edinburgh, Scotland.
- **June 25, 2010.** *Leibniz-equivalence. On Leibniz's (Bad) Influence of Logical Empiricist Interpretation of General Relativity.* HOPOS. Budapest, Hungary.

Last updated: September 20, 2021