

Academic Report for 2020 (01.01.2020- 31.12.2020)

Munich Center for Mathematical Philosophy

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This year has been exceptional and has shaken all of us from our usual routines. With the appearance and spread of Coronavirus (Sars-CoV-2) the MCMP has followed the suggested rules and regulations by LMU Munich and the State of Bavaria. As a result, the centre was closed and everybody encouraged to work from home. Thanks to everybody we could keep the spirit up and stay connected.

In this report, we present an overview of our activities in challenging 2020.

(I) We continue to use different media in order to reach out to the public:

1. The MCMP website

After a relaunch and facelift, the MCMP website continues to be the place to go to for everything MCMP. With the calendar function for our talks and events and the four most sought after fields of information - people, events, research and the "for students" section - we offer information and details about what we do.

2. MCMP on iTunes U

The MCMP has an assortment of twelve video channels on iTunes U, one of them our archive with 250 recordings, the first ones from 2011.

Since 2016 we provide access to more than 650 video recordings on virtually any kind of philosophical problem.

3. MCMP @ Facebook

The MCMP regularly posts news and events on Facebook. Currently we have more than 3.300 people following our page, where we are sharing announcements and events.

4. M-Phi Blog

The MCMP maintains a blog on current topics in mathematical philosophy.

5. What's Hot in Mathematical Philosophy?

Members of the MCMP are in charge of the "What's Hot in Mathematical Philosophy?" series, which appears regularly in the online gazette *The Reasoner*.

6. Publication Management

In collaboration with LMU's library and the central internet department, we introduced our very own publication management system in a unified repository. Our papers are now accessible through LMU's Open Access server; Our personal online profile pages; Our own publication search function on our homepage; and through Google Scholar as well as on BASE (Bielefeld Academic Search Engine). In the last year we kept our focus on ERC funded projects, which have an open access obligation.

(II) We organized a great variety of academic events including speakers from all over the world and we had a great number of excellent visitors:

a. Talks and Colloquia

1. Colloquium in Mathematical Philosophy: Philosophy of Science

The Colloquium in Logic, Philosophy of Science and Philosophy is held every week on Wednesday during the term in Ludwigstraße 31, Ground Floor, Room E21. Sometimes additional sessions are organized. The speakers are invited to give a talk and are often staying for some days at our Centre. This is the list of the Wednesday Speakers/Visitors from January until December 2020:

08.01.2020 Hans Rott (Regensburg)
15.01.2020 James Fraser (Durham)
20.01.2020 Alex Moran (Oxford)
22.01.2020 Saana Jukola (Bielefeld)
29.01.2020 Dennis Lehmkuhl (Bonn)
05.02.2020 Lev Vaidman (Tel Aviv/CAS)

Zoom Talks

20.05.2020 Ben Eva (Konstanz)
17.06.2020 Erik Curiel (MCMP)
01.07.2020 Haixin Dang (Leeds)
11.11.2020 Richard Healey (Arizona) and John Dougherty (MCMP)
02.12.2020 Alice Murphy und Alexander Reutlinger (MCMP)
16.12.2020 Sebastian Lutz (Uppsala) und Neil Dewar (MCMP)

2. Colloquium in Mathematical Philosophy: Logic and Language

The Colloquium in Mathematical Philosophy is held every week on Thursday during the term in Ludwigstraße 31, Ground Floor, Room E21. Sometimes additional sessions are organized. The speakers are invited to give a talk and are often staying for some days at our Centre. This is the list of the Thursday Speakers/Visitors from January until December 2020:

09.01.2020 Dominik Klein (Bamberg/Bayreuth), Ondrej Majer (Prag), Soroush Rafiee Rad (Bayreuth)
16.01.2020 Hitoshi Omori (Bochum)
23.01.2020 Ekaterina Kubyshkina (State University of Campinas) and Mattia Petrolo (Federal University of ABC)
23.01.2020 Peter Schuster (Verona)
30.01.2020 Abilio Azambuja Rodrigues Filho (Minas Gerais)
03.02.2020 Daniel Isaacson (Oxford)
06.02.2020 Javier Legris (Buenos Aires)
13.02.2020 Johannes Stern (Bristol/MCMP)
14.02.2020 Ryota Akiyoshi (Waseda University/Keio University, Japan)
17.02.2020 Ryota Akiyoshi (Waseda University/Keio University, Japan)

Zoom Talks

23.04.2020 Walter Carnielli (Campinas)

30.04.2020 Juliana Bueno-Soler (Campinas)
 07.05.2020 Edi Pavlovic (Helsinki)
 14.05.2020 Brett Topey (Salzburg)
 28.02.2020 Pawel Pawlowski (Gdańsk)
 04.06.2020 Wes Holliday (Berkley)
 18.06.2020 Thomas Icard (Stanford)
 25.06.2020 Luca Incurvati (Amsterdam)
 02.07.2020 Bruno Jacinto (Lisbon)
 09.07.2020 Dolf Rami (Bochum)
 16.07.2020 Volker Halbach (Oxford)
 23.07.2020 Will Stafford (Irvine)
 22.10.2020 Gisele Secco (Universidade Federal de Santa Maria, Brasil)
 29.10.2020 Felix Weitkämper (LMU)
 05.11.2020 Isidora Stojanovic (Insitut Jean Nicod, Paris)
 12.11.2020 Carlo Nicolai (King's College)
 19.11.2020 Michael Glanzberg (Rutgers)
 26.11.2020 Andrew Bacon (University of Southern California)
 03.12.2020 John Cantwell (Stockholm)
 10.12.2020 Fabrizio Cariani (Maryland)
 17.12.2020 Thom van Gessel (Amsterdam)

3. Work in Progress (WIP)

The MCMP is also scheduling an intern Work in Progress session, offering MCMP members and Visiting Fellows to talk about their current work and to get feedback on early stages from their colleagues. This is a list of the Work in Progress Presentations that were given from January until December 2020:

09.01.2020 Alex Mathie (MCMP)
 16.01.2020 Matteo De Benedetto (MCMP)
 23.01.2020 Stefan Rinner (MCMP)
 30.01.2020 Ana Cholodovskis (MCMP)
 06.02.2020 Catrin Campbell-Moore (Bristol/MCMP)
 13.02.2020 Michał Tomasz Godziszewski (MCMP)
 28.02.2020 Joe Dewhurst (MCMP)
 23.07.2020 Damian Szmuc (Buenos Aires)
 19.11.2020 Erik Curiel (MCMP))
 26.11.2020 Michael Cuffaro (Western))
 03.12.2020 Naftali Weinberger (MCMP)
 10.12.2020 Jürgen Landes (MCMP)

b. Workshops and Conferences

Due to the circumstances the MCMP had to cancel all planned events. However, we managed to go online with the following conference:

10.08.2020 – 14.08.2020 Bayesian Epistemology: Perspectives and Challenges

The following conferences were moved into the future:

15th International Conference on Deontic Logic and Normative Systems (DEON 2020) by Alessandra Marra.

The annual Summer School on Mathematical Philosophy for Female Students by Marianna Antonutti Marfori.

Mathematics and Analogical Reasoning (11-12 September 2020) by Silvia Jonas.

Alternative Approaches to Scientific Realism by Neil Dewar and Joe Dewhurst.

c. Additional Activities

1. Aristoteles' metaphysische Naturphilosophie / Aristotle's Metaphysical Natural Philosophy

The reading group took place online on Tuesday, 14:15 - 15:45. It was organized by Daniel A. Di Liscia

2. Philosophy of Physics

This term, the philosophy of physics group was reading Laura Ruetsche's book *Interpreting Quantum Theories*. The group met Tuesdays 13:00-14:30. It was organized by John Dougherty.

3. Reading Group on the Philosophy and Methodology of Economics (Rethinking Economics Munich)

Starting on 22nd April 2020, the reading group met online every Wednesday from 6:15pm to 7:45pm This semester the topic was causal inference in econometrics with a focus on the literature on directed acyclical graphs (Judea Pearl, 2019: *The Book of Why and relevant papers*). It was organized by Patrick Klösel.

4. Inference and reasoning

The reading group took place from Thursday, February 20th onwards from 2 - 4 PM. The topics discussed were at the intersection of philosophy and psychology of reasoning. More specifically, the focus was on recent papers about inference in general, logic and reasoning, Bayesian reasoning, induction, analogy, and abduction. It was organized by Borut Trpin and Matías Osta Vélez.

5. Wahrheit und Paradoxien

"Wenn dieser Satz wahr ist, wirst Du dich für diesen Kurs anmelden" Warum dieser harmlos aussehende Satz dank seines paradoxen Charakters uns unglaublich viele Teilnehmer verschafft, wie Wahrheitstheorien mit "Lügnern" umgehen und was das alles mit Gödels Unvollständigkeitssätzen zu tun hat, wurde in einem einwöchigen Blockkurs erarbeitet. Dazu wurden klassische Texte von Tarski und Kripke zu Wahrheitstheorien gelesen und diskutiert,

moderne deflationistische Ansätze untersucht und ein Ausflug in die Erkenntnistheorie gemacht. Das alles wurde möglichst zugänglich gehalten und formale Methoden nur dort eingesetzt, wo sie wirklich notwendig waren. Die Organisation lag bei Hosea von Hauff.

6. Philosophy of Psychiatry

A reading group centred around relevant topics from contemporary psychiatry took place each Tuesday at 2 o'clock. The group explored topics from the fields of computational modelling, phenomenology, explanation, natural kinds and so forth. No prerequisites were required. People dealing with topics from the fields of philosophy of mind and philosophy of science were encouraged to join. It was organized by Maksim Nikiforovski.

7. Aristoteles' Erkenntnistheorie und Psychologie: Die Abhandlung über die Seele (*De anima*)

The reading group took place on Thursdays, 14:15-15:45, organized by Daniel Di Liscia.

8. Online Seminar on Mathematical Topics in the Scientific Study of Consciousness

Johannes Kleiner and a few friends of his organized this online seminar. It started May 7th with a talk by the MCMP's very own Joe Dewhurst on "Attending to the Illusion of Consciousness". Further confirmed speakers were: Anil Seth (Sackler Centre for Consciousness Science, University of Sussex), Karl Friston (Institute of Neurology, University College London), Liad Mudrik (School of Psychological Sciences, Tel Aviv University), David Balduzzi (Google DeepMind), Selen Atasoy (Hedonia Transnational Research Group, University of Oxford), Jennifer Windt (Philosophy Department,

Monash University), Rafi Malach (Weizmann Institute of Science), Chen Song (Brain Research Imaging Centre, Cardiff University), Jenann Ismael (Department of Philosophy, Columbia University in New York), William Seager (Department of Philosophy, University of Toronto Scarborough), Ryota Kanai (Araya), Alex Gomez-Marin (Instituto de Neurociencias, Universidad Miguel Hernández), Andrew Haun (Center for Sleep and Consciousness, University of Wisconsin-Madison), Erik Hoel (Allen Discovery Center, Tufts University), Jeffrey Yoshimi (Cognitive Science and Philosophy, University of California Merced), Catherine Tallon-Baudry (Département d'études cognitives, École normale supérieure), Nao Tsuchiya (School of Psychological Sciences, Monash University), Kryzstof Dolega (Faculty of Philosophy and Educational Research, Ruhr-Universität Bochum), and Mike Johnson (Qualia Research Institute).

(III) Awards and Announcements

John Dougherty received the 2020 Cushing Memorial Prize by the University of Notre Dame. Congratulations John!

Ulrike Hahn (Birkbeck College) and **Stephan Hartmann** have received a UK-German Collaborative Funding Scheme Grant from the German Research Foundation (DFG) and The Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC). Their project "Normative vs. Descriptive Accounts in the Philosophy and Psychology of Reasoning and Argumentation: Tension or Productive Interplay?" has been one of eighteen successful proposals from eighty overall submissions, being one of two projects hosted at LMU Munich. Congratulations!

Ivano Ciardelli obtains highly prestigious Emmy-Noether-Fellowship. Ivano will be leading a young researcher group on New Territories for Modal Logic funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG).

We are delighted to announce that **Christian List**, currently Professor of Philosophy and Political Science at the London School of Economics, will join the MCMP as one of its Co-Directors in January 2021. Christian List is a world-leading expert in the philosophy of action, the philosophy of social science, political philosophy, social choice theory, and formal epistemology. He was elected to the British Academy in 2014 and earned numerous awards, including the Social Choice and Welfare Prize and a Philip Leverhulme Prize. Welcome, Christian!

(IV) We hosted LMU Faculty, Doctoral Fellows and Post-Doctoral Fellows:

Here is the list of LMU faculty, doctoral and postdoctoral fellows that were members of the MCMP during the year 2020:

Chair and Head of the Munich Center for Mathematical Philosophy

Prof. Dr. Stephan Hartmann

Chair of Philosophy of Science

Prof. DDr. Hannes Leitgeb

Chair of Logic and Philosophy of Language

Faculty

Antonutti Marfori, Marianna

Bacelli, Jean

Beckers, Sander

Ciardelli, Ivano

D'Alessandro, William

Curiel, Erik

Dewar, Neil

Dewhurst, Joe

Di Liscia, Daniel A.

Dougherty, John

Eastaugh, Benedict

Fischer, Martin

Alexander Gebharter

Gratzl, Norbert

Hahn, Ulrike

Jonas, Silvia

Kapsner, Andreas

Landes, Jürgen

Link, Godehard

Marra, Alessandra

Murphy, Alice

Rechenauer, Martin

Reutlinger, Alexander

Rinner, Stefan

Rossi, Lorenzo

Sterkenburg, Tom

Stewart, Rush

Trpin, Borut

Weinberger, Naftali

Doctoral Fellows

Abasnezhad, Ali

Beebe, Cameron

Cameron Beebe

Borner, Jan

Bozdag, Ayse Sena

Charrakh, Omid

Cholodovskis, Ana

De Benedetto, Matteo

Dittrich, Jonathan

Freiesleben, Timo

Friedrich, Conrad

Hengst, Sebastian

Keller, Johannes Leonhard

Kleiner, Johannes

Leyva Galano, José A.

Mathie, Alex

McGrath, Killian Francis

Naumann, Kim

Osta Vélez, Matías

Pfister, Rolf

Wang, Minkyung

Waterstone, Harry

In Memoriam

Dürr, Detlef († 2021)

Merin, Arthur († 2019)

(V) We also hosted the following research projects:

Antonutti Marfori, Marianna	Junior Researcher Fund	LMUe	Gebharter, Alexander	Interventions and Mechanistic Hierarchies	DFG
Beckers, Sander	Humboldt Research Fellowship for Postdoctoral Researchers	AvH	Hartmann, Stephan	The Bayesian Approach to Robust Argumentation Machines	DFG
Cobrerros Bordenave, Pablo	Humboldt Research Fellowship for Postdoctoral Researchers	AvH	Jonas, Silvia	Mathematics Analogies	ERC
Cuffaro, Michael	Carl Friedrich von Siemens Research Fellowship for Experienced Researchers	AvH	Kapsner, Andreas	The Philosophical Basis of Connexive Logic	DFG
Curiel, Erik	Gravity, the Quantum and Thermodynamics: The Crossroads of Contemporary Theoretical Physics and Philosophy of Physics	DFG	Landes, Jürgen	Evidence and Objective Bayesian Epistemology	DFG
Dewar, Neil	Category Theory in Philosophy of Science	DFG	Landes, Jürgen	Foundations, Applications & Theory of Inductive Logic	DFG
Dewhurst, Joseph Edmund	Conference Funding: Alternative Approaches to Scientific Realism	DFG	Leitgeb, Hannes	Formalism, Formalization, Intuition and Understanding in Mathematics: From Informal Practice to Formal Systems and Back Again	DFG
Di Liscia, Daniel	Integration and Transformation in Late Medieval Natural Philosophy: Jacques Legrand's Aristotelian Compendium utriusque philosophie	DFG	Picollo, Lavinia	Reference Patterns of Paradox	DFG
Fischer, Martin	Logics: from tolerance to pluralism	DFG	Reutlinger, Alexander	Investment Fund	LMUexcellent
			Šešelja, Dunja	Simulations of Scientific Inquiry	DFG
			Sterkenburg, Tom	The Epistemology of Statistical Learning Theory	DFG

Tajer, Diego	Humboldt Research Fellowship for Postdoctoral Researchers	AvH
Trpin, Borut	Humboldt Research Fellowship for Postdoctoral Researchers	AvH
Weinberger, Naftali	Humboldt Research Fellowship for Postdoctoral Researchers	AvH

(VI) We also hosted several visitors and visiting fellowships:

The MCMP is regularly hosting visitors: this includes our recurring Visiting Professors, scholars who are spending their sabbaticals at the Centre, and visiting postdocs and students. This is the list of visitors at the MCMP during the period from January to December 2020. Due to the Corona-related travelling restrictions it is a short one:

Levin Hornischer (Amsterdam)	07.11.2019 - 10.01.2020
Marco Forgione (University of South Carolina)	01.12.2019 - 30.04.2020
Abílio A. Rodrigues Filho (Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais)	06.12.2019 - 29.02.2020
Alessio Moneta (Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Pisa)	01.01.2020 - 28.02.2020
Paweł Pawłowski (University of Gdansk)	15.01.2020 - 15.08.2020
Catrin Campbell-Moore (Bristol)	03.02.2020 - 29.02.2020
Johannes Stern (Bristol)	03.02.2020 - 29.02.2020
Damian Szmuc (University of Buenos Aires)	05.02.2020 - 30.04.2020
Agnieszka Proszewksa (Jagiellonian University, Cracow)	14.08.2020 - 28.08.2020
Michael Cuffaro (Ontario)	01.10.2020 - 31.12.2020