

Academic Report for 2021 (01.01.2021- 31.12.2021)

Munich Center for Mathematical Philosophy

Prof. DDr. Hannes Leitgeb, Prof. Dr. Stephan Hartmann
und Prof. Dr. Christian List

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For the second year, the Covid pandemic was affecting academic life at the MCMP. The situation was marked by the uncertainty and unpredictability of government regulations and LMU's response to them. As in the previous year, most academic events took place online. Fortunately, there is light at the end of the tunnel. Some of the teaching in the winter semester 2021/22 could already take place in person, some workshops as well. One of the highlights of this challenging year was Christian List joining the MCMP as one of its Co-Directors. 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.

In this report, we present an overview of our activities in 2021.

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

1. The MCMP website

The MCMP website continues to be the place to go to for everything at the 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. The

fact that we are getting more and more requests from all parts of the world shows the reach of our site.

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. MCMP on Twitter

In 2021, the MCMP launched a new Twitter feed at @LMU_MCMP. Within its first year, the feed attracted more than 680 followers, and it continues to grow. The feed is used for announcing publications of members of the MCMP community, events, and calls for applications.

5. M-Phi Blog

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

6. 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*.

7. 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) Despite the limitations of the Covid pandemic, we managed to run some workshops and conferences online. And of course, the number of visitors who were able to visit was also much lower than in previous years.

a. Talks and Colloquia

1. Colloquium in Mathematical Philosophy: Philosophy of Science

The Colloquium in Philosophy of Science is held every week on Wednesday during the lecture term, sometimes additional sessions are organized. Since the Corona pandemic made travelling nearly impossible, we decided to run the sessions via Zoom. In previous years, speakers stayed for a few days at our center. We had to do without that in 2021. However, the online version also had an advantage. We could welcome not only speakers from all over the world, but also participants. In some ways, this has contributed to broadening our academic reach. This is the list of the Wednesday speakers from January until December 2021:

13.01.2021	Bill D'Alessandro and Silvia Jonas (MCMP)
21.04.2020	Tom Sterkenburg (MCMP) and Gemma de Las Cuevas (Innsbruck)

19.05.2021	Timo Freiesleben (MCMP) and Christoph Molnar (LMU München)
02.06.2021	Joe Dewhurst (MCMP) and Kevin Reuter (Zurich)
23.06.2021	Florian Boge (Wuppertal) and John Dougherty (MCMP)
14.07.2021	Joe Dewhurst (MCMP) and Kevin Reuter (Zurich)
27.10.2021	Florian Boge (Wuppertal) and John Dougherty (MCMP)
01.12.2021	Alice Murphy (MCMP) and Federica Malfatti (Innsbruck)
08.12.2021	Anita Keshmirian (LMU) and Borut Trpin (MCMP)
15.12.2021	Gábor Hofer-Szabó (Hungarian Academy of Sciences) and Naftali Weinberger (MCMP)

2. Colloquium in Mathematical Philosophy: Logic and Language / Decision Theory

The Colloquium in Logic and Philosophy of Language and Decision Theory is scheduled every week on Thursday during lecture term. This is the list of the Thursday speakers from January until December 2021:

14.01.2021	Paolo Bussotti (Udine)
28.01.2021	Diego Tajer (Buenos Aires/MCMP)
04.02.2021	Arc Kocurek and Carlotta Pavese (Cornell, NY)
15.04.2021	Alex Silk (Birmingham)
22.04.2021	Christian List (MCMP)
29.04.2021	Marcus Rossberg (University of Connecticut)
06.05.2021	Melissa Fusco (Columbia)
20.05.2021	Roberto Ciuni (Rome)

27.05.2021	Justin Bledyn (Johns Hopkins, Baltimore)
10.06.2021	Ed Zalta (Stanford)
17.06.2021	Giorgio Venturi (Campinas)
24.06.2021	Joel David Hamkins (Oxford)
01.07.2021	Chris Scambler (New York)
08.07.2021	Heather Burnett (CNRS, Paris-Diderot))
15.07.2021	Viola Schiaffonati (Politecnico di Milano)
28.10.2021	Eduardo Giovannini (Vienna)
04.11.2021	Cailin O ´Connor (UC Irvine)
11.11.2021	Vit Punčochář (Prag)
18.11.2021	Sena Bozdog (MCMP)
25.11.2021	Marcus Pivato (THEMA, CY Cergy Paris Université)
02.12.2021	Hein Duijf (MCMP)
09.12.2021	Margaret Gilbert (UC Irvine)

3. Work in Progress (WIP)

The MCMP is also scheduling an intern Work in Progress session at lunch time, offering MCMP members and Visiting Fellows the possibility 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 2021 via Zoom.

11.02.2021	Sander Becker (MCMP)
20.05.2021	William D´Alessandro (MCMP)
17.06.2021	Dominik Klein (Utrecht)

4. Research Seminar in Decision and Action Theory

As part of the activities associated with the new Chair in Philosophy and Decision Theory, we held a weekly research seminar in decision and action theory during the winter semester. The seminar was primarily intended as an opportunity for members of the MCMP community and especially early-career researchers to discuss their ongoing decision- or action-theoretic work, but it also hosted some external speakers. Here we list only the external speakers:

03.11.2021	Franz Dietrich (CNRS, Paris School of Economics)
10.11.2021	Sophie Kikkert (LSE)
01.12.2021	Sander Beckers (Tübingen)

b. Workshops and Conferences

Unfortunately, it was also not possible to hold workshops and conferences in situ in 2021 (with two exceptions). Some of the events that were postponed to 2021 could finally take place.

12.04.2021 – 14.04.2021	Alternative Approaches to Scientific Realism
01.06.2021 – 03.06.2021	Philosophy and Methodology of Medicine
21.07.2021 – 24.07.2021	15 th International Conference on Deontic Logic and Normative Systems (DEON 2020/21)
31.08.2021 – 03.09.2021	Prolog 2021: Combining Probability and Logic
22.10.2021	Mini-Workshop: Philosophy of Science Meets Normative Theory I

29.10.2021	Compatibilist Libertarianism: Advantages and Challenges
05.11.2021	The Concept of Motion in Late Medieval Philosophy
19.11.2021	Mini-Workshop: Philosophy of Science Meets Normative Theory II
19.11.2021 – 20.11.2021	Munich – Konstanz Workshop on Philosophy of Mathematics / Logics

c. Additional Activities

1. Reading Groups

Organized by Daniel Di Liscia	Aristoteles' Erkenntnistheorie und Psychologie: Die Abhandlung über die Seele (De anima)
Organized by John Dougherty	Philosophy of Physics
Organized by Patrick Klösel	Reading Group on the Philosophy and Methodology of Economics (Rethinking Economics Munich)
Organized by Borut Trpin and Matías Osta Vélez	Inference and reasoning
Organized by Maksim Nikiforovski	Philosophy of Psychiatry
Organized by Benjamin Zayton	Modal Homotopy Type Theory
Organized by Armin Heydari	Lambda Calculus and Philosophy

2. Network Zoom Talks: Simulations of Scientific Inquiry

29.04.2021	Leo Tiokhin (TU Eindhoven)
10.05.2021	Sina Fazelpour (Carnegie Mellon)
31.05.2021	Paul Smaldino (UC Merced)

3. Summer School on Mathematical Philosophy for Female Students (July, 19-23)

The 2021 MCMP summer school for female students was held online due to the Coronavirus pandemic. The main events and lectures were held on zoom, with additional extracurricular activities on the platform Discord. There were two main lecture streams throughout the summer school, the first held by Patricia Palacios, Assistant Professor at the University of Salzburg, and the second one held by Alexandra Zinke, Junior Professor at the University of Tübingen. Furthermore, there was an evening lecture held by Rae Langton, Professor at the University of Cambridge, and, furthermore, multiple social events organized by the committee of the summer school, talks by members of the MCMP, as well as talks by selected participants of the summer school. The summer school, which is held every year since 2014, is open to excellent female students who want to specialize in mathematical philosophy. The school's aim is to encourage female students to engage with mathematical and scientific approaches to philosophical problems, and thereby help to redress the gender imbalance in formal philosophy: it offers the opportunity for study in an informal and interdisciplinary setting, for a lively debate, and for the development of a network of students and professors interested in the application of formal methods to philosophy.

(III) 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 2021:

Chairs and Heads 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

Prof. Dr. Christian List, Chair of Philosophy and Decision Theory

Faculty

Antonutti Marfori, Marianna

Bacelli, Jean

Beckers, Sander

Carr, Vanessa

Ciardelli, Ivano

Curiel, Erik

D'Alessandro, William

Dewar, Neil

Dewhurst, Joe

Di Liscia, Daniel A.

Dougherty, John

Duijf, Hein

Eastaugh, Benedict

Fischer, Martin

Gebharder, Alexander

Gratzl, Norbert

Greger, Timo

Grilletti, Gianluca

Hahn, Ulrike

Hofer-Szabó, Gábor

Jonas, Silvia

Kapsner, Andreas

Landes, Jürgen

Link, Godehard

Marra, Alessandra

Murphy, Alice

Oriti, Daniele

Pavlovic, Edi

Prentner, Robert

Rechenauer, Martin

Reutlinger, Alexander

Rossi, Lorenzo

Sterkenburg, Tom

Stewart, Rush

Trpin, Borut

Weinberger, Naftali

Doctoral Fellows

Abasnezhad, Ali

Bonatti, Nicola

Borner, Jan

Bozdag, Ayse Sena

Charrakh, Omid

Cholodovskis, Ana

De Benedetto, Matteo

Freiesleben, Timo

Friedrich, Conrad

Hamed, Ali

Hengst, Sebastian

Herzberg, Tom

Keller, Johannes Leonhard

Kleiner, Johannes

La Rosa, Elio

Leyva Galano, José A.

Mathie, Alex

McGrath, Killian Francis

Naumann, Kim

Ommundsen, Adrian

Osta Vélez, Matías

Pfister, Rolf

Pillin, Hannah

Rabinoff, Elena

Ragno, Andrea Giuseppe

Wang, Minkyung

Waterstone, Harry

(IV) We also hosted the following research projects:

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

Weinberger, Naftali Humboldt Research Fellowship for Postdoctoral Researchers AvH

(V) We hosted several visitors and visiting fellowships:

The MCMP regularly hosts visitors: this includes our recurring visiting professors, scholars who are spending their sabbaticals at the center, and visiting postdocs and students. Below is the list of visitors at the MCMP during the period from January to December 2021. Due to the Covid-related travel restrictions it is a short one:

Diego Tajer (University of Buenos Aires, IIF-SADAF)	01.12.2020 - 30.11.2022
Walter Dean (University of Warwick)	01.01.2021 - 31.12.2021
Taimur Kouser (Duke University)	30.05.2021 - 31.08.2021
Lauren Ross (University of California, Irvine) - remote	01.06.2021 - 31.07.2021
Gabor Hofer-Szabo (Hungarian Academy of Sciences)	01.08.2021 - 30.07.2022
Leonardo Ortiz-Acuña (Costa Rican Institute of Technology)	02.08.2021 - 28.02.2022
Eduardo Nicolás Giovannini (University of Vienna)	06.09.2021 - 29.10.2021
Michael Cuffaro (Ontario)	21.09.2021 - 21.12.2021
Cristina Sagrafena (FINO Consortium)	01.10.2021 - 30.11.2021
Luca Castaldo (Bristol)	01.10.2021 - 31.12.2021
Paula Reichert (LMU München)	01.10.2021 - 28.02.2022
Alexander Prescott-Couch (Oxford)	16.10.2021 - 20.12.2021
David Colaco (Tulane University)	01.12.2021 - 30.11.2023

(VI) Placement record

Our fellows have been very successful in securing positions while being members of our center:

Marianna Antonutti Marfori joined the MCMP in October 2016 with a Marie Skłodowska-Curie postdoctoral fellowship. From October 2018 she was a DFG postdoctoral fellow on the French-German bilateral project "Formalism, Formalization, Intuition and Understanding in Mathematics", and from June 2021, she was an assistant professor for the Chair of Logic and Philosophy of Language. In October she started her position as Maître de conférences at Université Paris 1, Panthéon Sorbonne.

Neil Dewar became Assistant Professor at the Chair of Philosophy of Science in January 2017. He left the MCMP for a lecturer position at the University of Cambridge's Faculty of Philosophy.

Lorenzo Rossi became Assistant Professor at the Chair of Logic and Philosophy of Language in October 2019. He left the MCMP to join the Center of Logic, Language, and Cognition (LLC) at the University of Turin as an assistant professor (RTD-A) in October 2021.