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Department of History and
Philosophy of Science
University of Cambridge
Free School Lane
Cambridge, CB2 3RH

AOS philosophy of science, epistemology
AOC history of science, philosophy of mind, experimental philosophy, logic,
philosophy of language, metaphysics

Citizenship Canadian and European Union

Academic Appointments	University of Cambridge 2018 Visiting Scholar Department of History and Philosophy of Science
	London School of Economics and Political Science 2016-18 Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Postdoctoral Fellow Centre for Philosophy of Natural and Social Sciences
	University of Pittsburgh 2015-16 Postdoctoral Fellow Center for Philosophy of Science
Education	University of Toronto 2010-15 Ph.D. in History and Philosophy of Science and Technology Dissertation: <i>Thought Experiments in Science</i> Committee: Yiftach Fehige, James R. Brown, Joseph Berkovitz, Catherine Elgin
	University of Bielefeld 2013 Visiting Scholar, Department of Philosophy
	University of Toronto 2009-10 M.A. in History and Philosophy of Science and Technology
	York University 2007-08 M.A. in Philosophy
York University 2003-07 B.A. in Philosophy, summa cum laude	

Edited Volumes	<i>The Routledge Companion to Thought Experiments</i> . London: Routledge (with Y. Fehige and J. Brown).	2018
	Thought Experiments , special issue of <i>Perspectives on Science</i> 22:2 (with Y. Fehige).	2014
Journal Articles	A Framework for Epistemology of Scientific Imagination. <i>Philosophy of Science</i> . (Revise and Resubmit)	Forthcoming
	Imagination: A Sine Qua Non of Science . <i>Croatian Journal of Philosophy</i> Vol. XVII, No. 49: 9-32.	2017
	Norton and the Logic of Thought Experiments . <i>Epistemologia</i> 26: 451–466.	2016
	Taming Theory with Thought Experiments: Understanding and Scientific Progress . <i>Studies in the History and Philosophy of Science</i> 58: 24-33. (Highlighted in Nature Physics 12: 723).	2016
	Cognitive Science and Thought Experiments: A Refutation of Paul Thagard's Skepticism . <i>Perspectives on Science</i> 22: 98-121.	2014
	On the Origins of the Philosophy of Thought Experiments: The Forerun . <i>Perspectives on Science</i> 22: 13-54 (with Y. Fehige).	2014
	Introduction to the Special Issue on Thought Experiments . <i>Perspectives on Science</i> 22: 1-12 (with Y. Fehige).	2014
Book Chapters	The Role of Imagination in Social Scientific Discovery: Why Machine Discoverers Will Need Imagination Algorithms . In M. Addis et al. (eds.), <i>Scientific Discovery in the Social Sciences</i> . Springer Synthese Library.	Forthcoming
	The Content-Dependence of Imaginative Resistance. In F. Cova and S. Rénhault (eds.), <i>Advances in Experimental Philosophy of Aesthetics</i> (with H. Kim and M. Kneer).	Forthcoming
	How Thought Experiments Increase Understanding . Pp. 526-44 in M. Stuart et al. (eds.), <i>The Routledge Companion to Thought Experiments</i> . London: Routledge.	2018
	Thought Experiments: The State of the Art . Pp. 1-28 in M. Stuart et al. (eds.), <i>The Routledge Companion to Thought Experiments</i> . London: Routledge.	2018

	Philosophical Conceptual Analysis as an Experimental Method . Pp. 267-292 in Gamerschlag et al. (eds.). <i>Meaning, Frames and Conceptual Representation</i> . Düsseldorf: Düsseldorf University Press.	2015
Book Reviews	Review: Ierodiakonou, K. and Roux, S. (eds.), <i>Thought Experiments in Methodological and Historical Contexts</i> . <i>HOPOS: The Journal of the International Society for the History of Philosophy of Science</i> 3: 154-57 (with J. Brown).	2013
	Review: James R. Brown, <i>Laboratory of the Mind</i> . <i>Spontaneous Generations: A Journal for the History and Philosophy of Science</i> 6: 237-241.	2012
Public Philosophy	What Aesthetics Brings to the Philosophy of Scientific Imagination. Written for the LSE Philosophy Blog (post forthcoming).	2017
	Appreciating Science (or Art). Written for Auxiliary Hypotheses , a blog by the <i>British Journal for Philosophy of Science</i> (post forthcoming).	2017
	Using Imagination to Empathize with Space Robots, Demons, and Other Weird Stuff . Written for The Junkyard of the Mind , a blog on the imagination curated by Amy Kind of Claremont McKenna College.	2017
	Better Science Policy in Canada . Written for The Bubble Chamber , a blog on the history and philosophy of science.	2015
Under Review/ in Preparation	What Scientists tell us about the Imagination (with Nancy Nersessian)	
	Complicating the Pragmatics of Scientific Representation: An In Vivo Study of Scientific Modelling (with Nancy Nersessian)	
	A New Kind of Visualization in Science: Opening the Black Box and Taking a Picture (with Nancy Nersessian)	
	Empirically Disambiguating Imagination and Supposition (with Markus Kneer)	
	Special Issue on Aesthetic and Scientific Imagination (with Fiora Salis)	
	Imagination as the Key to DEKI	
	Why Are There No Thought Experiments in Chemistry?	
	Modelling Values in Science (with Philip Thonemann)	

Understanding without Truth, Justification or Belief

Metaphysics of Imagination: Solving Puzzles Using Dual Process Theory

P-hacking in Experimental Philosophy (with Edouard Machery and David Colaço)

Awards, Fellowships and Grants (\$CAD)	Aristotelian Society Conference Grant (\$530)	2017
	Mind Association Major Conference Grant (\$2 305)	2017
	British Society of Aesthetics small conference grant (\$2 595)	2017
	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Postdoctoral Fellowship (\$81 000)	2016
	Postdoctoral Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh (\$54 830)	2015
	IHPST Travel Award (\$1 500)	2015
	Faculty of Arts and Science Conference Fund (\$500)	2015
	University of Toronto Doctoral Completion Award (\$15 718)	2014
	IHPST Travel Award (\$1 500)	2014
	Ontario Graduate Scholarship (\$15 000)	2013-14
	University of Toronto Fellowship (\$112 000)	2009-14
	IHPST Travel Award (\$1 300)	2013
	School of Graduate Studies Research Travel Grant (\$3 250)	2013
	Visiting scholar at University of Bielefeld, Department of Philosophy, Faculty of Arts and Science Student Award: Germany/Europe Research Fund (\$2 760)	2013
	Ontario Graduate Scholarship (\$15 000)	2012-13
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Travel Grant, provided by the Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science (\$112)	2011	
School of Graduate Studies Conference Grant (\$270)	2011	

	University of Toronto Travel Grant (\$1 200 and \$752)	2010
	York University Professional Development Grant (\$500)	2009
	Elizabeth Bentham Prize for highest mark in Theoretical Philosophy Exam, York University (\$500)	2008
	York University Graduate Scholarships (\$1 334 and \$1 333)	2008
	York University Graduate Scholarships (\$1 334)	2008
	York University Undergraduate Bursary (\$1 510)	2007
	York University Undergraduate Bursary (\$1 510, \$360 and \$175)	2006
	Ontario Student Opportunity Grant (\$3 886)	2006
	York University Undergraduate Bursaries (\$355)	2005
	York University Student Scholarship (\$884)	2005
Research Talks	TBA. Leeds HPS seminar. March 7.	2018
	How Scientists Use Imagination to Learn about the World. Lecture for the Royal Institute of Philosophy. St. Mary's University. February 27.	
	A Different Use for Scientific Thought Experiments. Aarhus philosophy colloquium. November 8.	2017
	Epistemology in Two Minds: Should we Bother with a Dual Systems Account of Imagination? Imagination and Knowledge Workshop. University of Konstanz, September 28-29.	
	Desiderata for Epistemic Representations: Results from an Ethnographic Study of a Computational Systems Biology Lab. UK Integrated HPS workshop, Nottingham, June 22.	
	Thought Experiments and Computer Simulations are Metaphorical Experiments. Conference on Simulation and Thought Experiments. University of Geneva, June 8-9.	
	"A Diagram Is a [Computer] Model": Imagination as a Mediator between Visual and Formal. Imagination in Science Conference. University of Leeds, June 6.	
	An Account of Imagination for Epistemology of Thought Experiments.	

Inter-University Centre, Dubrovnik, April 24-28.

A Framework for Epistemology of the Imagination. Nordic Network for Philosophy of Science, Copenhagen, April 20-21.

Imagining Our Way to Three Kinds of Understanding. University of Iceland, March 8.

A Dual Systems Account of Scientific Imagination. Centre for Philosophy of Natural and Social Science, London School of Economics, February 6.

Empirical Philosophy of Imagination. Evidence and Imagination. Graz, November 3-5.

2016

To Formal Models and Back Again. University of Macerata, October 18.

Imagination in the Lab. Quadrennial Fellows Conference of the Center for Philosophy of Science. Lund University, Lund, July 11-13.

Scientific Understanding and the Role of Imagination. Summer Seminar on Understanding, part of the Capstone Conference for the Varieties of the Understanding Project. Fordham University, June 20-25.

Scientists' Attitudes toward Imagination. Society for the Philosophy of Science in Practice (SPSP). Rowan University, Glasboro, June 17-19.

Some Empirical Constraints on the Epistemology of Imagination. Mind and Brain Conference. New College of the Humanities, London, March 25-26.

Empirically Disambiguating Imagination from Supposition. Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology. Louisville, KY, March 10-12.

The Epistemology of the Imagination. University of Pittsburgh, September 29.

2015

Subjective Elements of Scientific Representation: Empathizing with Black Holes. Inter-University Centre, Dubrovnik, April 13-17.

Empathy and the Scientific Method. University of Waterloo, Canada. March 4.

Imagination in Social Scientific Discovery. Conference on Scientific Discovery in the Social Sciences. London School of Economics and Political Science, UK, Jan 30-31.

Commentary on Elliot Sober: Evolutionary Theory, Causal Completeness, and Theism – the Case of “Guided” Mutation. University of Toronto, Canada, April 22.

2014

- Imagination: A Sine Qua Non of Science. Conference on Philosophy of Science. Inter-University Centre, Croatia, April 16.
- A New Role for Thought Experiments. Konstanz University, Germany, June 14. 2013
- Thought Experiments, Kant, and Theory Proliferation. University of Bielefeld, Germany, June 11.
- A Solution to the Problem of Coordination. University of Bonn, Germany, May 28.
- Thought Experiments and the Connection between Theory and Experience. University of Macerata, Italy, May 8.
- The Cognitive Science of Thought Experiments: Paul Thagard's Skepticism. The Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science. University of Waterloo, Canada, May 26-29. 2012
- Paul Thagard: A Refutation. Thought Experiments in Science: Four Blind Spots - An International Workshop. University of Toronto, Canada, March 23.
- Can Bayesian Network Modeling Solve Problems in the Philosophy of Science? 14th Congress of Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science. Nancy University, France, July 19-26. 2011
- What Can Philosophy Learn from the Clock-in-the-Box Thought Experiment? The Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science. University of New Brunswick, Canada, May 29-31.
- The Notion of a 'Very Generalized Logic' in Thought Experiments. Philosophy of Science Colloquium. University of Johannesburg, South Africa, January 18.
- Thought Experiments: Arguing with John Norton. Australasian Association of Philosophy Conference. University of Waikato, New Zealand, December 5 -9. 2010
- The Role of Henri Poincaré and Pierre Duhem in the Establishment of Conventionalism in Modern Philosophy of Science. History of the Philosophy of Science Conference at the Central European University. Budapest, Hungary, June 24-27.
- The Role of Henri Poincaré and Pierre Duhem in the Establishment of Conventionalism in Modern Philosophy of Science. The Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science. Concordia University, Canada, May 28-31.

	Philosophical Conceptual Analysis: The Move from Use to Meaning. Second Conference on Concept Types and Frames in Language, Cognition, and Science at Heinrich Heine University, Germany, August 24-26.	2009
	Charity as a Bridge from Use to Meaning. University of Western Interdisciplinary Student Symposium on Language Research, University of Western Ontario, Canada, March 6-7.	
Teaching Appointments	Instructor: Natural Science and Social Issues (HPS324), University of Toronto	2014-15
	Instructor: Scientific Revolutions I (HPS210), University of Toronto	2013-14
	Teaching Assistant: Natural Science and Social Issues (HPS324), University of Toronto	
	Teaching Assistant: Reason and Truth (PHLA10H3), University of Toronto	
	Teaching Assistant: History of Evolutionary Biology (JHE353), University of Toronto	
	Teaching Assistant: Symbolic Logic I (PHLB50H3), University of Toronto	
	Teaching Assistant: Natural Science and Social Issues (HPS324), University of Toronto	
	Teaching Assistant: Modern Symbolic Logic (PHL245), University of Toronto	2012-13
	Teaching Assistant: Scientific Revolutions II (HPS211), University of Toronto	
	Teaching Assistant: Introduction to Philosophy (PHL100), University of Toronto	
	Teaching Assistant: Modern Symbolic Logic (PHL245), University of Toronto	
	Teaching Assistant: Scientific Revolutions II (HPS211), University of Toronto	
	Teaching Assistant: Introductory Philosophy of Science (HPS250), University of Toronto	2011-12

	Teaching Assistant: Introduction to Philosophy (PHL100), University of Toronto	
	Teaching Assistant: Modern Symbolic Logic (PHL245), University of Toronto	
	Teaching Assistant: Scientific Revolutions I (HPS210), University of Toronto	2010-11
	Teaching Assistant: Introduction to Philosophy (PHIL1000), York University	2008-09
Professional Activities	Referee: <i>Philosophy of Science</i> , <i>The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science</i> , <i>European Journal for Philosophy of Science</i> , <i>Synthese</i> , <i>Studies in the History and Philosophy of Science</i> , <i>Springer Monographs</i> , <i>Dialectica</i> , <i>TOPOI</i> , <i>Epistemologia</i> , Canadian Philosophical Association, <i>Philosophical Papers</i> .	Ongoing
	Lab consultant: work with Susan Carey on thought experiments.	
	Conference organizer (with Fiora Salis): " Bridging the gap: Scientific Imagination meets Aesthetic Imagination ," 5-6 October 2017 at the Centre for Philosophy of Natural and Social Science, London School of Economics.	2016-17
	One of 18 chosen participants for the Capstone Conference of the Varieties of the Understanding Project.	2015-16
	Co-organizer: "(Re)Engineering Biology: The Emerging Engineering Paradigm in Biomedical Engineering, Systems Biology, and Synthetic Biology," a conference at the Center for Philosophy of Science, University of Pittsburgh.	
	Member of experimental philosophy lab, University of Pittsburgh.	
	Organizer: " Better Science Policy in Canada ," a conference at the University of Toronto, January 23.	
	Co-organizer: Philosophy of Science workshop, September – December 2013, University of Toronto.	
	Invited participant: Science without Data: The Role of Thought Experiments in Empirical Investigations, a conference at Dalhousie University, Halifax.	2013
	Copyeditor: Spontaneous Generations, a peer-reviewed journal in the History and Philosophy of Science.	2010

Co-organizer: Consortium for the History and Philosophy of Biology at the Université de Montréal.

Co-organizer: "150 Years After Origin: Biological, Historical and Philosophical Perspectives" conference, University of Toronto.

2008-09

University of Toronto Museum of Scientific Instruments exhibit, November 21-24.

Research Assistant for Prof. Denis Walsh on the history and philosophy of biology. Project: vitalism and epigeneticism.

Conference Committee: Second Annual Graduate Philosophy Conference Acceptance, June 4-5, 2009, York University.

Research assistant for Prof. Jagdish Hattiangadi. Project: skepticism in early philosophy of science.

2007-08

Affiliations American Philosophical Association (APA), British Society for Philosophy of Science (BSPS), British Society of Aesthetics (BSA), Canadian Philosophical Association (CPA), Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science (CSHPS), History of Philosophy of Science (HOPOS), Philosophy of Science Association (PSA), Nordic Network for Philosophy of Science (NNPS)

Languages English (native)
Spanish (fluent)
French (conversational, reading and writing)
German (reading)
Punjabi (basic oral proficiency)

Technical Proficiency QDA miner
MaxQDA
Qualtrics

References [Professor Roman Frigg](#)
Director of the Centre for Philosophy of Natural and Social Science
Department of Philosophy, Logic and Scientific Method
London School of Economics and Political Science
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[Professor Nancy J. Nersessian](#)

Georgia Tech Regents' Professor of Cognitive Science (Emerita)
Harvard Research Associate
Department of Psychology, Harvard University
William James Hall 33 Kirkland St.
Cambridge, MA, USA, 02138

[Professor James Robert Brown](#)

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University of Toronto
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[Associate Professor Yiftach Fehige](#)

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