

# JONAH N. SCHUPBACH

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## Areas of Specialization

Epistemology (including Formal Epistemology)  
Logic  
Philosophy of Science

## Areas of Competence

Philosophy of Religion  
Metaphysics  
Philosophy of Cognitive Science

## Appointments

### *University of Utah*

Associate Professor (*tenure granted 2017*), Department of Philosophy, 2017–present.

Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, 2011–2017.

### *Tilburg University*

Visiting Fellow, Tilburg Center for Logic & Philosophy of Science (TiLPS), September 2008–June 2009.

## Education

Ph.D. History & Philosophy of Science, University of Pittsburgh, 2011.

Dissertation: *Studies in the Logic of Explanatory Power* (defended June 14, 2011).

Co-directors: John Earman (Pittsburgh, HPS), Edouard Machery (Pittsburgh, HPS).

M.A. Philosophy, Western Michigan University, 2006.

M.A. Philosophy of Religion, Denver Seminary, 2004.

B.S.E. Industrial Engineering, University of Iowa, 2001.

## Publications

### *Book Chapters*

“William Paley,” in Stewart Goetz and Charles Taliaferro (eds.), *The Encyclopedia of Philosophy of Religion*. Malden, MA: Wiley (forthcoming).

“Inference to the Best Explanation, Cleaned Up and Made Respectable,” in Kevin McCain and Ted Poston (eds.), *Best Explanations: New Essays on Inference to the Best Explanation*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, (2017): 39-61.

“Formal Epistemology,” in *Oxford Handbooks Online*. Oxford: Oxford University Press (2017): [www.oxfordhandbooks.com/](http://www.oxfordhandbooks.com/) (with Igor Douven).

“Experimental Philosophy Meets Formal Epistemology,” in Justin Sytsma and Wesley Buckwalter (eds.), *A Companion to Experimental Philosophy*. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell (2016): 535-544.

“Robustness, Diversity of Evidence, and Probabilistic Independence,” in Uskali Mäki, Ioannis Votsis, Stéphanie Ruphy, and Gerhard Schurz (eds.), *Recent Developments in the Philosophy of Science: EPSA13 Helsinki*. Dordrecht: Springer (2015): 305-16.

### *Journal Articles*

“Robustness Analysis as Explanatory Reasoning,” *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, 69, 1 (March 2018): 275-300.

“Troubles for Bayesian Formal Epistemology? A Response to Horgan,” *Res Philosophica*, 95, 1 (2018).

“Hypothesis Competition Beyond Mutual Exclusivity,” *Philosophy of Science*, 84, 5 (December 2017): 810-24.

“Experimental Explication,” *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, 94, 3 (2017): 672-710.

“Competing Explanations and Explaining-Away Arguments,” *Theology and Science*, 14, 3 (2016): 256-67. Published as part of a special issue on “Explaining and Explaining Away in Science and Religion.”

“The Role of Explanatory Considerations in Updating,” *Cognition*, 142 (2015): 299-311 (with Igor Douven).

“Probabilistic Alternatives to Bayesianism: The Case of Explanationism,” *Frontiers in Psychology*, 6, 459 (2015): [journal.frontiersin.org/article/10.3389/fpsyg.2015.00459/pdf](http://journal.frontiersin.org/article/10.3389/fpsyg.2015.00459/pdf) (with Igor Douven).

“The Possibility of Coherentism and the Stringency of Ceteris Paribus Conditions,” *Theoria. An International Journal for Theory, History and Foundations of Science*, 30, 1 (March 2015): 43-52. Published as part of a special issue on “Unification and Coherence.”

"Is the Bad Lot Objection Just Misguided?" *Erkenntnis*, 79, 1 (February 2014): 55-64.

"Is the Conjunction Fallacy tied to Probabilistic Confirmation?" *Synthese* 184, 1 (2012): 13-27. Published as part of a special issue on "Probability, Confirmation, and Reasoning Fallacies."

"Comparing Probabilistic Measures of Explanatory Power," *Philosophy of Science* 78, 5 (December 2011): 813-829.

"New Hope for Shogenji's Coherence Measure," *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science* 62, 1 (March 2011): 125-142.

"The Logic of Explanatory Power," *Philosophy of Science* 78, 1 (January 2011): 105-127 (with Jan Sprenger).

"On the Alleged Impossibility of Bayesian Coherentism," *Philosophical Studies* 141, 3 (December 2008): 323-31.

"Must the Scientific Realist Be a Rationalist?" *Synthese* 154, 2 (January 2007): 329-34.

"On a Bayesian Analysis of the Virtue of Unification," *Philosophy of Science* 72, 4 (October 2005): 594-607.

"Paley's Inductive Inference to Design: A Response to Graham Oppy," *Philosophia Christi* 7, 2 (2005): 491-502.

### Book Reviews

Review of *Formal Epistemology and Cartesian Skepticism: In Defense of Belief in the Natural World*, by Tomoji Shogenji (Routledge), *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews* (June 2018), online: <http://ndpr.nd.edu/news/24400/?id=20248>.

Review of *Depth: An Account of Scientific Explanation*, by Michael Strevens (Harvard University Press), *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews* (June 2010), online: <http://ndpr.nd.edu/news/24400/?id=20248>, (with Stephan Hartmann).

Review of *Reflective Knowledge: Apt Belief and Reflective Knowledge, Volume II*, by Ernest Sosa (Oxford University Press), *The Review of Metaphysics* 63, 3 (March 2010): 722-724.

### Conference Reports

3rd Sydney-Tilburg Conference: *The Future of Philosophy of Science* (Tilburg, the Netherlands; April 14-16, 2010), *The Reasoner* 4, 5 (May 2010): 77-78.

Workshop on *Scientific Philosophy: Past and Present* (Tilburg, the Netherlands; April 13, 2010), *The Reasoner* 4, 5 (May 2010): 77.

*Bayesianism, Fundamentally* (University of Pittsburgh, Center for Philosophy of Science; October 13-14, 2006), *PhilSci Archive*, online: <http://philsci-archive.pitt.edu/3163/>.

## Presentations

### *Refereed or Invited Presentations*

“IBE’s Uniqueness Claim, Hypothesis Competition, and Conjunctive Explanations.”

11th MuST Conference in Philosophy of Science (on “Models of Explanation”); University of Turin; Turin, Italy; June 11-13, 2018.

“Logical Pluralism, Inference to the Best Explanation, and Bayesianism.”

Logic and Philosophy of Science Department Colloquium; University of California, Irvine; Irvine, California; November 3, 2017 (Invited).

School of Computing & Mathematics Seminar; Ulster University; Belfast, Northern Ireland; June, 2017 (Invited).

*International Conference on Thinking 2016*; Brown University; Providence, Rhode Island; August 4-6, 2016 (Invited).

“When do Hypotheses Compete?” (with David Glass).

Philosophy Department Colloquium; Western Michigan University; Kalamazoo, Michigan; October 13, 2017 (Invited; Alumni Achievement Award Speaker).

*Northwest Philosophy Conference*; North Idaho College; Coeur d’Alene, Idaho; October 9-10, 2015.

“Isolating the Effects of Coherence.”

*6th Conference of the European Philosophy of Science Association*; University of Exeter; Exeter, England; September 8, 2017.

*Workshop on Unification and Coherence*; Düsseldorf Center for Logic and Philosophy of Science; Düsseldorf, Germany; January 16, 2014 (Invited).

“Hypothesis Competition Beyond Mutual Exclusivity” (with David Glass)

*Society for Exact Philosophy Conference*; University of Calgary; Calgary, Alberta; May 5-7, 2017.

*Biennial Meeting of the Philosophy of Science Association*; Atlanta, Georgia; November 3-5, 2016.

“Inference to the Best Explanation, Cleaned Up and Made Respectable.”

*7th Orange Beach Epistemology Workshop*; University of South Alabama; Orange Beach, Alabama; May 19-20, 2015.

*5th Formal Epistemology Festival*; University of Toronto; Toronto, Ontario, Canada; June 3-5, 2013.

Philosophy Department Colloquium; Colorado State University; Fort Collins, Colorado; February 15, 2013 (Invited).

Philosophy Department Colloquium; Fordham University; New York, New York; January 24, 2011 (Invited).

Philosophy Department Colloquium; University of Utah; Salt Lake City, Utah; January 14, 2011 (Invited).

“Evolution, Theism, and Explaining-Away Arguments.”

*Conference on Explaining and Explaining Away in Science and Religion*; Ulster University; Belfast, Northern Ireland; January 8-9, 2015.

“Robustness Analysis as Explanatory Reasoning.”

*Working Seminar on Robustness Analysis*; University of Helsinki; Helsinki, Finland; September 25-26, 2014.

Colloquium; Düsseldorf Center for Logic and Philosophy of Science; Düsseldorf, Germany; January 22, 2014 (Invited).

*1st Workshop on Inductive Logic and Confirmation in Science*; University of Kent (Paris Campus); Paris, France; October 17-18, 2013.

*4th Conference of the European Philosophy of Science Association*; University of Helsinki; Helsinki, Finland; August 28-31, 2013.

“Best Explanations, Bayes’s Rule, and Bonus Points” (with Igor Douven).

*8th London Reasoning Workshop*; Birkbeck, University of London; London, England; July 9-10, 2014 (presented by Igor Douven).

Institute of Cognitive and Brain Sciences seminar; University of California Berkeley; Berkeley, California; May 2, 2014 (Invited).

“Competing Explanations and Explaining-Away Arguments.”

Tanner Humanities Center; University of Utah; Salt Lake City, Utah; February 4, 2014 (Invited).

*7th Annual Philosophy of Religion Conference*; Baylor University; Waco, Texas; January 27-28, 2012 (Invited).

“Experimental Explication.”

*1st Pittsburgh-Tilburg Workshop: Formal Epistemology Meets Experimental Philosophy*; Tilburg University; Tilburg, the Netherlands; September 29-30, 2011.

“Comparing Probabilistic Measures of Explanatory Power.”

*Biennial Meeting of the Philosophy of Science Association*; Montreal, Quebec, Canada; November 4-6, 2010.

*3rd Sydney-Tilburg Conference: The Future of Philosophy of Science*; Tilburg University; Tilburg, the Netherlands; April 14-16, 2010.

“The Logic of Explanatory Power” (with Jan Sprenger).

*7th Annual Formal Epistemology Workshop*; Universität Konstanz; Konstanz, Germany; September 2-4, 2010.

*European Science Foundation Workshop on “Physical and Philosophical Perspectives on Probability, Explanation and Time”*; Woudschouten; October, 2009 (presented by Jan Sprenger).

*Prolog 2009: 4th Workshop on Combining Probability and Logic*; University of Groningen; Groningen, The Netherlands; September 17-19, 2009 (presented by Jan Sprenger).

“Coherence: Philosophical Issues, Psychological Implications” (with Adam Harris and Ulrike Hahn).

*4th London Reasoning Workshop*; Birkbeck, University of London; London, England; July 27-28, 2009 (presented by Adam Harris).

“Confirming the Disconfirmed and Conjunction Fallacies.”

*Vereniging voor Analytische Filosofie 2009* (Conference for the Dutch-Flemish Society for Analytic Philosophy); Tilburg University; Tilburg, the Netherlands; January 23, 2009.

*Seminar on Probability, Decision, and Uncertainty*; Institut d’Histoire et de Philosophie des Sciences et des Techniques; Paris, France; January 16, 2009 (Invited).

*Workshop on the Psychology of Argumentation and Inductive Reasoning*; Tilburg University; Tilburg, The Netherlands; November 17-21, 2008.

“How to Be (and How not to Be) a Bayesian Explanationist.”

*Formal Philosophy Group*; Katholieke Universiteit; Leuven, Belgium; November 28, 2008 (Invited).

*2nd London-Paris-Tilburg Workshop in Logic and Philosophy of Science*; Tilburg University; Tilburg, The Netherlands; October 24, 2008.

“Is the Conjunction Fallacy Tied to Probabilistic Confirmation?”

*Workshop on Probability, Confirmation and Fallacies*; Katholieke Universiteit; Leuven, Belgium; April 3-7, 2008 (Invited).

*1st Western Michigan University Graduate Philosophy Conference*; Kalamazoo, Michigan; November 30 - December 2, 2007 (Invited; Distinguished Alumnus Speaker).

“On the Alleged Impossibility of Bayesian Coherentism.”

*4th Annual Formal Epistemology Workshop*; Carnegie Mellon University; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; May 31 - June 3, 2007.

*Foundations of the Formal Sciences VI: Reasoning about Probabilities and Probabilistic Reasoning*; Universiteit van Amsterdam; Amsterdam, The Netherlands; May 2-5, 2007.

### *Comments Delivered*

“Commentator at large”

*8th Orange Beach Epistemology Workshop*; University of South Alabama; Orange Beach, Alabama; May 23-24, 2016.

Comments on Terry Horgan’s “Troubles for Formal Epistemology”

*2016 Res Philosophica Conference: Bridges Between Formal and Traditional Epistemology*; St. Louis University; St. Louis, Missouri; April 8, 2016.

### Honors and Awards

Grant Recipient and Project Co-Leader (with David H. Glass), John Templeton Foundation, “Conjunctive Explanations: how Science and Religion can work together (CESAR)” (£364,003).

Nominated for the Early Career Teaching Award; University of Utah; January 2018.

Nominated for the Ramona W. Cannon Award for Faculty Teaching Excellence in the Humanities; College of Humanities, University of Utah; December 2017.

Alumni Achievement Award; College of Arts and Sciences, Western Michigan University; October 2017.

Nominated for the Early Career Teaching Award; University of Utah; January 2017.

Nominated for the Ramona W. Cannon Award for Faculty Teaching Excellence in the Humanities; College of Humanities, University of Utah; December 2016.

International Travel and Research Grant Recipient; College of Humanities, University of Utah; October 2016.

National Science Foundation Travel Grant Recipient; 25th Biennial Meeting of the Philosophy of Science Association; September 2016.

Participant; St. Thomas Summer Seminar in Philosophy of Religion and Philosophical Theology; University of St. Thomas; June 2016.

Nominated for the Early Career Teaching Award; University of Utah; January 2016.

International Travel and Research Grant Recipient; College of Humanities, University of Utah; October 2014.

Faculty Fellowship; University Research Committee, University of Utah; August – December 2014.

Great Ideas in the Humanities Grant Recipient (with Jacob Stegenga), “Confirmation, Logic, and Induction in Medicine and Science (CLAIMS)” ; College of Humanities, University of Utah; December 2013 – November 2014 (\$12,000).

Virgil C. Aldrich Fellowship in the Humanities; Tanner Humanities Center, University of Utah; January – April 2014.

International Travel and Research Grant Recipient; College of Humanities, University of Utah; October 2013.

Travel Grant Recipient; Philosophy of Science Association; September 2010.

Wesley Salmon Fund Grant Recipient; Department of History & Philosophy of Science, University of Pittsburgh; April 2010.

GPSA Travel Grant Recipient; University of Pittsburgh; April 2010.

Nominated and Chosen for Honors for Academic Excellence; 34th Annual Honors Convocation, University of Pittsburgh; February 2010.

Visiting Fellowship; Tilburg Center for Logic & Philosophy of Science (TiLPS), Tilburg University; September 2008 – June 2009.

Letter of Commendation for Teaching Evaluations; Department of History & Philosophy of Science, University of Pittsburgh; February 2008.

Invited as “Distinguished Alumnus Speaker”; *1st Western Michigan University Graduate Philosophy Conference*; December 2007.

Wesley Salmon Fund Grant Recipient; Department of History & Philosophy of Science, University of Pittsburgh; November 2007.

GPSA Travel Grant Recipient; University of Pittsburgh; May 2007.

Heraclitean Essay Contest Winner (Best Paper by a Graduate Student); Department of Philosophy, Western Michigan University; February 2005.

Inducted into National Honor Society; Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Society, University of Iowa; April 1998.

## Service

### *University & College Service*

Faculty Awards Committee; College of Humanities, University of Utah; 2016 – 2017.

Educational Technology Committee; College of Humanities, University of Utah; 2013 – 2015.

Faculty Reviewer, Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program; Office of Undergraduate Research, University of Utah; 2014.

Convocation Speaker Selection Committee; College of Humanities, University of Utah; Spring 2013.



*Departmental Service*

Graduate Committee; Department of Philosophy, University of Utah; 2011 – 2013, 2017 – present.

Undergraduate Committee; Department of Philosophy, University of Utah; 2015.

Colloquium Series Organizer; Department of Philosophy, University of Utah; 2014 – 2015.

Director, Job Placement; Department of Philosophy, University of Utah; 2012 – 2014.

Hiring Committee; Department of Philosophy, University of Utah; 2011 – 2012, 2013 – 2014.

Dissertation Committees:

Kyle Barrett, Philosophy, University of Utah; 2017 – present.

Kenneth Blake Vernon, Philosophy, University of Utah; 2013 – present.

Landon McBrayer, Philosophy, University of Utah; 2012 – 2015.

Jason Chris Jenson, Philosophy, University of Utah; 2011 – 2013.

Comprehensive Exam Committees:

Kyle Barrett, Philosophy, University of Utah; 2016 – 2017.

Kenneth Blake Vernon, Philosophy, University of Utah; 2012 – 2013.

Lucas Matthews, Philosophy, University of Utah; 2012 – 2013.

Presenter, Logic Club, University of Utah; April 2013.

Presenter, Philosophy Club, University of Utah; December 2012.

Webmaster; Department of History & Philosophy of Science, University of Pittsburgh; 2006 – 2009.

*Professional and External Service*

Judge, Technology Student Association Software Development Competition (Salt Lake City, Utah; January 2018).

Co-founder and Administrator, *Choice & Inference* (an online news feed and discussion forum for formal epistemologists), <http://www.choiceandinference.com>; 2008-2013, 2017-present.

Conference Organizer (with Jacob Stegenga), *Inductive Logic and Confirmation in Science II* (Salt Lake City, Utah; October 24-25, 2014).

Program Committee:

*11th MuST Conference in Philosophy of Science: Models of Explanation* (University of Turin; Turin, Italy; June 11-13, 2018).

*3rd Sydney-Tilburg Conference: The Future of Philosophy of Science* (Tilburg University; Tilburg, the Netherlands; April 14-16, 2010).

## Conference Referee:

*Society for Philosophy & Psychology Conference 2018*  
*11th MuST Conference in Philosophy of Science: Models of Explanation*  
*Formal Epistemology Workshop 2017*  
*3rd Sydney-Tilburg Conference: The Future of Philosophy of Science*  
*13th Annual Pitt-CMU Graduate Student Philosophy Conference*  
*2011 Conference on Uncertainty in Artificial Intelligence.*

Editorial Board Member, *The Reasoner*; 2013 – present.

Article Editor: *SAGE Open*.

Book Referee: *Blackwell, Cambridge University Press, Continuum, Hackett, Princeton University Press, Routledge* (multiple times).

Journal Referee: *Acta Analytica, American Philosophical Quarterly, Analysis, Australasian Journal of Philosophy* (multiple times), *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science* (multiple times), *Cognitive Psychology* (multiple times), *Dialectica, Episteme* (multiple times), *Ergo* (multiple times), *Erkenntnis* (multiple times), *European Journal for Philosophy of Science* (multiple times), *International Journal of Approximate Reasoning, International Journal for Philosophy of Religion, Journal for General Philosophy of Science, The Journal of Philosophy* (multiple times), *Logique et Analyse, Mind* (multiple times), *Notre Dame Journal of Formal Logic, Noûs* (multiple times), *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* (multiple times), *Perspectives on Science, Philosophers' Imprint, The Philosophical Quarterly, Philosophical Studies* (multiple times), *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research, Philosophy Compass, Philosophy of Science* (multiple times), *The Reasoner* (multiple times), *The Review of Symbolic Logic, South African Journal of Philosophy, Southern Journal of Philosophy, Studies in History and Philosophy of Modern Physics, Synthese* (multiple times), *Theology and Science* (multiple times), *Theoria* (multiple times).

## Grant Proposal Referee:

John Templeton Foundation; 2017.  
 Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (*Insight Grants*); 2017.  
 Volkswagen Foundation (*Postdoctoral Fellowships in the Humanities at Universities and Research Institutes in the U.S. and Canada*); 2016.

## Teaching

*All courses taught through the University of Utah's Philosophy Department unless otherwise noted.*

(† = Graduate Course; ‡ = Independent Study)

Inductive Logic — Fall 2015, Fall 2016, Spring 2019.

† Metaphysics and Logic — Fall 2018 (co-taught with Professor Anne Peterson).

† Advanced Topics in Deductive Logic — Spring 2015, Spring 2018.

Deductive Logic — Spring 2018.

† Advanced Topics in Inductive Logic — Spring 2017.

Reasoning and Rational Decision Making — Fall 2011, Spring 2012, Fall 2012, Spring 2013, Fall 2013, Spring 2015, Fall 2016, Spring 2017.

† Metaphysics of Modality — Fall 2015 (co-taught with Professor Anne Peterson).

‡ Scientific Explanation and Explanatory Reasoning — Fall 2013.

Foundations of Probability and Statistics — Fall 2012, Fall 2013.

† Topics in the Foundations of Logic and Mathematics — Spring 2013.

† Symbolic Logic — Spring 2012.

History and Philosophy of Science — Fall 2011.

Myth and Science (University of Pittsburgh) — Fall 2009, Spring 2010.

Philosophy of Science (Western Michigan University) — Fall 2005, Spring 2006.

Introduction to Logic (Kalamazoo Valley Community College) — Fall 2005, Spring 2006.

Introduction to Philosophy (Kalamazoo Valley Community College) — Fall 2005.

Deductive Logic (Western Michigan University) — Fall 2004, Spring 2005, Summer 2005.

Introduction to Philosophy (Community College of Aurora) — Fall 2003, Spring 2004.

## Professional Memberships

American Philosophical Association (since 2002).

Philosophy of Science Association (since 2005).

European Philosophy of Science Association (since 2009).

Society for Exact Philosophy (since 2013).

## References

### Igor Douven

Paris-Sorbonne University  
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### Stephan Hartmann

Center for Mathematical Philosophy, LMU Munich  
Stephan.Hartmann@lrz.uni-muenchen.de

### Branden Fitelson

Philosophy, Northeastern University  
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### Edouard Machery

HPS, University of Pittsburgh  
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