
CONTACT INFORMATION	Department of Philosophy MC 0119 University of California, San Diego 9500 Gilman Drive, La Jolla, CA 92093-0119	+1 (858) 534 9281 eddykemingchen@ucsd.edu
WEBSITE	www.eddykemingchen.net	
SPECIALIZATION (AOS)	Philosophy of Physics; Philosophy of Science; Metaphysics.	
COMPETENCE (AOC)	Chinese Philosophy; Decision Theory; Formal Epistemology; Philosophy of Mathematics; Philosophy of Religion.	
EMPLOYMENT	Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, University of California, San Diego	Jul 2019—
OTHER AFFILIATIONS	Associate Editor, <i>Foundations of Physics</i>	Jul 2020—
	Fellow, John Bell Institute for the Foundations of Physics	Aug 2018—
	Affiliated Faculty, Chinese Studies Program, UC San Diego	Jan 2020—
EDUCATION	Rutgers University, New Brunswick	
	Ph.D., Philosophy, May 2019	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thesis: <i>Essays on the Metaphysics of Quantum Mechanics</i> • Committee: Barry Loewer (co-chair), David Albert (co-chair), Sheldon Goldstein (mathematics), Tim Maudlin (external), Jill North, Jonathan Schaffer, Ted Sider 	
	M.Sc., Mathematics (Mathematical Physics), May 2019	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thesis: <i>Quantum Mechanics in a Time-Asymmetric Universe</i> • Committee: Sheldon Goldstein (chair), Michael Kiessling, Joel Lebowitz, Roderich Tumulka 	
	Graduate Certificate in Cognitive Science, Dec 2018	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thesis: <i>Comparativism about Mental Qualities</i> • Advisor: Matthew Stone 	
	Calvin College	
	B.S., Mathematics (Major), Physics (Minor), May 2013	
	B.A., Philosophy (Highest Honors), May 2013	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thesis: <i>Singular Propositions, Truth-In/At, and Modality De Re/De Dicto</i> • Supervisors: Alvin Plantinga and Stephen Wykstra 	
	National University of Singapore	
	Enrolled in Mathematics and Physics Undergraduate Modules, 2009-2010	

VISITING FELLOWSHIPS	<p>Australian National University Research School of Social Sciences, Faculty Sponsor: Alan Hájek</p> <p>University of Southern California Department of Philosophy, Supervisor: David Wallace</p> <p>University of Bristol Department of Philosophy, Faculty Sponsor: Richard Pettigrew</p> <p>University of Oxford Undergraduate Visiting Student</p>	<p>Jun-Jul 2017</p> <p>Mar-Apr 2017</p> <p>Sep 2016</p> <p>Jan-Apr 2012</p>
BOOK UNDER CONTRACT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Laws of Physics</i> Cambridge Elements in Philosophy of Physics, <i>Cambridge University Press</i>, in preparation 	
ARTICLES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. “From Time Asymmetry to Quantum Entanglement: The Humean Unification” <i>Noûs</i>, 2020. [arXiv:2006.05029] [Journal] 2. “Realism about the Wave Function” <i>Philosophy Compass</i>, 2019 [arXiv:1810.07010][Journal] 3. “Quantum Mechanics in a Time-Asymmetric Universe: On the Nature of the Initial Quantum State” <i>The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science</i>, 2018. [arXiv:1712.01666] [Journal] 4. “Our Fundamental Physical Space: An Essay on the Metaphysics of the Wave Function” <i>The Journal of Philosophy</i>, 114(7), 2017: 333-65. [Penultimate] [Journal] 5. (with Daniel Rubio) “Surreal Decisions” <i>Philosophy and Phenomenological Research</i>, 2018. [Penultimate] [Journal] 6. (with Daniel Rubio) “Great Expectations: Introducing Surreal Decision Theory” Wiebe van der Hoek, Wesley H. Holliday, Wen-fang Wang (eds.), <i>Proceedings of the 5th International Workshop on Logic, Rationality, and Interaction (LORI-V)</i>, Volume LNCS 9394, pp. 53–63. Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg, 2015. [Proceedings] 	
CHAPTERS IN EDITED VOLUMES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. “The Past Hypothesis and the Nature of Physical Laws” Barry Loewer, Eric Winsberg, and Brad Weslake (ed.), <i>Times Arrows and the Probability Structure of the World</i>, Harvard University Press, forthcoming [arXiv:2008.00611] 2. “Time’s Arrow in a Quantum Universe: On the Status of Statistical Mechanical Probabilities” Valia Allori (ed.), <i>Statistical Mechanics and Scientific Explanation: Determinism, Indeterminism and Laws of Nature</i>, World Scientific, 2020 [arXiv:1902.04564] [Book] 3. “Bell’s Theorem, Quantum Probabilities, and Superdeterminism” Eleanor Knox and Alastair Wilson (eds.) <i>The Routledge Companion to the Philosophy of Physics</i>, forthcoming [arXiv:2006.08609] 4. “The Cosmic Void” Sara Bernstein and Tyron Goldschmidt (eds.), <i>Non-Being: New Essays on the Metaphysics of Non-Existence</i>, Oxford University Press, forthcoming. [PhilPapers] 	

- BOOK REVIEW
1. Richard Healey, *The Quantum Revolution in Philosophy*
The Philosophical Review, 129 (2): 302-308, 2020. [Journal]
- UNDER REVIEW
1. “Nomic Vagueness” [arXiv:2006.05298]
 2. “The Intrinsic Structure of Quantum Mechanics” [arXiv:1810.06551]
 3. “Our Knowledge of the Past: Some Puzzles about Time’s Arrow and Self-Locating Probabilities” [arXiv:2001.09972]
 4. (with Roderich Tumulka) “Uniform Probability Distribution over All Density Matrices” [arxiv:2003.13087]
- PAPERS IN PREPARATION
1. “Comparativism about Mental Qualities”
 2. (with Sheldon Goldstein) “Minimal Primitivism about Laws of Nature”
 3. (with Daniel Rubio) “Surreal Decision Theory for Infinite State Spaces”
 4. “A Hybrid Voluntarist Interpretation of Xunzi”
- POPULAR WRITINGS
1. “Welcome to the Fuzzy-Verse” (based on “Nomic Vagueness”)
Featured on the cover as “The Flaw at the Heart of Reality: Why precise mathematical laws can never fully explain the universe”
New Scientist, Issue 3298, Sep 5, 2020 [Penultimate] [Magazine]
 2. (With Isaac Wilhelm) “From Ants to Quantum Non-Locality”
The Daily Ant, July 2017 [Link]
- SELECTED HONORS AND AWARDS
- Rutgers University
- **Harvey Waterman Medal of Excellence** 2019
 - Presidential Fellowship for Doctoral Studies 2013, 14, 17
 - SCP-Templeton Graduate Fellowship 2017-18
for Cross Training in Physics
 - Mellon Fellowship for Summer Research 2017
 - APA Graduate Student Travel Stipend 2016
 - Rutgers Graduate School Travel Stipend 2014, 15, 16
 - Summer Special Study Fellowship 2015, 16
- Calvin College
- Presidential Scholarship 2010-13
 - William Rinck Memorial Prize 2013
for Best Graduating Senior in Mathematics
 - Van Der Woude Award in Science Division 2011, 12
 - Bouwsma Prize for Best Paper in Philosophy 2013
 - Bouwsma Award for Excellence in Philosophy 2011
 - Konyndyk Scholarship for Excellence in Philosophy 2011
- National University of Singapore
- SM2-GLC Undergraduate Full Scholarship, 2007-10
Ministry of Education, Singapore
 - The University Scholars Program 2009-10
 - Valedictorian for SM2-GLC Scholarship Recipients 2009

SELECTED
PRESENTATIONS

Nomic Vagueness

- 27th Biennial Meeting of the Philosophy of Science Association Nov 2020
- (Invited) Harvard Foundations of Physics Mini-Workshop July 2020
- (Invited) CalTech philosophy of physics reading group May 2020
- (Invited) Delta 13 Workshop on Logic May 2020
- (Invited) University of Illinois, Chicago Feb 2020
- (Invited) Foundations of Physics Conference, Columbia University Nov 2019
- (Invited) Early Career Philosophy of Physics Workshop, CCNY May 2019

Boltzmannian Quantum Statistical Mechanics

- (Invited) Black Forest Summer Conference on Foundations of Physics (Cancelled due to COVID-19) Jul 2020

Varieties of Intrinsicity

- *Science Without Numbers*: 40 years later Nov 2020

The Cosmic Void and Non-Fundamental Facts

- (Invited) APA Symposium “Metaphysics Without Ontology” Feb 2020

From Time Asymmetry to Quantum Entanglement: The Humean Unification

- (Invited) Humean Laws Workshop June 2020

Time’s Arrow in a Quantum Universe

- (Invited) Mathematical Physics Seminar, University of Tübingen Mar 2019
- (Invited) University of California, San Diego Feb 2019
- (Invited) University of Wisconsin, Madison Jan 2019
- (Invited) Tsinghua University (commented by Shan Gao) Jan 2019
- (Invited) Wuhan University Jan 2019
- (Invited) HUST (commented by Wan Xiaolong) Jan 2019
- (Invited) Cornell University Feb 2018
- (Invited) University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee Feb 2018
- Philosophy of Cosmology Session, German Physical Society, Munich Mar 2019
- Philosophy of Science Association, Seattle Oct 2018
- Summer School on Entropy, Split Jul 2018
- Western Ontario Philosophy of Logic, Mathematics, and Physics Graduate Student Conference Jun 2018
- Rotman Summer Institute in Philosophy of Cosmology Jun 2018

Time’s Arrow Without Statistical Mechanical Probabilities

- Philosophy of Time Association, Central APA, Denver Feb 2019
- Rutgers Seminar on the Foundations of Probability Nov 2018

Comparativism about the Mind: From Metaphysics of Quantities to the Nature of Mentality

- (Invited) Rutgers-Bochum Workshop in Philosophy and Cognitive Science, Bochum Mar 2019
- 24th World Congress of Philosophy, Beijing Aug 2018

An Intrinsic Theory of Quantum Mechanics: Progress in Field’s Nominalistic Program

- (Invited) UC Irvine, Logic and Philosophy of Science (LPS) Apr 2017
- (Invited) Bristol Center for Science and Philosophy Sep 2016
- Pacific APA Symposium Mar 2018
(commented by Thomas Barrett and Rhys Borchert)
- 3rd Annual Meeting of the Society for the Metaphysics of Science (SMS), Oct 2017
Fordham University (commented by David Glick)
- 18th UK and European Conference on Foundations of Physics, London Jul 2016
- 4th Black Forest Philosophy of Physics Summer School, Saig Jul 2016

Our Fundamental Physical Space: An Essay on the Metaphysics of the Wavefunction

- (Invited) University of Illinois, Chicago Mar 2016
- Central APA Symposium (commented by Nick Huggett), Chicago Mar 2016
- 1st Annual Meeting of the Society for the Metaphysics of Science (SMS), Rutgers University-Newark (commented by Vishnya Maudlin) Oct 2015
- 3rd Black Forest Philosophy of Physics Summer School, Saig Jul 2015

The Best Summary of the Quantum World: The Universal Wavefunction as a Humean Law

- (Invited) Tsinghua University Philosophy of Science Colloquium Dec 2015
- 15th Congress of Logic, Methodology, and Philosophy of Science, University of Helsinki (CLMPS) Aug 2015
- 2nd Black Forest Philosophy of Physics Summer School, Saig Jul 2014
- Princeton Workshop on Technical Philosophy of Physics Mar 2014

Our Knowledge of the Past: Some Puzzles about Time's Arrow and Self-Locating Probabilities

- (Invited) 3rd Boulder Workshop in Formal Value Theory Mar 2018
- (Invited) The College of William and Mary Jan 2018
- (Invited) Wuhan University Dec 2017
- (Invited) CalTech, History and Philosophy of Science Series Apr 2017
- (Invited) University of Bristol Sep 2016
- Sydney University Winter School on Physics and Philosophy of Time (Winner of the book prize for the best presentation) Jul 2017
- Australasian Association of Philosophy (AAP) Annual Meeting, the University of Adelaide Jul 2017
- Time and Causality in the Sciences Conference (TaCitS), Stevens Institute of Technology Jun 2017
- UC San Diego, Philosophy Apr 2017
- UC Riverside Workshop on Epistemology and Philosophy of Mind Mar 2017

Space-Time Emergence: A Representational Theory

- (Invited) Philosophy of Cosmology Workshop, CUNY Graduate Center May 2017

Great Expectations: Introducing Surreal Decision Theory (co-authored with Daniel Rubio)

- (Invited) Peking University Colloquium on Logic, Language, and Cognition Dec 2015
- (Invited) Princeton Workshop on Intrinsic Values (Sanders Foundation Website Video Link) Nov 2015
- 5th International Congress on Logic, Rationality, and Interaction, National Taiwan University (LORI V) Oct 2015
- 15th Congress of Logic, Methodology, and Philosophy of Science, University of Helsinki (CLMPS) Aug 2015
- Pittsburgh-CMU Graduate Conference in Philosophy Mar 2015

Pascal's Wager Meets Surreal Numbers (co-authored with Daniel Rubio)

- (Invited) Work-in-Progress reading group, Bristol University Sep 2016
- (Invited) Xiamen University Philosophy Department May 2016

A Xunzian Puzzle about Meta-Ethics

- (Invited) Skype lecture in Hu Jing's seminar on Chinese Philosophy at Washington and Lee University Mar 2016

What is Analytic Philosophy?
• (Invited) Department of Electrical Engineering, Wuhan University Jan 2016

**Singular Propositions, Ontological Dependence, and the
'Truth-in/-at' Distinction**
• Calvin College Philosophy Symposium Nov 2012

**Quantum Modeling of Recollision Excitation and Non-Sequential Double
Ionization of Helium**
• Western Michigan Regional Undergraduate Science Research Conference Oct 2012
Van Andel Institute, Grand Rapids, Michigan
• Calvin College Physics Departmental Seminar Sep 2012

COMMENTS

Alan Hájek's "The Revenge of Pascal, Petersburg, Pasadena, and Paul"
• (Invited) Workshop on Cognitive Values, CU Boulder Mar 2017

Ned Hall's "Causation and the Aim of Inquiry"
• Rutgers Philosophy Department Colloquium Feb 2016

**Niels Martens's "Comparativism about Mass and the
Initial Variable Problem"**
• (Invited) Metaphysics of Quantities Conference, NYU May 2015

Thomas Senior's "Disagreement, Evidence, and Perception"
• (Invited) Meiguo Metaphysics Mayhem, Peking University Jun 2012

TEACHING

At University of California, San Diego
PHIL 158 - Topics in Chinese Philosophy Fall 2020
PHIL 120 - Symbolic Logic Fall 2020
PHIL 285 - Core Seminar in Philosophy of Science Spring 2020
PHIL 130 - Metaphysics Spring 2020
PHIL 146 - Philosophy of Physics Fall 2019

At Rutgers University, New Brunswick
PHIL 319 - Philosophy of Mathematics Fall 2016
PHIL 475 - Chinese Philosophy Spring 2016

Co-Chair (with Harry Crane and Dimitris Tsementzis) Fall 2016 - Spring 2018
PHIL 603 - Graduate Seminar on the Foundations of Probability
Joint Seminar of Philosophy and Statistics Depts., Rutgers University

Member of Dissertation Committees for:
JiMin Kwon (UCSD)
Joseph Martinez (UCSD)

Member of Third-Year Paper Committees for:
Eugene Chua (UCSD)

First Year Advisor for:
Weixin Cai (UCSD)

Independent Studies:
Greyson Sims (UCSD): Philosophy of Quantum Mechanics, Fall 2020

SERVICE

Conferences and Events

- Program committee, Society for the Metaphysics of Science (delayed to 2021 due to COVID-19)
- Co-Organizer, conference “*Science Without Numbers, 40 Years Later*” Nov 2020
- Co-Organizer, UCSD Philosophy of Physics Reading Group 2020–
- Co-Organizer, Rutgers-Columbia Workshop on Quantum Field Theories May 2018
- Organizer, Rutgers Workshop on Structural Realism May 2017
- Co-Organizer, Rutgers Workshop on Multiverse, Theodicy, and Fine-Tuning Jun 2016
- Organizer, Metro Area Philosophy of Science Lecture Series (MAPS) 2015-17
- Organizer, Rutgers Philosophy of Science Reading Group 2014-16
- Co-organizer, Rutgers Metaphysics Reading Group 2015-16
- Rutgers Philosophy Department Colloquium Committee 2014-16

Contributions to Diversity and University Service

- Designer and grader of graduate student logic exemption test Sep 2020
- Reviewer, undergraduate honors thesis in philosophy of physics Apr 2020
- Graduate admissions subcommittee in logic and philosophy of science Jan 2020
- Mock interviewer for job-market candidates Jan 2020
- Participation in the design and proposal of the Chinese philosophy class Nov 2019
- Panelist, admissions committee, and advisory board, Summer Program for Women in Philosophy, UCSD 2019-20
- Faculty speaker, Preparing Accomplished Transfers to the Humanities (PATH) Program, San Diego Community College District Dec 2019
- Commentator-at-large, New York-China Epistemology Conference Oct 2018
- Rutgers Philosophy Department Climate Committee 2016-17
- Graduate Panelist, Rutgers Summer Institute for Diversity in Philosophy Jul 2017
- Rapporteur, 3rd and 4th Rutgers Workshops on Chinese Philosophy 2016, 2017
- Participant, Muslim-Jewish-Christian Interfaith Dialogue on Providence and Randomness May 2016
- Discussion Leader, Rutgers University International TA Orientation Aug 2016

REFEREE

- *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* (×4)
- *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science* (×6)
- *Erkenntnis* (×4)
- *Ergo* (×2)
- *European Journal for Philosophy of Science* (×4)
- *Foundations of Physics*
- *Journal of the American Philosophical Association*
- *Journal for General Philosophy of Science*
- *Mind* (×2)
- *Nôus*
- *Philosophers' Imprint*
- *Philosophical Studies* (×2)
- *Philosophy of Science* (×6)
- *Proceedings of the Italian Society for Logic and Philosophy of Science*
- *Statistical Science*
- *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science Part A* (×2)
- *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science Part B: Studies in History and Philosophy of Modern Physics* (×5)
- *Synthese* (×7)
- *Theoria*
- *Theory of Science*
- *Cambridge University Press*

- *Springer*
- *European Research Council*
- *The Atlantic*
- *Bloomsbury Academic*

OTHER WORK AND RESEARCH	Editorial Assistant	Spring 2017
	For Ernest Sosa and Georgi Gardiner <i>Nôus</i> , <i>PPR</i> , <i>Philosophical Issues</i>	
	National Science Foundation (NSF) Research Fellowship	Summer 2012
	Topic: Theoretical Physics and Computer Modeling: Recollision Excitation and Non-Sequential Double Ionization of Helium Supervisor: Stan L. Haan Department of Physics, Calvin College	
	Summer Research Fellowship	Summer 2011
	Topic: Mencius (Mengzi) and the Concept of Tian Supervisor: Kelly James Clark Department of Philosophy, Calvin College	
	Undergraduate Research Assistant	2008-2010
	Topic: Membrane Distillation for Water Purification with Reverse Osmosis Supervisor: Tai-Sheng Chung Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, National University of Singapore	
	Intern at <i>The New York Times</i>	Summer 2010
	Interviews, data analysis, and research on business, economics, culture, and the arts in China Supervisor: David Barboza (2013 Pulitzer Prize Winner) <i>The New York Times</i> , Shanghai Bureau	