

Isaac Wilhelm

Department of Philosophy
National University of Singapore
3 Arts Link, Block AS3, #05-22
Singapore, 117570

CV as of December 2025
iwilhelm@nus.edu.sg
isaacottoniwilhelm@gmail.com
isaacwilhelm.com

RESEARCH AREAS

AOS: metaphysics, philosophy of science, philosophy of physics, epistemology.
AOC: logic, feminist philosophy.

EMPLOYMENT

National University of Singapore

Associate Professor 2025–present
Assistant Professor, Presidential Young Professorship 2021–25

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Philosophy: Rutgers 2015–21
M.S. Mathematics: Rutgers 2016–18
M.A. Philosophy: Tufts 2013–15
B.A./B.A. Mathematics, Cinema (both honors): Univ. Chicago 2007–11

BOOKS

Logic for Justice 2023
Routledge.

ARTICLES (ACADEMIC)

1. **Centering Update** Forthcoming
The Journal of Philosophy.
2. **Talk About Types** Forthcoming
Mind.

3. Pure Type Systems and Generalized Grounding <i>Philosophical Studies.</i>	Forthcoming
4. Three Ontological Options for the Laws of the Best System <i>Philosophers' Imprint.</i>	Forthcoming
5. Typicality-Based Chance <i>Philosophical Quarterly.</i>	Forthcoming
6. Justifying Typicality Measures <i>Analysis.</i>	Forthcoming
7. The Typical Principle <i>The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science.</i>	Forthcoming
8. Wavefunction Mereology <i>The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science.</i>	Forthcoming
9. Review of “Higher-Order Metaphysics” <i>Mind.</i>	Forthcoming
10. Disregard <i>Hypatia</i> 40: 54-63.	2025
11. The Value of Naturalness <i>Erkenntnis</i> 90: 625-644.	2025
12. Typicality First <i>Philosophical Quarterly</i> 75: 1189-1209.	2025
13. Bohmian Collapse In A. Bassi, S. Goldstein, R. Tumulka, and N. Zanghì, eds., <i>Physics and the Nature of Reality: Essays in Memory of Detlef Dürr</i> (pp. 63-70). Springer.	2024
14. Explanatory Circles <i>Studies in History and Philosophy of Science</i> 108: 84-92.	2024
15. The Propositional Account of Effective Theories <i>Philosophy of Science</i> 91: 1456-1466.	2024
16. Worlds are Pluralities <i>Australasian Journal of Philosophy</i> 102: 221-231.	2024
17. Centering the Born Rule <i>Quantum Reports</i> 5: 311-324.	2023
18. Comparing Mathematical Explanations <i>The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science</i> 74: 269-290.	2023
19. Constitution, Evidence, and an Argument for Realism <i>The Asian Journal of Philosophy</i> 46: 1-10.	2023

20. **Centering the Everett Interpretation** 2022
Philosophical Quarterly 72: 1019-1039.
21. **Intrinsicality and Entanglement** 2022
Mind 131: 35-58.
22. **Pluralities, Counterparts, and Groups** 2022
Philosophical Studies 179: 2133-2153.
23. **Tractability and Laws** 2022
Synthese 200: 1-17.
24. **Typical: a Theory of Typicality and Typicality Explanation** 2022
The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science 73: 561-581.
- Honourable mention, 2022 BJPS Popper Prize.
25. **Centering the Principal Principle** 2021
Philosophical Studies 178: 1897-1915.
26. **Comparing the Structures of Mathematical Objects** 2021
Synthese 199: 6357-6369.
27. **Explanatory Priority Monism** 2021
Philosophical Studies 178: 1339-1359.
28. **Grounding and Propositional Identity** 2021
Analysis 81: 80-81.
29. **The Counteridentical Account of Explanatory Identities** 2021
The Journal of Philosophy 118: 57-78.
30. **A Statistical Analysis of Luck** 2020
Synthese 197: 867-885.
31. **An Argument for Entity Grounding** 2020
Analysis 80: 500-507.
32. **Interventionist Explanation and the Problem of Single Variable Boundary Constraints** 2020
Noûs 54: 945-955.
33. **The Logic of Typicality** 2020
In V. Allori, ed., *Statistical Mechanics and Scientific Explanation: Determinism, Indeterminism and Laws of Nature* (pp. 173-229).
World Scientific. (with Harry Crane)
34. **The Stage Theory of Groups** 2020
Australasian Journal of Philosophy 98: 661-674.
35. **Celestial Chaos: The New Logics of Theory-Testing in Orbital Dynamics** 2019
Studies in History and Philosophy of Modern Physics 65: 97-102.

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| <p>36. The Ontology of Mechanisms
 <i>The Journal of Philosophy</i> 116: 615-636.</p> <p>37. New Data on the Representation of Women in Philosophy Journals: 2004-2015
 <i>Philosophical Studies</i> 175: 1441-1464. (with Sherri Conklin and Nicole Hassoun)</p> <p>38. The Representation of Belief
 <i>Journal of Philosophical Logic</i> 47: 715-732.</p> | 2019
2018
2018 |
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PUBLIC PHILOSOPHY

- | | |
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| <p>1. Mystical Rationality
 In H. De Cruz and J. De Smedt, ed., <i>Avatar: The Last Airbender and Philosophy</i>. Blackwell.</p> <p>2. Why Christians should welcome face masks
 <i>Messenger</i> (January/February) 170: 27.</p> <p>3. From Ants to Quantum Non-Locality
 <i>The Daily Ant: Philosophy Phriday</i>. (with Eddy Chen)</p> | 2023
2021
2017 |
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PRESENTATIONS (SELECTED)

“Centering Free Will”

- Colloquium, Cornell, December 2025.
- Colloquium, NYU Shanghai, November 2025.
- NUS, October 2025.
- Umeå, June 2025.

“Centering Jeffrey Update”

- Problems for Bayesianism, NUS, August 2025.

“Rantor”

- Metaphysics Conference, Lingnan, August 2025.

“Centering Cosmological Calculations”

- Toronto Metropolitan University, June 2025.

“The Metaphysics of Running Couplings”

- Michigan, April 2025.
- Colloquium, UC Davis, March 2025.

“Talk About Types”

- Colloquium, Syracuse, April 2025.

- CHPS, Boulder, February 2025.
- Metaphysics Workshop, UCSD, October 2024.
- Metaphysics Conference, Lingnan, October 2024.
- Archè, St. Andrews, June 2024.
- Higher-Order Metaphysics Conference, Hamburg, March 2023.

“Social Construction, Grounding, and Interventionism”

- Metaphysics Collaborative, Online, April 2025.
- Colloquium, NTU, Singapore, Sept 2024.
- Social Ontology, Durham NC, July 2024.

“I am Fundamental (and so are You)”

- Metaphysics Workshop, Berkeley, March 2025.

“Grounds for Effective Theories”

- Central APA (symposium), online, February 2025.
- SPAWN, Syracuse, June 2023.
- UCSD, April 2022.
- University of Geneva Speaker Seminar, online, December 2021.
- Society for the Metaphysics of Science, online, September 2021.

“Typicality-Based Chance”

- PSA Symposium, New Orleans LA, November 2024.
- Quantities Workshop, Birmingham and online, July 2024.

“Centering Perfect Naturalness”

- Lewis and Quine Conference, Rutgers/NYU Workshop, Nov 2024.
- Jowett Society, Oxford, May 2023.

“Effective Theories, Fundamentality, and Energy Levels”

- Society for the Metaphysics of Science, online, August 2024.

“Four Ontological Options for Best System Laws”

- Laws and Quantities Workshop, Glasgow/Stirling, June 2024.

“Reality is Fundamentally Predicational”

- Workshop on Rationality and Reality, UC Berkeley, March 2024.

“Typicality and Size”

- Pacific APA (symposium), Portland, March 2024.

“Grounding Meaning”

- Metro Area Philosophy of Science, NYU, November 2023.

“Typicality First”

- CHPS, Boulder, December 2023.

“Wavefunction Mereology”

- FraMEPhys: Metaphysical Explanation in Physics, Birmingham, May 2023.

“Size and Rationality”

- Humean Workshop, Johns Hopkins, April 2023.

“Effective Theories Made Easy”

- PSA Symposium, Pittsburgh, November 2022.

“Centering the Everett Interpretation”

- Harvard Foundations of Physics Colloquium, Boston, November 2022.
- FASS Provost Brown-Bag Research Seminar, NUS, October 2022.
- Law and Probability Summer School (instructor), Budapest, July 2022.
- Laws Workshop, online, August 2020.

“The Big Bang, Fine Tuning, and the Existence of God”

- Tembusu College, Singapore, November 2022.
- Look at Life, Richmond IN, April 2019.

“Kinds are Groups”

- Social Ontology and Collective Intentionality, online, August 2022.

“Centering Update”

- Colloquium, ANU, July 2022.
- Colloquium, Koç University, April 2022.
- Colloquium, NUS, April 2022.

“Typed Composition as Typed Identity”

- Higher-Order Metaphysics Workshop, USC, June 2022.

“The Typical Principle”

- SUPC Keynote, June 2024.
- Law and Probability Summer School (instructor), Budapest, July 2022.
- Probability Seminar, online, November 2021.

“Meaning and Statespace”

- Explanation Between Logic and Philosophy, online, September 2021.

“The Counteridentical Account of Explanatory Identities”

- Super Saturday Seminars, online, August 2021.

“Gender is Essential to Some, But Not All, Individuals”

- NUSC Group, NUS, September 2025.
- Graduate Course, Notre Dame, October 2020.

“Pluralities, Counterparts, and Groups”

- Social Ontology, online, July 2020.

“Possible Worlds and the Upper Bound Problem”

- Central APA (colloquium), New Orleans, February 2021.

- Joint Session, University of Kent, July 2020.

“Centering the Principal Principle”

- Colloquium, Notre Dame, January 2021.
- Eastern APA (symposium), Philadelphia, January 2020.
- CCNY Philosophy of Physics Workshop, New York, May 2019.

“Typical”

- Eastern APA (symposium), New York, January 2019.
- MCMP, Munich, June 2018.

“Climate Surveying” (with Savannah Kincaid)

- Eastern APA, MAP session, New York, January 2019.

“Explanatory Priority Monism”

- Central APA (colloquium), Denver, February 2019.
- FraMEEPhys Workshop on Explanatory Pluralism, University of Birmingham, June 2018.

“Comparative Structure”

- Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science, University of Regina, May 2018.
- Society for Exact Philosophy, University of Connecticut, May 2018.
- Eastern APA (colloquium), Savannah, January 2018.
- British Society for the Philosophy of Science, Edinburgh, July 2017.

“The Ontology of Mechanisms”

- Society for the Metaphysics of Science, Toronto, November 2019.
- Composition Workshop, Rutgers-Newark, May 2018.
- Rutgers-Bochum Workshop, Rutgers, April 2018.

“Intrinsicity and Quantum Entanglement”

- Fifth International Summer School in the Philosophy of Physics, Saig, July 2017.
- Canadian Philosophical Association, Toronto, May 2017.

“Lawhood and Calculational Tractability”

- Pacific APA (colloquium), Seattle, April 2017.
- Western Canadian Philosophical Association, University of Alberta, October 2016.

“Sufficient and Necessary Conditions for Representability”

- NASSLLI, Rutgers University, July 2016.

“Chaos Regained: On the Possibility of a New Era of Orbital Dynamics”

- Society for the Philosophy of Science in Practice, Rowan University, June 2016.
- History of Philosophy of Science Conference, University of Minnesota, June 2016.

“Quantity, Property, and Fundamental Law”

- The Metaphysics and Epistemology of Grounding and Fundamentality, CUNY, December 2015.

COMMENTS AND PANELS

“Two varieties of underdetermination” (Tyler Hildebrand), commentator, SMS, August 2024.

“Effective Field Theory and Metaphysics” (Laura Ruetsche and Mike Miller), commentator, Pacific APA symposium, April 2023.

“Cournot’s Principle and the Best-System Interpretation of Probability,” panelist, Rutgers Probability Seminar, online, February 2022.

“Bohmian Mechanics and Local Reductive Explanation” (Alexander Franklin) commentator, Society for the Metaphysics of Science, online, September 2021.

“Constraining Inductive Metaphysical Inferences by Help of Internal Unification” (Kian Salimkhani), commentator, Society for the Metaphysics of Science, New York, October 2017.

“Grounding, Dependence and Mathematical Explanation” (Bill D’Alessandro), commentator, Eastern APA, Baltimore, January 2017.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Ministry of Education Academic Research, Tier 1 Grant (\$60k USD)	2026–29
FASS Faculty Research Award	2024–25
- Awarded to less than three faculty at NUS (out of 400+).	
FASS Writing Fellowship	2024–25
- Awarded to less than eight faculty at NUS (out of 400+).	
NUS Research Grant	2024–25
ODPRT Grant for Research Excellence	2022–24
Presidential Young Professorship (\$400k USD)	2021–26
Rutgers Excellence Fellowship for Doctoral Studies (declined)	2021–22
SCP-Templeton Graduate Fellowship for Cross-Training in Physics (\$30k)	2017–18
Rutgers Excellence Fellowship for Doctoral Studies	2015–17

TEACHING

National University of Singapore

- Chance and Uncertainty: fall 2021 (online).
- Feminist Philosophy: fall 2025, fall 2023, fall 2022, spring 2022 (online).
- Metaphysics: fall 2025, fall 2023.

- Philosophy of Science: spring 2024, spring 2023, spring 2022 (online).
- Logic: fall 2022

Afghan Female Student Outreach

- Plato: summer 2024 (online).
 - Volunteer program offering free courses for Afghan women.
 - Accredited with the Open Society University Network.

Rutgers

- Intro to Formal Reasoning and Decision-Making: summer 2020 (online), fall 2019.
- Bioethics: summer 2019 (online).
- Intro to Philosophy of Science: spring 2019.
- Intro to Philosophy: summer 2018.
 - At NJ Educational Opportunity Fund for disadvantaged students.

Additional Teaching (select courses)

- Grade School
 - Summer Program for Gifted Youth, two courses (Northwestern) 2013–14
 - Saturday Program for Gifted Youth, twelve courses (Northwestern) 2011–13
 - Young Scholar's Program, two courses (UChicago) 2008–10
- Adult Education
 - Conversation: ESL (Whatcom Literacy Council) 2021
 - Mathematics: ESL (Whatcom Literacy Council) 2021
- Dark Foaan Tutoring
 - Tutoring business owner and founder; 22 full-time students. 2011–13

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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| Area Editor, <i>Ergo</i> | 2025–present |
| Associate Editor, <i>Australasian Journal of Philosophy</i> | 2024–present |
| Series Editor: Philosophy of Physics, <i>World Scientific</i> | 2025–present |
| Outreach Committee, Asian Philosophy of Science Association | 2025–present |
| Program Committee, Philosophy of Science | 2026 |
| NUS Presidential Conferences (organizer; co-organizer; funder) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2025: Philosophy of Physics. - 2024: (In)determinacy in Mathematics. - 2023: Formal Epistemology. | 2022–26 |

Grant Reviewer, European Research Council	2024
Program Committee, Society for the Metaphysics of Science	2024
PSA Symposium on Typicality (organizer)	2024
- Participants: D. Albert, B. Loewer, T. Maudlin, R. Tumulka, and I. Wilhelm.	
Referee	2017–present
- <i>Analysis, Asian Journal of Philosophy, Australasian Journal of Philosophy, Bloomsbury, Canadian Journal of Philosophy, Disputatio, Episteme, Ergo, Erkenntnis, European Journal for Philosophy of Science, Foundations of Science, Inquiry, Journal of Philosophical Logic, Journal of the APA, Metaphysics, Mind, Noûs, Pacific Philosophical Quarterly, Philosophia, Philosophia Mathematica, Philosophical Studies, Philosophical Quarterly, Philosophy and Phenomenological Research, Philosophy of Physics, Philosophy of Science, Quantum Reports, Res Philosophica, Routledge, Statistical Science, Studies in History and Philosophy of Science, The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science, The Journal of Philosophy, The Southern Journal of Philosophy, Theoria, World Scientific.</i>	
Managing Editor, Oxford Studies in Philosophy of Religion (Vol. 9)	2019–20
Managing Editor, Oxford Studies in Metaphysics (Vol. 12)	2019–20
Marc Sanders Prize organizer: Philosophy of Religion	2019–20
Marc Sanders Prize organizer: Metaphysics	2019–20
Metro Area Philosophy of Science, Colloquia (organizer)	2017–19
Quantum Field Theories, Rutgers-Columbia Workshop (co-organizer)	2018
Metro Area Philosophy of Science Pre-Workshop Workshop (organizer)	2018
Filming/Editing Talks and Courses	2016–18
- Foundations of Probability Seminar.	
- Metaphysics of Fine Tuning Conference.	
- Center for Philosophy of Religion, Marc Sanders Lectures.	
Data Collection on Representation of Women in Philosophy	2016

UNIVERSITY AND DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Deputy Head of Department	2025–28
NUS Presidential Colloquia	2022–26
- Organize and fund multiple colloquia talks each semester.	
Reading Group, NUS (organizer)	2023–present
Search Committees, NUS	2022–present

Graduate Admissions Committees, NUS	2022–present
Advising: PhDs, NUS	2025–present
- Yuang Chen.	
Advising: Undergraduate Honors and MAs, NUS	2022–present
- Hong Wai Cheong, Christopher Gerard Chin, Ryan Tan, Deepesh Vasudev, Darren Wee.	
Philosophy Interest Group, NUS (Faculty Advisor)	2024–25
Climate Committee, Rutgers	2015–20
- Organized three departmental climate surveys.	
- Organized Rutgers Undergraduate Philosophers Mentorship program.	
Seminar on Foundations of Probability, Rutgers (organizer)	2019–20
Philosophy of Science Reading Group, Rutgers (organizer)	2016–20

FILM PRODUCTION

After college, I worked in documentary production for two years, before deciding to pursue a career in philosophy. During that period, I won some grants and directed some films. I also acquired audio and video editing skills, which I occasionally use in academic settings.

Sanders Lectures

- 120 minutes; 2018 (fall); credited as editor. Published online.
- 120 minutes; 2018 (spring); credited as editor. Published online.
- 120 minutes; 2017; credited as editor. Published online.

Luke Barnes on Fine Tuning, Rutgers Philosophy of Religion 2017

- 120 minutes; credited as editor: audio and video recording of Luke Barnes' 2017 lecture on fine tuning, sponsored by the Rutgers Center for the Philosophy of Religion. Published online.

Newton's Principia

- 75 hours; 2015; credited as editor: audio and video recording of a two-semester course on the science and philosophy of Newton's *Principia*.

American Diner

- 105 minutes; 2013; credited as director, DP, editor: a documentary about three small-town diners. Screenings: Kartemquin, Chicago; Doc Films, Chicago.

The Point

- 15 minutes; 2011; credited as director, sound producer, DP, editor: a documentary about Promontory Point. Screenings: Film Studies Center, University of Chicago.

Select Filmmaking Awards

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| - Kartemquin Labs Film Screening Review | 2013 |
| - Fire Escape Films: Travel Grant | 2012 |
| - Chicago Filmmakers Sponsorship Grant | 2012 |
| - Seidel Scholars PRISM Grant for Film Equipment (co-recipient) | 2011 |