

# CURRICULUM VITAE

JAN SPRENGER

November 23, 2022

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## PERSONAL DETAILS

Citizenship:	German	Date of Birth:	26 November 1982
Residence:	Turin, Italy	Place of Birth:	Köln, Germany

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## AFFILIATION AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Center for Logic, Language and Cognition (LLC)  
Department of Philosophy and Education  
Università degli Studi di Torino (University of Turin)

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## EDUCATION AND CAREER

2017–	Full Professor ( <i>professore ordinario</i> ), Department of Philosophy and Education, University of Turin.
2014–2017	Full Professor, Department of Philosophy, Tilburg University Scientific Director, Tilburg Center for Logic, Ethics and Philosophy of Science (TiLPS), Tilburg University.
2008–2013	Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, Tilburg University.
2008	<i>Dr. phil.</i> (~PhD) in philosophy, University of Bonn, <i>summa cum laude</i> . Supervisor: Professor Andreas Bartels.
2005–2008	Graduate studies in philosophy at the University of Bonn, Germany.
2005	<i>Diplom</i> (~MSc) in mathematics at the University of Bonn, with distinction.
2002–2003	Military Service in the <i>Sportfördergruppe</i> (training group for athletes, section chess) of the <i>Bundeswehr</i> (Federal Armed Forces).
1999–2005	Studies in mathematics, computer science and philosophy at the University of Bonn.
1999	<i>Abitur</i> at the Gymnasium Liebfrauenschule, Köln.

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## AREAS OF RESEARCH

- Specialization: Philosophy of Science
- Competence: (Social) Epistemology, Decision Theory, Logic, Semantics
- Approach: Combination of conceptual, formal and empirical methods (“scientific philosophy”)

My research in philosophy of science is motivated from an epistemological perspective. Active research topics include statistical inference, causation, objectivity and scientific method in general.

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## RESEARCH PROJECTS

- 2019–2023 PRIN project “From Models to Decisions” funded by the Italian Ministry for University and Research (with Gustavo Cevolani, Carlo Martini and Giovanni Valente). 2019–2021. Volume: ca. 600,000 €.
- 2015–2020 Starting Investigator Grant “Making Scientific Inferences More Objective” (No. 640638), funded by the European Research Council (ERC). Volume: 1,500,000 €.
- 2014–2015 Vidi Scholarship by the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO). Five-year research grant returned in favor of ERC grant listed above. Volume: 800,000 €.
- 2012–2018 Local PI in the interdisciplinary Priority Program “New Frameworks of Rationality” of the German Research Foundation (DFG), with Matteo Colombo and Stephan Hartmann. Volume: 427,000 €.
- 2010–2013 Veni Scholarship by the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO) for the research project “An Objective Guide for Public Policy?”. Volume: 250,000 €.
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## FELLOWSHIPS

- 02–04/2017 Visiting Researcher at the *Centre for the Foundations of Science*, Sydney University.
- 01/2015 Visiting Researcher at the *Center for Formal Epistemology*, Carnegie Mellon University.
- 02–04/2011 Visiting Researcher at the *Australian Centre of Excellence for Risk Analysis (ACERA)*, University of Melbourne.
- 10–12/2010 Visiting Fellow at the *Centre for the Philosophy of Natural and Social Sciences*, London School of Economics.

09–11/2007	Visiting Fellow at the <i>Tilburg Center for Logic and Philosophy of Science</i> , Tilburg University.
01–03/2007	Visiting Fellow at the <i>Centre for the Philosophy of Natural and Social Sciences</i> , London School of Economics.
2006–2008	Postgraduate Research Scholarship of the <i>Cusanus Foundation</i> .
2000–2005	Scholarship of the <i>Cusanus Foundation</i> (Cusanuswerk).
2000–2001	Scholarship of the <i>German National Merit Foundation</i> (Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes). Returned in favor of the scholarship of the Cusanus Foundation.

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#### KEYNOTES AT WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES

- Graduate Conference in Logic and Philosophy of Mathematics, Cambridge, 01/2023. TBA.
- “Bayes by the Sea” Conference, Ancona, 08/2019.
  - “Bayesian Philosophy of Science and Bayesian Scientific Philosophy”.
- FINO Graduate Conference “Kinds of Reasoning”, Vercelli, 09/2018.
  - “Trivalent Semantics for Indicative Conditionals”.
- Interdisciplinary Conference “Our Species and Its Responsibilities”, Turin, 02/2018.
  - “The Precautionary Principle in Environmental Decision-Making.”
- Conference “Inferentialism, Bayesianism and Scientific Explanation”, München, 01/2017.
  - “Conditionals and Causality”.
- Chance Encounter, Groningen, 06/2016.
  - “Conditional Degree of Belief.”
- Conference “Non-Causal Explanations in the Sciences”, München, 10/2014.
  - “The Probabilistic No Miracles Argument.”
- PHILOGICA III: Colombian Congress for Logic, Epistemology and Philosophy of Science, Bogotá, 02/2014.
  - “Corroboration and Evidential Support.”
- Second Reasoning Club Conference, Pisa, 06/2013.
  - “From Popper to Bayes (and back again)”.
- Conference “Epistemic groups and collaborative research in science”, Nancy, 12/2012.
  - “The No Alternatives Argument”.
- Workshop on Explanatory Power, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Bochum, 05/2012.
  - “Probabilistic Explications of Explanatory Power”.

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## OTHER TALKS AND RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

For a complete list of talks and presentations, please visit my homepage at [www.laeuferpaar.de/talks.html](http://www.laeuferpaar.de/talks.html). In total, I have given over 100 (invited and/or peer-reviewed) presentations in an academic context, i.e., conferences, workshops, meetings of research networks, or departmental colloquia. I will restrict myself to some highlights at prestigious conferences:

- Biennial Meeting of the Philosophy of Science Association (2008, 2010, 2012, 2016, 2018)
- Biennial Meeting of the European Philosophy of Science Association (2007, 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019)
- Formal Epistemology Workshop (2007, 2010, 2012, 2016, 2019)
- Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society (2014, 2015, 2016)

In a couple of cases in the above list, the papers were given by co-authors when I was unable to attend physically.

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## PHD STUDENT SUPERVISION

**Tilburg University** Lasha Abzianidze<sup>1</sup> (2017), Colin Elliot (2018), Silvia Ivani (2020), Dominik Klein (2015), Chiara Lisciandra (2013, co-supervisor), Niki Pfeifer (2012, co-supervisor).

**University of Turin** Noah van Dongen (2021), Giuliano Rosella (expected 2023), Cristina Sagrafena (2022), Michal Sikorski (2020).

**University of Milan** Cecilia Nardini (2013, external co-supervisor)

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## POSTDOC SUPERVISION

**Tilburg University** Dr. Thomas Boyer-Kassem (2015–17), Dr. Matteo Colombo (2012–15), Dr. Rogier De Langhe (2011–13), Dr. Jun Lai (2013–16), Dr. Naftali Weinberger (2015–17).

**University of Turin** Dr. Mattia Andreoletti (2018–20), Dr. Federico Boem (2019/20), Dr. Stefano Bonzio (2020–21), Dr. Michele Lubrano (2019–22), Dr. Saul Perez Gonzalez (2021–22), Dr. Felipe Romero (2016–18), Dr. Caterina Sisti (2021–23)

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## CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

09/2021	Biennial Conference of the European Philosophy of Science Association (EPSA21), Turin.
06/2019	Formal Epistemology Workshop (FEW2019), Turin (with Vincenzo Crupi and Kenny Easwaran).
2009–2019	2nd-12th Munich-Sydney-Tilburg/Turin Conferences in Philosophy of Science (with Mark Colyvan, Paul Griffiths, and Stephan Hartmann).

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<sup>1</sup>Day-to-day supervision by Dr. Reinhard Muskens.

- 2010–2016 2nd–5th René Descartes Lectures, Tilburg University, featuring Heather Douglas (2016), Hannes Leitgeb (2014), Cristina Bicchieri (2012) and Ian Hacking (2010).
- 05/2016 Conference “Philosophy of Science in the Forest” (PSF2016, with F.A. Muller and Marcel Boumans). Tri-annual conference of the Dutch Society for Philosophy of Science (NVWF).
- 05/2016 Workshop on the Precautionary Principle (with Thomas Boyer-Kassem), Tilburg University. Funded by the AXA Research Fund.
- 10/2013 Workshop “Operationalizing Epistemic Concepts II” (with Vincenzo Crupi, Marco Ragni and Henrik Singmann), in the DFG Priority Program “New Frameworks of Rationality”. Freiburg/Germany.
- 09/2012 Workshop “Operationalizing Epistemic Concepts” (with Vincenzo Crupi and Henrik Singmann), in the DFG Priority Program “New Frameworks of Rationality”. Aachen/Germany.
- 12/2011 Statistics and Scientific Method I: The Controversy about Hypothesis Testing (with David Teira), UNED Madrid.
- 10/2010 Third Bochum-Lausanne-Tilburg Graduate School on the Philosophy of Language, Mind and Science (conjoined with the Descartes Lectures), Tilburg University. Co-organized with Michael Esfeld, Stephan Hartmann, and Albert Newen. Funded by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD).
- 10/2010 Workshop “Objectivity and the Practice of Science” (with Filip Buekens), Tilburg University.
- 04/2010 Workshop “Scientific Philosophy: Past and Future” (with Stephan Hartmann and Hannes Leitgeb), Tilburg University.
- 11/2008 Graduate School “The Philosophy of Psychology”, jointly at Ruhr-Universität Bochum and Tilburg University (with Anika Fiebich, Stephan Hartmann and Albert Newen). Funded by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD).
- 10/2008 “London-Paris-Tilburg Workshop in Philosophy of Science” (with Stephan Hartmann and Carlo Martini), Tilburg University.
- 10/2008 “Formal Modeling in Social Epistemology” (with Stephan Hartmann and Carlo Martini), Tilburg University.

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#### PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

- 2020 3rd East European Network for Philosophy of Science Conference, Belgrade (postponed to 2021).
- 2020 Bayesian Epistemology: Perspectives and Challenges, Munich.
- 2020 René Descartes Lectures, Tilburg.

2019	<i>CoPS-FaM-19</i> . International Conference for Philosophy of Science and Formal Methods in Philosophy, Gdańsk.
2018	New Perspectives on the Cognitive Penetrability of Perception, Turin.
2018	<i>GAP.10</i> : 10th International Congress of the German Society for Analytic Philosophy (GAP).
2017	Formal Models of Scientific Inquiry, Bochum.
2016	<i>PSA16</i> . Biennial Meeting of the Philosophy of Science Association, Atalanta.
2016	<i>FEW16</i> . Formal Epistemology Workshop, Groningen.
2016	<i>GWP2016</i> . Tri-annual meeting of the Gesellschaft für Wissenschaftsphilosophie, Düsseldorf.
2015	<i>EPSA15</i> . Biennial Meeting of the European Philosophy of Science Association, Düsseldorf.
2015	<i>CLMPS15</i> . World Congress on Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science, Helsinki. Section Head of Formal Philosophy of Science.
2011	Conference <i>The Collective Dimension of Science</i> , Nancy.

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#### COMMUNITY SERVICE

2020/21	Member of the Expert Committee ( <i>GEV</i> ) for the evaluation of research quality in Italian Universities ( <i>VQR 2015–19</i> ).
2017–21	Steering Committee Member in the European Philosophy of Science Association ( <i>EPSA</i> ).

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#### COLLABORATION IN RESEARCH NETWORKS

2016–	Flemish-Dutch Research Network funded by the Flemish Science Organization (FWO) under the direction of Erik Weber, Ghent University.
2015–2018	<i>Leverhulme Trust</i> grant for a research network in formal epistemology, led by Richard Pettigrew (University of Bristol). Collaborators: Carnegie Mellon University, University of Lund, LMU Munich, TiLPS. Volume: 40.000€.
2010–2012	<i>NWO Internationalisation in the Humanities “Rationality and Decision”</i> , led by Jan-Willem Romeijn and Olivier Roy (University of Groningen). Collaborators: London School of Economics, University of Lund, LMU Munich, TiLPS. Volume: 75.000€.
2010–2012	<i>NWO Internationalisation in the Humanities “Modeling in the Social and Behavioral Sciences”</i> , led by Stephan Hartmann (TiLPS). Collaborators: London School of Economics, Institut pour l’histoire et philosophie des sciences et techniques (IHPST) Paris, LOGOS/Barcelona, University of Virginia. Volume: 75.000€.

2009–2011      NWO *Internationalisation in the Humanities* “Formal Social Epistemology”, led by Stephan Hartmann (TiLPS). Collaborators: UNED Madrid, University of Pennsylvania, University of Sydney. Volume: 75.000 €.

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## VALORIZATION AND OUTREACH

- “Auf dem Wege zur Schachindustrie?”, in *Schach* 10/2020, pp. 44–48.
  - Interview with the Dutch newspaper *NRC Handelsblad*, 9 April 2016. Available online at <http://www.nrc.nl/handelsblad/2016/04/09/ons-zicht-op-de-werkelijkheid-wordt-verstoord-1605726>
  - Interview with the Dutch newspaper *Trouw*, 10 January 2014.
  - Entry on “The No Alternative Argument” in the Oxford University Press Blog.
    - Summary of the article “The No Alternative Argument” (written jointly with Richard Dawid and Stephan Hartmann) for a general audience interested in scientific and other intellectual issues.
  - “There is No Alternative!”. Feature in *The Guardian* by Michael Krämer, 4 May 2013.
    - Article featuring the scientific philosophy approach and the paper “The No Alternative Argument (see above). Available online at <http://www.guardian.co.uk/science/life-and-physics/2013/may/04/no-alternative-bayes-penalties-philosophy-thatcher-merkel>.
  - Article on the Precautionary Principle in *Decision Point*, Volume 48 (April 2011).
    - The Australian magazine “Decision point” facilitates communication between scientists, policy-makers and stakeholders in environmental issues.
  - Grootste problemen van NL: Zorg, pensioen, EU, klimaat, migratie. (In Dutch.) *De Groene Amsterdammer*, April 2011.
    - Reply to a request by the journal to describe the most over- and underrated problems in the Dutch society.
  - Guest editor of the digest *The Reasoner*, Volume 4, No. 10 (October 2010).
    - Editorial on academic philosophy in Africa.
  - Guest editor of the digest *The Reasoner*, Volume 3, No. 7 (July 2009).
    - Editorial and interview with Mark Colyvan on the interface between philosophy, science and public policy.
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## ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

2018–              Executive Committee, Center for Logic, Language and Cognition (LLC), University of Turin.

2013–2016        Management Team, Department of Philosophy, Tilburg University.

2012–2014	Research Master Curriculum Committee, Department of Philosophy, Tilburg University.
2008–2010	Research Master Admission and Exam Committee, Department of Philosophy, Tilburg University.
2009–	Various search and selection Committees for open PhD and postdoc positions, Faculty of Humanities, Tilburg University.
2008–	Coordination and direction of various activities at TiLPS, plus management of grants acquired by the director. Faculty of Humanities, Tilburg University.

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## REFEREEING FOR JOURNALS AND PUBLISHERS

Annals of Mathematics and Artificial Intelligence	Philosophical Logic
Artificial Intelligence	Logic Journal of the IGPL
Australasian Journal of Philosophy	Mind
British Journal for the Philosophy of Science	Philosophia Naturalis
Cognition	Philosophical Quarterly
Cognitive Science	Philosophy of Science
dialectica	Polish Journal of Philosophy
Episteme	Public Choice
Ergo	Review of Philosophy and Psychology
Erkenntnis	Review of Symbolic Logic
European Journal for Analytic Philosophy	South African Journal of Philosophy
European Journal for the Philosophy of Science	Studies in the History and Philosophy of Science
Foundations of Science	Studies in the History and Philosophy of Modern Physics
Frontiers Psychology	Synthese
Grazer Philosophische Studien	Theoria (Spain/Basque Country)
International Studies in the Philosophy of Science	Theoria (Sweden)
Journal for Logic and Computation	Theory and Decision
Journal of	Theory and Psychology
	topiCS

Several book proposals and edited volumes with leading publishers (Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press, The MIT Press, Springer, etc.)

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## EVALUATION OF RESEARCH PROPOSALS

German Research Foundation	(DFG)
European Research Council	(ERC)
Research Foundation Flanders	(FWO)
The Leverhulme Trust (UK)	
National Science Center Poland	(NCN)
Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research	(NWO)
Riksbanken Jubileumfunds (Sweden)	

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## LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

German	native
English	fluent (C2)
Dutch	fluent (C2)
French	proficient (C1)
Italian	proficient (C1)
Serbian/Croatian	upper intermediate (B2)
Spanish	lower intermediate (B1)
Russian	basic (A2)

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## CHESSPLAYING

I have played chess at semi-professional level for a large part of my adult life, primarily in team competitions in Germany, the Netherlands and Croatia, as well as the European Club Cup. Occasionally, I have obtained notable results against world-class players, beating Rustam Kasimdzhanov, Alexey Shirov and Ivan Šarić in (classical) tournament games, and drawing with Peter Leko, Richard Rapport, Peter Svidler, Wang Hao and Radoslaw Wojtaszek.

2018	Award of the title of an International Grandmaster.
2017	Third Grandmaster Norm in the European Club Cup, Antalya, Turkey.
2016	Second Grandmaster Norm in the European Club Cup, Novi Sad, Serbia.
2015–	Active for German chess club <i>Schachfreunde Berlin</i> .
2014–2015	Individual topscorer in the Dutch Team Competition (“Meesterklasse”).
2013–	Active for Dutch chess club <i>Leidsche Schaakgenootschap</i> .
2012–	Active for Croatian chess club <i>Šahovski Klub Brda</i> .
2006–2008	Listed in the Top 500 of the World.
2002–2008	Active for German chess club <i>Godesberger SK</i> .
2006	First Grandmaster Norm in the German team championship (“Schach-Bundesliga”).
2001	Award of the title of an International Master.

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## CHESS COMPOSITION

Since 2020, I am actively composing endgame studies. Some achievements in that field are listed below.

2021	3rd prize, FIDE World Cup in Chess Composition.
2021	1st prize (with Martin Minski), Yuri Akobia Memorial Tournament.
2020	1st prize, annual study composition tournament of <i>Magyar Sakkvilág</i> .
2020	4th prize, Oleg Pervakov–60 Jubilee Tournament.