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*Education*

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|------|---|
| 1976 | New York University<br>B.A. in Liberal Arts; major philosophy   |
| 1978 | New York University<br>M.A. in Philosophy                       |
| 1983 | Courant Institute<br>New York University<br>M.S. in Mathematics |
| 1986 | C.U.N.Y. Graduate Center<br>Ph.D in Philosophy                  |

*Positions*

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|-------------|--|
| 1978-1979   | Lecturer Adjunct at Hofstra University<br>Logic I                |
| Fall 1981   | Lecturer Adjunct at C.C.N.Y.<br>Critical Thinking                |
| Summer 1982 | Research Scientist<br>Department of Psychology, N.Y.U.           |
| 1982-1983   | Lecturer Adjunct at N.Y.U.<br>Practical Reasoning                |
| Fall 1983   | Lecturer Adjunct at Hunter College<br>Introduction to Philosophy |
| Fall 1984   | Assistant in Logic I<br>C.U.N.Y. Graduate Center                 |

Fall 1985-1993	Assistant Professor Tufts University Tenure Awarded, 1993
1993-on	Associate Professor Tufts University
2000-on	Full Professor Tufts University

*Professional Societies*

Association for Symbolic Logic  
APA

*Specialities*

Logic  
Philosophy of Language  
Philosophy of Mathematics  
Metaphysics  
Epistemology  
Philosophy of Logic  
Philosophy of Science

*Ph.D. Dissertation*

A language with its own truth and falsity predicates

*Philosophical Publications: Articles*

- 1990 "Truth and Convention," *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* **71**
- 1991 "A Simple Axiomatizable Theory of Truth," *Notre Dame Journal of Formal Logic*,  
Volume 32, Number 3
- 1992 "A Priori Truth," *Erkenntnis* **37**
- 1995 Review of Aladdin M. Yaqub's "The Liar Speaks the Truth," *Mind*, Volume 1, p. 222.
- 1997 "Thick Epistemic Access: Distinguishing the Mathematical from the Empirical," *The*

*Journal of Philosophy*, Volume XCIV, Number 9.

"Applied Mathematics, Existential Commitment and the Quine-Putnam Indispensability Thesis," *Philosophia Mathematica*, Volume 5, No. 3, October.

1998 "On 'On what there is'," *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*, Volume 79, No. 1, March.

1999 "Review of Michael D. Resnik's 'Mathematics as a science of patterns,'" *Journal of Symbolic Logic* 64, Number 2.

"Comments on Shapiro," *Journal of Philosophy* 96, October.

2000 "Applying Mathematics: An Attempt to Design a Philosophical Problem," *The Monist*, Vol. 82, No. 2, April.

"Stipulation, Logic, and Ontological Independence," *Philosophia Mathematica* (3) Vol. 8, pp. 225-243.

2001 "Truth Via Anaphorically Unrestricted Quantifiers," *Journal of Philosophical Logic* **30**: 329-354.

2003 "Individuation, Causal Relations and Quine," *Meaning*, ed. Mark Richard, Blackwell.

"The strengthened liar, the expressive strength of natural languages, and regimentation," *The Philosophical Forum*, Vol. XXXIV, Nos. 3 & 4, Fall/Winter 2003.

2004 "Proof and Ontology in Euclidean Mathematics," in Tinne Hoff Kjeldsen, Stig Andur Pedersen, Lise Mariane Sonne-Hanse, eds., *New Trends in the History and Philosophy of Mathematics*, Denmark: University Press of Southern Denmark.

"The Derivation-Indicator View of Mathematical Practice," *Philosophia Mathematica* (3) Vol. 12.

"Theory, observation and scientific realism," *British Journal for the philosophy of science* **55**, 371-392.

"Tarski, Quine, and the Transcendence of the Vernacular 'true'," *Synthese* **142**: 273-288.

2005 "Is there still a sense in which mathematics can have foundations?" *Advanced Studies in Mathematics and Logic*, edited by Giandomenico Sica. Italy: Polimetrica S.a.s, 9-47.

"How to nominalize formalism," *Philosophia Mathematica* (III) **13**, 135-159.

"Anaphorically unrestricted quantifiers and paradoxes," In (JC Beall and Bradley

- Armour-Garb, eds) *Deflationism and Paradox*, 250-273. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- (with Bradley Armour-Garb) "Standing on Common Ground," *Journal of Philosophy* CII(10):532-544
- (with Otavio Bueno) Review of Donald MacKenzie, *Mechanizing Proof: Computing, Risk, and Trust*. *Philosophia Mathematica* (III) **13**, 319-325.
- 2006 "How and why mathematics is unique as a social practice," in (Reuben Hersh, ed.) *18 Unconventional Essays on the Nature of Mathematics*. New York: Springer Science+Business Media, Inc.
- "Teorie, observatie si realism stiintific," *Review of Contemporary Philosophy* 5 (translation of "Theory, observation and scientific realism" into Romanian).
- 2007 "How and why mathematics is unique as a social practice," in (Bart van Kerkhove, Jean Paul van Bendegem, Editors) *Perspectives on mathematical practices: Bringing Together philosophy of mathematics, sociology of mathematics, and mathematics education*. Dordrecht, The Netherlands: Springer.
- "Logic" in *The language of science*, Polimetrica Onlus, ed., Giandomenico Sica, [www.polimetrica.eu/contents/azzouni.php](http://www.polimetrica.eu/contents/azzouni.php)
- "Ontological commitment in the vernacular," *Nous* 41:2, 204-226.
- "The inconsistency of natural languages: how we live with it," *Inquiry* 50:2, 590-605.
- 2008 "The compulsion to believe: Logical inference and normativity," *ProtoSociology* 25: 69-88.
- "A cause for concern: standard abstracta and causation," *Philosophia Mathematica* (III) 16, 397-401.
- "Alternative logics and the role of truth in the interpretation of languages," in (Douglas Patterson, ed.) *New essays on Tarski and philosophy*, 390-429. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- (with Otavio Bueno) "On what it takes for there to be no fact of the matter." *Nous* 42:4, 753-769.
- 2009 "Why do informal proofs conform to formal norms?" *Foundations of Science* 14:9-26.
- "Empty *de re* attitudes about numbers" *Philosophia Mathematica* (III) 17:2,

163-188.

"Evading truth commitments: The problem reanalyzed" *Logique et Analyse* 206, 139-176.

2010 "Ontology and the word 'exist': Uneasy relations. *Philosophia Mathematica* (III) 18:1, 74-101.

"The rule-following paradox and the impossibility of private rule-following." *The Baltic International Yearbook of Cognition, Logic and Communication*, North America 5 2 11 2010.

"Partial ontic fictionalism." In *Fictions and Models* (John Woods, ed.). Munich, Germany: Philosophia Verlag GmbH.

2011 "Singular thoughts (Objects-directed thoughts)." In *The Aristotelian Society* (Mark E. Kalderon, ed.), Supplementary Volume LXXXV, 2011, 45-61.

"Nominalistic content." In (Carlo Cellucci, Emily Grosholz and Emiliano Ippoliti, ed.) *Logic and knowledge*. Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing.

"Can science change our notion of existence?" In *ProtoSociology: An International Journal and Interdisciplinary Project*  
<http://www.protosociology.de/Download/Azzouni-Existence.pdf>.

2012 "Summary of Talking about Nothing," and "Responses to Gabriele Contessa, Erin Eaker, and Nikk Effingham." In (Anthony Ellis, ed.) *Analysis Reviews* 72/2, 327-29, 366-379.

"Simple metaphysics and "ontological dependence." In (Fabrice Correia and Benjamin Schnieder, ed.) *Metaphysical grounding: Understanding the structure of reality*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 234-253.

"Referring to what is and to what isn't." In (William P. Kabasenche, Michael O'Rourke, and Matthew H. Slater, ed.) *Reference and referring*. The MIT Press. 253-269.

"Taking the easy road out of Dodge," *Mind* 121-484, October, 951-965.

2013 "Nonexistent objects" *Oxfordbibliographies.com*

"The relationship of derivations in artificial languages to ordinary rigorous mathematical proof," *Philosophia Mathematica* (3) 21, 247-254.

"Hobnobbing with the nonexistent," *Inquiry* 56:4, 340-358.

- “That we see that some diagrammatic proofs are perfectly rigorous,” *Philosophia Mathematica* (3) 21, 323-338.
- 2014 “A new characterization of scientific theories,” *Synthese* 190:5, 3175-3184.
- “A defense of logical conventionalism,” in (Penelope Rush, ed.) *The Metaphysics of Logic*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 32-48.
- “Freeing talk of nothing from the cognitive illusion of aboutness,” *The Monist* 97,4, 443-459.
- “True Nominalism: Referring versus Coding,” (With Otávio Bueno) *The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science Advance Access* published March 3, 2015.
- 2015 “Why deflationary nominalists shouldn’t be agnostics,” *Philosophical Studies* 172: 1143-1161, DOI 10.1007/s11098-014-0341-9 (published online, June 3, 2014)
- “The challenge of many logics: a new approach to evaluating the role of ideology in Quinean commitment,” *Synthese* DOI 10.1007/s11229-015-0657-9 (published online, January 13, 2015)
- “Mathematical fictions,” in (Ananta Ch. Suka, ed.) *Fiction and art: Explorations in contemporary theory*. London: Bloomsbury, 63-77.
- “Conceiving and imagining: Some examples,” in *Harvard Review of Philosophy*, Volume XXII, Fall 2015, 84-99.
- “Nominalism, the nonexistence of mathematical objects,” in (Ernest Davis, Philip J. Davis, ed.), *Mathematics, substance and surmise*, 133-145. Switzerland: Springer.
- “Singularity,” entry in (Robert Audi) *The Cambridge Dictionary of Philosophy*, third edition, 986-987. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- 2016 Review of Saul Kripke’s “Reference and existence: The John Locke Lectures.” *Mind*.
- McEvoy on Benacerraf’s problem and the epistemic role puzzle. In (Fabrice Pataut, ed.) *Truth, objects, infinity: New perspectives on the philosophy of Paul Benacerraf*. Switzerland: Springer.
- 2017 Does reason evolve? (Does the reasoning in mathematics evolve?) In (Bharath Sriraman, ed.) *Humanizing mathematics and its philosophy: Essays celebrating the 90<sup>th</sup> birthday of Reuben Hersh*. Basil, Switzerland: Burkhäuser.

- 2018 Deflationist truth. In (Michael Glanzberg, ed.) *The Oxford handbook of truth*, 477-502. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Pathological pretending. *Analysis Reviews* 78:4, 692-703.
- 2020 Conceiving and imagining: Examples and lessons. In (Keith Moser and Ananta Ch. Sukla, ed.) *Imagination and art: Explorations in contemporary theory*, 281-303. Leiden: Brill Rodopi.
- The algorithmic-device view of informal rigorous mathematical proof. In (Bharath Sriraman, ed.) *The handbook of the history and philosophy of mathematics*. Cham: Springer. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-19071-2\\_4-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-19071-2_4-1)
- 2021 Defending the importance of ordinary existence questions and debates. In (Ricki Bliss and J.T.M. Miller, ed.) *The Routledge Handbook of Metametaphysics*, 171-183. London: Routledge.
- Singular thoughts, sentences, and propositions of that which does not exist. In (Stephen Biggs and Heimir Geirsson, ed.) *The Routledge Handbook of Linguistic Reference*, 409-420. London: Routledge.
- Moore against the skeptics. *Veritas* (Porto Alegre), 66(1), e41521, <https://doi.org/10.15448/1984-6746.2021.1.41521>
- 2022 Intuitions: A defense. jodyazzouni.com
- Primitive modality. jodyazzouni.com
- Syntactically recharacterizing analogies, assessing theories of assessing analogies (and making some observations about induction too). In: Wuppuluir, S., Grayling, A.C. (eds) *Metaphors and analogies in sciences and humanities*. Synthese Library, vol. 453. Springer, Cham: [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-90688-7\\_1](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-90688-7_1).
- Forthcoming: Telling tales. In (Alexandra King, Christy Mag Uidhir, ed.) *Philosophy & Art: New essays at the intersection*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Forthcoming: Smith, Smith and Seth, and Newton on “taking to be true”. In (Eric Schliesser, Chris Smeenk, and Marius Stan, ed.) *Theory, evidence, data: The philosophical legacy of George E. Smith*. Springer.
- Forthcoming: The Carnap/Quine debate? In (Darren Bradley, ed.) *Philosophical methodology after Carnap*. Springer.
- Forthcoming: Pluralism and the language-based approach to scientific theories. In (Maria Martinez and Otávio Bueno) *Defectiveness: Proceedings from CLMPST, 2019*.

Springer.

Forthcoming: A white horse is not a horse: Markus Gabriel's "new realism." In (Jan Voosholz and Otávio Bueno, ed.) *Markus Gabriel's New Realism*. Springer.

Forthcoming: Platonism versus nominalism and mathematics. In (Anthony Fisher, Anna-Sofia Maurin, ed.) *The Routledge Handbook of Properties*.

Forthcoming: The implicature view of ontological commitments and denials. In (Donato-Rodríguez, Xavier de, Falguera, José L, Concha, Martínez-Vida, ed.) *Deflationist conceptions of abstract objects*. Chaim: Springer.

### *Published Books*

1994 *Metaphysical Myths, Mathematical Practice*, Cambridge University Press.

2000 *Knowledge and Reference in Empirical Science*, Routledge.

2004 *Deflating Existential Commitment: A Case for Nominalism*, Oxford University Press.

2006 *Tracking Reason: Proof, Consequence, and Truth*, Oxford University Press.

2010 *Talking About Nothing: Numbers, Hallucinations, and Fictions*. Oxford University Press.

2013 *Semantic Perception: How the illusion of a common language arises and persists*. Oxford University Press.

2017 *The rule-following paradox and its implications for metaphysics*. Springer.

*Ontology without borders*. Oxford University Press.

2020 *Attributing knowledge: What it means to know something*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

### *Forthcoming*

2022/2023 Collection of essays on my work by various authors (Mark Richard, Bradley Armour-Garb, Fenner Tanswell, Fred Kroon, Stuart Brock, etc.) with my responses. The book is untitled at the moment. (edited by Otavio Bueno and Joshua Brown) Springer.



Under review with *Oxford University Press*:

Challenging Knowledge: How we (sometimes) don't know what we think we know.

*Talks* (selected)

- 2004 "Consequence," workshop in philosophy of logic at the *University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*, April 16.
- "Quantification, Ontology, and Presentism," *Rutgers University Metaphysics Conference*, July.
- 2005 "Ontological commitment in the vernacular," *Syracuse University*, September 16, 2005.
- 2006 "Normativity and Compulsion," Association for philosophy in the Carolinas, Feb.17, 2006.
- "Normativity and Compulsion," Joint meeting of the New Jersey Regional Philosophical Association and the Long Island Philosophical Society, April 8, 2006.
- 2009 "Ontological Dependence," Ontological Dependence conference, Gold Lake Resort, Colorado, March 17-20.
- "Rule following and the threat of social constructivism" Riga, Latvia, August 8-10.
- 2013
- "Coherentist advice for mathematicians, hallucinators, and novelists who want to utter truths," Erasmus University, The Netherlands, Jan. 22.
- "Session on 'Talking about Nothing': Author meets Critics, Central APA, Feb. 21.
- "What's wrong with quantifier variance?" Pacific APA, March 27.
- "Semantic Perception," Vanderbilt University.
- 2014
- "Neutral quantifiers and indispensability arguments," February 25, Pavonia
- "Neutral quantifiers and feature-presentation metaphysics," St. Andrews, April 9.

- “Seminar on mathematical proof,” St. Andrews, April 16.
- 2016 “Conceiving and imagining,” Central APA, March 2, 2016.
- “Moore’s hands and the burden of proof,” CUNY, March 16, 2016.
- “Feature metaphysics,” Pacific APA, March 31, 2016.
- 2017 “Moore’s hands and the burden of proof,” Pacific APA, April 14 2017
- “Scepticism,” University of Bonn. June 29, 2017
- “Does reason evolve?” University of Munich, July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017
- 2018 MAPL workshop on Deflationism, July 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. Organized by Geogg Georgi and Adam Podleskowski. Western Virginia.
- 2019 Author meets Critics (with Eli Hirsch and Terry Horgan) on *Ontology without Borders*. Invited session, Eastern APA, January 8.
- Author meets Critics (with Åsa M. Wikforss, Joshua Brown, and Otavio Bueno) on The Rule-following paradox and its implications for metaphysics. Realism and Anti-realism group session, Eastern APA, January 8.
- Why numbers don’t exist (and why anyone thought they did), Seton Hall University, March 21.
- Knowledgeable apes, insects and drones. Colby College, April 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Knowledgeable apes, insects and drones. Keynote address at joint SCCC and LIPS conference, April 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Informal proof and formal derivation (with Catarina Dutilh Novaes, Silvia DeToffoli, and Otavio Bueno) at Realism/Antirealism group session on proofs in mathematical practice, APA, Vancouver, April, 19, 2019.
- Workshop on rule-following, invited paper, May 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>, Milan.
- Conference on rule-following, invited paper, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, Rome (organized by Mario De Caro).
- The implicature view of ontological commitment in the vernacular. University of Munich. July, 2019.
- Knowledgeable apes, insects and drones. University of Rochester, October 18,

2019.

2020

Mathematics, science, natural languages, and algorithms: A sketch. *Duke University*, February 14, 2020.