

## **Emanuele Ratti**

Johannes Kepler University Linz  
Institut für Philosophy und Wissenschaftstheorie  
Altenberger Str. 50, 4040 Linz, Austria  
E-mail: [mnf.ratti@gmail.com](mailto:mnf.ratti@gmail.com)  
Skype account: emratti

### **AREAS OF SPECIALISATION**

- History and philosophy of science and technology (in particular biology, biomedicine and data science)
- Ethics of science and technology (in particular data science and biomedicine)

### **AREAS OF COMPETENCE**

- Epistemology (including virtue epistemology)

### **EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

- University Assistant with PhD, i.e. non-tenure track assistant professor (10/2020 - 09/2026), Johannes Kepler University (Linz, Austria), *Institute of Philosophy and Scientific Method*
- Visiting Assistant Professor (01/2019 – 11/2020), University of Notre Dame (IN, USA), *John J. Reilly for Science, Technology, and Values* (joint appointment with *Technology Ethics Center* from 07/2020)
- Postdoctoral Research Associate (01/2016 – 12/2018), University of Notre Dame (IN, USA) in the project *Developing Virtues in the Practice of Science*

### **EDUCATION**

- PhD (2012/2016) in *Foundations and Ethics of the Life Sciences*. European School of Molecular Medicine (SEMM) and University of Milan, Italy  
Dissertation title: *The Context of Discovery of Data-driven Biology*
- Visiting Student (09/2013-06/2014), Department of Philosophy, University of Pennsylvania. Advisor: Professor Michael Weisberg
- MA by Research (2010-2011), Philosophy, University of Hertfordshire, UK. Advisor: Professor Luciano Floridi
- BA, MPhil (2004-2009), Philosophy, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Milan

## FELLOWSHIPS

- Embedded EthiCS Fellowship (2020), Harvard University (*declined*)
- UNED Postdoctoral Fellowship (2018), UNED, Madrid (~ 72,800 €, *declined*)
- Juan de la Cierva Postdoctoral Fellowship (2018), UNED, Madrid (60,000 €, *declined*)
- Jacques Loeb Centre for the History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences Postdoctoral Fellowship (2018), Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, *declined*
- 2016-2018: Templeton Religion Trust Fellowship (148,320 USD)
- 2012-2016: European School of Molecular Medicine PhD Scholarship (74,000 €)

## PUBLICATIONS<sup>1</sup>

### *History and Philosophy of Science (Biology, Biomedicine, and Data Science)*

#### Articles in Peer-reviewed Journals

- **Ratti, E.**, Germain, PL. ‘A Relic of Design: Against Proper Functions in Biology’, accepted for publication in *Biology & Philosophy*
- Ratti, E. 2020. ‘What Kind of Novelties Can Machine Learning Possibly Generate? The Case of Genomics’, *Studies in the History and Philosophy of Science (Part A)*, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.shpsa.2020.04.001>
- Ratti E. 2020. ‘Models of’ and ‘Models for’: On the Relation Between Mechanistic Models and Experimental Strategies in Molecular Biology’. *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, <https://doi.org/10.1093/bjps/axy018>
- Lopez-Rubio, E., **Ratti E<sup>2</sup>**. 2019. ‘Data Science and Molecular Biology: Prediction and Explanation’, *Synthese*, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-019-02271-0>
- Boem F., **Ratti E. (first author<sup>3</sup>)**, et al. 2016. ‘Why Genes Are Like Lemons’. *Studies in the History and Philosophy of Science (Part C)*, Vol 57, June, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.shpsc.2016.04.005>
- Ratti E. 2015. ‘Big Data Biology: Between Eliminative Inferences and Exploratory Experiments’. *Philosophy of Science*, Vol. 82, No. 2 <https://doi.org/10.1086/680332>

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<sup>1</sup> 258 citations (source: Google Scholar, accessed 27/09/2021)

<sup>2</sup> Authors contributed equally

<sup>3</sup> Boem and Ratti contributed equally

- German PL, **Ratti E. (second author)**, Boem F. 2014. 'Junk or Functional DNA? ENCODE and the Function Controversy' *Biology & Philosophy*, Vol. 29, No. 6, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10539-014-9441-3>
- Ratti E. 2014. 'Levels of Abstraction, Emergentism and Artificial Life'. *Journal of Theoretical and Experimental Artificial Intelligence* <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/0952813X.2014.940144>
- An O., Pendino V., D'Antonio M., **Ratti E.**, et al. 2014. 'NCG4.0: The Network of Cancer Genes in the Era of Massive Mutational Screenings of Cancer Genomes' *Database: The Journal of Biological Databases and Curation*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/database/bau015>

### Commentary

- Ratti E. 2016. 'The End of Small Biology? Some Thoughts About Biomedicine and Big Science'. *Big Data & Society*, 3 (2), <https://doi.org/10.1177/2053951716678430>

### Chapters in books

- **Ratti, E.**, Stoeger, T. 'Large-scale Biology: Philosophical, Historical, and Computational Perspectives'. In Donohue C., and Love, A.C. (eds). *Perspectives on the Human Genome Project and Genomics* (Forthcoming for Minnesota Studies in the Philosophy of Science, 23)
- Ratti, E. 2020. 'Phronesis and Automated Science: The Case of Machine Learning and Biology'. In Sterpetti, F., and Bertolaso, M. (eds). 2020. *A Critical Reflection on automated Science - Will Science Remain Human?*. Springer
- Bertolaso M., **Ratti E.** (equal contribution). 2018. 'Conceptual Challenges in the Theoretical Foundations of Systems Biology'. In Mariano Bizzarri (eds). *Systems Biology*. Springer Series Methods in Molecular Biology, Vol. 1702
- Boem F., **Ratti E.** (equal contribution). 2016. 'Towards a Notion of Intervention in Big-Data Biology and Molecular Medicine'. In Marco Nathan and Giovanni Boniolo (eds). 2016. *Philosophy of Molecular Medicine*. London: Routledge

### Ethics of Science and Technology

#### Edited Books

- Ratti E., Stapleford, T. (eds.). *Science, Technology, and the Good Life*. Oxford University Press (**accepted for publication**)

#### Articles in Peer-reviewed Journals

- Bezuidenhout, L., **Ratti, E.** (equal contribution). 2020. ‘What Does it Mean to Embed Ethics in Data Science? An Integrative Approach Based on Microethics and Virtues’ *AI & Society*, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00146-020-01112-w>
- Bezuidenhout L., **Ratti E.**, Warne N., and Beeler D. 2018. ‘Docility as a Primary Virtue in Scientific Research’. *Minerva*, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11024-018-9356-2>

### Chapters in books

- **Ratti, E.**, Warne, N. 2020. ‘Vocation, Science, and the Good Life’, in Melville, W., and Kerr, D. (eds.) *Virtues, Science, and Science Education*, Routledge Publishers

### WORKS IN PROGRESS

- Graves, M, **Ratti, E.** ‘Microethics for Healthcare Data Science: Attention to Capabilities in Sociotechnical Systems’ (Under review)
- **Ratti, E.**, Graves, M. ‘Microethics for Responsible Data Science With Application to Healthcare Informatics’ (Under review)
- **Ratti, E.**, Graves M ‘Explaining AI in Medicine Without XAI: Opening the Right Black-box’ (Under review)
- **Ratti E.**, Lopez-Rubio, E. ‘Intelligibility of Mechanistic Models and Machine Learning’ (Manuscript)
- Ratti, E., Lopez-Rubio, E. ‘Opacity in Natural Language Processing (In progress)
- Ratti, E. ‘Explanations-by-Translation and Systems of Practice: XAI in Medicine’ (In progress)
- Ratti, E. ‘Automated Science and AI’ (In progress, invited contribution for a S.I. in *Synthese*)
- Ratti, E. ‘The Ethics of AI Ethicist’ (In progress)

### TEACHING EXPERIENCE AND ADVISING

#### As instructor

#### CODATA-RDA Schools of Research Data Science

- *Open Science and Responsible Conduct of Research* (Trieste online summer school, September 6 – November 5 2021)

Johannes Kepler University:

- *Philosophy of Science*, (Fall/Winter 2020 online; Fall/Winter 2021)
- *Philosophy of Medicine* (Fall/Winter 2021)
- *Topics in Practical Philosophy – Environment, Biomedicine, and Emerging Technologies* (Spring 2021 online)
- *Introduction to Science Studies – Scientific Responsibility and Trust in Science* (Spring 2021 online)

University of Notre Dame:

- *Ethics of Emerging Weapons Technology*, (Fall 2020 online, co-taught with Maj Gen Robert Latiff)
- *Technology & Innovation Ethics*, (Summer 2020 online)
- *Data and AI Ethics*, (Spring 2019, Fall 2019, Spring 2020)
- *Science, Technology, and Society*, (Spring 2019, Spring 2020)
- *Philosophy of Science* (graduate course), (Fall 2019)
- *Emerging Ethical Issues in Biomedicine and Neuroscience*, Summer Neuroscience and Behaviour Program, (Summer 2019)
- *Science, Virtues and the Good Life* (co-taught with Nathaniel Warne), (Fall 2018)
- *Philosophy of the Life Sciences*, (Fall 2016)

**Advising**

- Advisor of Ezequiel Lopez-Rubio, UNED, Madrid. Ezequiel is a Full Professor in Computer Science who has pursued a part-time PhD in History and Philosophy of Science
- Advisor of Helen Streff, University of Notre Dame, *Glynn Family Honors Program* and STV minor. Helen wrote a thesis on the ethics of CRISPR-Cas technology. She has now joined Duke University as a graduate student in a CRISPR-Cas lab

## Professional development and training

- *Foundations of Teaching Series* Sessions I-IV and *Introduction to Course Design* sessions I-IV (University of Notre Dame, Kaneb Center for Teaching and Learning, January-March 2017)
- *Striving for Excellence in Teaching* certificate, University of Notre Dame, Kaneb Center for Teaching and Learning

## SCIENTIFIC TRAINING

My PhD required training in three different laboratories at the European Institute of Oncology (Milan, Italy)

1. October 2012 - September 2013. Francesca Ciccarelli's Lab: *Bioinformatics and Evolutionary Genomics of Cancer*. Analysis of data from whole-genome and whole-exome screenings for the project *Network of Cancer Genes 4.0*
  2. May 2012 - October 2012. Marina Mapelli's Lab: *Molecular Basis of Asymmetric Cell Division*. Training in basic procedures: DNA extraction, PCR, transfection, protein expression test
  3. January - May 2012. Diego Pasini's Lab: *Epigenetic Mechanisms and Stem Cell Differentiation and Oncogenesis*. Training in basic lab procedures: DNA extraction, PCR, transfection.
- *Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative Certificate*, Human Research – Social & Behavioral Research. April 2018.
  - *Data Science*. Instructor: Dr. Mark Graves. Summer 2018. Auditing.

## SELECTED PRESENTATIONS AND SEMINARS

### Invited

- 'Explainable AI and Medicine'
  - Center for Logic, Language, and Cognition, University of Turin, March 31st ([online](#))
  - Departments of Humanities and Arts, Technion (Israel Institute of Technology), April 14<sup>th</sup> ([online](#))
  - PhilinBioMed Seminar, University of Bordeaux, April 28<sup>th</sup> ([online](#))
- 'Opacity in Data Science', Georgia State University, Department of Philosophy, May 4 2020 ([online](#))
- 'Considerations on AI Ethics: Microethics, Virtues, and Pluralism',

- *The Ethics of Institutions*, Center for Social Concerns, University of Notre Dame, October 28 2019
- *Great Lakes Workshop on Data Science*, University of Notre Dame, September 20 2019
- ‘Epistemic and Contextual Opacity in Machine Learning’
  - Department of Philosophy, University of Guelph, April 29 2019
  - Department of Philosophy, University of Oregon, January 17 2019
  - Department of Philosophy, Purdue University, January 9 2019
- ‘How Big Data and Big Science Influence Contemporary Biology’, *Genomics and the Human Genome Project*, National Human Genome Research Institute –NIH, History of Genomics Program, Bethesda MD, 14-16 November 2018
- ‘Do Functions Function in Biology?’, *Functional and Comparative Genomics: Historical, Conceptual and Philosophical Issues*, National Human Genome Research Institute –NIH, History of Genomics Program, Bethesda MD, 16-17 August 2018
- ‘Predictions, Phronesis and Machine Learning in Biology’, *Expert Meeting “Will Science Remain Human?”*, Campus Biomedico, Rome, March 5-6 2018
- ‘The ENCODE Controversy’ (28<sup>th</sup> May 2013), IgBIG-meeting, University of Geneva

## Referred

- ‘What does it mean to embed ethics in data science?’ (with Louise Bezuidenhout), *Building Inclusive Ethical Cultures in STEM: A Practice-Based Workshop*, Illinois Institute of Technology, April 23-24 2021 ([online](#))
- ‘M.E.T.A: A MicroEthical Approach to Data Science’ (with Mark Graves), *Rabb Symposium on Embedding AI in Society*, North Carolina State University, 18-19 February 2021 ([online](#))
- ‘Mechanistic Models and the Explanatory Limits of Machine Learning’, *26<sup>th</sup> Biennial Meeting of Philosophy of Science Association*, November 1-4 2018, Seattle, WA
- ‘Data science and biology’, *Workshop on Data-intensive Science*, University of Hannover (Germany), 26-27 October 2017
- ‘On Models of and Models for in Molecular Biology’, *25<sup>th</sup> Biennial Meeting of Philosophy of Science Association*, 3-6 November 2016, Atlanta, GA, USA
- ‘On the Distinction Between Models of and Models for in Molecular Biology’. *6<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Society for Philosophy of Science in Practice (SPSP)*, June 2016, Rowan University, Glassboro, New Jersey, USA

- ‘Databases, Phenomena Types and Platonic Idealization: Notes on the Structure of Contemporary Molecular Biology’, *5<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of the Society for Philosophy of Science in Practice*, 25<sup>th</sup> June 2015, Aarhus
- ‘Data-driven Research: An Approach Framed in the Discovery/Justification Debate’, *Third European Advanced Seminar in the Philosophy of the Life Sciences* (4<sup>th</sup> September 2014), Konrad Lorenz Institute, Vienna
- ‘What is Integration in Bioinformatics?’ *Fourth conference of the European Philosophy of Science Association* (August 28-31 2013), Helsinki
- (with Federico Boem) ‘The Gene after ENCODE: a Wittgensteinian Approach’, *ISHPSSB 2013* (9<sup>th</sup> July 2013) Meeting, Montpellier
- ‘Genes, Integral Wholes, Networks and Structural Realism’, *First international conference of the German Society for Philosophy of Science* (11<sup>th</sup> March 2013), University of Hannover

### **Organized workshops and symposia**

- ‘Science, Technology and the Good Life – Perspective on Virtues in Science & Technology Studies’. April 5-7 2018, University of Notre Dame (a three-day workshop organized with Professor Thomas Stapleford)
- ‘Mechanism Meets Big Data – Different Strategies for Machine Learning in Cancer Research’. Symposium proposal accepted for the Philosophy of Science Association meeting 2018 in Seattle. Organized with William Bechtel, Sara Green and Trey Ideker

### **SERVICE**

- Reviewer for journals: *European Journal for Philosophy of Science*, *Philosophy of Science*, *Synthese*, *Philosophy & Technology*, *Topoi*, *Biology & Philosophy*, *Big Data & Society*, *Research Ethics*, *Journal for General Philosophy of Science*, *Studies in the History and Philosophy of Science (Part A)*, *Studies in the History and Philosophy of Science (Part C)*, *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, *History and Philosophy of the Life Sciences*, *AI & Society*, *European Journal of Analytic Philosophy*
- Reviewer for funding agencies: *Science, Technology & Society Program*, NSF

### **REFERENCES**

- Professor Sabina Leonelli, Department of Sociology, Philosophy, and Anthropology, University of Exeter, [S.Leonelli@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:S.Leonelli@exeter.ac.uk)



- Professor Don Howard, Department of Philosophy, University of Notre Dame, [dhoward1@nd.edu](mailto:dhoward1@nd.edu)
- Professor David Teira, Department of Logic, History and Philosophy of Science, UNED (Madrid), [dteira@fsof.uned.es](mailto:dteira@fsof.uned.es)

**Other References:**

- Professor Thomas Stapleford (*also teaching*), Program of Liberal Studies, University of Notre Dame, [tstaplef@nd.edu](mailto:tstaplef@nd.edu)
- Professor Michael Weisberg, Department of Philosophy, University of Pennsylvania, [weisberg@phil.upenn.edu](mailto:weisberg@phil.upenn.edu)
- Professor Luciano Floridi, Oxford Internet Institute, University of Oxford, [pa.floridi@oii.ox.ac.uk](mailto:pa.floridi@oii.ox.ac.uk) (personal assistant)
- Professor Federica Russo, Department of Philosophy, Universiteit van Amsterdam, [F.Russo@uva.nl](mailto:F.Russo@uva.nl)
- Dr Robert Latiff, Maj. Gen., Reilly Center for Science, Technology, and Values, University of Notre Dame, [rlatiff@nd.edu](mailto:rlatiff@nd.edu)
- Professor Alison Simmons, Department of Philosophy and Embedded EthiCS Program, Harvard University, [asimmons@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:asimmons@fas.harvard.edu)
- Professor Marco Nathan, Department of Philosophy, University of Denver, [Marco.Nathan@du.edu](mailto:Marco.Nathan@du.edu)
- Professor Philip Sloan (*teaching*), Program of Liberal Studies, University of Notre Dame, [psloan@nd.edu](mailto:psloan@nd.edu)