

JOSÉ CAETANO DE MATTOS NETO

Philosophy of Virtues · Formal Ethics · AI Value Alignment

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Formalization of virtue ethics and moral emergence · AI value alignment and machine virtue · philosophy of freedom · political philosophy and institutional design · philosophy of history · philosophical theology · formal and systematic approaches to normative theory · philosophy of economics · the empirical measurement of moral character.

RESEARCH PROGRAMME: THE PHILOSOPHY OF VIRTUES

Founder and principal investigator of the Philosophy of Virtues Research Programme — a systematic, axiomatic body of work (over 50 titles) that reconstructs virtue ethics as a formal, falsifiable, and measurable discipline built on a single primitive (Freedom). The programme spans an ontological foundation (the Ontological Virtue Formula), a dynamic law of virtue expression (the Dynamic Freedom Theorem, $S = F \cdot A/R$), a formal theory of moral corruption (the Inversion Theorem), a complete measurement architecture that recovers an individual's Internal Vice from behaviour rather than self-report, and extensions to political philosophy, philosophy of economics, AI alignment, and a diagnostic theory of institutional and civilizational moral collapse (Holoviceosis). Interdisciplinary researcher and engineer translating complex moral philosophy into mathematically bounded structural frameworks, with cross-domain structural-invariance testing and adversarial risk auditing directly applicable to safety and ethical character in frontier AI systems.

PUBLICATIONS

Full record of over 50 titles archived at PhilPapers/PhilArchive and Zenodo (profile linked above); ORCID 0009-0002-1567-6567. Entries are grouped by subject. Unless marked *Zenodo* (DOI) or *Amazon* (ISBN), items are self-archived preprints or working papers, not peer-reviewed publications.

The Measurement Programme — Empirical Front (2026)

Mattos, J. C. de. "Measuring the Virtues: A Regime-General Method and Its First Demonstration — From One Measured Virtue to a Four-Regime Recovery Study Across the Full Catalogue." Zenodo. DOI 10.5281/zenodo.21875536. PhilPapers: MATMTV-2.

Mattos, J. C. de. "The Measurement Structure of the Virtues: A Taxonomy and a Generic Protocol for Measuring Virtue Strength." Zenodo. DOI 10.5281/zenodo.21867130.

Mattos, J. C. de. "The Logarithmic Form: The Measurement Structure of the Dynamic Freedom Theorem — A Partial Discharge of Problem X." Zenodo. DOI 10.5281/zenodo.21862880.

Foundational Formal Papers — Philosophy of Virtues Research Programme

Mattos, J. C. de. "The Ontological Virtue Formula & the Dynamic Freedom Theorem: A Philosophical-Mathematical Treatise on the Dynamics of Human Virtue." PhilPapers preprint.

Mattos, J. C. de. "The Inversion Theorem: Every Virtue Deprived of Freedom Inverts." Zenodo. DOI 10.5281/zenodo.21497094.

Mattos, J. C. de. "The Substrate Problem: An Adversarial Audit and Formal Amendment of the Ontological Virtue Formula." Zenodo. DOI 10.5281/zenodo.21336565.

Mattos, J. C. de. "The Grounding of Freedom: A Pre-Axiological Derivation of Sourcehood, and the Dissolution of the Circularity Objection to the Philosophy of Virtues." Zenodo. DOI 10.5281/zenodo.21650772. PhilPapers: MATTGO-10.

Mattos, J. C. de. "The Thermodynamics of Inversion: Substrate Substitution, the Maintenance Cost of Corrupted Virtue, and Why the Lie Is Expensive and the Truth Is Free." Zenodo. DOI 10.5281/zenodo.21706518. PhilPapers: MATTTO-20.

Mattos, J. C. de. "The Formal Theory of Virtues Resistance: Completing the Variable Architecture of the Dynamic Freedom Theorem — The Ontology, Decomposition, Composition Laws, Dynamics, and Measurement of R." PhilPapers preprint.

Mattos, J. C. de. "The Dynamical Classification of the Virtues: Generation, Direction, and Resistance — the Three Functional Families of Freedom, and a Complete Map of the Virtue Space." PhilPapers preprint.

Mattos, J. C. de. "The Architecture of Virtue: A Unified Derivation from a Single Axiom Across Eight Levels of Individual, Political, and Cosmological Scale." PhilPapers preprint.

Mattos, J. C. de. "The Formal Theory of Love: Gift-Directed Freedom, the Three Modes, the Amplification Property, and Love's Place in the Architecture of Virtue." PhilPapers preprint.

Mattos, J. C. de. "The Virtue Posthumous Theorem: Martyrdom, Moral Conductance, and the Persistence of Virtue Beyond Death." PhilPapers preprint.

Mattos, J. C. de. "Wealth as Stored Freedom: Value, Property, and Exchange Derived from the Axioms of the Philosophy of Virtues — Economics of Virtues." Zenodo. DOI 10.5281/zenodo.21294615.

The Transcendental Trilogy — the Good, the True, and the Beautiful

Mattos, J. C. de. "The Formal Theory of Beauty: The Perceptible Form of Freedom, the Cage and the Key, and the Aesthetics of the Holoviceotic Era." Zenodo. DOI 10.5281/zenodo.21510641. PhilPapers: MATTFT-8.

Mattos, J. C. de. "The Formal Theory of Truth: The Assertible Form of Freedom, Propaganda as Occupied Assertion, and the Completion of the Transcendental Trilogy." Zenodo. DOI 10.5281/zenodo.21625153. PhilPapers: MATTFT-9.

Mattos, J. C. de. "The Three Inversions: A Unified Theory of the Good, the True, and the Beautiful as One Element Under Three Renderings." Zenodo. DOI 10.5281/zenodo.21631571. PhilPapers: MATTTI-3.

AI and Machine Ethics

Mattos, J. C. de. "The Beautiful AI Machine: Aesthetic Sourcehood, the Machine Holoviceart, and a Second Probe of the Omega-Two Question." Zenodo. DOI 10.5281/zenodo.21619519. PhilPapers: MATTBA-7.

Mattos, J. C. de. "The Virtue and Freedom of the Machine: An Integrated Formal Theory of Machine Virtue from the Ontology of Absolute Self-Origination and the Dynamics of the Dynamic Freedom Theorem." PhilPapers preprint.

Political and Institutional Theory

Mattos, J. C. de. "Holoviceosis and the Systematic Inversion of Virtue: A New Conceptual Framework in Political Philosophy, Critical Theory, and Moral Psychology." PhilPapers preprint.

Mattos, J. C. de. "Constitution of the Virtuous Democracy: The Fundamental Law of Human Freedom — A Universal Reference Framework for Democratic Constitutional Design." Working paper.

Mattos, J. C. de. "Virtue as the Foundation of Legitimate Transgression: A Unified Theory of Virtuous Transgression and Tutela Libertatis." PhilPapers preprint / Zenodo.

Mattos, J. C. de. "Obligatory Transgressive Virtuous Action: A Virtue-Theoretic Account of What Justice Requires." PhilPapers preprint.

Mattos, J. C. de. "The Restorative Virtue Arc: A Virtue-Theoretic Account of the Reconstruction of Equalisation After Institutional Capture." PhilPapers preprint.

Mattos, J. C. de. "Clandestine Moral Formation — Paideia Under Capture: A Virtue-Theoretic Account of Moral Formation Under Institutional Suppression." PhilPapers preprint.

Vocation, Consciousness, Immortality, and Applied Theory

Mattos, J. C. de. "The Augure, The Man of Destiny: A Formal Theory of Vocation at Its Summit — Gift-Domain Topology, the Dissolution Threshold, the Resonance Mechanism, and the Political Conditions for Men of Destiny." PhilPapers preprint.

Mattos, J. C. de. "The Unity of Consciousness as a Fixed Point: Why the Binding of Experience Is the Uniqueness of a Self-Referential Attractor, Not the Combination of Parts." PhilPapers preprint.

Mattos, J. C. de. "Immortality: Taxonomy, Seventeen Types, Four Axes, and the Hierarchy of What Persists." PhilPapers preprint.

Mattos, J. C. de. "Origin of Life: The Closure Threshold — The Origin of Life Is the Onset of Operational Closure, a Transition from Self-Organisation to Self-Reference." PhilPapers preprint.

Mattos, J. C. de. "Inner Peace: The Perspective Dissolution Theorem — On the Perspectival Origin and Ontological Dissolution of the Question of Instantiation." PhilPapers preprint.

Mattos, J. C. de. "Alguilas: The Convergence Theorems — Persistence, Pre-Expressive Structure, and the Geometry of the Fixed-Point Path Before the Soul, Consciousness and Immortality." PhilPapers preprint.

Interdisciplinary — Consciousness, Physics, and Cosmology

Mattos, J. C. de. "Absolute Self-Origination: A Unified Ontological Theory of Consciousness, Life, Freedom, Suffering, Death, Political Justice, Quantum Measurement, and Meaning — with Twelve Formal Theorems." PhilPapers preprint.

Mattos, J. C. de. "Resolution of the von Neumann Measurement Chain Through Absolute Self-Origination." PhilPapers preprint.

Mattos, J. C. de. "Beyond Einstein: How the Big Bang and Black Hole Singularities Dissolve in a Non-Hermitian Algebraic Universe — A First-Principles Derivation of the Geometric Dissolution Threshold via Type III₁ von Neumann Algebras, Non-Hermitian Exceptional Points, and Falsifiable LISA Signatures." PhilPapers preprint.

Mattos, J. C. de. "The Crystallisation of Spacetime: A Phase Transition from Timeless Memory to an Emergent Cosmos — Modular Tensor Network Genesis (MTN-G)." PhilPapers preprint.

Mattos, J. C. de. "Directional CMB Parity Asymmetry and the MTN-G Windowed Power Spectrum: A Pre-Registered Spherical-Cap Patch-Scan Analysis of Planck 2018 PR3 Data." Zenodo.

Books — Philosophy of Virtues Series (Amazon)

Mattos, J. C. de. *The Element of Virtue: A Unified Theory of Ethics, Metaphysics and Theology*. Definitive Edition. Merano: Ecclesia Virtutis, 2026. ISBN 979-8-1881338-1-8.

Mattos, J. C. de. *Virtuous Evil: The Occupied Form — Why Evil Is Not the Absence of Good, but the Power That Wears Its Face*. Amazon, 2026. ISBN 979-8-1903608-8-2.

Mattos, J. C. de. *The Cage That Learned to Shine: Beauty as the Perceptible Form of Freedom*. Amazon, 2026. ISBN 979-8-1891580-1-8.

Mattos, J. C. de. *Stored Freedom: Economics of Virtues and the Hidden Wealth of the Soul*. Amazon, 2026. (Portuguese ed.: *Economia das Virtudes — Liberdade Armazenada e a Riqueza Oculta da Alma*.)

Mattos, J. C. de. *Philosophy of Virtues: Manifesto of Virtues / Filosofia delle Virtù: Manifesto delle Virtù*. English and Italian editions. Amazon, 2026.

Mattos, J. C. de. *Holoviceosis: When Injustice Becomes Law*. Amazon, 2026.

Mattos, J. C. de. *Virtuous Democracy: The Political Philosophy of Freedom*. With the complete text of the Constitution of the Virtuous Democracy. Amazon, 2026.

Mattos, J. C. de. *The Daily Virtue: 365 Days. 101 Virtues. One Transformed Life*. Amazon, 2026.

Mattos, J. C. de. *Love: The Sacred Gift*. Amazon, 2026.

Mattos, J. C. de. *Immortality: The Road and the Price of Eternity*. Amazon, 2026.

Mattos, J. C. de. *The Augure: The Man of Destiny*. Amazon, 2026.

Mattos, J. C. de. *Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu — The Augure Warrior: Spirituality, Leadership, and Personal Development*. Amazon, 2026.

Mattos, J. C. de. *Convergence and Dissolution: A Spiritual Journey Through Virtues, Existence, and Being*. Amazon, 2026.

Other Books and Articles

Mattos Neto, J. C. de. *O Voo do Camaleão* [The Flight of the Chameleon]. Book on entrepreneurship, published in connection with university teaching, Rio de Janeiro.

Mattos Neto, J. C. de. *Beijo de Ouro*. Book.

Mattos Neto, J. C. de. "Contracting of Open Access and Brazilian Transmission Services: A Decade-Long Assessment from the Perspective of the Administration of Transmission Contracts by ONS." Alguilas.

EDUCATION

M.B.A., Corporate Finance and Management <i>Fundação Getúlio Vargas (FGV), Rio de Janeiro</i>	2000 – 2001
B.Sc., Electrical Engineering — Electric Power Systems <i>Pontifícia Universidade Católica de Minas Gerais (PUC-MG)</i>	1993 – 1999
Independent Research, Philosophy of Virtues <i>Systematic philosophical research programme</i>	2021 – present

ACADEMIC & TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University Professor <i>Faculdade Machado de Assis (FAMA), Rio de Janeiro</i>	Jan. 2004 – Jan. 2014
● Taught Strategy, Strategic Planning, Business Policy, the Decision-Making Process, SME Management, Entrepreneurship, Business Plan, Topics in Management, Creativity and Behaviour, Services Marketing, and Philosophy and Ethics. ● Supervised course-completion research projects; published <i>O Voo do Camaleão</i> in connection with the Entrepreneurship curriculum.	
University Professor <i>Mercury Faculty (FAMERC), Rio de Janeiro</i>	Jan. 2004 – Jul. 2010
● Taught SME Management, Entrepreneurship, Business Plan, Administration, Creativity, Philosophy and Ethics, and Services Marketing.	
Postgraduate Professor <i>Faculty UNIABEU, Rio de Janeiro</i>	Sep. 2008 – Dec. 2008
● Taught Entrepreneurship on the M.B.A. programmes in Business Management and in Human Resources.	

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Thirty years of executive and technical leadership in the electrical engineering and renewable energy sectors across Brazil and Italy — grid regulation, high-voltage transmission, and utility-scale solar. Full project-lifecycle responsibility (site selection, financial modelling, EPC negotiation, construction, commissioning, grid connection) on infrastructure investments exceeding USD 300 million (BRL 1.5 billion), leading teams exceeding 8,000 direct and indirect roles.

Administrative Technical Manager <i>PV-Invest Italia Srl, Bolzano, Italy</i>	Feb. 2024 – Present
● Business management of utility-scale photovoltaic plant construction, from business plan and technical evaluation through commissioning and grid connection; EPC and supplier negotiation; CAPEX/OPEX budgeting and performance reporting.	
Project Manager <i>psaier.energies GmbH/Srl, Italy</i>	Jan. 2023 – Jan. 2024
● Managed business development for greenfield and brownfield wind and photovoltaic projects, from site selection through permitting, environmental assessment, and grid-connection studies; business planning (NPV, IRR, CAPEX/OPEX).	
Director <i>Gávea Energy, Minas Gerais, Brazil</i>	Jul. 2018 – Jan. 2023
● Directed business development for a real-estate development company, including business plan, CAPEX/OPEX, marketing and sales strategy, engineering, and construction management.	
Technical Director <i>Cantareira, Caiuá, and IMTE Energy, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil</i>	Jun. 2012 – Apr. 2018
● Directed engineering, environmental licensing, and land negotiation for three high-voltage transmission companies (in partnership with COPEL/ELECNOR), delivering six major transmission-line and substation projects across Minas Gerais, São Paulo, Maranhão, and Paraná, generating over 8,000 direct and indirect jobs.	
Senior Engineer, Grid Operations & Regulatory Management <i>ONS — Operador Nacional do Sistema Elétrico (Brazil's Independent System Operator), Rio de Janeiro</i>	Jan. 2000 – Jun. 2012

- Contract manager for national transmission agreements and their financial guarantees; regulatory application of ANEEL and ONS network procedures; grid-connection studies; system-operation analysis and KPIs; ISO 9001 implementation in operational centres.

Supervisor, Igarapé Thermoelectric Plant

Jan. 1992 – Jan. 2000

CEMIG, Belo Horizonte, Brazil

- Operation of a 132 MW thermal power plant and its substation; maintenance, operation, construction, and design of urban and underground distribution networks.

HONOURS AND DISTINCTIONS

- Honoured Professor / Paraninfo / Patron — recognition for ten years of teaching in Strategy, Entrepreneurship, and Philosophy and Ethics.

CERTIFICATIONS

- Pilot.
- Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Black Belt, 4th Dan — IBJJF Certified.

LANGUAGES

Portuguese (native) · English (full professional proficiency) · Italian (full professional proficiency) · Spanish (limited working proficiency).