

Alin Christoph Cucu

University of Lausanne

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Education

- 11/2022 **PhD in philosophy**
University of Lausanne
Supervisor: Prof. Michael Esfeld
Title of PhD thesis: *“Interacting Minds in the Physical World”*
- from 08/2020 **PhD candidate/researcher**
University of Lausanne
- 10/2019 – 07/2020 **PhD student**
International Academy of Philosophy (IAP), Mauren, Liechtenstein
- 08/2017 – 09/2019 **PhD fellow**
International Academy of Philosophy (IAP), Mauren, Liechtenstein

As part of the project “The Openness of the Universe for Divine Interaction and Human Free Will” funded by the Templeton foundation (grant ID: 59226)
Research topic: *“Interactive Dualism in the Physical World – Towards a Scientifically Informed Model of Dualistic Mind-to-Brain-Interaction”*
- 09/2010 **2nd state examination for a high school teaching position in biology and chemistry (Zweites Staatsexamen)**
Ministry of Education and Science, Free State of Bavaria
Grade: 1,90 (“good”)
- 06/2008 **1st state examination in biology and chemistry (Erstes Staatsexamen)**
Ludwig-Maximilians-University, Munich
Grade: 2,05 (“good”)
- 07/2006 **1st state examination in educational sciences (Erstes Staatsexamen in Erziehungswissenschaften)**
Ludwig-Maximilians-University, Munich
- 10/2003-02/2008 **Studies of biology, chemistry and philosophy (10 semesters)**
Ludwig-Maximilians-University, Munich

Peer-reviewed publications

1. Cucu, Alin C. (2020) "Does Consciousness-Collapse Quantum Mechanics Facilitate Dualistic Mental Causation?". *Journal of Cognitive Science* 21:3, 429-474
2. Cucu, Alin C. and Pitts, Brian J. (2019): "How Dualists Should (Not) Respond to the Objection from Energy Conservation". *Mind and Matter* 17:1, 95-121
3. Cucu, Alin C. (forthcoming): "The Problematic Contacts Between Religious and Physicalist Metaphysics". *Introduction to Philosophy*, Metaphysics Volume, Chapter 9. Rebus Community Press

Papers currently under peer review

1. Cucu, Alin C. "Body and Soul Separable But Unified – Biblical Anthropology Justified". Submitted to *Theologica*
2. Cucu, Alin C. "Thomistic-like Dualism and the Laws of Nature". Submitted to *Philosophia Christi*

Book reviews

1. Cucu, Alin C. (2020): "Henry P. Stapp. Quantum Theory and Free Will: How Mental Intentions Translate into Bodily Actions". *Philosophia Christi* 22(1): 173-177

Paper drafts

1. "Why the Incarnation Is Incompatible With An Atemporal Concept of God" (declined with referee reports by *Theologica*)
2. "Thomistic-like Dualism and the Laws of Nature"

Prizes

1. Mind-matter prize for the best paper 2020 of the Society for Mind Matter Research (winning paper: Cucu, Alin C. and Pitts, Brian J. (2019): "How Dualists Should (Not) Respond to the Objection from Energy Conservation". *Mind and Matter* 17:1, 95-121

Peer-reviewed interactions with my work

1. Seager, William: "Panpsychism and Energy Conservation". Seager, William. "Panpsychism and Energy Conservation." *Mind and Matter* 20.1 (2022): 17-34.
2. Bailey, Andrew M.: *Monotheism and Human Nature*. Cambridge University Press (2021).
3. Augustyn, Kenneth A.: "Life Transcends Computing". *Journal of Cognitive Science* 22.1 (2021): 1-40.
4. Robinson, Howard (2020) „[Dualism](#)“. *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (section 3.1).
5. Augustyn, Ken (2020) „[Consciousness as a factor in evolution](#)“. *Journal of Cognitive Science* 21:3, 489-506.
6. Barnden, John A. "The meta-dynamic nature of consciousness." *Entropy* 22.12 (2020): 1433.
7. Weir, Ralph Stefan. "Does idealism solve the problem of consciousness?." *The Routledge Handbook of Idealism and Immaterialism*. Routledge 614-630.
8. Pitts, J. Brian. "Conservation laws and the philosophy of mind: Opening the black box, finding a mirror." *Philosophia* 48.2 (2020): 673-707. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11406-019-00102-7>
9. Pitts, J. Brian. "General relativity, mental causation, and energy conservation." *Erkenntnis* (2020): 1-43.
10. Pitts, J. Brian. "Conservation of Energy: Missing Features in Its Nature and Justification and Why They Matter." *Foundations of Science* (2020): 1-26.

11. Atmanspacher, Harald, "Quantum Approaches to Consciousness", *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (Summer 2020 Edition), Edward N. Zalta (ed.).
<https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/sum2020/entries/qt-consciousness/>
12. Pitts, J. Brian. "The Mind-Body Problem and Conservation Laws: The Growth of Physical Understanding?." (2019).
13. "Anti-Physicalism and the Metaphysics of Substances and Properties". Ralph S. Weir, PhD thesis, University of Cambridge, forthcoming.
14. Pitts, J.B. (2022). "On Two Sights to Noether's First Theorem: Mental Causation and General Relativity". In: Ben-Menahem, Y. (eds) *Rethinking the Concept of Law of Nature*. Jerusalem Studies in Philosophy and History of Science. Springer, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-96775-8_10
15. Koperski, Jeffrey: "Does Physics Forbid Libertarian Freedom?". *Filozoficzne Aspekty Genezy* 19 (1), 2022. DOI: [10.53763/fag.2022.19.1.193](https://doi.org/10.53763/fag.2022.19.1.193)

Awarded grants

1. "Religious Hypotheses and the Study of Human Nature". Subproject as part of the project "New Horizons for Science and Religion in Central and Eastern Europe", based at the Romanian Academy in Iasi, Romania (5 team members in total). Duration: 2021-22. Total volume: USD 65,000. Funding: John Templeton Foundation.
2. Extension to "Religious Hypotheses and the Study of Human Nature". 1 additional collaborator. Duration: 07/21-12/22. Total volume: USD 30,000. Funding: John Templeton Foundation.

Conference papers and presentations

1. "Körper und Seele getrennt, aber vereint" (invited talk at the philosophy congress of the Wort und Wissen association, Neustadt, Germany, September 11, 2022)
2. "Body and Soul Unified But Separable" (invited talk at the workshop "Naturalism and the Religious Worldview, Arbanija, Croatia, September 6, 2022)
3. "The soul in non-Cartesian dualism from Aquinas to the early moderns" (invited talk at the CUSO workshop, Ligerz, Switzerland, June 20, 2022)
4. "Interacting Minds in the Physical World" (Presentation at the University of Lausanne, philosophy of science research seminar, Prof. Michael Esfeld, May 9 & 16, 2022)
5. „Ohne Weltanschauung keine Apologetik: Fallstudien zu den Themen Rationalität und Seele" (invited talk at the annual apologetics workshop of the Institut für Glaube und Wissenschaft, Marburg, November 13, 2021)
6. "Warum die kausale Geschlossenheit der Welt den Verstand ausschließt – und was es braucht, um ihn zu retten" (invited presentation at the philosophy congress of the Wort und Wissen association, Wildberg, Germany, October 9, 2021)
7. "Le dualisme des substances: théorie ancienne négligée à tort » (Presentation at the University of Lausanne, philosophy of science research seminar, Prof. Michael Esfeld, Nov 17, 2020)
8. "Normativité irréductible et l'ontologie de personnes humaines » (Presentation at the University of Lausanne, philosophy of science research seminar, Prof. Michael Esfeld, Nov 10, 2020)
9. "Irreducible Normativity and the Ontology of Human Persons" (Presentation at the Biological Mentality Online Workshop, Nov 2, 2020)
10. "Interacting Minds in the Physical World" (Presentation at the University of Lausanne, philosophy of science group of Prof. Michael Esfeld, Dec 10, 2019)

11. "Does QM help model dualistic mental interaction?" (Presentation at Biological Mentality Online Workshop, Dec 09, 2019)
12. "Energy Conservation, Physicalism and the Prospects for Interactionist Dualism" (Biological Mentality Online Workshop, Sep 23, 2019)
13. "Does Energy Conservation Preclude Dualistic Agent Causality?" (Free Will and Divine Action conference organized by the IAP, Munich, August 21-23, 2019)
14. "The Ghost is Alive: How Physics and Neuroscience Support the Idea of Interacting Souls". Poster presentation at the Science of Consciousness Conference in Interlaken, Switzerland, June 25-28, 2019
15. "Steht der interaktionistische Substanzdualismus im Widerspruch zur modernen Naturwissenschaft?" ("Is Interactionist Substance Dualism at Odds With Modern Science?"). Invited presentation at the Systematic Theology and Ethics Conference of the Association for Evangelical Theology, Gießen, Germany, Feb 23, 2019
16. "Widerlegt die moderne Naturwissenschaft die Existenz von Seelen?" ("Does Modern Science Refute the Existence of Souls?"). Invited presentation at the philosophy workshop of the Wort und Wissen Institute, Neustadt/Germany, Jan 19, 2019
17. "Turning the Tables on Physicalism: The Energy Conservation Objection to Substance Dualism as a Two-Edged Sword". Paper presentation at the conference "[Substance Dualism in the 21st century](#)", Budapest, Dec 7, 2018.
18. "Does Substance Dualism Violate Energy Conservation?" Presentation at the Moscow Center for Consciousness Studies Summer School on Malta, June 30, 2018
19. "Doubting the God of the Philosophers: Why Atemporalism Is Incompatible With the Incarnation". Paper presentation at the Southwestern Conference of the Evangelical Philosophical Society, Houston, USA, Mar 3, 2018

Translations

1. Beckermann, A. (2019): "Active Doings and the Principle of the Causal Closure of the Physical World". *Organon F* Vol. 26, Issue 1 (Translation from German into English)
2. Halbig, C. (2019): "Reasons and God's Discretion". Presentation at the conference "Free Will and Divine Action" organized by the IAP (Translation from German into English)

Editing

1. Swinburne, R. (forthcoming): *Geist, Gehirn und freier Wille*. Darmstadt: Wissenschaftliche Buchgesellschaft.
2. Mele, A. (forthcoming): *Frei – Warum die Naturwissenschaft den freien Willen nicht widerlegt hat*. Darmstadt: Wissenschaftliche Buchgesellschaft.

Teaching Experience

Since 02/2021	University of Lausanne « Introduction à la logique » („Introduction to Logic“) for BA students in philosophy (2 hrs/week)
03/2019	International Academy of Philosophy Liechtenstein Adjunct Instructor, Philosophical Training for Students of Philosophy and Theology
01/2018 – 02/2018	State Independent Theological College (Staatsunabhängige Theologische Hochschule), Basel

Adjunct Instructor, Philosophical Training for Theology Students

09/2014 – 07/2017

European School of Munich

Seconded teacher for Biology, Chemistry and Integrated Sciences (teaching in German, English and French)

09/2010 – 08/2014

Staatliches Gymnasium (“High School”) Kirchseeon

Lecturer (Studienrat) for Biology, Chemistry and Integrated Sciences

09/2008 – 08/2010

Asam-Gymnasium München

Probationary teacher (“Studienreferendar”) for Biology, Chemistry and Philosophy/Ethics

Languages

Native language: German

	Understanding		Speaking		Writing
	Listening	Reading	Spoken interaction	Spoken production	
English	C2	C2	C2	C2	C2
French	C1	C1	C1	C1	C1
Romanian	C2	C2	C1	C1	C1

[Common European Framework of Reference for Languages - Self-assessment](#)

Other relevant interests and involvements

Project and time management

Development of and blogging about innovative time management and project management models and tools with [weekview® innovative Zeitplansysteme](#) in Munich (since 07/2013)

Academic proofreading

Revised several Bachelor theses in economics and theology

Translation

Voluntary simultaneous English interpreter at Free Evangelical Church “Stami” in St. Gallen, Switzerland

References

Prof. Dr. Michael Esfeld

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Dr. Joshua R. Farris

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Prof. Dr. Dr. Daniel von Wachter

Professor of Philosophy, Director
International Academy of Philosophy
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Dr. Paul Näger

Assistant Professor of Philosophy
University of Münster
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Dr. Dr. J. Brian Pitts

Senior Research Fellow of Philosophy of Physics



