

John Byron Manchak

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Education

Ph.D. Philosophy, University of California, Irvine, 2009
Dissertation: The Underdetermination of Global Spacetime Structure (advisor: David B. Malament)

B.S. Physics, Brigham Young University, 2004
B.A. Philosophy, Brigham Young University, 2004

Academic Appointment

Assistant Professor of Philosophy, University of Washington, 2009-present

Areas of Specialization

Philosophy of Physics, Philosophy of Science

Areas of Competence

Epistemology, Decision Theory, Logic

Publications

“Global Spacetime Structure.” Forthcoming in R. W. Batterman (ed.) *The Oxford Handbook of Philosophy of Physics*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

“Time Travel: Why It May Not Pay to Work Out All the Kinks.” *Philosophy of Science*. 78 (2011): 1037-1045.

“What is a Physically Reasonable Spacetime?” *Philosophy of Science*. 78 (2011): 410-420.

“No No-Go: A Remark on Time Machines.” *Studies in History and Philosophy of Modern Physics*. 42 (2011): 74-76.

“On Efficient ‘Time Travel’ in Gödel Spacetime.” *General Relativity and Gravitation*. 43 (2011): 51-60.

“On the Possibility of Supertasks in General Relativity.” *Foundations of Physics*. 40 (2010): 276-288.

“On the Existence of ‘Time Machines’ in General Relativity.” *Philosophy of Science*. 76 (2009): 1020-1026.

“On Force in Cartesian Physics.” *Philosophy of Science*. 76 (2009): 295-306.

“Is Spacetime Hole-Free?” *General Relativity and Gravitation*. 41 (2009): 1639-1643.

“Can We Know the Global Structure of Spacetime?” *Studies in History and Philosophy of Modern Physics*. 40 (2009): 53-56.

“Is Prediction Possible in General Relativity?” *Foundations of Physics*. 38 (2008): 317-321.

Works in Progress

“Essay Review of David Malament, *Topics in Foundations of General Relativity and Newtonian Gravitation*.” Forthcoming in *Philosophy of Science*.

“Space and Time.” Forthcoming in S. O. Hansson and V. F. Hendricks (eds.) *The Handbook of Formal Philosophy*. Dordrecht: Springer.

“On the Relationship between Spacetime Singularities, Holes, and Extensions.”

Invited Talks

“On the Relationship between Spacetime Singularities, Holes, and Extensions.”

Southern California Philosophy of Physics Group, Irvine, January 2012.

University of Western Ontario, Physics Seminar, April 2012.

Renyi Institute, Budapest, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, September 2012.

“Time Machines: Some Recent Work.”

University of Pittsburgh, Philosophy of Physics Workshop, April 2013.

University of Western Ontario, Philosophy Department, April 2012.

University of Konstanz, Germany, Philosophy of Science Workshop, March 2012.

University of Turku, Finland, Conference on Physics and Computation, June 2011.

“What is a Physically Reasonable Spacetime?”

University of British Columbia, Philosophy of Science Workshop, April 2010.

University of Oxford, Philosophy Seminar, February 2010.

LARSIM Laboratory, Paris, French Atomic Energy Commission, February 2010.

University of Pittsburgh, Philosophy of Science Workshop, March 2009.

“Can We Know the Structure of Our Universe?”

University of Pittsburgh, Philosophy Department, January 2009.

Carnegie Mellon University, Philosophy Department, January 2009.

St. Olaf College, Philosophy Department, January 2009.

University of Washington, Philosophy Department, January 2009.

Other Presentations

“On the Relationship between Spacetime Singularities, Holes, and Extensions.” Meeting of the Philosophy of Science Association. San Diego, November 2012.

“Time Travel for Children” Paws-On Science: Husky Weekend. Pacific Science Center, Seattle, March-April 2012.

“Time Travel: Why it May Not Pay to Work Out All the Kinks.” Meeting of the Philosophy of Science Association. Montreal, November 2010.

“On the Existence of Time Machines.” Meeting of the Philosophy of Science Association. Pittsburgh, November 2008.

“Can We Know the Structure of Our Universe?” Florence-Irvine Logic and Philosophy of Science Conference. Irvine, March 2007.

“On Force in Cartesian Physics.” Meeting of the Philosophy of Science Association. Vancouver, November 2006.

“Observational Indistinguishability and Geodesic Incompleteness.” Logic, Mathematics, and Physics Graduate Conference. University of Western Ontario, May 2006.

Fellowships and Awards

Order of Merit: Outstanding Scholarship, University of California, Irvine, 2009.
Justine Lambert Prize, University of California, Irvine, 2009.
Regents Dissertation Fellowship, University of California, Irvine, 2008.
Quantum Foundations Summer Fellowship, Perimeter Institute, 2007.
Robert Clifton Memorial Prize, University of Western Ontario, 2006.

Teaching Experience

University of Washington: Probability and Induction (2012), Space: Zeno to Einstein (2009, 2011), Decision Theory (2011, 2011), Philosophy of Space and Time (2011), Philosophy of Science (2010, 2010), Introduction to Logic (2010, 2010, 2011)
University of California, Irvine: Introduction to Logic (2008)
Brigham Young University: Introduction to Russian (2001, 2002)

Professional Service

Program Committee Member: Meeting of the Philosophy of Science Association (2012)
Session Chair: Pacific APA Meeting (2012)
Reviewer: American Mathematical Society (2011-present)
Subject Editor: PhilPapers, general relativity (2009-present)
Manuscript Referee: Oxford University Press
Journal Referee: *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, *Erkenntnis*, *General Relativity and Gravitation*, *International Studies in the Philosophy of Science*, *Journal of Optimization Theory*, *Philosophia Mathematica*, *Philosophy of Science*, *Studies in History and Philosophy of Modern Physics*, *Synthese*
Department Committee Member: curriculum (2009-present), placement (2010-present), admissions (2010, 2012), Melvin Radar summer grant (2012)
Department Committee Chair: logic curriculum (2010), website redesign (2011-present)
Dissertation Committee Member: Lars Enden, Joe Ricci
Undergraduate Advisor: Kyle Slinker (Mary Gates Award)
Faculty Judge: Undergraduate Bioethics Case Competition (2012)