

Workshop

Traditional and Inductive Metaphysics

Technische Universität Dortmund - 7./8.12.2017

Emil Figge Str. 50, Room EF50, R. 0.442

<https://indmet.weebly.com/traditional-and-inductive-metaphysics.html>

DFG-Research Group "Inductive Metaphysics"

The new research group, „Inductive Metaphysics. Articulation, Application and Challenges“, is hosted at the universities of Bonn, Cologne, Dortmund, Düsseldorf and Münster (Germany). It aims at developing a robust concept of *Inductive Metaphysics* (IM) and at defending it against objections. The term "*Inductive Metaphysics*" was introduced by German thinkers of the 19th century, among others Külpe and von Hartmann. IM assumes that inductive methods (abduction, inferences to the best explanation) and empirical premises should and do play a role in tackling many metaphysical issues.

IM has to be delineated against naturalised metaphysics and the Canberra Plan on the one hand, and against aprioristic metaphysics on the other. We want to clarify which roles empirical sources of knowledge can play in metaphysics, which kinds of *a posteriori* methods can be justified in metaphysics, and which of these *a posteriori* elements can be found in the history of metaphysics as well as today.

In this workshop we are particularly interested in the following three groups of questions: First, which role do empirical information and empirical methods play in contemporary metaphysics, what are they and how can they be justified in metaphysics? Second, what did the initiators of this concept in the 19th century think about *Inductive Metaphysics*? And third, how does 18th century metaphysics relate to empirical sources of knowledge and *a posteriori* forms of inference?

Speakers

Amanda Bryant (New York)
Ralf Busse (Mainz)
Mary Domski (New Mexico)
Kristina Engelhard (Dortmund/Leipzig)
Michael Heidelberger (Tübingen)
Arnaud Pelletier (Brüssel)
Oliver R. Scholz (Münster)
Gerhard Schurz (Düsseldorf)
Peter Simons (Dublin)

Organised by K. Engelhard/B. Falkenburg/Siegfried Jaag/Markus Schrenk/Oliver Scholz/Gerhard Schurz

Schedule

Thursday, Dec. 7, 2017

10:15 -11:15	Talk 1	Oliver R. Scholz: Das Programm der induktiven Metaphysik bei Erich Becher
11:15-11:45	Coffee break	
11:45-12:45	Talk 2	Michael Heidelberger: Fechners induktive Metaphysik -- ein gangbarer Weg?
12:45-14:15	Lunch break	
14:15-15:15	Talk 3	Gerhard Schurz: Abduction as a Method of Inductive Metaphysics
15:15-15:30	Coffee break	
15:30-16:30	Talk 4	Amanda Bryant: Ampliative Inference, Epistemic Trade-Offs, and Disciplinary Autonomy in a Scientifically Responsible Metaphysics
16:30-16:45	Coffee break	
16:45-17:45	Talk 5	Peter Simons: The Long and Winding Road: Empirical Feedback in Metaphysics
20:00	Conference Dinner	

Friday, Dec. 8, 2017

10:15 -11:15	Talk 6	Ralf Busse: Against Metaphysical Structuralism. A Case Study in Isreal Potter's Methodology
11:15-11:45	Coffee break	

11:45-12:45	Talk 7	Mary Domski: Newton on the Mathematical Certainty of Metaphysical Truths
12:45-14:15	Lunch break	
14:15-15:15	Talk 8	Arnaud Pelletier: Leibniz, the Inductive Challenge
15:15-15:30	Coffee break	
15:30-16:30	Talk 9	Kristina Engelhard: Inductive Metaphysics in Leibniz and Wolff?