

JODY AZZOUNI

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Tufts University
Medford Mass. 02155

Education

1976	New York University B.A. in Liberal Arts; major philosophy
1978	New York University M.A. in Philosophy
1983	Courant Institute New York University M.S. in Mathematics
1986	C.U.N.Y. Graduate Center Ph.D in Philosophy

Positions

1978-1979	Lecturer Adjunct at Hofstr University Logic I
Fall 1981	Lecturer Adjunct at C.C.N.Y. Critical Thinking
Summer 1982	Research Scientist Department of Psychology, N.Y.U.
1982-1983	Lecturer Adjunct at N.Y.U. Practical Reasoning
Fall 1983	Lecturer Adjunct at Hunter College Introduction to Philosophy
Fall 1984	Assistant in Logic I C.U.N.Y. Graduate Center

Fall 1985-1993	Assistant Professor Tufts University Tenure Awarded, 1993
1993-on	Associate Professor Tufts University
2000-on	Full Professor Tufts University

Professional Societies

Association for Symbolic Logic
APA

Specialities

Logic
Philosophy of Language
Philosophy of Mathematics
Metaphysics
Epistemology
Philosophy of Logic
Philosophy of Science

Ph.D. Dissertation

A language with its own truth and falsity predicates

Philosophical Publications: Articles

- 1990 "Truth and Convention," *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly* **71**
- 1991 "A Simple Axiomatizable Theory of Truth," *Notre Dame Journal of Formal Logic*,
Volume 32, Number 3
- 1992 "A Priori Truth," *Erkenntnis* **37**
- 1995 Review of Aladdin M. Yaqub's "The Liar Speaks the Truth," *Mind*, Volume 1, p. 222.
- 1997 "Thick Epistemic Access: Distinguishing the Mathematical from the Empirical," *The*

Journal of Philosophy, Volume XCIV, Number 9.

"Applied Mathematics, Existential Commitment and the Quine-Putnam Indispensability Thesis," *Philosophia Mathematica*, Volume 5, No. 3, October.

1998 "On 'On what there is'," *Pacific Philosophical Quarterly*, Volume 79, No. 1, March.

1999 "Review of Michael D. Resnik's 'Mathematics as a science of patterns,'" *Journal of Symbolic Logic* 64, Number 2.

"Comments on Shapiro," *Journal of Philosophy* 96, October.

2000 "Applying Mathematics: An Attempt to Design a Philosophical Problem," *The Monist*, Vol. 82, No. 2, April.

"Stipulation, Logic, and Ontological Independence," *Philosophia Mathematica* (3) Vol. 8, pp. 225-243.

2001 "Truth Via Anaphorically Unrestricted Quantifiers," *Journal of Philosophical Logic* **30**: 329-354.

2003 "Individuation, Causal Relations and Quine," *Meaning*, ed. Mark Richard, Blackwell.

"The strengthened liar, the expressive strength of natural languages, and regimentation," *The Philosophical Forum*, Vol. XXXIV, Nos. 3 & 4, Fall/Winter 2003.

2004 "Proof and Ontology in Euclidean Mathematics," in Tinne Hoff Kjeldsen, Stig Andur Pedersen, Lise Mariane Sonne-Hanse, eds., *New Trends in the History and Philosophy of Mathematics*, Denmark: University Press of Southern Denmark.

"The Derivation-Indicator View of Mathematical Practice," *Philosophia Mathematica* (3) Vol. 12.

"Theory, observation and scientific realism," *British Journal for the philosophy of science* **55**, 371-392.

"Tarski, Quine, and the Transcendence of the Vernacular 'true'," *Synthese* **142**: 273-288.

2005 "Is there still a sense in which mathematics can have foundations?" *Advanced Studies in Mathematics and Logic*, edited by Giandomenico Sica. Italy: Polimetrica S.a.s, 9-47.

"How to nominalize formalism," *Philosophia Mathematica* (III) **13**, 135-159.

"Anaphorically unrestricted quantifiers and paradoxes," In (JC Beall and Bradley

Armour-Garb, eds) *Deflationism and Paradox*, 250-273. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

(with Bradley Armour-Garb) "Standing on Common Ground," *Journal of Philosophy* CII(10):532-544

(with Otavio Bueno) Review of Donald MacKenzie, *Mechanizing Proof: Computing, Risk, and Trust*. *Philosophia Mathematica* (III) 13, 319-325.

2006 "How and why mathematics is unique as a social practice," in (Reuben Hersh, ed.) *18 Unconventional Essays on the Nature of Mathematics*. New York: Springer Science+Business Media, Inc.

"Teorie, observatie si realism stiintific," *Review of Contemporary Philosophy* 5 (translation of "Theory, observation and scientific realism" into Romanian).

2007 "How and why mathematics is unique as a social practice," in (Bart van Kerkhove, Jean Paul van Bendegem, Editors) *Perspectives on mathematical practices: Bringing Together philosophy of mathematics, sociology of mathematics, and mathematics education*. Dordrecht, The Netherlands: Springer.

"Logic" in *The language of science*, Polimetrica Onlus, ed., Giandomenico Sica, www.polimetrica.eu/contents/azzouni.php

"Ontological commitment in the vernacular," *Nous* 41:2, 204-226.

"The inconsistency of natural languages: how we live with it," *Inquiry* 50:2, 590-605.

2008 "The compulsion to believe: Logical inference and normativity," *ProtoSociology* 25: 69-88.

"A cause for concern: standard abstracta and causation," *Philosophia Mathematica* (III) 16, 397-401.

"Alternative logics and the role of truth in the interpretation of languages," in (Douglas Patterson, ed.) *New essays on Tarski and philosophy*, 390-429. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

(with Otavio Bueno) "On what it takes for there to be no fact of the matter." *Nous* 42:4, 753-769.

2009 "Why do informal proofs conform to formal norms?" *Foundations of Science* 14:9-26.

"Empty *de re* attitudes about numbers" *Philosophia Mathematica* (III) 17:2,

163-188.

"Evading truth commitments: The problem reanalyzed" *Logique et Analyse* 206, 139-176.

2010 "Ontology and the word 'exist': Uneasy relations. *Philosophia Mathematica* (III) 18:1, 74-101.

"The rule-following paradox and the impossibility of private rule-following." *The Baltic International Yearbook of Cognition, Logic and Communication*, North America 5 2 11 2010.

"Partial ontic fictionalism." In *Fictions and Models* (John Woods, ed.). Munich, Germany: Philosophia Verlag GmbH.

2011 "Singular thoughts (Objects-directed thoughts)." In *The Aristotelian Society* (Mark E. Kalderon, ed.), Supplementary Volume LXXXV, 2011, 45-61.

"Nominalistic content." In (Carlo Cellucci, Emily Grosholz and Emiliano Ippoliti, ed.) *Logic and knowledge*. Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing.

"Can science change our notion of existence?" In *ProtoSociology: An International Journal and Interdisciplinary Project*
<http://www.protosociology.de/Download/Azzouni-Existence.pdf>.

2012 "Summary of Talking about Nothing," and "Responses to Gabriele Contessa, Erin Eaker, and Nikk Effingham." In (Anthony Ellis, ed.) *Analysis Reviews* 72/2, 327-29, 366-379.

"Simple metaphysics and "ontological dependence." In (Fabrice Correia and Benjamin Schnieder, ed.) *Metaphysical grounding: Understanding the structure of reality*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 234-253.

"Referring to what is and to what isn't." In (William P. Kabasenche, Michael O'Rourke, and Matthew H. Slater, ed.) *Reference and referring*. The MIT Press. 253-269.

"Taking the easy road out of Dodge," *Mind* 121-484, October, 951-965.

2013 "Nonexistent objects" *Oxfordbibliographies.com*

"The relationship of derivations in artificial languages to ordinary rigorous mathematical proof," *Philosophia Mathematica* (3) 21, 247-254.

"Hobnobbing with the nonexistent," *Inquiry* 56:4, 340-358.

- “That we see that some diagrammatic proofs are perfectly rigorous,” *Philosophia Mathematica* (3) 21, 323-338.
- 2014 “A new characterization of scientific theories,” *Synthese* 190:5, 3175-3184.
- “A defense of logical conventionalism,” in (Penelope Rush, ed.) *The Metaphysics of Logic*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 32-48.
- “Freeing talk of nothing from the cognitive illusion of aboutness,” *The Monist* 97,4, 443-459.
- “True Nominalism: Referring versus Coding,” (With Otávio Bueno) *The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science* Advance Access published March 3, 2015.
- 2015 “Why deflationary nominalists shouldn’t be agnostics,” *Philosophical Studies* 172: 1143-1161, DOI 10.1007/s11098-014-0341-9 (published online, June 3, 2014)
- “The challenge of many logics: a new approach to evaluating the role of ideology in Quinean commitment,” *Synthese* DOI 10.1007/s11229-015-0657-9 (published online, January 13, 2015)
- “Mathematical fictions,” in (Ananta Ch. Suka, ed.) *Fiction and art: Explorations in contemporary theory*. London: Bloomsbury, 63-77.
- “Conceiving and imagining: Some examples,” in *Harvard Review of Philosophy*, Volume XXII, Fall 2015, 84-99.
- “Nominalism, the nonexistence of mathematical objects,” in (Ernest Davis, Philip J. Davis, ed.), *Mathematics, substance and surmise*, 133-145. Switzerland: Springer.
- “Singularity,” entry in (Robert Audi) *The Cambridge Dictionary of Philosophy*, third edition, 986-987. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- 2016 Review of Saul Kripke’s “Reference and existence: The John Locke Lectures.” *Mind*.
- McEvoy on Benacerraf’s problem and the epistemic role puzzle. In (Fabrice Pataut, ed.) *Truth, objects, infinity: New perspectives on the philosophy of Paul Benacerraf*. Switzerland: Springer.
- 2017 Does reason evolve? (Does the reasoning in mathematics evolve?) In (Bharath Sriraman, ed.) *Humanizing mathematics and its philosophy: Essays celebrating the 90th birthday of Reuben Hersh*. Basel, Switzerland: Burkhäuser.

- 2018 Deflationist truth. In (Michael Glanzberg, ed.) *The Oxford handbook of truth*, 477-502. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Pathological pretending. *Analysis Reviews* 78:4, 692-703.
- Forthcoming: Defending the importance of ordinary existence questions and debates. In (Bliss Ricki Leigh, James Miller, ed.) *Routledge handbook of metametaphysics*. London: Routledge.
- Forthcoming: Telling tales. In (Alexandra King, Christy Mag Uidhir, ed.) *Philosophy & Art: New essays at the intersection*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Forthcoming: Smith, Seth and smith, and Newton on “taking to be true”. In (Chri Smeenk, Eric Schliesser, Marius Stan, ed.) *In (Eric Schliesser, Chris Smeenk, and Marius Stan, ed.) Theory, evidence, data: The philosophical legacy of George E. Smith*. Springer.
- Forthcoming: Singular thoughts of that which does not exist. In (Heimir Geirsson and Stephen Biggs, ed.) *Routledge handbook on linguistic reference*.
- Forthcoming: The algorithmic-device view of informal rigorous mathematical proof. In (Bharath Sriraman, ed.) *The handbook of the history and philosophy of mathematics*. Springer.
- Forthcoming: The Carnap/Quine debate? In (Darren Bradley, ed.) *Philosophical methodology after Carnap*. Springer.
- Forthcoming: The theory-instrument approach to scientific theories and the semantic conception of scientific theories: Some contrasts. In (Maria Martinez and Otávio Bueno) *Defectiveness: Proceedings from CLMPST, 2019*. Springer.
- Forthcoming: A white horse is not a horse: Markus Gabriel’s “new realism.” In (Jan Voosholz and Otávio Bueno, ed.) *Markus Gabriel’s New Realism*. Springer.

Published Books

- 1994 *Metaphysical Myths, Mathematical Practice*, Cambridge University Press.
- 2000 *Knowledge and Reference in Empirical Science*, Routledge.
- 2004 *Deflating Existential Commitment: A Case for Nominalism*, Oxford University Press.

2006 *Tracking Reason: Proof, Consequence, and Truth*, Oxford University Press.

2010 *Talking About Nothing: Numbers, Hallucinations, and Fictions*. Oxford University Press.

2013 *Semantic Perception: How the illusion of a common language arises and persists*. Oxford University Press.

2017 *The rule-following paradox and its implications for metaphysics*. Springer.

Ontology without borders. Oxford University Press.

Forthcoming

2020 *Attributing knowledge: What it means to know something*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

2021/2022 Collection of essays on my work by various authors (Mark Richard, Bradley Armour-Garb, Fenner Tanswell, Fred Kroon, Stuart Brock, etc.) with my responses. The book is untitled at the moment. (edited by Otavio Bueno and

Joshua

Brown) Springer.

Talks (selected)

2004 "Consequence," workshop in philosophy of logic at the *University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*, April 16.

"Quantification, Ontology, and Presentism," *Rutgers University Metaphysics Conference*, July.

2005 "Ontological commitment in the vernacular," *Syracuse University*, September 16, 2005.

2006 "Normativity and Compulsion," Association for philosophy in the Carolinas, Feb.17, 2006.

"Normativity and Compulsion," Joint meeting of the New Jersey Regional Philosophical Association and the Long Island Philosophical Society, April 8, 2006.

2009 "Ontological Dependence," Ontological Dependence conference, Gold Lake

Resort, Colorado, March 17-20.

"Rule following and the threat of social constructivism" Riga, Latvia, August 8-10.

2013

"Coherentist advice for mathematicians, hallucinators, and novelists who want to utter truths," Erasmus University, The Netherlands, Jan. 22.

"Session on 'Talking about Nothing': Author meets Critics, Central APA, Feb. 21.

"What's wrong with quantifier variance?" Pacific APA, March 27.

"Semantic Perception," Vanderbilt University.

2014

"Neutral quantifiers and indispensability arguments," February 25, Pavonia

"Neutral quantifiers and feature-presentation metaphysics," St. Andrews, April 9.

"Seminar on mathematical proof," St. Andrews, April 16.

2016

"Conceiving and imagining," Central APA, March 2, 2016.

"Moore's hands and the burden of proof," CUNY, March 16, 2016.

"Feature metaphysics," Pacific APA, March 31, 2016.

2017

"Moore's hands and the burden of proof," Pacific APA, April 14 2017

"Scepticism," University of Bonn. June 29, 2017

"Does reason evolve?" University of Munich, July 4th, 2017

2018

MAPL workshop on Deflationism, July 25th and 26th. Organized by Geogg Georgi and Adam Podleskowski. Western Virginia.

2019

Author meets Critics (with Eli Hirsch and Terry Horgan) on *Ontology without Borders*. Invited session, Eastern APA, January 8.

on

Author meets Critics (with Åsa M. Wikforss, Joshua Brown, and Otavio Bueno)

The Rule-following paradox and its implications for metaphysics. Realism and Anti-realism group session, Eastern APA, January 8.

Why numbers don't exist (and why anyone thought they did), Seton Hall University, March 21.

Knowledgeable apes, insects and drones. Colby College, April 11th.

LIPS

Knowledgeable apes, insects and drones. Keynote address at joint SCCC and conference, April 13th.

Informal proof and formal derivation (with Catarina Dutilh Novaes, Silvia DeToffoli, and Otavio Bueno) at Realism/Antirealism group session on proofs in mathematical practice, APA, Vancouver, April, 19, 2019.

Workshop on rule-following, invited paper, May 20th-21st, Milan.

Mario

Conference on rule-following, invited paper, May 23rd, Rome (organized by De Caro).

Knowledgeable apes, insects and drones. University of Rochester, October 18, 2019.

2020

Mathematics, science, natural languages, and algorithms: A sketch. *Duke University*, February 14, 2020.