Alik Pelman, PhD

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Areas of Research

AOS: Philosophy of Science; Environmental Ethics; Metaphysics; Philosophy of Language

AOC: Philosophy of Engineering; Philosophy of Mind; Critical Thinking

Education

University of London (UCL), PhD, Philosophy. Full Scholarship. *PhD thesis passed with 'No Corrections' – a rarity in the UK system.* 2007. UCL is presently (2022) ranked 8th in the world by QS World University Rankings.

Hebrew University, Research MA. Philosophy and History of Science. With Distinction. *Bar-Hillel prize for 'Best Master's Thesis in the Program for Philosophy and History of Science'.* 2001

Hebrew University, BA. Joint honours: Philosophy and Interdisciplinary Program (cognitive studies and STS). *Dean's List of Distinguished BA Students.* 1997

Professional Experience

2021-	Assistant Professor, Shenkar College, Master's Program
2020-	Research Fellow, Technion, Department of Humanities and Arts
2018-20	Affiliate Faculty, Hebrew University, PPE Philosophy-Politics-Economics
2010-20	Affiliate Faculty, Bar-Ilan University, Departments: Philosophy; Brain Science
2009-10	Post-Doctoral Fellow, Hebrew University, Edelstein Centre for Philosophy of Science
2008-18	Researched, experimented, built, and maintained a model for sustainable living (agroecological farm + eco-house)

List of Publications – by Subject

Logic and Metaphysics

- Pelman A., 2022. 'Ontology Generator', *Metaphysica* (Ranked Q1 by SJR), https://doi.org/10.1515/mp-2022-0015.

- Pelman A. and Chasid A., 2021. 'How judgments of visual resemblance are induced by visual experience', *Journal of Consciousness Studies*, Vol. 28, No. 11-12, pp. 54-77. (Ranked Q1 by SJR). *ISF-funded project.*

- Pelman A., 2017. 'Possible World Semantics and The Complex Mechanism of Reference Fixing' *Acta Analytica*, 32 (4): 385-396. (Ranked Q1 by SJR)

- Pelman A., 2015 'Metaphysics of Pain, Semantics of 'Pain.' *Ratio* , 28 (3): 302-317. (Ranked Q1 by SJR)

- Pelman A., 'A Blueprint for a Calculator of Intensions,' in B. Bennett and C. Fellbaum (eds.), *Formal Ontology in Information Systems*, Amsterdam: IOS Press, 2006, 193-203.

- Pelman A., 2022. 'Semantics Meets Metaphysics: Fine-Graining Possible World Semantics', *under review*.

- Pelman A., *Reference and Modality,* University of London Press, 2007, *PhD Thesis.*

Philosophy of Science

- Pelman A., 2022. *Philosophy of Science*, Open University Press, 3 volumes, 8 elaborate chapters (around 100 pages each). Peer-reviewed by 11 specialists.

- Pelman A., 2014. 'Theoretical Identities May Not Be Necessary,' *Analysis* (Ranked Q1 by SJR. *Analysis is considered the top philosophy journal for short articles*), 74 (3): 412-422. The paper has been debated in the same journal by Huk and Mong, 2017, 'A Criticism of Pelman's Sceptical Argument', *Analysis*, 77 (2): 319-328.

- Pelman A., 2022. 'Is the Scientific Method of Confirmation Indeed Inductive?', *under review*.

Ethics and Environmental Thinking

- Pelman A., 2021, *Way – Reflections on Ethical Living,* Ramat Hasharon: Asia Publishers.

- Pelman A. (Technion), de Vries J. (Van Hall Larenstein.), Teper S. (Tel Hai), Shepon A. (TAU), 2022, 'Nutritional and life cycle analysis of a Mediterranean agroforestry farm as a case study of a self sufficient, zero-waste and health-promoting food system'. (1st author, finalising draft).

- ISF, Personal Research Grant 2023-2026, 'Technological Optimism vs. Scepticism: Agroecology as a Case Study', Collaborators: Prof. Yohay Carmel (Ecology, Technion), Dr. Alon Shepon (Environmental Science, Tel Aviv University), Dr. Wessel Reijers (Philosophy of technology, University of Vienna and Technion). *Proposal submitted 11.2022.*

Environmental Research and Activity

- 'Living Lab for Sustainable Living'. Between 2008-2018, I researched, designed, built, and have been operating a model for sustainable living (agroecological farm + eco-house). For the past year, the farm has been scientifically studies by me along with food and environment experts. The current pioneering results and conclusion have already been presented in scientific conferences and are to be published as a paper, and most likely in follow-up papers as well.

  - Agroecological farm: An original method for growing a complete diet (wheat, pulses, oil, vegetables, fruit), on minimum land (750m²), and at

minimum environmental cost (about 15% of conventional farming).

- o [Self-built off-grid eco-house](#): Built of local natural materials, featuring many environmental systems, some of which are highly innovative – greywater, passive cooling, rocket mass heater, solar power, composting toilet, green roof, and more.

The smallholding attracts hundreds of visitors each year, including environmental scholars, architects, agronomists, and more.

- My 2021 book *Way* is a description of the philosophy behind the ecological smallholding. Two academic events dedicated to the book – at the [Van Leer Institute in Jerusalem](#), and at the [Technion](#) – hosted 8 academic specialists discussing its key philosophical themes: ethics (Dr. Noa Naaman); political thought (Dr. Dror Yinon); ecology (Prof. Yohay Carmel); education (Prof. Tali Tal); social and environmental responsibility (Prof. Ohad Nachtomy); planning and architecture (Dr. Or Aleksandrovitz), and literature (Prof. Dror Burstein). The book has also generated more than 20 [reviews and articles](#) in the main Israeli media channels.

- Fellow, Environmental Fellows Program, *The Heschel Sustainability Center*, 2008-9

Select Presentations

'Is the Scientific Method of Confirmation Indeed Inductive?'; presented at

1. *Scientific Laws of Nature Summer University,* Budapest, 2022

2. *[East European Network for Philosophy of Science Conference,](#)* Belgrade*,* 2021

'Nutritional and Life cycle analysis of a Mediterranean agroforestry farm as a case study of a self sufficient, zero waste and health-promoting food system,' 1st author; presented at:

3. *Humanities Seminar,* Technion, 2022

'Replies to Commentators: *Way* by Alik Pelman:'; presented at

4. *The Van Leer Institute*, [A panel discussion on the ethical, political and literary aspects of the book *Way*, by Alik Pelman](#). Speakers: Prof. Dror Burstein, Dr. Noa Naaman, Dr. Dror Yinon, 2022

5. *Technion*, [A panel discussion on the ethical, ecological, educational, and architectural aspects of *Way*, by Alik Pelman](#). Speakers: Prof. Yohay Carmel, Dr. Or Aleksandrowicz, Prof. Tali Tal, Prof. Ohad Nachtomy, 2022.

'A Taxonomy of Environmental Ethics'; presented at

6. *[The Shenkar Lecture Series, Shenkar](#)*, 2021 *(invited speaker)*

'A Panel on the Philosophical Aspects of Climate Change – Opening Remarks'; presented at

7. *[The Annual Conference of the Israeli Philosophy Association](#)*, 2021 *(invited)*

'Physicalism after All - A Reply to Nachtomy and Shifroni'; presented at

8. *[The Annual Conference of the Israeli Philosophy Association](#)*, 2019 *(invited speaker)*

'Ontology Generator'; presented at:

9. *Philosophy Departmental Colloquium,* Haifa University, 2018 (*invited speaker*)

'An Account of Visual Resemblance' (with Alon Chasid); presented at:

10. *The Annual Conference of the Israeli Philosophy Association, 2017*

'What can the Logic of Scientific Inquiry Offer to Attorneys?'; *presented at:*

11. *Litigation in Parliament and Ministerial Committees*, Ministry of Justice, Institute of Legal Training of Attorneys and Legal Advisers, 2016 (*invited speaker*)

'Theoretical Identities May Not Be Necessary'; *presented at:*

12. *Philosophy Departmental Colloquium,* Ben Gurion University 2014 (*invited speaker*)

'Population Growth and Ecological Footprint'; *presented at:*

13. *The Annual Conference for Science and Environment,* Israel, 2014

Teaching - Select Courses

Awarded three times 'Distinguished Teacher in the Faculty'

Introductory	Advanced
Philosophy of Science	Theory Reduction and Supervenience
Environmental Ethics	Critical Thinking
Contemporary Metaphysics	Philosophy of Social Science
Philosophy of Technology	Philosophy of Language
Philosophy of Mind	Introduction to Logic

Professional Services

- Reviewer for ISF (Israel Science Foundation): evaluating a philosophy research proposal for an ISF research grant, 2022

- Referee for philosophy journals ranked Q1, including *American Philosophical Quarterly* (APQ); *Analysis; Acta Analytica* (ACAN); *Journal of Philosophical Research* (JPR)

- Head of the professional committee for the promotion of a tenured candidate to the rank of Senior Lecturer, Bezalel Academy, 2021

- Regularly refereeing for the annual conference of the *Israeli Philosophical Association*

- Steering Committee, the *Technion's Sustainability Front*. Defining the aims, agenda, and working form of the Technion's Sustainability Front, 2022-present

- Steering committee, the *Humanities Honours Program for STEM Studies at the Technion.* Designing the curriculum for the program, 2021-2022

- Chair and coordinator, Dept. of Humanities and Arts Research Seminar, Technion, 2022

- Teaching committee, Dept. of Humanities and Arts, Technion. Designed the

department's two main minors, 2020-2021.

Thesis Referee

- MA Research Thesis, Hillel Lehrman, *Carl Popper's Conception of Evolutionary Theory*, Bar-Ilan University, 2020

Media appearances and dissemination

- Appearances related to my philosophical research: **Radio** ('Higher Ground', Kan's philosophy program; 'What Happens Tomorrow', Galei Zahal science program).

- Appearances related to my book *Way*: Selected appearances out of more than 20 interviews and articles in main media channels: **television** (Sochen Tarbut , Channel 11); **radio** (Galei Zahal's literary show; Ma She'karuch, Channel A; Varda Raziel's show, 103FM), **print** (Ha'aretz newspaper x 3).

- Appearances related to the model of ethical life: **Television** (Ha'olam Ha'boker, Channel 13; Shay Stern's show Channel 11), **digital** (Mako Green; 'Bayadaim').

References

- **Prof. Oron Shagrir, Vice President for International Affairs, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem**, +972-2-5880285, orons@savion.huji.ac.il

- **Prof. Yemima Ben Menahem** (Emerita), **Department of Philosophy, Hebrew University of Jerusalem,** +972-2-5883753, msbenhy@mscc.huji.ac.il

- **Prof. Yohay Carmel, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Technion**, +972-4-8292609, yohay@technion.ac.il

- **Prof. Amir Horowitz, Head, Philosophy Studies; Head, Cognitive Science Program. Open University**, +972 9 7781378, amirho@openu.ac.il.

- **Prof. Yael Moria, Dean, Faculty of Design, Shenkar College of Engineering and Design,** yael@studio-ma.co.il

- **Prof. Arnon Levi**, **Department of Philosophy, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, +**972-2-5883808, arnon.levy@mail.huji.ac.il