

Jacob Lorhard (1561-1609): The Creation of the Term "Ontologia"

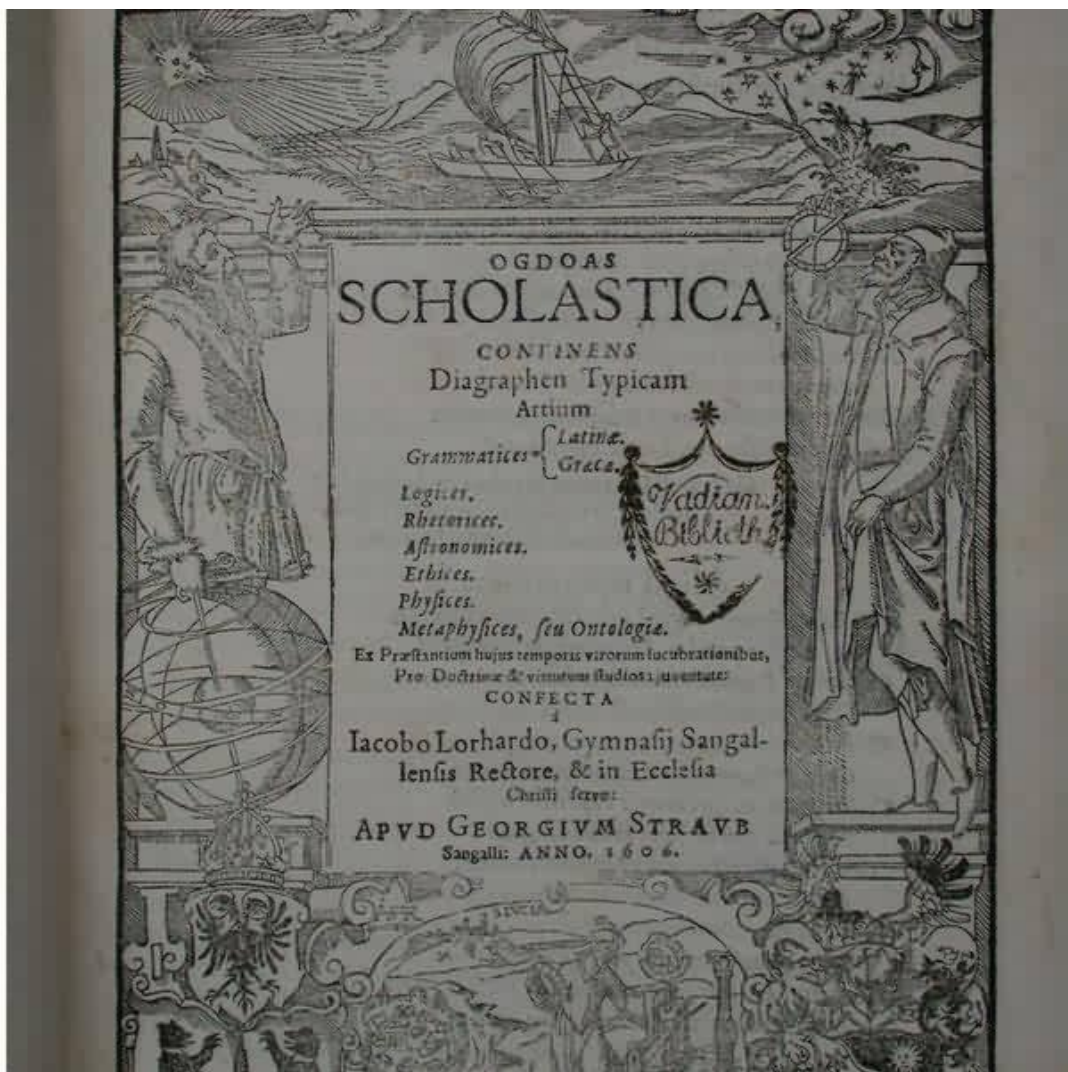
History of Ontology in the Seventeenth Century

- Birth of a New Science: the History of Ontology from Suárez to Kant
 - Annotated Bibliography on the History of Continental Ontology from Suárez to Kant
 - Annotated Bibliography on the History of British Ontology from Hobbes to Hume
- A Selection of Ontologists from Fonseca to Crusius (1560-1770)
- Jacob Lorhard (1561-1609): The Creation of the Term "Ontologia"
- Francisco Suárez on Metaphysics as the Science of Real Beings
 - Annotated Bibliography on the Metaphysics of Francisco Suárez
- Christian Wolff's Ontology: Existence as "Complement of Possibility"
 - Annotated Bibliography on the Ontology of Christian Wolff
- Kant from the Critique of Metaphysics to Transcendental Philosophy

Works by Jacob Lorhard

N. B. The first edition of his *Ogdoas Scholastica* contains the first occurrence of the Latin term "Ontologiae"

- *Disputatio de systasei actionum*. Tubingae: Georg Gruppenbach, 1591.
- *Propositiones de vera et reali praesentia corporis et sanguinis Christi in s. coena*. Tubingae: Gruppenbach, 1592.
- *Disputatio de vera et Aristotelica methodo demonstrandi*. Dissertation. (Defender: Georg Johannes Peplis). Tubingae: Gruppenbach, 1592.
- *Liber de adeptione veri necessarii seu apodictici, in quo habes, candide lector, luculentam rationem et methodum conficiendi syllogismi necessarii, omnium philosophorum indefessis studiis et laboribus, ex obscurissimo Aristotele quaesitam*. Tubingae: Gruppenbach, 1597.
- *Ogdoas Scholastica, continens Diagraphen Typicam artium: Grammatices (Latinae, Graecae), Logices, Rhetorices, Astronomices, Ethices, Physices, Metaphysices, seu Ontologiae*. Sangalli: Straub, 1606.
- *Theatrum Philosophicum : In quo Artium Ac Disciplinarum Philosophicarum plerarumq[ue] omnium, Grammatices Latinae, Graecae, & Hebraeae; Logices; Rhetorices; Arithmetices; Geometriae; Musices; Astronomices; Ethices; Physices; Metaphysices; Praecepta, in perpetuis Schematims ac Typis, tanquam in speculo, cognoscenda obiiciuntur*. Basileae: Waldkirch, 1613. Second, expanded edition of Lorhard (1606).



Ogdoas Scholastica (1606): *The Diagraph of Ontologia*

METAPHYSICAE SEV ONTOLOGIAE Diagraphæ.

λογος: Intelligibile dicitur omne, quod intellectu percipi ac comprehendere potest.

Nihil: hoc simpliciter non est aliquid.

Generalissimis distributionibus. Intelligibilis autem notatur

Distributio: intelligibile est vel

Aliquid: quod simpliciter non est nihil. Est q. vel

Positivum, quod ponit seu affirmat quidpiam. Est q. vel

Essentia. Vide A. Ens. Vide B.

Negativum. Vide RRR.

Communissimis attributum. Vide C.

Particularis. Vide EE.

Metaphysicæ
(.quæ est ἰσχυρὴ τῆ νοη-
τῆς ἡ νοητῶν,
quatenus ab
homine natu-
rali rationis
lumine sine
ullo materia
conceptu est
intelligibile.)
partes sunt
duæ, Altera

Univer-
salis, quæ cō-
sistit in
Intelligi-
bilium &
Entium
tium

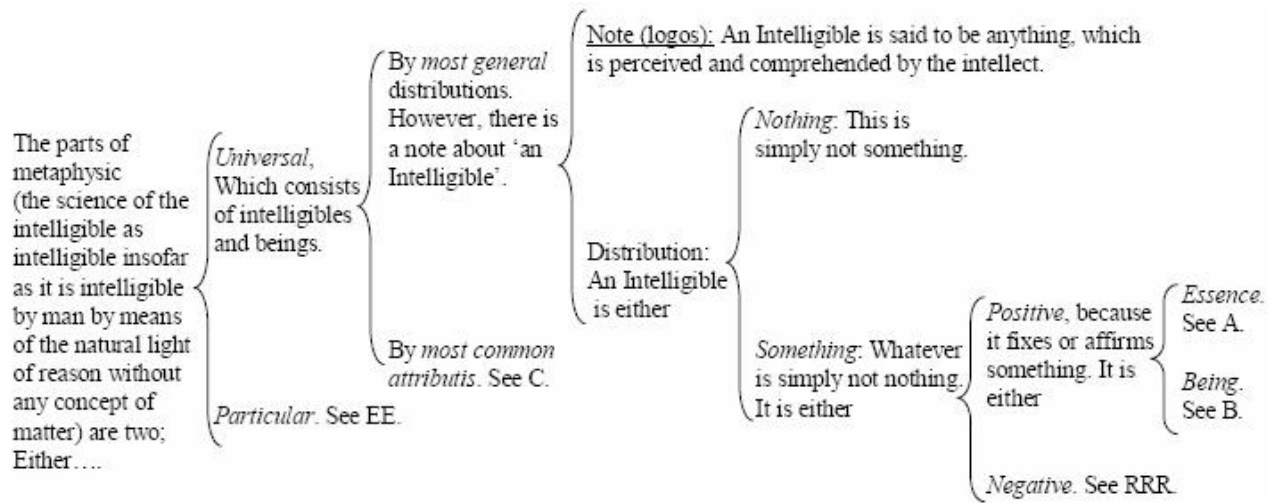


Fig. 1 First page of Lorhard's ontology

Translation from: Peter Øhrstøm, Sara L. Uckelman; Henrik Schärfe - *Historical and conceptual foundations of diagrammatical ontology* - in: Uta Priss, Simon Polovina, Richard Hill (eds). - *Conceptual Structures: Knowledge Architectures for Smart Applications* - Proceedings of the 15th International Conference on Conceptual Structures, Sheffield, UK, July 22-27, 2007, Berlin, Springer, 2007, pp. 374-386.

LINKS TO FILES IN PDF FORMAT

- English translation by Sara L. Uckelman of Chapter 8 of *Ogdoas Scholastica*: [Diagraph of Metaphysic or Ontology](#)
- Øhrstøm, Peter, Uckelman, Sara L., Schärfe Henrik, - [Historical and conceptual foundations of diagrammatical ontology](#)
Abstract: During the Renaissance there was a growing interest for the use of diagrams within conceptual studies. This paper investigates the historical and philosophical foundation of this renewed use of diagrams in ontology as well as the modern relevance of this foundation. We discuss the historical and philosophical background for Jacob Lorhard's invention of the word "ontology" as well as the scientific status of ontology in the 16th and 17th century. We also consider the use of Ramean style diagrams and diagrammatic ontology in general. A modern implementation of Lorhard's ontology is discussed and this classical ontology is compared to some modern ontologies.
- Øhrstøm, Peter, Schärfe Henrik, Uckelman, Sara L., - [Jacob Lorhard's Ontology: a 17th century hypertext on the reality and temporality of the world of intelligibles](#)
Abstract: Jacob Lorhard published his ontology in 1606. In this work the term *ontologia* 'ontology' was used for the first time ever. In this paper, it is argued that Lorhard's ontology provides a useful key to the understanding of the early 17th-century world view in Protestant Europe. Among other things, Lorhard's ontology reflects how the relations between scientific investigation and religious belief were seen. It is also argued that several of the conceptual choices which Lorhard made in order to establish his ontology may still be relevant for modern makers of ontological systems. In particular, Lorhard's considerations on the notions of reality and time deserve modern reflections. Also his assumption of the educational value of diagrammatical ontology deserves a modern discussion. Along with this paper an online hypertext version of Lorhard's ontology has been presented in order to create a useful tool for historical research in early 17th-century thought and in order to illustrate the problems, which characterized the early attempt at establishing a diagrammatical approach to ontology.