## HOLGER GUTSCHMIDT

## The 'Cartesian Circle' revisited. A Note on a Classical Problem

## Abstract

My contribution presents a new approach to the classical problem of the "Cartesian Circle". This approach is based on a new interpretation of key passages in René Descartes' texts, especially those ones dealing with the concept of clear and distinct perception and with the meaning of what Descartes himself calls a "metaphysical doubt". It shows that Descartes can be cleared of the suspicion of circular reasoning. Furthermore, my contribution is also meant to be a critical analysis of Gary Hatfield's survey in The Blackwell Guide to Descartes' Meditations (2006) of the solutions presented in secondary literature so far.