Research Notes

1. **Objective**
   * Attempting to characterize the historical presence of Athanasius Kircher’s [APUG 1053](https://manus.iccu.sbn.it//opac_SchedaScheda.php?ID=223926) *Dialogus Asceticus, Cosmiele et Theodidacto Interlocutoribus* through investigation of online and print resources. The results will be used to make a determination on the publication status of this work, either independently or in part as a contribution to related publications.
2. **Target Collections**
   * University of Notre Dame’s Hesburgh Libraries
   * Pontifical Gregorian University Historical Archives’ GATE Platform
   * Google Scholar
   * Academia
   * WorldCat
   * Library catalogs
     + Karlsruhe Collective Catalog
     + SBN ICCU (Italian catalog range date)
   * Digital Library
     + Gallica
3. **Search Terms and Results**
   * “dialogus asceticus” (searching only on WorldCat)
     + No results authored by Kircher
     + And no results within date range 1600 - 1700
   * “Athanasius Kircher”, (searching in OPAC of SBN ICCU, *Libro Antico* with range: 1600-1700). [List](http://www.unigre.it/archivioimg/Immagini_blog/Kircher_OPAC_SBN.pdf)
     + Within search results, all references to “Cosmiele” are in editions of *Iter Exstaticum*
     + Two references to “dialogos” exist, again from *Iter Exstaticum*
     + No references to “scala paradisi”
   * “Athanasius Kircher” (Searching in OPAC of Gallica - BnF) [List](goo.gl/dfVXn1)
     + Within search results, one reference to “Cosmiele” exists, from *Iter Exstaticum*
     + No references exist to “dialogus asceticus”
   * “athanasius kircher dialogus asceticus”
     + No relevant results
   * “kircher dialogus asceticus”
     + Found *Athanasii Kircheri ...* [*Magnes siue De arte magnetica*](http://onesearch.library.nd.edu/primo-explore/fulldisplay?docid=hathi_pubMIU01-009319009&context=L&vid=NDU&search_scope=malc_blended&tab=onesearch&lang=en_US)) *opus tripartitum : quo vniuersa magnetis natura, eiusque in omnibus scientijs [et] artibus vsus, noua methodo explicatur* 
       - Within *De arte magnetica*, no relevant results
     + No relevant results in Karlsruhe Collective Catalog
   * “Cosmiele et Theodidacto Interlocutoribus”
     + Found [*Astronomy in the Life and Correspondence of Athanasius Kircher*](http://onesearch.library.nd.edu/primo-explore/fulldisplay?docid=TN_ucpj10.1086/350578&context=PC&vid=NDU&search_scope=malc_blended&tab=onesearch&lang=en_US)
       - Within, no relevant results (search phrase matched a reference to *Itinerarium Exstaticum*)
     + Found [*El camino del éxtasis*](https://journals.tdl.org/cefiro/index.php/cefiro/article/view/90/208)*: Paralelismos entre lter extaticum coeleste, de Athanasius Kircher y Primero sueño, de sor Juana Inés de la Cruz*
       - Within, no relevant results (search phrase matched a reference to *Itinerarium Exstaticum*)
     + Found [*Die große kosmologische Kontroverse*](https://books.google.it/books?hl=en&lr=&id=E0p-v7PJc5wC&oi=fnd&pg=PA9&dq=cosmiel+et+theodidacto+interlocutoribus&ots=QmBBfjt-Tc&sig=KSpSQjxoA4h4UfBfLqBgwz44-7A#v=onepage&q=cosmiel%20et%20theodidacto%20interlocutoribus&f=false)*: Rekonstruktionsversuche anhand des Itinerarium exstaticum von Athanasius Kircher SJ (1602-1680)*
       - Within, no relevant results (search phrase matched a reference to *Itinerarium Exstaticum*)
   * “Iter Exstaticum”
     + Searching within *R.P. Athanasi Kircheri ...* [*Iter exstaticum coeleste*](http://onesearch.library.nd.edu/primo-explore/fulldisplay?docid=hathi_pubMIU01-009293975&context=L&vid=NDU&search_scope=malc_blended&tab=onesearch&lang=en_US)*, quo mundi opificium, id est, coelestis expansi, siderumque tam erratium, quam fixorum natura ... noua hypothesi exponitur ad veritatem, interlocutoribus Cosmiele et Theodidacto ... ; accessit ejusdem auctoris Iter exstaticum terrestre, et Synopsis mundi subterranei.*
   * “Scala Paradisi Kircher”
     + No meaningful results
   * From page 42 of manuscript, searching “Jesus Christus Crucifixus” returns
     + [*ALVEARIUM CURIOSARUM SCIENTIARUM*](https://books.google.it/books?id=LgFlAAAAcAAJ&pg=PA175&lpg=PA175&dq=kircher+iesus+christus+crucifixus&source=bl&ots=KXfvXaN8gO&sig=-mOwU2Pr9oF0AfFtmWUb0_HSTTw&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwj086uwl9DbAhXEXSwKHaz3AjwQ6AEIQDAD#v=onepage&q=kircher%20iesus%20christus%20crucifixus&f=false)*, oder Immen-Hauss Verwunderlicher […]*
       - On page 175 of that book, there are references to both Kircher and “Jesus Christus Crucifixus”, but they are seemingly irrelevant
   * From page 44 of manuscript, “Exhortatio Kircher”
     + No meaningful results
   * From page 46 of manuscript “exercitium spirituale”
     + No results from Kircher
   * “Dialogus Asceticus kircher 1600..1700” in Google, searches for terms with any number in the range 1600 - 1700
     + No meaningful results
   * “Dialogi Ascetici Sive Scala Paradisi”
     + No meaningful results
   * “Cosmiele praescripta Theodidacto”
     + No meaningful results
     + Everything with a close match still points to *Itinerarivm Exstaticvm*
   * “De Paradoxis Passionis Christi” in date range 1600 - 1700
     + No results from Kircher
     + No otherwise meaningful results
   * “Epilogus hujus Opsculi”
     + No results
   * “Exercitium Spirituale Marianum”
     + Found a posting from Manus online of our own manuscript
   * “Scalae Paradisi id est Scientiae Sanctorum et est Iesus Christus Crucifixus”
     + No meaningful results
   * “De bonitate Dei et divini amoris in hominem magnitudine”
     + No meaningful results
   * “De Incarnatione Christi quod incomprehensibile”
     + No meaningful results
   * “De excellentia et dignitate humanae naturae”
     + Phrases like “excellentia humanae naturae” exist in works from various time frames
     + Notable, Giovanni Pico della Mirandola from the 1500s, a review of whose oratio contains the phrase. It is most likely, however, still unrelated to our work
     + Similarly, “dignitate et excellentia humanae” is present in the title of a work by Antonio di Barga from the 1400s

This is probably just a sufficiently simple/common phrase that it appears in various periods and does not actually indicate a connection to our work

* + “De unione cum deo”, restricted from 1600 - 1700
    - Again, this is probably a pretty common phrase, so it appears sometimes in that date range but no meaningful results
  + “Lamenta Theodidacta”
    - No meaningful results
  + “Puritas Beatae Virginis”, restricted from 1600 - 1700
    - Lots of results -- this may be something to revisit with the specifics of that section of our manuscript, but it seems like it is most likely just a really common phrase
    - “Puritas Beatae Virginis kircher” in that same date range returns nothing

**IV. Comparing Indices of *Dialogus Asceticus* and *Iter Exstaticum***

Edition of Iter Exstaticum used. [Link](https://books.google.it/books?id=rI8_AAAAcAAJ&pg=PP23&hl=it&source=gbs_selected_pages&cad=3#v=onepage&q&f=false)

A superficial consideration of *Iter Exstaticum’s* index shows that the topic of the two works is seemingly greatly divergent. The titles of the sections in *Iter* are almost exclusively in relation to physical phenomena of the heavens or the earth. Below is a list of sections whose titles are metaphysical enough in nature to potentially resemble the topics of our *Dialogus*:

* + Caput I - De productione Mundi
  + Caput II - De mundi magnitudine
  + Caput IX - De spatio imaginario
  + Caput XI - Finis, ob quem Deus Mundum condiderit; et de Christi incarnatione; et de Ecclesia, et fide, per quam Deus homines servare voluit
    - Compare to *Dialogus* Caput II
  + Caput XII - De paucitate salvandorum

With reference to the work, it may be useful to review the content of these sections in comparison to those of our manuscript

**V. Analyzing Athanasius Kircher Project Correspondence** ([Stanford Database](https://web.stanford.edu/group/kircher/cgi-bin/site/) – *Luna Insight software)*

* + Searched keywords for “dialogus”
    - No results
  + Searched keywords for “Cosmiel”
    - No results
  + Searched title/description for “dialogus”
    - No results
  + Searched title/description for “Cosmiel”
    - No results
  + Checking entries within subject “theology”
    - The description of APUG 555 references a request from Alexander VII to Kircher for “a collection of liturgical texts (BAV ms. Chigi C. V. 134)”. Inspecting the digitalizations and manuscripts, we evidently do not have the noted request in the hand of Alexander VII. To verify that these liturgical texts aren’t our dialogus, the BAV entry could be inspected.

1. **Analyzing Bibliothèque de la Compagnie de Jésus**
   * Our work does not appear in this volume. The closest matches are as follows:
   * In col. 1057, n. 15, the following appears: “iter extaticum II. In Mundum Subterraneum. Dialogus III. Interlocutoribus Cosmiele et Theodidacto Honori Illustrissimi...”
   * In col. 1072, l. B, “...sive Diadema regni, liber asceticus ex hebraeo latinitati donatus...”
   * In col. 1057, n. 14, regarding *Iter Extaticum*, many mentions of Cosmiel & Theodidacto

See the next section for notes on my subsequent analysis of *Iter exstaticum*

1. **Analyzing** [**Iter Exstaticum**](https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=ucm.5316520387;view=1up;seq=5)

I searched many of the phrases from the titles and subtitles of *Dialogus* index presented above, all to no avail. The only thing close to a result is the *Epilogus Asceticus* at the end of *Iter II* (Caput V). This does not seem to contain any of the same content as our work, but it is evidently a metaphysical dialogue between Cosmiel & Theodidactus and might have served as a precursor to or inspiration for our work.

1. **Analyzing Fletcher’s “A Study of the Life and Works...”**
   * Pages 605/606 list all the cited works of Kircher, none of which seem to pertain to our manuscript
   * 607 shows references to the Pontificia Università Gregoriana, all of which concern Kircher’s correspondence
   * On pages 565-567, there is no reference to any printed works (section 1) or “miscellaneous manuscripts” (section 2) that resemble our work
2. **Non-Kircherian reference to Cosmiele or Theodidactus**

Using Google advanced search, I tried to identify references to either of the two interlocutors names outside of the scope of Kircher’s works. The construction -”unwanted search term” in Google was used to omit any results that contained the desired phrase but also contained the unwanted phrase (eg -”Kircher”)

Narrowed down search to “cosmiele -theodidacto -kircheriano -iter -exstaticum”, which returned a few interesting results[[1]](#footnote-1)

* + A link to *Raccolta di storia naturale. Tomo 1. [-7.], Volume 5,* from 1785, in which Cosmiele is referred to as a “condottier” among the Luna and Sole. It turns out that this is actually referencing *Iter Exstaticum*, but the work was not indexed properly and thus the search still returned it. This reference to the work and to Kircher is on [page 402](https://books.google.it/books?id=dLff5ZFhi5sC&pg=PA402&dq=cosmiele+-theodidacto+-kircheriano+-iter+-exstaticum&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwinr5fOraPcAhVNx4UKHUfEDN4Q6AEIKTAA#v=onepage&q=cosmiele%20-theodidacto%20-kircheriano%20-iter%20-exstaticum&f=false) of that volume.

Inverting the first search, “theodidacto -cosmiele -kircheriano -iter -exstaticum” returns notably more results:

* + *Orationes S. Anselmi, Archi-Episcopi, Doctoris Theodidacti quibus Mentes …,* which contains the word in the title but seemingly nowhere else in the text
  + *D. Martini Lutheri Opera latina varii argumenti ad Reformationis historiam imprimis pertinentia,* [*Volumes 5-6*](https://books.google.it/books?id=9cNRjAl8I8AC&pg=RA1-PA134&dq=theodidacto+-cosmiele+-kircheriano+-iter+-exstaticum&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwiixZGQsaPcAhWvxIUKHaekCXwQ6AEIUTAG#v=onepage&q=theodidacto%20-cosmiele%20-kircheriano%20-iter%20-exstaticum&f=false)
  + [*Los mundos imaginarios*](https://books.google.it/books?id=lv34tBXJQVEC&pg=PA328&dq=theodidacto+-cosmiele+-kircheriano+-iter+-exstaticum&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwiixZGQsaPcAhWvxIUKHaekCXwQ6AEIYDAI#v=onepage&q=theodidacto%20-cosmiele%20-kircheriano%20-iter%20-exstaticum&f=false)*, los mundos reales: viaje pintoresco al cielo […]*, which is in fact referencing the *Iter Exstaticum*, but is misidentified by the search because it is in spanish*.*
  + The oldest result is from 1551 in [*Diui Bernardi Claraeuallis Abbatis primi ac doctoris planè theodidacti*](https://books.google.it/books?id=jh45WQfK7wcC&pg=PA4&dq=Divi+Bernardi+Claraevallis+Abbatis+primi+ac+doctoris+plan%C3%A8+theodidacti&hl=it&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjh4o6_4cneAhVMBSwKHZS-ADkQ6AEIVjAH#v=onehttps://books.google.it/books?id=jh45WQfK7wcC&pg=PA4&dq=Divi+Bernardi+Claraevallis+Abbatis+primi+ac+doctoris+plan%C3%A8+theodidacti&hl=it&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjh4o6_4cneAhVMBSwKHZS-ADkQ6AEIVjAH) *Opera in lucem denuo foelici ... exeunt. nimirum, quam in hunc diem vt auctiora, ita & illustriora.*
  + Clear reference made to Theodidacto in[*Ecclesiasticae Demegoriae*](https://books.google.it/books?id=3epBAAAAcAAJ&pg=PR83-IA1&dq=theodidacto+-cosmiele+-kircheriano+-iter+-exstaticum&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjs3IuRtKPcAhXN6aQKHTTfDoY45gEQ6AEILjAB#v=onepage&q=theodidacto%20-cosmiele%20-kircheriano%20-iter%20-exstaticum&f=false)*: Postill oder gemeine predig Rechter [...] Volume 1*, from 1546 however evidently in german.
  + [*Opera*](https://books.google.it/books?id=l25WAAAAcAAJ&pg=PA172-IA1&dq=theodidacto+-cosmiele+-kircheriano+-iter+-exstaticum&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwibuO_ntKPcAhVDUxoKHVXrBbQ43AEQ6AEIVDAH#v=onepage&q=theodidacto%20-cosmiele%20-kircheriano%20-iter%20-exstaticum&f=false)*: partim quidem ab ipso Latine conscripta, partim vero e uernaculo …* from 1545, reference made to the name in a discussion about God

1. **Miscellaneous**
   * In *Ars magna lucis et umbrae*, 1646, p. 936, reference is made to Kircher’s *Polypaedica Biblica*, and in the same work, to a list of his publications. This is probably before our work, given that *Mundus Subterraneus* was not published until 1665, but could potentially provide some insight. If not, similar lists are alluded to in Kircher’s other publications by Paula Findlen and perhaps these are worth tracking down. On p. 97 of *The Last Man Who Knew Everything*, under citation 15, Siebert claims “There are no reports for works after 1665...” This probably means we can’t use the censorship records discussed throughout that preceding chapter, as *Mundus Subterraneus* was published in 1665 and ours would likely fall into the following year.

1. Some results reveal problems of automatic search:

   Cantionał to jest Pieśni chrześćiańskie, which makes reference to **cò smiele** in an unidentified language and seemingly does not involve Kircher.

   DISCORSI ACCADEMICI DI ANTON MARIA SALVINI, Gentiluomo Fiorentino ..., Volume 2, which it turns out is actually talking about wine and honey “Il vino ha tanto forza che, mescolato **col miele** bagnando i semi della lattuga...” [↑](#footnote-ref-1)