

The 2nd Context, Cognition and Communication Conference

Contexts, Concepts, Objects

16-19 of June, 2018, Institute of Philosophy, University of Warsaw

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

LOCATIONS:

The conference:

ALL ROOMS (0, 1, 2, 3) and reception:

K18 BUILDING (Institute of Sociology, University of Warsaw, Karowa 18 Street)

Post conference workshop:

ROOM 205, Old Library Building, Main Campus (Krakowskie Przedmieście 26/28 Street)

The map showing all locations is available on the last page

Saturday, the 16th of June

Location	ROOM 0		
10.15-10.30	CONFERENCE OPENING		
10.30-12.00 Invited lecture	Edward Zalta <u>Unifying Three Notions of Concepts</u>		
12.00-14.00	LUNCH BREAK		
Locations	ROOM 1	ROOM 2	ROOM 3
14.00-14.45	Sean Crawford <u>Falling out of Thinking</u>	Tim Pritchard <u>Analogical Cognition and the Role of Abstraction in Language</u>	Lucy McDonald <u>Sluts, Slurs and Neutral Counterparts</u>
14.45-15.30	Victor Verdejo <u>A Thought for You and I</u>	Jose Pedro Correia <u>Do We Need a Theory of Concepts?</u>	Matej Drobnák <u>Communication in Context: an Inferentialists Approach</u>
15.30-16.15	Neil Hamilton Fairley <u>The De Se and Computation</u>	Philip Clapson <u>The Theory of Brain-Sign</u>	Tomasz Zyglewicz & Filip Kawczyński <u>'Just More Theory' Revisited</u>
16.15-16.45	COFFEE BREAK		
16.45-17.30	Daniel Skibra <u>Ought and Agentivity</u>	Robert van Rooij & Katrin Schulz <u>A Causal Power Semantics of Generic Sentences</u>	Kordula Świątorzecka <u>Bolzano's Metaphysics of Substances and Adherences as an Extension of the Theory of Abstract Objects</u>
17.30-18.15	Grzegorz Gaszczyk <u>Selfless Assertions and Genuine Assertions</u>	Mark Bowker <u>Generics Without Truth-Conditions</u>	Miroslava Trajkovski <u>The Constitution of Abstract Objects</u>
18.15-19.00	Dan Zeman <u>A Rich-Lexicon Approach to Evaluative Expressions</u>	James Kirkpatrick <u>Generic Conjunctivitis</u>	Ziemowit Gowin <u>Chisholmian Objects: on the Controversies over Mereological Essentialism</u>

Sunday, the 17th of June

Location	ROOM 0		
10.00-11.30 Invited lecture	Robyn Carston <i>Word Meaning: <u>Concepts, Polysemy and Underspecification</u></i>		
11.30-13.30	LUNCH BREAK		
Location	ROOM 0		
13.30-15.00 Invited lecture	Peter Gärdenfors <i>Word Meanings as Coordinated Equilibria</i>		
15.00-15.30	COFFEE BREAK		
Location	ROOM 1	ROOM 2	ROOM 3
15.30-16.15	Thomas Hodgson <i><u>A Defence of Structured Propositions</u></i>	Paal Antonsen <i><u>Logic and Linguistic Evidence</u></i>	Katarzyna Kijania-Placek <i><u>Deferred Uses of Proper Names</u></i>
16.15-17.00	Madeleine Hyde <i><u>Imagination, Propositional Content and Modal Belief</u></i>	Giulia Felappi <i><u>Truthmaker Semantics and the Argument from Validity</u></i>	Palle Leth <i><u>Do Intentions Matter for Utterance Interpretation?</u></i>
17.00-17.30	COFFEE BREAK		
17.30-18.15	Andreas De Jong <i><u>Imagining an Actual Existent Unicorn. On Russellian Worries for Modal Meinongianism</u></i>	Robin Jeshion <i><u>Polysemous Expressives and The Problem of Appropriation</u></i>	Indrek Lobus <i><u>Self-Knowledge via Ontological Embezzlement</u></i>
18.15-19.00	Zuzanna Gnatk <i><u>Co-application Conditions, Criteria of Identity and Fiction</u></i>	Alison Hall <i><u>Pragmatic Enrichment and Underdeterminacy of Word Meaning</u></i>	Adrianna Smurzyńska <i><u>How Understanding Ourselves Is Related to Understanding Others?</u></i>

Monday, the 18 th of June				
	ROOM 1	ROOM 2	ROOM 3	
10.00-10.45	Adrian Briciu <i><u>Intentions and Improper Contexts</u></i>	David Rey <i><u>An Intensional Account of English Embedded Tenses</u></i>	Giorgio Sbardolini <i><u>Towards a Model of Conceptual Change</u></i>	
Location	ROOM 0			
11.00-12.30 Invited lecture	Michael Glanzberg <i><u>Precise Meanings from Loose Concepts: Roles for Context and Underdetermination in Semantics</u></i>			
12.30-14.15	LUNCH BREAK			
Location	ROOM 1	ROOM 2	ROOM 3	ROOM 0
14.15-15.00	Benjamin Marschall & Lukas Lewerentz <i><u>Demonstratives and Conflicting Intentions</u></i>	Ragnar Francén <i><u>Peripheral Concept Variation and Belief Individuation</u></i>	Christopher Brown <i><u>Epistemic Contextualism Entails That We Know Nothing</u></i>	DTM WORKSHOP PART 1
15.00-15.45	Joan Gimeno Simó <i><u>De Se Attitudes, Bound Variables and the Logic of Indexicals</u></i>	Jonathan Wright <i><u>Conceptually Permissive Attitudes</u></i>	Wjatscheslaw Loev <i><u>Intuition Experiences as Cognitive Feelings</u></i>	
15.45-16.30	Dirk Franken <i><u>Rigidity and Direct Reference</u></i>	Justina Berskyte <i><u>Rollercoasters Are not Fun for Mary</u></i>	Iris Berent <i><u>Origins of Cognitive Anti-nativism</u></i>	
16.30-17.15	Olga Poller <i><u>The Challenges of Neo-Davidsonian Semantics</u></i>	Joanna Odrowąż-Sypniewska <i><u>The Problem of the Many, Supervaluation, and Faultless Disagreement</u></i>	Shivam Patel <i><u>Inner Speech Is not Speech</u></i>	
Location	[K18 BUILDING]			
17.20-18.50	POSTER SESSION WITH COFFEE AND REFRESHMENTS (details - <i>vide</i> the next page)			
20.00	CONFERENCE DINNER [LOCATION: PROSTA PASTA, SŁOWACKIEGO 16/18 STREET]			

POSTER SESSION
Monday, the 18th of June
K18 BUILDING

Pauline Armary

*Similarity in Context, a Comparison with
Tversky and Gärdenfors*

Sharon Berry

Physical Possibility and Determinate Number Theory

Krystian Bogucki

*Context Dependence and the Principle of
Compositionality*

Alyona Budnikova

Lexical Meaning as a Fluctuating Structure

Sarah Fisher

Framing as Presupposition-Denial

Mara Floris

*Language and Conceptual Development:
Effects of Labelling on Perception and
Cognition*

Tarun Gidwani

*Is Indexical Reference Sensitive to The
Communication Technology Used?*

Rory Harder

Reference and Dynamic Sense

Yang Hu

Context in Utterance Interpretation

Filip Kawczyński

*Analyticity and Meaning-Dependence
Reconsidered*

Piotr Makowski

*Collective Intentionality and Automatic Imitation.
A Hybrid Account Shared Action*

Daniel Milne-Plückebaum

On the (Meta-)Semantics of Virtualects

Robert Mirski et al.

*Action in Social Context: the Development Of
Social Cognition From an Action-Based
Perspective*

Tuesday, the 19th of June

Locations	ROOM 1	ROOM 2	ROOM 3	
10.00-10.45	Jiwon Kim & Paul Conlan <i><u>"Who Am 'I'?" – The Ambiguity of Virtual 'Me'</u></i>	Corinne Bloch-Mullins & Kristy Nielson <i><u>Bringing Context to the Foreground: The Roles of the Foil in Categorization</u></i>	Maciej Sendłak <i><u>On the Pragmatic Approach to Counterpossibles</u></i>	
10.45-11.30	Denis Perrin <i><u>Deferentialist Account of Indexicals</u></i>	Arvid Båve <i><u>Concept Functionalism and the Nature of Concepts</u></i>	Julia Zakkou <i><u>Presupposing Counterfactualty</u></i>	
11.30-12.15	Adrian Ziółkowski <i><u>Survey Pragmatics: Communication Between the Researcher and the Participant in Experimental Philosophy</u></i>	Antonella Foligno <i><u>Abstractions and Idealizations as Objects for Epistemic Representation</u></i>	Andrei Moldovan <i><u>An Intensional Theory of Presuppositions</u></i>	
12.15-14.00	LUNCH BREAK			
Locations	ROOM 1	ROOM 2	ROOM 3	
14.00-14.45	Henry Ian Schiller <i><u>Context and Implicit Content</u></i>	Antonin Thuns <i><u>Polemical Concepts: Multiple Grounding and Virtual Grounding</u></i>	Mateusz Włodarczyk <i><u>Processing Presuppositional Content of Utterances. Experimental Report</u></i>	
14.45-15.30	Piotr Wilkin <i><u>Context Update, Dynamic Semantics and Continuations</u></i>	Christoph Michel <i><u>Conditional Representations as Dependency-License-Models</u></i>	Robert Knowles <i><u>Alethic Appearances: In Conversation with 'The King of France'</u></i>	
15.30-16.15	David Kashtan <i><u>Dissecting Contexts</u></i>	Sandy Berkovski <i><u>Imperatives and To-Do Lists: Three Objections</u></i>	José Manuel Viejo <i><u>How to (Dis)solve Frege's Paradox About Singular Terms and Belief Ascriptions</u></i>	
16.15-16.45	COFEE BREAK			ROOM 0
16.45-17.30	Jędrzej Grodniewicz <i><u>Linguistic Understanding Across Communicative Scenarios</u></i>	Joanna Klimczyk <i><u>Normative 'ought', Semantic Disagreement and the Idea of Substantive Semantics for Normative Language</u></i>	Alejandro Vesga <i><u>Is Testimony Strictly Semantic?</u></i>	<u>DTM WORKSHOP</u>
17.30-18.15	Marcin Łyczak <i><u>On Some Extension of the Logic of Change LC by Epistemic and Temporal Modalities</u></i>	Oscar Salvatore Scarpello <i><u>Perceptual-Working-Concept</u></i>	Izabela Skoczeń & Aleksander Smywiński-Pohl <i><u>Quantifier Scope Ambiguities of Scalar Terms in Incomplete Knowledge Contexts</u></i>	<u>PART 2</u>
18.20-18.30	CONFERENCE CLOSING [ROOM 0]			

POST-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP
'Intensional Logic and Metaphysics of Intentionality' 30 years later

Wednesday, the 20th of June
ROOM 205, Old Library Building, Main Campus
(Krakowskie Przedmieście 26/28 Street)

09:50-10:00 **Opening**

10:00-11:30

Edward N. Zalta *Typed Object Theory*

11:30-11:50 Coffee Break

11:50-12:30

Alberto Voltolini *Intentionality as Constitution*

12:30-13:10

Arkadiusz Chrudzimski *Encoding and Varieties of Intentionality*

13:10-14:40 Lunch Break

14:40-15:20

Andreas De Jong *"There is no Santa Claus": On the Meinongian Treatment of Negative Existentials and Negative There Be-Sentences*

15:20-16:00

Henry Ian Schiller *Belief in Fiction*

16:00-16:40

Merel Semeijn *Metafictional Anaphora. An Abstract Object Account*

16:40-17:00 Coffee Break

17:00-17:40

Andrea Raimondi *Does Intentionality Suffice for Mentality?*

17:40-18:20

Arvid Båve *Structured Propositions and Alternative Analyses*

18:20-19:00

Daniel Milne-Plückebaum *Meinongian Modal Meinongianism*

Context, Cognition and Communication Conference

WORKSHOP

Directival Theory of Meaning - a Non-Representational Semi-formal Semantics

Paweł Grabarczyk

Michał Zawidzki

ABSTRACT

Even though they have never achieved mainstream popularity, non-representational semantics continue to be an interesting alternative to the standard truth-conditional approaches. The main idea behind them is that reference is not everything – as sometimes the role a given term plays in cognition can be given priority.

Directival Theory of Meaning is a semantics which originated in the works of Kazimierz Ajdukiewicz in the 1930s. Its main idea is that every term in a language occurs in a set of sentences a user has to confirm. The meaning of the term is then defined as the place the term occupies in the network of these sentences.

The workshop presents the theory in its original form and then proceeds to show some important flaws it has. Next it shows how overcoming these flaws leads to a modern conceptual role semantics which does not have the problems similar contemporary theories have.

MOTIVATION AND DESCRIPTION

The aim of the workshop is to present a new approach to **conceptual role semantics**, namely **Directival Theory of Meaning (DTM)** and to show how, using certain logical tools, some traditional problems of philosophy of language can be solved within the framework of DTM. The basis of the DTM is a theory proposed by Kazimierz Ajdukiewicz in two papers published in 1930's (the English translations were published in 1970s) [1,2]. The main idea behind the directival approach is that the meaning of an expression can be identified solely with the set of rules of confirmation for sentences that contain this expression (i.e., rules that in concrete circumstances oblige competent language users to assert concrete sentences including this expression). The theory differentiates between four types of directives: **axiomatic** (sentences which have to be accepted in any circumstances), **deductive** (sentences which have to be accepted if the user accepted some other sentences), **empirical** (sentences which have to be accepted in certain empirical circumstances) and **imperative** (sentences acceptance of which has to result in a certain motor action of the user).

It is best to present the theory as consisting of **two separate parts** or modules: **empirical** and **syntactic**. The aim of the empirical part is to collect a set of **meaning directives** which function in a given language community. One way of doing this is by observing reactions of language-community to selected verbal and non-verbal behaviour of other members. The theory predicts that for every term in the language there exist a number of sentences a user has to affirm in a certain situation if they are to be taken seriously, that is if any actual belief is to be ascribed to them. A good example of this is the Modus Ponens rule – if the user accepts both a conditional and its antecedent but fails to accept the conclusion they will not be said to “believe that the conclusion does not follow” but rather that they do not understand the logic or the language they speak. The result of this part is a gathered list of meaning directives suitable for every simple expression in the language.

The other part of the theory is purely formal and consists of a syntactical decomposition of the collected meaning directives into its constituents. The original theory stored the decomposed data in a simple two-dimensional table format. This construction enables us to define meaning of a given term topologically – as the **set of places the term occupies in the decomposition table**. The table enables the theory to define some of the key notions competing theories struggle with: **meaning** (as the topological distribution of the term in the table), **synonymy** (as simultaneous replaceability of terms within the table), **translation** (as the identity of topological distribution of terms in their respective tables) and **nonsense** (as the term without any meaning directives).

Two more problems which find their solutions on the ground of DTM are worth explicit mentioning. One of the most significant challenges that should be addressed by every holistic theory of meaning is explaining **compositionality of meaning** [6], i.e., the problem of how the meaning of a compound expression depends on the meanings of its constituents. Compositionality of meaning guarantees that within a “finitely based” language we can potentially produce infinitely many meaningful expressions. There are several attempts of solving this problem by means of logical apparatus (a classic example can be found in [9], newer in [10]). During the workshop we will present and compare the most relevant of them. However, according to the modified version of DTM, compositionality of meaning **ceases to be a problem of theory of meaning** and is relegated to **theory of syntax**. During the workshop this idea will be extended and compared with alternative approaches.

Another problem which is faced by DTM and, in particular, all empirical directives is as follows: how to generically describe the class of all possible situations in which a given expression should be asserted. Yet, if we identify every such situation with the whole of stimuli acting upon a subject (**holistic stimulus**) in a given moment, such a class might consist of infinitely many situations which insignificantly differ from each other. However, if an empirical directive is to be finite, the whole class needs to be captured by one generic description. We will show several ways of addressing this problem by means of formal tools such as **fuzzy sets** or **topological semantics for modal logic**.

Although initially appreciated by Carnap and Quine, the original version of the theory has never been further developed. The main reasons for this are some of the flaws of the original theory which were found shortly after its initial presentation, especially a paradox pointed out by Alfred Tarski (explained in [8]). Tarski considered an extremely simple language of first order logic (with identity) and enriched it with two directives: $A \neq B$ and $B \neq A$, where A and B are non-logical constants occurring only in these two directives. He then showed that the definitions of the DTM cause the terms to be synonymous although they clearly cannot refer to the same object. This contrasts with the assumption that the identity of reference follows from the identity of meaning.

It is obvious, that from the contemporary perspective the threat presented by Tarski does not look as seriously as it might have looked for the original creator. Tarski's example can be simply understood as an early version of the discovery that the meaning of an expression does not have to determine its reference. It seems that the biggest problem of the DTM was that it was too far ahead of its time.

But, putting these historical considerations aside – what are the advantages of the DTM for the contemporary philosophers and linguists? There are at least three main reasons for which the theory can attract the interest of the CCC Conference attendants.

First of all, the theory revitalizes the idea of **functional role semantics** – the type of theories which, although interesting and distinct from the dominating paradigm of **truth-conditional semantics**, lost their traction and which are not being actively developed. One of the aims of our workshop is showing how the modified version of DTM sidesteps or solves the problems we believe led to the waning of popularity of these types of theories. For example – functional role semantics have been often accused of relying on the traditional **analytic/synthetic distinction** criticized by Quine [7]. In the workshop we will show that the modernized version of DTM circumvents this problem. Familiarizing the participants with the main ideas of functional semantics and showing the reasons they fell out of favour can be considered to be an additional benefit of the workshop.

The second reason why the modernized DTM should prove to be interesting for the contemporary philosophers and linguists is that this theory can be understood as a missing link between two types of contemporary approaches to language: **distributional semantics** encompassing theories which base the meaning of a term upon the distribution of this term within a chosen linguistic corpus (see [11]), and **embodied semantics** forming a group of theories which construe meaning from some sort of empirical data (i.e., sense data or neuronal correlates of sense data) (see [5]). Distributional approaches are very good at modelling the meanings of abstract notions and at showing how inferential relations contribute to the meanings of terms but at the same time they are known to be notoriously bad at showing the **grounding of the terms**. Embodied approaches explain how the meanings of the terms **relates to sensory states** of a language user but has well-known major problems with explaining the meaning of abstract terms. The DTM can be understood as a fusion of these approaches since, from the moment the directives are put into the language table it treats both empirical and purely linguistic directives in the same way: as **formal determinants of the topological structure of the table**.

Finally, the way DTM works and predicts linguistic behaviour of language users can be demonstrated by analyzing simple, artificial languages whose set of simple expressions as well directives of all types can be easily enumerated. During our workshop we would like to use **the language of Allen's Interval Algebra** containing the names for all possible binary relations between intervals on an axis as our exemplary artificial language to which DTM can be applied. The choice of this particular language is motivated by two factors. First, the attendants of the workshop previously unfamiliar with the language can be easily taught how to use it. Second, certain linguistic behaviours of people using the language of Allen's Interval Algebra have already been studied, particularly in the context of the so-called **3-term-series problems** [12]. The results of this research can thus be utilized as a

comparative material for similar experiments conducted during the workshop and involving the participants.

TENTATIVE OUTLINE

Slot 1: Historical version and problems of DTM

For the sake of clarity, it is best to start with the original formulation of the theory presented by Ajdukiewicz. This enables us to point out main problems of the theory and explain the reasons for some of the solutions we introduce later.

Slot 2: Solutions to the problems and a new formulation of DTM

Solutions to crucial problems of the theory are introduced. Among these we will find: solutions to 'Tarski's problem', compositionality of meaning for the theory, the problem of holistic stimuli equivalence classes, solution to the Fodor-Lepore problem. A new version of the theory, which encompasses the solutions presented at the preceding session, is introduced and explained. Specifically - the construction of meaning directives and language matrices is presented in detail.

Slot 3: Comparison to similar existing approaches

The theory is compared similar existing approaches: conceptual role semantics, inferential semantics and newer distributional approaches.

Slot 4: Application: simple artificial language example

A simple artificial language of Allen's Interval Algebra is introduced and explained. Using this language as a running example we show how DTM works and how well it predicts linguistic behaviours of users of this language (recruited from the audience).

REFERENCES

Basic literature (extensively covers most topics discussed during the workshop in an accessible way):

- [1] Ajdukiewicz, K., *Language and Meaning* [In:] J. Giedymin (Ed.), *The Scientific World-Perspective and Other Essays, 1931-1963*, pp. 35–66, Springer 1978.
- [2] Ajdukiewicz, K., *On The Meaning Of Expressions* [In:] J. Giedymin (Ed.), *The Scientific World-Perspective and Other Essays, 1931-1963*, pp. 35–66, Springer 1978.
- [3] Fodor, J., Lepore, E., *Holism: A Shopper's Guide*, Wiley-Blackwell 1991.
- [4] Lycan, W.G., *Philosophy of Language. A Contemporary Introduction Second Edition*, Routledge, 2000
- [5] Price, H., Blackburn, S., Brandom, R., Horwich, P., Williams, W., *Expressivism, pragmatism and representationalism*, Burlington, VT : Ashgate Publishing Company 2013.

Supplementary literature (more detailed and advanced studies on selected problems of the workshop):

- [5] Barsalou, L. W., “Grounded cognition”, *Annual Review of Psychology*, 59: 617–645, 2008.
- [6] Dummett, M., *Frege: Philosophy of Language*, Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1973.
- [7] Fodor, J., LePore, E., "Why Meaning (Probably) Isn't Conceptual Role", *Mind and Language*, 6: 328-43, 1991.
- [8] Grabarczyk, P., Directival Theory of Meaning Resurrected, *Studia Semiotyczne English Supplement*, vol XXIX, http://studiaes.pts.edu.pl/volumexxix/sses_xxix_4.pdf
- [9] Hodges, W., “Formal Features of Compositionality”, *Journal of Logic, Language and Information*, 10: 7-28, 2001.
- [10] Montague, R., 1970, “Universal Grammar”, [reprinted in:] R. Thomason (ed.), *Formal Philosophy*, pp. 222–246, New Haven : Yale University Press, 1974.
- [11] Piasecki, M., Szpakowicz, S., Broda, B., 2009, *A Wordnet from the ground up*, OWPW, Wrocław.
- [12] Rauh R., Hagen C., Knauff, M., Kuss, T., Schlieder, Ch. and Strube, G., “Preferred and alternative mental models in spatial reasoning”, *Spatial Cognition & Computation*, 5(2-3): 239–269, 2005.

