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Title: Attitudes and free perception in pictorial narratives

Room: SH 4.101

Abstract:

Attitudes in comics are represented with thought bubbles and speech bubbles, and in a "free perception" construction, where one panel shows a character looking, and the next panel shows what the character sees. Free perception can be quasi-extensional, or strictly intensional, as when the character is hallucinating. This talk looks at phenomena of attitudinal constructions in comics, and at their analysis in a dynamic possible worlds framework. Free perception turns out to be implicitly anaphoric, because a discourse referent for the attitude-holder has to be picked up. The fun part looks quickly at exotic syntactic constructions, such as pictures in thought bubbles, additional ways of indicating what a character sees, and embedded pictorial narratives in thought bubbles.