Abstracts

MUZEUM HISTORII POLSKI

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Wojciech P. Grygiel, Mateusz Hohol, Roger Penrose's quantization of the mind

The modeling of the human mind based on quantum effects has been gaining considerable interest due to the intriguing possibility of applying non-local interactions in the studies of consciousness. Inasmuch as the majority of the pertinent studies are restricted to the exclusive analysis of mental phenomena, the quantum model of mind proposed by Roger Penrose constitutes a part of a much larger scheme of the ultimate unification of physics. Penrose's efforts to find the 'missing science of consciousness' presuppose the non-algorithmic character of human thinking inferred from Gödel's incompleteness theorem. This is supposed to combine with the anticipated non-algorithmic character of the future quantum gravity theory involving the objective reduction of a quantum mechanical state vector. By surveying contemporary achievements of cognitive sciences as well as the development of Penrose's conjectures, presented in his recent work The Road to Reality, we wish to show that his non-algorithmic quantum model of human mind is contingent upon the fundamental philosophical assumption of the mathematicity of the Universe.

Keywords: quantum mechanics, mind, Gödel's theorem, mathematical platonism

Marcin Trybulec, Incommensurability vs Linguistic Relativity

The study poses the question about the consequences of incommensurability for the problem of linguistic relativity. One can reasonably argue that if two languages are incommensurable, contradiction cannot exist between the judgments formulated inside them. Therefore it is possible to compile linguistic worldviews of two incommensurable languages into one coherent cognitive perspective. The latter view is called into question; hence the article examines the problem of relation between linguistically determined incommensurable worldviews. In order to analyze the issue

there are distinguished three dimensions of incommensurability: linguistic incommensurability, incommensurability of experience and ontological incommensurability. Conclusion excludes possibility of compilation of two ontologically incommensurable into one coherent cognitive perspective.

Keywords: linguistic relativity, incommensurability, dimensions of incommensurability (linguistic, experience, ontology), ontological conflict

Maciej Witek, Linguistic Underdeterminacy from the viewpoint of the Reflexive Truth Conditions Theory

The aim of the paper is to present the theory of reflexive truth conditions with particular reference to the literalist account of communicative competence it offers. Like contextualist conceptions, the theory allows for the phenomenon of linguistic underdeterminacy. Unlike most popular accounts of communicative competence, however, it takes the phenomenon to be a property of the semantic, rather than the cognitive correlate of an utterance; it is claimed, namely, that the semantic correlate of an utterance is to be identified with the state of affairs the utterance signifies, whereas its cognitive correlate is best understood as the conventionally determined, token-reflexive description of the signified state. The paper consists of four parts. In the first section the author offers a few terminological conventions. The second section provides a synthetic presentation of the dominant view on the nature and causes of linguistic underdeterminacy. In the third section, following Manuel García-Carpintero, John Perry and Kepa Korta, the author develops his own version of the reflexive truth conditions theory and points out that the resulting conception offers an original account of linguistic underdeterminacy. The paper ends with general conclusions regarding the nature of linguistic underdetermination and the structure of the literalism/contextualism debate.

Keywords: limguistic underdeterminacy, Grice, literalism, contextualism, semantics/pragmatics interface, token-reflexivity

Arkadiusz Gut, Language and second order thinking (the analysis of false belief task)

The paper is focused on the relationship between thought and language. One of the current hypotheses claims that public language is responsible for our ability to display second order cognitive dynamics. In order to investigate the alleged role of language in our ability to think about thoughts philosophers and psychologists have concentrated on the attribution of thought to another people i.e. on „mind reading" abilities. Evaluating series of experimental results (for example: *The false belief task*) some of them have put forward a strong hypothesis that capacity to attribute a thought to another people deploys a symbolic representations made available by the language faculty. Making this claim they have attempted to support the general idea that language is regarded as a necessary precursor for second order cognitive dynamics, i.e. the acquisition of specific language constructions fosters our ability to

think consciously of our thoughts. In the paper (in opposition to this strong hypothesis) the moderate view is developed. According to the moderate view language is not considered as a devise that re-program our cognitive abilities and creates a new kind of cognition (second order thinking) but is rater an external resource that may scaffold our higher order cognitive abilities.

Keywords: language, mind, thought, second order thinking, false belief task, mindreading

Anna Jedynak, Linguistic Relativism Once More

The paper is a reply to M. Trybulec's polemics *Incommensurability vs Linguistic Relativity* against A. Jedynak's views on linguistic relativism. Some points of Trybulec's paper are very unclear, others mistaken, however still others express quite interesting intuitions, worthy of further investigation. The latter have actually been put forth by A. Jedynak in her earlier book and paper, and can be expressed as follows: there are different levels of meaning and of translations; linguistic relativism should take this into account; the differences between languages most difficult to overcome are of pragmatical and not semantical nature.

Keywords: incommensurability, untranslatability, stratification of meaning, cognitive value

Marcin Trybulec, Incommensurability and Conflict. A response to Anna Jedynak remarks

The aim of the paper is to distinguish and explain some imprecise expressions indicated by prof. Anna Jedynak. Moreover the paper is focused on the fundamental disagreement between the author and his critic, which is the meaning of the term „incommensurability".

Keywords: linguistic relativity, incommensurability, dimensions of incommensurability (linguistic, experience, ontology), ontological conflict

Anna Brożek, Kazimierz Twardowski's Viennese years

Kazimierz Twardowski was born in Vienna in 1866 and spent there almost thirty years — before removal to Lvov in 1895. However, the Viennese period of Twardowski's life is relatively poorly known. The article aims at throwing light on Twardowski's activities in Vienna. It is based on archival documents found in Viennese and Warsaw archives and libraries.

Keywords: Kazimierz Twardowski, Vienna, Theresianum, University of Vienna