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EMPLOYMENT

Postdoctoral Researcher, Heinrich-Heine-Universität Düsseldorf, Germany

- October 2014 - Present
 - Project: Frame Based Approaches to Countability, part of the SFB 991 project “The Structure of Representations in Language, Cognition, and Science”.
 - PI: Prof. Hana Filip

Graduate Teaching Assistant, King’s College London, UK

- October 2010 - September 2014

EDUCATION

King’s College London, United Kingdom

- Ph.D., Philosophy, December 2013
 - Dissertation Topic: “Vagueness, Communication, and Semantic Information”
 - Supervisors: Shalom Lappin (pr.), Mark Textor (sec.), Ruth Kempson (sec.)

University of Helsinki, Finland

- M.A., Theoretical Philosophy (*eximia cum laude approbatur*), July 2007
 - Dissertation: “Indicative Conditionals: Assertion, Truth-Conditions and Classification”
 - Supervisor: Ahti-Veikko Pietarinen

University of Manchester, United Kingdom

- B.A. (hons), First Class, Philosophy, June 2004

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships and Fellowships

- Norman-Malcolm Fellowship - Autumn 2012 (Visiting Fellowship, Cornell University)
- AHRC Full Scholarship, Autumn 2010 - Summer 2012
- Sorabji Graduate Studentship, Autumn 2009

Teaching Awards

- Nominated, KCL School of Arts and Humanities Teaching Excellence Award 2011-2012
- Honourable Mention, KCL Philosophy Teaching Tutor Award 2011-2012 & 2010-2011

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Forthcoming

- “Towards a Probabilistic Semantics For Vague Adjectives”
 - In: Schmitz, Hans-Christian and Zeevat, Henk (eds.) *Language, Cognition, and Mind*, Springer.

Under Review

- “Probabilistic Approaches to Vagueness, and the Principle of Tolerance”
 - Submitted to *Erkenntnis*
- “Nominal Prototypes and Compositionality”
 - Submitted to *Dialectica*

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Journal Reviewer:

- Erkenntnis, 2013
- Linguistics and Philosophy, 2015

TALKS

Invited Talks

- Workshop on Word Meaning, Cumberland Lodge, 23rd-24th April, 2014
 - “Probabilities and Prototypes”
- Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Research Colloquium 24th October, 2013
 - “Motivating a Probabilistic Semantics”
- University of Göttingen, Department of Philosophy Mittel-bau Koloquium 24th January, 2013

- “The Role of Uncertainty in Semantics”

Selected Conference Talks

- 16thS, Szklarska Poreba Workshop, 20th-23rd February, 2015
 - “Vagueness and Countability”
- Semantics and Philosophy in Europe 7, Humboldt University Berlin, 26th-28th June, 2014
 - “Probabilities, Prototypes and Compositionality”
- VII Navarra Workshop on Vagueness, 16th-17th December, 2013
 - “Semantic Entitlement and the Principle of Tolerance”
- Bayesian Natural Language Semantics and Pragmatics Workshop, 5th-9th August, 2013
 - “Towards a Semantics for Vague Adjectives”
- New Jersey Regional Philosophical Association Fall Conference, 10th November, 2012
 - “Vagueness and Uncertainty”

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teacher/Examiner, HHU Düsseldorf:

04.2015-07.2015: Master’s in Linguistics Colloquium.

Invited Lecturer, HHU Düsseldorf:

12.01.2015: Part of an Introduction to Logic course.

Graduate Teaching Assistant, KCL:

2013-14: Logic and Language, Foundations of Analytic Phil., Phil. of Mind.

2012-13: Topics in Phil. of Language, Formal Semantics.

2011-12 Phil. of Mind, Formal Syntax, Formal Semantics.

2010-11 Elementary Logic.

Seminar Teacher, Helsinki:

2006-07: Intermediary Seminar in Phil. of Language,
Intermediary Seminar in Phil. of Science.

2005-06: Preparatory Seminar in Phil. of Language.

WORKSHOP ORGANIZATION

Assistant: *Incrementality in Linguistic and Musical Interaction*, King’s College London,
30th-31st March 2011

THESIS ABSTRACT

To be learnable, words must contribute something that is pretty stable across contexts. But equally, words must also be flexible enough to be able to stretch, in a principled way, to cover new cases. Similarly, to be effective for communication, the information that words encode must be robust enough and flexible enough to help us achieve a wide variety of goals. It is argued that truth conditions, and information understood in terms of truth conditions, cannot satisfy these requirements. A replacement for the truth conditional model is suggested based on

a statistically grounded conception of semantic information. Informally, this can be understood in terms of reasonable expectations (what it is reasonable to believe, given the words that were used). Formally, this semantic information is captured using probabilistic and information theoretic tools. Vagueness, understood in terms of borderline cases, is argued to be a byproduct of making the above learning and communication requirements central. Vagueness, understood as our ability to be vague with words, is given an information theoretic explanation. Finally, the account is defended with respect to some of the philosophical problems and puzzles found in the vagueness literature.