

It is a pleasure to announce the next talk in the syntax-semantics colloquium of IEAS:

Jong-Bok Kim (Kyung Hee Univ., Seoul)

will talk about

Context-driven Answering Systems to Positive/Negative
Polar Questions:
An Experiment-based Analysis

When? 18.1.2021, 16.15-17.45

Where? Meeting ID: 953 3956 3406 Password: SynSem

<https://uni-frankfurt.zoom.us/j/95339563406?pwd=QlFhRXlFakVCeitESnlLTzFVTVNwQT09>

Abstract

Across languages, polarity particles like `yes' and `no' are often employed as responses to polar questions. This talk discusses the uses of these response particles in the two different answering systems: polarity-based (e.g., English, Swedish, French, German) and truth-based answering systems (e.g., Korean, Japanese, Chinese). The talk, arguing against syntax-based accounts, supports the idea that polarity particles are anaphoric in nature and their interpretation is determined by the antecedent evoked by the context. It also suggests that the parametric differences between the two systems have to do with the tight interactions between the anaphoric nature of answering particles and structured-discourse. Further, based on the performed grammatical judgement experiments, it is argued that linguistic cues (antecedents) are not enough in the proper use of response particles. It is contextual evidence that plays key roles in the uses of answering particles.

Everyone is cordially invited!

Best,

Manfred, Gert, Frank

You will find an up-to-date program of our colloquium at:

<https://www.english-linguistics.de/oberseminar-wise-2020-21/>

We will announce talks by external speakers. Please contact Manfred (sailer@em.uni-frankfurt.de) if you are interested in attending any of the other colloquium talks.