

## **Ideophones: Subjectivity, epistemic authority and perspective**

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Ideophones, such as English *splish splash*, *willy nilly*, and German *plitsch platsch*, *holterdipolter*, have been considered a distinct class in the lexicon due to their due depictive nature. They have also been argued to be subjective in a similar manner to predicates of personal taste (cf. Kawahara 2020), and it has also been suggested that they index epistemic authority (cf. Dingemanse 2011). In this talk, I will show that adverbial German ideophones also appear to be subjective, as well as indexing epistemic authority. However, I will argue that these properties arise because the ideophones' depictive components must be interpreted with respect to a relevant individual's perspective of an event. I will present a formal analysis of this perspective dependence based on Lasersohn (2005) and Stephenson (2007). Furthermore, it seems that other iconic constructions, such as spoken language quotations, may also be dependent on a given individual's perspective, and I will briefly discuss planned experimental work to test this theory for both ideophones and iconic spoken quotations. Finally, as this analysis of ideophones shares similarities with the viewpoint variable proposed by Schlenker & Lambert (2024) for iconic forms in the visual modality, I will discuss the overall implications for modeling iconicity in formal semantics.