

Conceptual modelling of multi-facets items: Between polysemy and vagueness

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Conceptual modelling of multi-facets items: Between polysemy and vagueness

1. Multi-facets items

1.1 Postulate

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3. Continuum

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1. Multi-facets items

1.1 Postulate

- ❖ Lexical items are associated with organized conceptual structures composed of numerous pieces of information.

Conceptual structures: implemented in every language activity
→ production and interpretation/comprehension

- ❖ Conceptual structures associated with lexical items are stored into the mental lexicon of speakers-hearers.

1. Multi-facets items

1.1 Postulate

❖ Various aspects of words:

- phonetic
- orthographical
- morphological
- syntactic
- semantic
- and so on

integrated in
a multidimensional system of knowledge
recorded in speakers-hearers' memory
(cf. P. Lécocq & J. Segui, 1989: 8)

1. Multi-facets items

1.1 Postulate

- ❖ Concerning words with multiple meanings

Conceptual structures are organized in function of the different meanings of lexical items.

Each distinct meaning is associated with its own conceptual substructure so that the global structure reflects the semantic potential of the lexical item.

1. Multi-facets items

1.2 Definition

- ❖ « A facet is a word sense that is due to the part-whole structure of an entity and selected by a specific utterance context » (Evans, 2007 : 354).
- ❖ Facets are : « Sense units that resemble full senses in many ways [...]. The units in question can be unified. [...] units that have a significant degree of autonomy, but can be unified to form a global Gestalt, will be termed 'facets' » (Croft & Cruse, 2004 : 116).

1. Multi-facets items

1.2 Definition

❖ Example: *Book* (Croft & Cruse, 2004)

● *Book* :

2 facets → *TOME* and *TEXT*

Global sense → *BOOK* = *TOME* + *TEXT*
(unified facets)

1. Multi-facets items

1.2 Definition

❖ Facets: autonomous sense units

- Relational autonomy: each facet may participate to its own sense relation, independently of the other ones
- Compositionnal autonomy: predicate can apply to facets independently
- But! No attentionnal autonomy: facets are not mutually exclusive, not antagonistic

1. Multi-facets items

1.2 Definition

❖ Multi-facets items vs. polysems

- Polysemy (Kleiber, 1999):

- multiple senses are associated with a unique linguistic form and
- these senses are at least partially connected

Polysemic senses must be (Récanati, 1997):

- genetically linked (i.e. same etymon) and
- semantically linked (i.e. speakers-hearers' can detect a link between them)

1. Multi-facets items

1.2 Definition

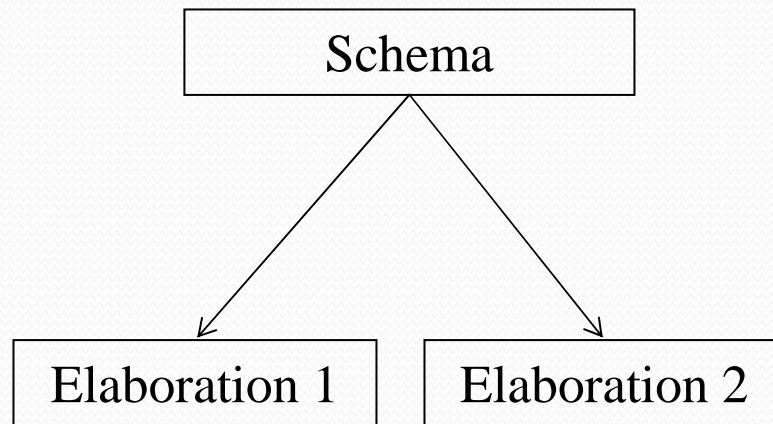
- Main distinction between polysems and multi-facets items:

Attentional autonomy:

- Polysemous meanings cannot be unified
- Facets can be unified

2. Conceptual modelling

2.1 Schematic sense and elaborations



References:

- Langacker (1987, 2008)
- Tuggy (1993)

Fig.1 Schema and elaborations

2. Conceptual modelling

2.1 Schematic sense and elaborations

- ❖ Application to multi-facets items:

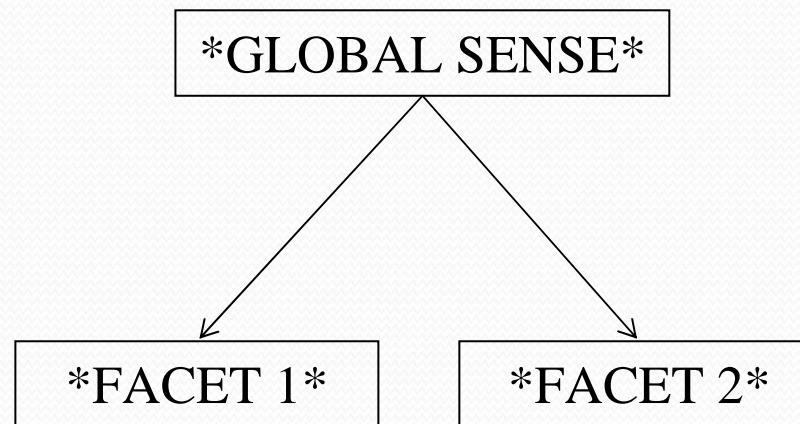


Fig.2 Architecture of the conceptual modelling of a multi-facets item

2. Conceptual modelling

2.2 Application to *book* and *mother*

- ❖ Application to *book* (cf. Croft & Cruse)

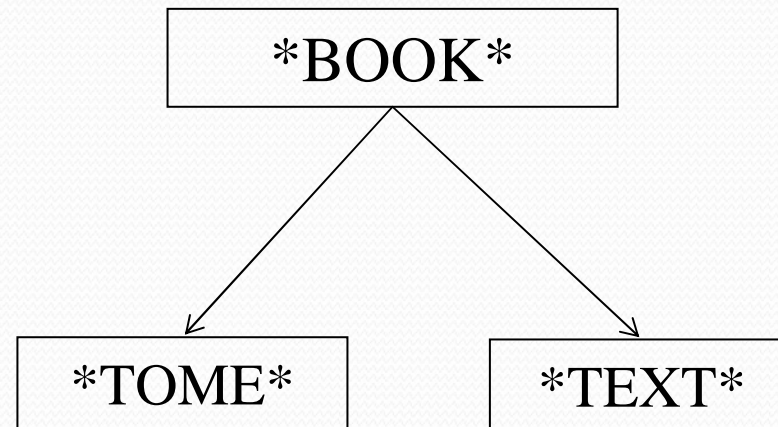


Fig.3 Architecture of the conceptual structure of *book*

2. Conceptual modelling

2.2 Application to *book*

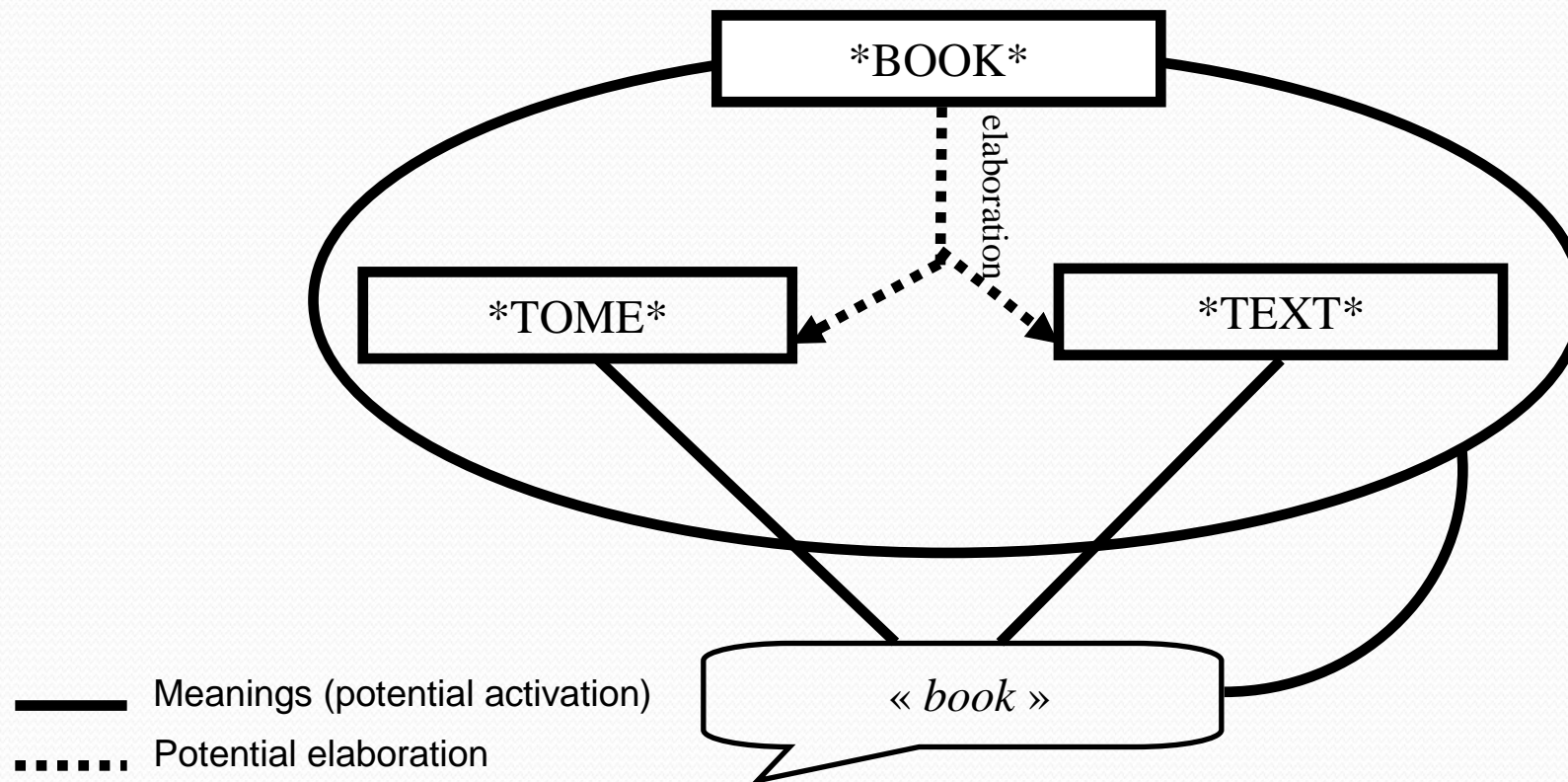


Fig.4 Conceptual structure associated with the noun *book*

2. Conceptual modelling

2.2 Application to *book* and *mother*

- ❖ Application to *mother* (cf. Croft & Cruse)

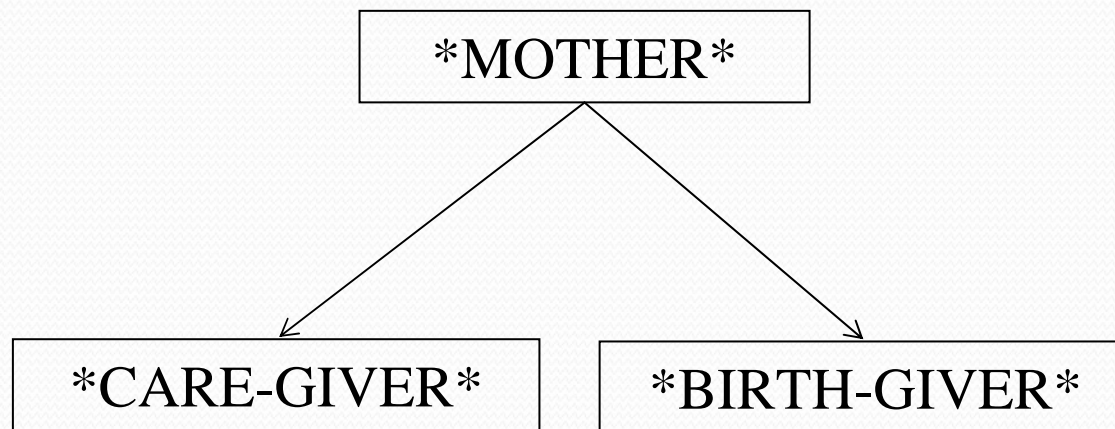


Fig.5 Architecture of the conceptual structure of 'mother'

2. Conceptual modelling

2.2 Application to *mother*

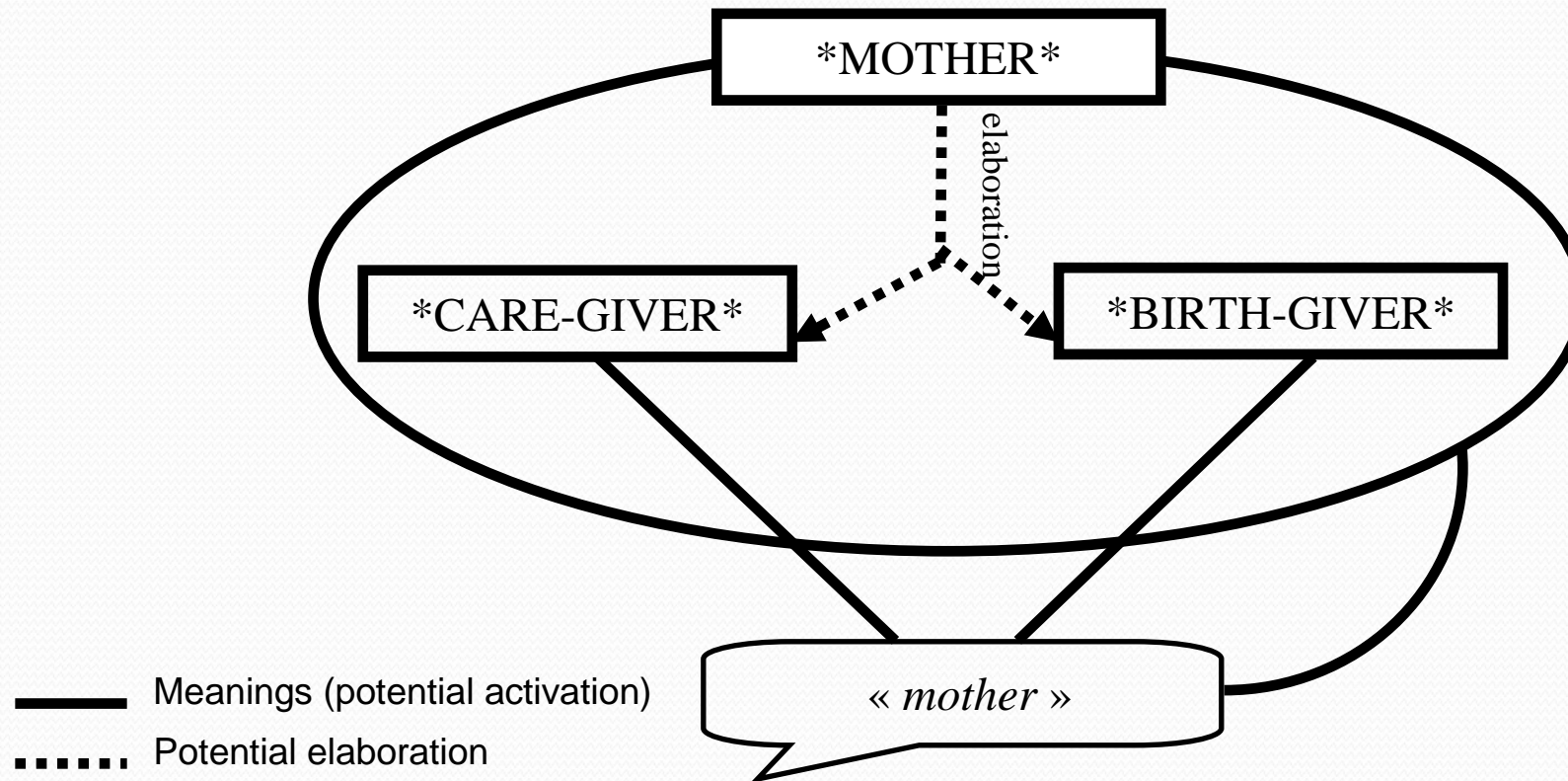


Fig.6 Conceptual structure associated with the noun *mother*

3. Continuum

3.1 Initial continuum

❖ Initial continuum

proposed by Tuggy (1993): 5 types of representation

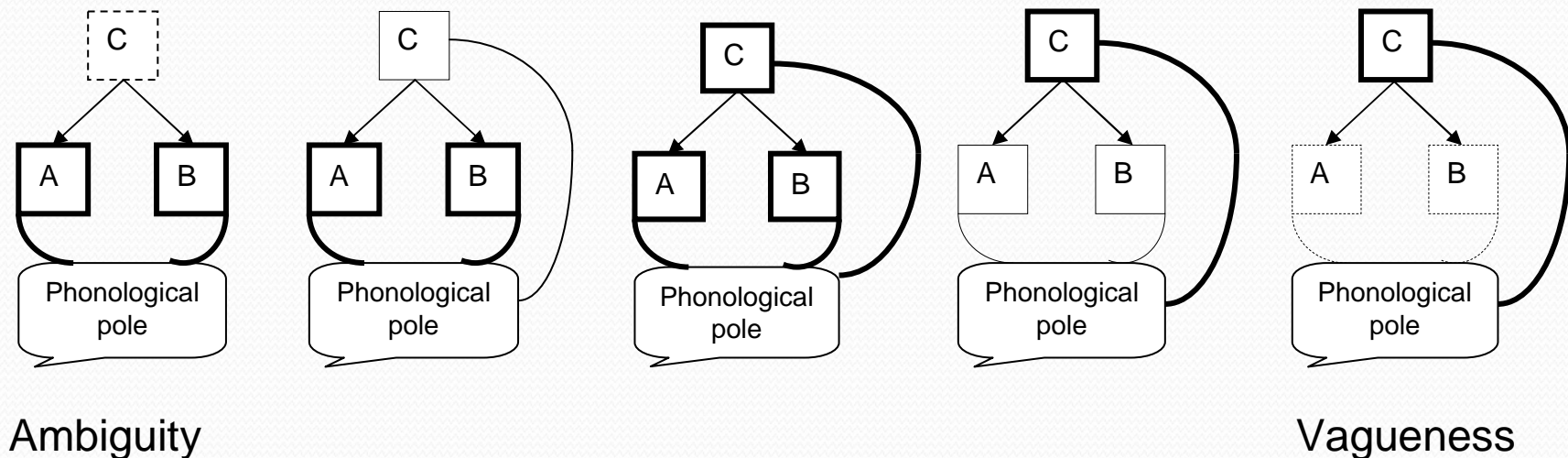


Fig.7 Ambiguity-vagueness continuum
(Tuggy, 1993)

3. Continuum

3.1 Initial continuum

❖ Ends of the continuum

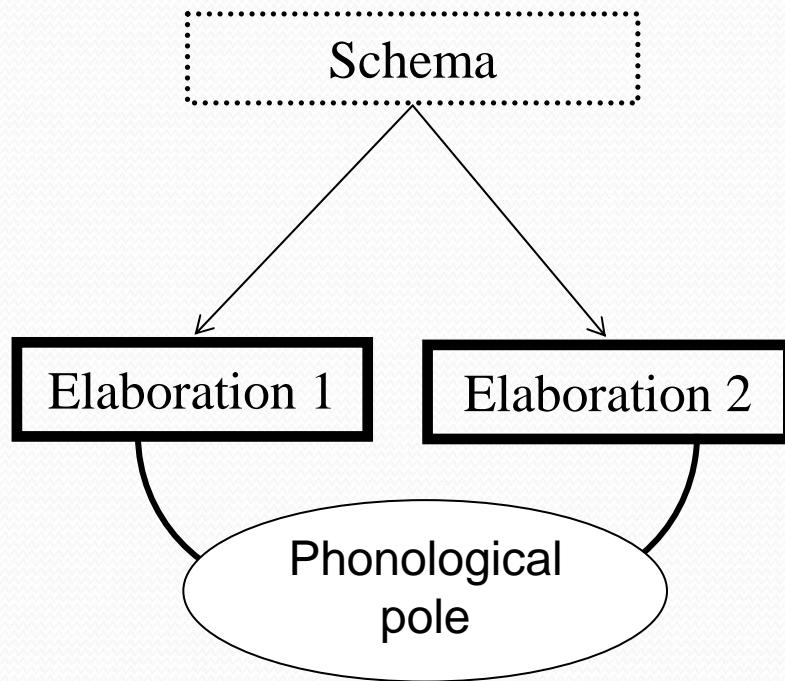


Fig.8 Ambiguity (Homonymy)

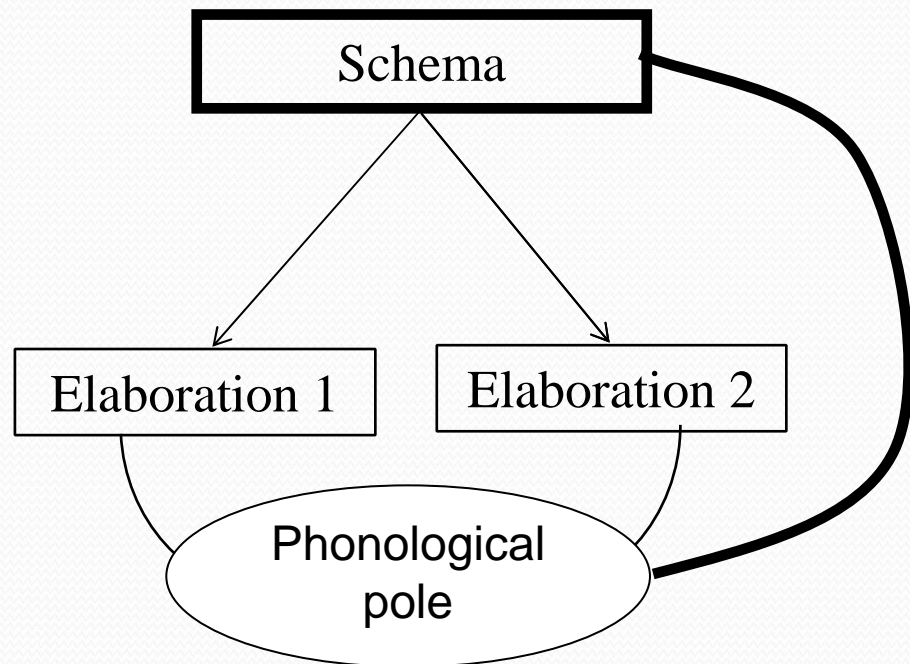


Fig.9 Vagueness

3. Continuum

3.1 Initial continuum

❖ Middle cases

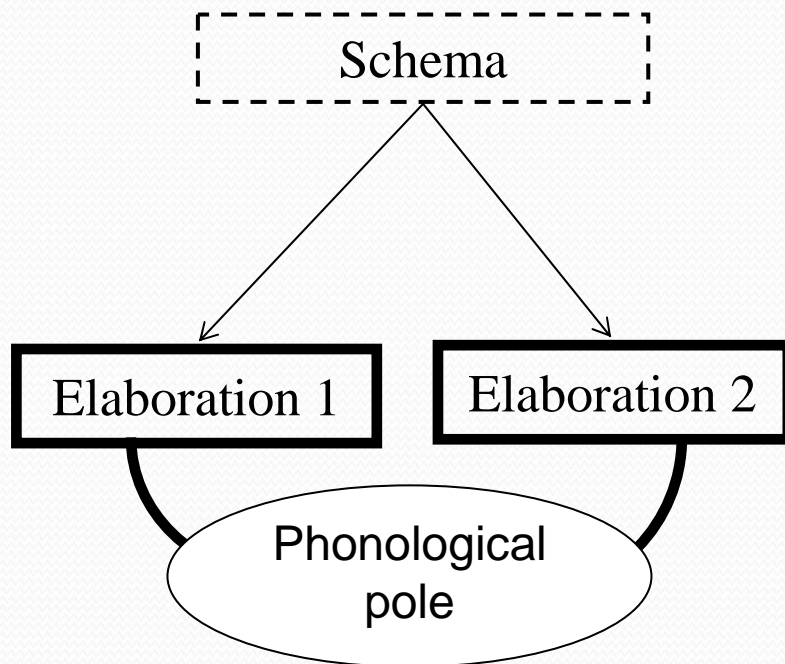


Fig.10 Polysemy

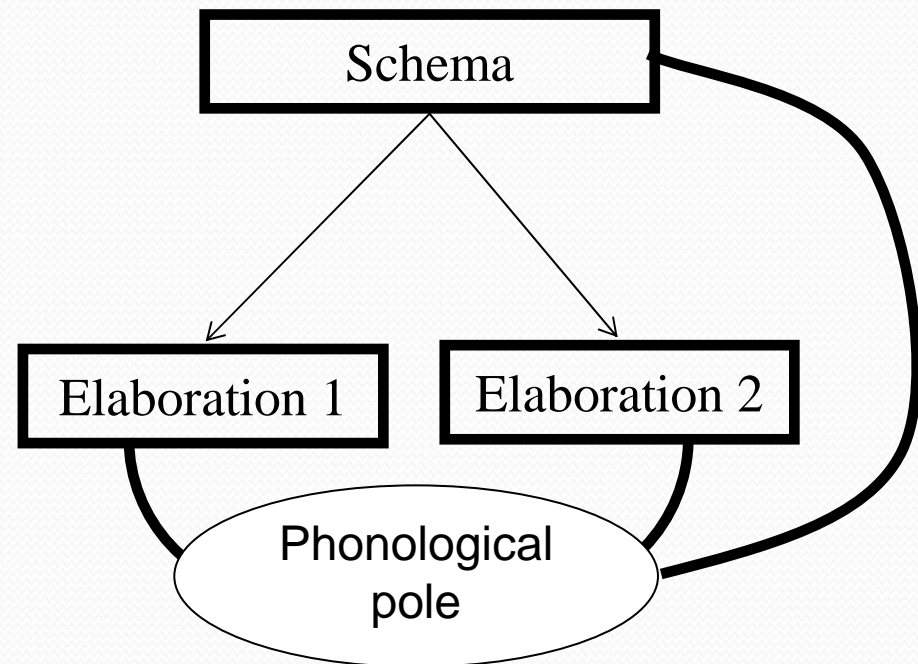


Fig.11 Multi-faciality

3. Continuum

3.2 New continuum

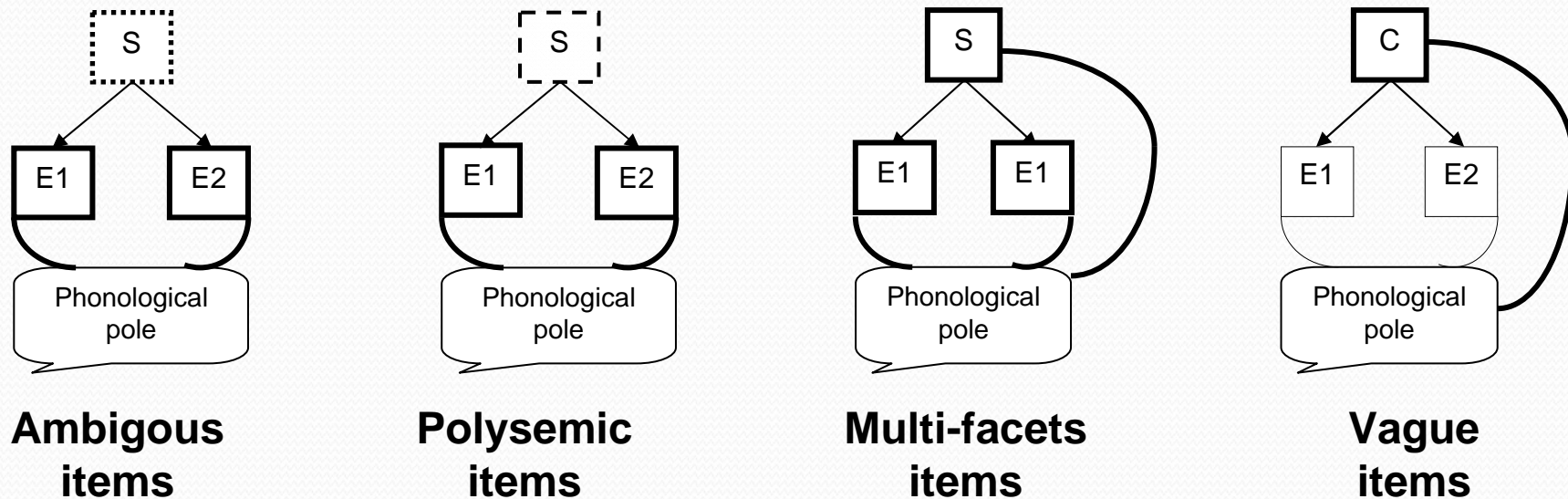


Fig.12 New continuum

- Not entrenched, not salient, not accessible, cannot be activated
- - - - - Entrenched, not salient, not directly accessible from the phonological pole
- Entrenched, not salient, directly accessible from the phonological pole
- Entrenched, salient, directly accessible and activable from the phonological pole

4. Conclusion

Properties of multi-facets items + conceptual modelling
→ Integration within the ambiguity-vagueness continuum

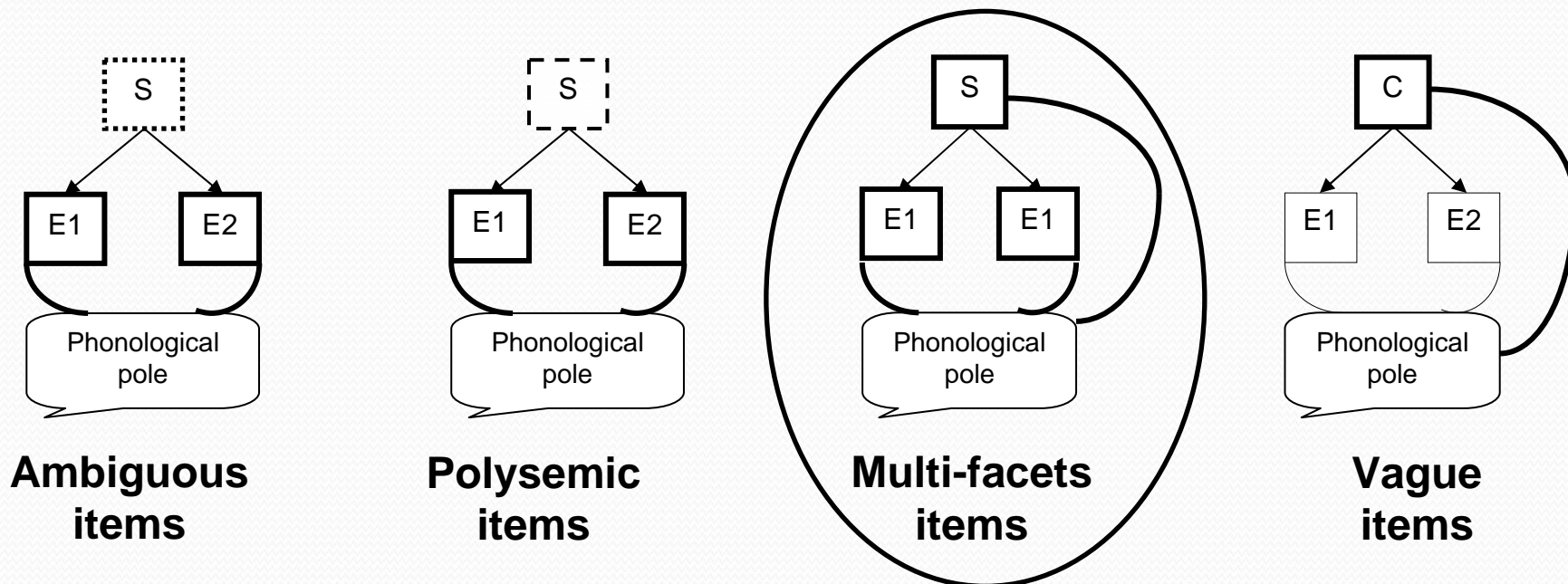


Fig.12 New continuum

Thank you for your attention...

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