

Conceptual Metaphor Theory: A study of nature and extent of metaphorical production in schizophrenia-spectrum disorder

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Introduction

Why schizophrenia ?

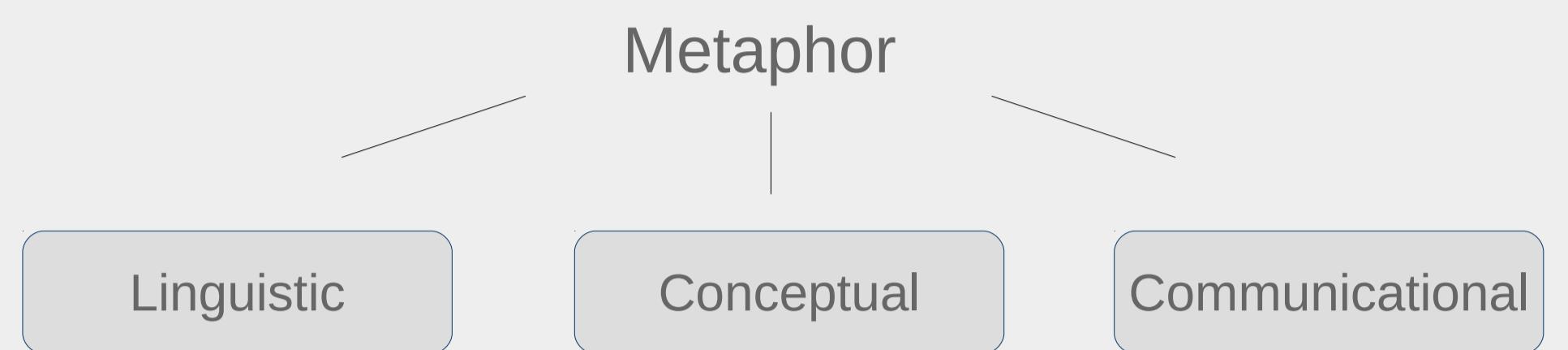
Concrete thinking symptom:

Tendency to understand figurative language in a literal way

=> Do they produce metaphors? If yes, to what extent?

Deliberate Metaphor Theory (Steen 2008)

Metaphors have three dimensions:



Methodology

8 patients in free-speech table of conversation

3 topics discussed: -Is using pronoun "on" (3rd sg. imp) over "je" (1st sg.) a bad thing?

- CIA spying people through connected devices
- Referendum in Turkey

Metaphor Identification Procedure Vrije Universiteit (MIPVU)

DMT: Direct/Indirect

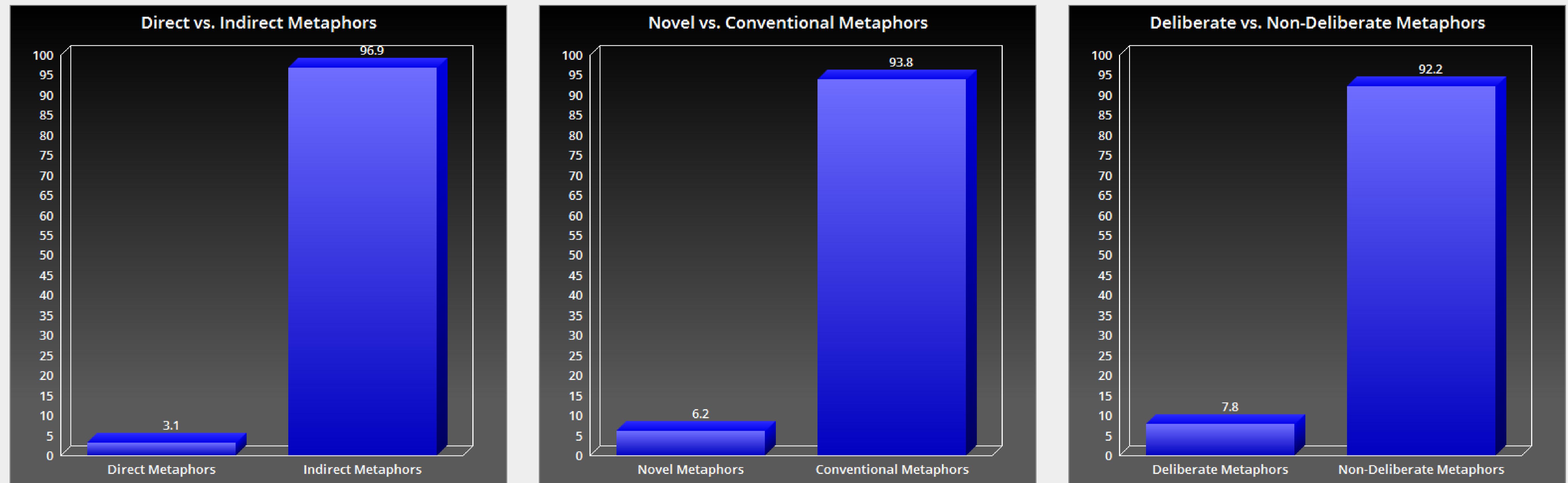
Novel/Conventional

Deliberate/Non-Deliberate

Dynamic System (Cameron 2009) Identification of metaphorical networks on the conversational level

Preliminary Results

DMT



"This is the paradox of metaphor: a lot of metaphor may not be processed metaphorically" (Steen 2008; pp.221)

DDS

Each topic displays metaphorical networks:

Pronoun On/Je: LANGUAGE IS A BUILDING
CIA: BEING DELUSIONAL IS GOING ON A JOURNEY
Referendum in Turkey: RELIGION IS A PATHWAY

Some specificities

Ambiguities between use of literal and figurative language
e.g. *Je suis connecté aux ressentis des autres par Wi-Fi*
e.g. *I am connected to the feelings of others via Wi-Fi*

=> Is this a deliberate use of metaphor or what patient really feels in his delusion?

Perspective

- Expand the research on metaphorical production in schizophrenia
- Test DMT in pathologies altering figurative language production/comprehension
- Develop therapeutical tools based on metaphor uses and comprehension

Bibliography

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 Steen, G. The Paradox of Metaphor : Why We Need a Three-Dimensional Model of Metaphor. In: Metaphor and Symbol, vol. 23, no.4, 2008, pp. 213-241.