

Review of: "[Research note] Semantic Systems Theory"

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This is an interesting and important paper in that it challenges the customary linguistic paradigm (e.g. the colonialistic grammar exemplified in classical science). The paper's focus on the primacy of relationships (rather than 'things-in-themselves') implies an embarrassing excess of meaning that calls for a new framework of thought that would accommodate multiple layers of synergistic potential. Synergy has long been neglected as an aspect of evolution. Perhaps this is because it is so diverse and ubiquitous. As a result, fully contextualised events often seem ineffable or illusory. A systemic approach that is semantic would permit a switch from a summative logic of aggregations and local causalities to one in which synergistic emergence comes into view. In developing this thesis, perhaps Bohm's notion of 'relevation' would be useful, as it acknowledges the reciprocal nature of roles in generating meaning.

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