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Title: Familiarity as a special case of uniqueness

Abstract: This talk has three parts. First, I make a distinction between definiteness and determinacy, building on a separation between existence and uniqueness. This move is motivated by the interaction between definite determiners and special adjectives like "only", comparatives, and superlatives (but not ordinals, interestingly), and nested definites that go by the name of Haddock descriptions (partially joint work with David Beaver; more recent work by Dylan Bumford is also relevant here). Second, with reference to the existence-free notion of uniqueness, I argue that familiarity is a special case of uniqueness, and show how this can be implemented in a dynamic semantics (joint work with David Beaver). For this reason and others that I will briefly discuss in the third part of the talk, we should reject the popular dichotomy between familiarity definites and uniqueness definites. Instead, we should see familiarity and uniqueness as nested properties.