

Interactive Dynamics with Concepts Varying in Abstractness and Vagueness

Chiara De Livio

Sapienza University of Rome, Rome, Italy

Claudia Mazzuca

Sapienza University of Rome, Rome, Italy

Viola Chillura

Sapienza University of Rome, Rome, Italy

valerio sperati

Institute of Cognitive Sciences and Technologies, National Research Council of Italy (ISTC-CNR), Rome,
Italy

Anna Borghi

Sapienza University of Rome, Rome, Italy

Abstract

This work explores the social dynamics triggered by abstract and concrete concepts (e.g., fantasy vs. bottle) integrating traditional research methods with an interactive paradigm. It introduces Vagueness, a semantic dimension that distinguishes between determinate and vague concepts (e.g., subtraction vs. freedom). A preliminary norming study reveals that while Vagueness is partially predicted by Abstractness, it represents a distinct and meaningful semantic component. The main study further demonstrates that Abstractness and Vagueness uniquely shape how dyads evaluate the quality of their collaborative interactions.