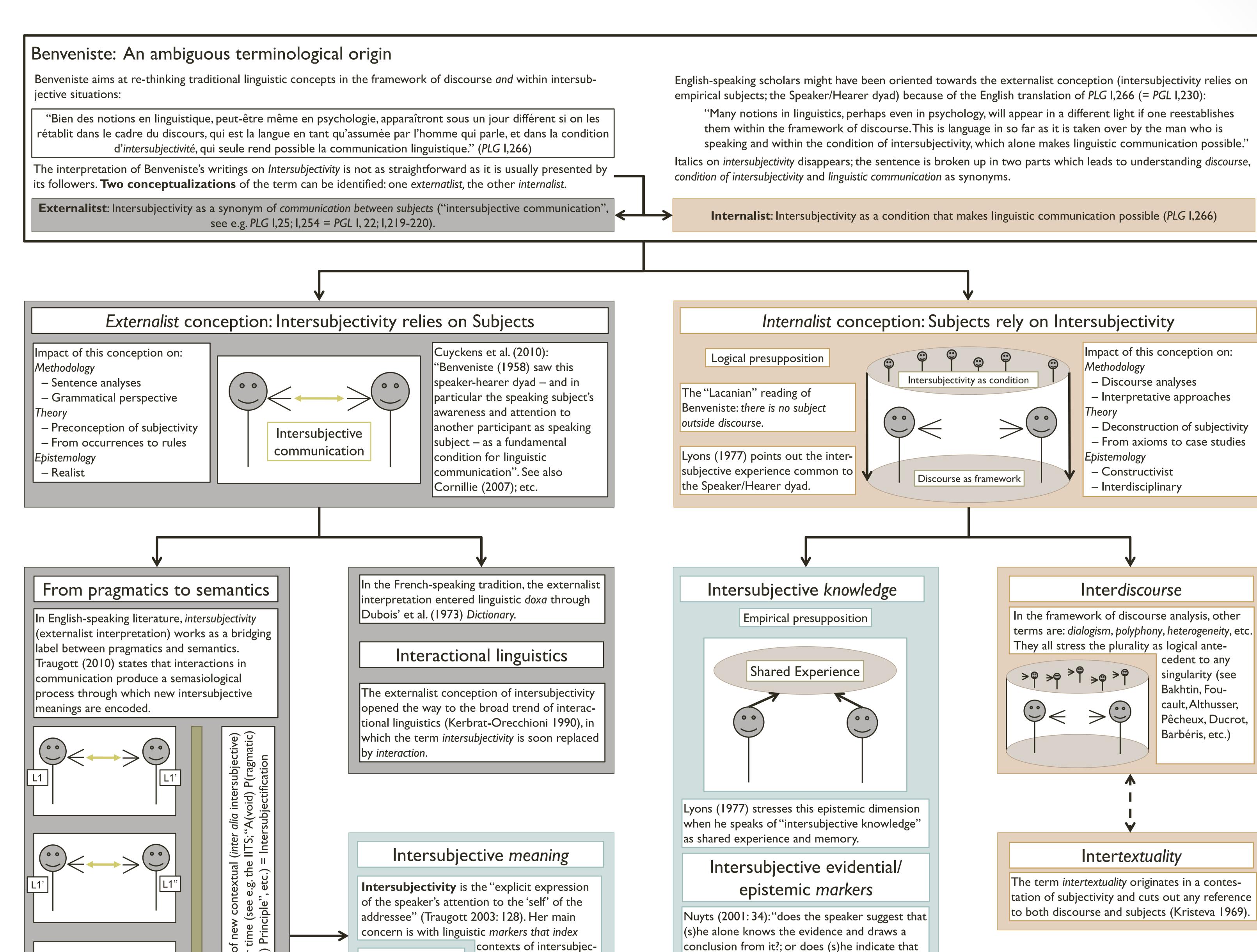
An Archaeology of Intersubjectivity

Mapping conceptual splits in linguistics and beyond

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Realist Sentence-Oriented

Constructivist Discourse-Oriented

Language/Code-Oriented

Cognitivist

Intersubjective construal

Verhagen (2005, 2006, 2008) combines a conceptualist view (originating in Cognitive Grammar, esp. Langacker's conception of subjectivity) with the interaction between subjects. The focus is on coordination between speaker's and addressee's cognitive systems: the specific human ability to manage perspectives ("intersubjective cognitive coordination") is systematically reflected in the meanings of several grammatical constructions.

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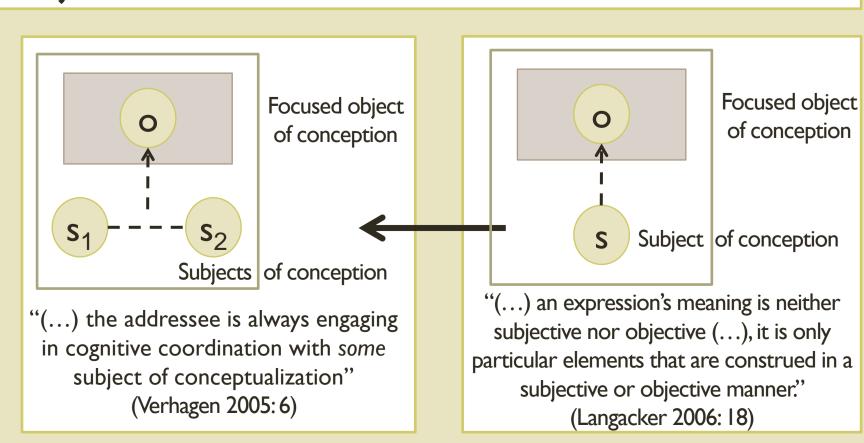
L2

Intersubjectification

intersubjective meanings.

is the process of

semanticization of



the evidence is known to (or accessible by) a

conclusion based on it?" In the former case, we

have to do with a subjective view of the state of

affairs, in the latter of an intersubjective one.

larger group of people who share the

Conclusions

This archaeology of intersubjectivity manifests the tensions between two essential requirements for linguistics as a field:

- (1) The constitution of an interdefined, field-specific and operational body of concepts and terms
- The insertion among the human sciences paradigms (divided between empirical and philosophical orientations)

Requirement (1) leads to a cyclical paradox. Benveniste's pioneering use of intersubjectivity tried to take linguistics out of the code-centered approaches, and yet intersubjectivity is nowadays almost restricted to non-discursive and grammar internal analysis. As if a clear border could separate linguistics from other paradigms in human sciences.

Requirement (2) leads proponents of Cognitive Linguistics to endorse an encompassing approach to intersubjectivity. As if the above-illustrated epistemological tensions could be ignored.

Neither attempt is likely to produce an integrated conception of intersubjectivity.