

Iconicity, Arbitrariness, Metaphor, Metonymy

Week 5

Q450/B490
Spring 2012

Arbitrariness

Arbitrariness

- Conventions associating meaning and form, at least within the lexicon, are mainly arbitrary.

Arbitrariness

- Conventions associating meaning and form, at least within the lexicon, are mainly arbitrary.



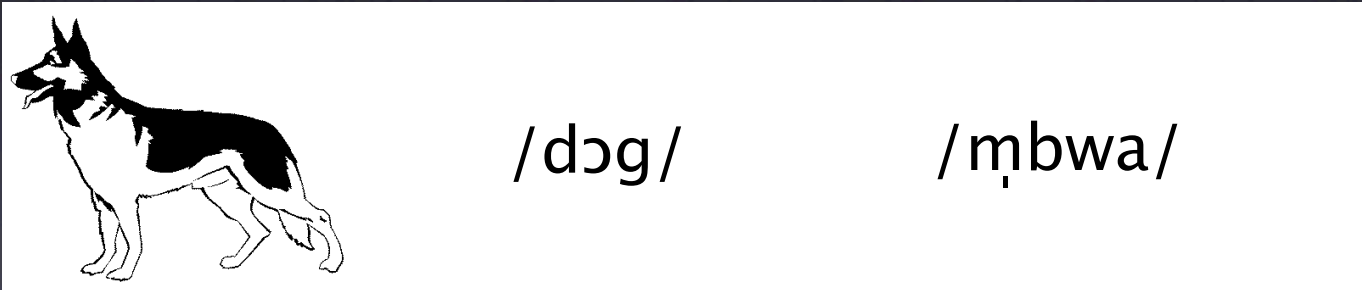
Arbitrariness

- Conventions associating meaning and form, at least within the lexicon, are mainly arbitrary.



Arbitrariness

- Conventions associating meaning and form, at least within the lexicon, are mainly arbitrary.



Arbitrariness

- Conventions associating meaning and form, at least within the lexicon, are mainly arbitrary.



Arbitrariness

- Conventions associating meaning and form, at least within the lexicon, are mainly arbitrary.



Arbitrariness

- Conventions associating meaning and form, at least within the lexicon, are mainly arbitrary.



Arbitrariness

- Conventions associating meaning and form, at least within the lexicon, are mainly arbitrary.



Iconicity

Iconicity

- In some areas of language, for example, **expressives** in languages such as Japanese and sign languages, the form may “suggest” the meaning.

Iconicity

- In some areas of language, for example, **expressives** in languages such as Japanese and sign languages, the form may “suggest” the meaning.



Iconicity

- In some areas of language, for example, **expressives** in languages such as Japanese and sign languages, the form may “suggest” the meaning.



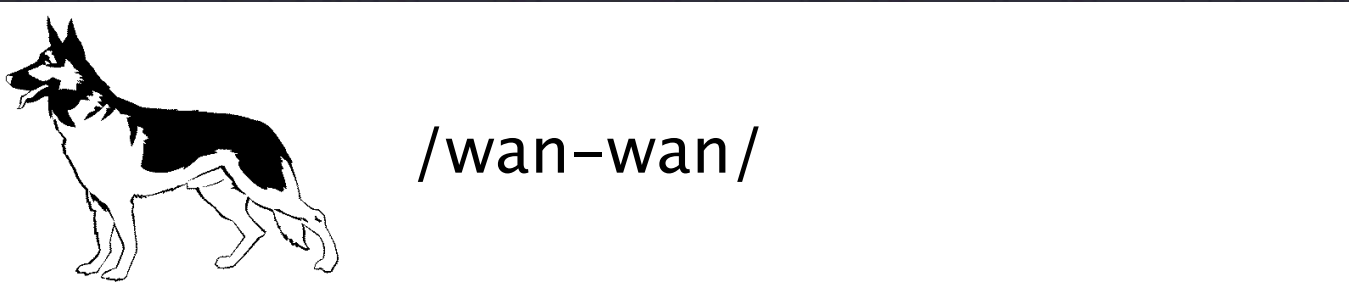
Iconicity

- In some areas of language, for example, **expressives** in languages such as Japanese and sign languages, the form may “suggest” the meaning.



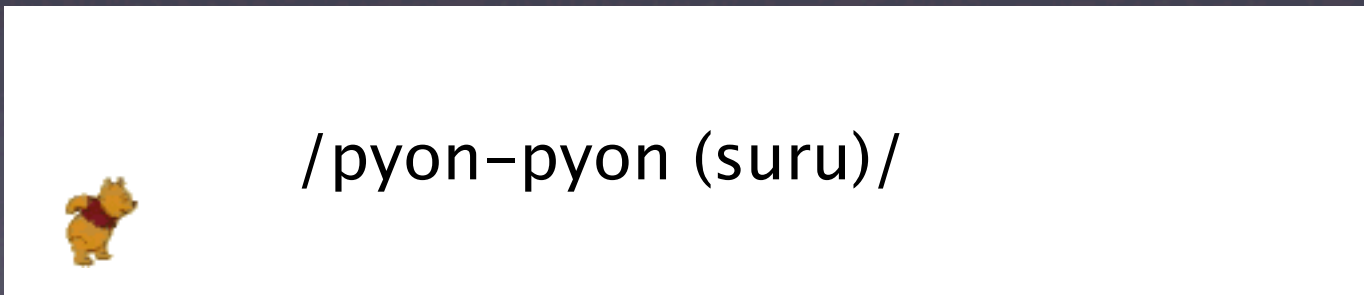
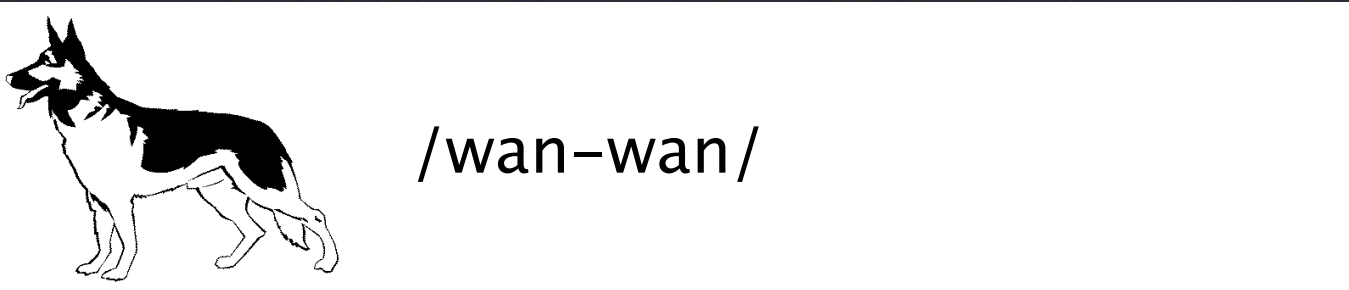
Iconicity

- In some areas of language, for example, **expressives** in languages such as Japanese and sign languages, the form may “suggest” the meaning.



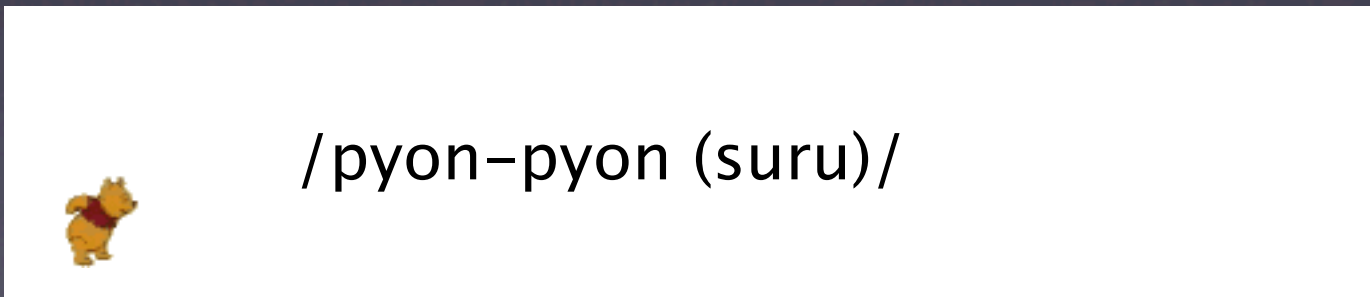
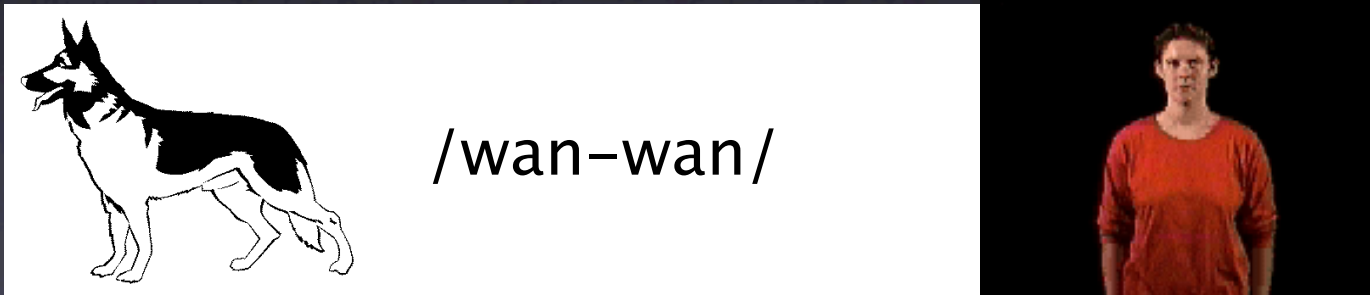
Iconicity

- In some areas of language, for example, **expressives** in languages such as Japanese and sign languages, the form may “suggest” the meaning.



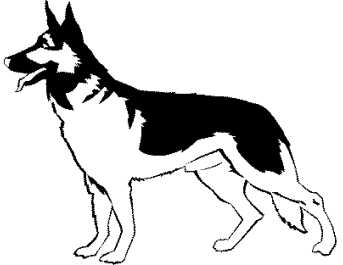



Iconicity

- In some areas of language, for example, **expressives** in languages such as Japanese and sign languages, the form may “suggest” the meaning.



Iconicity

- In some areas of language, for example, **expressives** in languages such as Japanese and sign languages, the form may “suggest” the meaning.

 <p>/wan-wan/</p>	
 <p>/pyon-pyon (suru)/</p>	

More sign-language iconicity

- A JSL (日本手話) example
- An LSC (Lengua de Señas Colombiana) example

More sign-language iconicity

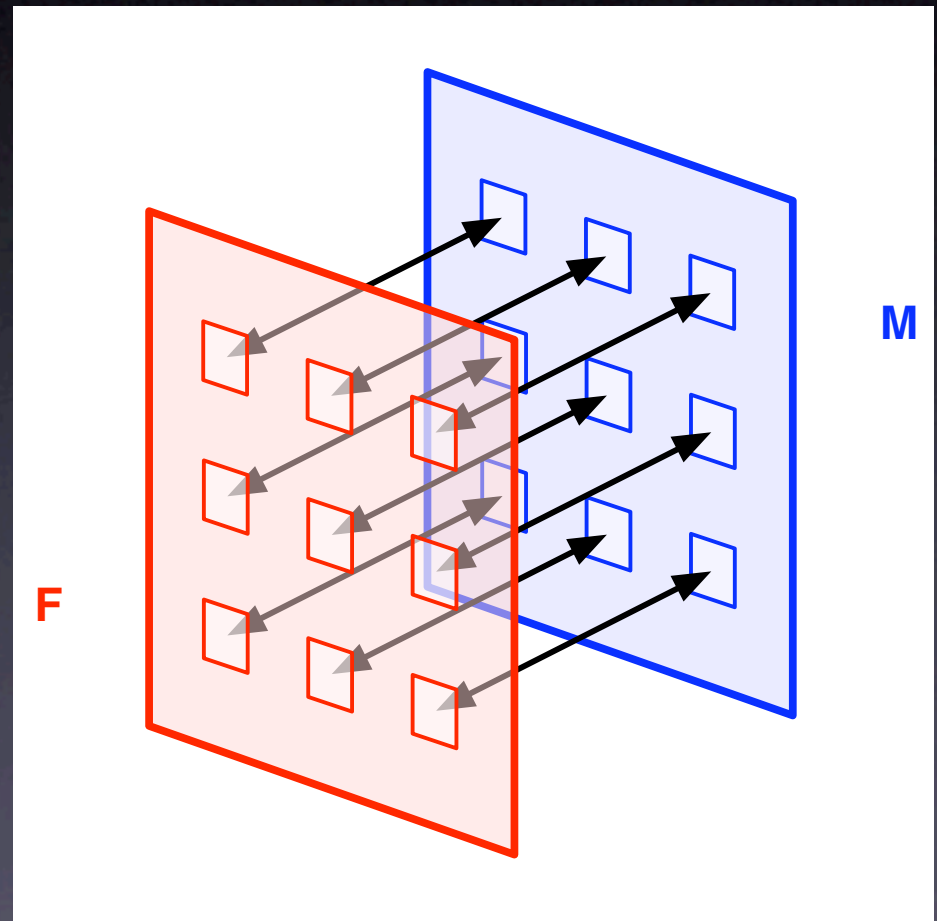
- A JSL (日本手話) example



- An LSC (Lengua de Señas Colombiana) example

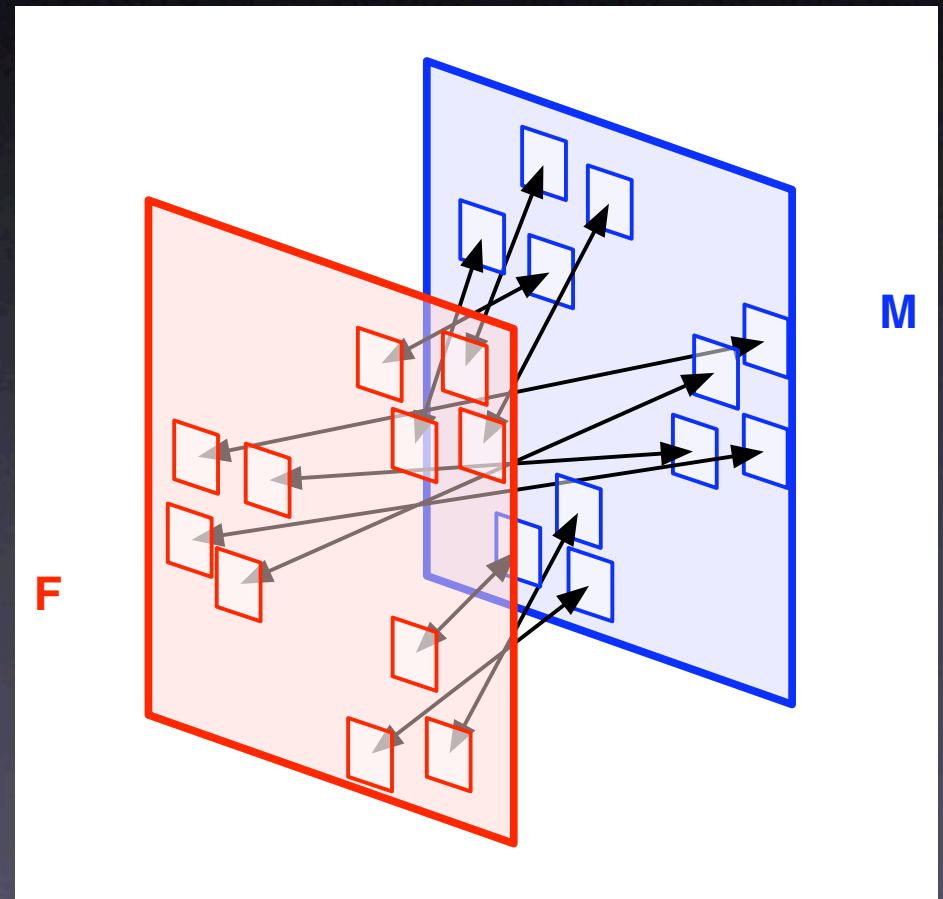
Systematic form-meaning relationships: iconicity

- Correlation between one or more form dimensions and one or more meaning dimensions
 - Form pitch and meaning pitch
 - Form pitch and meaning smallness
 - Form and meaning size
 - Form direction of movement and meaning direction of movement



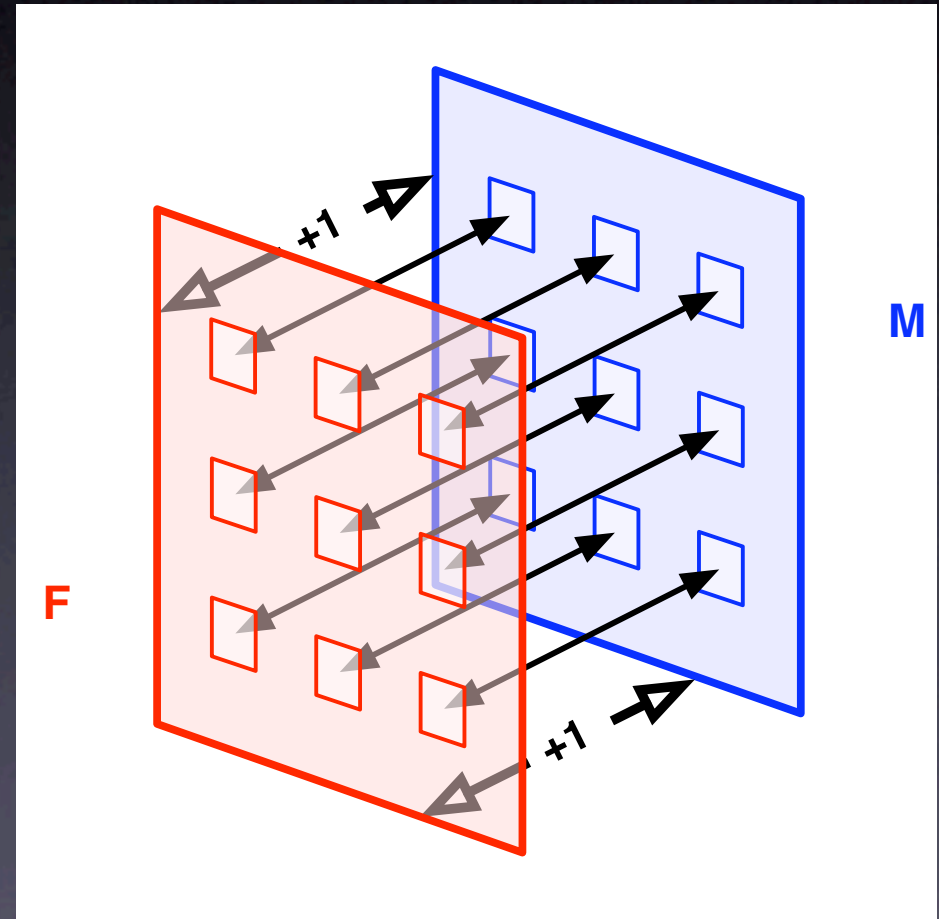
“Relative” (vs. absolute) iconicity

- The relationship between particular forms and meanings may be arbitrary.
- But similar forms often have similar meanings.

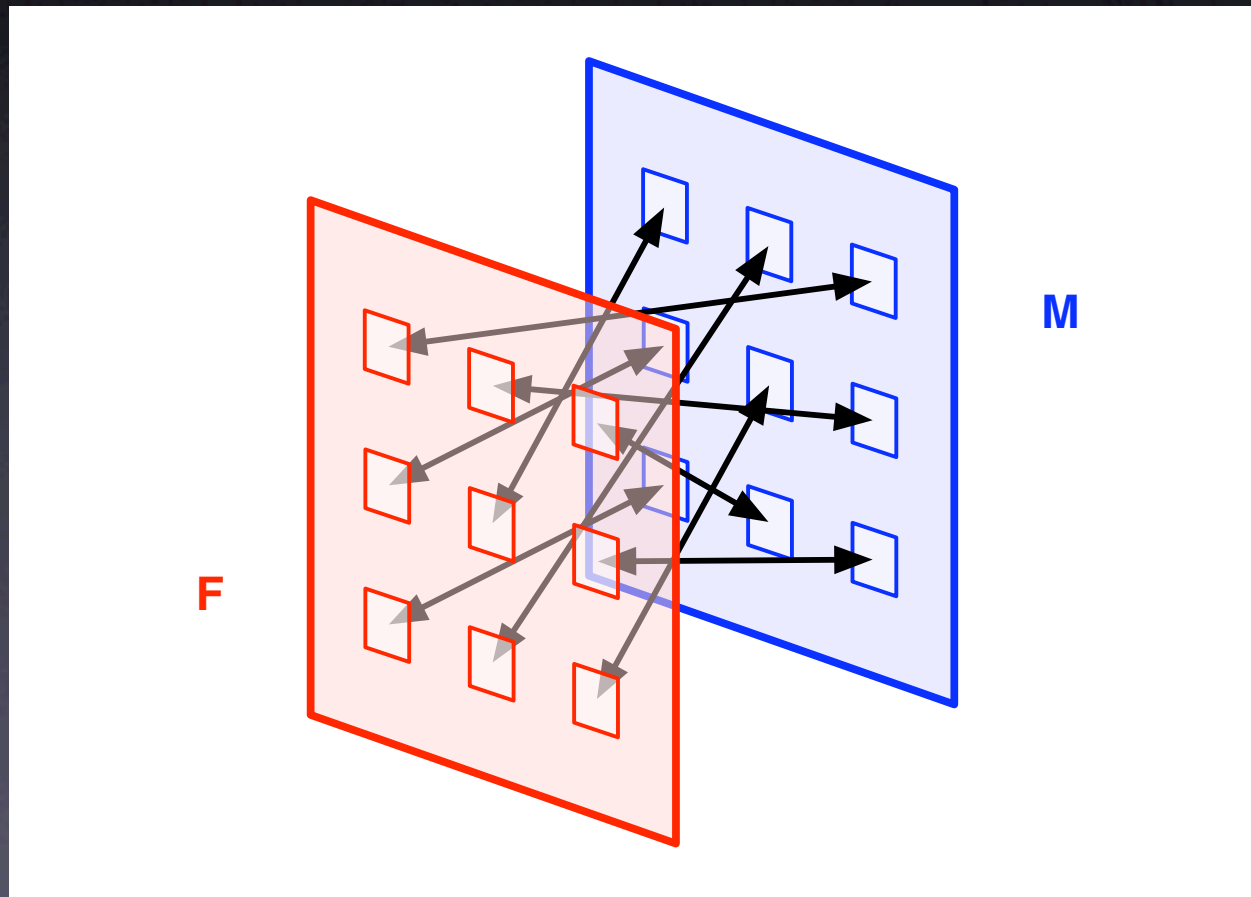


Iconicity and learning

- For an iconic language, there is less to learn.

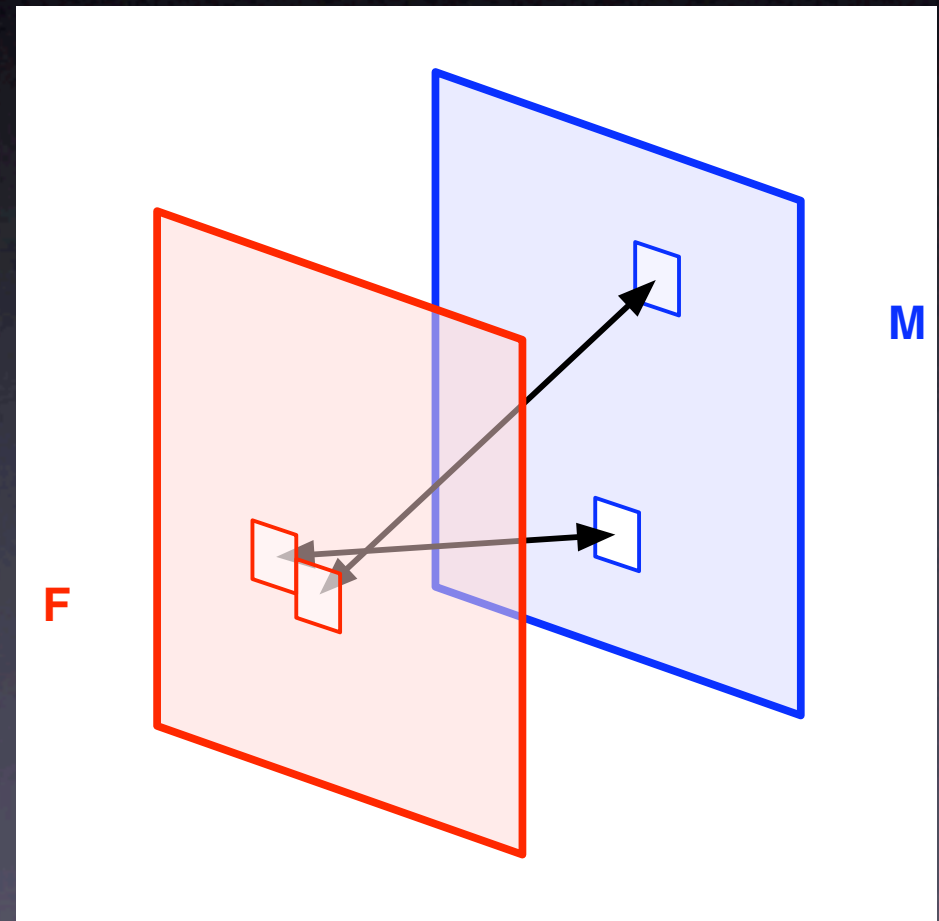


Arbitrariness and learning



Lexicon size and form-meaning overlap

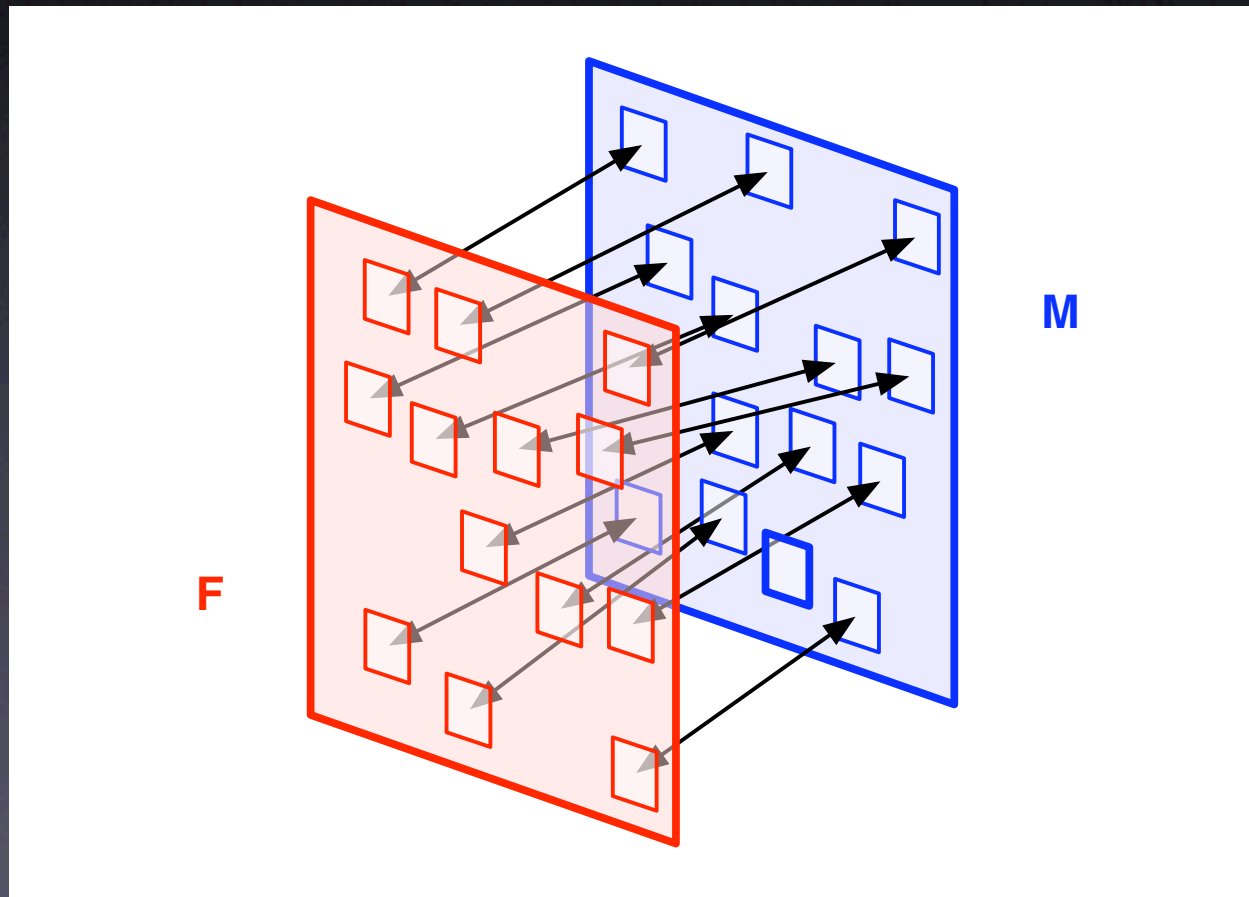
- As the size of the lexicon grows, undesirable form-meaning overlap (ambiguity or synonymy) becomes more likely.



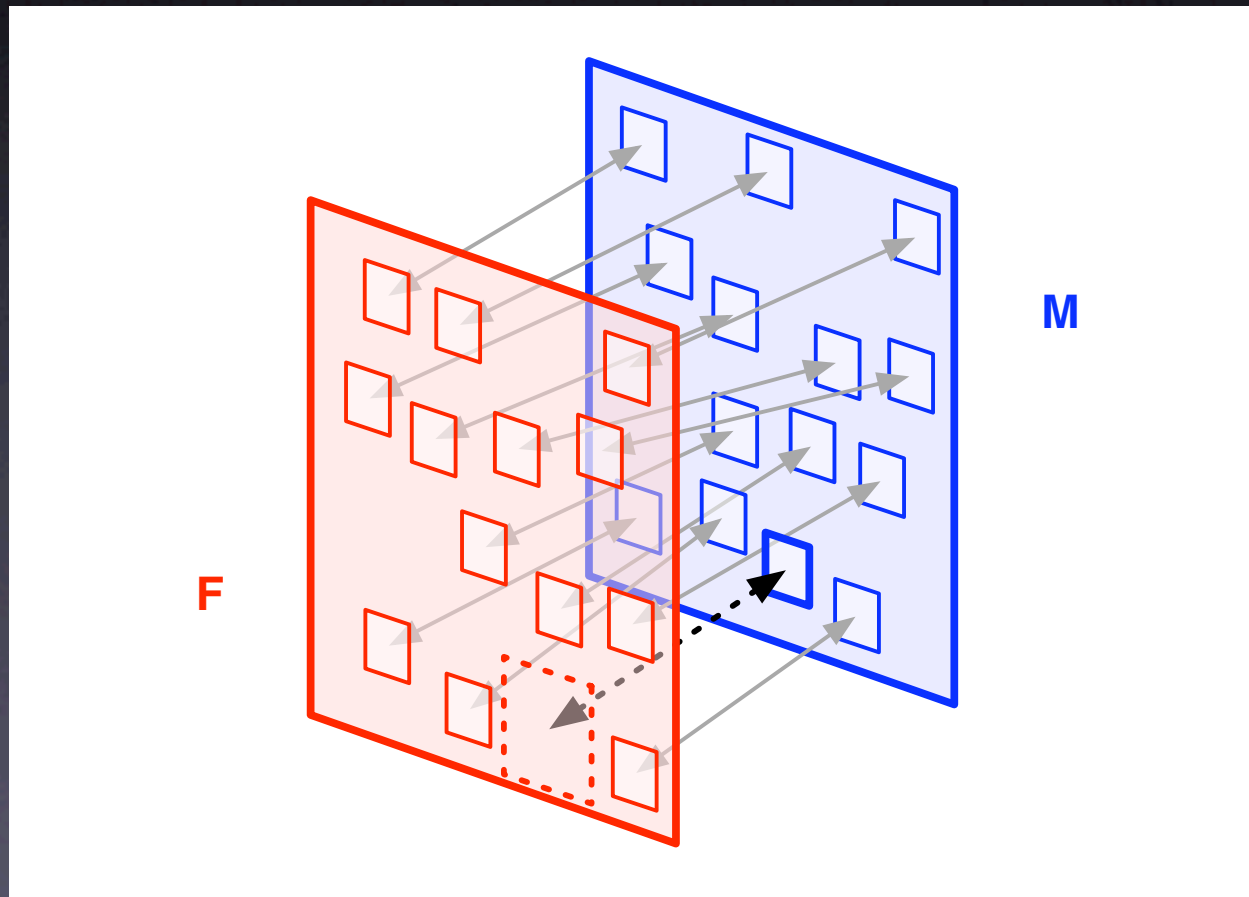
Lexicon size and iconicity

- As the size of the lexicon grows, undesirable form-meaning overlap (ambiguity or synonymy) becomes more likely.
- For iconic languages, because the range of possible forms for a given meaning is restricted, overlap is more likely for a newly created form-meaning association.

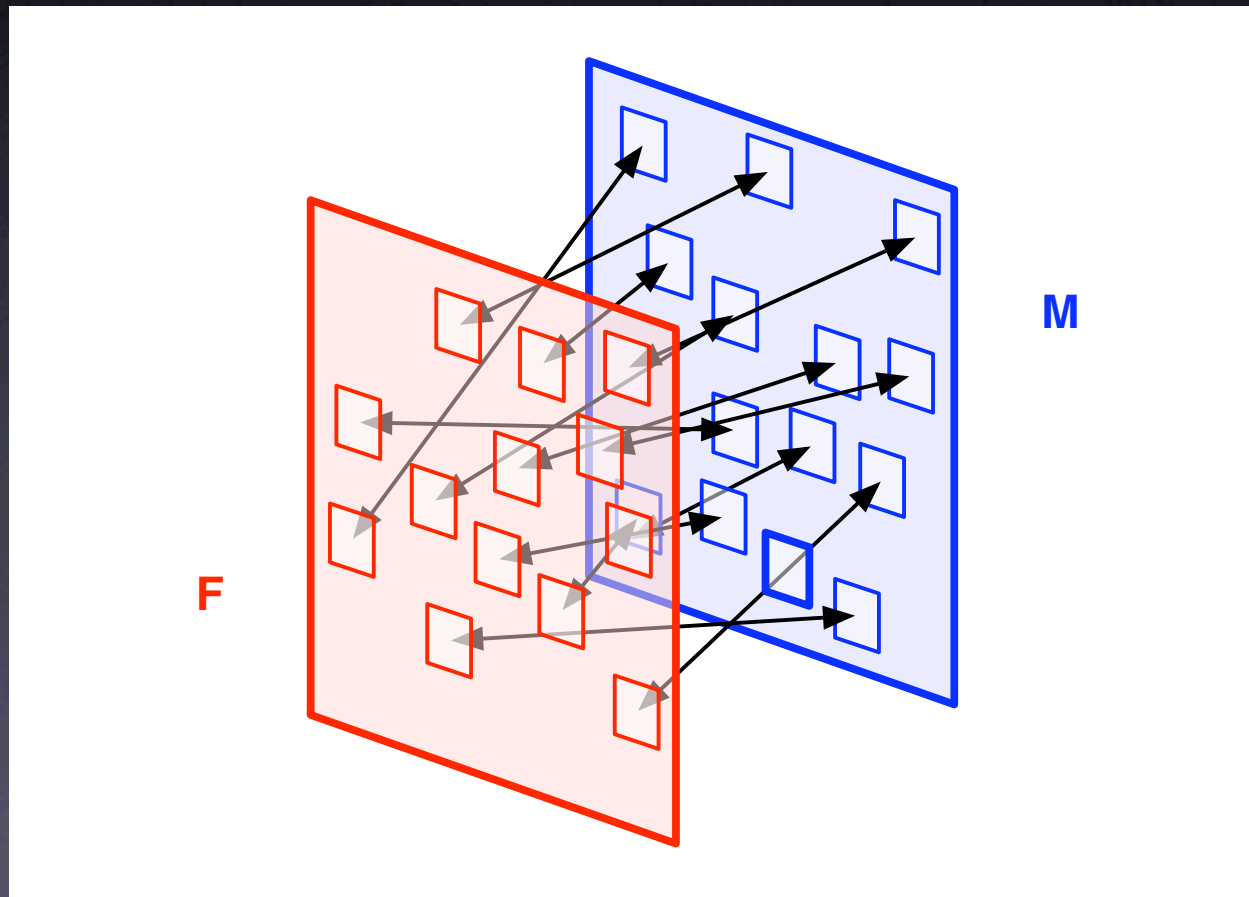
Creating a new association in an iconic language



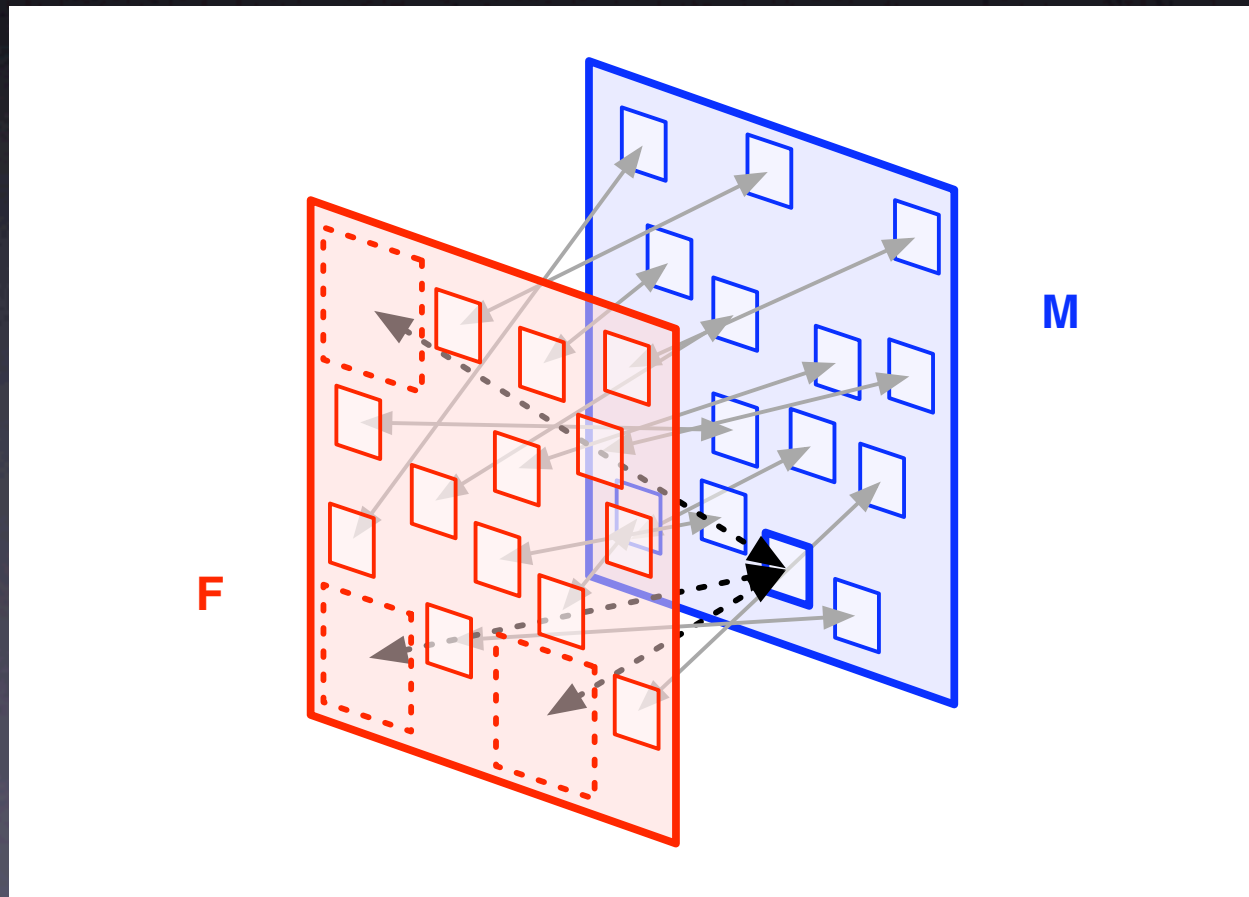
Creating a new association in an iconic language



Creating a new association in an arbitrary language



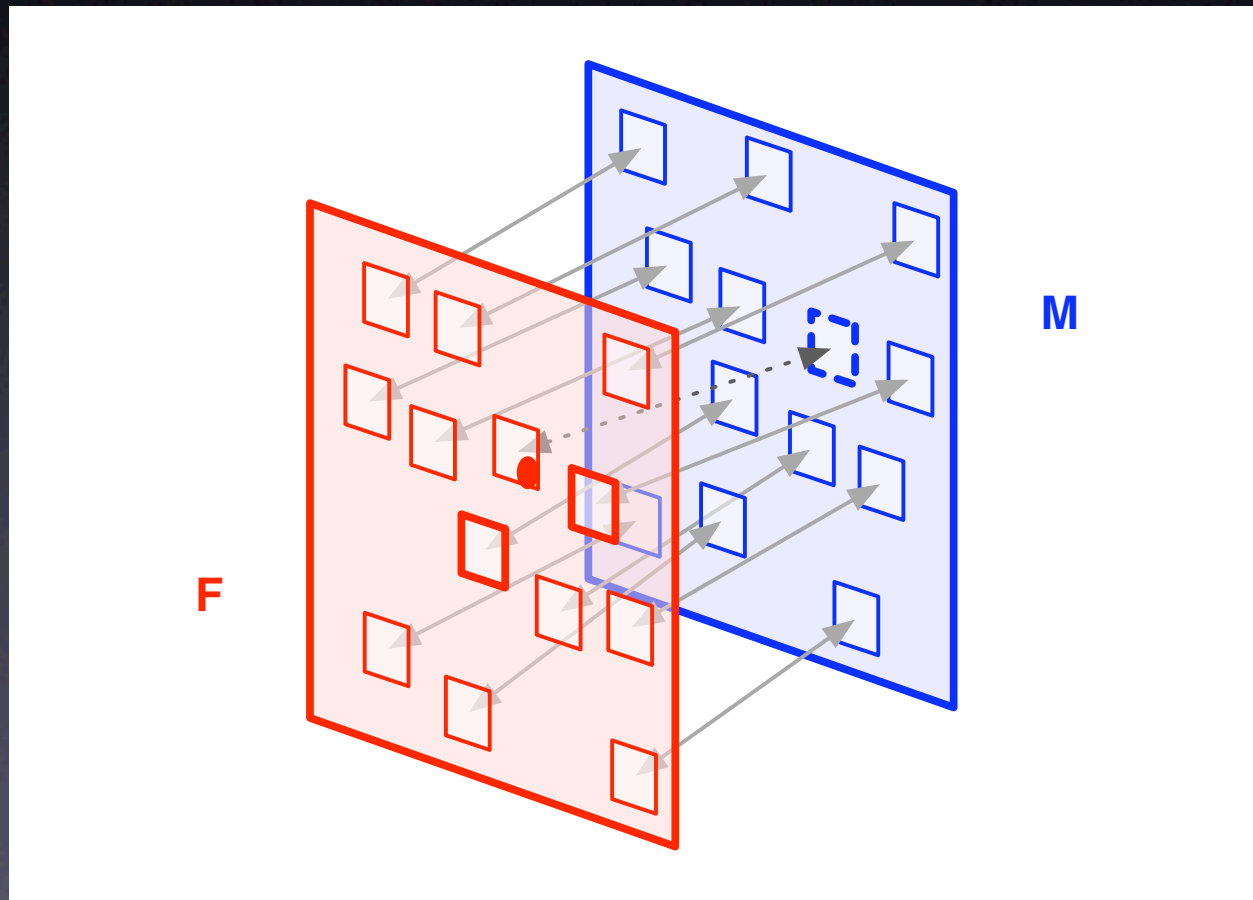
Creating a new association in an arbitrary language



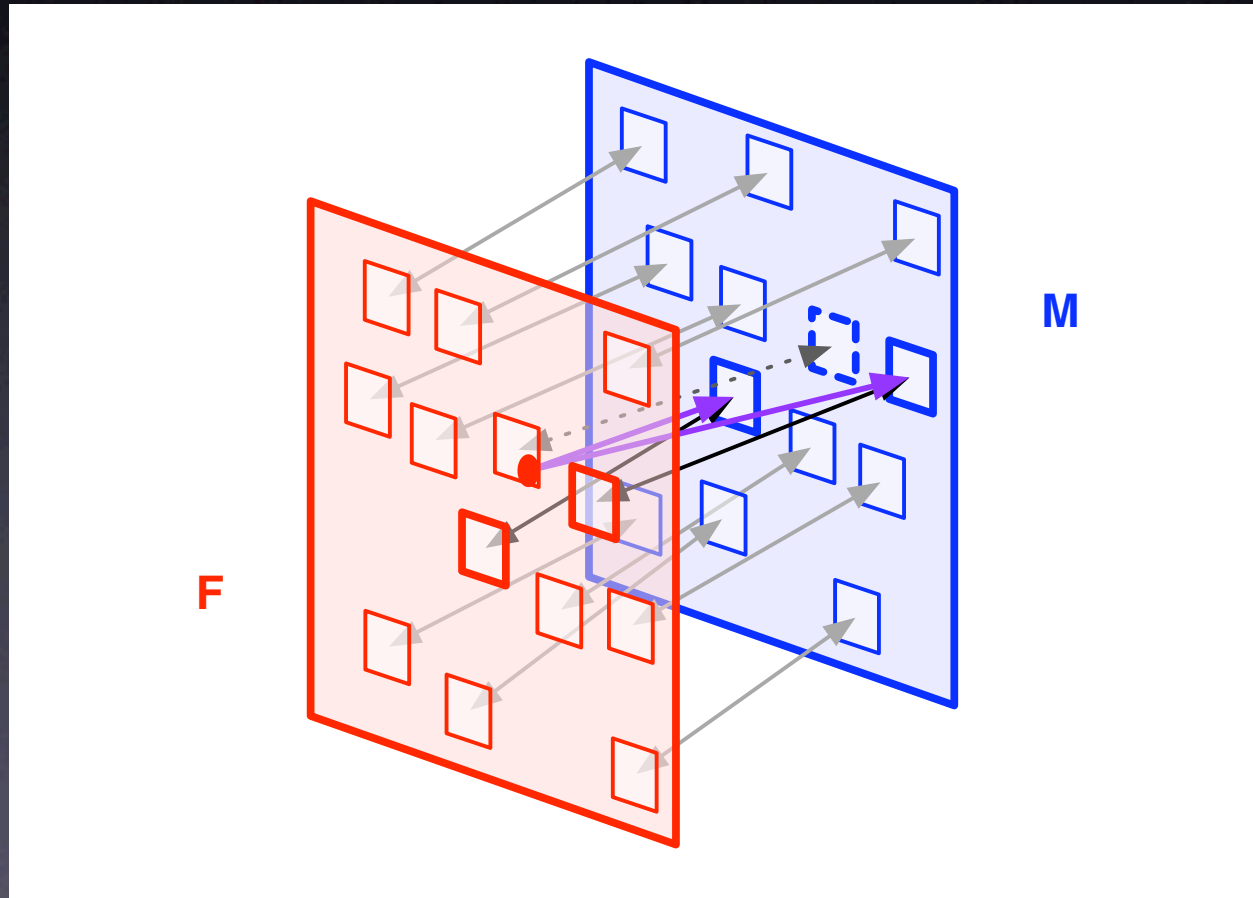
Comprehension and arbitrariness

- The advantage of arbitrariness over relative iconicity within a given semantic domain
 - Arbitrariness in the domain of household tools
 - *Go out to the garage and get the...*
rake, shovel, hoe, axe, hose
 - Even if H mishears, he is likely to retrieve the right tool.
 - Iconicity in the domain of household tools
 - *Go out to the garage and get the...*
rake, p_rrake, rike, rafe, lape
 - If H mishears, he is likely to retrieve the wrong tool.

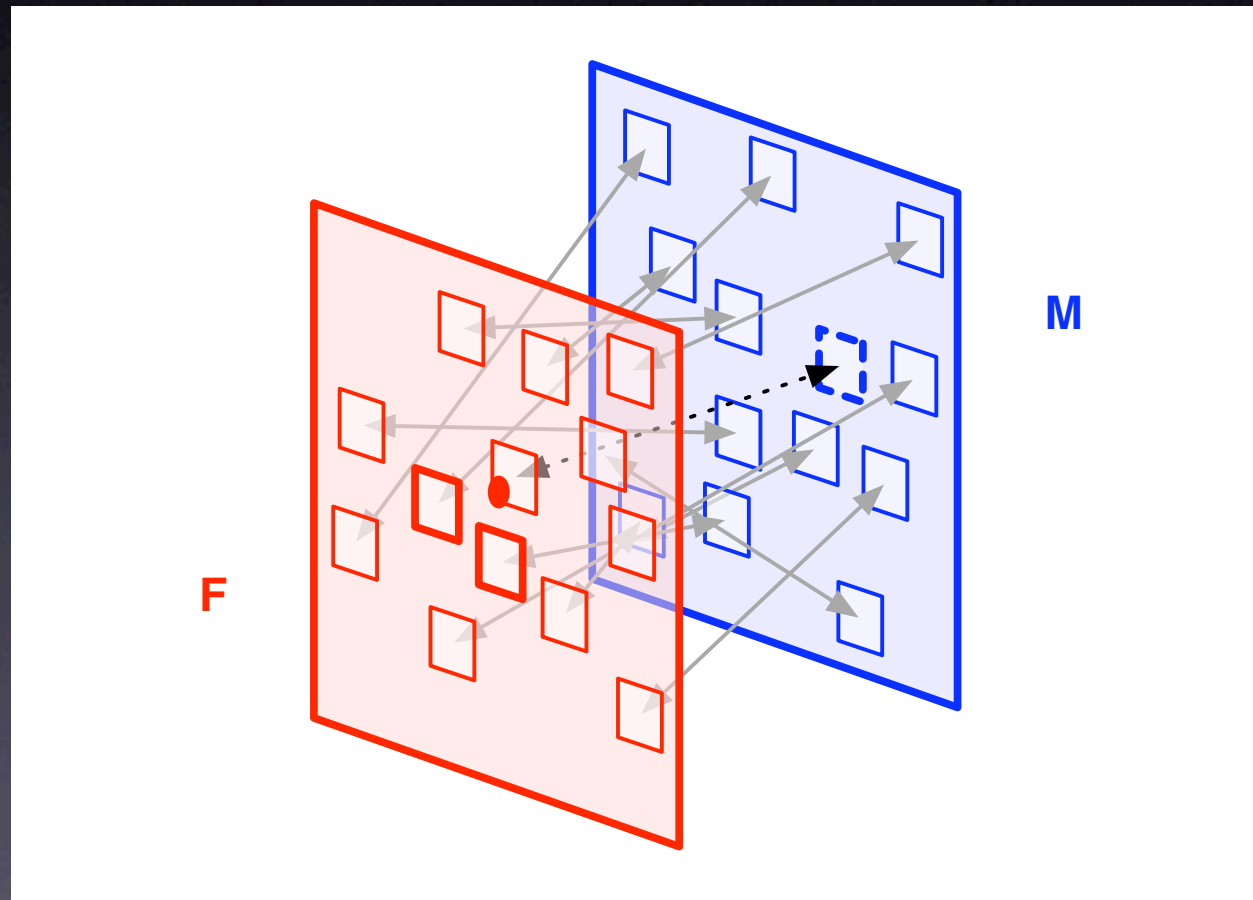
Comprehension in an iconic language



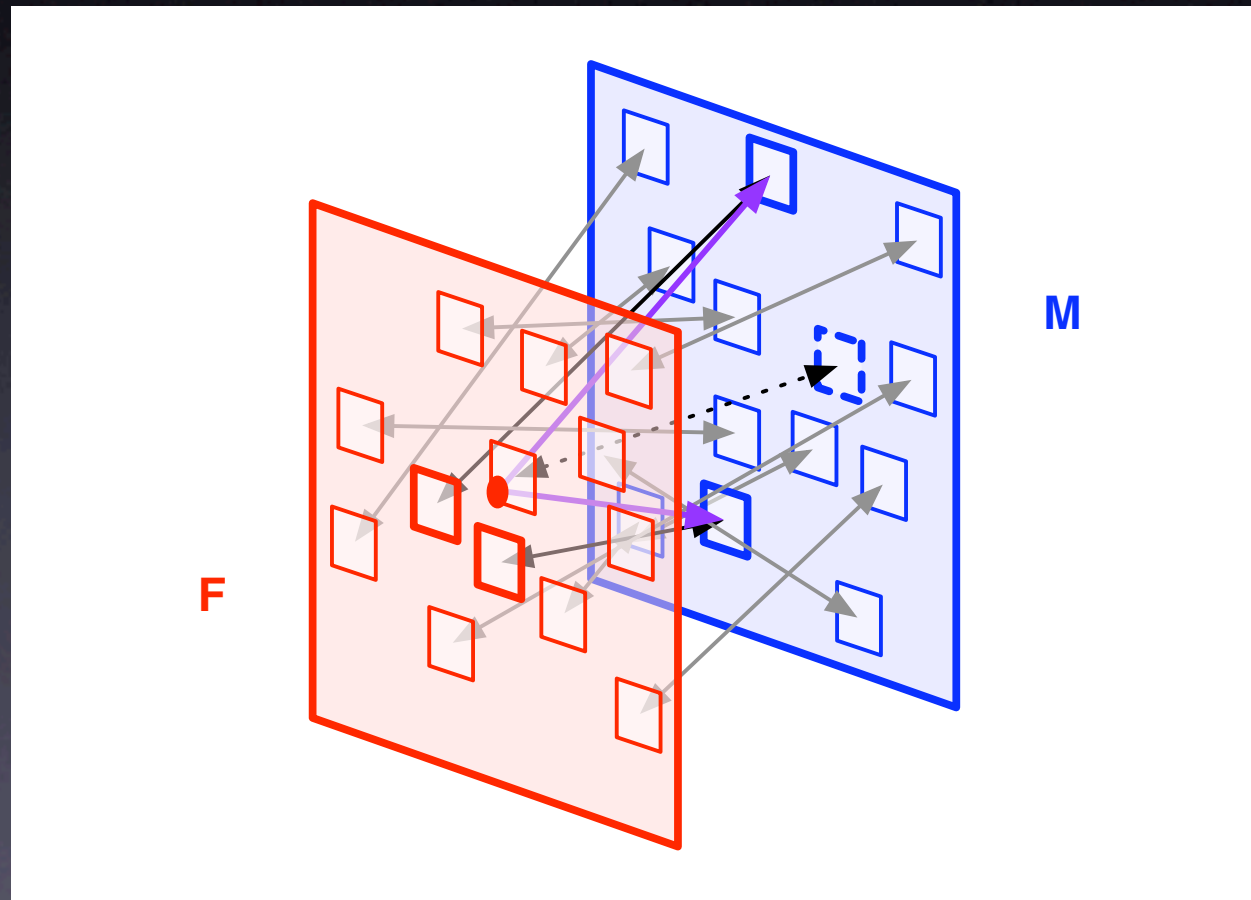
Comprehension in an iconic language



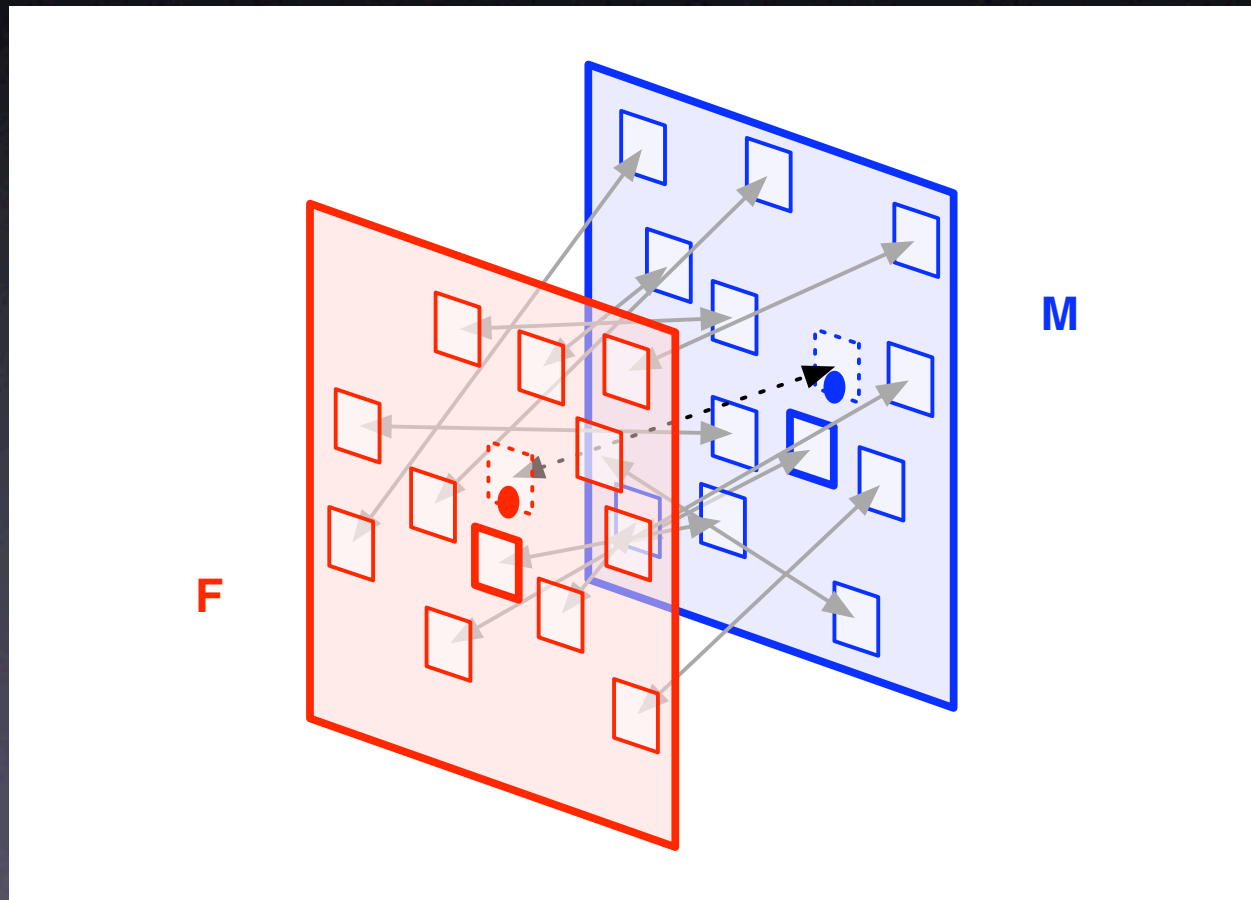
Comprehension in an arbitrary language



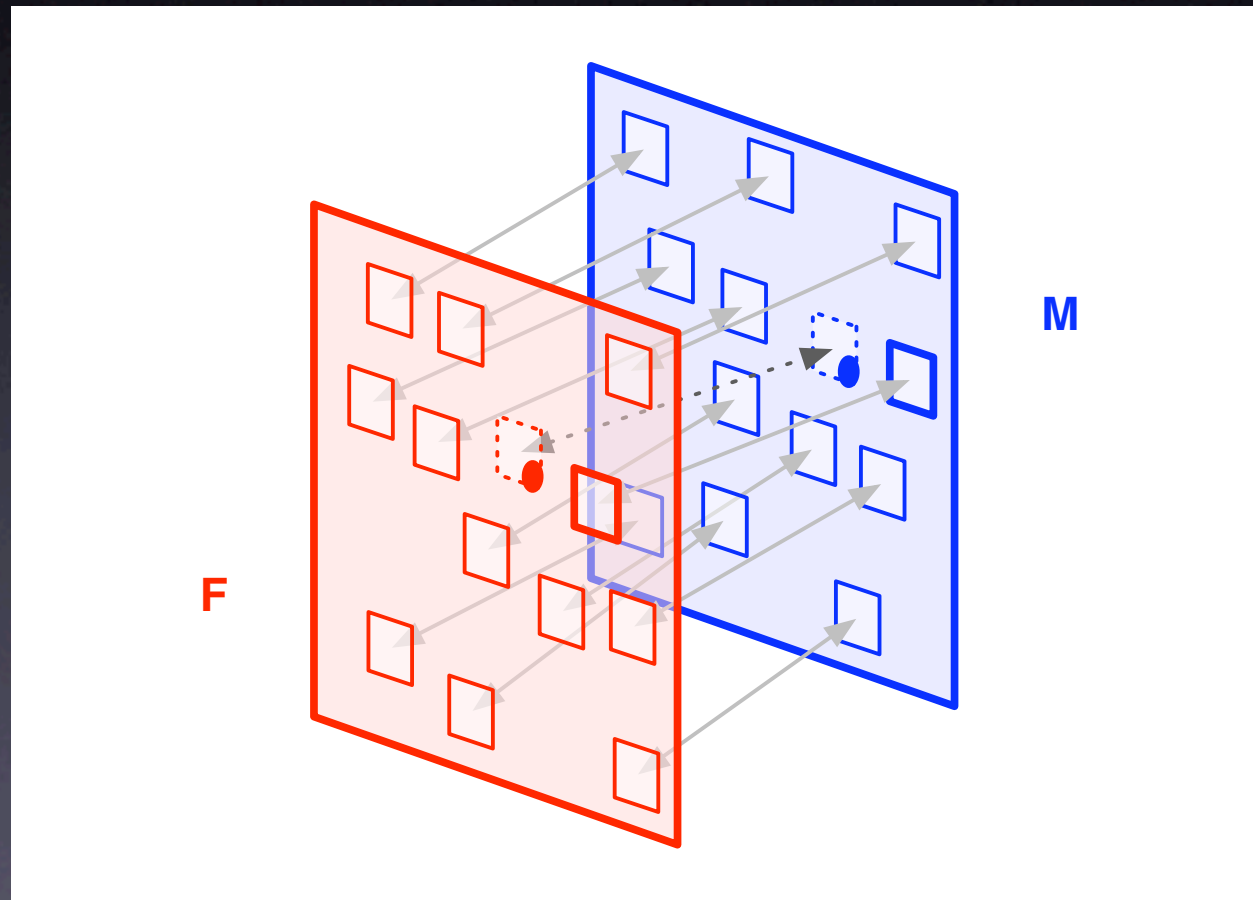
Comprehension in an arbitrary language



Learning categories in an arbitrary language



Learning categories in an iconic language



Iconicity vs. arbitrariness

Iconicity vs. arbitrariness

- Learning

Iconicity vs. arbitrariness

- Learning
 - For an iconic language, there is less to learn.

Iconicity vs. arbitrariness

- Learning
 - For an iconic language, there is less to learn.
- Lexicon size

Iconicity vs. arbitrariness

- Learning
 - For an iconic language, there is less to learn.
- Lexicon size
 - Form-meaning overlap increases with lexicon size; the effect should be worse for iconic languages.

Iconicity vs. arbitrariness

- Learning
 - For an iconic language, there is less to learn.
- Lexicon size
 - Form-meaning overlap increases with lexicon size; the effect should be worse for iconic languages.
- Comprehension

Iconicity vs. arbitrariness

- Learning
 - For an iconic language, there is less to learn.
- Lexicon size
 - Form-meaning overlap increases with lexicon size; the effect should be worse for iconic languages.
- Comprehension
 - Iconic languages allow meanings to be guessed in the presence of noise, but they can lead to confusion when nearby competitors have to be distinguished in a given domain.

Iconicity vs. arbitrariness

- Learning
 - For an iconic language, there is less to learn.
- Lexicon size
 - Form-meaning overlap increases with lexicon size; the effect should be worse for iconic languages.
- Comprehension
 - Iconic languages allow meanings to be guessed in the presence of noise, but they can lead to confusion when nearby competitors have to be distinguished in a given domain.
- Categories

Iconicity vs. arbitrariness

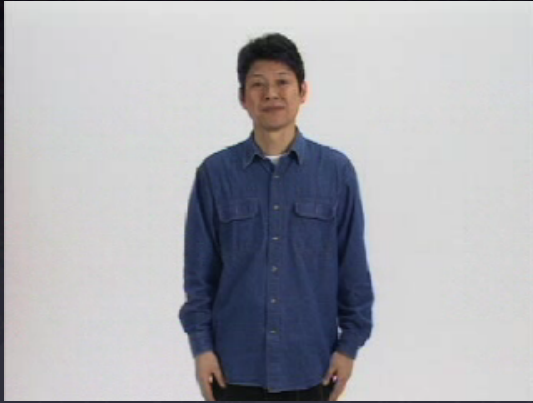
- Learning
 - For an iconic language, there is less to learn.
- Lexicon size
 - Form-meaning overlap increases with lexicon size; the effect should be worse for iconic languages.
- Comprehension
 - Iconic languages allow meanings to be guessed in the presence of noise, but they can lead to confusion when nearby competitors have to be distinguished in a given domain.
- Categories
 - Iconic languages make it harder to keep categories separate during learning.

Iconicity in sign language

(日本手話, ASL, Русский Жестовый Язык)

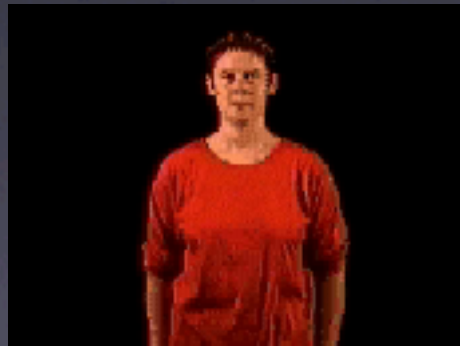
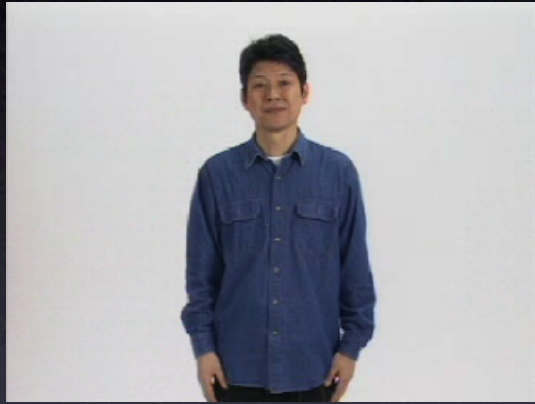
Iconicity in sign language

(日本手話, ASL, Русский Жестовый Язык)



Iconicity in sign language

(日本手話, ASL, Русский Жестовый Язык)

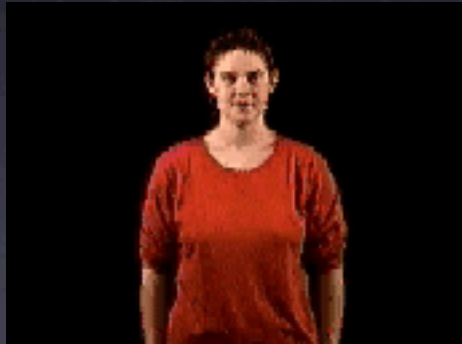


Iconicity in sign language

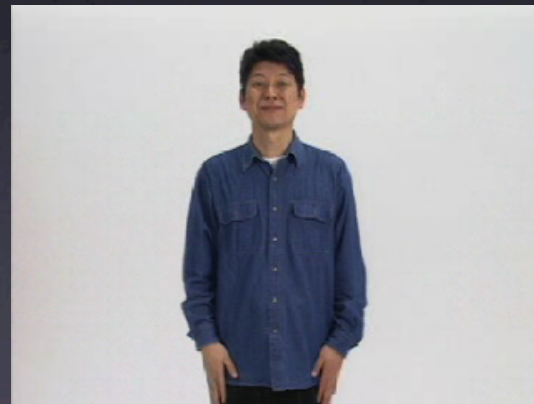
Iconicity in sign language



Iconicity in sign language



Iconicity in sign language



Iconicity in sign language: relational nouns

Iconicity in sign language: relational nouns



Iconicity in sign language: relational nouns



Iconicity in sign language: time and space

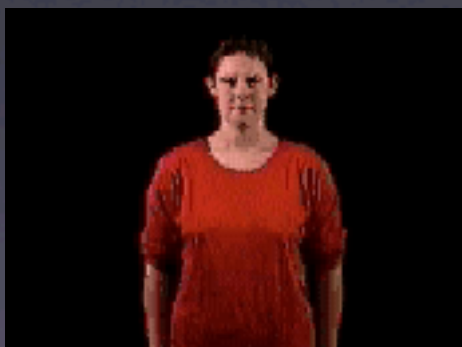
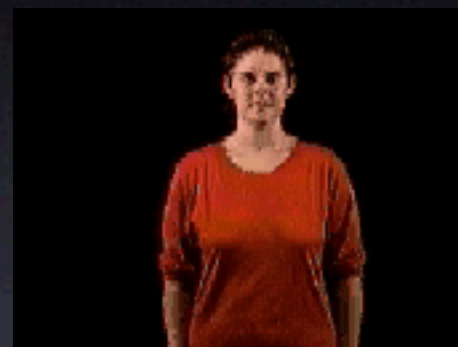
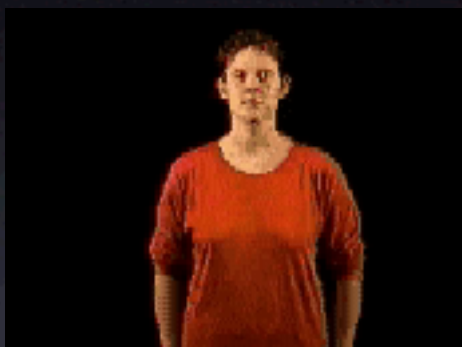
Iconicity in sign language: time and space



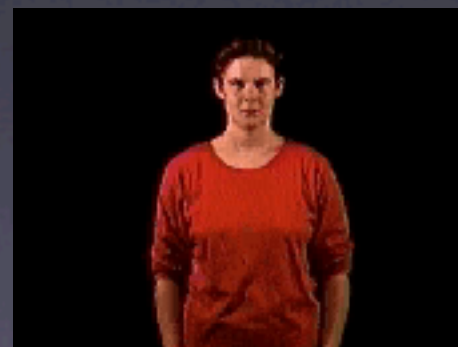
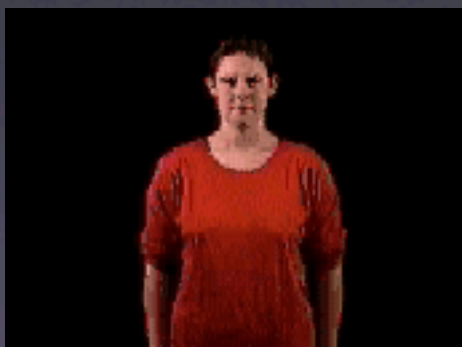
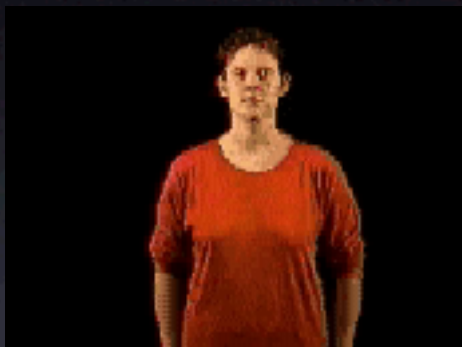
Iconicity in sign language: time and space



Iconicity in sign language: time and space



Iconicity in sign language: time and space



Iconicity and deixis in sign language

Iconicity and deixis in sign language



Metonymy

Metonymy

- Productive, creative uses

Metonymy

- Productive, creative uses
 - **Ohio** *played a deciding role in the election.*

Metonymy

- Productive, creative uses
 - **Ohio** played a deciding role in the election.
 - The **mushroom omelet** left without paying. (Fauconnier)

Metonymy

- Productive, creative uses
 - **Ohio** played a deciding role in the election.
 - The **mushroom omelet** left without paying. (Fauconnier)
- Semantic extension (conventions)

Metonymy

- Productive, creative uses
 - **Ohio** played a deciding role in the election.
 - The **mushroom omelet** left without paying. (Fauconnier)
- Semantic extension (conventions)
 - *paper*

Metonymy

- Productive, creative uses
 - **Ohio** played a deciding role in the election.
 - The **mushroom omelet** left without paying. (Fauconnier)
- Semantic extension (conventions)
 - paper
 - chair

Metonymy

- Productive, creative uses
 - **Ohio** *played a deciding role in the election.*
 - The **mushroom omelet** *left without paying.* (Fauconnier)
- Semantic extension (conventions)
 - *paper*
 - *chair*
 - *orange* (1300, 1542)

Metonymy

- Productive, creative uses
 - **Ohio** *played a deciding role in the election.*
 - The **mushroom omelet** *left without paying.* (Fauconnier)
- Semantic extension (conventions)
 - *paper*
 - *chair*
 - *orange* (1300, 1542)
 - *color*

Metonymy

- Productive, creative uses
 - **Ohio** *played a deciding role in the election.*
 - The **mushroom omelet** *left without paying.* (Fauconnier)
- Semantic extension (conventions)
 - *paper*
 - *chair*
 - *orange* (1300, 1542)
 - *color*
 - *blockhead*

Metaphor and analogy

Metaphor and analogy

- Productive, creative uses

Metaphor and analogy

- Productive, creative uses
 - Like a **hall of mirrors**, our political debate is, in every way, designed to perpetuate the status quo. But no hall of mirrors can withstand the impact of a big enough **tidal wave**, which is why those inside the hall are freaking out.

Metaphor and analogy

- Productive, creative uses
 - Like a **hall of mirrors**, our political debate is, in every way, designed to perpetuate the status quo. But no hall of mirrors can withstand the impact of a big enough **tidal wave**, which is why those inside the hall are freaking out.
- Semantic extension

Metaphor and analogy

- Productive, creative uses
 - Like a **hall of mirrors**, our political debate is, in every way, designed to perpetuate the status quo. But no hall of mirrors can withstand the impact of a big enough **tidal wave**, which is why those inside the hall are freaking out.
- Semantic extension
 - Conventional

Metaphor and analogy

- Productive, creative uses
 - Like a **hall of mirrors**, our political debate is, in every way, designed to perpetuate the status quo. But no hall of mirrors can withstand the impact of a big enough **tidal wave**, which is why those inside the hall are freaking out.
- Semantic extension
 - Conventional
 - kiwi(fruit), the Web, spam, network

Metaphor and analogy

- Productive, creative uses
 - Like a **hall of mirrors**, our political debate is, in every way, designed to perpetuate the status quo. But no hall of mirrors can withstand the impact of a big enough **tidal wave**, which is why those inside the hall are freaking out.
- Semantic extension
 - Conventional
 - kiwi(fruit), the Web, spam, network
 - Semi-conventional

Metaphor and analogy

- Productive, creative uses
 - Like a **hall of mirrors**, our political debate is, in every way, designed to perpetuate the status quo. But no hall of mirrors can withstand the impact of a big enough **tidal wave**, which is why those inside the hall are freaking out.
- Semantic extension
 - Conventional
 - kiwi(fruit), the Web, spam, network
 - Semi-conventional
 - the twisted moral **compass** that governs him and his buddies

Metaphor, analogy, frames, mappings

Metaphor, analogy, frames, mappings

- Idioms

Metaphor, analogy, frames, mappings

- Idioms
 - *I spilled the beans.*

Metaphor, analogy, frames, mappings

- Idioms

- *I spilled the beans.*
- *At least we're singing from the same songbook.*

Metaphor, analogy, frames, mappings

- Idioms

- *I spilled the beans.*
- *At least we're singing from the same songbook.*
- *She didn't get to first base with him.*

Metaphor, analogy, frames, mappings

- Idioms

- *I spilled the beans.*
- *At least we're singing from the same songbook.*
- *She didn't get to first base with him.*
- *He struck out with her.*

Metaphor, analogy, frames, mappings

- Idioms

- *I spilled the beans.*
- *At least we're singing from the same songbook.*
- *She didn't get to first base with him.*
- *He struck out with her.*
- *Touch base with me before you leave.*

Metaphor, analogy, frames, mappings

- Idioms

- *I spilled the beans.*
- *At least we're singing from the same songbook.*
- *She didn't get to first base with him.*
- *He struck out with her.*
- *Touch base with me before you leave.*

- Creative mappings

Metaphor, analogy, frames, mappings

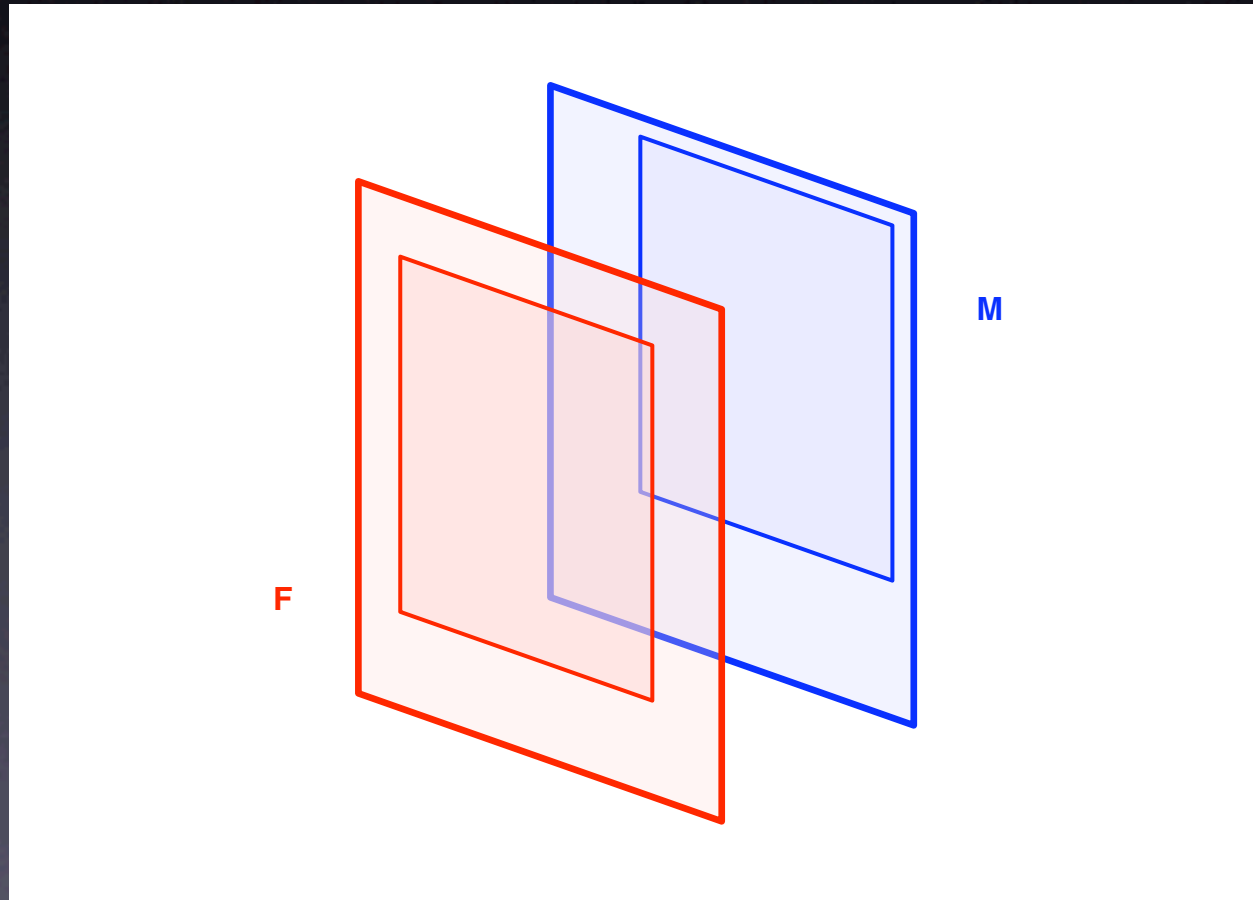
- Idioms

- *I spilled the beans.*
- *At least we're singing from the same songbook.*
- *She didn't get to first base with him.*
- *He struck out with her.*
- *Touch base with me before you leave.*

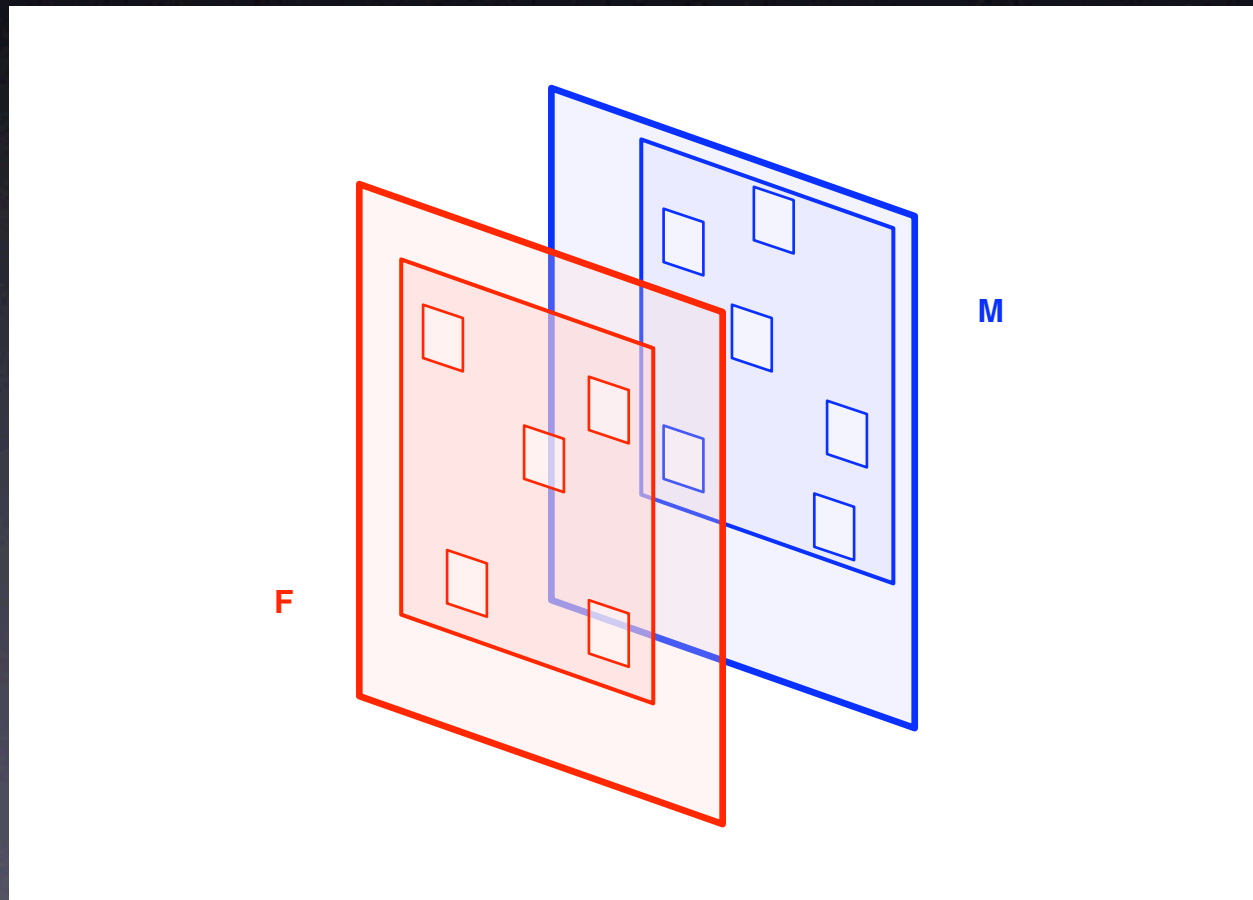
- Creative mappings

- *They are fat and happy and putting the pedal to the metal in their sleek sports car on the great American highway overpass - and anyone who tries to slow them down, run them off the road or make them just glance at the blight below gets the big, road-raged middle finger. (Sirota)*

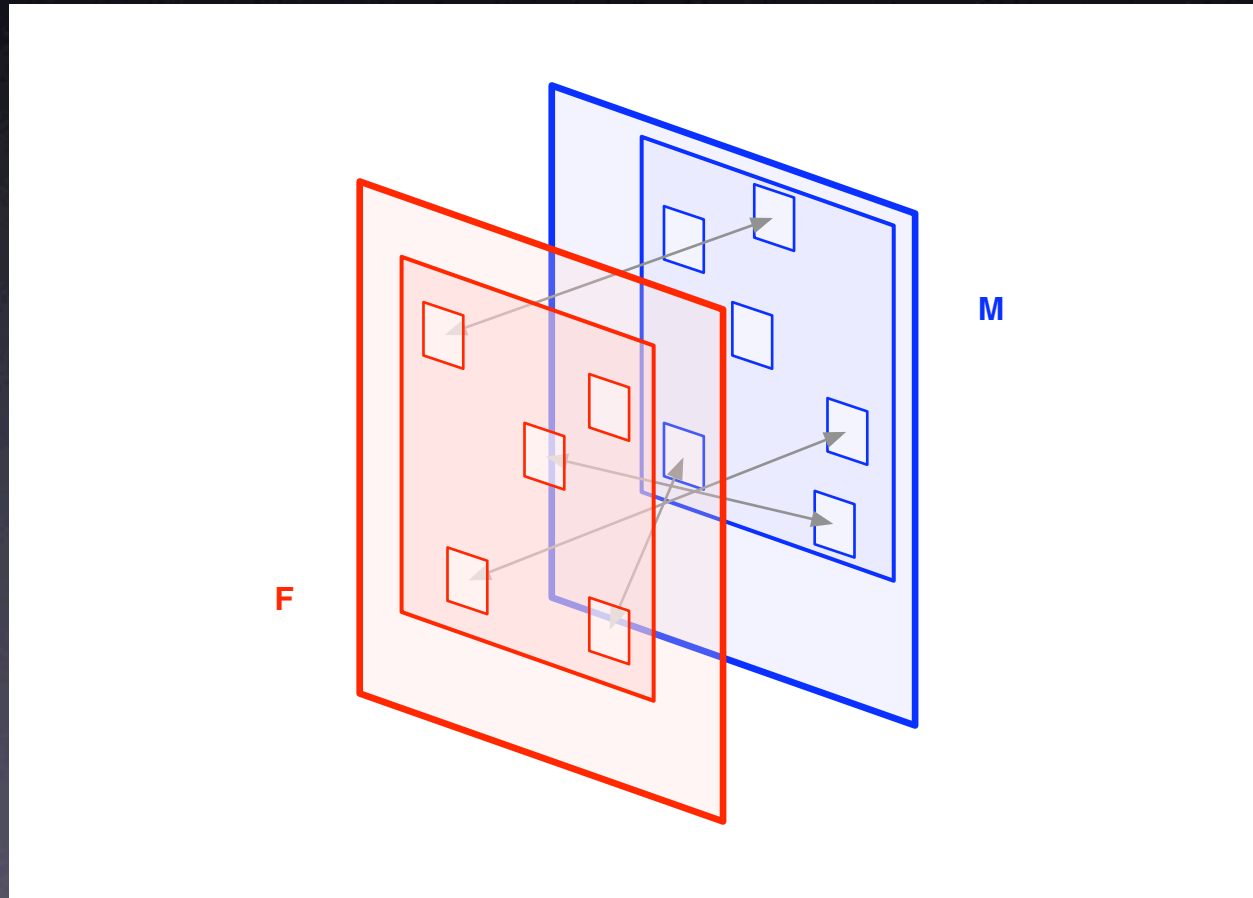
Metaphor and iconicity up close



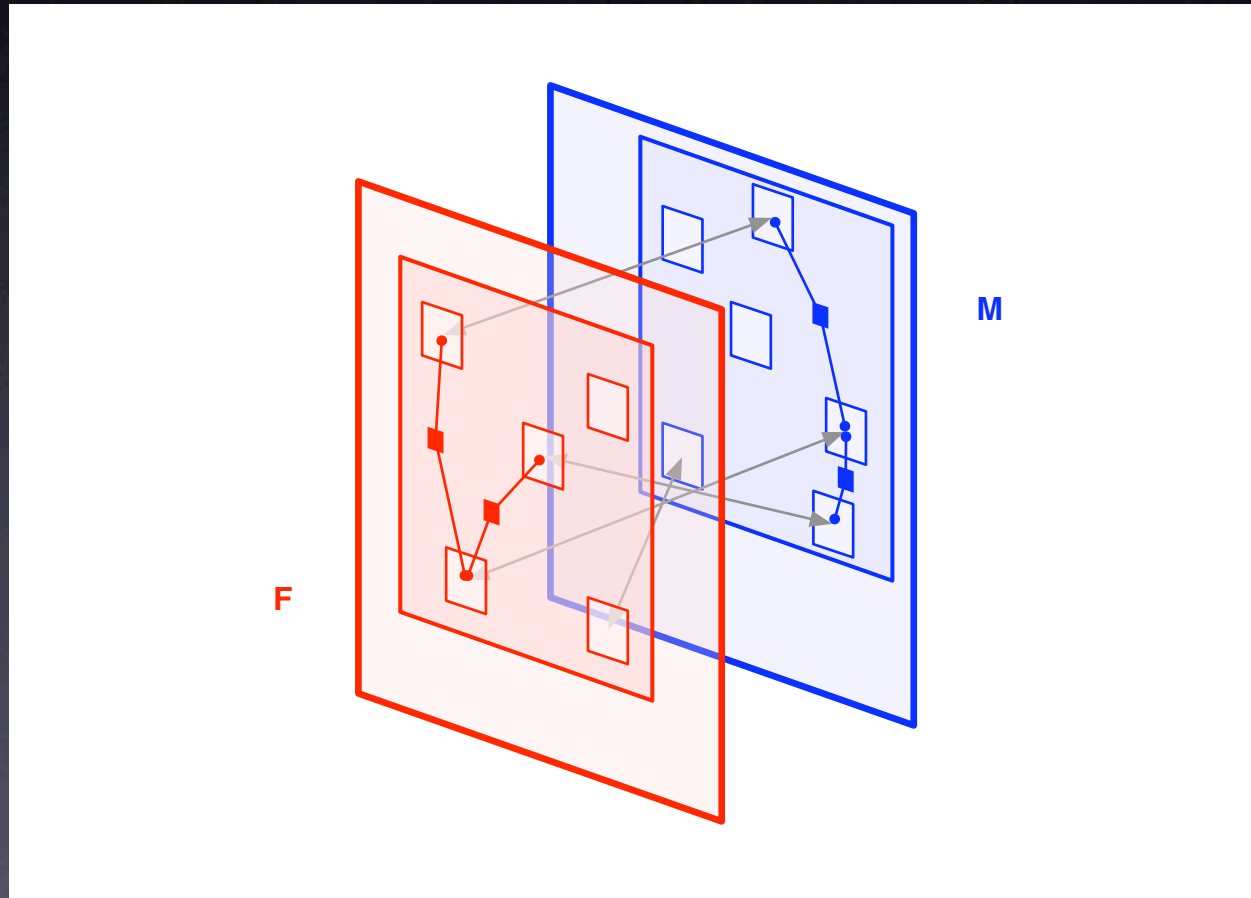
Metaphor and iconicity up close



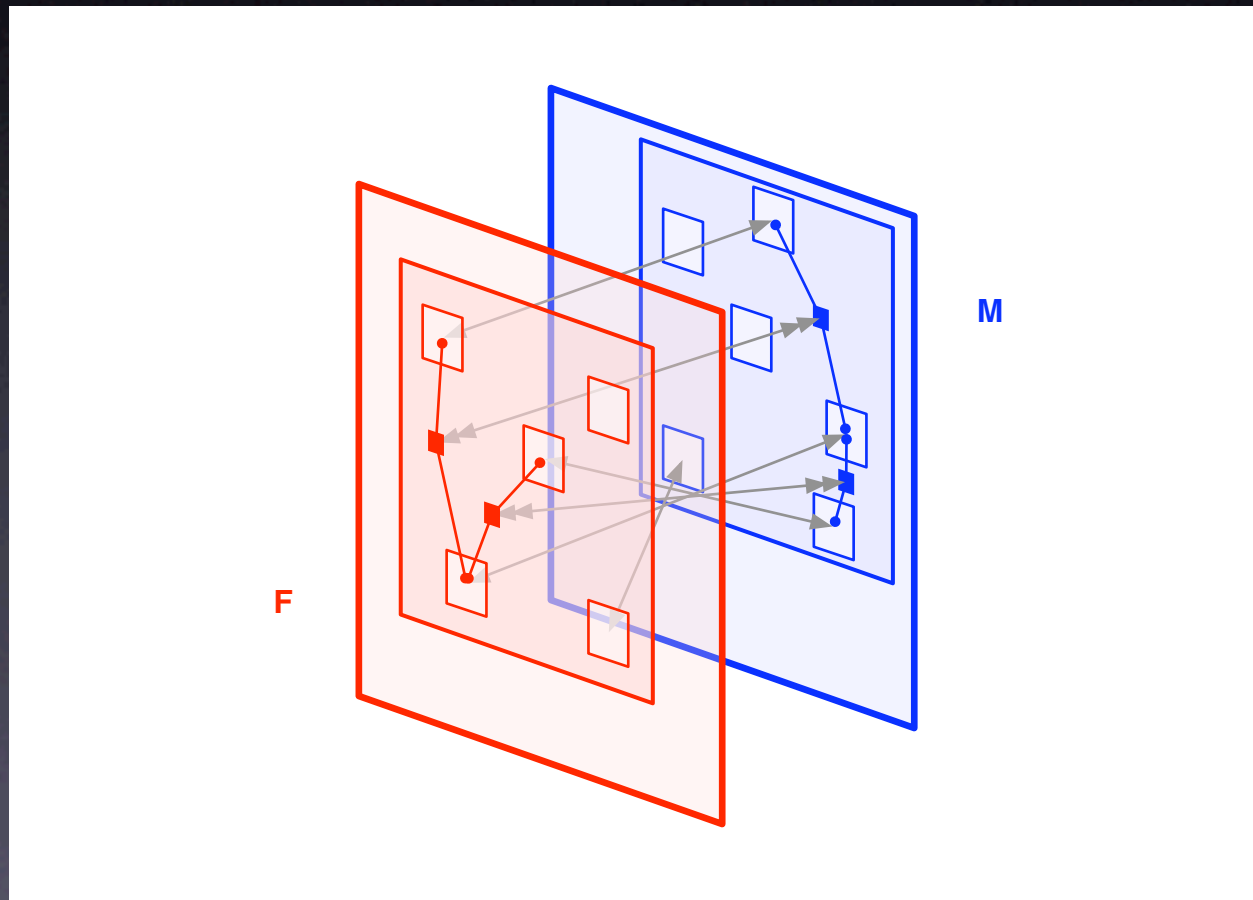
Metaphor and iconicity up close



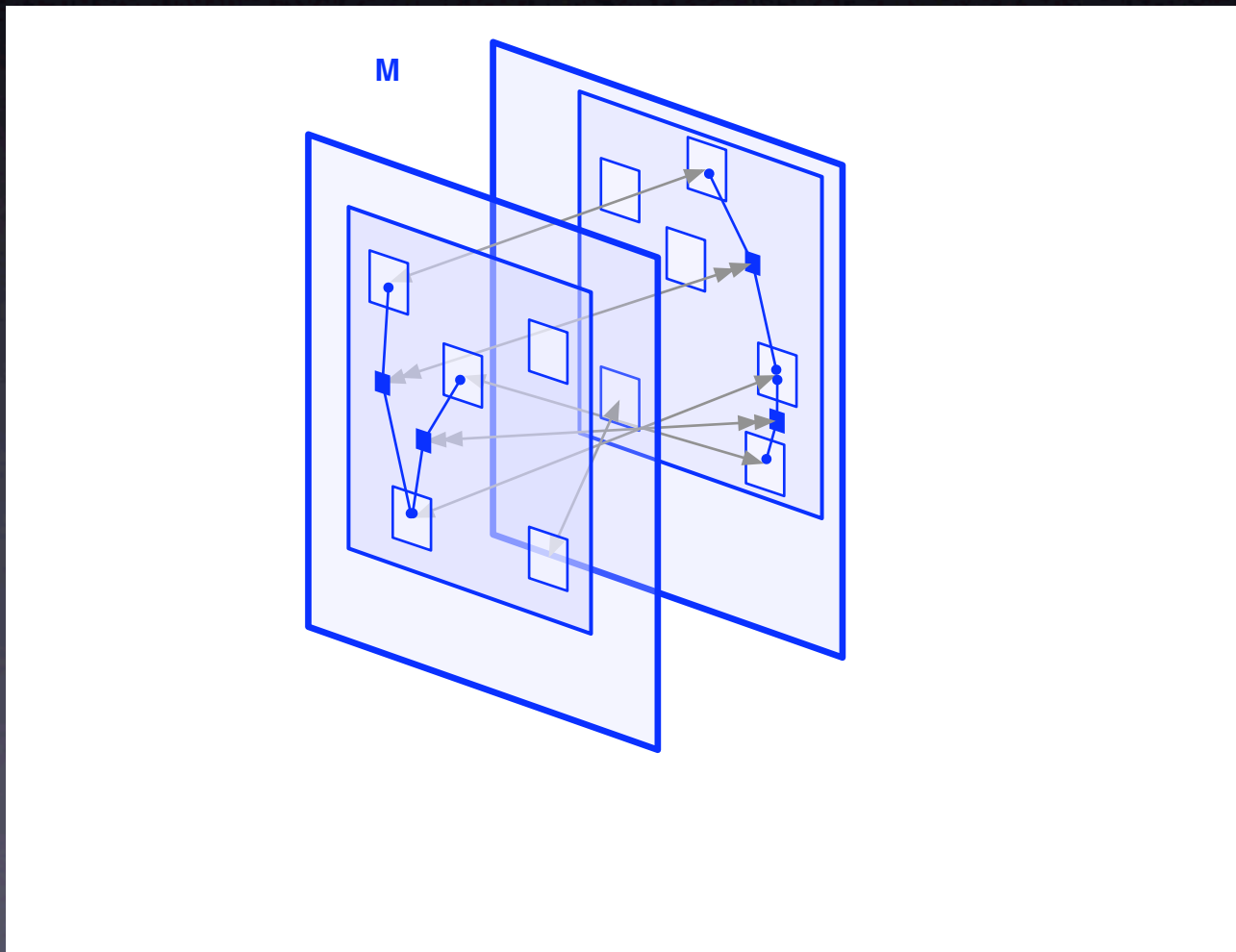
Metaphor and iconicity up close



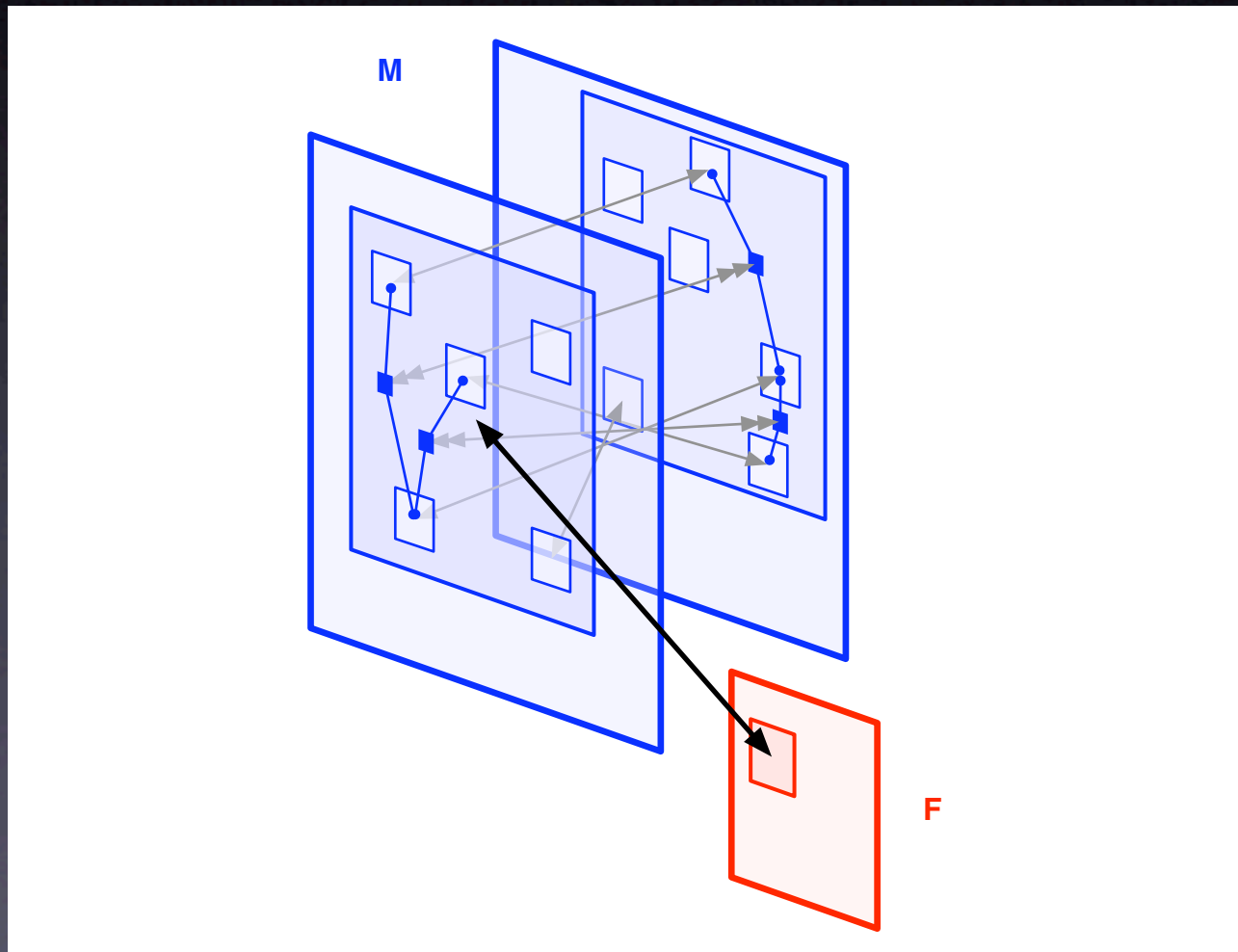
Metaphor and iconicity up close



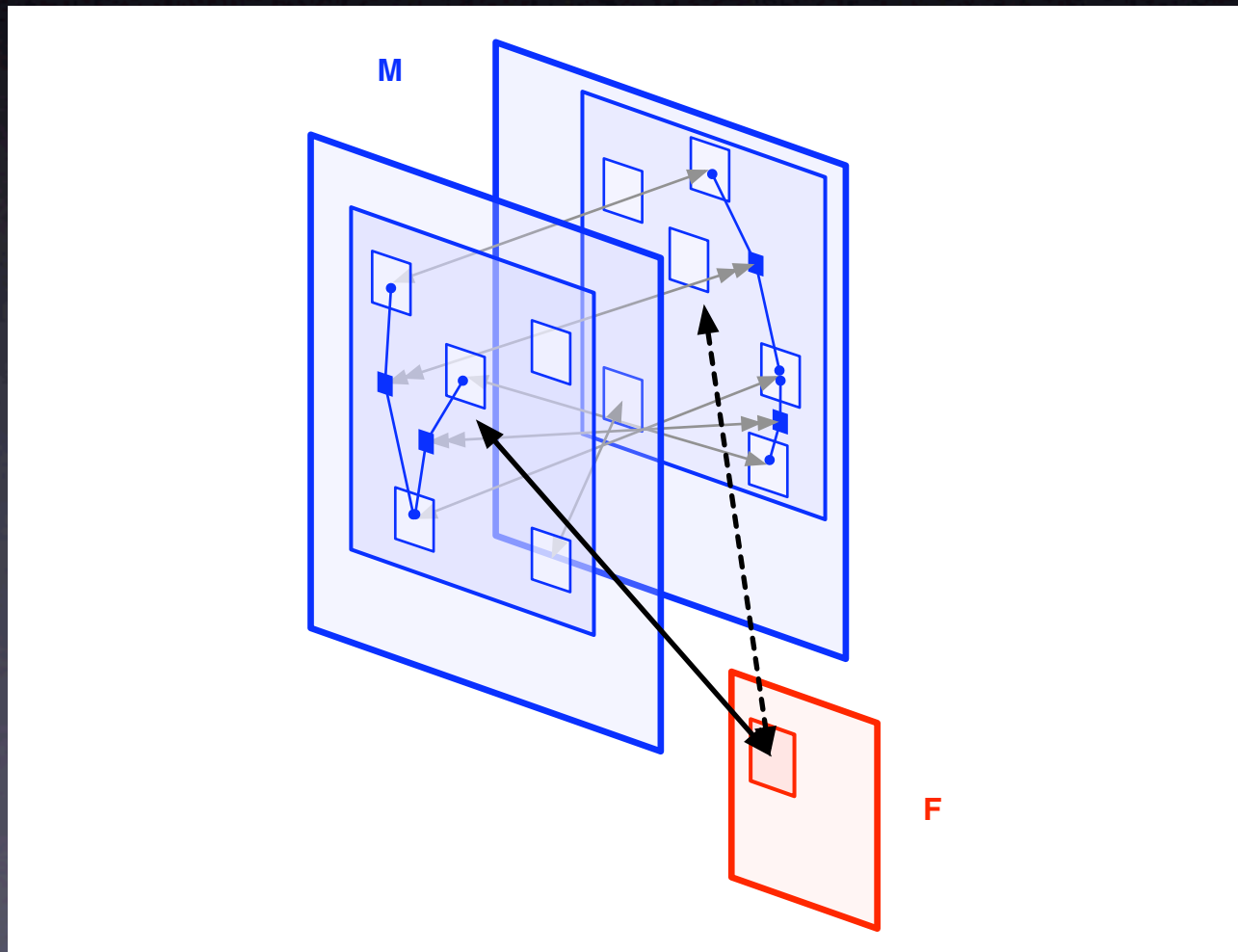
Metaphorical extension up close



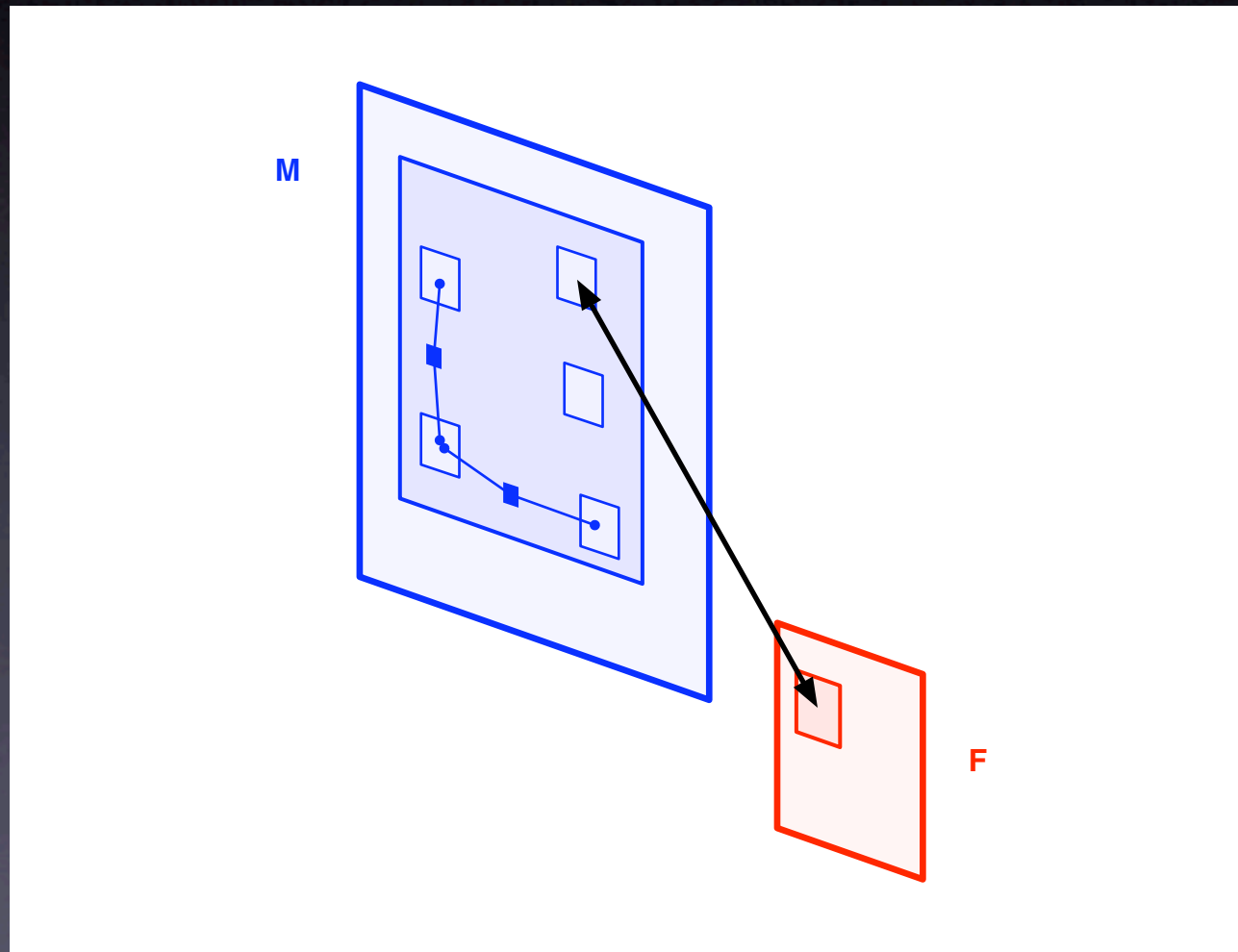
Metaphorical extension up close



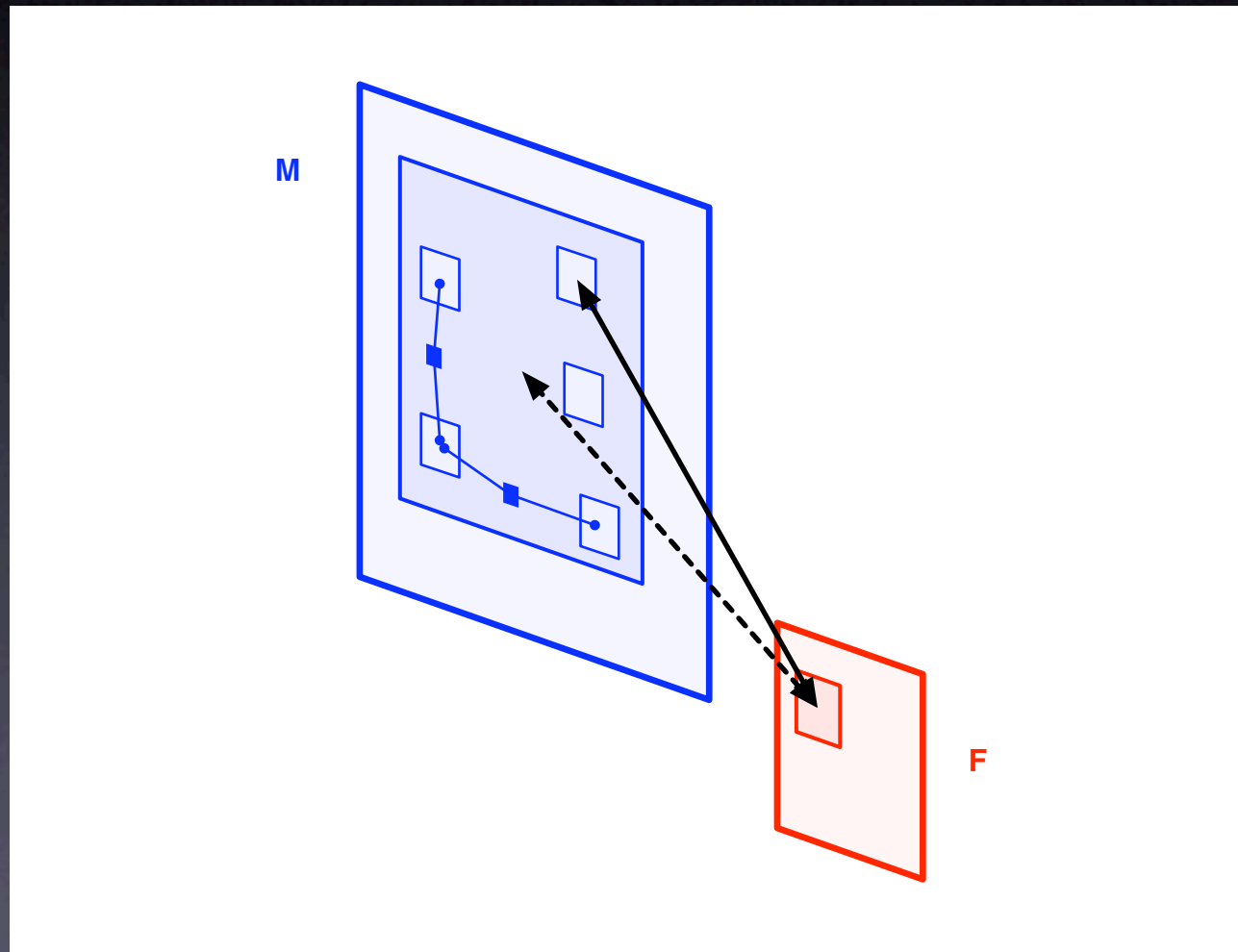
Metaphorical extension up close



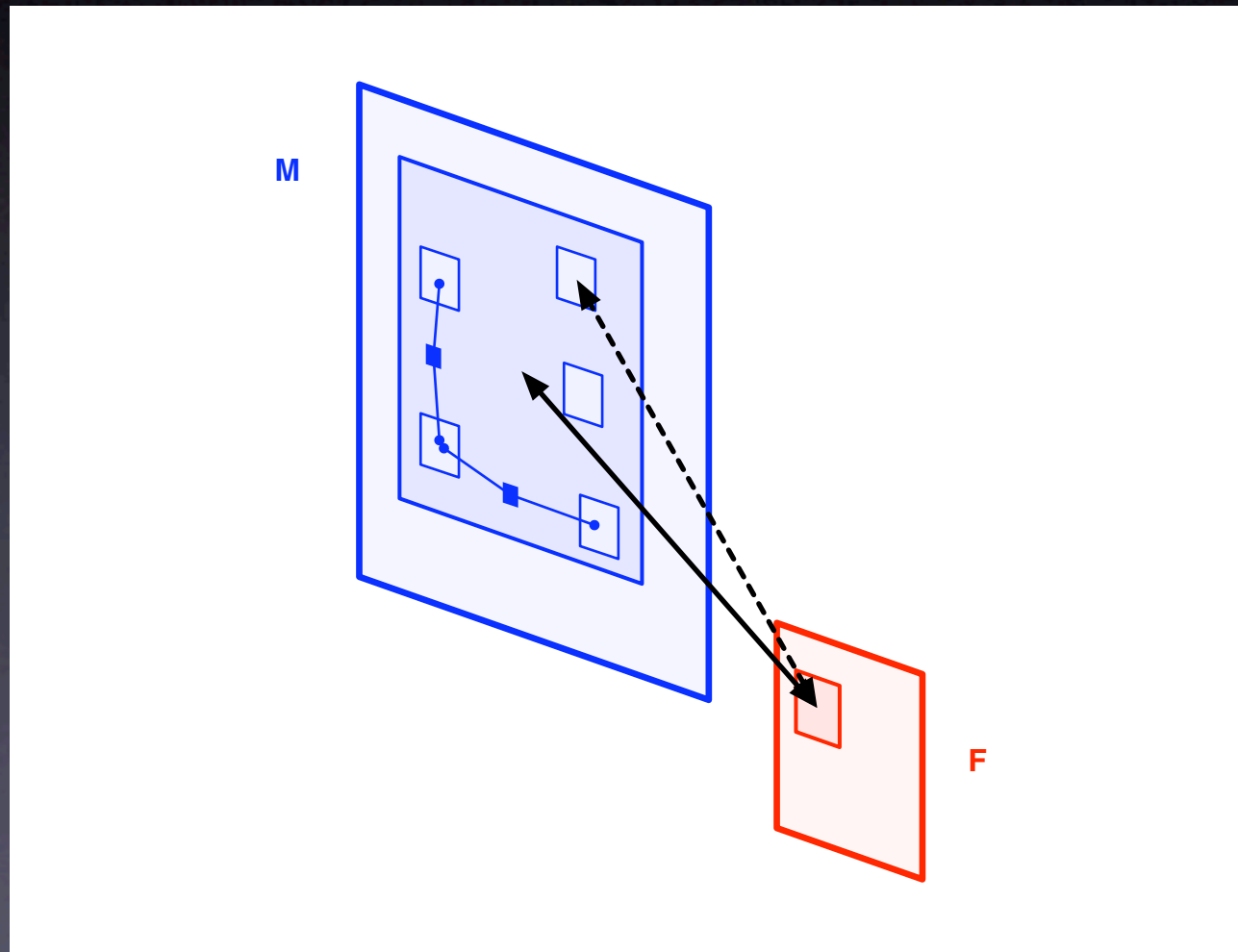
Metonymic extension up close



Metonymic extension up close



Metonymic extension up close



Metaphor, analogy, framing (Lakoff)

Metaphor, analogy, framing (Lakoff)

- Systematic mapping between a **source** (often more concrete) and a **target** (often more abstract) domain

Metaphor, analogy, framing (Lakoff)

- Systematic mapping between a **source** (often more concrete) and a **target** (often more abstract) domain
- Time as Space

Metaphor, analogy, framing (Lakoff)

- Systematic mapping between a **source** (often more concrete) and a **target** (often more abstract) domain
- Time as Space
- Love as War, Nutrient, Insanity, Journey, ...

Metaphor, analogy, framing (Lakoff)

- Systematic mapping between a **source** (often more concrete) and a **target** (often more abstract) domain
- Time as Space
- Love as War, Nutrient, Insanity, Journey, ...
- Taxation as Burden

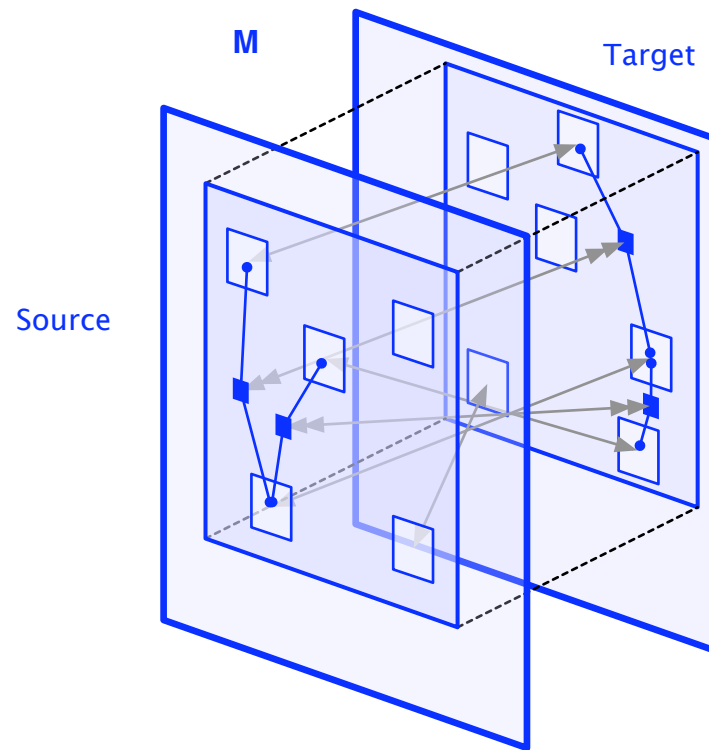
Metaphor, analogy, framing (Lakoff)

- Systematic mapping between a **source** (often more concrete) and a **target** (often more abstract) domain
- Time as Space
- Love as War, Nutrient, Insanity, Journey, ...
- Taxation as Burden
- Taxation as Responsibility

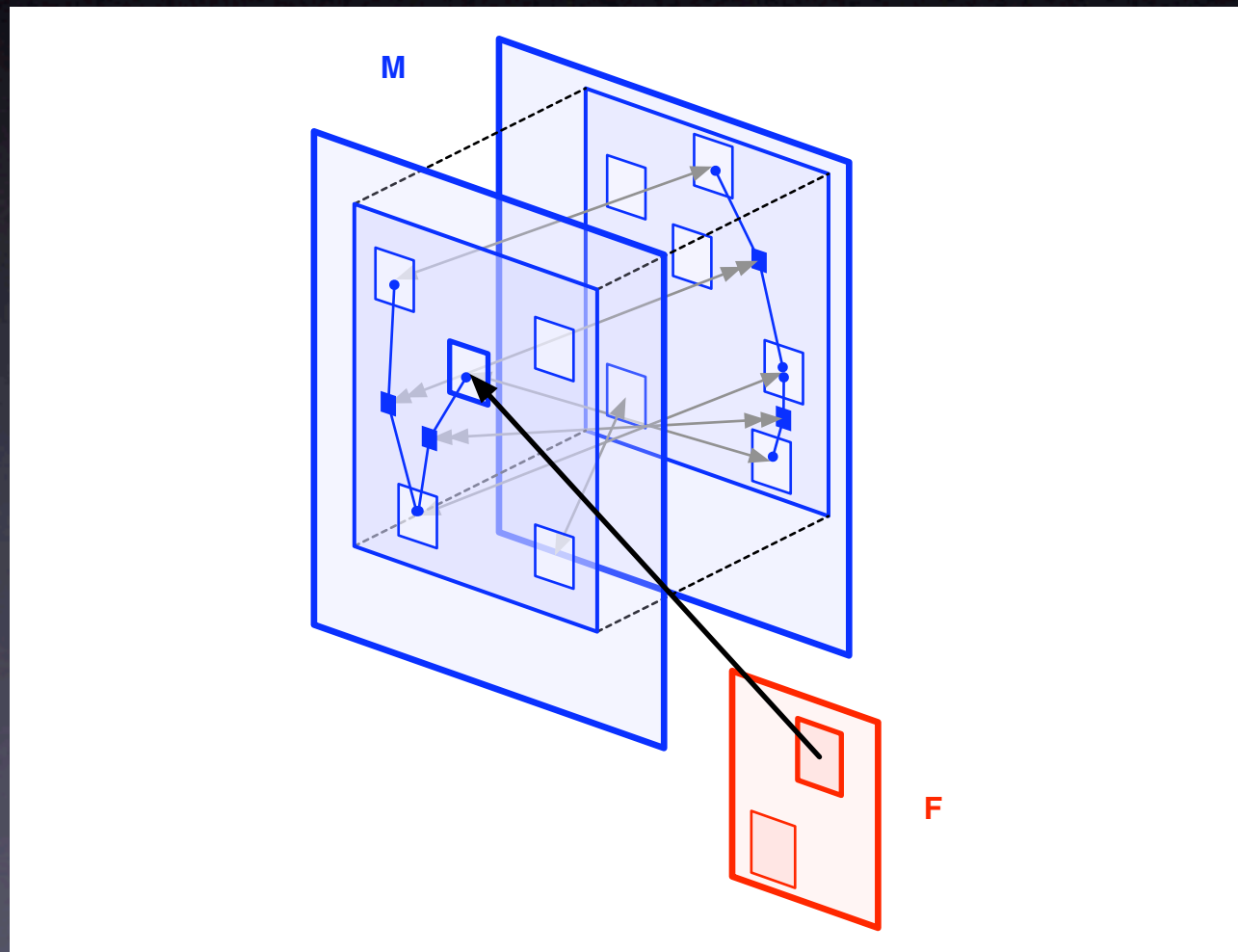
Metaphor, analogy, framing (Lakoff)

- Systematic mapping between a **source** (often more concrete) and a **target** (often more abstract) domain
- Time as Space
- Love as War, Nutrient, Insanity, Journey, ...
- Taxation as Burden
- Taxation as Responsibility
- Many more

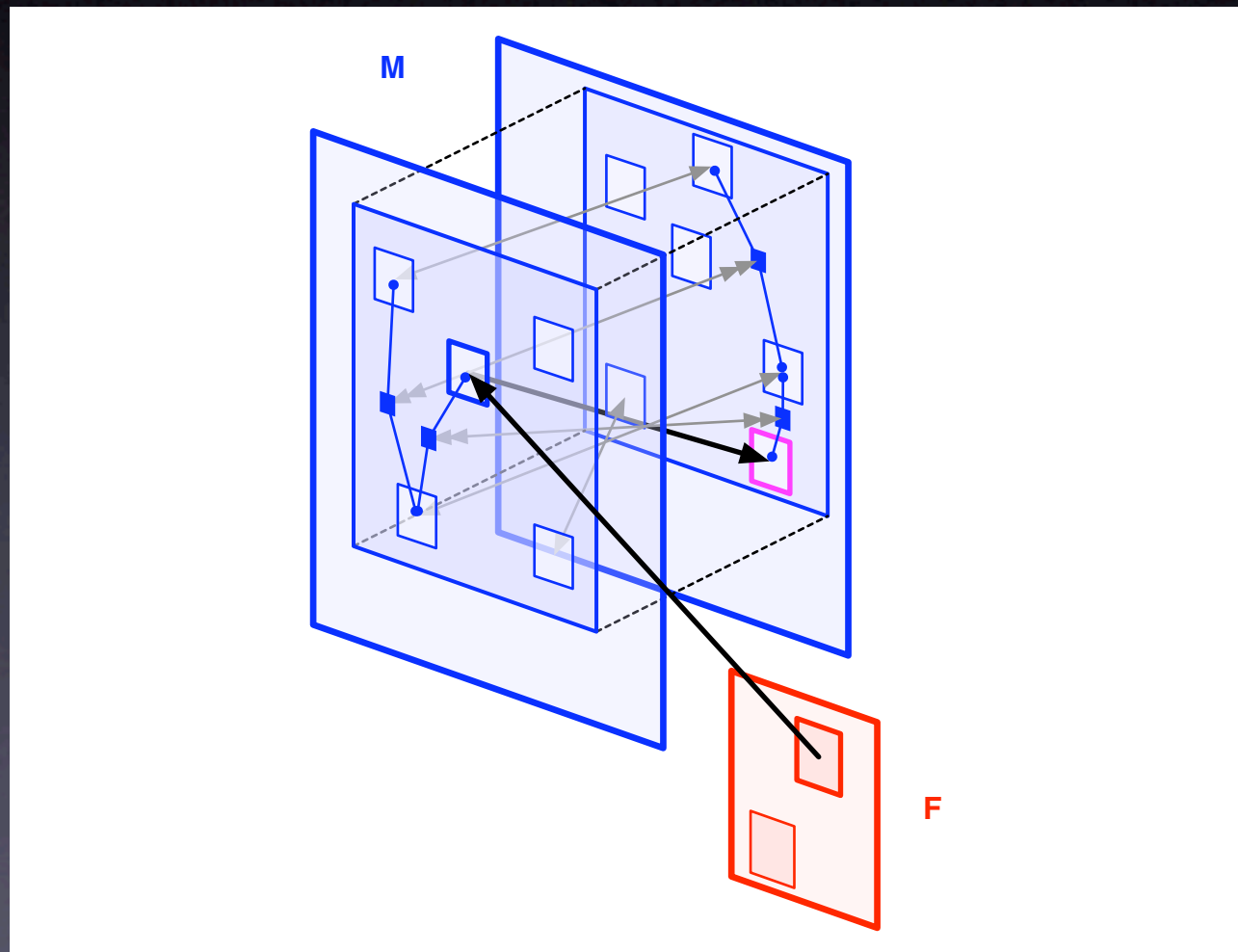
Framing up close



Framing up close



Framing up close



Framing up close

