Science and Language

by

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Venue: New CCS premises
(Former TIFR Mathematics Building), IISc
Date: Thursday, 5th June; Time: 4pm
Tea/Coffee will be served at 3:30 pm

Please note the new venue

Science has an intriguing relationship with language. If the primary task of science is to describe the world as it really is then it needs language to do the job. However, the very idea of a real objective world is that it is believed to be independent of language. This paradox lies at the heart of how science engages with language. It influences how science chooses a special form of writing. It explains why science is suspicious of natural languages (like English) and why mathematics is so essential to science.

However, the irony is this: science is one activity that most creatively engages with language to the extent that writing itself becomes part of scientific methodology.

This talk will illustrate this creative engagement between science and language.