

## **Idioms are not so compositionally special**

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Idiomatic expressions are generally considered challenging for compositional semantics. In this talk I argue that these challenges are not deeply different from those raised by phrases that are less prototypically idiomatic, including many examples of adjectival modification and verb complementation. I will discuss some examples of these latter types of cases, some relatively new methods that are being used to analyze them, and possible extensions to idiomatic expressions. Two general lessons will emerge: 1) it is helpful to have a formal framework that distinguishes descriptive (or "conceptual") content from reference, and 2) the sort of noncompositionality (or as I prefer to call it, "co-compositionality") manifest in idioms and the other data I will discuss is a feature rather than a bug of natural language.