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Minimal Argumentation: a research program

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MINIMAL ARGUMENTATION

A RESEARCH PROJECT

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THE LEADING QUESTIONS

- What is (makes) the “argumentativity” of a discourse, a speech or a text?
- What makes of a discourse an argumentative one ?



TWO COMMON TENDENCIES

IN THE IDENTIFICATION OF ARGUMENT « IN THE WILD »

- ***Finding too many arguments***
- ***Finding too little arguments***

(Compared to what ?)



DISPERSION

- **Dispersion of the results of the analysis (identification step)**
- **Dispersion of the global understanding**

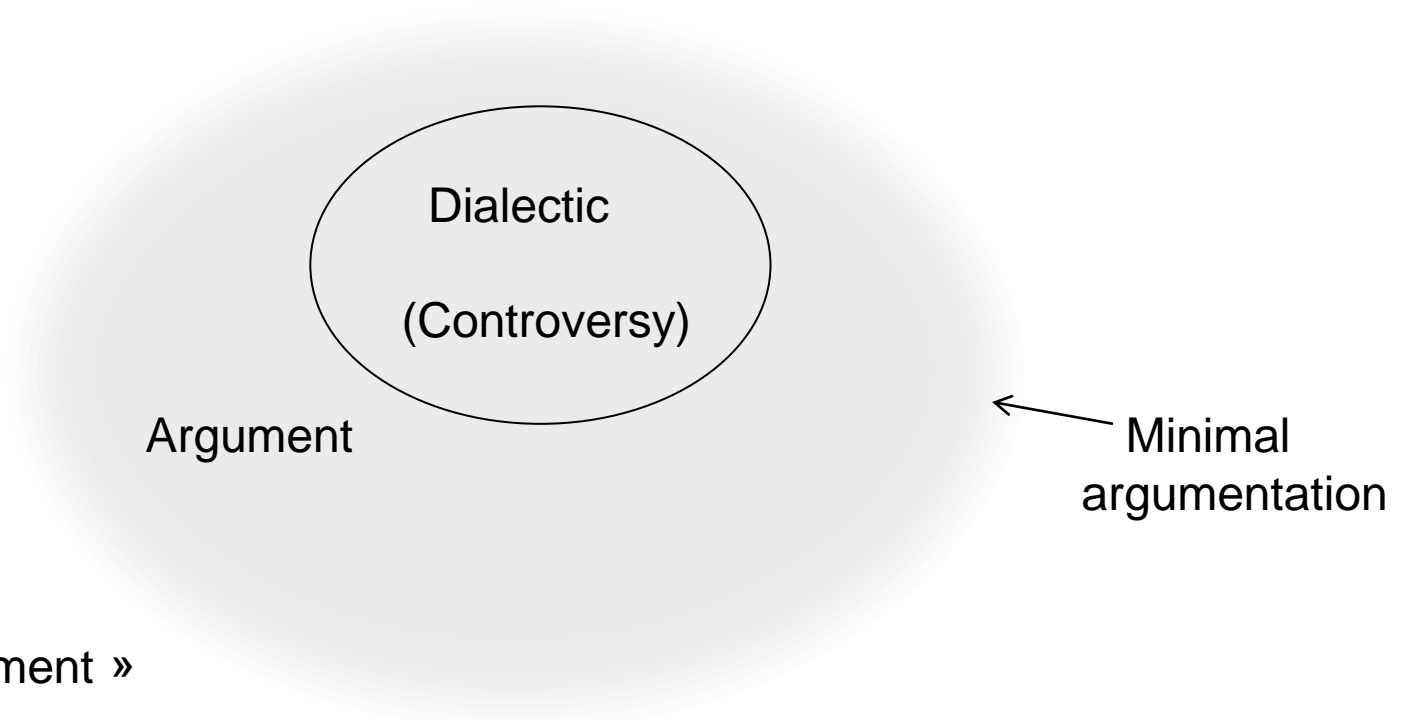


THE PARADIGMATIC DIALECTICAL MODEL

- Face-to-face
- Opponent, skeptic, “ignoramus”
- Explicit points of view
- Explicit procedural rules
- Well identified arguments
- Agreement on the conclusion
- Goodwill



A METAPHOR





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- No manifest argument appears.



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- The analyst has little information on the communicational context



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- The connection of an argument with the whole speech is unclear.



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- The verbal expression is unclear or confusing.



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- An argument is grasped but was not intended.
- The topic is not identified as controversial.
- Consequences of the oral/written distinction.
- The connection of an argument with the whole speech is unclear.
- The verbal expression is unclear or confusing.
- The interlocutors are not in tune.
- Has a story always an argument?



Thank you for your attention !

If you are interested, come and see me.

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