Question-Answer Congruence and the Proper Representation of Focus (invited presentation)

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One of the typical usages of focus is to mark the congruence of an answer to a question, such as (1), where the focused item *tomorrow* corresponds to the question constituent *when*.

(1) When will Fritz go to Potsdam? Fritz will go to Potsdam TOMORROW.

In this talk I will review a number of arguments centering aroung congruent question-answer relations that have informed us about the nature and proper representation of focus. In particular, I will argue for a structured meaning approach for focus, and for a distinction between focus and focus phrases.

References

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