In decompositional semantic theories, meaning is inherited from some semantic/logical atom/primitive.

Either the atoms are grounded in reference, or meaning is ultimately circular.

Either atoms have meaning in their own right or they are not.

If atoms do not have meaning in their own right, then meaning is ultimately circular.

If atoms do not have meaning in their own right, then we must seek some other way of specifying their meanings.

But the semantic theory of which they are atoms can only specify meanings in terms of other atoms.

Currently, atoms do not have meaning in their own right.

Lewis’ argument.

If atoms do have meaning in their own right, then they are grounded in reference.

Unpacking of Lewis’ and Fodor’s arguments.

Proposal: Repair the circularity by augmenting decomposition with concepts.