Thinking (and finding) compositionally

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Cross-linguistically, the meaning of several attitude verbs depends on the kind of complement they combine with (Özyıldız 2017, Bondarenko 2020, Bogal-Allbritten 2016; a.m.o.) This paper delineates a novel case of meaning alternation due to complementation: in Brazilian Portuguese (BrP), *achar* can be translated as *think* or *find*, depending on the syntax of its complement. When it embeds a Small Clause (SC), *achar* is translated as *find*, but it's translated as *think*, when it embeds a CP. Only in the latter case, is *achar* able to obviate the Acquaintance Inference (AI) of a Predicate of Personal Taste (PPT) in its complement; that is, it blocks the requirement that the attitude-holder have had the relevant experience associated with the PPT. We provide a formal analysis of these facts within Bondarenko's (2023) framework, and discuss their implications for our understanding of PPTs and Subjective Attitude Verbs (SAVs).

In addition to its empirical contribution, this paper also contributes to our understanding of the semantics of SAVs and the nature of the AI. In recent work, Korotkova and Anand (2022) suggest that the transparency of the complement of *find*verbs follows from a semantically-encoded requirement that the attitude holder have direct knowledge of the truth of this complement. We show, however, that the same verb can behave like *find* or like *think* in virtue of whether it combines with an opaque or with a transparent complement. That suggests that the direct-knowledge requirement is a consequence of the transparency of the complement of find, not the other way around

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