

Our capacities for spatial and temporal self-location *seem* to be quite different: Whereas I can normally just see that I am in my office, I cannot perceive my temporal position that easy. Perceiving the current time and date requires the use of objectifying devices – if I am lost I really have to consult today's newspaper or my watch. A technical way of putting the apparent asymmetry is: Perceptual spatial representation sometimes has self-locating content, whereas temporal representation has not. I want to question this asymmetry by distinguishing three kinds of self-location, *objective, relative and perspectival*.

Locating oneself *objectively in space* means, in the simplest case, saying (or showing by pointing on the map) where one is using commonly understood names to individuate places. Locating oneself *objectively in time* is just telling what date and time it is now.

Then there is the sense in which one locates oneself *relatively*, with regard to the objects around one, without using any objective means to identify them. One may describe one's position as “in the back of a taxi” or “facing a birch”. This kind of *relative self-location* also exists for time. One can, e.g., refer to the current moment as “an early summer morning”.

And finally there is a sense in which the *perspectival* character of perception represents one's actual location even when one is not aware of this. Just how things look determines where one is. Just how the current now relates to other past (or future) events determines one's concrete position.

So what about the apparent asymmetry? We self-locate spatially and temporally. The main difference, I shall argue, is that objective temporal self-location relies on the use of objectifying devices because the *recognition* that allows for device-less spatial self-location has no temporal analogue – we only ever encounter *new* tokens of moments.

This can help us to diagnose why the initial intuition seems tempting: Because we typically think about temporal self-location in objective terms, and because this is only possible via using external devices, we tend to under-estimate our capacities for temporal self-location.