The Case for Rational Semantics

The Importance of Being Ernest

- *Knowledge Empowers.*
  Absolute Knowledge Empowers Absolutely.
- **Scale changes the problem *qualitatively*.**
  Structured abstractions are the only hope.
- **The discipline of Ontology leads to clarity in design.**
- **Text is insufficient.**
  - It does not reliably denote the content, much less the context of interpretation or the relations to other work.
  - Much content (audio, video, pictures) has no text at all.
  - Specific types of especially important concepts (e.g., events, processes, achievements, etc.) that are necessary for advanced applications are inaccessible in text.
- **Semantic meta-language is the only means of capturing the user's perspective, intentions.**
- **Semantic structure supports validation and 'proof'.**
- **"It may not be perfect; it might be awkward; but it's better than the alternatives…" (evolution/engineering/NN) — J.McCarthy**