

**Title:** The Impossible-world Account of De Se Attitudes.

**Author:** Lixiao Lin

**Abstract.**

The centred-world account is one of the most popular theories of de se attitudes. It claims that de se attitudes have interesting centred-world contents. This chapter argues against the centred-world account in favour of an impossible-world account of de se attitudes. According to the impossible-world account, de se attitudes have (metaphysically) impossible world contents, contents that are sets of possible and impossible worlds. I will argue in this paper that while the centred-world account can explain various data of de se attitudes, it has some theoretical costs. My impossible-world account explains all the de se data, and it avoids the theoretical costs of the centred-world account. Therefore, the centred-world account should be refuted in favour of the impossible-world account.

Section 1 will first introduce the centred-world account of de se attitudes. Then, section 2 will discuss the de se data and their centred-world explanations. In section 3, I will point out four theoretical costs of the centred-world account. In section 4, I will present my impossible-world account of de se attitudes, and then in section 5, I will argue that the impossible-world account is better than the centred-world account.

**Affiliation:** Arché Philosophical Research Centre, Department of Philosophy, University of St Andrews.