1. Declarative syntax definition formalisms can be used to effectively define the syntax of programming languages and generate efficient tools. [this thesis]

2. A direct semantics for declarative disambiguation of expression grammars enables defining concise (and ambiguous) expression grammars that can still be used to generate parsers, without impacting parsing performance. [this thesis]

3. The quality of the code produced by PhD students in Computer Science should be examined as thoroughly as the content of their dissertations. That would mean shorter dissertations at first, but because future students would spend less time understanding legacy code, eventually, there would be great dissertations and great software artefacts.

4. Current research metrics make good researchers become bad teachers and good teachers become bad researchers.

5. If (programming) languages shape the way we think\(^1\), then modifying and creating new languages is essential to progress and innovation.

6. As long as languages keep evolving, parsing will not be a solved problem.

7. Since everyone who knows you has a different interpretation of who you are, the real you will always be an illusion.\(^2\)

8. Following the news about Brazilian politics has become more entertaining (and depressing) than following the news about Brazilian soccer.

These propositions are regarded as opposable and defendable, and have been approved as such by the promotor prof. dr. E. Visser.

---

\(^1\)https://www.ted.com/talks/lera_boroditsky_how_language_shapes_the_way_we_think

\(^2\)Luigi Pirandello, *One, No One and One Hundred Thousand*, 1926.