

Sellars's Metalinguistic Expressivism about Alethic Modality

Plan:

- I. Recapitulating the history of philosophical understanding of alethic modality.
- II. Sellars's revival of Kant's understanding of modal concepts as *categorical*.
- III. Sellars: Alethic modal vocabulary makes explicit the inferential articulation of descriptive concepts, which is essential for their role in *explanations*.
- IV. Metalinguistic account and its challenges. A project to extend Sellars.
- V. Sellars's actual defense of metalinguistic account is to appeal to *pragmatic* metalanguages.
- VI. Is *pragmatic* account of what one is *doing* in using modal vocabulary actually inconsistent with a *representationalist semantic* account of what one is *saying*?

