Sentences, Propositions, and Indexicals

Propositions: meanings or bearers of truth-value?

Let S = the sentence-type 'I am hungry now'

S is **unambiguous**: it means that the person who utters it is hungry at the time of utterance.

But different tokens of S express different propositions.

Bill's utterance of S at midnight expresses the proposition that Bill is hungry at midnight.

George's utterance of S at noon expresses the proposition that George is hungry at noon.

So the meaning of S is not the same as the proposition(s) it expresses.

Provisional Theory for sentences containing indexicals

- Sentence-**types** have meaning, but do not express propositions.
- Sentence-tokens express propositions (which can differ in truth-value).
- Residual problem: what can replace propositions as the meanings of sentences?