THE FORGETTING OF THE PROPER NOUN IS STRUCTURED LIKE A KLEIN BOTTLE

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Abstract. When the object is lacking in the forgetting of the proper noun, the real gets structured as a Klein bottle.

1. The object a and the projective plane

I summarize. The route in schema R fig. 1.1 in the perception of an object and its transformation into an object of desire, has a structure of a projective plane. It is represented in figure 1.2 as a *Cross-cap.*

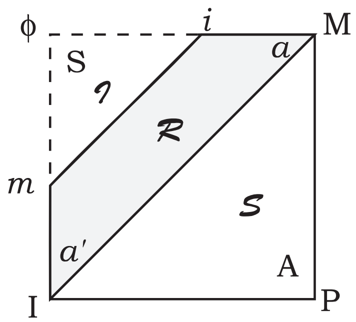

Figure 1.1. Schema R

By successive distortions, c.f. [Sib05a, Sib05b], viewed from the central disk *[la pastille]*, we can represent this schema as in figure 1.3. In this presentation, for easier reading (!), we are artificially separating the two sides of the disk, which namely is the object a. One must think of this as a single object in the form of a disk, having a blue side, for the imaginary, and a red side, for the symbolic. The routes represented by the arrows are those we see in schema R of figure 1.2.

2. 2. The proper noun and the object a

The proper noun that I seek in my memory is, in a first approximation, a particular object of desire. Its place is therefore logically that of the disk. What happens to it in terms of structure when this search fails?

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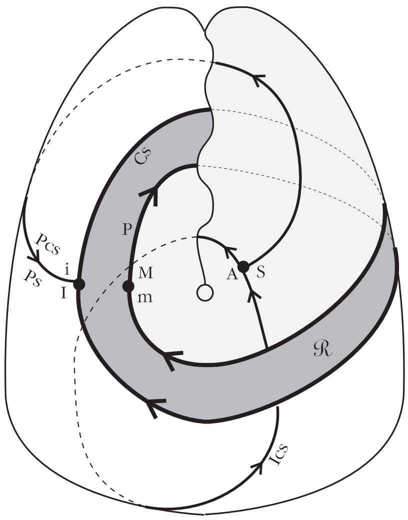

FIGURE 1.2. Schema R mapped on a cross-cap

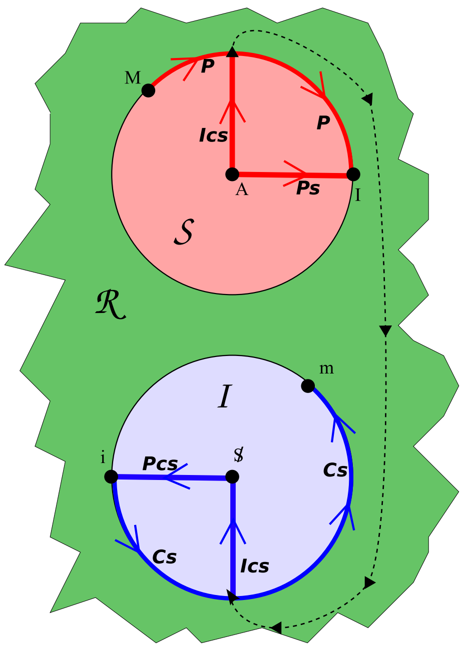

FIGURE 1.3. La pastille

3. The Moebius strip and the Klein bottle

To answer this question, we must first make a detour through the structure of the Klein Bottle, that of the Moebius strip, and the particular conditions for passing from one to the other.

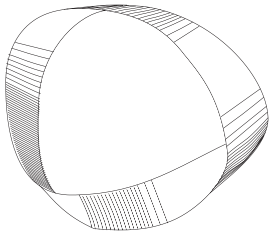

Figure 3.1. The Moebius strip

- To begin with, let us keep in mind that the surface marked $\mathcal{R}$ in these three schemas has the structure of a Moebius strip. As we know, this is a surface with one edge and a single side (fig. 3.1).
- The Klein bottle is a sort of unilateral torus. Like the torus, it has no edge, but it has only one side, its interior communicating with its exterior. Figure 3.2 presents a Klein bottle plunged in our three-dimensional space[1].

Figure 3.2. The Klein bottle

- There are several ways to generate a Klein bottle. I am interested here in what consists from suturing the edge of a Moebius strip. Three stages are necessary. (fig. 3.3) [Dar04]
  – The extension and curling of the edge.
  – The 180^o rotation of one part of the strip.
  – The suture.
- We have thus created a Klein bottle by simply (!) suturing the edge of a Moebius strip.

[1]Actually this Klein bottle has been pierced to be plunged in our 3D space.

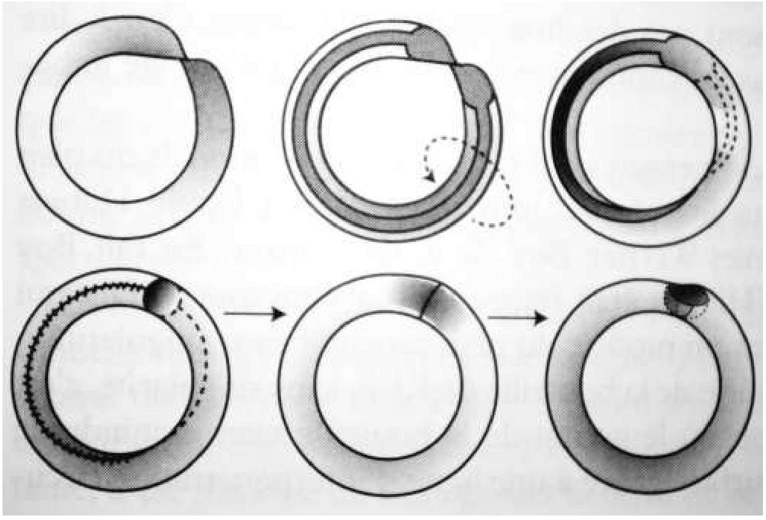

FIGURE 3.3. The suturing of a Moebius strip

4. THE FORGETTING OF THE PROPER NOUN

In the forgetting of the proper noun, the topological situation described above occurs. The proper noun, one does not remember, *produces an absence of the disk*, the object a. This absence makes a suture along the edge of the real, the Moebius strip. Therefore the structure involutes into a Klein bottle, a moment of emptiness and irritation.

Irritation? Certainly, each of us can experience this. The forgetting of the proper noun refers to the lack-in-being. It is a reminder of the lack-in-being proper to the subject.

Why is it the case for proper noun and not for every term that one forgets? This is due to the particularities of the proper noun. *It is a rigid designator* [Kri80]. If the signifier represents a subject for another signifier, this treasure hunt takes a halt at the proper noun. It freezes and gets rigidified. *The president of the French Republic* is a sliding signifier. Naming him JACQUES CHIRAC [2] produces a fixed and rigid signifier. It even had, quite officially, a moment of baptism on one day in May some years ago. The proper noun is irreplaceable. This gives it a very particular weight when it happens to go missing. *The proper noun is the signifier as such.*

5. A TOPOLOGY OF THE DIFFERENCE

What opposes the subject with its object of desire and the subject with a forgotten proper noun is an opposition between two topologies.

In the first case, the subject of the unconscious is structured like a projective plane; in the second, it is a Klein bottle. It then harbors a false hole — clearly visible in figure 3.2.

[2]At the date of this translation, the signifier points now to another proper name.

References

[Dar04] Marc Darmon. *Essais sur la topologie lacanienne.* Éditions de l'association lacanienne internationale, second edition, 2004.

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