Logic-Based Natural Language Processing WS 2024/25

Lecture Notes

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0.1 Preface

0.1.1 This Document

This document contains the lecture notes for the course "Logic-Based Natural Language Processing" (Logik-Basierte Sprachverarbeitung) held at FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg in the Winter Semesters 2017/18 ff.

This course is a one-semester introductory course that provides an overview over logic-based semantics of natural language. It follows the method of fragments introduced by Richard Montague, and builds a sequence of fragments of English with increasing coverage and a sequence of logics that serve as target representation formats. The course can be seen as both a course on semantics and as a course on applied logics.

As this course is predominantly about modeling natural language and not about the theoretical aspects of the logics themselves, we give the discussion about these as a "suggested readings" section part in ??. This material can safely be skipped (thus it is in the appendix), but contains the missing parts of the "bridge" from logical forms to truth conditions and textual entailment.

Contents: The document mixes the slides presented in class with comments of the instructor to give students a more complete background reference.

Caveat: This document is made available for the students of this course only. It is still an early draft, and will develop over the course of the course. It will be developed further in coming academic years.

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Knowledge Representation Experiment: This document is also an experiment in knowledge representation. Under the hood, it uses the STEX package [Koh08; sTeX], a TEX/IATEX extension for semantic markup, which allows to export the contents into active documents that adapt to the reader and can be instrumented with services based on the explicitly represented meaning of the documents.

Comments: Comments and extensions are always welcome, please send them to the author.

0.1.2 Acknowledgments

Materials: Some of the material in this <u>course</u> is based on a course "Formal Semantics of Natural Language" held by the author jointly with Prof. Mandy Simons at Carnegie Mellon University in 2001.

ComSem Students: The course is based on a series of courses "Computational Natural Language Semantics" held at Jacobs University Bremen and shares a lot of material with these. The following students have submitted corrections and suggestions to this and earlier versions of the notes: Bastian Laubner, Ceorgi Chulkov, Stefan Anca, Elena Digor, Xu He, and Frederik Schäfer.

LBS Students: The following students have submitted corrections and suggestions to this and earlier versions of the notes: Maximilian Lattka, Frederik Schaefer, Navid Roux.

0.2 Recorded Syllabus

The recorded syllabus – a record the progress of the course in the WS 2024/25 – is in the course page in the ALEA system at https://courses.voll-ki.fau.de/course-home/lbs. The table of contents in the LBS lecture notes at https://kwarc.info/teaching/LBS indicates the material covered to date in yellow.

For the topics planned for this course, see ??.

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Elevator Pitch for LBS					
\triangleright Mission: In this course we will					
explore how to model the <i>meaning of natural language</i> via transformation into <i>logical systems</i>					
use <i>logical inference</i> there to unravel the missing pieces; the information that is not <i>linguistically realized</i> , but is conveyed anyways.					
▷ Warning: This course is only for you if you like logic!					
You are going to get lots of it and we are going to introduce our own logics, usually a new facet every week or fortnight.					
Theory in this course: We wild do so in an abstract, mathematical fashion, but concrete enough that we could implement all moving parts – NL grammars, seman- tics construction, and inference systems – in meta-grammatical/logical systems.					
Practice in PSNLP Project: We will implement them in the meta-grammatical/logica GLIF system (based on GF, MMT, and ELPI) in the Symbolic NLP Project (5 ECTS; lab work).					

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Chapter 1 Preliminaries

In this chapter, we want to get all the organizational matters out of the way, so that we can get into the discussion of natural language semantics unencumbered. We will talk about the necessary administrative details, go into how students can get most out of the course, talk about where the various resources provided with the course can be found, and finally introduce the ALEA system, an experimental – using AI methods – learning support system for the LBS course.

1.1 Administrative Ground Rules

We will now go through the ground rules for the course. This is a kind of a social contract between the instructor and the students. Both have to keep their side of the deal to make learning as efficient and painless as possible.

Prerequisites for LBS			
Content Prerequisites: The mandatory courses in CS@FAU; Sem 1-4, in particular:			
⊳ course "Grundlagen der Logik in der Informatil	<" (GLOIN)		
some of the CS Math courses "Mathematik C1-4" (IngMath1-4) (matolerance)			
algorithms and data structures	(programming/complexity)		
▷ AI-1 ("Artificial Intelligence I")	(for the logic part)		
▷ Intuition:	(take them with a kilo of salt)		
▷ This is what I assume you know!	(I have to assume something)		
\triangleright In many cases, the dependency of LBS on the	se is partial and "in spirit".		
\triangleright If you have not taken these courses (or do not	remember),		
\triangleright read up on them as needed!	(preferred, do it in a group)		
\triangleright We can cover them in class	(if there are more of you)		
The real Prerequisite: Motivation, interest, curiosity, hard work. (LBS is non-trivial)			

\triangleright You can do this course if you want!			(We will he	lp you)
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Now we come to a topic that is always interesting to the students: the grading scheme.

Assessment, Grades					
⊳ Overall (Module) Grade:					
⊳ Grad	e via the exam (Klausu	r) $\rightsquigarrow 100\%$ of the grade.			
⊳ Up to	o 10% bonus on-top for	an exam with $\geq 50\%$ points	.(<50% $ ightarrow$ no bonus)		
⊳ Bonı	is points $\hat{=}$ percentage	sum of the best 10 prepquiz	zes divided by 100.		
⊳ Exam:	60 minutes exam cond	ucted in presence on paper	(\sim April 1. 2025)		
⊳ Retake	Exam: 60 min exam s	six months later	(\sim October 1. 2025)		
▷ ▲ You have to register for exams in https://campo.fau.de in the first month of classes.					
▷ Note: before.	You can de-register fr	om an exam on campo up	to three working days		
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Preparedness Quizzes

- PrepQuizzes: Before every lecture we offer a 10 min online quiz the PrepQuiz
 about the material from the previous week. (10:00-10:10; starts in week 3)
- \triangleright **Motivations:** We do this to
- \triangleright The prepquiz will be given in the ALEA system

1.1. ADMINISTRATIVE GROUND RULES

	<pre>bhttps://courses.voll-ki.fau.de/quiz-dash/lbs</pre>			
	⊳ You have to be log	gged into ALEA!	(via FAU IDM)	
	$_{\vartriangleright}$ You can take the prepquiz on your laptop or phone, \ldots			
	$\triangleright \dots$ in the lecture or at home \dots			
	$ ho \dots$ via WLAN or 4	G Network.	(do not overload)	
	▷ Prepquizzes will or	All y be available 10:00-10 Compared to a second of the s	5:10!	
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Next Week: Pretest \triangleright \triangle Next week we will try out the prepquiz infrastructure with a pretest! ▷ **Presence**: bring your laptop or cellphone. ▷ **Online**: you can and should take the pretest as well. ▷ Have a recent firefox or chrome (chrome: younger than March 2023) \triangleright Make sure that you are logged into ALEA (via FAU IDM; see below) > Definition 1.1.1. A pretest is an assessment for evaluating the preparedness of learners for further studies. ▷ **Concretely:** This pretest \triangleright establishes a baseline for the competency expectations in Al-1 and \triangleright tests the ALEA quiz infrastructure for the prepuizzes. > Participation in the pretest is optional; it will not influence grades in any way. \triangleright The pretest covers the prerequisites of Al-1 and some of the material that may have been covered in other courses. > The test will be also used to refine the ALEA learner model, which may make learning experience in ALEA better. (see below) FAU Michael Kohlhase: LBS 2025-02-06 5

1.2 Getting Most out of LBS

In this section we will discuss a couple of measures that students may want to consider to get most out of the LBS course.

None of the things discussed in this section – homeworks, tutorials, study groups, and attendance – are mandatory (we cannot force you to do them; we offer them to you as learning opportunities), but most of them are very clearly correlated with success (i.e. passing the exam and getting a good grade), so taking advantage of them may be in your own interest.



It is very well-established experience that without doing the homework assignments (or something similar) on your own, you will not master the concepts, you will not even be able to ask sensible questions, and take very little home from the course. Just sitting in the course and nodding is not enough!

LBS Homework Assignments – Howto	
▷ Homework Workflow: in ALEA	(see below)
Homework assignments will be published on thursdays: se voll-ki.fau.de/hw/lbs	e https://courses.
$ ho$ Submission of solutions via the ALEA system in the week the second statement of the second	ek after
Peer grading/feedback (and master solutions) via answer	classes.
▷ Quality Control: TAs and instructors will monitor and sup	ervise peer grading.
Experiment: Can we motivate enough of you to make sustaining?	peer assessment self-
⊳ I am appealing to your sense of community responsibility	here
 You should only expect other's to grade your submission (cf. Kant) 	if you grade their's 's ''Moral Imperative'')
▷ Make no mistake: The grader usually learns at least as	much as the gradee.

1.2. GETTING MOST OUT OF LBS

Homework/Tutorial Discipline:					
⊳ Star	Start early! (many assignments need more than one evening's work)				
▷ Don't start by sitting at a blank screen (talking & study groups he			ups help)		
⊳ Hun	▷ Humans will be trying to understand the text/code/math when grading it.				
▷ Go to the tutorials, discuss with your TA! (they are there for you!)				for you!)	
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If you have questions please make sure you discuss them with the instructor, the teaching assistants, or your fellow students. There are three sensible venues for such discussions: online in the lectures, in the tutorials, which we discuss now, or in the course forum – see below. Finally, it is always a very good idea to form study groups with your friends.

Collaboration				
▷ Definition 1.2.1. Collaboration (or cooperation) is the process of groups of agents acting together for common, mutual benefit, as opposed to acting in competition for selfish benefit. In a collaboration, every agent contributes to the common goal and benefits from the contributions of others.				
\triangleright In learning situations, the benefit is "b	oetter learning".			
Observation: In collaborative learning, the overall result can be significantly better than in competitive learning.				
▷ Good Practice: Form study groups.		(long- or short-term)		
1. 🛕 those learners who work most,	1. \land those learners who work most, learn most!			
2. 🛕 freeloaders – individuals who or	2. \land freeloaders – individuals who only watch – learn very little!			
▷ It is OK to collaborate on homework assignments in LBS! (no bonus points)				
\triangleright Choose your study group well!	(We will (eve	ntually) help via ALeA)		
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As we said above, almost all of the components of the LBS course are optional. That even applies to attendance. But make no mistake, attendance is important to most of you. Let me explain, ...

Do I need to attend the LBS Lectures	
\triangleright Attendance is not mandatory for the LBS course.	(official version)
\triangleright Note: There are two ways of learning: (both are OF	K, your mileage may vary)
▷ Approach B: Read a book/papers	(here: lecture notes)
▷ Approach I: come to the lectures, be involved, interrug you have a question.	pt the instructor whenever
The only advantage of I over B is that books/papers do	not answer questions
\triangleright Approach S: come to the lectures and sleep does not wo	rk!



1.3 Learning Resources for AI-1

But what if you are not in a lecture or tutorial and want to find out more about the LBS topics?

Textbook, Handouts and Information, Foru	ms, Videos			
▷ (No) Textbook: Lecture notes at http://kwarc.in	fo/teaching/LBS			
 I mostly prepare them as we go along (semant resource) 	ically preloaded \sim research			
Please e-mail me any errors/shortcomings you notic	ce. (improve for group)			
▷ For GLIF: Frederik's Master's Thesis [Sch20]				
Classical Semantics/Pragmatics:	(in the FAU Library)			
▷ Primary reference for LBS: [CKG09]	(in the FAU Library)			
▷ also: [HHS07; Bir13; Rie10; ZS13; Sta14; Sae03; Por04; Kea11; Jac83; Cru11; Ari10]				
Computational Semantics: [BB05; EU10]				
<pre>> StudOn Forum: https://www.studon.fau.de/crs</pre>	\$4625835.html for			
▷ announcements, homeworks	(my view on the forum)			
▷ questions, discussion among your fellow students (your forum too, use it!)				
<pre>> Course Videos: at https://www.fau.tv/course/id/4076.html</pre>				
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FAU has issued a very insightful guide on using lecture videos. It is a good idea to heed these recommendations, even if they seem annoying at first.

 Practical recommendations on Lecture Videos

 ▷ Excellent Guide:
 [Nor+18a] (German version at [Nor+18b])

1.3. LEARNING RESOURCES FOR AI-1



ALEA in LBS



⊳ doi	ng the prepquizzes		(before each	lecture)
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Excursion: We will recap an introduction to ALEA system in??.

Chapter 2

An Introduction to Natural Language Semantics

In this chapter we will introduce the topic of this course and situate it in the larger field of natural language understanding. But before we do that, let us briefly step back and marvel at the wonders of natural language, perhaps one of the most human of abilities.

Fascination of (Natural) Language	_				
Definition 2.0.1. A natural language is any form of spoken or signed means of communication that has evolved naturally in humans through use and repetition without conscious planning or premeditation.					
\triangleright In other words: the language you use all day long, e.g. English, German,					
Why Should we care about natural language?:					
 Even more so than thinking, language is a skill that only humans have. It is a miracle that we can express complex thoughts in a sentence in a matter of seconds. 					
It is no less miraculous that a child can learn tens of thousands of words and complex syntax in a matter of a few years.					
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With this in mind, we will embark on the intellectual journey of building artificial systems that can process (and possibly understand) natural language as well.

2.1 Natural Language and its Meaning

Before we embark on the journey into understanding the meaning of natural language, let us get an overview over what the concept of "semantics" or "meaning" means in various disciplines.

 What is Natural Language Semantics? A Difficult Question!

 > Question: What is "Natural Language Semantics"?

 > Definition 2.1.1 (Generic Answer). Semantics is the study of reference, meaning,

or truth.

▷ **Definition 2.1.2.** A sign is anything that communicates a meaning that is not the sign itself to the interpreter of the sign. The meaning can be intentional, as when a word is uttered with a specific meaning, or unintentional, as when a symptom is taken as a sign of a particular medical condition

Meaning is a relationship between signs and the objects they intend, express, or signify.

- ▷ Definition 2.1.3. Reference is a relationship between objects in which one object (the name) designates, or acts as a means by which to refer to – i.e. to connect to or link to – another object (the referent).
- Definition 2.1.4. Truth is the property of being in accord with reality in a/the mind-independent world. An object ascribed truth is called true, iff it is, and false, if it is not.
- Definition 2.1.5. For natural language semantics, the signs are usually utterances and names are usually phrases.
- \triangleright That is all very abstract and general, can we make this more concrete?
- > Different (academic) disciplines find different concretizations.

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What is (NL) Semantics? Answers from various Disciplines!

- Observation: Different (academic) disciplines specialize the notion of semantics (of natural language) in different ways.
- > Philosophy: has a long history of trying to answer it, e.g.
 - ho Platon ightarrow cave allegory, Aristotle ightarrow Syllogisms.
 - \triangleright Frege/Russell \rightsquigarrow sense vs. referent. (Michael Kohlhase vs. Odysseus)
- Linguistics/Language Philosophy: We need semantics e.g. in translation
 Der Geist ist willig aber das Fleisch ist schwach! vs.
 Der Schnaps ist gut, aber der Braten ist verkocht! (meaning counts)
- \triangleright **Psychology/Cognition:** Semantics $\hat{=}$ "what is in our brains" (\sim mental models)
- ▷ **Mathematics** has driven much of modern logic in the quest for foundations.
 - \triangleright Logic as "foundation of mathematics" solved as far as possible
 - ▷ In daily practice syntax and semantics are not differentiated (much).
- Logic@AI/CS tries to define meaning and compute with them. (applied semantics)
 - ▷ makes syntax explicit in a formal language (formulae, sentences)
 - ▷ defines truth/validity by mapping sentences into "world" (interpretation)

2.1. NATURAL LANGUAGE AND ITS MEANING



A good probe into the issues involved in natural language understanding is to look at translations between natural language utterances – a task that arguably involves understanding the utterances first.



If it is indeed the meaning of natural language, we should look further into how the form of the utterances and their meaning interact.





Let us support the last claim a couple of initial examples. We will come back to these phenomena again and again over the course of the course and study them in detail.



But there are other phenomena that we need to take into account when compute the meaning of NL utterances.



2.1. NATURAL LANGUAGE AND ITS MEANING



We will look at another example, that shows that the situation with semantic/pragmatic analysis is even more complex than we thought. Understanding this is one of the prime objectives of the LBS lecture.



?? is also a very good example for the claim Observation 3.10 (Natural Language and its Meaning) in the LBS lecture notes that even for high-quality (machine) translation we need semantics. We end this very high-level introduction with a caveat.





But Semantics works in some cases

 \triangleright The only thing that currently really helps is a restricted domain:

 \triangleright I. e. a restricted vocabulary and world model.

⊳ **Demo:**

DBPedia http://dbpedia.org/snorql/ Query: Soccer players, who are born in a country with more than 10 million inhabitants, who played as goalkeeper for a club that has a stadium with more than 30.000 seats and the club country is different from the birth country

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But Semantics works in some cases

⊳ Answer:

(is computed by DBPedia from a SPARQL query)

2.2. NATURAL LANGUAGE UNDERSTANDING AS ENGINEERING

doorposition (doprossit doorbirthPlace/docrou #doornumber 13 ?team dborcapacity ?st ?countryOfTeam a door ?riurER (?countryOfTeam a FILTER (?stadiumcapacity FILTER (?population > 100) order by ?soccerplayer	<pre>ion chtp://dbpedia.org/res mtry* ?countryOfBirth ; adiumcapacity ; dbo:ground Country ; dbo:populationTot Country ; ?countryOfBirth) > 30000) 00000)</pre>	source/Goalkeeper_(association_ ?countryOfTeam . :al ?population .	football)> ;	
Results: Browse ᅌ Go!	Reset			
SPARQL results:				
soccerplayer	countryOfBirth	team	countryOfTeam	stadiumcapac
:Abdesslam_Benabdellah 🖗	:Algeria 🗗	:Wydad_Casablanca	:Morocco 🗗	67000
:Airton_Moraes_Michellon	:Brazil	:FC_Red_Bull_Salzburg	:Austria 🗗	31000
:Alain_Gouaméné &	:lvory_Coast	:Raja_Casablanca	:Morocco 🖾	67000
:Allan_McGregor	:United_Kingdom	:Beşiktaş_J.K.	:Turkey 🗗	41903
:Anthony_Scribe	:France &	:FC_Dinamo_Tbilisi	:Georgia_(country)	54549
Branim_Zaan @	:Netherlands @	:Haja_Casabianca Br	:Worocco @	67000
:Breiner_Castilio Br	:Colombia @	:Deportivo_Tachira B*	:venezuela Br	38755
Carlos Navarro Montovo d	:Colombia #	:Club_Atletico_Independiente	Argentina 🖻	48069
Carlos_Navarro_Wontoya	Argenting #	Colo_Atletico_Independiente B*	Chile d	46069
Dapiel Forrouro	Argentina 🖻	EPC Molect #	:Donu 🗗	47000
David Bičík 🖗	Czech Benublic	:Karsiyaka S.K. 🖗	Turkey 🖗	51295
David Loria	-Kazakhstan 🖗	:Karsiyaka_SK	:Turkey 🖗	51295
Denvs Boyko P	:Ukraine 🖗	Besiktas J K P	:Turkey 🖗	41903
:Eddie Gustafsson	:United States @	EC Bed Bull Salzburg	:Austria @	31000
:Emilian Dolha	:Bomania 🖗	:Lech Poznań 🖗	:Poland @	43269
:Eusebio_Acasuzo 🗗	:Peru 🚱	:Club_Bolívar 🗗	:Bolivia 🗗	42000
:Faryd_Mondragón	:Colombia 🚱	:Real_Zaragoza	:Spain 🗗	34596
:Faryd_Mondragón 🚱	:Colombia 🚱	:Club_Atlético_Independiente	:Argentina 🚱	48069
:Federico_Vilar	:Argentina 🕼	:Club_Atlas 🗗	:Mexico 🗗	54500
:Fernando_Martinuzzi &	:Argentina 🚱	:Real_Garcilaso 🗗	:Peru 🕼	45000
:Fábio_André_da_Silva 🗗	:Portugal 🕼	:Servette_FC dP	:Switzerland 🗗	30084
:Gerhard_Tremmel 🗗	:Germany 🗗	:FC_Red_Bull_Salzburg	:Austria 🚱	31000
:Gift_Muzadzi 🕼	:United_Kingdom 🛃	:Lech_Poznań 🗗	:Poland 🚱	43269
:Günay_Güvenç 🗗	:Germany 🗗	:Beşiktaş_J.K. 🗗	:Turkey 🗗	41903
:Hugo_Marques 🗗	:Portugal 🕼	:C.DPrimeiro_de_Agosto	:Angola 🗗	48500
	:Colombia 🖗	:La Paz F.C.	:Bolivia 🗗	42000

Even if we can get a perfect grasp of the semanticss (aka. meanings) of NL utterances, their structure and context dependency – we will try this in this lecture, but of course fail, since the issues are much too involved and complex for just one lecture – then we still cannot account for all the human mind does with language. But there is hope, for limited and well-understood domains, we can to amazing things. This is what this course tries to show, both in theory as well as in practice.

2.2 Natural Language Understanding as Engineering

Even though this course concentrates on computational aspects of natural language semantics, it is useful to see it in the context of the field of natural language processing.

Language Technology	
⊳ Language Assistance:	
⊳ written language: Spell/grammar/style-checking,	
⊳ spoken language: dictation systems and screen read	lers,
\triangleright multilingual text: machine-supported text and dialo	g translation, eLearning.
Information management:	
▷ search and classification of documents,	(e.g. Google/Bing)
\triangleright information extraction, question answering.	(e.g. http://ask.com)
Dialog Systems/Interfaces:	

CHAPTER 2. AN INTRODUCTION TO NATURAL LANGUAGE SEMANTICS
 information systems: at airport, tele-banking, e-commerce, call centers,
 dialog interfaces for computers, robots, cars. (e.g. Siri/Alexa)
 Observation: The earlier technologies largely rely on pattern matching, the latter ones need to compute the meaning of the input utterances, e.g. for database lookups in information systems.

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The general context of LBS is natural language processing (NLP), and in particular natural language understanding (NLU). The dual side of NLU: natural language generation (NLG) requires similar foundations, but different techniques is less relevant for the purposes of this course.



What is t	the State of	the Art In NLU?		
Two avenues of attack for the problem: knowledge-based and statistical techniques (they are complementary)				
	Deep	Knowledge-based We are here	Not there yet cooperation?	
	Shallow	no-one wants this	Statistical Methods applications	
	Analysis \uparrow VS. Coverage \rightarrow	narrow	wide	

▷ We will cover foundational methods of deep processing in the course and a mixture of deep and shallow ones in the lab.

2.2. NATURAL LANGUAGE UNDERSTANDING AS ENGINEERING

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On the last slide we have classified the two main approaches to NLU. In the last 10 years the community has almost entirely concentrated on statistical- and machine-learning based methods, because that has led to applications like google translate, Siri, and the likes. We will now borrow an argument by Aarne Ranta to show that there are (still) interesting applications for knowledge-based methods in NLP, even if they are less visible.

Environmental Niches for both Approaches to NLU					
▷ Definition 2.2.2.	There are two kinds o	f applica	tions/tasks i	n NLU:	
▷ Consumer tasks generic and wide	:: consumer grade ap e coverage. (e.g. r	plicatior nachine	ns have tasks translation lil	s that must <e google="" t<="" td=""><td>be fully ranslate)</td></e>	be fully ranslate)
 Producer tasks: producer grade applications must be high-precision, but can be domain-specific (e.g. multilingual documentation, machinery-control, program verification, medical technology) 					
$\frac{\textbf{Precision}}{100\%}$	n Producer Tasks				
50%		Consu	mer Tasks		
	$10^{3\pm1}$ Concepts $10^{6\pm1}$ Concepts Coverage				
			afte	er Aarne Rant	a [Ran17].
Example 2.2.3. Producing/managing machine manuals in multiple languages across machine variants is a critical producer task for machine tool company.					
▷ A producer domain I am interested in: mathematical/technical documents.					
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An example of a producer task – indeed this is where the name comes from – is the case of a machine tool manufacturer T, which produces digitally programmed machine tools worth multiple million Euro and sells them into dozens of countries. Thus T must also comprehensive machine operation manuals, a non-trivial undertaking, since no two machines are identical and they must be translated into many languages, leading to hundreds of documents. As those manual share a lot of semantic content, their management should be supported by NLP techniques. It is critical that these NLP maintain a high precision, operation errors can easily lead to very costly machine damage and loss of production. On the other hand, the domain of these manuals is quite restricted. A machine tool has a couple of hundred components only that can be described by a comple of thousand attribute only.

Indeed companies like T employ high-precision NLP techniques like the ones we will cover in this course successfully; they are just not so much in the public eye as the consumer tasks.

NLP for NLU: The Waterfall Model

Definition 2.2.4 (The NLU Waterfall). NL understanding is often modeled as a simple linear process: the NLU waterfall consists of five consecutive steps:



The waterfall model shown above is of course only an engineering-centric model of natural language understanding and not to be confused with a cognitive model; i.e. an account of what happens in human cognition. Indeed, there is a lot of evidence that this simple sequential processing model is not adequate, but it is the simplest one to implement and can therefore serve as a background reference to situating the processes we are interested in.

2.3 Looking at Natural Language

The next step will be to make some observations about natural language and its meaning, so that we get an intuition of what problems we will have to overcome on the way to modeling natural language.

Fun with Diamonds (are they real?) [Dav67b]						
Example 2.3.1. We study the truth conditions of adjectival complexes:						
\triangleright Th	is is a diamond.		($\models d$	iamond)		
\triangleright Th	is is a <mark>blue</mark> diamond.		(\models diamond,	$\models blue$)		
\triangleright Th	is is a <mark>big</mark> diamond.		(⊨ diamond	l, $\not\models big$)		
⊳ Th	is is a <mark>fake</mark> diamond.		($\models \neg d$	iamond)		
\triangleright Th	is is a <mark>fake blue</mark> diamond		(\models blue?, \models dia	amond?)		
⊳ <i>Ma</i>	ary knows that this is a d	iamond.	($\models d$	iamond)		
\triangleright Mary believes that this is a diamond. ($\not\models$ diamond			iamond)			
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Logical analysis vs. conceptual analysis: These examples — mostly borrowed from Davidson:tam67 — help us to see the difference between "logical-analysis" and "conceptual-analysis".

We observed that from *This is a big diamond*. we cannot conclude *This is big*. Now consider the sentence Jane is a beautiful dancer. Similarly, it does not follow from this that Jane is beautiful, but only that she dances beautifully. Now, what it is to be beautiful or to be a beautiful dancer is a complicated matter. To say what these things are is a problem of conceptual analysis. The job of semantics is to uncover the logical form of these sentences. Semantics should tell us that the two sentences have the same logical forms; and ensure that these logical forms make the right predictions about the entailments and truth conditions of the sentences, specifically, that they

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don't entail that the object is big or that Jane is beautiful. But our semantics should provide a distinct logical form for sentences of the type: *This is a fake diamond*. From which it follows that the thing is fake, but not that it is a diamond.

Ambigui	ity: The dark side	of Meaning		
Definition 2.3.2. We call an utterance ambiguous, iff it has multiple meanings, which we call readings.				
⊳ Examp	ble 2.3.3. All of the follo	wing sentences are ambigue	ous:	
⊳ Joh	an went to the bank.		(river or f	inancial?)
\triangleright You should have seen the bull we got from the pope.				readings!)
ightarrow I saw her duck. (animal or action?				
\triangleright John chased the gangster in the red sports car.			(three-	way too!)
FAU	Michael Kohlhase: LBS	30	2025-02-06	STATULE RESISTANCE

One way to think about the examples of ambiguity on the previous slide is that they illustrate a certain kind of indeterminacy in sentence meaning. But really what is indeterminate here is what sentence is represented by the physical realization (the written sentence or the phonetic string). The symbol *duck* just happens to be associated with two different things, the noun and the verb. Figuring out how to interpret the sentence is a matter of deciding which item to select. Similarly for the syntactic ambiguity represented by PP attachment. Once you, as interpreter, have selected one of the options, the interpretation is actually fixed. (This doesn't mean, by the way, that as an interpreter you necessarily do select a particular one of the options, just that you can.) A brief digression: Notice that this discussion is in part a discussion about compositionality, and gives us an idea of what a non-compositional account of meaning could look like. The Radical Pragmatic View is a non-compositional view: it allows the information content of a sentence to be fixed by something that has no linguistic reflex.

To help clarify what is meant by compositionality, let me just mention a couple of other ways in which a semantic account could fail to be compositional.

- Suppose your syntactic theory tells you that S has the structure [a[bc]] but your semantics computes the meaning of S by first combining the meanings of a and b and then combining the result with the meaning of c. This is non-compositional.
- Recall the difference between:
 - 1. Jane knows that George was late.
 - 2. Jane believes that George was late.

Sentence 1. entails that George was late; sentence 2. doesn't. We might try to account for this by saying that in the environment of the verb *believe*, a clause doesn't mean what it usually means, but something else instead. Then the clause *that George was late* is assumed to contribute different things to the informational content of different sentences. This is a non-compositional account.



⊳ Examp of the t	le 2.3.6. Some student in ime.	n every course sleeps .	in every class at lea (how many re	a <i>st <mark>some</mark></i> adings?)
⊳ Examp (2002 or	le 2.3.7. <i>The president o</i> r 2000?)	of the US is having a	n affair with an in	tern.
⊳ Examp	le 2.3.8. Everyone is her	e.	(who is ev	eryone?)
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Observation: If we look at the first sentence, then we see that it has two readings:

- 1. there is one woman who is loved by every man.
- 2. for each man there is one woman whom that man loves.

These correspond to distinct situations (or possible worlds) that make the sentence true.

Observation: For the second example we only get one reading: the analogue of 2. The reason for this lies not in the logical structure of the sentence, but in concepts involved. We interpret the meaning of the word has as the relation "has as physical part", which in our world carries a certain uniqueness condition: If a is a physical part of b, then it cannot be a physical part of c, unless b is a physical part of c or vice versa. This makes the structurally possible analogue to 1. impossible in our world and we discard it.

Observation: In the examples above, we have seen that (in the worst case), we can have one reading for every ordering of the quantificational phrases in the sentence. So, in the third example, we have four of them, we would get 4! = 24 readings. It should be clear from introspection that we (humans) do not entertain 12 readings when we understand and process this sentence. Our models should account for such effects as well.

Context and Interpretation: It appears that the last two sentences have different informational content on different occasions of use. Suppose I say Everyone is here. at the beginning of class. Then I mean that everyone who is meant to be in the class is here. Suppose I say it later in the day at a meeting; then I mean that everyone who is meant to be at the meeting is here. What shall we say about this? Here are three different kinds of solution:

- **Radical Semantic View** On every occasion of use, the sentence literally means that everyone in the world is here, and so is strictly speaking false. An interpreter recognizes that the speaker has said something false, and uses general principles to figure out what the speaker actually meant.
- **Radical Pragmatic View** What the semantics provides is in some sense incomplete. What the sentence means is determined in part by the context of utterance and the speaker's intentions. The differences in meaning are entirely due to extra-linguistic facts which have no linguistic reflex.
- The Intermediate View The logical form of sentences with the quantifier every contains a slot for information which is contributed by the context. So extra-linguistic information is required to fix the meaning; but the contribution of this information is mediated by linguistic form.

We now come to a phenomenon of natural language, that is a paradigmatic challenge for pragmatic analysis: anaphora – the practice of replacing a (complex) reference with a mere pronoun.

More Context: Anaphora – Challenge for Pragmatic Analysis > Example 2.3.9 (Anaphoric References).

⊳ John is a bachelor. His wife is very nice.

(Uh, what?, who?)

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⊳ John like	es his dog Spiff even though	he bites him son	netimes. (who	bites?)
⊳ John like	es Spiff. Peter <mark>does too</mark> .	(v	what to does Pe	ter do?)
⊳ John lov	res his wife. Peter does too.	(v	vhom does Pete	r love?)
⊳ John lov	res golf, and Mary too.		(who does	what?)
Definition interpretation anaphor refer (its postcede	2.3.10. A word or phrase is n depends upon another phrase is to an earlier phrase (its ant ent).	called anaphoric ase in context. I ecedent), while a	(or an anaphor n a narrower se cataphor to a la	r), if its ense, an ater one
Definition 2 anaphoric ph	2.3.11. The process of determ rase is called anaphor resolution	ining the anteced on.	ent or postcede	nt of an
Definition 2 postcedent is connection is	.3.12. An anaphoric connection is called direct, iff it can be under called indirect or a bridging rest	on between anaph erstood purely syn ^a f <mark>erence</mark> if additior	or and its anteco tactically. An ar nal knowledge is	edent or haphoric needed.
▷ Anaphora an bilities of the	re another example, where na e hearer/reader to "shorten" u	tural languages u tterances.	se the inferentia	al capa-
Anaphora cl context using	hallenge pragmatic analysis, s g world knowledge.	ince they can on	y be resolved fi	rom the
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Anaphora are also interesting for pragmatic analysis, since they introduce (often initially massive amoungs of) ambiguity that needs to be taken care of in the language understanding process. We now come to another challenge to pragmatic analysis: presuppositions. Instead of just being subject to the context of the readers/hearers like anaphora, they even have the potential to change the context itself or even affect their world knowledge.

Context is Personal and Keeps Changing **Example 2.3.13.** Consider the following sentences involving definite description: 1. The king of America is rich. (true or false?) (false or true?) 2. The king of America isn't rich. (true or false!) 3. If America had a king, the king of America would be rich. 4. The king of Buganda is rich. (Where is Buganda?) 5. ... Joe Smith... The CEO of Westinghouse announced budget cuts. (CEO=J.S.!)How do the interact with your context and world knowledge? \triangleright The interpretation or whether they make sense at all dep ▷ **Note:** Last two examples feed back into the context or even world knowledge: ▷ If 4. is uttered by an Africa expert, we add "Buganda exists and is a monarchy to our world knowledge ▷ We add Joe Smith is the CEO of Westinghouse to the context/world knowledge (happens all the time in newpaper articles)

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2.4 A Taste of Language Philosophy

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We will now discuss some concerns from language philosophy as they pertain to the LBS course. Note that this discussion is only intended to give our discussion on natural language semantics some perspective; in particular, it is in no way a complete introduction to language philosophy, or does the discussion there full justice.

We start out our tour through language philosophy with some examples – as linguists and philosophers often to – to obtain an intuition of the phenomena we want to understand.

What is the Meaning of Natural Language Utterances?				
▷ Question: What is the meaning of the word chair?				
▷ Answer: "the set of all chairs" (difficult to delineate, but more or less clear)				
▷ Question: What is the meaning of the word <i>Michael Kohlhase</i> ?				
▷ Answer: The word refers to an object in the real world: the instructor of LBS.				
▷ Alternatively: The singleton with that object (as for "set of chairs" above)				
▷ Question: What about <i>Michael Kohlhase sits on a chair</i> ?				
\triangleright Towards an Answer: We have to combine the two sets, via the meaning of "sits".				
\triangleright Question: What is the meaning of the word John F. Kennedy or Odysseus?				
▷ Problem: There are no objects in the real worlds, so the meaning of both is Ø and thus equal ☺.				
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The main intuition we get is that meaning is more complicated than we may have thought in the beginning.

2.4.1 Epistemology: The Philosphy of Science

We start out by looking at the foundations of epistemology, which sets the basis for modern (empirical) science. Our presentation here is modeled on Karl Popper's work on the theory of science. Naturally, our account here is simplified to fit the occasion, see [Pop34; Pop59] for the full story.

Note that like any foundational account of complex concepts like knowledge, belief, rationality, and their justification, we have to base our philosophy on some concepts we take at face value. Here these are natural and formal languages, worlds, situations, etc. which will stay very general in the current foundational setting.

We will later instantiate these by more concrete notions as we go along in the LBS course.

Epistemology – Propositions & Observations

▷ Definition 2.4.1. Epistemology is the branch of philosophy concerned with studying nature of knowledge, its justification, the rationality of belief, scientific theories and predictions, and various related issues.

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- Definition 2.4.2. A proposition is a sentence about the actual world or a class of worlds deemed possible whose meaning can be expressed as being true or false in a specific world.
 Definition 2.4.3. A belief is a proposition φ that an agent a holds true about a class of worlds. This is a characterizing feature of the agent.
- Definition 2.4.4 (Knowledge The JTB Account). Knowledge is justified, true belief.
- ▷ **Problem:** How can an agent justify a belief to obtain knowledge.
- \triangleright **Definition 2.4.5.** Given a world w, the observed value (or just value, i.e. true or false) of a proposition (in w) can be determined by observations, that is an agent, the observer, either observes (experiences) that φ is true in w or conducts a deliberate, systematic experiment that determines φ to be true in w.

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The crucial intuition here is that we express belief and possibly knowledge about the world using language. But we can only access truth in the world by observation, a possibly flawed operation. So we will never be able to ascertain the "true belief" part, and need to work all the harder on the "justified" part.



We will pursue this last idea. The (small) subset of propositions from which the phenomena that are relevant to an agent can be derived will become the beliefs of the agent. An agent will make

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strive to justify these beliefs to succeed in the world. This is where our notion of knowledge comes from.

Epistemology – Explanations & Hypotheses			
\triangleright Definition 2.4.9. A proposition ψ follows from a proposition φ , iff ψ is true in any world where φ is.			
\triangleright Definition 2.4.10. An explanation of a phenomenon φ is a set Φ of propositions, such that φ follows from Φ .			
\triangleright Example 2.4.11. { φ } is a (rather useless) explanation for φ .			
\triangleright Intuition: We prefer explanations Φ that explain more than just φ .			
$\triangleright \begin{tabular}{lllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllll$			
▷ Definition 2.4.12. A proposition is called falsifiable, iff counterexamples are the- oretically possible and the observation of a reproducible series of counterexample is practically feasible.			
Definition 2.4.13. A hypothesis is a proposed explanation of a phenomenon that is falsifiable.			
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We insist that a hypothesis be falsifiable, because we cannot hope to verify it and indeed the absence of counterexamples is the best we can hope for. But if finding counterexamples is hopeless, it is not even worth bothering with a hypothesis.

This gives rise to a very natural strategy of accumulating propositions to represent (what could) knowledge about the world.

Epistemology – Scientific Theories	
Knowledge Strategy: Collect hypotheses about the world, drop those with counterexamples and those that can be explained themselves.	
\triangleright Definition 2.4.14. A hypothesis φ can be tested in world/situation w by observing the value of φ in w . If the value is true, then we say that the observation o supports φ or is evidence for φ . If it is false then o falsifies φ .	
\triangleright Definition 2.4.15. A (scientific) theory for a collection Φ of phenomena is a set Θ of hypotheses that	
▷ has been tested extensively and rigorously without finding counterexamples, and ▷ is minimal in the sense that no sub-collection of Θ explains Φ .	
\triangleright Definition 2.4.16. We call any proposition φ that follows from a theory Φ a prediction of Φ .	
\triangleright Note: To falsify a theory Φ , it is sufficient to falsify any prediction. Any observation of a prediction φ of Φ supports Φ .	

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Indeed the epistemological approach described in this subsection has become the predominant one in modern science. We will introduce both on very simple examples next.

2.4.2 Meaning Theories

If the meaning of natural language is indeed complicated, then we should really admit to that and instead of directly answering the question, allow for multiple opinions and embark on a regime of testing them against reality. We review some concepts from language philosophy towards that end.

We now specialize the general epistemology for natural language the "world" we try to model empirically.

Theories of Meaning			
▷ The Central Question: What is the meaning of natural language?			
hinspace This is difficult to answer definitely,			
▷ But we can form meaning theory that make predictions that we can test.			
▷ Definition 2.4.17. A semantic meaning theory assigns semantic contents to expressions of a language.			
▷ Definition 2.4.18. A foundational meaning theory tries to explain why language expressions have the meanings they have; e.g. in terms of mental states of individuals and groups.			
ho It is important to keep these two notions apart.			
▷ We will concentrate on semantic meaning theories in this course.			
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In [Spe17], an excellent survey on meaning theories, the author likens the difference between semantic and foundational theories of meaning to the differing tasks of an anthropologist trying to fully document the table manner of a distant tribe ($\hat{=}$ semantic meaning theory) or to explain why the table manners evolve ($\hat{=}$ foundational meaning theory).

Let us fortify our intuition about semantic meaning theories by showing one that can deal with the meaning of names we started our subsection with.



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We think of Frege's conceptualization as a semantic meaning theory, since it assigns semantic content – the pair of sense and referent, whatever they might concretely be – to singular terms.

Cresswell's "Most Certain Principle" and Truth Conditions			
Cressweir's Most Certain i Thiciple and Truth Conditions			
▷ Problem: How can we test meaning theories in practice?			
▷ Definition 2.4.24. Cresswell's (1982) most certain principle (MCP): [Cre82]			
I'm going to begin by telling you what I think is the most certain thing I thin about meaning. Perhaps it's the only thing. It is this. If we have two sentenc A and B, and A is true and B is false, then A and B do not mean the sam	nk ces ne.		
▷ Definition 2.4.25. The truth conditions of a sentence are the conditions of the world under which it is true. These conditions must be such that if all obtain, the sentence is true, and if one doesn't obtain, the sentence is false.			
▷ Observation: Meaning determines truth conditions and vice versa.			
In Fregean terms The sense of a sentence (a thought) determines its referent (a truth value).			
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This principle sounds trivial – and indeed it is, if you think about it – but gives rise to the notion of truth conditions, which form the most important way of finding out about the meaning of sentences: the determinations of truth conditions.

Truth Conditions in Practice
\triangleright Idea: To test/determine the truth conditions of a sentence S in practice, we tell little stories that describe situations/worlds that embed S .
 Example 2.4.26. Consider the ambiguous sentence from Example 3.27 (Looking at Natural Language) in the LBS lecture notes: John chased the gangster in the red sports car. For each of three readings there is story [^]/₂ truth conditions
\triangleright John drives the red sports car and chases the gangster.
\triangleright John chases the gangster who drives the red sports car.
\triangleright John chases the gangster on the back seat of a (very very big) red sports car.
All of these stories correspond to different worlds, so by the MCP there must be at least three readings!

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Why Compositionality is Attractive

- ▷ Compositionality gives a nice building block for a meaning theory:
- ▷ Example 2.4.29. [Expressions [are [built [from [words [that [combine [into [[larger [and larger]] subexpressions]]]]]]]]]
- ▷ Consequence: To compute the meaning of an expression, look up the meanings of its words and successively compute the meanings of larger parts until a meaning for the whole expression is found.
- ▷ Compositionality explains how people can easily understand sentences they have never heard before, even though there are an infinite number of sentences any given person at any given time has not heard before.

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Compositionality and the Congruence Principle

- \vartriangleright Given reasonable assumptions compositionality entails the
- \triangleright **Definition 2.4.30.** The congruence principle states that whenever A is part of B and A' means just the same as A, replacing A by A' in B will lead to a result that means just the same as B.
- ▷ **Example 2.4.31.** Consider the following (complex) sentences:
 - 1. blah blah such and such blah blah
 - 2. blah blah so and so blah blah

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If such and such and so and so mean the same thing, then 1. and 2. mean the same too.

 \triangleright Conversely: if 1. and 2. do not mean the same, then such and such and so and so do not either.

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A Test for Synonymity \triangleright Suppose we accept the most certain principle (difference in truth conditions implies difference in meaning) and the congruence principle (replacing words by synonyms results in a synonymous utterance). Then we have a diagnostics for synonymy: Replacing utterances by synonyms preserves truth conditions, or equivalently ▷ **Definition 2.4.32.** The following is called the truth conditional synonymy test: If replacing A by B in some sentence C does not preserve truth conditions, then A and B are not synonymous. ▷ We can use this as a test for the question of individuation: when are the meanings of two words the same - when are they synonymous? ▷ Example 2.4.33 (Unsurprising Results). The following sentences differ in truth conditions. 1. The cat is on the mat. 2. The dog is on the mat. Hence *cat* and *dog* are not synonymous. The converse holds for 1. John is a Greek. 2. John is a Hellene. In this case there is no difference in truth conditions. \triangleright But there might be another context that does give a difference. Fau

Contentious Cases of Synonymy Test

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- **Example 2.4.34 (Problem).** The following sentences differ in truth values:
 - 1. Mary believes that John is a Greek
 - 2. Mary believes that John is a Hellene

So Greek is not synonymous to Hellene. The same holds in the classical example:

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- 1. The Ancients knew that Hesperus was Hesperus
- 2. The Ancients knew that Hesperus was Phosphorus

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In these cases most language users do perceive a difference in truth conditions while some philosophers vehemently deny that the sentences under 1. could be true in situations where the 2. sentences are false.

It is important here of course that the context of substitution is within the scope of a verb of propositional attitude. (maybe later!)

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A better Synonymy Test

▷ Definition 2.4.35 (Synonymy). The following is called the truth conditional synonymy test:

If replacing A by B in some sentence C does not preserve truth conditions in a compositional part of C, then A and B are not synonymous.

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Testing Truth Conditions with Logic

\triangleright Definition 2.4.36. A logical language model \mathcal{M} for a natural language L consists of a logical system $\langle \mathcal{L}, \mathcal{K}, \vDash \rangle$ and a function φ from L sentences to \mathcal{L} -formulae. \triangleright **Problem:** How do we find out whether \mathcal{M} models L faithfully? \triangleright Idea: Test truth conditions of sentences against the predictions \mathcal{M} makes. \triangleright **Problem:** The truth conditions for a sentence S in L can only be formulated and verified by humans that speak L. ▷ In Practice: Truth conditions are expressed as "stories" that specify salient situations. Native speakers of L are asked to judge whether they make S true/false. \triangleright Observation 2.4.37. A logical language model $\mathcal{M} := \langle L, \mathcal{L}, \varphi \rangle$ can be tested: 1. Select a sentence S and a situation W that makes S true in W. (according to humans) 2. Translate S in to an \mathcal{L} -formula $S' := \varphi(S)$. $(\Phi \stackrel{\frown}{=} truth \ conditions)$ 3. Express W as a set Φ of \mathcal{L} -formulae. 4. \mathcal{M} is supported if $\Phi \vDash S'$, falsified if $\Phi \nvDash S'$. ▷ Corollary 2.4.38. A logical language model constitutes a semantic meaning theory.

2.5 Computational Semantics as a Natural Science

Overview: Formal natural language semantics is an approach to the study of meaning in natural language which utilizes the tools of logic and model theory. Computational semantics adds to this the task of representing the role of inference in interpretation. By combining these two different

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approaches to the study of linguistic interpretation, we hope to expose you (the students) to the best of both worlds.

Computational Semantics as a Natural Science			
▷ In a nutshell: Formal logic studies formal languages, their relation with the world (in particular the truth conditions). Computational logic adds the question about the computational behavior of the relevant aspects of the formal languages.			
▷ This is almost the same as the task of natural language semantics!			
It is one of the key ideas that logics are good scientific models for natural languages, since they simplify certain aspects so that they can be studied in isolation. In particular, we can use the general scientific method of			
1. observing			
2. building formal theories for an aspect of reality,			
3. deriving the consequences of the hypotheses about the world in the theories			
4. testing the predictions made by the theory against the real-world data. If the theory predicts the data, then this supports the theory, if not, we refine the theory, starting the process again at 2.			
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Excursion: In natural sciences, this is established practice; e.g. astronomers observe the planets, and try to make predictions about the locations of the planets in the future. If you graph the location over time, it appears as a complicated zig-zag line that is difficult to understand. In 1609 Johannes Kepler postulated the model that the planets revolve around the sun in ellipses, where the sun is in one of the focal points. This model made it possible to predict the future whereabouts of the planets with great accuracy by relatively simple mathematical computations. Subsequent observations have confirmed this theory, since the predictions and observations match.

Later, the model was refined by Isaac Newton, by a theory of gravitation; it replaces the Keplerian assumptions about the geometry of planetary orbits by simple assumptions about gravitational forces (gravitation decreases with the inverse square of the distance) which entail the geometry.

Even later, the Newtonian theory of celestial mechanics was replaced by Einstein's relativity theory, which makes better predictions for great distances and high-speed objects.

All of these theories have in common, that they build a mathematical model of the physical reality, which is simple and precise enough to compute/derive consequences of basic assumptions, that can be tested against observations to validate or falsify the model/theory.

The study of natural language (and of course its meaning) is more complex than natural sciences, where we only observe objects that exist independently of ourselves as observers. Language is an inherently human activity, and deeply interdependent with human cognition (it is arguably one of its motors and means of expression). On the other hand, language is used to communicate about phenomena in the world around us, the world in us, and about hypothetical worlds we only imagine.

Therefore, natural language semantics must necessarily be an intersective discipline and a trans-disciplinary endeavour, combining methods, results and insights from various disciplines.

NL Semantics as an Intersective Discipline

2.5. COMPUTATIONAL SEMANTICS AS A NATURAL SCIENCE



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Part I

English as a Formal Language: The Method of Fragments

Chapter 3

Logic as a Tool for Modeling NL Semantics

In this chapter we will briefly introduce formal logic and motivate how we will use it as a tool for developing precise theories about natural language semantics.

We want to build a compositional, semantic meaning theory based on truth conditions, so that we can directly model the truth conditional synonymy test. We will see how this works in detail in ?? after we have recapped the necessary concepts about logic.

3.1 The Method of Fragments

We will proceed by the "method of fragments", introduced by Richard Montague in [Mon70], where he insists on specifying a complete syntax and semantics for a specified subset ("fragment") of a natural language, rather than writing rules for the a single construction while making implicit assumptions about the rest of the grammar. [Mon70]

In the present paper I shall accordingly present a precise treatment, culminating in a theory of truth, of a formal language that I believe may be reasonably regarded as a fragment of ordinary English. R. Montague 1970 [Mon70, p.188]

The first step in defining a fragment of natural language is to define which sentences we want to consider. We will do this by means of a context-free grammar. This will do two things: act as an oracle deciding which sentences (of natural language) are OK, and secondly to build up parse trees, which we will later use for semantics construction.

Natural Language Fragments Methodological Problem: How to organize the scientific method for natural language? Delineation Problem: What is natural language, e.g. English? Which aspects do we want to study? Idea: Select a subset (NL) sentences we want to study by a grammar! ~ Richard Montague's method of fragments (1972). Definition 3.1.1. The language L of a context-free grammar is called a fragment of a natural language N, iff L ⊆ N.

CHAPTER 3. LOGIC AS A TOOL FOR MODELING NL SEMANTICS

Scientific Fiction: We can exhaust English with ever-increasing fragments, develop a semantic meaning theory for each.
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So far so good, these are nice ideas, but what does this mean in practice?



We generically distinguish two parts of a grammar: the structural rules and the lexical rules, because they are guided by differing intuitions. The former set of rules govern how NL phrases can be composed to sentences (and later even to discourses). The latter rules are a simple representation of a lexicon, i.e. a structure which tells us about words (the atomic objects of language): their phrasal categories, their meaning, etc.



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3.2 What is Logic?



So logic is the study of formal representations of objects in the real world, and the formal statements that are true about them. The insistence on a *formal language* for representation is actually something that simplifies life for us. Formal languages are something that is actually easier to understand than e.g. natural languages. For instance it is usually decidable, whether a string is a member of a formal language. For natural language this is much more difficult: there is still no program that can reliably say whether a sentence is a grammatical sentence of the English language.

We have already discussed the meaning mappings (under the monicker "semantics"). Meaning mappings can be used in two ways, they can be used to understand a formal language, when we use a mapping into "something we already understand", or they are the mapping that legitimize a representation in a formal language. We understand a formula (a member of a formal language) **A** to be a representation of an object \mathcal{O} , iff $[\mathbf{A}] = \mathcal{O}$.

However, the game of representation only becomes really interesting, if we can do something with the representations. For this, we give ourselves a set of syntactic rules of how to manipulate the formulae to reach new representations or facts about the world.

Consider, for instance, the case of calculating with numbers, a task that has changed from a difficult job for highly paid specialists in Roman times to a task that is now feasible for young children. What is the cause of this dramatic change? Of course the formalized reasoning procedures for arithmetic that we use nowadays. These *calculi* consist of a set of rules that can be followed purely syntactically, but nevertheless manipulate arithmetic expressions in a correct and fruitful way. An essential prerequisite for syntactic manipulation is that the objects are given in a formal language suitable for the problem. For example, the introduction of the decimal system has been instrumental to the simplification of arithmetic mentioned above. When the arithmetical calculi were sufficiently well-understood and in principle a mechanical procedure, and when the art of clock-making was mature enough to design and build mechanical devices of an appropriate kind, the invention of calculating machines for arithmetic by (1623), (1642), and (1671) was only a natural consequence.

We will see that it is not only possible to calculate with numbers, but also with representations of statements about the world (propositions). For this, we will use an extremely simple example; a fragment of propositional logic (we restrict ourselves to only one connective) and a small calculus that gives us a set of rules how to manipulate formulae.

In computational semantics, the picture is slightly more complicated than in Physics. Where Physics considers mathematical models, we build logical models, which in turn employ the term "model". To sort this out, let us briefly recap the components of logics, we have seen so far.

Logics make good (scientific¹) models for natural language, since they are mathematically precise and relatively simple.

- **Formal languages** simplify natural languages, in that problems of grammaticality no longer arise. Well-formedness can in general be decided by a simple recursive procedure.
- Semantic models simplify the real world by concentrating on (but not restricting itself to) mathematically well-understood structures like sets or numbers. The induced semantic notions of validity and logical consequence are precisely defined in terms of semantic models and allow us to make predictions about truth conditions of natural language.

The only missing part is that we can conveniently compute the predictions made by the model. The underlying problem is that the semantic notions like validity and semantic consequence are defined with respect to *all* models, which are difficult to handle.

Therefore, logics typically have a third part, an inference system, or a calculus, which is a syntactic counterpart to the semantic notions. Formally, a calculus is just a set of rules (called inference rules) that transform (sets of) formulae (the assumptions) into other (sets of) formulae (the conclusions). A sequence of rule applications that transform the empty set of assumptions into a formula \mathbf{T} , is called a proof of \mathbf{A} . To make these assumptions clear, let us look at a very simple example.

¹As we use the word "model" in two ways, we will sometimes explicitly label it by the attribute "scientific" to signify that a whole logic is used to model a natural language phenomenon and with the attribute "semantic" for the mathematical structures that are used to give meaning to formal languages

3.3 Using Logic to Model Meaning of Natural Language



Let us now reconcider the role of all of this for natural language semantics. We have claimed that the goal of the course is to provide you with a set of methods to determine the meaning of natural language. If we look back, all we did was to establish translations from natural languages into formal languages like first-order or higher-order logic (and that is all you will find ituisn most semantics papers and textbooks). Now, we have just tried to convince you that these are actually syntactic entities. So, *where is the semantics*?



As we mentioned, the green area is the one generally covered by natural language semantics. In the analysis process, the natural language utterance (viewed here as formulae of a language \mathcal{NL}) are translated to a formal language \mathcal{FL} (a set wff(,) of well-formed formulae). We claim that this is all that is needed to recapture the semantics even if this is not immediately obvious at first: Theoretical Logic gives us the missing pieces.

Since \mathcal{FL} is a formal language of a logical system, it comes with a notion of model and an value

function \mathcal{I}_{φ} that translates \mathcal{FL} formulae into objects of that model. This induces a notion of logical consequence² as explained in ??. It also comes with a calculus \mathcal{C} acting on \mathcal{FL} formulae, which (if we are lucky) is sound and complete (then the mappings in the upper rectangle commute).

What we are really interested in natural language semantics is the truth conditions and natural consequence relations on natural language utterances, which we have denoted by $\models_{\mathcal{NL}}$. If the calculus \mathcal{C} of the logical system $\langle \mathcal{FL}, \mathcal{K}, \vDash \rangle$ is adequate (it might be a bit presumptions to say sound and complete), then it is a model of the linguistic entailment relation $\models_{\mathcal{NL}}$. Given that both rectangles in the diagram commute, then we really have a model for truth conditions and logical consequence for text/speech fragments, if we only specify the analysis mapping (the green part) and the calculus.



²Relations on a set S are subsets of the Cartesian product of S, so we use $R \subseteq S^n \times S$ to signify that R is a (n-ary) relation on X.

Chapter 4

Fragment 1

We will now put the ideas from the last chapter into practice in the setting of the Montague's "Method of Fragments". We will introduce a first very simple fragment mostly for the purpose of setting up the conceptual infrastructure and seeing how the various bits and pieces might interact, not so much because the fragment in and of itself is linguistically interesting.

4.1 The First Fragment: Setting up the Basics

The first fragment will primarily be used for setting the stage, and introducing the method of fragments itself. the coverage of the fragment is too small to do anything useful with it, but it will allow us to discuss the salient features of the method, the particular setup of the grammars and semantics before graduating to more useful fragments.



Now that we have the target logic we can complete the analysis arrow in slide 55. We do this again, by giving translation rules.

4.1.1 Natural Language Syntax (Fragment 1)



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S	sentence	NP	noun phrase
N	noun	$N_{ m pr}$	proper name
V^i	intransitive verb	V^t	transitive verb
conj	coordinator	Adj	adjective

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 \triangleright **Definition 4.1.2.** We have the following production rules in \mathcal{F}_1 . $S1: S \to \operatorname{NP} V^i$, $S2: S \rightarrow NP V^t NP$, $N1: NP \rightarrow N_{pr}$, $N2: \mathbb{NP} \to \mathsf{the} N$, $S3: S \rightarrow$ It is not the case that S, $S4: S \rightarrow S \operatorname{conj} S$, $S5: S \rightarrow NP$ is NP, and S6: $S \rightarrow NP$ is Adj FAU

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Lexical insertion rules for Fragment \mathcal{F}_1 \triangleright **Definition 4.1.3.** We have the following lexical insertion rules in fragment \mathcal{F}_1 . $L1: N_{\text{Dr}} \rightarrow \text{Prudence} \mid \text{Ethel} \mid \text{Chester} \mid \text{Jo} \mid \text{Bertie} \mid \text{Fiona},$ $L2: N \rightarrow book \mid cake \mid cat \mid golfer \mid dog \mid lecturer \mid student \mid singer,$ L3: $V^i \rightarrow \operatorname{ran} | \text{ laughed } | \text{ sang } | \text{ howled } | \text{ screamed,}$ L4: $V^t \rightarrow \text{read} \mid \text{poisoned} \mid \text{ate} \mid \text{liked} \mid \text{loathed} \mid \text{kicked}$, $L5: \operatorname{conj} \rightarrow \operatorname{and} | \operatorname{or},$ $L6: \operatorname{Adj} \rightarrow \operatorname{happy} | \operatorname{crazy} | \operatorname{messy} | \operatorname{disgusting} | \operatorname{wealthy}$ ▷ **Definition 4.1.4.** A production rule whose head is a single non-terminal and whose body consists of a single terminal is called lexical or a lexical insertion rule. ▷ **Notation:** Lexical insertion rules are usually written using BNF alternative in the body \leftrightarrow grouping rules with the same head. \triangleright **Definition 4.1.5.** The subset of lexical rules of a grammar G is called the lexicon of G and the set of body symbols the vocabulary (or alphabet). The nonterminals in their heads are called lexical categories of G. ▷ Note: We will adopt the convention that new lexical insertion rules can be generated spontaneously as needed. FAU Michael Kohlhase: LBS 2025-02-06 62

These rules represent a simple lexicon, they specify which words are accepted by the grammar and what their phrasal categories are.

Syntax Example: Jo poisoned the dog and Ethel laughed ▷ Observation 4.1.6. Jo poisoned the dog and Ethel laughed is a sentence of fragment 1 We can construct a parse tree for it!



4.1.2 Predicate Logic without Quantifiers

The next step will be to introduce the logical model we will use for fragment \mathcal{F}_1 : Predicate Logic without Quantifiers. Syntactically, this logic is a fragment of first-order logic, but it's expressivity is equivalent to propositional logic.

Individuals and their Properties/Relationships			
Observation: We want to talk about individuals like Stefan, Nicole, and Jochen and their properties, e.g. being blond, or studying Al and relationships, e.g. that Stefan loves Nicole.			
▷ Idea: Re-use PL ⁰ , but replace p sive! trick)	propositional variables w (inst	ith something more ead of fancy variab	e ex pres- lle name
\triangleright Definition 4.1.7. A first-order signature $\langle \Sigma^f, \Sigma^p \rangle$ consists of			
$\succ \Sigma^f := \bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \Sigma^f_k$ of function functions on individuals,	1 constants, where mer	mbers of Σ^f_k denomination	te k -ary
$\triangleright \Sigma^p := \bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \Sigma^p{}_k \text{ of predicate constants, where members of } \Sigma^p{}_k \text{ denote } k\text{-ary relations among individuals,}}$			
where $\Sigma^f_{m k}$ and $\Sigma^p{}_{m k}$ are pairwise disjoint, countable sets of symbols for each $k\in\mathbb{N}.$			
A 0-ary function constant refers to a single individual, therefore we call it a individual constant.			
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A Grammar for PL^{nq}



PL^{pq} Semantics ▷ **Definition 4.1.9.** Domains $\mathcal{D}_0 = \{\mathsf{T},\mathsf{F}\}$ of truth values and $\mathcal{D}_t \neq \emptyset$ of individuals. \triangleright Definition 4.1.10. Interpretation \mathcal{I} assigns values to constants, e.g. $\triangleright \mathcal{I}(\neg) : \mathcal{D}_0 \to \mathcal{D}_0; \mathsf{T} \mapsto \mathsf{F}; \mathsf{F} \mapsto \mathsf{T} \text{ and } \mathcal{I}(\land) = \dots$ (as in PL^0) $\triangleright \mathcal{I} \colon \Sigma_{\mathbf{0}}^f \to \mathcal{D}_\iota$ (interpret individual constants as individuals) $\triangleright \mathcal{I} \colon \Sigma_k^f \to \mathcal{D}_{\iota}^k \to \mathcal{D}_{\iota}$ (interpret function constants as functions) $\triangleright \mathcal{I}: \Sigma^p_k \to \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{D}_k^k)$ (interpret predicate constants as relations) \triangleright **Definition 4.1.11.** The value function \mathcal{I} assigns values to formulae: (recursively) $\triangleright \mathcal{I}(f(\mathbf{A}^1,\ldots,\mathbf{A}^k)) := \mathcal{I}(f)(\mathcal{I}(\mathbf{A}^1),\ldots,\mathcal{I}(\mathbf{A}^k))$ $\triangleright \mathcal{I}(p(\mathbf{A}^1,\ldots,\mathbf{A}^k)) := \mathsf{T}, \text{ iff } \langle \mathcal{I}(\mathbf{A}^1),\ldots,\mathcal{I}(\mathbf{A}^k) \rangle \in \mathcal{I}(p)$ $\succ \mathcal{I}(\neg \mathbf{A}) = \mathcal{I}(\neg)(\mathcal{I}(\mathbf{A})) \text{ and } \mathcal{I}(\mathbf{A} \land \mathbf{B}) = \mathcal{I}(\land)(\mathcal{I}(\mathbf{A}), \mathcal{I}(\mathbf{G}))$ (just as in PL^0) \triangleright **Definition 4.1.12.** Model: $\mathcal{M} = \langle \mathcal{D}_{\iota}, \mathcal{I} \rangle$ varies in \mathcal{D}_{ι} and \mathcal{I} . \triangleright **Theorem 4.1.13.** P^{IPq} is isomorphic to P¹_L (interpret atoms as prop. variables) FAU e Michael Kohlhase: LBS 2025-02-06 66

All of the definitions above are quite abstract, we now look at them again using a very concrete – if somewhat contrived – example: The relevant parts are a universe \mathcal{D} with four elements, and an interpretation that maps the signature into individuals, functions, and predicates over \mathcal{D} , which are given as concrete sets.

A Model for PL^{pq} $\succ \text{Example 4.1.14. Let } L := \{a, b, c, d, e, P, Q, R, S\}, \text{ we set the universe } \mathcal{D} := \{\clubsuit, \diamondsuit, \heartsuit, \diamondsuit\}, \text{ and specify the interpretation function } \mathcal{I} \text{ by setting}$ $\Rightarrow a \mapsto \clubsuit, b \mapsto \clubsuit, c \mapsto \heartsuit, d \mapsto \diamondsuit, \text{ and } e \mapsto \diamondsuit \text{ for constants,}$ $\Rightarrow P \mapsto \{\clubsuit, \clubsuit\} \text{ and } Q \mapsto \{\clubsuit, \diamondsuit\}, \text{ for unary predicate constants.}$ $\Rightarrow R \mapsto \{\langle\heartsuit, \diamondsuit\rangle, \langle\diamondsuit, \heartsuit\rangle\}, \text{ and } S \mapsto \{\langle\diamondsuit, \clubsuit\rangle, \langle\diamondsuit, \clubsuit\rangle\} \text{ for binary predicate constants.}$ $\Rightarrow \text{Example 4.1.15 (Computing Meaning in this Model).}$



The example above also shows how we can compute of meaning by in a concrete model: we just follow the evaluation rules to the letter.

We now come to the central technical result about PE^{q} : it is essentially the same as propositional logic (PL⁰). We say that the two logic are isomorphic. Technically, this means that the formulae of PE^{q} can be translated to PL^{0} and there is a corresponding model translation from the models of PL^{0} to those of PE^{q} such that the respective notions of evaluation are assigned to each other.



The practical upshot of the commutative diagram from ?? is that if we have a way of computing evaluation (or entailment for that matter) in PL^0 , then we can "borrow" it for PL^q by composing it with the language and model translations. In other words, we can reuse calculi and automated theorem provers from PL^0 for PL^q .

But we still have to provide the proof for ??, which we do now.



Now that we have the target logic we can complete the analysis arrow in slide 55. We do this again, by giving translation rules.

4.1.3 Natural Language Semantics via Translation





4.2 Testing Truth Conditions via Inference

Now that our language fragment model is complete for fragment \mathcal{F}_1 , we can test it to see whether it makes the correct predictions.

We use one of the examples from introduction even though we have to somewhat force-fit into fragment \mathcal{F}_1 . As the fragment was mostly introduced to show the basic setup, this may be



Testing Truth Conditions in P	Γ^{nq}		
▷ Idea 1: To test our language mode	$\mid (\mathcal{F}_1)$		
▷ Select a sentence S and a situation humans)	on W that makes S :	true. (acc	ording to
${\scriptscriptstyle \vartriangleright}$ Translate S in to a formula S' in	PE^{nq} .		
$ ho$ Express W as a set Φ of formulae	e in $\operatorname{PL}^{\mathrm{nq}}$	($\Phi \mathrel{\widehat{=}} truth cc$	onditions)
$ ho$ Our language model is supported if $\Phi \vDash S'$, falsified if $\Phi \nvDash S'$.			
\triangleright Example 4.2.1 (John chased the \mathfrak{g}	ho Example 4.2.1 (John chased the gangster in the red sports car).		
$ hinspace$ We claimed that we have three re $R_1:=c(j,g)\wedge in(j,s),\ R_2:=c(j,g)$	eadings $\ref{eq:solution}$ (g,s) , and $R_3 :=$	$c(j,g) \wedge in(j,s)$	$\wedge in(g,s)$
\triangleright So there must be three distinct situations W that make S true			
1. John is in the red sports car, but the gangster isn't $W_1 := c(i, a) \land in(i, s) \land \neg in(a, s)$ so $W_1 \models B_1$, but $W_1 \nvDash B_2$ and $W_1 \nvDash B_2$			≠ R3
 The gangster is in the red sports car, but John isn't 			
$W_2:=c(j,g)\wedge in(g,s)\wedge eg in(j,s)$, so $W_2Dert R_2$, but $W_2 ot\models R_1$ and $W_2 ot\models R_3$			
3. Both are in the red sports car \hat{a} they ground on the back seat of a year big sports car			
$W_3:=c(j,g)\wedge in(j,s)\wedge in(g,s),$ so $W_3\vDash R_3,$ but $W_3 ot \models R_1$ and $W_3 ot \models R_1$			
\triangleright Idea 2: Use a calculus to model \vDash ,	e.g. \mathcal{ND}_0		
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4.3 Summary & Evaluation

So let us evaluate what we have achieved so far:

Fragment \mathcal{F}_1 – Summary		
$ hightarrow$ Fragment \mathcal{F}_1 of English	(defined by grammar + lexicon)	
⊳ Logic PI ^{rq}	(serves as a mathematical model for \mathcal{F}_1)	
⊳ Formal Language	(individuals, predicates, $\neg, \land, \lor, \Rightarrow$)	
 ▷ Semantics I_φ defined recursively o ▷ Tableau calculus for validity and e 	on formula structure (→ validity, entailment) ntailment (CALCULEMUS!)	
$ ho$ Analysis function $\mathcal{F}_1 \rightsquigarrow \operatorname{PI}^{\operatorname{pq}}$	(Translation)	
\triangleright Test the model by checking prediction	ns (calculate truth conditions)	
Coverage: Extremely Boring! (accounts for 0 examples from the intro) but the conceptual setup is fascinating		
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4.3. SUMMARY & EVALUATION



Chapter 5

Fragment 2: Pronouns and World Knowledge → Semantic/Pragmatic Analysis

In this chapter we will extend fragment \mathcal{F}_1 from last chapter with and pronouns: We want to cover discourses like Peter loves Fido. Even though he bites him sometimes. As we already observed there, we crucially need a notion of context to determine the meaning of the pronoun during semantic/pragmatic analysis, which we focus on here.

In particular, the example shows us that we will need to take into account world knowledge as a way to integrate world knowledge to filter out one interpretation/reading, i.e. Humans don't bite dogs.

For this purpose, we introduce a new concept: the notion of a tableau machine that casts semantic/pragmatic analysis as an inferential process.

5.1 Fragment 2: Pronouns and Anaphora

We start out with the new data we want to cover in this fragment and some ideas of all the things we need to adapt. Actually there that is only one new sentence: The Peter/Fido example from the introduction of LBS.



For the syntax, the necessary changes are quite minor as well. We need to extend the grammar from fragment 1 by one new phrasal category and one derivation rule:

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We also have to adapt the logical system we want to translate into, and we do this by adding variables. Recall that variables denote arbitrary individuals and can be instantiated in inference-processes. That makes them seem suitable as a logical counterpart for pronouns.

The main idea here is to extend PE^q – the fragment of first-order logic we use as a model for natural language – to include free variables, and assume that pronouns like *he*, *she*, *it*, and *they* are translated to distinct free variables i.e. every occurrance of a pronoun to a new variable.

The mathematical development of $PE^{q}(\mathcal{V})$ itself is rather simple: it extends PE^{q} , but stays a fragment of first-order logic, so we can get by with the methods developed for that.

Note that we do not allow quantifiers yet that will come in ??, as quantifiers will pose new problems, and we can already solve some linguistically interesting problems without them.

Predicate Logic with Variables (but no Quantifiers)			
\triangleright Definition 5.1.2 (Logical System $PPq(\mathcal{V})$). $PPq(\mathcal{V}) := PPq + variables$			
$\triangleright \text{ Definition 5.1.3 (PEq(\mathcal{V}) Syntax).} \\ \text{Category } \mathcal{V} = \{X, Y, Z, X^1, X^2, \ldots\} \text{ of variables } \\ \text{individual constants were allowed}) \qquad (allow variables wherever)$			
$\triangleright \mbox{ Definition 5.1.4 (PPq(\mathcal{V}) Semantics).} \\ \mbox{ First-order model } \mathcal{M} = \langle \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{I} \rangle \\ \end{cases}$	(need to evaluate variables)		
$\triangleright \text{ variable assignment: } \varphi \colon \mathcal{V}_{\iota} \to U$ $\triangleright \text{ value function: } \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(X) = \varphi(X)$	(defined like $\mathcal I$ elsewhere)		
$ ightarrow$ call a $\operatorname{PEq}(\mathcal{V})$ formula A valid in \mathcal{M} under φ , iff $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathbf{A}) = T$,			
$ ho$ call it satisfiable in $\mathcal M$, iff there is a variable assignment $arphi$, such that $\mathcal I_arphi(\mathbf A)=\mathsf T$			
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And now, the translation to $PL^{pq}(\mathcal{V})$ is again very simple:

5.2. INFERENCE WITH WORLD KNOWLEDGE AND FREE VARIABLES – A CASE STUDY55



Here we see how the principle of compositionality we impose on semantics construction makes our life easy: for every syntax rule, we need exactly one translation rule – here the one above.

5.2 Inference with World Knowledge and Free Variables – A Case Study

In \mathcal{F}_1 we did not have a dedicated semantic/pragmatic analysis phase, but in \mathcal{F}_2 we have anaphoric pronouns which need to be resolved. So we will start experimenting with model generation tableaux to see where this will go with respect to anaphor resolution.

5.2.1 Pragmatics via Model Generation Tableaux?

As we have established (see ??) that PE^q is isomorphic to PL^0 , we can directly use the propositional tableau calculus for deciding entailment in PE^{q} . For $PE^{q}(\mathcal{V})$, we have to do more, especially, if we want to deal with anaphora and the world knowledge we have to use to process them. In particular we will have to extend our tableau calculus with new inference rules for the new language capabilities.



\mathcal{H} is the set of ind. constants and the σ_i are substitutions t a_k (there are n^m of them).	in the branch above that instantiate the X_j	(Herbrand universe) with any combinations of the
\triangleright the first rule is used for w	orld knowledge	(up in the branch)
▷ the second rule is used for this rule has to be applied	eagerly (while they are still at the leaf)
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We use free variables for two purposes in our new fragment: Free variables in the input stand for pronouns, their value will be determined by random instantiation. Free variables in the world knowledge allow us to express schematic knowledge. For instance, if we want to express Humans don't bite dogs., then we can do this by the formula $\operatorname{human}(X) \wedge \operatorname{dog}(Y) \Rightarrow \neg \operatorname{bites}(X, Y)$.

Let us look at two examples: To understand the role of background knowledge we interpret *Peter* snores with respect to the knowledge that *Only sleeping people snore*.

To allow for world knowledge, we generalize the notion of an initial tableau. Instead of allowing only the initial labeled formula at the root node, we allow a linear tree whose nodes are labeled formulae with positive formulae representing the world knowledge. As the world knowledge resides in the initial tableau (intuitively before all input), we will also speak of background knowledge.



The background knowledge is represented in the schematic formula in the first line of the tableau. Upon receiving the input, the tableau instantiates the schema to line three and uses the chaining rule from ?? to derive the fact that Peter must sleep.

The third input formula contains a free variable, which is instantiated by all constant in the Herbrand universe (two in our case). This gives rise to two Herbrand models that correspond to the two readings of the discourse.

Let us now look at an example with more realistic background knowledge. Say we know that birds fly, if they are not penguins. Furthermore, eagles and penguins are birds, but eagles are not penguins. Then we can answer the classic question *Does Tweety fly*? by the following two

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5.2.2 Case Study: Peter loves Fido, even though he sometimes bites him

Let us now return to the motivating example from the introduction, and see how our system fares with it (this allows us to test our computational/linguistic theory). We will do this in a completely naive manner and see what comes out, and worry about the theory in the next subsection. The first problem we run into immediately is that we do not know how to cope with even though and sometimes, so we simplify the discourse to Peter loves Fido and he bites him.



The next problem is obvious: We get four readings instead of one (or two)! What has happened? If we look at the models, we see that we did not even specify the background knowledge that was supposed filter out the one intended reading.

We try again with the additional knowledge that Nobody bites himself and Humans do not bite dogs.



We observe that our extended tableaucalculus was indeed able to handle this example, if we only give it enough background knowledge to act upon.

But the world knowledge we can express in $PE^{q}(\mathcal{V})$ is very limited. We can say that humans do not bite dogs, but we cannot provide the background knowledge to understand a sentence like Peter was late for class today, the car had a flat tire, which needs knowledge like Every car has wheels, which have a tire. and if a tire is flat, the car breaks down, which is outside the realm of $PE^{q}(\mathcal{V})$.

5.2.3 The Computational Role of Ambiguities

In the case study above we have seen that anaphor resolution introduces ambiguities, and we can use world knowledge to filter out impossible readings. Generally in the traditional waterfall model of language processing – which posits that NL understanding is a process that analyzes the input in stages: syntax, semantics construction, pragmatics – every processing stage introduces ambiguities that need to be resolved in this stage or later.

The computational Role of Ambigui	ties	
Observation: (in the traditional waterfall model) Every processing stage introduces ambiguities that need to be resolved.		
⊳ Syntax: e.g. Peter chased the man in the re	d sports car (attachment)	
⊳ Semantics: e.g. Peter went to the bank	(lexical)	
▶ Pragmatics: e.g. Two men carried two bags	(collective vs. distributive)	
▷ Question: Where does pronoun ambiguity b	pelong? (much less clear)	
▷ Answer: we have freedom to choose		

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1. resolve the pronouns in the syntax	(generic waterfall model)
\rightsquigarrow multiple syntactic representations	(pragmatics as filter)
2. resolve the pronouns in the pragmatics	(our model here)
\rightsquigarrow need underspecified syntactic representations	(e.g. variables)
ightarrow pragmatics needs ambiguity treatment	(e.g. tableaux)
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For pronoun ambiguities, this is much less clear. In a way we have the freedom to choose. We can

- 1. resolve the pronouns in the syntax as in the generic waterfall model, then we arrive at multiple syntactic representations, and can use pragmatics as filter to get rid of unwanted readings
- 2. resolve the pronouns in the pragmatics (our model here) then we need underspecified syntactic representations (e.g. variables) and pragmatics needs ambiguity treatment (in our case the tableaux).

We will continue to explore the second alternative in more detail, and refine the approach. One of the advantages of treating the anaphoric ambiguities in the syntax is that syntactic agreement information like gender can be used to disambiguate. Say that we vary the example from section 9 (Case Study: Peter loves Fido, even though he sometimes bites him) in the LBS lecture notes to Peter loves Mary. She loves him.



The tableau (over)-generates the full set of pronoun readings. At first glance it seems that we can fix this just like we did in section 9 (Case Study: Peter loves Fido, even though he sometimes bites him) in the LBS lecture notes by attaching world knowledge to pronouns, just as with Peter and Fido. Then we could use the world knowledge to distinguish gender by predicates, say masc and fem.

But if we look at the whole picture of building a system, we can see that this idea will not work. The problem is that properties of proper names like Fido are given in the background knowledge, whereas the relevant properties of *pronouns* must be given by the syntax-semantics interface. Concretely, we would need to generate $loves(X, Y) \land masc(X) \land fem(Y)$ for She loves him. How can we do such a thing compositionally?

Again we basically have two options, we can either design a clever syntax-semantics interface, or we can follow the lead of Montague semantics and extend the logic, so that compositionality becomes simpler to achieve. We will explore the latter option in the next section. The problem we stumbled across in the last section is how to associate certain properties (in this case agreement information) with variables compositionally. Fortunately, there is a ready-made logical theory for it. Sorted first-order logic. Actually there are various sorted first-order logics, but we will only need the simplest one for our application at the moment.

Sorted first-order logic extends the language with a set S of sorts $\mathbb{A}, \mathbb{B}, \mathbb{C}, \ldots$, which are just special symbols that are attached to all terms in the language.

Syntactically, all constants, and variables are assigned sorts, which are annotated in the lower index, if they are not clear from the context. Semantically, the universe \mathcal{D} is subdivided into subsets $\mathcal{D}_{\mathbb{A}} \subseteq \mathcal{D}$, which denote the objects of sort \mathbb{A} ; furthermore, the interpretation function \mathcal{I} and variable assignment φ have to be well sorted. Finally, on the calculus level, the only change we have to make is to restrict instantiation to well-sorted substitutions:



5.3 Tableaux and Model Generation

Now that we have seen that using tableaux in model generation mode – i.e. decorate the initial formula with T and see what branches develop – let us supply some of the theory after the fact, and clean up all the details that have been missing.

The main result of this section is the a tableau machine – an online inferential process for natural language interpretation – that we will develop further as a model for semantic/pragmatic analysis in this course.

5.3.1 Tableau Branches and Herbrand Models

We have claimed above that the set of literals in open saturated tableau branches corresponds to a model. To gain an intuition, we will study our example above,



So the first task is to find a domain \mathcal{D} of interpretation. Our formula mentions *Mary*, *John*, and *Bill*, which we assume to refer to distinct individuals so we need (at least) three individuals in the domain; so let us take $\mathcal{D} := \{A, B, C\}$ and fix $\mathcal{I}(\text{mary}) = A$, $\mathcal{I}(\text{bill}) = B$, $\mathcal{I}(\text{john}) = C$.

So the only task is to find a suitable interpretation for the predicate loves that makes loves(john, mary) false and loves(mary, bill) true. This is simple: we just take $\mathcal{I}(\text{loves}) = \{\langle A, B \rangle\}$. Indeed we have

 $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\text{loves}(\text{mary}, \text{bill}) \lor \text{loves}(\text{john}, \text{mary})) = \mathsf{T}$

but $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\text{loves}(\text{john}, \text{mary})) = \mathsf{F}$ according to the rules in¹.



In particular, the literals of an open saturated tableau branch \mathcal{B} are a Herbrand model \mathcal{H} , as we have convinced ourselves above. By inspection of the inference rules above, we can further convince ourselves, that \mathcal{H} satisfies all formulae on \mathcal{B} . We must only check that if \mathcal{H} satisfies the

 $^{^{1}}EDNOTE:$ crossref

succedents of the rule, then it satisfies the antecedent (which is immediate from the semantics of the principal connectives).

In particular, \mathcal{H} is a model for the root formula of the tableau, which is on \mathcal{B} by construction. So the tableau procedure is also a procedure that generates explicit (Herbrand) models for the root literal of the tableau. Every branch of the tableau corresponds to a (possibly) different Herbrand model. We will use this observation in the next section in an application to natural language semantics.

5.3.2 Using Model Generation for Interpretation

We will now use model generation directly as a tool for discourse interpretation. To do so, we will have to go beyond just looking at model generation calculi and extend this to an inference-driven processing model: the tableau machine. But first we look for the motivation for this from cognitive science.



Tableau Machine

Definition 5.3.7. The tableau machine is an inferential cognitive model for incremental natural language understanding that implements mental model theory via tableau based model generation over a sequence of input sentences.

It iterates the following process for every input sentence staring with the empty tableau:

- 1. add the logical form of the input sentence S_i to the selected branch,
- 2. perform tableau inferences below ${\cal S}_i$ until saturated or some resource criterion is met
- 3. if there are open branches choose a "preferred branch", otherwise backtrack to previous tableau for S_j with j < i and open branches, then re-process S_{j+1}, \ldots, S_i if possible, else fail.

The output is application-dependent; some choices are



Concretely, we treat discourse understanding as an online process that receives as input the logical forms of the sentences of the discourse one by one, and maintains a tableau that represents the current set of alternative models for the discourse. Since we are interested in the internal state of the machine (the current tableau), we do not specify the output of the tableau machine. We also assume that the tableau machine has a mechanism for choosing a preferred model from a set of open branches and that it maintains a set of deferred branches that can be re-visited, if extension of the preferred model fails.








Upon input, the tableau machine appends the given logical form as a leaf to the preferred branch. The machine then saturates the current tableau branch, exploring the set of possible models for the sequence of input sentences. If the subtableau generated by this saturation process contains open branches, then the machine chooses one of them as the preferred model, marks some of the other open branches as deferred, and waits for further input. If the saturation yields a closed sub-tableau, then the machine backtracks, i.e. selects a new preferred branch from the deferred ones, appends the input logical form to it, saturates, and tries to choose a preferred branch. Backtracking is repeated until successful, or until some termination criterion is met, in which case discourse processing fails altogether.

After discussing the general operation of the tableau machine, let us now come to a concrete linguistic example to see whether it behaves as we expect from a semantic/pragmatic analysis method.

The example we consider below is challenging for most NLU pipelines, since it combines syntactic and pragmatic ambiguity.

Two (Syntactical) Readings
Example 5.3.9 (A syntactically ambiguous sentence). Peter loves Mary and Mary sleeps or Peter snores.
Reading 1: loves(peter, mary) \land (sleeps(mary) \lor snores(peter)) Reading 2: loves(peter, mary) \land sleeps(mary) \lor snores(peter)
Consider the first reading, start out with the empty tableau for simplicity, even though this is cognitively implausible.
$\begin{tabular}{lllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllll$

5.3. TABLEAUX AND MODEL GENERATION



We see that model generation gives us two models; in both Peter loves Mary, in the first, Mary sleeps, and in the second one Peter snores. If we get a logically different input, e.g. the second reading in ??, then we obtain different models.

The othe	er (Syntactical) R	eading		
	loves(peter, mary	$) \land sleeps(mary) \lor$	snores(peter)	
	$(\overline{loves(peter, mary)})$	$\wedge \text{sleeps}(\text{mary}))^{T}$	$\operatorname{snores(peter)}^{T}$	
	loves(peter sleeps(n	$(mary)^{T}$		
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In a discourse understanding system, both readings have to considered in parallel, since they pertain to a genuine ambiguity. The strength of our tableau-based procedure is that it keeps the different readings around, so they can be acted upon later.

Note furthermore, that the overall (syntactical and semantic) ambiguity is not as bad as it looks: the left models of both readings are identical, so we only have three semantic readings not four.



5.3.3 Adding Equality to PLNQ for Fragment 1

We will now extend PL^q by equality, which is a very important relation in natural language – and a liability from \mathcal{F}_1 : remember the translation rule

$$T7: [X_{\rm NP}, \mathsf{is}, Y_{\rm NP}]_S \rightsquigarrow X' = Y'$$

which we conveniently forgot because PL^{eq} did not have equality? We fix this now. Generally, extending a logic with a new logical constant equality is counted as a logical constant, since it semantics is fixed in all models involves extending all three components of the logical system: the language, semantics, and the calculus.



If we use the simple translation of definite descriptions from fragment \mathcal{F}_1 , where the phrase the teacher translates to a concrete individual constant, then we can interpret (??) as (??).



test": Label $\varphi := \text{likes}(\text{peter}, \text{mary})$ with F and saturate.

Indeed, it closes, so $\Phi_1, \Phi_2 \vDash \varphi \rightsquigarrow$ yes, Peter likes Mary.

Note: The part marked in double vertical lines is removed from the tableau after answering. (do not mess up the tree/models)

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5.4 Summary & Evaluation

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So let us evaluate what we have achieved in the new, extended fragment.

```
Fragment \mathcal{F}_2 – Summary
 \triangleright Fragment \mathcal{F}_2 extends \mathcal{F}_1 by pronouns.
 ▷ Logic/translation extended correspondingly:
                                                         (actually already needed for \mathcal{F}_1)
     ⊳ Equality
     ▷ Variables as underspecified representations for anaphoric pronouns.
 ▷ New NLU component: semantic/pragmatic analysis
     > Tableau machine as an inferential model for pronoun resolution.
     ▷ Uses world knowledge to augment/prune models.
 Coverage: Still relatively limited
                                                 (accounts for 1 example from the intro)
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Towards a Performance Model for NLU
▷ Problem: The tableau machine is only a competence model.
Definition 5.4.1. A competence model is a meaning theory that delineates a space of possible discourses. A performance model delineates the discourses actually used in communication. (after [Cho65])
Idea: We need to guide the tableau machine in which inferences and branch choices it performs.
▷ Idea: Each tableau rule comes with rule costs.
Here: each sentence in the discourse has a fixed inference budget. Expansion until budget used up.
 Ultimately we want bounded optimization regime [Rus91]: Expansion as long as expected gain in model quality outweighs proof costs
▷ Effect: Expensive rules are rarely applied. (only if the promise great rewards)
ho $ m igtle $ Finding appropriate values for rule costs and model quality is an open problem.
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Chapter 6

Fragment 3: Complex Verb Phrases

With the setup of the method of fragments in fragment \mathcal{F}_2 and its tableau machine for semantic/pragmatic analysis complete, we now extend it to cover more interesting syntactical structures. The main new feature will be to significantly extend the logical system so that it can cope with the composition problem identified in ??.

6.1 Fragment 3 (Handling Verb Phrases)



The main extension of the fragment is the introduction of the new phrasal category VP, we have to interpret.

New Grammar in Fragment \mathcal{F}_3 (Verb Phrases)
\triangleright To account for the syntax we come up with the concept of a verb phrase (VP)
▷ Definition 6.1.1. A verb phrase is any phrase that can be used (syntactially)
whereever a verb can be.



Intuitively, verb phrases denote functions that can be applied to the NP meanings (rule 1 below). Complex VP functions can be constructed from simpler ones by NL coordinators acting as functional operators.

New Grammar in Fragment \mathcal{F}_3 (Verb Phrases)
\triangleright Definition 6.1.5. \mathcal{F}_3 has the following rules:
$ \begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$
\triangleright Remark: The \pm fin feature solves the "didn't" over-generation problem.
Remark: Many machine-oriented grammars have extensive feature systems like our ±fin.
\triangleright Limitations of \mathcal{F}_3 :
$\succ \mathcal{F}_3 \text{ does not allow coordination of transitive verbs} $ (problematic anyways) Prudence kicked and scratched Ethel.
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Testing the Grammar on an Example
$N_{\rm pr} V_{\rm +fin}^i \operatorname{conj} V_{\rm +fin}^i$ $\vdash \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow$ $\vdash \downarrow \downarrow$ $\vdash \downarrow$

6.2. DEALING WITH FUNCTIONS IN LOGIC AND LANGUAGE



6.2 Dealing with Functions in Logic and Language

So we need to have a logic that can deal with functions and functionals (i.e. functions that construct new functions from existing ones) natively. This goes beyond the realm of first-order logic we have studied so far. We need two things from this logic:

- 1. a way of distinguishing the respective individuals, functions and functionals, and
- 2. a way of constructing functions from individuals and other functions.

There are standard ways of achieving both, which we will combine in the following to get the "simply typed lambda calculus" which will be the workhorse logic for \mathcal{F}_3 .

The standard way for distinguishing objects of different levels is by introducing types, here we can get by with a very simple type system that only distinguishes functions from their arguments.

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- ▷ **Intuition:** Types are semantic annotations for terms that prevent antinomies.
- ▷ **Definition 6.2.1.** Given a set \mathcal{BT} of base types, construct function types: $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ is the type of functions with domain type α and range type β . We call the closure \mathcal{T} of \mathcal{BT} under function types the set of simple types over \mathcal{BT} .
- \triangleright **Definition 6.2.2.** We will use ι for the type of individuals and o for the type of truth values.
- \triangleright Right Associativity: The type constructor is used as a right-associative operator, i.e. we use $\alpha \rightarrow \beta \rightarrow \gamma$ as an abbreviation for $\alpha \rightarrow (\beta \rightarrow \gamma)$
- \triangleright Vector Notation: We will use a kind of vector notation for function types, abbreviating $\alpha_1 \rightarrow \ldots \rightarrow \alpha_n \rightarrow \beta$ with $\overline{\alpha}_n \rightarrow \beta$.

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To strengthen our intuition about the way types can work, we look at the canonical example: Russell's paradox.

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Here we see the isomorphism between characteristic functions and sets at work again. In the argumentation about preventing harmful self-application.

But let us come back to the work types can do in FragmentThree. In anticipation of a typed target logic, we can associate types to the syntactic categories. Note that different categories can have the same type, which can look confusing at first. But we should take this as a sign that the syntactic analysis of natural language is finer-grained than is needed in knowledge representation and inference for the semantic-pragmatic analysis.

Syntactical Catego	ries <mark>a</mark>	nd Types		
\triangleright Now, we can assign t	pes to	syntactic cat	egories.	
	Cat	Туре	Intuition	
	S	0	truth value	
	NP	L	individual	
	$N_{ m pr}$	L	individuals	
	VP	$\iota \to o$	property	
	V^i	$\iota \to o$	unary predicate	
	V^t	$\iota \to \iota \to o$	binary relation	



For a logic which can really deal with functions, we have to have two properties, which we can already read off the language of mathematics (as the discipine that deals with functions and functionals professionally): We

- 1. need to be able to construct functions from expressions with variables, as in $f(x) = 3x^2 + 7x + 5$, and
- 2. consider two functions the same, iff they return the same values on the same arguments.

In a logical system (let us for the moment assume a first-order logic with types that can quantify over functions) this gives rise to the following axioms:

Comprehension $\exists F_{\alpha \to \beta} . \forall X_{\alpha} . F X = \mathbf{A}_{\beta}$

Extensionality $\forall F_{\alpha \to \beta} . \forall G_{\alpha \to \beta} . (\forall X_{\alpha} . FX = GX) \Rightarrow F = G$

The comprehension axioms are computationally very problematic. First, we observe that they are equality axioms, and thus are needed to show that two objects of PL Ω are equal. Second we observe that there are countably infinitely many of them (they are parametric in the term **A**, the type α and the variable name), which makes dealing with them difficult in practice. Finally, axioms with both existential and universal quantifiers are always difficult to reason with.

Therefore we would like to have a formulation of higher-order logic without comprehension axioms. In the next slide we take a close look at the comprehension axioms and transform them into a form without quantifiers, which will turn out useful.

From Comprehension to β-Conversion
$ \exists F_{\alpha \to \beta} . \forall X_{\alpha} . FX = \mathbf{A}_{\beta} \text{ for arbitrary variable } X_{\alpha} \text{ and term } \mathbf{A} \in wff_{\beta}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}, \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}}) $ (for each term \mathbf{A} and each variable X there is a function $f \in \mathcal{D}_{\alpha \to \beta}$, with $f(\varphi(X)) = \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathbf{A})$)
\triangleright schematic in α , β , X_{α} and \mathbf{A}_{β} , very inconvenient for deduction
$ hightarrow$ Transformation in \mathcal{H}_{Ω}
$ \exists F_{\alpha \to \beta} . \forall X_{\alpha} . FX = \mathbf{A}_{\beta} $ $ \forall X_{\alpha} . (\lambda X_{\alpha} . \mathbf{A}) X = \mathbf{A}_{\beta} (\exists E) $ Call the function F whose existence is guaranteed " $(\lambda X_{\alpha} . \mathbf{A})$ " $ \triangleright (\lambda X_{\alpha} . \mathbf{A}) \mathbf{B} = [\mathbf{B}/X] \mathbf{A}_{\beta} (\forall E), \text{ in particular for } \mathbf{B} \in wf_{\alpha}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}, \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}}). $
\triangleright Definition 6.2.6. Axiom of β equality: $(\lambda X_{\alpha}.\mathbf{A}) \mathbf{B} = [\mathbf{B}/X](\mathbf{A}_{\beta})$
\triangleright Idea: Introduce a new class of formulae (λ -calculus [Chu40])



The price to pay is that we need to pay for getting rid of the comprehension and extensionality axioms is that we need a logic that systematically includes the λ -generated names we used in the transformation as (generic) witnesses for the existential quantifier. Alonzo Church did just that with his "simply typed λ -calculus" which we will introduce next.

This is all very nice, but what do we actually translate into?

6.3 Simply Typed λ -Calculus

In this section we will present a logical system that can deal with functions – the simply typed λ -calculus. It is a typed logic, so everything we write down is typed (even if we do not always write the types down).

Simply typed λ -Calculus (Syntax) $\triangleright \text{ Definition 6.3.1. Signature } \Sigma_{\mathcal{T}} = \bigcup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{T}} \Sigma_{\alpha} \text{ (includes countably infinite signatures } \Sigma_{\alpha}^{Sk} \text{ of Skolem contants}\text{).}$ $\triangleright \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}} = \bigcup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{T}} \mathcal{V}_{\alpha} \text{, such that } \mathcal{V}_{\alpha} \text{ are countably infinite.}$ $\triangleright \text{ Definition 6.3.2. We call the set <math>wf_{\alpha}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}, \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}}) \text{ defined by the rules}$ $\triangleright \mathcal{V}_{\alpha} \cup \Sigma_{\alpha} \subseteq wf_{\alpha}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}, \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}})$ $\triangleright \text{ If } \mathbf{C} \in wf_{\alpha \to \beta}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}, \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}}) \text{ and } \mathbf{A} \in wf_{\alpha}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}, \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}}), \text{ then } \mathbf{C} \mathbf{A} \in wf_{\beta}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}, \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}})$ $\triangleright \text{ If } \mathbf{A} \in wf_{\alpha}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}, \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}}), \text{ then } \lambda X_{\beta} \cdot \mathbf{A} \in wf_{\beta \to \alpha}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}, \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}})$ the set of well typed formulae of type α over the signature $\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}$ and use $wf_{\mathcal{T}}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}, \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}}) :=$

the set of well typed formulae of type α over the signature $\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}$ and use $wff_{\mathcal{T}}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}, \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}}) := \bigcup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{T}} wff_{\alpha}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}, \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}})$ for the set of all well-typed formulae.

- \triangleright **Definition 6.3.3.** We will call all occurrences of the variable X in A bound in $\lambda X.A$. Variables that are not bound in B are called free in B.
- \triangleright Substitutions are well typed, i.e. $\sigma(X_{\alpha}) \in wff_{\alpha}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}, \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}})$ and capture-avoiding.
- \triangleright Definition 6.3.4 (Simply Typed λ -Calculus). The simply typed λ calculus Λ^{\rightarrow} over a signature $\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}$ has the formulae $wff_{\mathcal{T}}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}, \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}})$ (they are called λ -terms) and the following equalities:
 - $\triangleright \alpha$ conversion: $\lambda X \cdot \mathbf{A} =_{\alpha} \lambda Y \cdot ([Y/X](\mathbf{A}))$.
- $\triangleright \beta$ conversion: $(\lambda X.\mathbf{A}) \mathbf{B} =_{\beta} [\mathbf{B}/X](\mathbf{A}).$

then we arrive at the right hand side, since $\lambda X_{\alpha} \cdot \mathbf{A} X \mathbf{B} =_{\beta} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{B}$.

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 $\triangleright \eta$ conversion: $\lambda X \cdot \mathbf{A} X =_{\eta} \mathbf{A}$ if $X \notin \text{free}(\mathbf{A})$.

The intuitions about functional structure of λ -terms and about free and bound variables are encoded into three transformation rules Λ^{\rightarrow} : The first rule (α -conversion) just says that we can rename bound variables as we like. β conversion codifies the intuition behind function application by replacing bound variables with arguments. The equality relation induced by the η -reduction is a special case of the extensionality principle for functions (f = g iff f(a) = g(a) for all possible arguments a): If we apply both sides of the transformation to the same argument – say **B** and

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We will use a set of bracket elision rules that make the syntax of Λ^{\rightarrow} more palatable. This makes Λ^{\rightarrow} expressions look much more like regular mathematical notation, but hides the internal structure. Readers should make sure that they can always reconstruct the brackets to make sense of the syntactic notions below.

Simply typed λ -Calculus (Notations)	
\triangleright Application is left-associative: We abbreviate $\mathbf{F} \mathbf{A}^1 \mathbf{A}^2 \dots \mathbf{A}^n$ eliding the brackets and further with $\mathbf{F} \mathbf{A}^n$ in a kind of vector n	\mathbf{A}^n with $\mathbf{F} \mathbf{A}^1 \dots \mathbf{A}^n$ notation.
Andrews' dot Notation: A . stands for a left bracket whose pa as is consistent with existing brackets; i.e. A .B C abbreviates .	artner is as far right ${f A}~({f B}~{f C}).$
▷ Abstraction is right-associative: We abbreviate $\lambda X^1 . \lambda X^2 . \lambda X^1 X^n . A$ eliding brackets, and further to $\lambda \overline{X^n} . A$ in a kind $\lambda \overline{X^n} . A$	$\cdots \lambda X^n. \mathbf{A} \cdots$ with of vector notation.
Outer brackets: Finally, we allow ourselves to elide outer brack be inferred.	ets where they can
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Intuitively, λX . **A** is the function f, such that $f(\mathbf{B})$ will yield **A**, where all occurrences of the formal parameter X are replaced by \mathbf{B} .² In this presentation of the simply typed λ -calculus we build-in $=_{\alpha}$ -equality and use capture-avoiding substitution directly. A clean introduction would followed the steps in section 7 (First-Order Logic) in the LBS lecture notes by introducing substitutions with a substitutability condition like the one in Definition 7.26 (First-Order Substitutions) in the LBS lecture notes, then establishing the soundness of $=_{\alpha}$ conversion, and only then postulating defining capture-avoiding substitution application as in ??. The development for Λ^{\rightarrow} is directly parallel to the one for PL¹, so we leave it as an exercise to the reader and turn to the computational properties of the λ -calculus.

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 $^{^2\}mathrm{EdNote}:$ rationalize the semantic macros for syntax!

Computationally, λ -calculi obtains much of its power from the fact that two of its three equalities can be oriented into a reduction system. Intuitively, we only use the equalities in one direction, i.e. in one that makes the terms "simpler". If this terminates (and is confluent), then we can establish equality of two λ -terms by reducing them to normal forms and comparing them structurally. This gives us a decision procedure for equality. Indeed, we have these properties in Λ^{\rightarrow} as we will see below.

$=_{lphaeta\eta}$ -Equality (Overview)	
$\triangleright \text{ Definition 6.3.5.}$ Reduction with $\begin{cases} =_{\beta} : (\lambda X \cdot \mathbf{A}) \mathbf{B} \rightarrow_{\beta} [\mathbf{B}/X](\mathbf{A}) & \text{under} =_{\alpha} : =_{\alpha} \end{cases}$	
$ \begin{bmatrix} =_{\eta} : \lambda X \cdot \mathbf{A} X \rightarrow_{\eta} \mathbf{A} \\ \lambda Y \cdot ([Y/X]) \end{bmatrix} $ The treductions can be applied at top-level (as above), but also in subterms:	A))
If $\mathbf{A} \rightarrow_{\alpha\beta\eta} \mathbf{B}$, then $\mathbf{C} \mathbf{A} \rightarrow_{\alpha\beta\eta} \mathbf{C} \mathbf{B}$, $\mathbf{A} \mathbf{C} \rightarrow_{\alpha\beta\eta} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{C}$, and $\lambda X \cdot \mathbf{A} \rightarrow_{\alpha\beta\eta} \lambda X \cdot \mathbf{B}$.	
\triangleright Theorem 6.3.6. β -reduction is well-typed, terminating and confluent in the ence of α -conversion.	pres-
\triangleright Definition 6.3.7 (Normal Form). We call a λ -term A a normal form reduction system \mathcal{E}), iff no rule (from \mathcal{E}) can be applied to A .	(in a
\triangleright Corollary 6.3.8. $=_{\beta\eta}$ -reduction yields unique normal forms (up to $=_{\alpha}$ -equivale	ence).
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We will now introduce some terminology to be able to talk about λ terms and their parts.

Syntactic Parts of λ-Terms). We can always write a λ-term in the form T = λX¹...X^k.HA¹...Aⁿ, where H is not an application. We call
H the syntactic head of T
H(A¹,...,Aⁿ) the matrix of T, and
λX¹...X^k. (or the sequence X¹,...,X^k) the binder of T
Definition 6.3.10. Head reduction always has a unique β redex
λXⁿ.(λY.A) B¹...Bⁿ→^h_βλXⁿ.([B¹/Y](A)) B²...Bⁿ
Theorem 6.3.11. The syntactic heads of β-normal forms are constant or variables.
Definition 6.3.12. Let A be a λ-term, then the syntactic head of the β-normal form of A is called the head symbol of A and written as head(A). We call a λ-term a *j*-projection, iff its head is the *j*th bound variable.
Definition 6.3.13. We call a λ-term a η long form, iff its matrix has base type.
Definition 6.3.14. η Expansion makes η long forms

6.4. A LOGICAL SYSTEM FOR FRAGMENT 3



 η long forms are structurally convenient since for them, the structure of the term is isomorphic to the structure of its type (argument types correspond to binders): if we have a term **A** of type $\overline{\alpha}_n \to \beta$ in η -long form, where $\beta \in \mathcal{BT}$, then **A** must be of the form $\lambda \overline{X_{\alpha}^n}$. **B**, where **B** has type β . Furthermore, the set of η -long forms is closed under β -equality, which allows us to treat the two equality theories of Λ^{\rightarrow} separately and thus reduce argumentational complexity.

The semantics of Λ^{\rightarrow} is structured around the types. Like the models we discussed before, a model (we call them "algebras", since we do not have truth values in Λ^{\rightarrow}) is a pair $\langle \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{I} \rangle$, where \mathcal{D} is the universe of discourse and \mathcal{I} is the interpretation of constants.

- \triangleright **Definition 6.3.16.** We call a collection $\mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{T}} := \{\mathcal{D}_{\alpha} \mid \alpha \in \mathcal{T}\}$ a typed collection (of sets) and a collection $f_{\mathcal{T}} : \mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{T}} \to \mathcal{E}_{\mathcal{T}}$, a typed function, iff $f_{\alpha} : \mathcal{D}_{\alpha} \to \mathcal{E}_{\alpha}$.
- \triangleright Definition 6.3.17. A typed collection $\mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{T}}$ is called a frame, iff $\mathcal{D}_{\alpha \to \beta} \subseteq \mathcal{D}_{\alpha} \to \mathcal{D}_{\beta}$.
- \triangleright **Definition 6.3.18.** Given a frame $\mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{T}}$, and a typed function $\mathcal{I} \colon \Sigma \to \mathcal{D}$, we call $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi} \colon wf\!\!f_{\mathcal{T}}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}, \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}}) \to \mathcal{D}$ the value function induced by \mathcal{I} , iff
 - 1. $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}|_{\mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}}} = \varphi$, $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}|_{\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}} = \mathcal{I}$,
 - 2. $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathbf{A}|\mathbf{B}) = \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathbf{A})(\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathbf{B}))$, and
 - 3. $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\lambda X_{\alpha}.\mathbf{A})$ is that function $f \in \mathcal{D}_{\alpha \to \beta}$, such that $f(a) = \mathcal{I}_{\varphi,[a/X]}(\mathbf{A})$ for all $a \in \mathcal{D}_{\alpha}$.
- $\triangleright \text{ Definition 6.3.19. We call } \langle \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{I} \rangle \text{, where } \mathcal{D} \text{ is a frame and } \mathcal{I} \text{ is a typed function} \\ \text{ comprehension closed or a } \Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}\text{-algebra, iff } \mathcal{I}_{\varphi} \text{: } \textit{wff}_{\mathcal{T}}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}, \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}}) \rightarrow \mathcal{D} \text{ is total.} \\ \end{cases}$
- \triangleright Theorem 6.3.20. $=_{\alpha\beta\eta}$ (seen as a calculus) is sound and complete for Σ -algebras.

 \triangleright **Upshot for LBS:** Λ^{\rightarrow} is *the* logical system for reasoning about functions!

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The definition of the semantics in **??** is surprisingly simple. The only part that is new at all is the third clause, and there we already know the trick with treating binders by extending the variable assignment from quantifiers in first-order logic.

The real subtlety is in the definition of frames, where instead of requiring $\mathcal{D}_{\alpha \to \beta} = \mathcal{D}_{\alpha} \to \mathcal{D}_{\beta}$ (full function universes we have only required $\mathcal{D}_{\alpha \to \beta} \subseteq \mathcal{D}_{\alpha} \to \mathcal{D}_{\beta}$, which necessitates the post-hoc definition of a $\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}$ -algebra. But the added complexity gives us thm.abe-sound-complete. **Excursion:** We will discuss the semantics, computational properties, and a more modern pre-

Excursion: We will discuss the semantics, computational properties, and a more modern presentation of the λ calculus in ??.

6.4 A Logical System for Fragment 3

Higher-Order Logic without Quantifiers (HOL^m)

 \triangleright **Problem:** Need a logic like $\mathbb{P}\mathbb{P}^{q}$, but with λ -terms to interpret \mathcal{F}_{3} into. \triangleright Idea: Re-use the syntactical framework of Λ^{\rightarrow} . \triangleright **Definition 6.4.1.** Let $\operatorname{HOL}^{\operatorname{rq}}$ be an instance of Λ^{\rightarrow} , with $\mathcal{BT} = \{\iota, o\}, \Lambda \in \Sigma_{o \to o \to o}$, $\neg \in \Sigma_{\alpha \to \alpha}$, and $= \in \Sigma_{\alpha \to \alpha \to \alpha}$ for all types α . \triangleright Idea: To extend this to a semantics for HOL^m, we only have to say something about the base type o, and the logical constants $\neg_{o \to o}$, $\wedge_{o \to o \to o}$, and $=_{\alpha \to \alpha \to o}$. \triangleright **Definition 6.4.2.** We define the semantics of HOL^{III} by setting 1. $\mathcal{D}_o = \{\mathsf{T}, \mathsf{F}\}$; the set of truth values 2. $\mathcal{I}(\neg) \in \mathcal{D}_{o \to o}$, is the function { $\mathsf{F} \mapsto \mathsf{T}, \mathsf{T} \mapsto \mathsf{F}$ } 3. $\mathcal{I}(\wedge) \in \mathcal{D}_{o \to o \to o}$ is the function with $\mathcal{I}(\wedge)(\langle a, b \rangle) = T$, iff a = T and b = T. 4. $\mathcal{I}(=) \in \mathcal{D}_{\alpha \to \alpha \to o}$ is the identity relation on \mathcal{D}_{α} . Fau œ Michael Kohlhase: LBS 2025-02-06 117

You may be worrying that we have changed our assumptions about the denotations of predicates. When we were working with PL^{eq} as our target logic, we assumed that one-place predicates denote sets of individuals, that two-place predicates denote sets of pairs of individuals, and so on. Now, we have adopted a new target logic, HOE^q, which interprets all predicates as functions of one kind or another.

The reason we can do this is that there is a systematic relation between the functions we now assume as denotations, and the sets we used to assume as denotations. The functions in question are the *characteristic functions* of the old sets, or are curried versions of such functions.

Recall that we have characterized sets extensionally, i.e. by saying what their members are. A characteristic function of a set A is a function which "says" which objects are members of A. It does this by giving one value (for our purposes, the value 1) for any argument which is a member of A, and another value, (for our purposes, the value 0), for anything which is not a member of the set.

Definition 6.4.3 (Characteristic function of a set). f_S is the characteristic function of the set S iff $f_S(a) = \mathsf{T}$ if $a \in S$ and $f_S(a) = \mathsf{F}$ if $a \notin S$.

Thus any function in $\mathcal{D}_{\iota \to \rho}$ will be the characteristic function of some set of individuals. So, for example, the function we assign as denotation to the predicate run will return the value T for some arguments and F for the rest. Those for which it returns T correspond exactly to the individuals which belonged to the set run in our old way of doing things.

Now, consider functions in $\mathcal{D}_{t \to t \to 0}$. Recall that these functions are equivalent to two-place relations, i.e. functions from pairs of entities to truth values. So functions of this kind are characteristic functions of sets of pairs of individuals.

In fact, any function which ultimately maps an argument to \mathcal{D}_{α} is a characteristic function of some set. The fact that many of the denotations we are concerned with turn out to be characteristic functions of sets will be very useful for us, as it will allow us to go backwards and forwards between "set talk" and "function talk," depending on which is easier to use for what we want to say.

HOL^m is an expressive logical system

▷ HOL^{rq} is an expressive logical system
 ▷ Example 6.4.4. We can express set union as a HOL^{rq} term:

 $\cup := \lambda P_{\iota \to o} \cdot \lambda Q_{\iota \to o} \cdot \lambda X_{\iota} \cdot P \ X \lor Q \ X$

Let us test whether $\{1, 2\} \cup \{2, 3\}$ really is $\{1, 2, 3\}$. Note that we can represent (the characteristic function of) $\{1,2\}$ as the HOL^{III} term $\lambda Z_{\iota} \cdot Z = 1 \lor Z = 2.$ (and the other sets analogously) So lets represent $\{1, 2\} \cup \{2, 3\}$ as a HOL^m term and β -reduce: $(\lambda P_{\iota \to o}, \lambda Q_{\iota \to o}, \lambda X_{\iota}, P X \lor Q X) (\lambda Z_{\iota}, Z = 1 \lor Z = 2) (\lambda Z_{\iota}, Z = 2 \lor Z = 3)$ $(\lambda Q_{\iota \to o} \cdot \lambda X_{\iota} \cdot (\lambda Z_{\iota} \cdot Z = 1 \lor Z = 2) X \lor Q X) (\lambda Z_{\iota} \cdot Z = 2 \lor Z = 3)$ $\lambda X_{\iota} \cdot (\lambda Z_{\iota} \cdot Z = 1 \lor Z = 2) X \lor (\lambda Z_{\iota} \cdot Z = 2 \lor Z = 3) X$ \rightarrow_{β} $\rightarrow_{\beta} \quad \lambda X_{\iota} X = 1 \lor X = 2 \lor X = 2 \lor X = 3$ $\lambda X_{\iota} X = 1 \lor X = 2 \lor X = 3$ \Leftrightarrow FAU Michael Kohlhase: LBS 118 2025-02-06

?? shows the characteristic strength of HOE^{eq} as a logical system: The ability of constructing functions via the λ operator allows us to define many of the operators and relations that we would have to declare in a first-order signature in e.g. a first-order logic and then axiomatize so that we can reason about them. The logical connectives and equality we would normally use in the axioms, we can directly use in the operator definitions directly. When these λ -defined operators are applied to arguments, the substitution from β -reduction brings them into the right positions.

6.5 Translation for Fragment 3

Now that we have done the heavy lifting by building our target logic HOL^{eq}, the translation for \mathcal{F}_3 is relatively straightforward. We just have to deal with verb phrases and VP coordination. The first works just as for intransitive verbs in \mathcal{F}_1 and for the latter we define custom operators as denotations for the coordinators.

⊳ We	e will lool	at the new translation ru	les: (the rest from \mathcal{F}_2	stay the same
		$T1\colon [X_{ ext{NP}},Y_{VP}]_S \sim \ T3\colon [X_{VP},Y_{ ext{conj}},Z_V]_T \to \ T4\colon [X_{V^t},Y_{ ext{NP}}]_{VP'}$		
⊳ No	ote: We	can get away with this bee	cause $\operatorname{PL^{nq}}\subseteq\operatorname{HOL^{nq}}$ in the targ	et logic.
⊳ Th	e lexical	insertion rules will give us	two items each for is, and,	and or, corre
spo	onding to	the two types we have give	en them above.	
spo	word	the two types we have give	term	case
spo	word BE _{pred} BE _{eq}	the two types we have give type $(\iota \rightarrow o) \rightarrow \iota \rightarrow o$ $\iota \rightarrow \iota \rightarrow o$	term $\lambda P_{\iota \rightarrow 0} \cdot P$ $\lambda X_{\iota} Y_{\iota} \cdot X = Y$	case adjective verb
spo	word BE _{pred} BE _{eq} and and	the two types we have give $\frac{\text{type}}{(\iota \to o) \to \iota \to o}$ $\iota \to \iota \to o$ $o \to o \to o$ $(\iota \to o) \to (\iota \to o) \to \iota \to o$	term $ \frac{\lambda P_{\iota \to 0}.P}{\lambda X_{\iota} Y_{\iota}.X = Y} $ $ \frac{\lambda}{\lambda}F_{\iota \to 0}G_{\iota \to 0}X_{\iota}.F(X) \wedge G(X) $	case adjective verb S-coord. VP-coord.
spo	word BE $_{pred}$ BE $_{eq}$ and and or	the two types we have give $ \frac{type}{(\iota \to o) \to \iota \to o} \\ \iota \to \iota \to o \\ o \to o \to o \\ (\iota \to o) \to (\iota \to o) \to \iota \to o \\ o \to o \to o $	term $\begin{array}{c} \lambda P_{\iota \rightarrow o}.P \\ \lambda X_{\iota}Y_{\iota}.X = Y \\ \land \\ \lambda F_{\iota \rightarrow o}G_{\iota \rightarrow o}X_{\iota}.F(X) \land G(X) \\ \lor \end{array}$	case adjective verb S-coord. VP-coord. S-coord.
spo	word BE $_{pred}$ BE $_{eq}$ and and or or	the two types we have give $\frac{\text{type}}{(\iota \to o) \to \iota \to o}$ $\frac{\iota \to \iota \to o}{o \to o \to o}$ $(\iota \to o) \to (\iota \to o) \to \iota \to o$ $0 \to o \to o$ $(\iota \to o) \to (\iota \to o) \to \iota \to o$	term $\begin{array}{c} \lambda P_{\iota \to o}.P \\ \lambda X_{\iota}Y_{\iota}.X = Y \\ \land \\ \lambda F_{\iota \to o}G_{\iota \to o}X_{\iota}.F(X) \land G(X) \\ \lor \\ \lambda F_{\iota \to o}G_{\iota \to o}X_{\iota}.F(X) \lor G(X) \end{array}$	case adjective verb S-coord. VP-coord. S-coord. VP-coord.
spo	word BE _{pred} BE _{eq} and and or or didn't	the two types we have give $\frac{type}{(\iota \to o) \to \iota \to o}$ $\iota \to \iota \to o$ $o \to o \to o$ $(\iota \to o) \to (\iota \to o) \to \iota \to o$ $(\iota \to o) \to (\iota \to o) \to \iota \to o$ $(\iota \to o) \to \iota \to o$	term $\begin{array}{c} \lambda P_{\iota \to o}.P \\ \lambda X_{\iota}Y_{\iota}.X = Y \\ \land \\ \lambda F_{\iota \to o}G_{\iota \to o}X_{\iota}.F(X) \land G(X) \\ \lor \\ \lambda F_{\iota \to o}G_{\iota \to o}X_{\iota}.F(X) \lor G(X) \\ \lambda P_{\iota \to o}X_{\iota}.\neg P X \end{array}$	case adjective verb S-coord. VP-coord. S-coord. VP-coord.

CHAPTER 6. FRAGMENT 3: COMPLEX VERB PHRASES



6.6 Summary & Evaluation

So let us evaluate what we have achieved in the new, extended fragment.

```
      Fragment \mathcal{F}_3 - Summary

      > Fragment \mathcal{F}_3 extends \mathcal{F}_2 by verb phrases.

      > We need a completely new idea for the logic \leftarrow need functions to express translation

      > Logical system: HOL^{rq} \cong \Lambda^{\rightarrow} + PL^0.

      > \Lambda^{\rightarrow} contributes the simple types and functions

      > PL<sup>0</sup> contributes type o and connectives.

      > Coverage: Better: we can do verb phrase coordination.
```

6.6.1 Overview/Summary so far

Where we started: A VP-less fragment and PPq.:

$\operatorname{PL}^{\operatorname{nq}}$	Fragment of English
Syntax: Definition of wffs	Syntax: Definition of allowable sentences
Semantics: Model theory	SEMANTICS BY TRANSLATION

What we did:

- Tested the translation by testing predictions: semantic tests of entailment.
- More testing: syntactic tests of entailment. For this, we introduced the model generation calculus. We can make this move from semantic proofs to syntactic ones safely, because we know that PL^{pq} is sound and complete.
- Moving beyond semantics: Used model generation to predict interpretations of semantically under-determined sentence types.

6.6. SUMMARY & EVALUATION

Where we are now: A fragment with a VP and HO^{rq} .: We expanded the fragment and began to consider data which demonstrate the need for a VP in any adequate syntax of English, and the need for coordinators which connect VPs and other expression types. At this point, the resources of PE^{rq} no longer sufficed to provide adequate compositional translations of the fragment. So we introduced a new translation language, HOL^{rq} . However, the general picture of the table above does not change; only the target logic itself changes. Some discoveries:

- The task of giving a semantics via translation for natural language includes as a subtask the task of finding an adequate target logic.
- Given a typed language, function application is a powerful and very useful tool for modeling the derivation of the interpretation of a complex expression from the interpretations of its parts and their syntactic arrangement. To maintain a transparent interface between syntax and semantics, binary branching is preferable. Happily, this is supported by syntactic evidence.
- Syntax and semantics interact: Syntax forces us to introduce VP. The assumption of compositionality then forces us to translate and interpret this new category.
- We discovered that the "logical operators" of natural language can't always be translated directly by their formal counterparts. Their formal counterparts are all sentence connectives; but English has versions of these connectives for other types of expressions. However, we can use the familiar sentential connectives to construct appropriate translations for the differently-typed variants.

Some issues about translations: HOL^{eq} provides multiple syntactically and semantically equivalent versions of many of its expressions. For example:

- 1. Let runs be an HOL^{rq} constant of type $\iota \to o$. Then runs = λX .runs(X)
- 2. Let loves be an HOL^{rq} constant of type $\iota \to \iota \to o$. Then loves $= \lambda X \cdot \lambda Y \cdot \log(X, Y)$
- 3. Similarly, $loves(a) = \lambda Y . loves(a, Y)$
- 4. And loves(jane, george) = $(\lambda X \cdot \lambda Y \cdot \text{loves}(X, Y))$ jane(george)

Logically, both sides of the equations are considered equal, since $=_{\eta}$ -equality (remember $\lambda X \cdot \mathbf{A} X \rightarrow_{\eta} \mathbf{A}$, if $X \notin \text{free}(\mathbf{A})$) is built into HOL^{rq}. In fact all the right-hand sides are $=_{\eta}$ -expansions of the left-hand sides. So you can use both, as you choose in principle.

But practically, you like to know which to give when you are asked for a translation? The answer depends on what you are using it for. Let's introduce a distinction between *reduced translations* and *unreduced translations*. An unreduced translation makes completely explicit the type assignment of each expression and the mode of composition of the translations of complex expressions, i.e. how the translation is derived from the translations of the parts. So, for example, if you have just offered a translation for a lexical item (say, and as a V^t coordinator), and now want to demonstrate how this lexical item works in a sentence, give the unreduced translation of the sentence in question and then demonstrate that it reduces to the desired reduced version.

The reduced translations have forms to which the deduction rules apply. So always use reduced translations for input in model generation: here, we are assuming that we have got the translation right, and that we know how to get it, and are interested in seeing what further inference can be performed.

Chapter 7

Fragment 4: Noun Phrases and Quantification

In this chapter we will continue to enhance the fragment both by introducing additional types of expressions and by improving the syntactic analysis of the sentences we are dealing with. \mathcal{F}_4 will require further enrichments of the translation language. Our next steps are:

- Analysis of NP.
- Treatment of adjectives and adverbs.
- Quantification and definite description

7.1 Fragment 4

As always we start off a new fragment by looking at the new data we want to cover.



The first example sugests that we need a full and uniform treatment of determiners like *the*, a, and *every*. The second and third introduces a new phenomenon: prepositional phrases like *with* a hammer/mouse; these are essentially nominal phrases that modify the meaning of other phrases via a preposition like *with*, *in*, *on*, *at*. These two show that the prepositional phrase can modify the verb or the object.



Note: Again, we assume appropriate lexical insertion rules without specification.





7.2 A Target Logic for Fragment 4

Now that we have fixed \mathcal{F}_4 and have an idea of the syntactical categories, we have to take a look at the target logic. We will first take stock of what we need and then develop the necessary logic technology.

Higher-Order Logic with Descriptions
\triangleright Plan: We need to extend $\mathrm{HOL}^{\mathrm{rq}}$ with
\triangleright quantifiers so we can treat <i>Every</i> student sleeps
\triangleright a logical operator for definite descriptions, e.g. the teacher sleeps
We will call this logic Higher-Order Logic with Descriptions (quantifiers taken for granted)
\triangleright Note: Quantifiers can be added to any logic: Extend the
 ▷ syntax by variables and a new binding symbol (language-level) ▷ semantics by a new clause for the value function ▷ calculi by new quantifier introduction/elimination rules
Quite tedious compared to simply adding a new logical constant!

▷ Note: The description operator will have to have type $(\iota \rightarrow o) \rightarrow \iota$, as the denotation of *teacher* has type $\iota \rightarrow o$ and *the teacher* has type ι . (like Mary) Michael Kohlhase: LBS 125 2025-02-06

7.2.1 Quantifiers and Equality in Higher-Order Logic

As a first step towards our target logic, we will now introduce a higher-order logic with quantifiers and equality building on HOL^{eq} as a logical system without concern for linguistic issues. We will call this system HOL^{\rightarrow} .

Actually, there are two (equivalent) ways of developing HOL^{\rightarrow} : we can either add quantifiers and define equality using them or we can take equality as primitive and define all connectives and quantifiers from that. The latter shows that HOL^{eq} and HOL^{\rightarrow} are equally expressive – and the extension does not add anything in theory.

There is a more elegant way to treat quantifiers than extending language, semantics, and inference systems in HOL^{\rightarrow}. It builds on the realization that the λ -abstraction is the only binding operator we need, quantifiers are then modeled as second-order logical constants. Note that we do not have to change the syntax of HOL^{\rightarrow} to introduce quantifiers; only the "lexicon", i.e. the set of logical constants. Since Π^{α} and Σ^{α} are logical constants, we need to fix their semantics.

Higher-Order Abstract Svntax \triangleright Idea: In HOL^{\rightarrow}, we already have binding operator: λ , use that to treat quantification. \triangleright **Definition 7.2.1.** We add two new logical constants Π^{α} and Σ^{α} for each type α : 1. $\mathcal{I}(\Pi^{\alpha})(p) = \mathsf{T}$, iff $p(a) = \mathsf{T}$ for all $a \in \mathcal{D}_{\alpha}$ (i.e. if p is the universal set) 2. $\mathcal{I}(\Sigma^{\alpha})(p) = \mathsf{T}$, iff $p(a) = \mathsf{T}$ for some $a \in \mathcal{D}_{\alpha}$ (i.e. iff p is non-empty) ▷ **Definition 7.2.2.** Regain traditional quantifiers as abbreviations: $(\forall X_{\alpha}.\mathbf{A}) := \Pi^{\alpha} (\lambda X_{\alpha}.\mathbf{A}) \qquad (\exists X_{\alpha}.\mathbf{A}) := \Sigma^{\alpha} (\lambda X_{\alpha}.\mathbf{A})$ $\vartriangleright \begin{array}{l} \triangleright \ \ \mathbf{Observation:} \quad \text{Indeed:} \ \ \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\forall X_{\iota}.\mathbf{A}) = \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\Pi^{\iota} \ (\lambda X_{\iota}.\mathbf{A})) = \mathcal{I}(\Pi^{\iota})\big(\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\lambda X_{\iota}.\mathbf{A})\big) = \\ \top \ \ \text{iff} \ \ \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\lambda X_{\iota}.\mathbf{A})(a) = \mathcal{I}_{[a/X],\varphi}(\mathbf{A}) = \top \ \text{for all} \ \ a \in \mathcal{D}_{\alpha}. \end{array}$ ▷ **Definition 7.2.3.** We call this approach to binding operators higher-order abstract syntax (HOAS). FAU e Michael Kohlhase: LBS 2025-02-06 126

In HOL^{\rightarrow}, where we have quantifiers, we can define an operator for equality using Leibniz' indiscernibility criterion. According to this, two objects are equal, iff they do not have any properties that can be used to tell them apart. As we can quantify over properties – which can be expressed as variables of type $\alpha \rightarrow o$ – in HOL^{\rightarrow} we can directly express the principle and β -abstract it into a predicate.

Equality

 $\triangleright \text{ Definition 7.2.4 (Leibniz equality). } \mathbf{Q}^{\alpha} \mathbf{A}_{\alpha} \mathbf{B}_{\alpha} = \forall P_{\alpha \to o}.P \mathbf{A} \Leftrightarrow P \mathbf{B} \quad \text{(Leibniz' indiscernibility of identicals)}$

7.2. A TARGET LOGIC FOR FRAGMENT 4

- $\triangleright \text{ Note: } \forall P_{\alpha \to o}. P \mathbf{A} \Rightarrow P \mathbf{B} \quad (\text{get the other direction by instantiating } P \text{ with } Q, \\ \text{where } QX \Leftrightarrow \neg PX)$
- \triangleright **Theorem 7.2.5.** If $\mathcal{M} = \langle \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{I} \rangle$ is a standard model, then $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathbb{Q}^{\alpha})$ is the identity relation on \mathcal{D}_{α} .
- Definition 7.2.6 (Notation). We write A = B for QAB(A and B are equal, iff there is no property P that can tell them apart.)

 \triangleright Proof: 1. $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}($

1. \mathcal{I}_{φ}	$(\mathbf{QAB}) = \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\forall P.P\mathbf{A} \Rightarrow$	$P\mathbf{B}) = T$, iff		
${\mathcal I}_{arphi}$	$_{[r/P]}(P\mathbf{A} \Rightarrow P\mathbf{B}) = T fc$	or all $r \in \mathcal{D}_{lpha ightarrow o}.$		
2. Fo	r $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{B}$ we have $\mathcal{I}_{arphi,[r]}$	$P(P (P\mathbf{A}) = r(\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathbf{A}))$	$\mathbf{A})) = F ext{ or } \mathcal{I}_{arphi, [r/P]}$	$(P\mathbf{B}) =$
$r(\mathcal{I}$	$\mathcal{T}_{\varphi}(\mathbf{B})) = T.$			
3. Th	us $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathbf{QAB}) = T.$			
4. Let	t ${\mathcal I}_arphi({f A}) eq {\mathcal I}_arphi({f B})$ and r =	$= \{ {\mathcal I}_{oldsymbol{arphi}}({f A}) \} {\in} {\mathcal D}_{lpha ightarrow o}$	(exists in a standar	d model)
5. so	$r(\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathbf{A})) = T \text{ and } r(\mathcal{I}_{\varphi})$	$(\mathbf{B})) = F$		
6. \mathcal{I}_{φ}	$(\mathbf{QAB}) = F, \text{ as } \mathcal{I}_{\varphi,[r/P]}($	$P\mathbf{A} \Rightarrow P\mathbf{B}) = F, \sin \theta$	$\operatorname{ce} \mathcal{I}_{\varphi,[r/P]}(P\mathbf{A}) = r($	$(\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathbf{A})) =$
Т	and $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi,[r/P]}(P\mathbf{B}) = r(\mathcal{I}_{\varphi})$	$_{\varphi}(\mathbf{B})) = F.$		
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As we can see, we can even prove that the denotation of Leibniz equality expressed in HOL^{\rightarrow} is the identity relation on the respective universe.

Alternative: HOL^{∞} \triangleright Definition 7.2.7. There is only one logical constant in HOL^{∞}: $q^{\alpha} \in \Sigma_{\alpha \to \alpha \to o}$ with $\mathcal{I}(q^{\alpha})(a,b) = \mathsf{T}$, iff a = b. We define the rest as below: Definitions (D) and Notations (N) $\mathbf{A}_{\alpha} = \mathbf{B}_{\alpha}$ for $q^{\alpha} \mathbf{A}_{\alpha} \mathbf{B}_{\alpha}$ Ν D for $q^o = q^o$ TD Ffor $\lambda X_o.T = \lambda X_o.X_o$ Π^{lpha} for $q^{\alpha \to o} (\lambda X_{\alpha}.T)$ D $\forall X_{\alpha}.\mathbf{A}$ for $\Pi^{\alpha} (\lambda X_{\alpha}.\mathbf{A})$ Ν for $\lambda X_o \cdot \lambda Y_o \cdot (\lambda G_{o \to o \to o} \cdot GTT = \lambda G_{o \to o \to o} \cdot GXY)$ D \wedge $\mathbf{A}\wedge \mathbf{B}$ Ν for $\wedge (\mathbf{A}_o) (\mathbf{B}_o)$ for $\lambda X_o \cdot \lambda Y_o \cdot (X = X \wedge Y)$ D \Rightarrow Ν $\mathbf{A} \Rightarrow \mathbf{B}$ for \Rightarrow (**A**_o) (**B**_o) for $q^o F$ D D \vee for $\lambda X_o \cdot \lambda Y_o \cdot \neg (\neg X \land \neg Y)$ Ν $\mathbf{A} \lor \mathbf{B}$ for \vee (**A**_o) (**B**_o) D $\exists X_{\alpha}.\mathbf{A}_{o}$ for $\neg(\forall X_{\alpha}.\neg \mathbf{A})$ for $\neg q^{\alpha} (\mathbf{A}_{\alpha}) (\mathbf{B}_{\alpha})$ $\mathbf{A}_{\alpha} \neq \mathbf{B}_{\alpha}$ Ν ▷ yield the intuitive meanings for connectives and quantifiers. FAU Michael Kohlhase: LBS 129 2025-02-06

In a way, this development of higher-order logic is more foundational, especially in the context of Henkin semantics. There, ?? does not hold (see [And72] for details). Indeed the proof of ?? needs the existence of singletons, which can be shown to be equivalent to the existence of the

identity relation. In other words, Leibniz equality only denotes the equality relation, if we have an equality relation in the models. However, the only way of enforcing this (remember that Henkin models only guarantee functions that can be explicitly written down as λ -terms) is to add a logical constant for equality to the signature.

7.2.2 A Logic for Definite Descriptions

The next extension is a description operator. Again, we will develop the target logic from a logical systems perspective before we come to linguistic or inferential aspects.

Semantics of Definite Descriptions ▷ **Problem:** We need the meaning for the determiner *the*, as in *the boy runs* \triangleright Idea (Type): the boy behaves like a proper name (e.g. Peter), i.e. has type ι . Applying the to a noun (type $\iota \to o$) yields ι . So the has type $(\alpha \to o) \to \alpha$, i.e. it takes a set as argument. ▷ Idea (Semantics): the has the fixed semantics that this function returns the single member of its argument if the argument is a singleton, and is otherwise undefined. (new logical constant) \triangleright **Definition 7.2.8.** We introduce a new logical constant ι . $\mathcal{I}(\iota)$ is the function $f \in \mathcal{D}_{(\alpha o o) o \alpha}$, such that f(s) = a, iff $s \in \mathcal{D}_{\alpha o o}$ is the singleton $\{a\}$, and is otherwise undefined. (remember that we can interpret predicates as sets) \triangleright Axioms for ι : $\begin{array}{ll} \forall X_{\alpha}.X = \iota &= X \\ \forall P, Q.Q(\iota \ P) \land (\forall X, Y.P(X) \land P(Y) \Rightarrow X = Y) \Rightarrow (\forall .P(Z) \Rightarrow Q(Z)) \end{array}$ FAU Michael Kohlhase: LBS 130 2025-02-06

Note: The first axiom is an equational characterization of ι . It uses the fact that the singleton with member X can be written as = X (or $\lambda Y = XY$, which is $=_{\eta}$ -equivalent). The second axiom says that if we have $Q \iota P$ and P is a singleton (i.e. all $X, Y \in P$ are identical), then Q holds on any member of P. Surprisingly, these two axioms are equivalent in HOL $^{\rightarrow}$. Actually, the description operator is just one of a set of similar operators. We will look at them

together to get a better intution.

More Operators and Axioms for $\mathrm{HOL}^{ ightarrow}$				
▷ Definition 7.2.9. The unary conditional $\mathbf{w}^{\alpha} \in \Sigma_{o \to \alpha \to \alpha}$ $\mathbf{w} (\mathbf{A}_o) \mathbf{B}_{\alpha}$ means: "If \mathbf{A} , then \mathbf{B} ".				
▷ Definition 7.2.10. The binary conditional if $^{\alpha} \in \Sigma_{o \to \alpha \to \alpha \to \alpha}$ if (\mathbf{A}_o) (\mathbf{B}_{α}) (\mathbf{C}_{α}) means: "if A , then B else C ".				
▷ Definition 7.2.11. The description operator $\iota^{\alpha} \in \Sigma_{(\alpha \to o) \to \alpha}$ if P is a singleton set, then ι (P _{$\alpha \to o$}) is the (unique) element in P .				
▷ Definition 7.2.12. The choice operator $\gamma^{\alpha} \in \Sigma_{(\alpha \to o) \to \alpha}$ if P is non-empty, then γ (P _{$\alpha \to o$}) is an arbitrary element from P .				
\triangleright Definition 7.2.13 (Axioms for these Operators).				

7.3. TRANSLATION FOR FRAGMENT 4



7.3 Translation for Fragment 4

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Now we can finally come to the linguistic aspects of \mathcal{F}_4 and in particular the translation. If we assume that $\forall X.\mathrm{boy}(X) \Rightarrow \mathrm{runs}(X)$ is an adequate translation of Every boy runs, and $\exists X.\mathrm{boy}(X) \wedge \mathrm{runs}(X)$ one for Some boy runs, then we obtain the translations of the determiners by straightforward $=_{\beta}$ -expansion.

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 $\succ \iota^{(\alpha \to \beta)} := \lambda H_{(\alpha \to \beta) \to \alpha} X_{\alpha} \iota^{\beta} \ (\lambda Z_{\beta} . (\exists F_{\alpha \to \beta} . H \ F \land F \ X = Z))$

Translation **of** Determiners **and** Quantifiers \triangleright Idea: We establish the meaning of quantifying determiners by $=_{\beta}$ -expansion. 1. assume that we are translating into a λ -calculus with quantifiers and that $\triangleright \forall X.boy(X) \Rightarrow runs(X)$ translates Every boy runs, and $\triangleright \exists X.boy(X) \land runs(X)$ for Some boy runs 2. $\forall := \lambda P_{t \to 0} Q_{t \to 0} (\forall P(X) \Rightarrow Q(X))$ for every. (subset relation) 3. $\exists := \lambda P_{\iota \to o} Q_{\iota \to o} (\exists P(X) \land Q(X))$ for some. (non-empty intersection) ▷ **Problem:** Linguistic quantifiers take two arguments (restriction and scope), logical ones only one! (in logics, restriction is the universal set) \triangleright We cannot treat *the* with regular quantifiers (new logical constant; see below) \triangleright Definition 7.3.1. We translate the word the to $\tau := \lambda P_{\iota \to \rho} Q_{\iota \to \rho} Q_{\iota} P$, where ι is a new operator that given a set returns its (unique) member.

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CHAPTER 7. FRAGMENT 4: NOUN PHRASES AND QUANTIFICATION

 \triangleright Example 7.3.2. This translates The pope spoke to τ (pope, speaks), which $=_{\beta}$ -reduces to speaks(ι pope).

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Note that if we interpret objects of type $\iota \to o$ as sets, then the denotations of boy and run are sets (of boys and running individuals). Then the denotation of every is a relation between sets; more specifically the subset relation. As a consequence, All boys run is true if the set of boys is a subset of the set of running individuals. For some the relation is the non-empty intersection relation, some boy runs is true if the intersection of set of boys and the set of running individuals is non-empty.

Note that there is a mismatch in the "arity" of linguistic and logical notions of quantifiers here. Linguistic quantifiers take two arguments, the restriction (in our example *boy*) and the predication (*run*). The logical quantifiers only take one argument, the predication \mathbf{A} in $\forall X.\mathbf{A}$. In a way, the restriction is always the universal set. In our model, we have modeled the linguistic quantifiers by adding the restriction with a connective (implication for the universal quantifier and conjunction for the existential one).

Translation of Special lexical items and classes							
\triangleright If Adj is an intersective adjective and Adj' is an constant of type $\iota ightarrow o$, then							
$ hiambdo 9$: Adj $\rightsquigarrow Adj'$ or							
$\rhd 9' \colon Adj \leadsto (\lambda P_{\iota \to o} X_\iota . P(X) \land Adj'(X))$							
\triangleright If Adj is a non-intersective adjective, then Adj' is a constant of type $(\iota \rightarrow o) \rightarrow \iota \rightarrow o$ whose denotation is given the interpretation by \mathcal{I} and							
⊳ 10:	$\operatorname{Adj} \rightsquigarrow \operatorname{Adj'}$.						
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There is now a discrepancy in the type assigned to subject NPs with quantificational determiners, and subject NPs consisting of a proper name or a definite description. This corresponds to a discrepancy in the roles of the NP and VP in interpretation: where the NP is quantificational, it takes the VP as argument; where the NP is non-quantificational, it constitutes the argument of the VP. This discrepancy can be resolved by type raising.

Proper names						
▷ Problem: Subject NPs with quantificational determiners have type $(\iota \rightarrow o) \rightarrow o$ (and are applied to the VP) whereas subject NPs with proper names have type ι . (argument to the VP)						
▷ Idea: John runs translates to runs(john), where runs $\in \Sigma_{\iota \to o}$ and john $\in \Sigma_{\iota}$. Now we = _β -expand over the VP yielding $(\lambda P_{\iota \to o}.P(\text{john}))$ runs $\lambda P_{\iota \to o}.P(\text{john})$ has type $(\iota \to o) \to o$ and can be applied to the VP runs.						
\triangleright Definition 7.3.3. If $c \in \Sigma_{\alpha}$, then type raising c yields $\lambda P_{\alpha \to o} P c$.						
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This treatment of the is completely equivalent to the ι treatment, guaranteeing that, for example, the sentence The dog barked has the value true if there is a unique dog and that dog barked, the value false if there is a unique dog and that dog did not bark, and, if there is no dog or more than one dog, has an undefined value. So we can indeed treat the as a generalized quantifier.

However, there are two further considerations.

1. The function characterized above cannot straightforwardly be represented as a relation on sets. We might try the following:

$$\{\langle X, Y \rangle \,|\, \#(X) = 1 \& X \subseteq Y\}$$

Now, consider a pair $\langle X, Y \rangle$ which is not a member of the set. There are two possibilities: either $\#(X) \neq 1$ or #(X) = 1 and $X \not\subseteq Y$. But we want to treat these two cases differently: the first leads to undefinedness, and the second to falsity. But the relation does not capture this difference.

2. If we adopt a generalized quantifier treatment for the definite article, then we must always treat it as an expression of type $\iota \to o \to o$. If we maintain the ι treatment, we can choose, for any given case, whether to treat a definite NP as an expression of type ι , or to type lift the NP to $\iota \to o \to o$. This flexibility will be useful (particularly for purposes of model generation). Consequently, we will maintain the ι treatment.

These considerations may appear purely technical in nature. However, there is a significant philosophical literature on definite descriptions, much of which focuses on the question of whether these expressions are referential or quantificational. Many have the view that definite descriptions are ambiguous between a referential and a quantificational interpretation, which in fact differentiates them from other NPs, and which is captured to some extent by our proposed treatment.

Our discussion of quantification has led us to a treatment of quantified NPs as expressions of type $(\iota \rightarrow o) \rightarrow o$. Moreover, we now have the option of treating proper names and definite descriptions as expressions of this higher type too. This change in the type of NPs causes no difficulties with composition in the intransitive sentences considered so far, although it requires us to take the translation of the VP as argument to the subject NP.



In our type-raised semantics, the denotation of NPs is a function f from properties to truth values. So if we compose an NP denotation with a transitive verb denotation, we obtain a function from individuals to truth values, i.e. a property.

Type raised NPs **and** Function Composition \triangleright We can extend HOL^{\rightarrow} by a constant $\circ_{(\beta \rightarrow \gamma) \rightarrow (\alpha \rightarrow \beta) \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \gamma}$ by setting $\circ := \lambda FGX \cdot F(\mathbf{G}(X))$ thus $\circ g f \rightarrow_{\beta} \lambda X.g(f(X))$ and $\circ g f a \rightarrow_{\beta} g(f(a))$ In our example, we have $\circ (\lambda P.P(\text{john}))$ loves $=_{Def} (\lambda FGX.F(G(X))) (\lambda P.P(john))$ loves \rightarrow_{β} ($\lambda GX.(\lambda P.P(\text{john})) G(X)$) loves $\rightarrow_{\beta} \quad \lambda X.(\lambda P.P(\text{john})) \text{ loves } X$ $\rightarrow_{\beta}! \quad \lambda X. \text{loves}(X, \text{john})$ FAU Michael Kohlhase: LBS 2025-02-06 138

Definition 7.3.4 (Function Composition). Let $f: A \to B$ and $g: B \to C$ be functions, then we call the function $h: A \to C$ such that h(a) = g(f(a)) for all $a \in A$ the composition of g and f and write it as gf (read this as "g after f").

We have managed to deal with the determiners every and some in a compositional fashion, using the familiar first-order quantifiers. However, most natural language determiners cannot be treated so straightforwardly. Consider the determiner most, as in:

1. Most boys run.

There is clearly no simple way to translate this using \forall or \exists in any way familiar from first-order logic. As we have no translation at hand, then, let us consider what the truth conditions of this sentence are.

Generalized Quantifiers

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Problem: What about Most boys run.: linguistically most behaves exactly like every or some.
 Idea: Most boys run is true just in case the number of boys who run is greater than the number of boys who do not run.

$$\#(\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathrm{boy}) \cap \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathrm{runs})) > \#(\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathrm{boy}) \setminus \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathrm{runs}))$$

▷ **Definition 7.3.5.** #(A) > #(B), iff there is no surjective function from B to A, so we can define $most' := \lambda AB. \neg (\exists F. \forall X.A(X) \land \neg B(X) \Rightarrow (\exists A(Y) \land B(Y) \land X = F(Y)))$

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The NP most boys thus must denote something which, combined with the denotation of a VP, gives this statement. In other words, it is a function from sets (or, equivalently, from functions in $\mathcal{D}_{\iota \to o}$) to truth values which gives true just in case the argument stands in the relevant relation to the denotation of boy. This function is itself a characteristic function of a set of sets, namely:

$$\{X \mid \#(\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathrm{boy}), X) > \#(\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathrm{boy}) \setminus X)\}$$

Note that this is just the same kind of object (a set of sets) as we postulated above for the denotation of every boy.

Now we want to go a step further, and determine the contribution of the determiner *most* itself. *most* must denote a function which combines with a CNP denotation (i.e. a set of individuals or, equivalently, its characteristic function) to return a set of sets: just those sets which stand in the appropriate relation to the argument.

The function most' is the characteristic function of a set of pairs:

$$\{\langle X, Y \rangle \,|\, \#(X \cap Y) > \#(X \setminus Y)\}$$

Conclusion: most denotes a relation between sets, just as every and some do. In fact, all natural language determiners have such a denotation. (The treatment of the definite article along these lines raises some issues to which we will return.)

Back to every and some (set characterization) $\triangleright \text{ We can now give an explicit set characterization of every and some:}$ 1. every denotes $\{\langle X, Y \rangle | X \subseteq Y\}$ 2. some denotes $\{\langle X, Y \rangle | X \cap Y \neq \emptyset\}$ $\triangleright \text{ The denotations can be given in equivalent function terms, as demonstrated above with the denotation of most.}$

7.4 Inference for Fragment 4

In \mathcal{F}_4 we have extended the target logic with quantifiers and description operators of any type. But if we look at the results of the results semantics construction on the examples we see that these are first-order with descriptions only.

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As a consequence, we can get by with modest extensions of the first-order model generation calculi we have used for the tableau machine in semantic/pragmatic analysis. We will develop these separately for the quantifiers and descriptions now.

7.4.1 Model Generation with Quantifiers

Since we have introduced new logical constants, we have to extend the model generation calculus by rules for these. To keep the calculus simple, we will treat $\exists X.\mathbf{A}$ as an abbreviation of $\neg(\forall X.\neg \mathbf{A})$. Thus we only have to treat the universal quantifier in the rules.

Model Generation (The RM Calculus [Kon04]) ▷ Idea: Try to generate domain-minimal (i.e. fewest individuals) Herbrand models (for NL interpretation) > **Problem:** Even one function constant makes Herbrand universe infinite (solution: leave them out) ▷ Definition 7.4.1. *RM* adds ground quantifier rules to propositional tableau calculus $\frac{\left(\forall X.\mathbf{A}\right)^{\mathsf{T}} \ c \in \mathcal{H}}{\left([c/X](\mathbf{A})\right)^{\mathsf{T}}} \ RM \,\forall$ $\frac{(\forall X.\mathbf{A})^{\mathsf{F}} \quad \mathcal{H} = \{a_1, \dots, a_n\} \quad w \notin \mathcal{H} \text{ new}}{([a_1/X](\mathbf{A}))^{\mathsf{F}} \quad \dots \quad | \quad ([a_n/X](\mathbf{A}))^{\mathsf{F}} \quad | \quad ([w/X](\mathbf{A}))^{\mathsf{F}}} \quad RM \exists$ $\triangleright RM \exists$ rule introduces new witness constant w to the branch Herbrand universe \mathcal{H} : the set of all individual constants on the branch. \triangleright Apply $RM \forall$ exhaustively (for new w reapply all $RM \forall$ rules on branch!) Fau e Michael Kohlhase: LBS 141 2025-02-06

The rule $RM \forall$ allows to instantiate the scope of the quantifier with all the instances of the Herbrand universe, whereas the rule $RM \exists$ makes a case distinction between the cases that the scope holds for one of the already known individuals (those in the Herbrand universe) or a currently unknown one (for which it introduces a witness constant $w \in \Sigma_0^{sk}$).

Note that in order to have a complete calculus, it is necessary to apply the $RM \forall$ rule to all universal formulae in the tree with the new constant w. With this strategy, we arrive at a complete calculus for (finite) satisfiability in first-order logic, i.e. if a formula has a (finite) Model, then this calculus will find it. Note that this calculus (in this simple form) does not necessarily find minimal models.

Generating infinite models (Natural Numbers)

 $\,\vartriangleright\,$ We have to re-apply the $RM\,\forall$ rule for any new constant



The rules $RM \forall$ and $RM \exists$ may remind you of the rules we introduced for $PP^{q}(\mathcal{V})$ in \mathcal{F}_{2} . In fact the rules mainly differ in their scoping behavior. We will use $RM \forall$ as a drop-in replacement for the world-knowledge rule $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{V}}^{p}WK$, and express world knowledge as universally quantified sentences. The rules $\mathcal{T}_{\mathcal{V}}^{p}Ana$ and $RM \exists$ differ in that the first may only be applied to input formulae and does not introduce a witness constant. (It should not, since variables here are anaphoric). We need the rule $RM \exists$ to deal with rule-like world knowledge.

Let us test the new calculus on a couple of linguistically motivated examples. We start very simple: with a discourse of two sentences, where the second has a quantifier.



The next example is a bit more interesting: We have an anaphor that needs to be resolved.

Anaphor Resolution A man sleeps. He snores
Example 7.4.4 (Anaphor Resolution). A man sleeps. He snores







7.4.2 Model Generation with Definite Descriptions

To obtain a model generation calculus for HOL^{eq} with descriptions, we could in principle add one of these axioms to the world knowledge, and work with that. It is better to have a dedicated

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inference rule, which we present here.





Definition 7.4.7. In this example, we have a case of what is called a bridging reference, following H. Clark (1977): intuitively, we build an inferential bridge from the computer whose existence is asserted in the first sentence to the hard drive invoked in the second.

By incorporating world knowledge into the tableau, we are able to model this kind of inference, and provide the antecedent needed for interpreting the definite.

Now let us use the $RM \iota$ rule for interpreting The dog barks in a situation where there are two dogs: Fido and Chester. Intuitively, this should lead to a closed tableau, since the uniqueness presupposition is violated. Applying the rules, we get the following tableau.

Another Example The dog barks



7.4.3 Model Generation with Unique Name Assumptions

Normally (i.e. in natural languages) we have the default assumption that names are unique. In principle, we could do this by adding axioms of the form $n = m^{\mathsf{F}}$ to the world knowledge for all pairs of names n and m. Of course the cognitive plausibility of this approach is very questionable. As a remedy, we can build a Unique-Name-Assumption (UNA) into the calculus itself.



In effect we make the equality replacement rule directional; it only allows the substitution for a constant without the unique name assumption. Finally, RM una mechanizes the unique name assumption by allowing a branch to close if two different constants with unique names are claimed to be equal. All the other rules in our model generation calculus stay the same. Note that with RM una, we can close the right branch of tableau (7.1), in accord with our intuition about the discourse.



 \triangleright "the rabbit is cute", has logical form uniq(rabbit) \land (rabbit \subseteq cute).

- $\triangleright RM$ generates {..., rabbit(c), cute(c)} in situations with at most 1 rabbit. (special $RM \exists$ rule yields identification and accommodation (c^{new}))
- + At last an approach that takes world knowledge into account!
- tractable only for toy discourses/ontologies The world cup final was watched on TV by 7 million people. A rabbit is in the garden. $\forall X.human(x) \exists Y.human(X) \land father(X,Y)$ $\forall X, Y.$ father $(X, Y) \Rightarrow X \neq Y$ FAU e

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More than one Rabbit

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▷ **Problem:** What about two rabbits? Bugs and Bunny are rabbits. Bugs is in the hat. Jon removes the rabbit from the hat.


7.5 Quantifier Scope Ambiguity and Underspecification

7.5.1 Scope Ambiguity and Quantifying-In

Now that we are able to interpret sentences with quantification objects and subjects, we can address the issue of quantifier scope ambiguities.



This is a correct representation of one of the possible readings of the sentence – namely the one where the quantifier of the object-NP occurs inside the scope of the quantifier of the subject-NP. We say that the quantifier of the object-NP has narrow scope while the quantifier of the subject-NP has wide scope. But the other reading is not generated here! This means our algorithm doesn't

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represent the linguistic reality correctly.

What's the problem?: This is because our approach so far constructs the semantics deterministically from the syntactic analysis. Our analysis simply isn't yet able to compute two different readings for a syntactically unambiguous sentence. The reason why we only get the reading with wide scope for the subject is because in the semantic construction process, the verb semantics is first combined with the object semantics, then with that of the subject. And given the order of the -prefixes in our semantic representations, this eventually transports the object semantics inside the subject's scope.

A Closer Look: To understand why our algorithm produces the reading it does (and not the other alternative), let us have a look at the order of applications in the semantic representation as it is before we start $=_{\beta}$ -reducing. To be able to see the order of applications more clearly, we abbreviate the representations for the determiners. E.g. we write instead of . We will of course have to expand those abbreviations at some point when we want to perform $=_{\beta}$ -reduction.

In the VP node for loves a woman we have $(\lambda FX \cdot \lambda Q \cdot (\exists Y \cdot woman(Y) \land Q Y))$ loves and thus the sentence representation is

$$(\lambda P.(\forall X.man(X) \Rightarrow P(X))) \ (\lambda FX.\lambda Q.(\exists Y.woman(Y) \land Q Y))$$
loves

The resulting expression is an application of form $\langle \text{everyman} \rangle (\langle \text{awoman} \rangle (\langle \text{loves} \rangle))$. I.e. the universal quantifier occurs in the functor (the translation of the subject NP), and the existential quantifier occurs in the argument (corresponding to the VP). The scope relations in the $=_{\beta}$ -reduced result reflect the structure in this application.

With some imagination we can already guess what an algorithm would have to do in order to produce the second reading we've seen above (where the subject-NP has narrow scope): It would somehow have to move the *a woman* part in front of the *every*. Something like $\langle awoman \rangle (\langle everyman \rangle (\langle loves \rangle))$ would do.

Storing **and** Quantifying In \triangleright Analysis: The sentence meaning is of the form $\langle everyman \rangle (\langle awoman \rangle (\langle loves \rangle))$ \triangleright Idea: Somehow have to move the *a* woman part in front of the every to obtain $\langle awoman \rangle (\langle everyman \rangle (\langle loves \rangle))$ \triangleright More concretely: Let's try A woman - every man loves her. In semantics construction, apply a woman to every man loves her. So a woman out-scopes every man. > Problem: How to represent pronouns and link them to their antecedents \triangleright **STORE** is an alternative translation rule. Given a node with an NP daughter, we can translate the node by passing up to it the translation of its non-NP daughter, and putting the translation of the NP into a store, for later use. \triangleright The QI rule allows us to empty out a non-empty store. Fau © Michael Kohlhase: LBS 2025-02-06 155

To make the second analysis work, one has to think of a representation for the pronoun, and one must provide for linking the pronoun to its antecedent "a woman" later in the semantics construction process. Intuitively, the pronoun itself is semantically empty. Now Montague's idea essentially was to choose a new variable to represent the pronoun. Additionally, he had to secure that this variable ends up in the right place after -reduction.



We now have more than one way to translate a branching node, but the choice is partly constrained by whether or not the daughters of the node have empty stores. We have the following two options for translating a branching node. (Note: To simplify the notation, let us adopt the following convention: If the translation of A has an empty store, we omit reference to the store in representing the translation of A, \mathbf{A} .)

Application of **STORE** must always eventually be followed by application of **QI**. (Note that **QI** is not a translation rule, but a sort of transformation on translations.) But when must **QI** be applied? There are two cases:

- 1. The process of semantics construction must conclude with an empty store.
- 2. If A is a branching node one of whose daughters is a conjunction (i.e. and or or, the translation of A is given by Rule \mathbf{C}).

The first of these rules has the effect that if the initial translation of S has a non-empty store, we must apply **QI** as many times as needed to empty the store. The second rule has the effect of requiring the same thing where *and* attaches to any constituent.

We assume that our syntax processing returned the syntax tree on the left. Just as before; the only difference is that we have a different syntax-semantics interface. The NP nodes get their semantics $\mathbf{A} := \lambda P.(\forall X.\operatorname{man}(X) \Rightarrow P(X))$ and $\mathbf{B} := \lambda Q.(\exists Y.\operatorname{woman}(Y) \Rightarrow Q(Y))$ as before. Similarly, the V^t node has the value loves. To compute the semantics of the VP nodes, we use the rule **STORE** and obtain $\langle \text{loves}, \{\mathbf{A}\} \rangle$ and similarly $\langle \text{loves}, \{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}\} \rangle$ for the for the S node, thus we have the following semantics tree.

Quantifying in Practice: Every man loves a woman

⊳ Example 7.5.5.



This reading corresponds to the wide scope reading for a woman. If we had used the QI rules the other way around, first extracting a woman and then every man, we would have gotten the reading with wide scope for every man in the same way.

7.5.2 Dealing with Quantifier Scope Ambiguity: Cooper Storage



We have already seen the basic idea that we will use here. We will proceed with compositional translation in the familiar way. But when we encounter a QNP, we will put its translation aside, in a *store*. To make sure we know where it came from, we will put a "place holder" in the translation, and co-index the stored NP with its place holder. When we get to the S node, we will have a representation which we can re-combine with each of the stored NPs in turn. The order in which we re-combine them will determine the scopal relations among them.



How we put QNPs in the Store

▷ Storage Rule

If the store $\langle \varphi, (\beta, j), \dots, (\gamma, k) \rangle$ is a possible translation for a QNP, then the store

$$\langle \lambda P.P(X_i)(\varphi,i)(\beta,j),\ldots,(\gamma,k) \rangle$$

where i is a new index, is also a possible translation for that QNP.

 \triangleright This rule says: if you encounter a QNP with translation φ , you can replace its translation with an indexed place holder of the same type, $\lambda P.P(X_i)$, and add φ to the store, paired with the index *i*. We will use the place holder translation in the semantic composition of the sentence.

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Working with Stores

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 \triangleright Working out the translation for *Every student likes some* professor.

7.5. QUANTIFIER SCOPE AMBIGUITY AND UNDERSPECIFICATION

 $NP_1 \rightarrow \lambda P.(\exists X. \operatorname{prof}(X) \land P(X))$ or $\langle \lambda Q. Q(X_1), (\lambda P.(\exists X. \operatorname{prof}(X) \land P(X)), 1) \rangle$ $V_t \rightarrow \lambda RY.R(\lambda Z.\text{likes}(Z,Y))$ $VP \rightarrow$ (Combine core representations by FA; pass store up)* $\rightarrow \langle \lambda Y. \text{likes}(X_1, Y), (\lambda P. (\exists X. \text{prof}(X) \land P(X)), 1) \rangle$ $NP_2 \rightarrow \lambda P.(\forall Z.student(Z) \Rightarrow P(Z)) \text{ or } \langle \lambda R.R(X_2), (\lambda P.(\forall Z.student(Z) \Rightarrow P(Z)), 2) \rangle$ $S \rightarrow$ (Combine core representations by FA; pass stores up)** $\rightarrow (\text{likes}(X_1, X_2), (\lambda P.(\exists X. \text{prof}(X) \land P(X)), 1), (\lambda P.(\forall Z. \text{student}(Z) \Rightarrow P(Z)), 2))$ * Combining V_t with place holder ** Combining VP with place holder 1. $(\lambda RY.R (\lambda Z.likes(Z,Y))) (\lambda Q.Q(X_1))$ 1. $(\lambda R.R(X_2))$ $(\lambda Y.likes(X_1, Y))$ 2. $\lambda Y.(\lambda Q.Q(X_1)) (\lambda Z.likes(Z,Y))$ 2. $(\lambda Y.\text{likes}(X_1, Y)) X_2$ 3. $\lambda Y.(\lambda Z.likes(Z,Y)) X_1$ 3. $likes(X_1, X_2)$ 4. λY .likes (X_1, Y) FAU Michael Kohlhase: LBS 161 2025-02-06

Retrieving NPs from the store ▷ Retrieval: Let σ_1 and σ_2 be (possibly empty) sequences of binding operators. If the store $\langle \varphi, \sigma_1, \sigma_2, (\beta, i) \rangle$ is a translation of an expression of category S, then the store $\langle \beta(\lambda X_1.\varphi), \sigma_1, \sigma_2 \rangle$ is also a translation of it. ▷ What does this say?: It says: suppose you have an S translation consisting of a core representation (which will be of type o) and one or more indexed QNP translations. Then you can do the following: 1. Choose one of the QNP translations to retrieve. 2. Rewrite the core translation, λ -abstracting over the variable which bears the index of the QNP you have selected. (Now you will have an expression of type $\iota \rightarrow o$.) 3. Apply this λ -term to the QNP translation (which is of type $(\iota \rightarrow o) \rightarrow o$). FAU

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Example: Every student likes some professor.

1. Retrieve every student

- (a) $(\lambda Q.(\forall Z.student(Z) \Rightarrow Q(Z))) (\lambda X_2.likes(X_1, X_2))$
- (b) $\forall Z.\operatorname{student}(Z) \Rightarrow (\lambda X_2.\operatorname{likes}(X_1, X_2)) Z$
- (c) $\forall Z.student(Z) \Rightarrow likes(X_1, Z)$

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2. Retrieve some professor

- (a) $(\lambda P.(\exists X.\operatorname{prof}(X) \land P(X))) (\lambda X_1.(\forall Z.\operatorname{student}(Z) \Rightarrow \operatorname{likes}(X_1, Z)))$
- (b) $\exists X.\operatorname{prof}(X)(\lambda X_1.(\forall Z.\operatorname{student}(Z) \Rightarrow \operatorname{likes}(X_1, Z))) X$
- (c) $\exists X. \operatorname{prof}(X) \land (\forall Z. \operatorname{student}(Z) \Rightarrow \operatorname{likes}(X, Z))$



The Cooper storage approach to quantifier scope ambiguity basically moved the ambiguity problem into the syntax/semantics interface: from a single syntactic tree, it generated multiple unambiguous semantic representations. We will now come to an approach, which does not force the system to commit to a particular reading so early.

7.5.3 Underspecification

In this subsection we introduce Johan Bos' "Hole Semantics", since this is possibly the simplest underspecification framework around. The main idea is that the result of the translation is a "quasi-logical form" (QLF), i.e. a representation that represents all possible readings. This QLF can then be used for semantic/pragmatic analysis.

7.5.3.1 Unplugging Predicate Logic

The problem we need to solve for our QLF is that regular logical formulae, such as

```
\forall X.\operatorname{man}(X) \Rightarrow (\exists Y.\operatorname{woman}(Y) \Rightarrow \operatorname{loves}(Y,X))
```

fully specifies the scope relation between the quantifiers. The idea behind "hole semantics" (and most other approaches to quantifier scope underspecification) is to "unplug" first-order logic, i.e. to take apart logical formulae into smaller parts, and add constraints on how the parts can be plugged together again. To keep track of where formulae have to be plugged together again, "hole semantics" uses the notion of "holes". Our example *Every man loves a woman* now has the following form:



The meaning of the dashed arrows is that the holes (depicted by \Box) can be filled by one of the formulas that are pointed to. The hole at the top of the graph serves as the representation of the whole sentence.

We can disambiguate the QLF by choosing an arc for every hole and plugging the respective formulae into the holes, collapsing the graph into a single logical formula. If we act on arcs 1 and 4, we obtain the wide-scope reading for every man, if we act on 2 and 3, we obtain the reading, where a woman out-scopes every man. So much for the general idea, how can this be represented in logic?

7.5.3.2 PL_H a first-order logic with holes

The main idea is to label the holes and formulae, and represent the arcs as pairs of labels. To do this, we add holes to first-order logic, arriving at a logic PL_H . This can simply be done by

reserving a lexical category $\mathcal{H} = \{h_0, h_1, h_2, ...\}$ of holes, and adding them as possible atomic formulae, so that $\forall X.man(X) \Rightarrow h_1$ is a PL_H formula.

Using this, a QLF is a triple $\langle F, C \rangle$, where F is a set of labeled formulae of the form $\ell_i : \mathbf{A}_1$, where ℓ_i is taken from a set $\mathcal{L} = \{\ell_0, \ell_1, \dots\}$ of labels, and \mathbf{A}_i is a PL_H formula, and C is a set constraints of the form $\ell_i \leq h_j$. The underspecified representation above now has the form

 $\langle \{\ell_1 \colon \forall X.\operatorname{man}(X) \Rightarrow h_1, \ell_2 \colon \forall Y.\operatorname{woman}(Y) \Rightarrow h_2 \}, \{\ell_1 \le h_0, \ell_2 \le h_0, \ell_3 \le h_1, \ell_3 \le h_2 \} \rangle$

Note that we always reserve the hole h_0 for the top-level hole, that represents the sentence meaning.

7.5.3.3 Plugging and Chugging

A plugging p for a QLF Q is now a mapping from the holes in Q to the labels in Q that satisfies the constraint C of Q, i.e. for all holes h in Q we have $h \leq p(h) \in C$. Note that the set of admissible pluggings can be computed from the constraint alone in a straightforward manner. Acting on the pluggings yields a logical formula. In our example, we have two pluggings that give us the intended readings of the sentence.

#	plugging	logical form
1	$[\ell_1/h_0], [\ell_2/h_1], [\ell_3/h_2]$	$\forall X.\mathrm{man}(X) \Rightarrow (\exists Y.\mathrm{woman}(Y) \land \mathrm{loves}(X,Y))$
2	$[\ell_2/h_0], [\ell_3/h_1], [\ell_1/h_2]$	$\exists Y. \operatorname{woman}(Y) \Rightarrow (\forall X. \operatorname{man}(X) \land \operatorname{loves}(X, Y))$

7.6 Summary & Evaluation

So let us evaluate what we have achieved in the new, extended fragment.



Chapter 8

Davidsonian Semantics: Treating Verb Modifiers



Event semantics: Neo-Davidsonian Systems

- ▷ Idea: Take apart the Davidsonian predicates even further, add event participants via thematic roles (from [Par90]).
- \triangleright **Definition 8.0.3.** Neo-Davidsonian semantics extends event semantics by adding two standardized roles: the agent ag(e, s) and the patient pat(e, o) for the subject s and direct object d of the event e.

CHAPTER 8. DAVIDSONIAN SEMANTICS: TREATING VERB MODIFIERS

- \triangleright **Example 8.0.4.** Translate John killed a cat with a hammer. as $\exists e. \exists x. hammer(x) \land killing(e) \land ag(e, peter) \land pat(e, \iota cat) \land with(e, x)$
- ▷ Further Elaboration: Events can be broken down into sub-events and modifiers can predicate over sub-events.
- ▷ Example 8.0.5. The "process" of climbing Mt. Everest starts with the "event" of (optimistically) leaving the base camp and culminates with the "achievement" of reaching the summit (being completely exhausted).
- Note: This system can get by without functions, and only needs unary and binary predicates. (well-suited for model generation)

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Event Types and Properties of Events **Example 8.0.6 (Problem).** Some (temporal) modifiers are incompatible with some events, e.g. in English progressive: 1. He is eating a sandwich and He is pushing the cart., but not 2. * He is being tall. or * He is finding a coin. > Definition 8.0.7 (Types of Events). There are different types of events that go with different temporal modifiers. [Ven57] distinguishes 1. states: e.g. know the answer, stand in the corner 2. processes: e.g. run, eat, eat apples, eat soup 3. accomplishments: e.g. run a mile, eat an apple, and 4. achievements: e.g. reach the summit ▷ **Observations**: 1. processes and accomplishments appear in the progressive (1), 2. states and achievements do not (2). ▷ Definition 8.0.8. The in test 1. states and activities, but not accomplishments and achievements are compatible with for-adverbials 2. whereas the opposite holds for in-adverbials (5). ⊳ Example 8.0.9. 1. run a mile in an hour vs. * run a mile for an hour, but 2. * reach the summit for an hour vs reach the summit in an hour Fau Michael Kohlhase: LBS 167 2025-02-06

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Part II

Topics in Semantics

Chapter 9

Dynamic Approaches to NL Semantics

In this chapter we tackle another level of language, the discourse level, where we look especially at the role of cross-sentential anaphora. This is an aspect of natural language that cannot (compositionally) be modeled in first-order logic, due to the strict scoping behavior of quantifiers. This has led to the developments of dynamic variants of first-order logic: the "file change semantics" [Hei82] by Irene Heim and (independently) "discourse representation theory" (DRT [Kam81]) by Hans Kamp, which solve the problem by re-interpreting indefinites to introduce representational objects – called discourse referents in DRT – that are not bound variables and can therefore have a different scoping behavior. These approaches have been very influential in the representation of discourse – i.e. multi-sentence – phenomena.

In this chapter, we will introduce dynamic logics taking DRT as a starting point since it was adopted more widely than file change semantics and the later "dynamic predicate logics" (DPL [GS91]). section 35 (Discourse Representation Theory) in the LBS lecture notes gives an introduction to dynamic language phenomena and how they can be modeled in DRT. section 37 (Dynamic Logic for Imperative Programs) in the LBS lecture notes relates the linguistically motivated logics to modal logics used for modeling imperative programs and draws conclusions about the role of language in cognition. ?? extends our primary inference system – model generation – to DRT and relates the concept of discourse referents to Skolem constants. Dynamic model generation also establishes a natural system of "direct deduction" for dynamic semantics. Finally, section 36 (Higher-Order Dynamics) in the LBS lecture notes discusses how dynamic approaches to NL semantics can be combined with ideas Montague Semantics to arrive at a fully compositional approach to discourse semantics.

9.1 Discourse Representation Theory

In this section we introduce Discourse Representation Theory as the most influential framework for aproaching dynamic phenomena in natural language. We will only cover the basic ideas here and leave the coverage of larger fragments of natural language to [KR93].

Let us look at some data about effects in natural languages that we cannot really explain with our treatment of indefinite descriptions in fragment \mathcal{F}_4 (see ??).

Anaphora and Indefinites revisited (Data)

 \triangleright **Observation:** We have concentrated on single sentences so far; let's do better.

▷ Definition 9.1.1. A discourse is a unit of natural language longer than a single

sentence.		
▷ New Data: Discourt	rses interact with anaphora.:	
⊳ Peter¹ is sleeping	s. He_1 is snoring.	(normal anaphoric reference)
$\triangleright A \operatorname{man}^1$ is sleeping	ng. He_1 is snoring.	(scope of existential?)
\triangleright Peter has a car ¹ .	It_1 is parked outside.	(even if this worked)
⊳ * Peter has <mark>no ca</mark>	\mathbf{r}^1 . It ₁ is parked outside.	(what about negation?)
\triangleright There is a book ¹	that Peter does not own. It	t_1 is a novel. (OK)
⊳ * Peter does not	own every book ¹ . It ₁ is a ne	ovel. (equivalent in PL^1)
\triangleright If a farmer ¹ owns	s a donkey ₂ , he_1 beats it_2 .	(even inside sentences)
\triangleright We gloss the intended	anaphoric reference with the	labels in upper and lower indices.
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In the first example, we can pick up the subject *Peter* of the first sentence with the anaphoric reference *He* in the second. And indeed, we can resolve the anaphoric reference in the semantic representation by translating He to (the translation of) Peter. Alternatively we can follow the lead of fragment \mathcal{F}_2 (see section 7 (Fragment 2: Pronouns and Anaphora) in the LBS lecture notes) and introduce variables for anaphora and adding a conjunct that equates the respective variable with the translation of Peter. This is the general idea of anaphor resolution we will adopt in this section.

Intuitively, the second example should work exactly the same – it should not matter, whether the subject NP is given as a proper name or an indefinite description. The problem with the indefinite descriptions is that they are translated into existential quantifiers and we cannot refer to the bound variables; see below. Note that this is not a failure of our envisioned treatment of anaphora, but of our treatment of indefinite descriptions; they just do not generate the objects that can be referred back to by anaphoric references (we will call them discourse referents). We will speak of the anaphoric potential for this the set of referents that can be anaphorically referred to.

The second pair of examples is peculiar in the sense that if we had a solution for the indefinite description in Peter has a car, we would need a solution that accounts for the fact that even though Peter has a car puts a car referent into the anaphoric potential Peter has no car – which we analyze compositionally as It is not the case that Peter has a car does not. The interesting effect is that the negation closes the anaphoric potential and excludes the car referent that Peter has a car introduced.

The third pair of sentences shows that we need more than PL¹ to represent the meaning of quantification in natural language while the sentence There is a book that peter does not own. induces a book referent in the anaphoric potential, but the sentence Peter does not own every book does not, even though their translations $\exists x.book(x) \land \neg own(peter, x)$ and $\neg(\forall x.book(x) \Rightarrow own(peter, x))$ are logically equivalent.

The last sentence is the famous donkey sentence that shows that the dynamic phenomena we have seen above are not limited to inter-sentential anaphora.

Dynamic Effects in Natural Language \triangleright Problem: E.g. Quantifier Scope $\triangleright * A \text{ man sleeps. He snores.}$ $\triangleright (\exists X.man(X) \land sleeps(X)) \land snores(X)$

9.1. DISCOURSE REPRESENTATION THEORY

$\triangleright X$ is bound in the first conjunct, and free in the second.				
$\triangleright \text{ Problem: Donkey sentence: If a farmer owns a donkey, he beats it.} \\ \forall X, Y. \text{farmer}(X) \land \text{donkey}(Y) \land \text{own}(X, Y) \Rightarrow \text{beat}(X, Y)$				
⊳ Ideas:				
Composition of sentences by conjunction inside the scope of existential quanti- fiers (non-compositional,)				
⊳ Extend the sco	pe of quantifiers dynamically	(DPL)		
Replace existential quantifiers by something else				
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The central idea of Discourse Representation Theory (DRT), is to eschew the first-order quantification and the bound variables it induces altogether and introduce a new representational device: discourse referents, and manage their visibility (called accessibility in DRT) explicitly. We will introduce the traditional, visual "box notation" by example now before we turn to a

we will introduce the traditional, visual "box notation" by example now before we turn to a systematic definition based on a symbolic notation later.



These examples already show that there are three kinds of objects in DRT: The meaning of sentences is given as DRSes, which are denoted as "file cards" that list the discourse referents (the

participants in the situation described in the DRS) at the top of the "card" and state a couple of conditions on the discourse referents. The conditions can contain DRSes themselves, e.g. in conditional conditions.

With this representational infrastructure in place we can now look at how we can construct discourse DRSes i.e. DRSes for whole discourses. The sentence composition problem was – after all – the problem that led to the development of DRT since we could not compositionally solve it in first-order logic.



Note that – in contrast to the "smuggling-in"-type solutions we would have to dream up for first-order logic – sentence composition in DRT is compositional: We construct sentence DRSes¹ and merge them. We can even introduce a "logic operator" for this: the merge operator \otimes , which can be thought of as the "full stop" punctuation operator.

Now we can have a look at anaphor resolution in DRT. This is usually considered as a separate process – part of semantic-pragmatic analysis.



 $^{^{1}}$ We will not go into the sentence semantics construction process here

9.1. DISCOURSE REPRESENTATION THEORY



We will sometime abbreviate the anaphor resolution process and directly use the simplified version of the DRSes for brevity.

Using these examples, we can now give a more systematic introduction of DRT using a more symbolic notation. Note that the grammar below over-generates, we still need to specify the visibility of discourse referents.



We can now define the notion of accessibility in DRT, which in turn determines the (predicted) dynamic potential of a DRS: A discourse referent has to be accessible to be picked up by an anaphoric reference.

We will follow the classical exposition and introduce accessibility as a derived concept induced by a non-structural notion of sub-DRS.







The meaning of DRSes is (initially) given by a translation to PL^1 . This is a convenient way to specify meaning, but as we will see, it has its costs, as we will see.



We can now test DRT as a logical system on the data and see whether it makes the right predictions about the dynamic effects identified at the beginning of the section.



?? shows that dynamic negation closes off the dynamic potential. Indeed, the referent U is not accessible in the second argument of \otimes . ?? predicts the inaccessibility of U for the same reason. In contrast to that, U is accessible in ??, since it is not under the scope of a dynamic negation. The examples above, and in particular the difference between Example 35.15 (Discourse Representation Theory) in the LBS lecture notes and Example 35.16 (Discourse Representation Theory) in the LBS lecture notes show that DRT forms a representational level above recall that we can translate down – PL¹, which serves as the semantic target language. Indeed DRT@ makes finer distinctions than PL¹, and supports an incremental process of semantics construction: DRS con-

struction for sentences followed by DRS merging via $=_{\tau}$ reduction.



We will now introduce a direct semantics for DRT: a notion of "model" and an evaluation mapping that interprets DRSes directly – i.e. not via a translation of first-order logic. The main idea is that atomic conditions and conjunctions are interpreted largely like first-order formulae, while DRSes are interpreted as sets of states that satisfy the conditions. A DRS is satisfied by a model, if that set is non-empty.

A Direct Semantics for DRT (Dyn. Interpretation
$$\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}^{\delta}$$
)
 \triangleright Definition 9.1.19. Let $\mathcal{M} = \langle \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{I} \rangle$ be a first-order model, then a state is an
assignment from discourse referents into \mathcal{D} .
 \triangleright Definition 9.1.20. Let $\varphi, \psi : \mathcal{D} \mathbb{R} \to \mathcal{U}$ be states, then we say that ψ extends φ
on $\mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathcal{D} \mathbb{R}$ (write $\varphi[\mathcal{X}]\psi$), if $\varphi(U) = \psi(U)$ for all $U \notin \mathcal{X}$.
 \triangleright Idea: Conditions as truth values; DRSes as pairs $(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{S})$ (\mathcal{S} set of states)
 \triangleright Definition 9.1.21 (Meaning of complex formulae). The value function \mathcal{I}_{φ} for
DRT is defined with the help of a dynamic value function $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}^{\delta}$ on DRSs: For condi-
tions:
 $\triangleright \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\neg \mathcal{D}) = \mathsf{T}$, if $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}^{\delta}(\mathcal{D})^{2} = \emptyset$.
 $\triangleright \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathcal{D} \vee \mathcal{E}) = \mathsf{T}$, if $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}^{\delta}(\mathcal{D})^{2} \neq \emptyset$ or $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}^{\delta}(\mathcal{E})^{2} \neq \emptyset$.
 $\triangleright \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathcal{D} \gg \mathcal{E}) = \mathsf{T}$, if for all $\psi \in \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}^{\delta}(\mathcal{D})^{2}$ there is a $\tau \in \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}^{\delta}(\mathcal{E})^{2}$ with $\psi[\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}^{\delta}(\mathcal{E})^{1}]\tau$.
For DRSs \mathcal{D} we set $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathcal{D}) = \mathsf{T}$, iff $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}^{\delta}(\mathcal{D})^{2} \neq \emptyset$, and define
 $\triangleright \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}^{\delta}(\delta \mathcal{X}.\mathbf{C}) = (\mathcal{X}, \{\psi \mid \varphi[\mathcal{X}]\psi \text{ and } \mathcal{I}_{\psi}(\mathbf{C}) = \mathsf{T}\}$.
 $\triangleright \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}^{\delta}(\mathcal{D} \otimes \mathcal{E}) = \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}^{\delta}(\mathcal{D} \ ; \mathcal{E}) = (\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}^{\delta}(\mathcal{D})^{1} \cup \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}^{\delta}(\mathcal{E})^{1}, \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}^{\delta}(\mathcal{D})^{2} \cap \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}^{\delta}(\mathcal{E})^{2})$



We use the dynamic value function $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}^{\delta}(\mathcal{D})$ for DRSs \mathcal{D} that might be continued and (the static $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathcal{D})$ for ones that are already final.

We can now fortify our intuition by computing the direct semantics of two sentences, which differ in their dynamic potential. We start out with the simple *Peter owns a car* and then progress to *Peter owns no car*.

Examples (Computing Direct Semantics) **Example 9.1.22.** Peter owns a car $\mathcal{I}^{\delta}_{\omega}(\delta U.\mathrm{acar}(U) \wedge \mathrm{own}(\mathrm{peter}, U))$ $= (\{U\}, \{\psi \mid \varphi[U] \mid \psi \text{ and } \mathcal{I}_{\psi}(\operatorname{acar}(U) \land \operatorname{own}(\operatorname{peter}, U)) = \mathsf{T}\})$ $= (\{U\}, \{\psi \mid \varphi[U]\psi \text{ and } \mathcal{I}_{\psi}(\operatorname{acar}(U)) = \mathsf{T} \text{ and } \mathcal{I}_{\psi}(\operatorname{own}(\operatorname{peter}, U)) = \mathsf{T}\})$ = $({U}, {\psi | \varphi[U]\psi \text{ and } \psi(U) \in \mathcal{I}(\text{acar}) \text{ and } (\psi(U), \text{peter}) \in \mathcal{I}(\text{own})})$ The set of states [a/U], such that a is a car and is owned by Peter ▷ **Example 9.1.23.** For *Peter owns no car* we look at the condition: $\mathcal{I}_{\omega}(\neg(\delta U.\operatorname{acar}(U) \land \operatorname{own}(\operatorname{peter}, U))) = \mathsf{T}$ $\Leftrightarrow \quad \mathcal{I}^{\delta}_{\omega}(\delta U.\mathrm{acar}(U) \wedge \mathrm{own}(\mathrm{peter}, U))^2 = \emptyset$ $\Leftrightarrow \quad (\{U\}, \{\psi \,|\, \varphi[\mathcal{X}]\psi \text{ and } \psi(U) \in \mathcal{I}(\text{acar}) \text{ and } (\psi(U), \text{peter}) \in \mathcal{I}(\text{own})\})^2 = \emptyset$ $\Leftrightarrow \quad \{\psi \,|\, \varphi[\mathcal{X}]\psi \text{ and } \psi(U) \in \mathcal{I}(\text{acar}) \text{ and } (\psi(U), \text{peter}) \in \mathcal{I}(\text{own})\} = \emptyset$ i.e. iff there are no a, that are cars and that are owned by Peter. FAU © Michael Kohlhase: LBS 180 2025-02-06

The first thing we see in ?? is that the dynamic potential can directly be read off the direct interpretation of a DRS: it is the domain of the states in the first component. In ??, the interpretation is of the form $(\emptyset, \mathcal{I}^{\delta}_{\alpha}(\mathcal{C}))$, where \mathcal{C} is the condition we compute the truth value of in ??.

9.2 Dynamic Model Generation

We will now establish a method for direct deduction on DRT, i.e. deduction at the representational level of DRT, without having to translate – and retranslate – before deduction. This calculus can be seen as a first step towards a tableau machine for DRT and thus as a first step towards semantic-pragmatic analysis for discourses.



CHAPTER 9. DYNAMIC APPROACHES TO NL SEMANTICS





Model Generation for Dynamic Logics

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9.2. DYNAMIC MODEL GENERATION



Dynamic Herbrand Valuation
▷ Definition 9.2.3. We call a model \$\mathcal{M} = \langle U, I, I_{.}^{\delta} \rangle\$ a dynamic Herbrand interpretation, if \langle U, I \rangle\$ is a Herbrand model.
▷ Question: Can represent \$\mathcal{M}\$ as a triple \langle X, \$\mathcal{S}, \$\mathcal{B} \rangle\$, where \$\mathcal{B}\$ is the Herbrand valuation for \langle U, I \rangle\$?
▷ Definition 9.2.4. \$\mathcal{M}\$ is called finite, iff \$\mathcal{U}\$ is finite.
▷ Definition 9.2.5. \$\mathcal{M}\$ is minimal, iff for all \$\mathcal{M}\$' the following holds: \$(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{M}))' \leq \$\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{M})\$) \rightarrow \$\mathcal{M}\$ = \$\mathcal{M}\$'.
▷ Definition 9.2.6. \$\mathcal{M}\$ is domain minimal if for all \$\mathcal{M}\$' the following holds: \$(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{M}))' \leq \$\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{U}(\mathcal{M}))\$)
₩(\mathcal{U}(\mathcal{M}))\$) \$\leq \$\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{U}(\mathcal{M})')\$)

Dynamic Model Generation Calculus

▷ Definition 9.2.7. We use a tableau framework, extend by state information, and rules for DRSes.

 \triangleright

$$\frac{\left(\delta U_{\mathbb{A}},\mathbf{A}\right)^{\mathsf{T}} \ \mathcal{H} = \{a_{1},\ldots,a_{n}\} \ w \notin \mathcal{H} \text{ new}}{\left[a_{1}/U\right]} RM \delta$$
$$\frac{\left[a_{1}/U\right]}{\left([a_{1}/U](\mathbf{A})\right)^{\mathsf{T}}} \left| \cdots \right| \frac{\left[a_{n}/U\right]}{\left([a_{n}/U](\mathbf{A})\right)^{\mathsf{T}}} \left| \frac{[w/U]}{\left([w/U](\mathbf{A})\right)^{\mathsf{T}}} \right|$$

- ▷ Mechanize ;; by adding representation of the second DRS at all leaves. (tableau machine)
- ▷ Treat conditions by DRT translation

$$\frac{\neg \mathcal{D}}{\neg \mathcal{D}} \qquad \frac{\mathcal{D} \Longrightarrow \mathcal{D}'}{\mathcal{D} \Longrightarrow \mathcal{D}'} \qquad \frac{\mathcal{D} \lor \mathcal{D}'}{\mathcal{D} \lor \mathcal{D}'}$$







▷ Example 9.2.10 (Anaphora with World Knowledge).

- ▷ Mary is married to Jeff. Her husband is not in town.
- $\succ \ \delta U_{\mathbb{F}}, V_{\mathbb{M}}.U = \mathrm{mary} \land \mathrm{married}(U,V) \land V = \mathrm{jeff} \ ;; \\ \delta W_{\mathbb{M}}, W'_{\mathbb{F}}.\mathrm{husband}(W,W') \land \neg \mathrm{intown}(W)$
- ⊳ World knowledge
 - \triangleright If a female X is married to a male Y, then Y is X's only husband.
 - $\triangleright \rightsquigarrow \forall X_{\mathbb{F}}, Y_{\mathbb{M}}. \mathrm{married}(X, Y) \Rightarrow \mathrm{husband}(Y, X) \land (\forall Z. \mathrm{husband}(Z, X) \Rightarrow Z = Y)$



- ▷ Glenberg et al. [GML87]: major function is to provide basis for anaphor resolution.
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The cost we had to pay for being able to deal with discourse phenomena is that we had to abandon the compositional treatment of natural language we worked so hard to establish in fragments 3 and 4. To have this, we would have to have a dynamic λ calculus that would allow us to raise the respective operators to the functional level. Such a logical system is non-trivial, since the interaction of structurally scoped λ -bound variables and dynamically bound discourse referents is non-trivial.

Excursion: We will discuss such a dynamic λ calculus in??.

Chapter 10

Propositional Attitudes and Modalities

10.1 Introduction

Modalities and Propositional Attitudes				
Definition 10.1.1. Modality is a things about, or based on, situatio modal, if it involves a modality	feature of language the set of language the set of the	nat allows for communicating e actual. A sentence is called		
Definition 10.1.2. Modality is s speaker's general intentions and o able, or actual an expressed proportion	ignaled by phrases (commitment to how osition is.	called moods) that express a believable, obligatory, desir-		
▷ Example 10.1.3. Data on moda	lities	(moods in red)		
\triangleright A probably holds,		(possibilistic)		
\triangleright it has always been the case t	hat \mathbf{A} ,	(temporal)		
\triangleright it is well-known that A ,		(epistemic)		
$ ho \mathbf{A}$ is allowed/prohibited,		(deontic)		
\triangleright A <i>is provable</i> ,		(provability)		
\triangleright A holds after the program <i>F</i>	^o terminates,	(program)		
\triangleright A hods during the execution	of P.	(dito)		
\triangleright it is necessary that A ,		(aletic)		
\triangleright it is possible that A ,		(dito)		
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Modeling Modalities and Propositional Attitudes

▷ **Example 10.1.4.** Again, the pattern from above:

▷ it is necessary that Peter knows logic

 $(\mathbf{A} = \mathsf{Peter} \mathsf{knows} \mathsf{logic})$



Various logicians and philosophers looked at ways to use possible worlds, or similar theoretical entities, to give a semantics for modal sentences (specifically, for a modal logic), including Descartes and Leibniz. In the modern era, Carnap, Montague and Hintikka pursued formal developments of this idea. But the semantics for modal logic which became the basis of all following work on the topic was developed by Kripke 1963. This kind of semantics is often referred to as Kripke semantics.



Basic Modal Logics (ML^0 and ML^1)

▷ **Definition 10.1.7.** Propositional modal logic ML^0 extends propositional logic with two new logical constants: \Box for necessity and \diamond for possibility. ($\diamond A = \neg(\Box \neg A)$)

10.1. INTRODUCTION

▷ **Observation:** Nothing hinges on the fact that we use propositional logic!

 \triangleright **Definition 10.1.8.** First-order modal logic ML¹ extends first-order logic with two new logical constants: \Box for necessity and \diamond for possibility.

- ▷ Example 10.1.9. We interpret
 - 1. Necessarily, every mortal will die. as $\Box(\forall X.mortal(X) \Rightarrow willdie(X))$
 - 2. Possibly, something is immortal. as $\Diamond(\exists X.\neg mortal(X))$

 \triangleright **Questions:** What do \Box and \diamond mean? How do they behave?

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Epistemic and Doxastic Modality

- ▷ **Definition 10.1.10.** Modal sentences can convey information about the speaker's state of knowledge (epistemic state) or belief (doxastic state).
- **Example 10.1.11.** We might paraphrase sentence (2) as (3):
 - 1. A: Where's John?
 - 2. B: He might be in the library.
 - **3**. B': It is consistent with the speaker's knowledge that John is in the library.
- \triangleright **Definition 10.1.12.** We way that a world w is an epistemic possibility for an agent B if it could be consistent with B's knowledge.
- ▷ Definition 10.1.13. An epistemic logic is one that models the epistemic state of a speaker. Doxastic logic does the same for the doxastic state.
- \triangleright **Definition 10.1.14.** In deontic logic, we interpret the accessibility relation \mathcal{R} as epistemic accessibility:
 - \triangleright With this \mathcal{R} , represent B's utterance as $\Diamond \operatorname{inlib}(j)$.
 - \triangleright Similarly, represent John must be in the library. as \Box inlib(j).
- \triangleright **Question:** If \mathcal{R} is epistemic accessibility, what properties should it have?

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 Optimization

To determine the properties of epistemic accessibility we ask ourselves, what statements involving \Box and \diamond should be valid on the epistemic interpretation of the operators, and how do we fix the accessibility relation to guarantee this?



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⊳ Direct got to	ive modality (comman taste this curry!	ds, requests, etc.): e.g. Con	ne!, Let's go!	!, You've		
\triangleright Volitive modality (wishes, desires, etc.): If only I were rich!						
\triangleright Question: If we want to interpret $\Box runs(j)$ as <i>It is required that John runs</i> (or, more idiomatically, as <i>John must run</i>), what formulae should be valid on this interpretation of the operators? (This is for homework!)						
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10.2 Semantics for Modal Logics

Basic Ideas: The fundamental intuition underlying the semantics for modality is that modal statements are statements about *how things might be*, statements about possible states of affairs. According to this intuition, sentence (??.1) in ?? says that in every possible state of affairs – every way that things might be – every mortal will die, while sentence (??.2) says that there is some possible state of affairs – some way that things might be – in which something is mortal¹. What is needed in order to express this intuition in a model theory is some kind of entity which will stand for possible states of affairs, or ways things might be. The entity which serves this purpose is the infamous possible world.

<u>Semantics</u> of ML^0 \triangleright Definition 10.2.1. We use a set \mathcal{W} of possible worlds, and a accessibility relation $\mathcal{R} \subseteq \mathcal{W} \times \mathcal{W}$: if $\mathcal{R}(v, w)$, then we say that w is accessible from v. \triangleright Example 10.2.2. $\mathcal{W} = \mathbb{N}$ with $\mathcal{R} = \{ \langle n, n+1 \rangle | n \in \mathbb{N} \}.$ (temporal logic) \triangleright Definition 10.2.3. Variable assignment $\varphi: \mathcal{V}_0 \times \mathcal{W} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}_0$ assigns values to variables in a given possible world. \triangleright Definition 10.2.4. Value function $\mathcal{I}: \mathcal{W} \times wff_0(\mathcal{V}_0) \to \mathcal{D}_0$ (assigns values to formulae in a possible world) $\triangleright \mathcal{I}^w_{\varphi}(V) = \varphi(w, V) \text{ for } V \in \mathcal{V}_0$ $\triangleright \mathcal{I}^w_{\omega}(\neg \mathbf{A}) = \mathsf{T}, \text{ iff } \mathcal{I}^w_{\omega}(\mathbf{A}) = \mathsf{F}.$ $(\land analogous)$ $\triangleright \ \mathcal{I}^w_{\omega}(\Box \mathbf{A}) = \mathsf{T}, \text{ iff } \ \mathcal{I}^{w'}_{\omega}(\mathbf{A}) = \mathsf{T} \text{ for all } w' \in \mathcal{W} \text{ with } w \mathcal{R} w'.$ \triangleright **Definition 10.2.5.** We call a triple $\mathcal{M} := \langle \mathcal{W}, \mathcal{R}, \mathcal{I} \rangle$ a Kripke model. C Michael Kohlhase: LBS 197 2025-02-06

In Kripke semantics, the intuitions about the truth conditions of modals sentences are expressed as follows:

- A sentence of the form $\Box \mathbf{A}$, where \mathbf{A} is a proposition, is true at w iff \mathbf{A} is true at every possible world accessible from w.
- A sentence of the form $\diamond \mathbf{A}$, where \mathbf{A} is a proposition, is true at w iff \mathbf{A} is true at some possible world accessible from w.

You might notice that these truth conditions are parallel in certain ways to the truth conditions for tensed sentence. In fact, the semantics of tense is itself a modal semantics which was developed on analogy to Kripke's modal semantics. Here are the relevant similarities:

¹Note the impossibility of avoiding modal language in the paraphrase!

10.2. SEMANTICS FOR MODAL LOGICS

- 1. **Relativization of evaluation** A tensed sentence must be evaluated for truth relative to a given time. A tensed sentence may be true at one time butg false at another. Similarly, we must evaluate modal sentences relative to a possible world, for a modal sentence may be true at one world (i.e. relative to one possible state of affairs) but false at another.
- 2. Truth depends on value of embedded formula at another world The truth of a tensed sentence at a time t depends on the truth of the formula embedded under the temporal operator at some relevant time (possibly) different from t. Similarly, the truth of a modal sentence at w depends on the truth of the formula embedded under the modal operator at some world or worlds possibly different from w.
- 3. Accessibility You will notice that the world at which the embedded formula is to be evaluated is required to be accessible from the world of evaluation. The accessibility relation on possible worlds is a generalization of the ordering relation on times that we introduced in our temporal semantics. (We will return to this momentarily).

It will be helpful to start by thinking again about the ordering relation on times introduced in temporal models. This ordering relation is in fact one sort of accessibility relation. Why did we need the ordering relation? We needed it in order to ensure that our temporal semantics makes intuitively correct predictions about the truth conditions of tensed sentences and about entailment relations between them. Here are two illustrative examples:

Accessibility Relations. E.g. for Temporal Modalities					
▷ Example 10.2.6 (Temporal Worlds with Ordering). Let $\langle W, \circ, <, \subseteq \rangle$ an interval time structure, then we can use $\langle W, < \rangle$ as a Kripke models. Then PAST becomes a modal operator.					
$\triangleright \text{ Example 10.2.7. Suppose we have } i < j \text{ and } j < k. \text{ Then intuitively, if } Jane is laughing is true at i, then Jane laughed should be true at j and at k, i.e. \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}^{w}(j) \text{PAST}(\text{laughs}(j)) \text{ and } \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}^{w}(k) \text{PAST}(\text{laughs}(j)).But this holds only if "<" is transitive (which it is!)$					
 ▷ Example 10.2.8. Here is a clearly counter-intuitive claim: For any time <i>i</i> and any sentence A, if \$\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}^w(i) PRES(A)\$ then \$\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}^w(i) PAST(A)\$. (For example, the truth of Jane is at the finish line at <i>i</i> implies the truth of Jane was at the finish line at <i>i</i>.) But we would get this result if we allowed < to be reflexive. (< is irreflexive) 					
\triangleright Treating tense modally, we obtain reasonable truth conditions.					
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Thus, by ordering the times in our model in accord with our intuitions about time, we can ensure correct predictions about truth conditions and entailment relations for tensed sentences.

In the modal domain, we do not have intuitions about how possible worlds should be ordered. But we do have intuitions about truth conditions and entailment relations among modal sentences. So we need to set up an accessibility relation on the set of possible worlds in our model which, in combination with the truth conditions for \Box and \diamondsuit given above, will produce intuitively correct claims about entailment.

One of the prime occupations of modal logicians is to look at the sets of validities which are obtained by imposing various different constraints on the accessibility relation. We will here consider just two examples.

What must be, is:

1. It seems intuitively correct that if it is necessarily the case that \mathbf{A} , then \mathbf{A} is true, i.e. that $w_q(\Box \mathbf{A}) = \top$ implies that $w_q(\mathbf{A}) = \top$ or, more simply, that the following formula is valid:

$$\Box \mathbf{A} \Rightarrow \mathbf{A}$$

2. To guarantee this implication, we must ensure that any world w is among the world accessible from w, i.e. we must make \mathcal{R} reflexive.

3. Note that this also guarantees, among other things, that the following is valid: $\mathbf{A} \Rightarrow \Diamond \mathbf{A}$

Whatever is, is necessarily possible:

1. This also seems like a reasonable slogan. Hence, we want to guarantee the validity of:

 $\mathbf{A} \Rightarrow \Box \Diamond \mathbf{A}$

2. To do this, we must guarantee that if **A** is true at a some world w, then for every world w' accessible from w, there is at least one **A** world accessible from w'. To do this, we can guarantee that every world w is accessible from every world which is accessible from it, i.e. make \mathcal{R} symmetric.

Modal Axioms (Propositional Logic)						
$\triangleright \text{ Definition 10.2.9. Necessitation:} \frac{\mathbf{A}}{\Box \mathbf{A}} N$						
⊳ Definit	ion 10.2.1	0 (Normal Modal Logic	s).			
	System	Axioms	Access	bility Relation		
	K	$\Box(\mathbf{A}\Rightarrow\mathbf{B})\Rightarrow(\Box\mathbf{A}\Rightarrow\Box)$	B) general			
	Т	$\mathbb{K} + \Box \mathbf{A} \Rightarrow \mathbf{A}$	reflexiv	e		
	\$4	$\mathbb{T} + \Box \mathbf{A} \Rightarrow \Box \Box \mathbf{A}$	reflexiv	e + transitive		
	\mathbb{B}	$\mathbb{T} + \Diamond \Box \mathbf{A} \Rightarrow \mathbf{A}$	reflexiv	e + symmetric		
	$\mathbb{S}5$	$\mathbb{S}4 + \Diamond \mathbf{A} \Rightarrow \Box \Diamond \mathbf{A}$	equival	ence relation		
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⊮ Theor	ems					
\triangleright Observation 10.2.11. $\Box(A \land B) \models \Box A \land \Box B$ in K						
⊳ Observ	ation 10.2	2.12. $\mathbf{A} \Rightarrow \mathbf{B} \models \Box \mathbf{A} \Rightarrow \Box \mathbf{I}$	B in ℝ.			
⊳ Observ	ation 10.2	2.13. $\mathbf{A} \Rightarrow \mathbf{B} \models \Diamond \mathbf{A} \Rightarrow \Diamond \mathbf{B}$	B in ℝ.			
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Translation to First-Order Logic						
	▷ Question: Is modal logic more expressive than predicate logic?					
⊳ Questi	on: Is mo	dal logic more expressive t	han predicate	e logic?		

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Modal Logic Translation (formal)



Translation (continued)

- \triangleright Theorem 10.2.18. $\tau_s \colon \mathrm{ML}^0 \to \mathrm{PL}^0$ is correct and complete.
- \triangleright *Proof:* show that $\exists \mathcal{M}.\mathcal{M} \models \Phi$ iff $\exists \mathcal{M}'.\mathcal{M}' \models \tau_s(\Phi)$
 - 1. Let $\mathcal{M} = \langle \mathcal{W}, \mathcal{R}, \varphi \rangle$ with $\mathcal{M} \models \mathbf{A}$
 - 2. chose $\mathcal{M} = \langle \mathcal{W}, \mathcal{I}' \rangle$, such that $\mathcal{I}(\overline{p}) = \varphi(p) \colon \mathcal{W} \to \{\mathsf{T},\mathsf{F}\}$ and $\mathcal{I}(r) = \mathcal{R}$.

we prove
$$\mathcal{M} \models_{\psi} \tau_w(\mathbf{A})'$$
 for $\psi = \mathrm{Id}_{\mathcal{W}}$ by structural induction over \mathbf{A} .
3. $\mathbf{A} = P$
3.1. $\mathcal{I}_{\psi}(\tau_w(\mathbf{A})) = \mathcal{I}_{\psi}(\overline{p}(w)) = \mathcal{I}(\overline{p}(w)) = \varphi(P, w) = \mathsf{T}$
4. $\mathbf{A} = \neg \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{B} \land \mathbf{C}$ trivial by IH.
5. $\mathbf{A} = \Box \mathbf{B}$
5.1. $\mathcal{I}_{\psi}(\tau_w(\mathbf{A})) = \mathcal{I}_{\psi}(\forall w.r(w, v) \Rightarrow \tau_v(\mathbf{B})) = \mathsf{T}$, if $\mathcal{I}_{\psi}(r(w, v)) = \mathsf{F}$ or $\mathcal{I}_{\psi}(\tau_v(\mathbf{B})) = \mathsf{T}$ for all $v \in \mathcal{W}$.
5.2. $\mathcal{M} \models_{\psi} \tau_{v'}(\mathbf{B})$ so by IH $\mathcal{M} \models^v \mathbf{B}$.
5.3. so $\mathcal{M} \models_{\psi} \tau_w(\mathbf{A})'$.



Excursion: We discuss a model existence theorem that can be the basis of completeness proofs for modal logics in??.

10.3 A Multiplicity of Modalities \sim Multimodal Logic

The epistemic and deontic modality modalities differ from alethic, or logical, modality in that they must be relativized to an individual. Although we can choose to abstract away from this, it is clear that what is possible relative to John's set of beliefs may not be possible relative to Jane's, or that what is obligatory for Jane may not be obligatory for John. A theory of modalities for natural language must have a means of representing this relativization.

A Multiplicity of Modalities

> Epistemic (knowledge and belief) modalities must be relativized to an individual

▷ Peter knows that Trump is lying habitually.

- ▷ John believes that Peter knows that Trump is lying habitually.
- \triangleright You must take the written drivers' exam to be admitted to the practical test.

Similarly, we find in natural language expressions of necessity and possibility relative to many different kinds of things.						
⊳ Consider th	e deontic (obligatory/permissi	ible) modalities				
⊳ [Given t	the university's rules] Jane ca	an take that class.				
⊳ [Given h	her intellectual ability] Jane	can take that class.				
⊳ [Given ł	h <mark>er schedule]</mark> Jane can take t	hat class.				
⊳ [Given r	my desires] I must meet Henry	ry.				
⊳ [Given t	\triangleright [Given the requirements of our plan] I must meet Henry.					
\triangleright [Given the way things are] I must meet Henry [every day and not know it].						
Many different sorts of modality, sentences are multiply ambiguous towards which one.						
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In a series of papers beginning with her 1978 dissertation (in German), Angelika Kratzer proposed an account of the semantics of natural language which accommodates this ambiguity. (The ambiguity is treated not as a semantic ambiguity, but as context dependency.) Kratzer's account, which is now the standard view in semantics and (well-informed) philosophy of language, adopts central ingredients from Kripke semantics – the basic possible world framework and the notion of an accessibility relation – but puts these together in a novel way. Kratzer's account of modals incorporates an account of natural language conditionals; this account has been influenced by, and been influential for, the accounts of conditionals developed by David Lewis and Robert Stalnaker. These also are now standardly accepted (at least by those who accept the possible worlds framework).

Some references: [Kra12; Lew73; Sta68].

Multimodal Logics

- \triangleright **Definition 10.3.1.** A multimodal logic provides operators for multiple modalities: [1], [2], [3], ..., $\langle 1 \rangle$, $\langle 2 \rangle$, ...
- \triangleright **Definition 10.3.2.** Multimodal Kripke models provide multiple accessibility relations $\mathcal{R}_1, \mathcal{R}_2, \ldots \subseteq \mathcal{W} \times \mathcal{W}$.
- \rhd Definition 10.3.3. The value function in multimodal logic generalizes the clause for \square in ML^0 to

$$\triangleright \mathcal{I}^w_{\omega}([i]\mathbf{A}) = \mathsf{T}$$
, iff $\mathcal{I}^{w'}_{\omega}(\mathbf{A}) = \mathsf{T}$ for all $w' \in \mathcal{W}$ with $w\mathcal{R}_i w'$.

- $\vdash \text{Example 10.3.4 (Epistemic Logic: talking about knowing/believing). } [peter]\langle kldus\rangle \mathbf{A}$ (Peter knows that Klaus considers A possible)
- ▷ Example 10.3.5 (Program Logic: talking about programs).

```
[X:=\mathbf{A}][Y:=\mathbf{A}]X = Y (after assignments, the values of X and Y are equal)
```

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We will now contrast DRT (see section 35 (Discourse Representation Theory) in the LBS lecture notes) with a modal logic for modeling imperative programs – incidentally also called "dynamic logic". This will give us new insights into the nature of dynamic phenomena in natural language.
10.4 Dynamic Logic for Imperative Programs







10.4. DYNAMIC LOGIC FOR IMPERATIVE PROGRAMS



DL^0 Semantics

 \triangleright Definition 10.4.5. A model for DL⁰ consists of a set \mathcal{W} of possible worlds called states for DL^0 . \triangleright **Definition 10.4.6.** DL⁰ variable assignments come in two parts: $\triangleright \varphi \colon \mathcal{V}_0 \times \mathcal{W} \to \mathcal{D}_0$ (for propositional variables) $\triangleright \pi : \mathcal{V}_{\pi} \to \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{W} \times \mathcal{W})$ (maps program variables to accessibility relations) ▷ Definition 10.4.7. The meaning of complex formulae is given by the following value function $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi,\pi}^w \colon wf_0(\mathcal{V}_0) \to \mathcal{D}_0$ on formulae: $\triangleright \mathcal{I}^w_{\varphi,\pi}(V) = \varphi(w,V) \text{ for } V \in \mathcal{V}_0.$ $\triangleright \mathcal{I}^{w}_{\varphi,\pi}(\neg \mathbf{A}) = \mathsf{T} \text{ iff } \mathcal{I}^{w}_{\varphi,\pi}(\mathbf{A}) = \mathsf{F}$ $\triangleright \mathcal{I}^w_{\omega,\pi}([\alpha]\mathbf{A}) = \mathsf{T} \text{ iff } \mathcal{I}^{w'}_{\omega,\pi}(\mathbf{A}) = \mathsf{T} \text{ for all } w' \in \mathcal{W} \text{ with } w\mathcal{I}_{\omega,\pi}(\alpha)w'.$ And $\mathcal{I}_{\omega,\pi}$: $wff_0(\mathcal{V}_0) \to \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{W} \times \mathcal{W})$ on programs: (independent of $w \in \mathcal{W}$) $\triangleright \mathcal{I}_{\varphi,\pi}(\alpha) = \pi(\alpha).$ (program variable by assignment) $\triangleright \mathcal{I}_{\varphi,\pi}(\alpha;\beta) = \mathcal{I}_{\varphi,\pi}(\beta) \circ \mathcal{I}_{\varphi,\pi}(\alpha)$ (sequence by composition)

CHAPTER 10. PROPOSITIONAL ATTITUDES AND MODALITIES

$$\succ \mathcal{I}_{\varphi,\pi}(\alpha \cup \beta) = \mathcal{I}_{\varphi,\pi}(\alpha) \cup \mathcal{I}_{\varphi,\pi}(\beta) \qquad \text{(distribution by union)}$$
$$\succ \mathcal{I}_{\varphi,\pi}(*\alpha) = \mathcal{I}_{\varphi,\pi}(\alpha)^* \qquad \text{(iteration by reflexive transitive closure)}$$
$$\succ \mathcal{I}_{\varphi,\pi}(\mathbf{A}?) = \{\langle w, w \rangle \mid \mathcal{I}_{\varphi,\pi}^w(\mathbf{A}) = \mathsf{T}\} \qquad \text{(test by subset of identity relation)}$$

First-Order Program Logic (DL^1)

- Observation: Imperative programs uses variables, function and predicate constants (uninterpreted), but no program variables. The main operation is variable assignment.
- \triangleright **Idea:** Make a multimodal logic in the spirit of DL^0 that features all of these for a deeper understanding.
- \triangleright **Definition 10.4.8.** First-order program logic (DL¹) combines the features of PL¹, DL⁰ without program variables, with the following two assignment operators:
 - \triangleright nondeterministic assignment X := ?
 - \triangleright deterministic assignment $X := \mathbf{A}$
- $\succ \text{ Example 10.4.9. } \models p(f(X)) \Rightarrow g(Y, f(X)) \Rightarrow \langle Z := f(X) \rangle p(Z, g(Y, Z)) \text{ in } \mathrm{DL}^1.$
- $\succ \textbf{Example 10.4.10. In } DL^1 \text{ we have} \\ \models Z = Y \land (\forall X.p(f(g(X)) = X)) \Rightarrow [\textbf{while } p(Y) \text{ do } Y := g(Y) \text{ end}] \langle \textbf{while } Y \neq Z \text{ do } Y := f(Y) \text{ end} \rangle T$

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DL¹ Semantics

- \triangleright Definition 10.4.11. Let $\mathcal{M} = \langle \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{I} \rangle$ be a first-order model then the states (possible worlds) are variable assignments: $\mathcal{W} = \{ \varphi | \varphi : \mathcal{V}_{\iota} \to \mathcal{D} \}$
- \triangleright **Definition 10.4.12.** For a set \mathcal{X} of variables, write $\varphi[\mathcal{X}]\psi$, iff $\varphi(X) = \psi(X)$ for all $X \notin \mathcal{X}$.
- \triangleright **Definition 10.4.13.** The meaning of complex formulae is given by the following value function $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}^{w}$: $wf_{o}(\Sigma, \mathcal{V}_{\iota}) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}_{0}$

$$\succ \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}^{w}(\mathbf{A}) = \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathbf{A}) \text{ if } \mathbf{A} \text{ term or atom.}$$

$$\succ \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}^{w}(\neg \mathbf{A}) = \mathsf{T} \text{ iff } \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}^{w}(\mathbf{A}) = \mathsf{F}$$

$$\succ \vdots$$

$$\succ \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(X :=?) = \{ \langle \varphi, \psi \rangle \, | \, \varphi[X] \psi \}$$

$$\succ \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(X := \mathbf{A}) = \{ \langle \varphi, \psi \rangle \, | \, \varphi[X] \psi \text{ and } \psi(X) = \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathbf{A}) \}.$$

▷ Observation 10.4.14 (Substitution and Quantification). We have

$$\succ \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}([X:=\mathbf{A}]\mathbf{B}) = \mathcal{I}_{\varphi,[\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathbf{A})/X]}(\mathbf{B})$$

$$\succ \forall X.\mathbf{A} = [X:=?]\mathbf{A}.$$

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Natural Deduction for DL^1

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 \triangleright **Definition 10.4.16.** The natural deduction calculus \mathcal{DND}_1 for DL^1 contains the inference rules from \mathcal{ND}^1 and \mathcal{DND}_0 plus:

$$\frac{[\mathbf{A}/X](\mathbf{B}) \quad X \notin (\operatorname{free}(\mathbf{A}) \cup \operatorname{free}(\mathbf{B}))}{[X:=\mathbf{A}]\mathbf{B}} \mathcal{DND}_0 := I$$
$$\underbrace{[X:=\mathbf{A}]\mathbf{B}} \underbrace{\frac{[[\mathbf{A}/X](\mathbf{B})]^1}{\mathbf{C}}}{\mathbf{C}} \mathcal{DND}_0 := E$$
ils see [HM95].

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 $\triangleright \text{ Observation: No inference rules for :=? needed as } \forall X.\mathbf{A} = [X:=?]\mathbf{A}$ $\leftrightarrow \mathcal{ND}^1 \forall I \text{ and } \mathcal{ND}^1 \forall E \text{ suffice.}$

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Natural Language as Programming Languages

CHAPTER 10. PROPOSITIONAL ATTITUDES AND MODALITIES

D Questing tics count	on: Why is dynamic prog rse?	gram logic interesting in	a natural language s	eman-
⊳ Answe dynamic	r: There are fundamenta program logics.	l relations between dyn	amic (discourse) logio	cs and
⊳ David	Israel: "Natural languag	ges are programming lar	nguages for mind" [Is	r93]
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Chapter 11

Some Issues in the Semantics of Tense



A Simple Semantics for Tense

▷ Problem: The meaning of Jane saw George and Jane will see George is defined in terms of Jane sees George.

 \rightsquigarrow We need the truth conditions of the present tense sentence.

- ▷ Idea: Jane sees George is true at a time iff Jane sees George at that time.
- \triangleright **Implementation:** Postulate temporal operator as sentential operators (expressions of type $o \rightarrow o$). Interpret

 1. Jane saw George as PAST(see(g, j)),

 2. Jane sees George as PRES(see(g, j)), and

 3. Jane wil see George as FUT(see(g, j)).

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Some notes:

- Most treatments of the semantics of tense invoke some notion of a tenseless proposition/formula for the base case, just like we do. The idea here is that markers of past, present and future all operate on an underlying un-tenseed expression, which can be evaluated for truth at a time.
- Note that we have made no attempt to show how these translations would be derived from the natural language syntax. Giving a compositional semantics for tense is a complicated business for one thing, it requires us to first establish the syntax of tense so we set this goal aside in this brief presentation.
- Here, we have implicitly assumed that the English modal *will* is simply a tense marker. This is indeed assumed by some. But others consider that it is no accident that *will* has the syntax of other modals like *can* and *must*, and believe that *will* is also semantically a modal.



The ordering relation: The ordering relation < is needed to make sure that our models represent temporal relations in an intuitively correct way. Whatever the truth may be about time, as language users we have rather robust intuitions that time goes in one direction along a straight line, so that every moment of time is either before, after or identical to any other moment; and no moment of time is both before and after another moment. If we think of the set of times as the set of natural numbers, then the ordering relation < is just the relation less than on that set.

Intervals: Although intuitively time is given by as a set of moments of time, we will adopt here (following Cann, who follows various others) an *interval semantics*, in which expressions are evaluated relative to intervals of time. Intervals are defined in terms of moments, as a continuous set of moments ordered by <.

The new interpretation function: In models without times, the interpretation function \mathcal{I} assigned an extension to every constant. Now, we want it to assign an extension to each constant relative to each interval in our interval time structure. I.e. the interpretation function associates each constant with a pair consisting of an interval and an appropriate extension, interpreted as the extension at that interval. This set of pairs is, of course, equivalent to a function from intervals to extensions.

Complex Tenses in English

 \triangleright How do we use this machinery to deal with complex tenses in English?

▷ Past of past (pluperfect): Jane had left (by the time I arrived).

- ▷ Future perfect: Jane will have left (by the time I arrive).
- ▷ Past progressive: Jane was going to leave (when I arrived).

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Perfective vs. imperfective

⊳ Data:

- $\vartriangleright Jane \ left.$
- \triangleright Jane was leaving.
- ▷ **Question:** How do the truth conditions of these sentences differ?
- **Standard observation:**

▷ Perfective indicates a completed action,

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- ▷ imperfective indicates an incomplete or ongoing action.
- \vartriangleright This becomes clearer when we look at the "creation predicates" like $build\ a\ house$ or $write\ a\ book$
 - ▷ Jane built a house. entails: There was a house that Jane built.
 - ▷ Jane was building a house. does not entail that there was a house that Jane built.

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Future Readings of Present Tense	
⊳ New Data:	
1. Jane leaves tomorrow.	
2. Jane is leaving tomorrow.	
3. ?? It rains tomorrow.	
4. ?? It is raining tomorrow.	
5. ?? The dog barks tomorrow.	
6. ?? The dog is barking tomorrow.	
▷ Future readings of present tense appear to arise only when the event described planned, or planable, either by the subject of the sentence, the speaker, or a the party.	d is 1ird
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Sequence of Tense

- \triangleright George said that Jane was laughing.
 - ▷ Reading 1: George said "Jane is laughing." I.e. saying and laughing co-occur. So past tense in subordinate clause is past of utterance time, but not of main clause reference time.
 - ▷ Reading 2: George said "Jane was laughing." I.e. laughing precedes saying. So past tense in subordinate clause is past of utterance time and of main clause reference time.
- \triangleright George saw the woman who was laughing.
 - ⊳ How many readings?
- \triangleright George will say that Jane is laughing.
 - ▷ Reading 1: George will say "Jane is laughing." Saying and laughing co-occur, but both saying and laughing are future of utterance time. So present tense in subordinate clause indicates futurity relative to utterance time, but not to main clause reference time.

▷ Reading 2: Laughing overlaps utterance time and saying (by George). So present tense in subordinate clause is present relative to utterance time and main clause reference time.

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Sequence of Tense (continued)
\triangleright George will see the woman who is laughing.
▷ How many readings?
Note that in all of the above cases, the predicate in the subordinate clause describes an event that is extensive in time. Consider readings when subordinate event is punctual.
\triangleright George said that Mary fell.
⊳ Falling must precede George's saying.
\triangleright George saw the woman who fell.
▷ Same three readings as before: falling must be past of utterance time, but could be past, present or future relative to seeing (i.e main clause reference time).
▷ And just for fun, consider past under present George will claim that Mary hit Bill.
Reading 1: hitting is past of utterance time (therefore past of main clause reference time).
Reading 2: hitting is future of utterance time, but past of main clause reference time.
⊳ And finally
 A week ago, John decided that in ten days at breakfast he would tell his mother that they were having their last meal together. (Abusch 1988)
2. John said a week ago that in ten days he would buy a fish that was still alive. (Ogihara 1996)
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Interpreting Tense in Discourse

- ▷ Example 11.0.6 (Ordering and Overlap). A man walked into the bar. He sat down and ordered a beer. He was wearing a nice jacket and expensive shoes, but he asked me if I could spare a buck.
- ▷ Example 11.0.7 (Tense as anaphora?).
 - 1. Said while driving down the NJ turnpike: I forgot to turn off the stove.
 - 2. I didn't turn off the stove.

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CHAPTER 11. SOME ISSUES IN THE SEMANTICS OF TENSE

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Chapter 12

Quantifier Scope Ambiguity and Underspecification

12.1 Scope Ambiguity and Quantifying-In

Now that we are able to interpret sentences with quantification objects and subjects, we can address the issue of quantifier scope ambiguities.



This is a correct representation of one of the possible readings of the sentence – namely the one where the quantifier of the object-NP occurs inside the scope of the quantifier of the subject-NP. We say that the quantifier of the object-NP has narrow scope while the quantifier of the subject-NP has wide scope. But the other reading is not generated here! This means our algorithm doesn't

represent the linguistic reality correctly.

What's the problem?: This is because our approach so far constructs the semantics deterministically from the syntactic analysis. Our analysis simply isn't yet able to compute two different readings for a syntactically unambiguous sentence. The reason why we only get the reading with wide scope for the subject is because in the semantic construction process, the verb semantics is first combined with the object semantics, then with that of the subject. And given the order of the -prefixes in our semantic representations, this eventually transports the object semantics inside the subject's scope.

A Closer Look: To understand why our algorithm produces the reading it does (and not the other alternative), let us have a look at the order of applications in the semantic representation as it is before we start $=_{\beta}$ -reducing. To be able to see the order of applications more clearly, we abbreviate the representations for the determiners. E.g. we write instead of . We will of course have to expand those abbreviations at some point when we want to perform $=_{\beta}$ -reduction.

In the VP node for loves a woman we have $(\lambda FX \cdot \lambda Q \cdot (\exists Y \cdot woman(Y) \land Q \cdot Y))$ loves and thus the sentence representation is

$$(\lambda P.(\forall X.\operatorname{man}(X) \Rightarrow P(X))) \ (\lambda FX.\lambda Q.(\exists Y.\operatorname{woman}(Y) \land Q \ Y)) \ \text{loves}$$

The resulting expression is an application of form $\langle \text{everyman} \rangle (\langle \text{awoman} \rangle (\langle \text{loves} \rangle))$. I.e. the universal quantifier occurs in the functor (the translation of the subject NP), and the existential quantifier occurs in the argument (corresponding to the VP). The scope relations in the $=_{\beta}$ -reduced result reflect the structure in this application.

With some imagination we can already guess what an algorithm would have to do in order to produce the second reading we've seen above (where the subject-NP has narrow scope): It would somehow have to move the *a woman* part in front of the *every*. Something like $\langle awoman \rangle (\langle everyman \rangle (\langle loves \rangle))$ would do.

Storing **and** Quantifying In \triangleright Analysis: The sentence meaning is of the form $\langle everyman \rangle (\langle awoman \rangle (\langle loves \rangle))$ \triangleright Idea: Somehow have to move the *a* woman part in front of the every to obtain $\langle awoman \rangle (\langle everyman \rangle (\langle loves \rangle))$ \triangleright More concretely: Let's try A woman - every man loves her. In semantics construction, apply a woman to every man loves her. So a woman out-scopes every man. > Problem: How to represent pronouns and link them to their antecedents \triangleright **STORE** is an alternative translation rule. Given a node with an NP daughter, we can translate the node by passing up to it the translation of its non-NP daughter, and putting the translation of the NP into a store, for later use. \triangleright The QI rule allows us to empty out a non-empty store. Fau © Michael Kohlhase: LBS 2025-02-06 228

To make the second analysis work, one has to think of a representation for the pronoun, and one must provide for linking the pronoun to its antecedent "a woman" later in the semantics construction process. Intuitively, the pronoun itself is semantically empty. Now Montague's idea essentially was to choose a new variable to represent the pronoun. Additionally, he had to secure that this variable ends up in the right place after -reduction.



We now have more than one way to translate a branching node, but the choice is partly constrained by whether or not the daughters of the node have empty stores. We have the following two options for translating a branching node. (Note: To simplify the notation, let us adopt the following convention: If the translation of A has an empty store, we omit reference to the store in representing the translation of A, \mathbf{A} .)

Application of **STORE** must always eventually be followed by application of **QI**. (Note that **QI** is not a translation rule, but a sort of transformation on translations.) But when must **QI** be applied? There are two cases:

- 1. The process of semantics construction must conclude with an empty store.
- 2. If A is a branching node one of whose daughters is a conjunction (i.e. and or or, the translation of A is given by Rule \mathbf{C}).

The first of these rules has the effect that if the initial translation of S has a non-empty store, we must apply **QI** as many times as needed to empty the store. The second rule has the effect of requiring the same thing where *and* attaches to any constituent.

We assume that our syntax processing returned the syntax tree on the left. Just as before; the only difference is that we have a different syntax-semantics interface. The NP nodes get their semantics $\mathbf{A} := \lambda P.(\forall X.\operatorname{man}(X) \Rightarrow P(X))$ and $\mathbf{B} := \lambda Q.(\exists Y.\operatorname{woman}(Y) \Rightarrow Q(Y))$ as before. Similarly, the V^t node has the value loves. To compute the semantics of the VP nodes, we use the rule **STORE** and obtain $\langle \text{loves}, \{\mathbf{A}\} \rangle$ and similarly $\langle \text{loves}, \{\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}\} \rangle$ for the for the S node, thus we have the following semantics tree.

Quantifying in Practice: Every man loves a woman

⊳ Example 12.1.5.



This reading corresponds to the wide scope reading for a woman. If we had used the QI rules the other way around, first extracting a woman and then every man, we would have gotten the reading with wide scope for every man in the same way.

12.2 Type Raising for non-quantificational NPs

There is now a discrepancy in the type assigned to subject NPs with quantificational determiners, and subject NPs consisting of a proper name or a definite description. This corresponds to a discrepancy in the roles of the NP and VP in interpretation: where the NP is quantificational, it takes the VP as argument; where the NP is non-quantificational, it constitutes the argument of the VP. This discrepancy can be resolved by type raising.

Proper names

- ▷ **Problem:** Subject NPs with quantificational determiners have type $(\iota \rightarrow o) \rightarrow o$ (and are applied to the VP) whereas subject NPs with proper names have type ι . (argument to the VP)
- ▷ Idea: John runs translates to runs(john), where runs $\in \Sigma_{\iota \to o}$ and john $\in \Sigma_{\iota}$. Now we =_β-expand over the VP yielding ($\lambda P_{\iota \to o}.P(\text{john})$) runs

 $\lambda P_{\iota \to o} P(\text{john})$ has type $(\iota \to o) \to o$ and can be applied to the VP runs.

 \triangleright Definition 12.2.1. If $c \in \Sigma_{\alpha}$, then type raising c yields $\lambda P_{\alpha \to o} P c$.

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Definite NPs

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 \triangleright **Problem:** On our current assumptions, $the' = \iota$, and so for any definite NP the

N, its translation is ι N, an expression of type ι.
Idea: Type lift just as we did with proper names: ι N type lifts to λP.P ι N, so the' = λPQ.Q ι P
Advantage: This is a "generalized quantifier treatment": the' treated as denoting relations between sets.
Solution by Barwise&Cooper 1981: For any a ∈ D_{ι→o}: I(the')(a) = I(every')(a) if #(a) = 1, undefined otherwise
So the' is that function in D_{(ι→o)→(ι→o)→o} such that for any A, B ∈ D_{ι→o} if #(A) = 1 then the'(A, B) = T if A ⊆ B and the'(A, B) = F if A ⊈B otherwise undefined

This treatment of the is completely equivalent to the ι treatment, guaranteeing that, for example, the sentence The dog barked has the value true if there is a unique dog and that dog barked, the value false if there is a unique dog and that dog did not bark, and, if there is no dog or more than one dog, has an undefined value. So we can indeed treat the as a generalized quantifier.

However, there are two further considerations.

1. The function characterized above cannot straightforwardly be represented as a relation on sets. We might try the following:

$$\{\langle X, Y \rangle \,|\, \#(X) = 1 \& X \subseteq Y\}$$

Now, consider a pair $\langle X, Y \rangle$ which is not a member of the set. There are two possibilities: either $\#(X) \neq 1$ or #(X) = 1 and $X \not\subseteq Y$. But we want to treat these two cases differently: the first leads to undefinedness, and the second to falsity. But the relation does not capture this difference.

2. If we adopt a generalized quantifier treatment for the definite article, then we must always treat it as an expression of type $\iota \to o \to o$. If we maintain the ι treatment, we can choose, for any given case, whether to treat a definite NP as an expression of type ι , or to type lift the NP to $\iota \to o \to o$. This flexibility will be useful (particularly for purposes of model generation). Consequently, we will maintain the ι treatment.

These considerations may appear purely technical in nature. However, there is a significant philosophical literature on definite descriptions, much of which focuses on the question of whether these expressions are referential or quantificational. Many have the view that definite descriptions are ambiguous between a referential and a quantificational interpretation, which in fact differentiates them from other NPs, and which is captured to some extent by our proposed treatment.

Our discussion of quantification has led us to a treatment of quantified NPs as expressions of type $(\iota \rightarrow o) \rightarrow o$. Moreover, we now have the option of treating proper names and definite descriptions as expressions of this higher type too. This change in the type of NPs causes no difficulties with composition in the intransitive sentences considered so far, although it requires us to take the translation of the VP as argument to the subject NP.

Problems with Type raised NPs

▷ **Problem:** We have type-raised NPs, but consider transitive verbs as in *Mary* loves most cats. loves is of type $\iota \rightarrow \iota \rightarrow o$ while the object NP is of type $(\iota \rightarrow o) \rightarrow o$ (application?)



In our type-raised semantics, the denotation of NPs is a function f from properties to truth values. So if we compose an NP denotation with a transitive verb denotation, we obtain a function from individuals to truth values, i.e. a property.

Туре і	raised NPs <mark>and</mark> F	unctic	on Compositi	on		
⊳ We thus	can extend $\operatorname{HOL}^{ ightarrow}$ by a $\circ g\;f{ ightarrow}_{eta}\lambda X.$	constan g(f(X))	$t \circ_{(\beta \to \gamma) \to (\alpha \to \beta)}$) and $\circ g$	$_{eta lpha ightarrow \gamma}$ by setting $\circ := f \; a { ightarrow}_eta g(f(a))$	$\lambda FGX.F(0)$	$\widetilde{f}(X))$
in oc	in example, we have					
	$\circ (\lambda P.P(\text{john}))$ loves	$=_{Def}$	$(\lambda FGX.F(G(X)))$	$(\lambda P.P(\text{john})) \ (\lambda P.P(\text{john})) \ \log (\lambda P.P(\lambda P)) \ \log (\lambda P)$	oves	
		\rightarrow_{β}	$(\lambda GX.(\lambda P.P(\mathbf{j}$	ohn)) G(X)) loves		
		\rightarrow_{β}	$\lambda X.(\lambda P.P(\text{john}))$	n)) loves X		
		$\rightarrow_{\beta}!$	$\lambda X.$ loves $(X, jol$	hn)		
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Definition 12.2.2 (Function Composition). Let $f: A \to B$ and $g: B \to C$ be functions, then we call the function $h: A \to C$ such that h(a) = g(f(a)) for all $a \in A$ the composition of g and f and write it as gf (read this as "g after f").

12.3 Dealing with Quantifier Scope Ambiguity: Cooper Storage



where P is a variable of type $(\iota \rightarrow o) \rightarrow o$ and X, Y are variables of type ι . (For details on how this is derived, see [CKG09, pp.178-179])

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We have already seen the basic idea that we will use here. We will proceed with compositional translation in the familiar way. But when we encounter a QNP, we will put its translation aside, in a *store*. To make sure we know where it came from, we will put a "place holder" in the translation, and co-index the stored NP with its place holder. When we get to the S node, we will have a representation which we can re-combine with each of the stored NPs in turn. The order in which we re-combine them will determine the scopal relations among them.

Cooper Storage

- ▷ Intuition: A store consists of a "core" semantic representation, computed in the usual way, plus the representations of quantifiers encountered in the composition so far.
- \triangleright **Definition 12.3.1.** A store is an n place sequence. The first member of the sequence is the core semantic representation. The other members of the sequence (if any) are pairs (β, i) where:
 - $\triangleright \beta$ is a QNP translation and
 - \triangleright *i* is an index, which will associate the NP translation with a free variable in the core semantic translation.

We call these pairs binding operators (because we will use them to bind free variables in the core representation).

- ▷ Definition 12.3.2. In the Cooper storage method, QNPs are stored in the store and later retrieved – not necessarily in the order they were stored – to build the representation.
- ▷ The elements in the store are written enclosed in angled brackets. However, we will often have a store which consists of only one element, the core semantic representation. This is because QNPs are the only things which add elements beyond the core representation to the store. So we will adopt the convention that when the store has only one element, the brackets are omitted.

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How we put QNPs in the Store

> Storage Rule

If the store $\langle \varphi, (\beta, j), \dots, (\gamma, k) \rangle$ is a possible translation for a QNP, then the store

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 $\langle \lambda P.P(X_i)(\varphi, i)(\beta, j), \dots, (\gamma, k) \rangle$

where i is a new index, is also a possible translation for that QNP.

 \triangleright This rule says: if you encounter a QNP with translation φ , you can replace its translation with an indexed place holder of the same type, $\lambda P.P(X_i)$, and add φ

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to the store, paired with the index i. We will use the place holder translation in the semantic composition of the sentence.

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Working with Stores ▷ Working out the translation for *Every student likes some professor*. $NP_1 \rightarrow \lambda P.(\exists X. \operatorname{prof}(X) \land P(X))$ or $\langle \lambda Q. Q(X_1), (\lambda P.(\exists X. \operatorname{prof}(X) \land P(X)), 1) \rangle$ $V_t \rightarrow \lambda RY.R (\lambda Z.likes(Z,Y))$ $VP \rightarrow$ (Combine core representations by FA; pass store up)* $\rightarrow \langle \lambda Y. \text{likes}(X_1, Y), (\lambda P. (\exists X. \text{prof}(X) \land P(X)), 1) \rangle$ $NP_2 \rightarrow \lambda P.(\forall Z.student(Z) \Rightarrow P(Z)) \text{ or } \langle \lambda R.R(X_2), (\lambda P.(\forall Z.student(Z) \Rightarrow P(Z)), 2) \rangle$ \rightarrow (Combine core representations by FA; pass stores up)** S $\rightarrow \langle \text{likes}(X_1, X_2), (\lambda P.(\exists X. \text{prof}(X) \land P(X)), 1), (\lambda P.(\forall Z. \text{student}(Z) \Rightarrow P(Z)), 2) \rangle$ * Combining V_t with place holder ** Combining VP with place holder 1. $(\lambda RY.R (\lambda Z.likes(Z,Y))) (\lambda Q.Q(X_1))$ 1. $(\lambda R.R(X_2))$ $(\lambda Y.likes(X_1, Y))$ 2. $\lambda Y.(\lambda Q.Q(X_1)) (\lambda Z.likes(Z,Y))$ 2. $(\lambda Y.\text{likes}(X_1, Y)) X_2$ 3. $\lambda Y.(\lambda Z.likes(Z,Y)) X_1$ 3. $likes(X_1, X_2)$ 4. λY .likes (X_1, Y) FAU C Michael Kohlhase: LBS 238 2025-02-06

Retrieving NPs from the store

▷ Retrieval:

Let σ_1 and σ_2 be (possibly empty) sequences of binding operators. If the store $\langle \varphi, \sigma_1, \sigma_2, (\beta, i) \rangle$ is a translation of an expression of category S, then the store $\langle \beta(\lambda X_1.\varphi), \sigma_1, \sigma_2 \rangle$ is also a translation of it.

- ▷ What does this say?: It says: suppose you have an S translation consisting of a core representation (which will be of type *o*) and one or more indexed QNP translations. Then you can do the following:
 - 1. Choose one of the QNP translations to retrieve.
 - 2. Rewrite the core translation, λ -abstracting over the variable which bears the index of the QNP you have selected. (Now you will have an expression of type $\iota \rightarrow o$.)
- 3. Apply this λ -term to the QNP translation (which is of type $(\iota \rightarrow o) \rightarrow o$).

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Example: Every student likes some professor.

1. Retrieve every student

(a) $(\lambda Q.)$	$\forall Z.\mathrm{student}(Z) \Rightarrow Q(Z)$	$Z))) (\lambda X_2. likes(X_1, X_2))$)	
(b) $\forall Z.st$	$\operatorname{sudent}(Z) \Rightarrow (\lambda X_2.\mathrm{like})$	$\operatorname{s}(X_1, X_2)) Z$		
(c) $\forall Z.st$	$\operatorname{udent}(Z) \Rightarrow \operatorname{likes}(X_1,$	Z)		
2. Retrieve	some professor			
(a) $(\lambda P.($	$(\exists X. \operatorname{prof}(X) \land P(X)))$	$(\lambda X_1.(\forall Z.\mathrm{student}(Z) =$	\Rightarrow likes $(X_1, Z)))$	
(b) ∃ <i>X</i> .p	$\operatorname{rof}(X)(\lambda X_1.(\forall Z.\mathrm{stude}))$	$\operatorname{ent}(Z) \Rightarrow \operatorname{likes}(X_1, Z)))$	X	
(c) ∃ <i>X</i> .p	$\operatorname{rof}(X) \wedge (orall Z.\mathrm{student})$	$(Z) \Rightarrow \text{likes}(X, Z))$		
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The Cooper storage approach to quantifier scope ambiguity basically moved the ambiguity problem into the syntax/semantics interface: from a single syntactic tree, it generated multiple unambiguous semantic representations. We will now come to an approach, which does not force the system to commit to a particular reading so early.

12.4 Underspecification

In this section we introduce Johan Bos' "Hole Semantics", since this is possibly the simplest underspecification framework around. The main idea is that the result of the translation is a "quasi-logical form" (QLF), i.e. a representation that represents all possible readings. This QLF can then be used for semantic/pragmatic analysis.

12.4.1 Unplugging Predicate Logic

The problem we need to solve for our QLF is that regular logical formulae, such as

```
\forall X.\operatorname{man}(X) \Rightarrow (\exists Y.\operatorname{woman}(Y) \Rightarrow \operatorname{loves}(Y,X))
```

fully specifies the scope relation between the quantifiers. The idea behind "hole semantics" (and most other approaches to quantifier scope underspecification) is to "unplug" first-order logic, i.e. to take apart logical formulae into smaller parts, and add constraints on how the parts can be plugged together again. To keep track of where formulae have to be plugged together again, "hole semantics" uses the notion of "holes". Our example *Every man loves a woman* now has the following form:



The meaning of the dashed arrows is that the holes (depicted by \Box) can be filled by one of the formulas that are pointed to. The hole at the top of the graph serves as the representation of the whole sentence.

We can disambiguate the QLF by choosing an arc for every hole and plugging the respective formulae into the holes, collapsing the graph into a single logical formula. If we act on arcs 1 and 4, we obtain the wide-scope reading for every man, if we act on 2 and 3, we obtain the reading, where a woman out-scopes every man. So much for the general idea, how can this be represented in logic?

12.4.2 PL_H a first-order logic with holes

The main idea is to label the holes and formulae, and represent the arcs as pairs of labels. To do this, we add holes to first-order logic, arriving at a logic PL_H . This can simply be done by reserving a lexical category $\mathcal{H} = \{h_0, h_1, h_2, \ldots\}$ of holes, and adding them as possible atomic formulae, so that $\forall X.man(X) \Rightarrow h_1$ is a PL_H formula.

Using this, a QLF is a triple $\langle F, C \rangle$, where F is a set of labeled formulae of the form $\ell_i \colon \mathbf{A}_1$, where ℓ_i is taken from a set $\mathcal{L} = \{\ell_0, \ell_1, \dots\}$ of labels, and \mathbf{A}_i is a PL_H formula, and C is a set constraints of the form $\ell_i \leq h_j$. The underspecified representation above now has the form

 $\langle \{\ell_1 \colon \forall X.\operatorname{man}(X) \Rightarrow h_1, \ell_2 \colon \forall Y.\operatorname{woman}(Y) \Rightarrow h_2 \}, \{\ell_1 \le h_0, \ell_2 \le h_0, \ell_3 \le h_1, \ell_3 \le h_2 \} \rangle$

Note that we always reserve the hole h_0 for the top-level hole, that represents the sentence meaning.

12.4.3 Plugging and Chugging

A plugging p for a QLF Q is now a mapping from the holes in Q to the labels in Q that satisfies the constraint C of Q, i.e. for all holes h in Q we have $h \leq p(h) \in C$. Note that the set of admissible pluggings can be computed from the constraint alone in a straightforward manner. Acting on the pluggings yields a logical formula. In our example, we have two pluggings that give us the intended readings of the sentence.

#	plugging	logical form
1	$[\ell_1/h_0], [\ell_2/h_1], [\ell_3/h_2]$	$\forall X.\operatorname{man}(X) \Rightarrow (\exists Y.\operatorname{woman}(Y) \land \operatorname{loves}(X,Y))$
2	$[\ell_2/h_0], [\ell_3/h_1], [\ell_1/h_2]$	$\exists Y. \mathrm{woman}(Y) \Rightarrow (\forall X. \mathrm{man}(X) \land \mathrm{loves}(X, Y))$

Chapter 13

Higher-Order Unification and NL Semantics Reconstruction

13.1 Introduction



Higher-Order Unification (HOU)

- \triangleright **Intuitively:** Equation solving in the simply typed λ -calculus (modulo the built-in $\alpha\beta\eta$ -equality)
- \triangleright Formally: Given formulae $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B} \in wf\!\!f_{\alpha}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}, \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}})$, find a substitution σ with $\sigma(\mathbf{A}) =_{\alpha\beta\eta} \sigma(\mathbf{B})$.
- ▷ Definition 13.1.2.

We call $\mathcal{E} := \mathbf{A}_1 = {}^?\!\mathbf{B}_1 \land \ldots \land \mathbf{A}_n = {}^?\!\mathbf{B}_n$ a unification problem. The set $\mathbf{U}(\mathcal{E}) =$

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 $\{\sigma | \sigma(\mathbf{A}_i) =_{\alpha\beta\eta} \sigma(\mathbf{B}_i)\}$ is called the set of unifiers for \mathcal{E} and any of its members a unifier.

\triangleright Examp $\vdash_{\Sigma} a: \alpha$	le 13.1.3. the unification has unifiers $[f/F], [\lambda X_c]$	on problem $F(f_{\alpha}.f(fX)/F], [\lambda]$	$f(x) = f(Fa)$ where $F, f:\alpha$ $X_{\alpha} \cdot f(f(fX))/F], \dots$	ightarrow lpha and
⊳ find Re	presentatives that induce	e all of $\mathbf{U}(\mathcal{E})$	(are there most general	unifiers?)
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Discourse Coherence

- ▷ Meaning of a discourse is more than just the conjunction of sentences
- ▷ Coherence is prerequisite for well-formedness (not just pragmatics)
 - A John killed Peter.
 - B^1 No, John killed BILL!
 - $B^2 * No$, John goes hiking!
 - B^3 No, PETER died in that fight!
- \triangleright Coherence in a discourse is achieved by discourse relations
 - $_{\vartriangleright}$ in this case "contrastive parallelism"

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Discourse Relations (Examples)		
▷ Parallel: John organized rallies for Clinton, and Fred distributed pamphlets for him.		
▷ Contrast: John supported Clinton, but Mary opposed him.		
Exemplification: Young aspiring politicians often support their party's presi- dential candidate. For instance John campaigned hard for Clinton in 1996.		
▷ Generalization: John campaigned hard for Clinton in 1996. Young aspiring politicians often support their party's presidential candidate.		
Elaboration: A young aspiring politician was arrested in Texas today. John Smith, 34, was nabbed in a Houston law firm while attempting to embezzle funds for his campaign.		
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Discourse Relations (The General Case)		

- \triangleright We need inferences to discover them
- ▷ General conditions [Hobbs 1990]

	Relation	Requirements	Particle	
	Parallel	$a_i \sim b_i, p \Longrightarrow q$	and	
	Contrast	$a_i \sim b_i, p \models \neg q \text{ or } \neg p \models q a_i, b_i \text{ contrastive}$	but	
	Exempl.	$\mid p = \mid q$, $a_i \in ec{b}$ or $a_i = \mid b_i$	for example	
	Generl.	$p = q, \ b_i \in ec{a} ext{ or } b_i = a_i$	in general	
	Elabor.	$q \simeq p$, $a_i \sim b_i$	that is	
Source semantics $p(a_1, \ldots, a_n)$, Target semantics $q(a_1, \ldots, a_m)$ \triangleright Need theorem proving methods for general case.				
			(a)	



 Analyses based on Parallelism

 ▷ HOU Analyses
 (the structural level)

 ▷ Ellipsis [DSP'91, G&K'96, DSP'96, Pinkal, et al'97]

 ▷ Focus [Pulman'95, G&K96]

 ▷ Corrections [G&K& v. Leusen'96]

 ▷ Deaccenting, Sloppy Interpretation [Gardent, 1996]

 ▷ Discourse theories

 ○ Literature and Cognition [Hobbs, CSLI Notes'90]

 ▷ Cohesive Forms [Kehler, PhD'95]

 ▷ Problem: All assume parallelism structure: given a pair of parallel utterances, the parallel elements are taken as given.

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13.2 Higher-Order Unification

We now come to a very important (if somewhat non-trivial and under-appreciated) algorithm: higher-order unification, i.e. unification in the simply typed λ -calculus, i.e. unification modulo $\alpha\beta\eta$ equality.

13.2.1 Higher-Order Unifiers

Before we can start solving the problem of higher-order unification, we have to become clear about the terms we want to use. It turns out that "most general $\alpha\beta\eta$ unifiers may not exist" – as ?? shows, there may be infinitely descending chains of unifiers that become more an more general. Thus we will have to generalize our concepts a bit here.

HOU: Complete Sets of Unifiers			
Question: Are there most general higher-order Unifiers?			
Answer: What does that mean anyway?			
$\triangleright \text{ Definition 13.2.1. } \sigma =_{\beta\eta} \rho[W], \text{ iff } \sigma(X) =_{\alpha\beta\eta} \rho(X) \text{ for all } X \in W. \ \sigma =_{\beta\eta} \rho[\mathcal{E}] \text{ iff } \sigma =_{\beta\eta} \rho[\text{free}(\mathcal{E})]$			
▷ Definition 13.2.2. σ is more general than θ on W ($\sigma \leq_{\beta\eta} \theta[W]$), iff there is a substitution ρ with $\theta =_{\beta\eta} (\rho \circ \sigma)[W]$.			
$\triangleright \text{ Definition 13.2.3. } \Psi \subseteq \mathbf{U}(\mathcal{E}) \text{ is a complete set of unifiers, iff for all unifiers} \\ \theta \in \mathbf{U}(\mathcal{E}) \text{ there is a } \sigma \in \Psi, \text{ such that } \sigma \leq_{\beta\eta} \theta[\mathcal{E}].$			
\triangleright Definition 13.2.4. If $\Psi \subseteq \mathbf{U}(\mathcal{E})$ is complete, then \leq_{β} -minimal elements $\sigma \in \Psi$ are most general unifier of \mathcal{E} .			
\triangleright Theorem 13.2.5. The set $\{[\lambda uv.h \ u/F]\} \cup \{\sigma_i \mid i \in \mathbb{N}\}$ where			
$\sigma_i := [\lambda u v. g_n u u h_1^n u v \dots u h_n^n u v/F], [\lambda v. z/X]$			
is a complete set of unifiers for the equation $F \ X \ (a_{\iota}) = {}^{?}F \ X \ (b_{\iota})$, where F and X are variables of types $(\iota \to \iota) \to \iota \to \iota$ and $\iota \to \iota$			
Furthermore, σ_{i+1} is more general than σ_i .			
⊳ <i>Proof sketch:</i> [Hue76, Theorem 5]			
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The definition of a solved form in Λ^{\rightarrow} is just as always; even the argument that solved forms are most general unifiers works as always, we only need to take $\alpha\beta\eta$ equality into account at every level.

Unification

- $\triangleright \text{ Definition 13.2.6. } X^1 = {}^{?} \mathbf{B}^1 \land \ldots \land X^n = {}^{?} \mathbf{B}^n \text{ is in solved form, if the } X^i \text{ are distinct} free variables } X^i \notin \text{free}(\mathbf{B}^j) \text{ and } \mathbf{B}^j \text{ does not contain Skolem constants for all } j.$
- \triangleright Lemma 13.2.7. If $\mathcal{E} = X^1 = {}^{?}B^1 \land \ldots \land X^n = {}^{?}B^n$ is in solved form, then $\sigma_{\mathcal{E}} :=$



13.2.2 Higher-Order Unification Transformations

We are now in a position to introduce the higher-order unifiation transformations. We proceed just like we did for first-order unification by casting the unification algorithm as a set of inference rules, leaving the control to a second layer of development.

We first look at a group of transformations that are (relatively) well-behaved and group them under the concept of "simplification", since (like the first-order transformation rules they resemble) have good properties. These are usually implemented in a group and applied eagerly.



The main new feature of these rules (with respect to their first-order counterparts) is the handling of λ -binders. We eliminate them by replacing the bound variables by Skolem constants in the bodies: The $SIM:\alpha$ standardizes them to a single one using $\alpha\beta\eta$ -equality, and $SIM:\eta$ first η expands the right-hand side (which must be of functional type) so that $SIM:\alpha$ applies. Given that we are setting bound variables free in this process, we need to be careful that we do not use them in the $SIM:\alpha$ is these would be variable capturing.

Consider for instance the higher-order unification problem $(\lambda X.X) = ?(\lambda Y.W)$, which is unsolvable (the left hand side is the identity function and the right hand side some constant function – whose value is given by W). So after an application of $SIM:\alpha$, we have c=?W, which looks like it could be a solved pair, but the elimination rule prevents that by insisting that instances may not contain Skolem variables. Conceptually, SIM is a direct generalization of first-order unification transformations, and shares it properties; even the proofs go correspondingly.

Properties of Simplification
▷ Lemma 13.2.9 (Properties of <i>SIM</i>). <i>SIM</i> generalizes first-order unification.
$\triangleright SIM$ is terminating and confluent up to α -conversion \triangleright Unique SIM normal forms exist (all pairs have the form $(h \overline{\mathbf{U}^n}) = ?(k \overline{\mathbf{V}^m})$)
$\triangleright \text{ Lemma 13.2.10. } \mathbf{U}(\mathcal{E} \wedge \mathcal{E}_{\sigma}) = \mathbf{U}(\sigma(\mathcal{E}) \wedge \mathcal{E}_{\sigma}).$
$\triangleright \text{Proof: by the definitions} \\ 1. \text{ If } \theta \in \mathbf{U}(\mathcal{E} \land \mathcal{E}_{\sigma}) \text{, then } \theta \in (\mathbf{U}(\mathcal{E}) \cap \mathbf{U}(\mathcal{E}_{\sigma})). \\ 2. \text{ So } \theta =_{\beta\eta}(\theta \circ \sigma)[\text{supp}(\sigma)], \\ 3. \text{ and thus } \theta \circ \sigma \in \mathbf{U}(\mathcal{E}) \text{, iff } \theta \in \mathbf{U}(\sigma(\mathcal{E})). \end{cases}$
$\succ \text{ Theorem 13.2.11. If } \mathcal{E}\vdash_{\mathcal{SIM}} \mathcal{F}, \text{ then } \mathbf{U}(\mathcal{E}) \leq_{\beta\eta} \mathbf{U}(\mathcal{F})[\mathcal{E}]. (\text{correct, complete})$ $Proof: \text{ By an induction over the length of the derivation}$
We the SIM rules individually for the base case 1. $SIM: \alpha$ by $\alpha\beta\eta$ -conversion 2. $SIM: \eta$ By η -conversion in the presence of $SIM: \alpha$ 3. $SIM:$ dec The head $h \in (\Sigma \cup \Sigma^{Sk})$ cannot be instantiated. 4. $SIM:$ elim By ??. 5. The step case goes directly by induction hypothesis and transitivity of the
derivation relation.
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Now that we have simplifiation out of the way, we have to deal with unification pairs of the form $(h \overline{\mathbf{U}^n}) = {}^?(k \overline{\mathbf{V}^m})$. Note that the case where both h and k are constants is unsolvable, so we can assume that one of them is a variable. The unification problem $(F_{\alpha \to \alpha}) a = {}^?a$ is a particularly simple example; it has solutions $[\lambda X_{\alpha}.a/F]$ and $[\lambda X_{\alpha}.X/F]$. In the first, the solution comes by instantiating F with a λ -term of type $\alpha \to \alpha$ with head a, and in the second with a 1-projection term of type $\alpha \to \alpha$, which projects the head of the argument into the right position. In both cases, the solution came from a term with a given type and an appropriate head. We will look at the problem of finding such terms in more detail now.

General Bindings
Problem: Find all formulae of given type α and head h.
sufficient: long βη head normal form, most general.
Definition 13.2.12 (General Bindings). G^h_α(Σ):=λX^k_α.h(H¹ X)...(Hⁿ X)
where α = ᾱ_k → β, h:¬̄_n → β and β ∈ BT
and Hⁱ: ᾱ_k → γ_i new variables.
is called the general binding of type α for the head h.
Observation 13.2.13.

General bindings are unique up to choice of names for H^i .				
\triangleright Definition 13.2.14. If the head h is j^{th} bound variable in $\mathbf{G}^{h}_{\alpha}(\Sigma)$, call $\mathbf{G}^{h}_{\alpha}(\Sigma)$ <i>j</i> -projection binding (and write $\mathbf{G}^{j}_{\alpha}(\Sigma)$) else imitation binding				
ho clearly ($G^h_{\alpha}(\Sigma) \in wf_{\alpha}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}, \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}})$	and $\operatorname{head}(\mathbb{G}^h_{\alpha}(\Sigma)) = h$		
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For the construction of general bindings, note that their construction is completely driven by the intended type α and the (type of) the head h. Let us consider some examples.

Example 13.2.15. The following general bindings may be helpful: $\mathbf{G}_{(\iota \to \iota)}^{(a_{\iota})}(\Sigma) = \lambda X_{\iota}.a, \mathbf{G}_{(\iota \to \iota \to \iota)}^{(a_{\iota})}(\Sigma) = \lambda X_{\iota}Y_{\iota}.a, \text{ and } \mathbf{G}_{(\iota \to \iota \to \iota)}^{(a_{\iota \to \iota})}(\Sigma) = \lambda X_{\iota}Y_{\iota}.a(HXY), \text{ where } H \text{ is of type } \iota \to \iota \to \iota$

We will now show that the general bindings defined in Definition 16.14 (Higher-Order Unification Transformations) in the LBS lecture notes are indeed the most general λ -terms given their type and head symbol.

Approximation Theorem

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- ▷ **Theorem 13.2.16.** If $\mathbf{A} \in wff_{\alpha}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}, \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}})$ with head $(\mathbf{A}) = h$, then there is a general binding $\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{G}^{h}_{\alpha}(\Sigma)$ and asubstitution ρ with $\rho(\mathbf{G}) =_{\alpha\beta\eta} \mathbf{A}$ and $dp\rho < dp\mathbf{A}$.
- \triangleright *Proof:* We analyze the term structure of ${f A}$

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1. If $\alpha = \overline{\alpha}_k \to \beta$ and $h:\overline{\gamma}_n \to \beta$ where $\beta \in \mathcal{BT}$, then the long head normal form of \mathbf{A} must be $\lambda \overline{X_{\alpha}^k} \cdot h \ \overline{\mathbf{U}^n}$.

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- 2. $\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{G}^h_{\alpha}(\Sigma) = \lambda \overline{X^k_{\alpha}} \cdot h(H_1 \ \overline{X}) \dots (H_n \ \overline{X})$ for some variables $H_i: \overline{\alpha}_k \to \gamma_i$.
- 3. Choose $\rho := [\lambda \overline{X_{\alpha}^k} . U_1/H_1], \dots, [\lambda \overline{X_{\alpha}^k} . U_n/H_n].$

Then we have
$$\rho(\mathbf{G}) = \lambda X_{\alpha}^{k} \cdot h(\lambda X_{\alpha}^{k} \cdot \mathbf{U}_{1} X) \dots (\lambda X_{\alpha}^{k} \cdot \mathbf{U}_{n} X) =_{\beta\eta} \lambda \overline{X_{\alpha}^{k}} \cdot h \overline{\mathbf{U}^{n}}$$

5. The depth condition can be read off as $dp(\lambda \overline{X_{\alpha}^k} \cdot U_1) \leq dp \mathbf{A} - 1$.

 $=_{\beta n} \mathbf{A}$

With this result we can state the higher-order unification transformations.

Higher-Order Unification (\mathcal{HOU}) \triangleright Recap: After simplification, we have to deal with pairs where one (flex/rigid) or
both heads (flex/flex) are variables \triangleright Definition 13.2.17. Let $\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{G}^h_{\alpha}(\Sigma)$ (imitation) or $\mathbf{G} \in {\mathbf{G}^j_{\alpha}(\Sigma) | 1 \le j \le n}$,
then the calculus \mathcal{HOU} for higher-order unification consists of the transformations
(always reduce to \mathcal{SLM} normal form) \triangleright Rule for flex/rigid pairs: $\frac{(F_{\alpha} \overline{\mathbf{U}}) = ?(h \overline{\mathbf{V}}) \land \mathcal{E}}{F = ?\mathbf{G} \land (F \overline{\mathbf{U}}) = ?(h \overline{\mathbf{V}}) \land \mathcal{E}} \mathcal{HOU}: fr$

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Let us now fortify our intuition with a simple example.

HOU Example **Example 13.2.18.** Let $Q, w: \iota \to \iota$, $l: \iota \to \iota \to \iota$, and $j: \iota$, then we have the following derivation tree in HOU. Q(j) = (j, w(j)) $\begin{array}{ccc} Q = \lambda X. X & & & & \\ g = ^{\lambda} X. l(H(X), K(X)) \\ j = ^{?} l(j, w(j)) & & & l(H(j), K(j)) = ^{?} l(j, w(j)) \end{array}$ $H(j) = {}^{?}j \wedge K(j) = {}^{?}w(j)$ $j={}^{?}j \wedge K(j)={}^{?}w(j)$ $H=\lambda X.X$ $J={}^{?}j \wedge K(j)={}^{?}w(j)$ $J = j \wedge K(j) = w(j)$ $K = \lambda X \cdot w(K'(X))$ $K = \lambda X \cdot w(K'(X)) |$ $K = \lambda X \cdot w(K'(X)) |$ $K = \lambda X \cdot w(K'(X)) |$ $K = \lambda X \cdot x$ $K' = \lambda X \cdot y$ $K' = \lambda X \cdot y$ $\lambda X.l(j, w(X))$ $Q = \lambda X.l(X, w(X))$ $\lambda X.l(X, w(j))$ $\lambda X.l(j, w(j))$ FAU 0 Michael Kohlhase: LBS 256 2025-02-06

The first thing that meets the eye is that higher-order unification is branching. Indeed, for flex/rigid pairs, we have to systematically explore the possibilities of binding the head variable the imitation binding and all projection bindings. On the initial node, we have two bindings, the projection binding leads to an unsolvable unification problem, whereas the imitation binding leads to a unification problem that can be decomposed into two flex/rigid pairs. For the first one of them, we have a projection and an imitation binding, which we systematically explore recursively. Eventually, we arrive at four solutions of the initial problem. The following encoding of natural number arithmetic into Λ^{\rightarrow} is useful for testing our unification algorithm.

A Test Generator for Higher-Order Unification> Definition 13.2.19 (Church Numerals). We define closed λ -terms of type $\nu :=$ $(\alpha \rightarrow \alpha) \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha$ > Numbers: Church numerals:(n fold iteration of arg1 starting from arg2) $n := \lambda S_{\alpha \rightarrow \alpha} \cdot \lambda O_{\alpha} \cdot \underbrace{S(S \dots S(O) \dots)}_{n}$ > Addition(N -fold iteration of S from N) $+ := \lambda N_{\nu} M_{\nu} \cdot \lambda S_{\alpha \rightarrow \alpha} \cdot \lambda O_{\alpha} \cdot NS(MSO)$ > Multiplication:(N -fold iteration of MS (=+m) from O)



13.2.3 Properties of Higher-Order Unification

We will now establish the properties of the higher-order unification problem and the algorithms we have introduced above. We first establish the unidecidability, since it will influence how we go about the rest of the properties.

We establish that higher-order unification is undecidable. The proof idea is a typical for undecidability proofs: we reduce the higher-order unification problem to one that is known to be undecidable: here, the solution of Diophantine equations \mathbb{N} .

Undecidability of Higher-Order Unification ▷ **Theorem 13.2.22.** Second-order unification is undecidable (Goldfarb '82 [Gol81]) ▷ *Proof sketch:* Reduction to Hilbert's tenth problem (solving Diophantine equations) (known to be undecidable) \triangleright Definition 13.2.23. We call an equation a Diophantine equation, if it is of the form $\triangleright x_i x_j = x_k$ $\triangleright x_i + x_j = x_k$ $\triangleright x_i = c_i$ where $c_i \in \mathbb{N}$ where the variables x_i range over \mathbb{N} . \triangleright These can be solved by higher-order unification on Church numerals. (cf. ??). ▷ Theorem 13.2.24. The general solution for sets of Diophantine equations is undecidable. (Matijasevič 1970 [Mat70]) FAU 0 Michael Kohlhase: LBS 258 2025-02-06

The argument undecidability proofs is always the same: If higher-order unification were decidable, then via the encoding we could use it to solve Diophantine equations, which we know we cannot by Matijasevič's Theorem.

The next step will be to analyze our transformations for higher-order unification for correctness and completeness, just like we did for first-order unification. 168CHAPTER 13. HIGHER-ORDER UNIFICATION AND NL SEMANTICS RECONSTRUCTION

<u>HOU</u> is	6 Correct			
⊳ Lemm	a 13.2.25. If $\mathcal{E}\vdash_{\mathcal{HOU}_{\mathrm{fr}}} \mathcal{E}'$	or $\mathcal{E}\vdash_{\mathcal{HOUff}}\mathcal{E}'$, then $\mathbf{U}($	$(\mathcal{E}') \subseteq \mathbf{U}(\mathcal{E}).$	
⊳ Proof s	sketch: HOU:fr and HO	$\mathcal{U}:\mathrm{ff}$ only add new pair		
⊳ Corolla	ary 13.2.26. HOU is cor	rect: If $\mathcal{E}\vdash_{\mathcal{HOU}}\mathcal{E}'$, then	$\mathbf{U}(\mathcal{E}') \subseteq \mathbf{U}(\mathcal{E}).$	
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Given that higher-order unification is not unitary and undecidable, we cannot just employ the notion of completeness that helped us in the analysis of first-order unification. So the first thing is to establish the condition we want to establish to see that HOU gives a higher-order unification algorithm.

Completeness of \mathcal{HOU}			
$ \begin{tabular}{lll} & \lor & We \ cannot \ expect \ completeness \ in \\ & \mathcal{E}\vdash_{\mathcal{U}} \mathcal{F}, \ then \ \mathbf{U}(\mathcal{E}) \subseteq \mathbf{U}(\mathcal{F})'' \ (see \ ? \\ & commit \ to \ a \ unifier \ (which \ excludes) \end{tabular} $	the same sense as fo ?) as the rules fix a others).	or first-order unifica a binding and thus	ition: "If partially
\triangleright We cannot expect termination eithe	er, since HOU is und	decidable.	
▷ For a semi-decision procedure we only need termination on unifiable problems.			ems.
$\triangleright \text{ Theorem 13.2.27 (HOU derives of there is a HOU-derivation \mathcal{E} \vdash_{HOU} \mathcal{J} and \sigma_{\mathcal{F}} is more general than \theta.$	Complete Set of U F, such that <i>F</i> is in	Inifiers). If $\theta \in \mathbf{U}($ in solved form, $\sigma_{\mathcal{F}}$	\mathcal{E}), then $\in \mathbf{U}(\mathcal{E})$,
 Proof sketch: Given a unifier θ of towards F. 	${\mathcal E}$, we guide the de	rivation with a mea	asure $\mu_{ heta}$
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So we will embark on the details of the completeness proof. The first step is to define a measure that will guide the \mathcal{HOU} transformation out of a unification problem \mathcal{E} given a unifier θ of cE.

Completeness of \mathcal{HOU} (Measure) \triangleright **Definition 13.2.28.** We call $\mu(\mathcal{E}, \theta) := \langle \mu_1(\mathcal{E}, \theta), \mu_2(\theta) \rangle$ the unification measure for \mathcal{E} and θ , if $\triangleright \mu_1(\mathcal{E}, \theta)$ is the multiset of term depths of $\theta(X)$ for the unsolved $X \in \operatorname{supp}(\theta)$. $\triangleright \mu_2(\mathcal{E})$ the multiset of term depths in \mathcal{E} . $\triangleright \prec$ is the strict lexicographic order on pairs: $(\langle a, b \rangle \prec \langle c, d \rangle$, if a < c or a = cand b < d) \triangleright Component orderings are multiset orderings: $(M \cup \{m\} < M \cup N \text{ iff } n < m)$ for all $n \in N$) \triangleright Lemma 13.2.29. \prec is well-founded. (by construction) Fau Michael Kohlhase: LBS 261 2025-02-06

This measure will now guide the HOU transformation in the sense that in any step it chooses

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whether to use \mathcal{HOU} : fr or \mathcal{HOU} : ff, and which general binding (by looking at what θ would do). We formulate the details in ?? and look at their consequences before we proove it.

Complet	eness of \mathcal{HOU}	$(\mu$ -Prescription)		
⊳ Theore problem	em 13.2.30. If <i>E</i> is <i>E</i> with <i>E</i> ⊢ _{HOU} <i>E</i> ′ and	unsolved and $ heta \in \mathbf{U}(\mathcal{E})$, the d a substitution $ heta' \in \mathbf{U}(\mathcal{E}')$,	en there is a un such that	nification
$\triangleright \ \theta {=_\beta} \\ \triangleright \ \mu(\mathcal{E}$	$_{\eta}\theta'[\mathcal{E}]$, $\theta'0) \prec \mu(\mathcal{E},\theta').$			
we call :	such a \mathcal{HOU} -step a μ	ı-prescribed		
⊳ Corolla solved.	iry 13.2.31. If \mathcal{E} is	unifiable without μ -prescribed	l HOU-steps, t	then ${\cal E}$ is
⊳ In othe	er words: μ guides t	he \mathcal{HOU} -transformations to a	solved form.	
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We now come to the proof of ??, which is a relatively simple consequence of ??.

Proof of ??	
⊳ Proof:	
1. Let $A={}^{?}B$ be an unsolved pair of the form $(F \ \overline{U})={}^{?}(G \ \overline{V})$ in \mathcal{F}	
2. ${\cal E}$ is a ${\cal {SIM}}$ normal form, so ${f F}$ and ${f G}$ must be constants or var	ables,
3. but not the same constant, since otherwise \mathcal{SIM} : dec would be	applicable.
4. By $\ref{eq: Second state}$ there is a general binding $\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{G}^f_{m{lpha}}(\Sigma)$ and a substit	ution $ ho$ with
$ ho({f G})=_{lphaeta\eta} heta(F).$ So,	
$ ho$ if $ ext{head}(extbf{G}) ot\in ext{supp}(heta)$, then \mathcal{HOU} : $ ext{fr}$ is applicable,	
$ ightarrow$ if $head(\mathbf{G}) \in \operatorname{supp}(heta)$, then \mathcal{HOU} :ff is applicable.	
5. Choose $ heta' := heta \cup ho$. Then $ heta =_{\beta\eta} heta'[\mathcal{E}]$ and $ heta' \in \mathbf{U}(\mathcal{E}')$ by correction	ess.
6. \mathcal{HOU} :ff and \mathcal{HOU} :fr solve $F \in \text{supp}(\theta)$ and replace F by supp	(ho) in the set
of unsolved variable of \mathcal{E} .	
7. so $\mu_1(\mathcal{E}, \theta') \prec \mu_1(\mathcal{E}, \theta)'$ and thus $\mu(\mathcal{E}, \theta') \prec \mu(\mathcal{E}, \theta')$.	
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We now convince ourselves that if HOU terminates with a unification problem, then it is either solved – in which case we can read off the solution – or unsolvable.

Terminal \mathcal{HOU} -problems are Solved or Unsolvable> Theorem 13.2.32. If \mathcal{E} is a unsolved UP and $\theta \in U(\mathcal{E})$, then there is a \mathcal{HOU} -
derivation $\mathcal{E}\vdash_{\mathcal{HOU}}\sigma_{\sigma}$, with $\sigma \leq_{\beta\eta}\theta[\mathcal{E}]$.> Proof: Let $\mathcal{D}: \mathcal{E}\vdash_{\mathcal{HOU}}\mathcal{F}$ a maximal μ -prescribed \mathcal{HOU} -derivation from \mathcal{E} .1. This must be finite, since \prec is well-founded (ind. over length n of \mathcal{D})2. If n = 0, then \mathcal{E} is solved and $\sigma_{\mathcal{E}}$ most general unifier
3. thus $\sigma_{\mathcal{E}} \leq_{\beta\eta} \theta[\mathcal{E}]$

4. If n > 0, then there is a μ-prescribed step E⊢_{HOU}E' and a substitution θ as in ??.
5. by IH there is a HOU-derivation E'⊢_{HOU}F with σ_F≤_{βη}θ'[E'].
6. by correctness σ_F ∈ U(E') ⊆ U(E).
7. rules of HOU only expand free variables, so σ_F≤_{βη}θ'[E'].
8. Thus σ_F≤_{βη}θ'[E],
9. This completes the proof, since θ'=_{βη}θ[E] by ??.

We now recap the properties of higher-order unification (HOU) to gain an overview.



13.2.4 Pre-Unification

We will now come to a variant of higher-order unification that is used in higher-order theorem proving, where we are only interested in the exgistence of a unifier – e.g. in mating-style tableaux. In these cases, we can do better than full higher-order unification.

Pre-Unification

- ightarrow HOU:ff has a giant branching factor in the search space for unifiers.(makes HOU impracticable)
- \triangleright In most situations, we are more interested in solvability of unification problems than in the unifiers themselves.
- \triangleright More liberal treatment of flex/flex pairs.
- \triangleright Observation 13.2.33. *flex/flex-pairs* $(F \ \overline{\mathbf{U}^n}) = {}^?(G \ \overline{\mathbf{V}^m})$ are always (trivially) solvable by $[\lambda \overline{X^n} \cdot H/F], [\lambda \overline{Y^m} \cdot H/G]$, where H is a new variable
- ▷ Idea: consider flex/flex-pairs as pre solved.
- \triangleright Definition 13.2.34 (Pre-Unification). For given terms $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B} \in wff_{\alpha}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}, \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}})$ find a substitution σ , such that $\sigma(\mathbf{A}) =_{\beta\eta}^{p} \sigma(\mathbf{B})$, where $=_{\beta\eta}^{p}$ is the equality theory that is induced by $=_{\beta\eta}$ and $F \overline{\mathbf{U}} = G \overline{\mathbf{V}}$.

▷ Lemma 13.2.35. A higher-order unification problem is unifiable, iff it is preunifiable.

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The higher-order pre-unification algorithm can be obtained from \mathcal{HOU} by simply omitting the offending \mathcal{HOU} :ff rule.



13.2.5 Applications of Higher-Order Unification

Application of HOL in NL Semantics: Ellipsis
▷ Example 13.2.42. John loves his wife. George does too
$\triangleright \text{ loves(john, wifeof(john))} \land Q(\text{george})$
ightarrow " $George$ has property some Q , which we still have to determine"
\triangleright Idea: If John has property Q, then it is that he loves his wife.
▷ Equation: $Q(\text{john}) =_{\alpha\beta\eta} \text{loves}(\text{john}, \text{wifeof}(\text{john}))$
Solutions (computed by HOU):
$\triangleright \ \ Q = \lambda z. \mathrm{loves}(z, \mathrm{wifeof}(z)) \ \text{and} \ \ Q = \lambda z. \mathrm{loves}(z, \mathrm{wifeof}(\mathrm{john}))$
* $Q = \lambda z.$ loves(john, wifeof(z)) and $Q = \lambda z.$ loves(john, wifeof(john))
▷ Readings: George loves his own wife. and George loves John's wife.



13.3 Linguistic Applications of Higher-Order Unification



Primary Occurrence Restriction
▷ Problem: HOU over-generates
Idea: [Dalrymple, Shieber, Pereira] Given a labeling of occurrences as either primary or secondary, the POR excludes of the set of linguistically valid solutions, any solution which contains a primary occurrence.
▷ A primary occurrence is an occurrence that is directly associated with a source parallel element.
▷ a source parallel element is an element of the source (i.e. antecedent) clause which has a parallel counterpart in the target (i.e. elliptic) clause.
▷ Example 13.3.1.
$\triangleright \text{ loves}(\underline{\text{john}}, \text{wifeof}(\underline{\text{john}})) = Q(\underline{\text{george}})$
$\triangleright Q = \lambda x. \text{loves}(x, \text{wifeof(john)})$
$\triangleright Q = \lambda x. \text{loves}(\underline{\text{john}}, \text{wifeof}(\text{john}))$
\triangleright Use the colored λ -calculus for general theory
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George does too (HOCU)
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The Higher-Order Case: Schematic Rippling

Example 13.3.5 (Synthesizing Induction Orderings). $\forall x.\exists y.f(g(y)) \leq x$ Induction Step: $\forall x.\exists y.f(g(y)) \leq x$ to $\exists y.f(g(y)) \leq F(x)$ $f(g(y)) \leq F(x)$ $f(s(g(y'))) \leq F(x)$ $s(s(f(g(y')))) \leq F(x)$ $s(s(f(g(y')))) \leq F(x)$ $s(s(f(g(y')))) \leq s(s(x)) F \leftarrow \lambda X.s(s(X))$ $f(g(y')) \leq x$ Michael Kohlhase: LBS275

A Unification Problem





Isn't HOCU just a notational variant of DSP's POR?

- ▷ HOCU has a *formal*, well–understood foundation which permits a clear assessment of its mathematical and computational properties;
- \triangleright It is a *general* theory of colors:
- \triangleright Other Constraints
 - $\,\triangleright\,$ POR for focus
 - Second Occurrence Expressions
 - > Weak Crossover Constraints
- \triangleright Multiple constraints and their interaction are easily handled
 - \triangleright Use feature constraints as colors

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Featuring even more colors for Interaction

- \triangleright John₁'s mum loves him₁. Peter's mum does too.
- \triangleright Two readings:
 - ▷ Peter's mum loves Peter (sloppy)
 - ▷ Peter's mum loves John (strict)
- \triangleright Parallelism equations

$$\begin{array}{ll} C(j) &= l(m(j),j) \\ C(p) &= R(m(p)) \end{array}$$

 \triangleright Two solution for the first equation:

$$C = \lambda Z.l(m(Z), j)$$
 (strict) and $C = \lambda Z.l(m(Z), Z)$ (sloppy)

 \vartriangleright Two versions of the second equation

$$l(m(p), j) = R(m(p))$$

$$l(m(p), p) = R(m(p))$$

 $\triangleright \mathbf{R} = \lambda Z.\mathbf{l}(Z, \mathbf{j})$ solves the first equation (strict reading)

- \triangleright the second equation is unsolvable $\mathbf{R} = \lambda Z.\mathbf{I}(Z,p)$ is not well-colored.
- Idea: Need additional constraint:
 VPE may not contain (any part of) it's subject
- \vartriangleright Need more dimensions of colors to model the interaction



Computation of Parallelism (The General Case) \triangleright We need inferences to discover discourse relations ▷ General Conditions [Hobbs 1990] Relation Requirements Particle Parallel $a_i \sim b_i, p \simeq q$ and Contrast $a_i \sim b_i$, $p \supset \neg q$ or $\neg p \supset q$ a_i, b_i contrastive but Source semantics $p(\vec{a})$, Target semantics $q(\vec{b})$ $\rhd a \sim b$, iff $\forall p.p(a) \Rightarrow (\exists q \simeq p.q(b))$ $p \simeq q$, iff $\forall a.p(a) \Rightarrow (\exists b \sim a.q(b))$ ▷ Need theorem proving methods for general case. ▷ **Idea:** use only special properties (Sorts from the Taxonomy)

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13.4 Sorted Higher-Order Unification



Sorted Unification:

⊳ Example	e: Signature Σ wit	h		
		$\begin{split} & [+: (\mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N})] \\ & [+: (\mathbb{E} \to \mathbb{E} \to \mathbb{E})] \\ & [+: (\mathbb{O} \to \mathbb{O} \to \mathbb{E})] \\ & [(\lambda X \cdot + XX) : (\mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{E})] \end{split}$		
⊳ general	bindings	$\mathbf{G}_{\mathbb{E}}^{+}() = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} +Z_{\mathbb{E}}W_{\mathbb{E}}, \\ +Z_{\mathbb{O}}W_{\mathbb{O}}, \\ +Z_{\mathbb{N}}Z_{\mathbb{N}} \end{array} \right\}$		
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Example (Elementary Calculus) $\triangleright \text{ Sorts}$ $\triangleright \mathbb{R}^{+}, \mathbb{R} \text{ of type } \iota : (\text{non-negative}) \text{ real numbers}$ $\triangleright \mathbb{M}, \mathbb{P} \text{ of type } \iota \to \iota : \text{ monomials, polynomials}$ $\triangleright \mathbb{M}, \mathbb{P} \text{ of type } \iota \to \iota : \text{ differentiable and continuous functions}$ $\left[+ : (\mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}) \right], [* : (\mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R})], [(\lambda X. * XX): (\mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}^{+})], [\mathbb{R}^{+} \subset \mathbb{R}], [\mathbb{M} \subset \mathbb{P}], [\mathbb{P} \subset \mathbb{M}], [\mathbb{M} \subset \mathbb{P}]$ $[(\lambda X. X): \mathbb{M}], [(\lambda XY. Y): (\mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{M})], [(\lambda FGX. * (FX)(GX)): (\mathbb{M} \to \mathbb{M} \to \mathbb{M})], [(\lambda FGX. + (FX)(GX)): (\mathbb{M} \to \mathbb{M} \to \mathbb{P})], [\partial: (\mathbb{M} \to \mathbb{P})], [\partial: (\mathbb{M} \to \mathbb{P})], [\partial: (\mathbb{M} \to \mathbb{P})], [\partial: (\mathbb{M} \to \mathbb{M})].$





 $\triangleright \text{ Initial Equation: } \log(john_{john}, golf_{golf}) = {}^{?}R^{\neg pe}_{(\mathbb{W} \text{oman} \rightarrow o)}(mary_{mary})$

- \triangleright imitate $R^{\neg pe}_{(\mathbb{W}_{oman} \rightarrow o)}$ with $\lambda Z.loves(H_HZ, K_KZ)$
- \triangleright *H*, *K* new variables of sort $Woman \rightarrow Human$

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$\triangleright \text{ loves(john_{john}, golf_{golf})} = ?\text{loves}(H_H(\text{mary}_{mary}), K_K \text{mary}_{mary})$						
$\triangleright H_H$ mary	$ ightarrow H_H$ mary _{mary} = [?] john _{john} $\wedge K_K$ mary _{mary} = [?] golf _{golf}					
⊳ Two poss ⊳ project	▷ Two possible continuations: ▷ project $H = \lambda Z \cdot Z$ (so $A = {}^{?}pe$) ▷ project $K = \lambda Z \cdot Z$ (so $\neg A = {}^{?}pe$)					
⊳ imitate	$K = \lambda Z. \text{golf}_{\text{golf}}$	⊳ imita	te $H = \lambda Z.$ john _{joh}	n		
\triangleright then	$\begin{array}{l} mary_{mary} = ?john_{john} \\ golf_{golf} = ?golf_{golf} \end{array}$	\triangleright then	${ m john_{john}=?john_{jo}} { m mary_{mary}=?golf_g}$	ohn golf		
\triangleright Mary	likes Golf (preferred)	⊳ John	likes Mary			
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Chapter 14

Conclusion

14.1 A Recap in Diagrams



A landscape of formal semantics





A Semantic Processing Pipeline based on LF





14.2 Where to From Here



Semantics of Plurals

1. The dogs were barking. (What kind of an object do the subject NPs 2. Fido and Chester were barking. denote?) 3. Fido and Chester were barking. They were hungry. 4. Jane and George came to see me. She was upset. (Sometimes we need to look inside a plural!) 5. Jane and George have two children. (Each? Or together?) 6. Jane and George got married. (To each other? Or to other people?) 7. Jane and George met. (The predicate makes a difference to how we interpret the plural) FAU Michael Kohlhase: LBS 297 2025-02-06

Reciprocals

What's required to make these true?
1. The men all shook hands with one another.
2. The boys are all sitting next to one another on the fence.
3. The students all learn from each other.



Presupposition projection

14.2. WHERE TO FROM HERE

- 1. George doesn't know that Jane is in town.
- 2. Either Jane isn't in town or George doesn't know that she is.
- 3. If Jane is in town, then George doesn't know that she is.
- 4. Henry believes that George knows that Jane is in town.
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Counterfactual conditionals

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- \triangleright And what about these??
 - 1. If kangaroos didn't have tails, they'd topple over. (David Lewis)
 - 2. If Woodward and Bernstein hadn't got on the Watergate trail, Nixon might never have been caught.
 - **3.** If Woodward and Bernstein hadn't got on the Watergate trail, Nixon would have been caught by someone else.
- \triangleright Counterfactuals undoubtedly modal, as their evaluation depends on which alternative world you put yourself in.

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Before and after

 \triangleright These seem easy. But modality creeps in again...

- 1. Jane gave up linguistics after she finished her dissertation. (Did she finish?)
- 2. Jane gave up linguistics before she finished her dissertation. (Did she finish? Did she start?)

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Part III Excursions

As this course is predominantly about modeling natural language and not about the theoretical aspects of the logics themselves, we give the discussion about these as a "suggested readings" section part here.

Appendix A

AI-Supported Learning

In this chapter we introduce the ALEA (Adaptive Learning Assistant) system, a learning support system we will use to support students in LBS.



The central idea in the AI4AI approach – using AI to support learning AI – and thus the ALeA system is that we want to make course materials – i.e. what we give to students for preparing and postparing lectures – more like teachers and study groups (only available 24/7) than like static books.



The ALEA LBS page is the central entry point for working with the ALEA system. You can get to all the components of the system, including two presentations of the course contents (notesand slides-centric ones), the flashcards, the localized forum, and the quiz dashboard. We now come to the heart of the ALEA system: its learning support services, which we will now briefly introduce. Note that this presentation is not really sufficient to undertstand what you may





tions/et	c. into a self-cont $c = \text{count-}$ able \sim	K Guided Tour natural number iconj icqual set of pairs nCartProd subset converse relation transitive relation on irreflexive less than finite countable	less than less than less than Needs. inset natural number nGa irreflexive Definition 0.1. The < relation $((n, s(n)) n \in \mathbb{N})$, and \leq its transiti corresponding converse relations. For a < b we say that a is less than finite insite contracts Needs: inset natural number less Definition 0.1. We say that a se If there is a bijective function f . A countable Needs: Inset number finite Definition 0.1. We say that a se countable Definition 0.1. We say that a se countable inset.	utProd converse relation transitive closure of a is the transitive closure. Agg; ar in b. t A is inste and has cardinality $\rightarrow (n \in \mathbb{N} \mid n \& lt; \#(A)).$ set A is countably infinite, if et is called countable, iff it	
⊳…your	idea here			(the sky is t	the limit)
Fau	Michael Kohlhase: LBS		306	2025-02-06	CONTRACTOR DE LA CONTRACTION DE LA CONTRACTICA D

Note that this is only an initial collection of learning support services, we are constantly working on additional ones. Look out for feature notifications ($\bigcirc 2 \approx 100$) on the upper right hand of the ALeA screen.

(Practice/Remedial) Problems Everywhere
▷ Problem: Learning requires a mix of understanding and test-driven practice.
▷ Idea: ALeA supplies targeted practice problems everywhere.
▷ Concretely: Revision markers at the end of sections.
▷ A relatively non-intrusive overview over competency
Review Minimax Search
\triangleright Click to extend it for details.
Review Minimax Search
PRACTICE PROBLEMS (7)
▷ Practice problems as usual. (targeted to your specific competency)

	Review Minimax Search	^	
	Problem 6 of 7		
	 (Minimax) which of the following statements about minimax are true? An extension ū of the utility function u to inner nodes. ū is computed recursively. 		
	$\label{eq:Max} \begin{array}{ c c c c c } M_{ax} \text{ attempts to maximize } \widehat{u}(s) \text{ of states reachable during} \\ \hline \\ play. \end{array}$		
	Minimax computes an online strategy Returns an optimal action, assuming perfect opponent play		
	CHECK SOLUTION		
Fau	Michael Kohlhase: LBS 307 2025-0	02-06	740

While the learning support services up to now have been adressed to individual learners, we now turn to services addressed to communities of learners, ranging from study groups with three learners, to whole courses, and even – eventually – all the alumni of a course, if they have not de-registered from ALeA.

Currently, the community aspect of ALeA only consists in localized interactions with the course materials.

The ALeA system uses the semantic structure of the course materials to localize some interactions that are otherwise often from separate applications. Here we see two:

- 1. one for reporting content errors and thus making the material better for all learners and "
- 2. a localized course forum, where forum threads can be attached to learning objects.

Localized Interactions with the Community					
 Selecting text brings up localized – i.e. anchored on the selection – interactions: post a (public) comment or take (private) note A sequence of actions is a solution if i properties is a solution if it properties is a solutio					
\triangleright Localized comments induce a thread in the ALEA forum (like the StudOn					
Forum, but targeted towards specific learning objects.)					
problem in the abstract, i.e. make a plan before we actually enter the situation (i.e. offline), and then when the problem arises, only except the situation of					
Pro 1 comments C Y					
Rec Assignment relations is a solution					
► II could equivalently be defined as a sequence of actions: we can compute the state sequence from the action sequence and - given the initial state - the					
Idea action sequence from the state sequence. A a chance to find general algorithms. Con Request response					
POST					
A set Michael Kohlhase 🕕 4 minutes ago 🔦 REPLY : sai state. Problem solving computes solutions					
from A sequence of actions is a solution ▷ Def I do not understan this, why is'nt a solution a sequence of states? sequence based complete knowledge of the					
envin CLOSE					
► Assignment of the second					

\triangleright Answering questions gives karma $\hat{=}$ a public measure of user helpfulness.				
\triangleright Notes can be anonymous (\rightsquigarrow generate no ka			o karma)	
Fau	Michael Kohlhase: LBS	308	2025-02-06	STATE REAL PROFESSION

Let us briefly look into how the learning support services introduced above might work, focusing on where the necessary information might come from. Even though some of the concepts in the discussion below may be new to LBS students, it is worth looking into them. Bear with us as we try to explain the AI components of the ALeA system.





We can use the same four models discussed in the space of guided tours to deploy additional learning support services, which we now discuss.



We have already seen above how the learner model can drive the drilling with flashcards. It can also be used for the configuration of card stacks by configuring a domain e.g. a section in the course materials and a competency threshold. We now come to a very important issue that we always face when we do AI systems that interface with humans. Most web technology companies that take one the approach "the user pays for the services with their personal data, which is sold on" or integrate advertising for renumeration. Both are not acceptable in university setting.

But abstaining from monetizing personal data still leaves the problem how to protect it from intentional or accidental misuse. Even though the GDPR has quite extensive exceptions for research, the ALeA system – a research prototype – adheres to the principles and mandates of the GDPR. In particular it makes sure that personal data of the learners is only used in learning support services directly or indirectly initiated by the learners themselves.

Learner Data and Privacy in ALEA	
\triangleright Observation: Learning support services in ALEA use the learner model; they	/
▷ need the learner model data to adapt to the invidivual learner!	
▷ collect learner interaction data (to update the learner model)	del)
Consequence: You need to be logged in (via your FAU IDM credentials) for us learning support services!	eful
▷ Problem: Learner model data is highly sensitive personal data!	
ALeA Promise: The ALEA team does the utmost to keep your personal of safe. (SSO via FAU IDM/eduGAIN, ALEA trust zo	lata one)
▷ ALeA Privacy Axioms:	
1. ALEA only collects learner models data about logged in users.	
2. Personally identifiable learner model data is only accessible to its subject (delegation possible)	
3. Learners can always query the learner model about its data.	
 All learner model data can be purged without negative consequences (exc usability deterioration) 	ept
5. Logging into $ALEA$ is completely optional.	
Observation: Authentication for bonus quizzes are somewhat less optional, you can always purge the learner model later.	but
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So, now that you have an overview over what the ALEA system can do for you, let us see what you have to concretely do to be able to use it.



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⊳ Problem:	Most ALeA services depend	on the learner model.	(to adapt	to you)		
⊳ Solution:	Initialize your learner model with your educational history!					
▷ Concretely: enter taken CS courses (FAU equivalents) and grades.						
▷ ALeA uses that to estimate your CS/AI competencies. (for your benefit)						
▷ then ALeA knows about you; I don't! (ALeA trust zone)						
Fau ,	Michael Kohlhase: LBS	312	2025-02-06			

Even if you did not understand some of the AI jargon or the underlying methods (yet), you should be good to go for using the ALEA system in your day-to-day work.

APPENDIX A. AI-SUPPORTED LEARNING

Appendix B

Properties of the Simply Typed λ Calculus

B.1 Computational Properties of λ -Calculus

As we have seen above, the main contribution of the λ -calculus is that it casts the comprehension and (functional) extensionality axioms in a way that is more amenable to automation in reasoning systems, since they can be oriented into a confluent and terminating reduction system. In this section we prove the respective properties. We start out with termination, since we will need it later in the proof of confluence.

B.1.1 Termination of β -reduction

We will use the termination of $=_{\beta}$ reduction to present a very powerful proof method, called the "logical relations method", which is one of the basic proof methods in the repertoire of a proof theorist, since it can be extended to many situations, where other proof methods have no chance of succeeding.

Before we start into the termination proof, we convince ourselves that a straightforward induction over the structure of expressions will not work, and we need something more powerful.



The overall shape of the proof is that we reason about two relations: SR and LR between λ -terms and their types. The first is the one that we are interested in, $LR(\mathbf{A}, \alpha)$ essentially states

the property that $=_{\beta\eta}$ reduction terminates at **A**. Whenever the proof needs to argue by induction on types it uses the "logical relation" \mathcal{LR} , which is more "semantic" in flavor. It coincides with \mathcal{SR} on base types, but is defined via a functionality property.

Relations SR and LR	
\triangleright Definition B.1.2. A is called strongly reducing at type α (write $\mathcal{SR}(\mathbf{A}, \alpha)$), iff each chain β -reductions from A terminates.	
\rhd Definition B.1.3. We define a logical relation \mathcal{LR} inductively on the structure of the type	
$\succ \alpha \text{ base type: } \mathcal{L}\!\!\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{A}, \alpha) \text{, iff } \mathcal{S}\!\!\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{A}, \alpha)$ $\succ \mathcal{L}\!\!\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{C}, \alpha \to \beta) \text{, iff } \mathcal{L}\!\!\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{C}, \mathbf{A}, \beta) \text{ for all } \mathbf{A} \in \textit{wff}_{\alpha}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}, \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}}) \text{ with } \mathcal{L}\!\!\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{A}, \alpha).$	
> <i>Proof:</i> Termination Proof	
1. $\mathcal{LR} \subseteq \mathcal{SR}$ (?? b)) 2. $\mathbf{A} \in wff_{\alpha}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}, \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}})$ implies $\mathcal{LR}(\mathbf{A}, \alpha)$ (?? with $\sigma = \emptyset$) 3. thus $\mathcal{SR}(\mathbf{A}, \alpha)$.	
$\succ \textbf{Lemma B.1.4 (SR is closed under subterms). If SR(A, \alpha) and B_{\beta} is a subterm of A, then SR(B, \beta).}$	
<i>Proof sketch:</i> Every infinite β reduction from B would be one from A .	
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The termination proof proceeds in two steps, the first one shows that \mathcal{LR} is a sub-relation of \mathcal{SR} , and the second that \mathcal{LR} is total on λ -terms. Together they give the termination result.

The next result proves two important technical side results for the termination proofs in a joint induction over the structure of the types involved. The name "rollercoaster lemma" alludes to the fact that the argument starts with base type, where things are simple, and iterates through the two parts each leveraging the proof of the other to higher and higher types.

▷ LR ⊆ SR (Rollercoaster Lemma)
▷ Lemma B.1.5 (Rollercoaster Lemma).
a) If h is a constant or variable of type ā_n → α and SR(Aⁱ, αⁱ), then LR(h Āⁿ, α).
b) LR(A, α) implies SR(A, α).
▷ Proof: we prove both assertions by simultaneous induction on α
1. α base type
1.1.1. h Āⁿ is strongly reducing, since the Aⁱ are (brackets!)
1.1.2. so LR(h Āⁿ, α) as α is a base type (SR = LR)
1.2. b) by definition
2. α = β → γ
2.1.1. Let LR(B, β).
2.1.2. by IH b) we have SR(B, β), and LR((h Āⁿ) B, γ) by IH a)
2.1.3. so LR(h Āⁿ, α) by definition.

B.1. COMPUTATIONAL PROPERTIES OF λ -CALCULUS



The part of the rollercoaster lemma we are really interested in is part b). But part a) will become very important for the case where n = 0; here it states that constants and variables are \mathcal{LR} .

The next step in the proof is to show that all well-formed formulae are \mathcal{LR} . For that we need to prove closure of \mathcal{LR} under $=_{\beta}$ expansion



Note that this Lemma is one of the few places in the termination proof, where we actually look at the properties of β reduction.

We now prove that every well-formed formula is related to its type by \mathcal{LR} . But we cannot prove this by a direct induction. In this case we have to strengthen the statement of the theorem – and thus the induction hypothesis, so that we can make the step cases go through. This is common for non-trivial induction proofs. Here we show instead that every instance of a well-formed formula is
related to its type by \mathcal{LR} ; we will later only use this result for the cases of the empty substitution, but the stronger assertion allows a direct induction proof.

 $\mathbf{A} \in wff_{\alpha}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}, \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}}) \text{ implies } \mathcal{LR}(\mathbf{A}, \alpha)$ \triangleright **Definition B.1.8.** We write $\mathcal{LR}(\sigma)$ if $\mathcal{LR}(\sigma(X_{\alpha}), \alpha)$ for all $X \in \operatorname{supp}(\sigma)$. \triangleright Theorem B.1.9. If $\mathbf{A} \in wff_{\alpha}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}, \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}})$, then $\mathcal{LR}(\sigma(\mathbf{A}), \alpha)$ for any substitution σ with $\mathcal{LR}(\sigma)$. \triangleright *Proof:* by induction on the structure of **A** 1. $\mathbf{A} = X_{\alpha} \in \operatorname{supp}(\sigma)$ 1.1. then $\mathcal{LR}(\sigma(\mathbf{A}), \alpha)$ by assumption 2. $\mathbf{A} = X \notin \operatorname{supp}(\sigma)$ 2.1. then $\sigma(\mathbf{A}) = \mathbf{A}$ and $\mathcal{LR}(\mathbf{A}, \alpha)$ by ?? with n = 0. 3. $\mathbf{A} \in \Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}$ 3.1. then $\sigma(\mathbf{A}) = \mathbf{A}$ as above 4. $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{BC}$ 4.1. by IH $\mathcal{LR}(\sigma(\mathbf{B}), \gamma \to \alpha)$ and $\mathcal{LR}(\sigma(\mathbf{C}), \gamma)$ 4.2. so $\mathcal{LR}((\sigma(\mathbf{B})) (\sigma(\mathbf{C})), \alpha)$ by definition of \mathcal{LR} . 5. $\mathbf{A} = \lambda X_{\beta} \cdot \mathbf{C}_{\gamma}$ 5.1. Let $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{B},\beta)$ and $\theta := \sigma, [\mathbf{B}/X]$, then θ meets the conditions of the IH. 5.2. Moreover $(\sigma(\lambda X_{\beta} \cdot \mathbf{C}_{\gamma})) \mathbf{B} \rightarrow_{\beta} \sigma, [\mathbf{B}/X](\mathbf{C}) = \theta(\mathbf{C}).$ 5.3. Now, $\mathcal{LR}(\theta(\mathbf{C}), \gamma)$ by IH and thus $\mathcal{LR}((\sigma(\mathbf{A})) \mathbf{B}, \gamma)$ by ??. 5.4. So $\mathcal{LR}(\sigma(\mathbf{A}), \alpha)$ by definition of \mathcal{LR} . FAU C Michael Kohlhase: LBS 317 2025-02-06

In contrast to the proof of the roller coaster Lemma above, we prove the assertion here by an induction on the structure of the λ -terms involved. For the base cases, we can directly argue with the first assertion from ??, and the application case is immediate from the definition of \mathcal{LR} . Indeed, we defined the auxiliary relation \mathcal{LR} exclusively that the application case – which cannot be proven by a direct structural induction; remember that we needed induction on types in ??– becomes easy.

The last case on λ -abstraction reveals why we had to strengthen the induction hypothesis: β reduction introduces a substitution which may increase the size of the subterm, which in turn keeps us from applying the induction hypothesis. Formulating the assertion directly under all possible \mathcal{LR} substitutions unblocks us here.

This was the last result we needed to complete the proof of termiation of $=_{\beta}$ -reduction. **Remark:**

If we are only interested in the termination of head reductions, we can get by with a much simpler version of this lemma, that basically relies on the uniqueness of head $=_{\beta}$ reduction.

Closure under Head β-Expansion (weakly reducing)
▷ Lemma B.1.10 (LR is closed under head β-expansion). If C→^h_βD and LR(D, α), so is LR(C, α).
▷ Proof: by induction over the structure of α

α base type
we have SR(D, α) by definition



For the termination proof of head $=_{\beta}$ -reduction we would just use the same proof as above, just for a variant of SR, where $SR(\mathbf{A}, \alpha)$ that only requires that the head reduction sequence out of \mathbf{A} terminates. Note that almost all of the proof except ?? (which holds by the same argument) is invariant under this change. Indeed Rick Statman uses this observation in [Sta85] to give a set of conditions when logical relations proofs work.

B.1.2 Confluence of $\beta \eta$ Conversion

We now turn to the confluence for $=_{\beta\eta}$, i.e. that the order of reductions is irrelevant. This entails the uniqueness of $=_{\beta\eta}$ normal forms, which is very useful. Intuitively confluence of a relation R means that "anything that flows apart will come together main" and approximately formula for a relation to the provide the provided of the

again." – and as a consequence normal forms are unique if they exist. But there is more than one way of formalizing that intuition.



The diamond property is very simple, but not many reduction relations enjoy it. Confluence is the notion that directly gives us unique normal forms, but is difficult to prove via a digram chase,

while weak confluence is amenable to this, does not directly give us confluence.

We will now relate the three notions of confluence with each other: the diamond property (sometimes also called strong confluence) is stronger than confluence, which is stronger than weak confluence

Relating the notions of confluence				
Observation B.1.12. If a rewrite relation has a diamond property, then it is weakly confluent.				
> Theorem B.1.13. If a rewrite relation has a diamond property, then it is confluent.				
\triangleright <i>Proof sketch:</i> by a tiling argument, composing 1×1 diamonds to an $n \times m$ diamond.				
Theorem B.1.14 (Newman's Lemma). If a rewrite relation is terminating and weakly confluent, then it is also confluent.				
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Note that Newman's Lemma cannot be proven by a tiling argument since we cannot control the growth of the tiles. There is a nifty proof by Gérard Huet [Hue80] that is worth looking at.

After this excursion into the general theory of reduction relations, we come back to the case at hand: showing the confluence of $=_{\beta\eta}$ -reduction.

 \rightarrow^*_η is very well-behaved – i.e. confluent and terminating



For $=_{\beta}$ -reduction the situation is a bit more involved, but a simple diagram chase is still sufficient to prove weak confluence, which gives us confluence via ??

=_β is confluent
 ▷ Lemma B.1.17. =_β-Reduction is weakly confluent.
 ▷ Proof sketch: by diagram chase over



There is one reduction in the diagram in the proof of ?? which (note that **B** can occur multiple times in $[\mathbf{B}/X](\mathbf{A})$) is not necessary single-step. The diamond property is broken by the outer two reductions in the diagram as well.

We have shown that the $=_{\beta}$ and $=_{\eta}$ reduction relations are terminating and confluent and terminating individually, now, we have to show that $=_{\beta\eta}$ is a well. For that we introduce a new concept.

Commuting Relations \triangleright **Definition B.1.19.** Let A be a set, then we say that relations $\mathcal{R} \in A^2$ and $\mathcal{S} \in A^2$ commute, if $X \rightarrow_{\mathcal{R}} Y$ and $X {\rightarrow}_{\mathcal{S}} Z$ entail the existence of a $W \in A$ with $Y {\rightarrow}_{\mathcal{S}} W$ and $Z \rightarrow_{\mathcal{R}} W.$ \triangleright Observation B.1.20. If \mathcal{R} and \mathcal{S} commute, then $\rightarrow_{\mathcal{R}}$ and $\rightarrow_{\mathcal{S}}$ do as well. \triangleright **Observation B.1.21.** \mathcal{R} is confluent, if \mathcal{R} commutes with itself. \triangleright Lemma B.1.22. If \mathcal{R} and \mathcal{S} are terminating and confluent relations such that $\rightarrow^*_{\mathcal{R}}$ and $\rightarrow^*_{\mathcal{S}}$ commute, then $\rightarrow^*_{\mathcal{R}\cup\mathcal{S}}$ is confluent. \triangleright *Proof sketch:* As \mathcal{R} and \mathcal{S} commute, we can reorder any reduction sequence so that all \mathcal{R} -reductions precede all \mathcal{S} -reductions. As \mathcal{R} is terminating and confluent, the \mathcal{R} -part ends in a unique normal form, and as \mathcal{S} is normalizing it must lead to a unique normal form as well. FAU e Michael Kohlhase: LBS 323 2025-02-06

This directly gives us our goal.



B.2 The Semantics of the Simply Typed λ -Calculus

The semantics of Λ^{\rightarrow} is structured around the types. Like the models we discussed before, a model (we call them "algebras", since we do not have truth values in Λ^{\rightarrow}) is a pair $\langle \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{I} \rangle$, where \mathcal{D} is the universe of discourse and \mathcal{I} is the interpretation of constants.

Semantics of $\Lambda^{\!\!
ightarrow}$ \triangleright **Definition B.2.1.** We call a collection $\mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{T}} := \{\mathcal{D}_{\alpha} \mid \alpha \in \mathcal{T}\}$ a typed collection (of sets) and a collection $f_{\mathcal{T}} \colon \mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{T}} \to \mathcal{E}_{\mathcal{T}}$, a typed function, iff $f_{\alpha} \colon \mathcal{D}_{\alpha} \to \mathcal{E}_{\alpha}$. \triangleright **Definition B.2.2.** A typed collection $\mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{T}}$ is called a frame, iff $\mathcal{D}_{\alpha \to \beta} \subseteq \mathcal{D}_{\alpha} \to \mathcal{D}_{\beta}$. \triangleright **Definition B.2.3.** Given a frame $\mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{T}}$, and a typed function $\mathcal{I}: \Sigma \to \mathcal{D}$, we call 1. $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}|_{\mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}}} = \varphi$, $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}|_{\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}} = \mathcal{I}$, 2. $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathbf{A} \mathbf{B}) = \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathbf{A})(\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathbf{B}))$, and 3. $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\lambda X_{\alpha}.\mathbf{A})$ is that function $f \in \mathcal{D}_{\alpha \to \beta}$, such that $f(a) = \mathcal{I}_{\varphi,[a/X]}(\mathbf{A})$ for all $a \in \mathcal{D}_{\alpha}$. \triangleright **Note:** Not every λ -term has a \mathcal{I}_{φ} -value as we have only required $\mathcal{D}_{\alpha \to \beta} \subseteq$ (there might not be enough functions) $\mathcal{D}_{\alpha} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}_{\beta}$ for frames. \triangleright Definition B.2.4. We call $\langle D, I \rangle$, where D is a frame and I is a typed function \triangleright Theorem B.2.5. $=_{\alpha\beta\eta}$ (seen as a calculus) is sound and complete for Σ -algebras. \triangleright **Upshot for LBS:** Λ^{\rightarrow} is the logical system for reasoning about functions! FAU Michael Kohlhase: LBS 325 2025-02-06

The definition of the semantics in ?? is surprisingly simple. The only part that is new at all is the third clause, and there we already know the trick with treating binders by extending the variable assignment from quantifiers in first-order logic.

The real subtlety is in the definition of frames, where instead of requiring $\mathcal{D}_{\alpha \to \beta} = \mathcal{D}_{\alpha} \to \mathcal{D}_{\beta}$ (full function universes we have only required $\mathcal{D}_{\alpha \to \beta} \subseteq \mathcal{D}_{\alpha} \to \mathcal{D}_{\beta}$, which necessitates the post-hoc definition of a $\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}$ -algebra. But the added complexity gives us thm.abe-sound-complete.

B.2.1 Soundness of the Simply Typed λ -Calculus

We will now show is that $=_{\alpha\beta\eta}$ -reduction does not change the value of formulae, i.e. if $\mathbf{A} =_{\alpha\beta\eta} \mathbf{B}$, then $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathbf{A}) = \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathbf{B})$, for all \mathcal{D} and φ . We say that the reductions are sound. As always, the main tool for proving soundess is a substitution value lemma. It works just as always and verifies that we the definitions are in our semantics plausible.

Substitution Value Lemma for λ-Terms
▷ Lemma B.2.6 (Substitution Value Lemma). Let A and B be terms, then I_φ([B/X](A)) = I_ψ(A), where ψ = φ,[I_φ(B)/X]
▷ Proof: by induction on the depth of A we have five cases 1. A = X

1.1. Then $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}([\mathbf{B}/X](\mathbf{A})) = \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}([\mathbf{B}/X](X)) = \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathbf{B}) = \psi(X) = \mathcal{I}_{\psi}(X) = \mathcal{I}_{\psi}(X)$ $\mathcal{I}_{\psi}(\mathbf{A}).$ 2. $\mathbf{A} = Y \neq X$ and $Y \in \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}}$ 2.1. then $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}([\mathbf{B}/X](\mathbf{A})) = \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}([\mathbf{B}/X](Y)) = \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(Y) = \varphi(Y) = \psi(Y) = \psi(Y)$ $\mathcal{I}_{\psi}(Y) = \mathcal{I}_{\psi}(\mathbf{A}).$ 3. $\mathbf{A} \in \Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}$ 3.1. This is analogous to the last case. 4. $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{C} \mathbf{D}$ 4.1. then $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}([\mathbf{B}/X](\mathbf{A})) = \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}([\mathbf{B}/X](\mathbf{C} \mathbf{D})) = \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(([\mathbf{B}/X](\mathbf{C}))([\mathbf{B}/X](\mathbf{D})))$ $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}([\mathbf{B}/X](\mathbf{C}))(\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}([\mathbf{B}/X](\mathbf{D}))) = \mathcal{I}_{\psi}(\mathbf{C})(\mathcal{I}_{\psi}(\mathbf{D})) = \mathcal{I}_{\psi}(\mathbf{C}|\mathbf{D}) = \mathcal{I}_{\psi}(\mathbf{A})$ 5. $\mathbf{A} = \lambda Y_{\alpha} \cdot \mathbf{C}$ 5.1. We can assume that $X \neq Y$ and $Y \notin \text{free}(\mathbf{B})$ 5.2. Thus for all $a \in \mathcal{D}_{\alpha}$ we have $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}([\mathbf{B}/X](\mathbf{A}))(a) = \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}([\mathbf{B}/X](\lambda Y.\mathbf{C}))(a) =$ $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\lambda Y.([\mathbf{B}/X](\mathbf{C})))(a) = \mathcal{I}_{\varphi,[a/Y]}([\mathbf{B}/X](\mathbf{C})) = \mathcal{I}_{\psi,[a/Y]}(\mathbf{C}) = \mathcal{I}_{\psi}(\lambda Y.\mathbf{C})(a) = \mathcal{I}_{\psi}$ $\mathcal{I}_{\psi}(\mathbf{A})(a)$ FAU e Michael Kohlhase: LBS 327 2025-02-06

Soundness of $\alpha\beta\eta$ -Equality

- \triangleright **Theorem B.2.7.** Let $\mathcal{A} := \langle \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{I} \rangle$ be a $\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}$ -algebra and $Y \notin \text{free}(\mathbf{A})$, then $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\lambda X.\mathbf{A}) = \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\lambda Y.[Y/X]\mathbf{A})$ for all assignments φ .
- > Proof: by substitution value lemma

$$\begin{split} \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\lambda Y.[Y/X]\mathbf{A})@a &= \mathcal{I}_{\varphi,[a/Y]}([Y/X](\mathbf{A})) \\ &= \mathcal{I}_{\varphi,[a/X]}(\mathbf{A}) \\ &= \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\lambda X.\mathbf{A})@a \end{split}$$

 $\triangleright \text{ Theorem B.2.8. If } \mathcal{A} := \langle \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{I} \rangle \text{ is a } \Sigma_{\mathcal{T}} \text{-algebra and } X \text{ not bound in } \mathbf{A}, \text{ then } \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}((\lambda X.\mathbf{A}) \mathbf{B}) = \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}([\mathbf{B}/X](\mathbf{A})).$

Proof: by substitution value lemma again

$$\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}((\lambda X.\mathbf{A}) \mathbf{B}) = \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\lambda X.\mathbf{A}) @ \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathbf{B})$$
$$= \mathcal{I}_{\varphi,[\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathbf{B})/X]}(\mathbf{A})$$
$$= \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}([\mathbf{B}/X](\mathbf{A}))$$

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Soundness of $\alpha\beta\eta$ (continued)

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 $\vartriangleright \text{ Theorem B.2.9. If } X \notin \operatorname{free}(\mathbf{A}) \text{, then } \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\lambda X.\mathbf{A} X) = \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathbf{A}) \text{ for all } \varphi.$

 \triangleright *Proof:* by calculation

$$\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\lambda X.\mathbf{A} X)@a = \mathcal{I}_{\varphi,[a/X]}(\mathbf{A} X)$$

$$= \mathcal{I}_{\varphi,[a/X]}(\mathbf{A})@\mathcal{I}_{\varphi,[a/X]}(X)$$

$$= \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathbf{A})@\mathcal{I}_{\varphi,[a/X]}(X) \quad \text{as } X \notin \text{free}(\mathbf{A}).$$

$$= \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathbf{A})@a$$

$$\triangleright \text{ Theorem B.2.10. } \alpha\beta\eta \text{-equality is sound wrt. } \Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}\text{-algebras. (if } \mathbf{A} =_{\alpha\beta\eta} \mathbf{B}, \text{ then } \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathbf{A}) = \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathbf{B}) \text{ for all assignments } \varphi)$$
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B.2.2 Completeness of $\alpha\beta\eta$ -Equality

We will now show is that $=_{\alpha\beta\eta}$ -equality is complete for the semantics we defined, i.e. that whenever $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathbf{A}) = \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathbf{B})$ for all variable assignments φ , then $\mathbf{A} =_{\alpha\beta\eta} \mathbf{B}$. We will prove this by a model existence argument: we will construct a model $\mathcal{M} := \langle \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{I} \rangle$ such that if $\mathbf{A} \neq_{\alpha\beta\eta} \mathbf{B}$ then $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathbf{A}) \neq \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathbf{B})$ for some φ .

As in other completeness proofs, the model we will construct is a "ground term model", i.e. a model where the carrier (the frame in our case) consists of ground terms. But in the λ -calculus, we have to do more work, as we have a non-trivial built-in equality theory; we will construct the "ground term model" from sets of normal forms. So we first fix some notations for them. x

Normal Forms in the simply typed λ -calculus $\triangleright \text{ Definition B.2.11. We call a term } \mathbf{A} \in wff_{\mathcal{T}}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}, \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}}) \text{ a } \beta \text{ normal form iff there} is no <math>\mathbf{B} \in wff_{\mathcal{T}}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}, \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}}) \text{ with } \mathbf{A} \rightarrow_{\beta} \mathbf{B}.$ We call \mathbf{N} a β normal form of \mathbf{A} , iff \mathbf{N} is a β -normal form and $\mathbf{A} \rightarrow_{\beta} \mathbf{N}$. We denote the set of β -normal forms with $wff_{\mathcal{T}}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}, \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}})\downarrow_{\beta\eta}$. The η - and $\beta\eta$ normal forms are definied analogously. $\triangleright \text{ We have just proved that } \beta, \eta, \text{ and } \beta\eta\text{-reduction are terminating and confluent, so we have}$ $\triangleright \text{ Corollary B.2.12 (Normal Forms). Every } \mathbf{A} \in wff_{\mathcal{T}}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}, \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}}) \text{ has a unique } \beta \text{ normal form } (\beta\eta, \log \beta\eta \text{ normal form), which we denote by } \mathbf{A}\downarrow_{\beta} (\mathbf{A}\downarrow_{\beta\eta}, \mathbf{A}\downarrow_{\beta\eta^{t}}).$

The term frames will be a quotient spaces over the equality relations of the λ -calculus, so we introduce this construction generally.

Frames and Quotients

- \triangleright **Definition B.2.13.** Let \mathcal{D} be a frame and \sim a typed equivalence relation on \mathcal{D} , then we call \sim a congruence on \mathcal{D} , iff $f \sim f'$ and $g \sim g'$ imply $f(g) \sim f'(g')$.
- \triangleright **Definition B.2.14.** We call a congruence \sim functional, iff for all $f, g \in \mathcal{D}_{\alpha \to \beta}$ the fact that $f(a) \sim g(a)$ holds for all $a \in \mathcal{D}_{\alpha}$ implies that $f \sim g$.
- \triangleright Example B.2.15. $=_{\beta} (=_{\beta\eta})$ is a (functional) congruence on $cwf_{\mathcal{T}}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}})$ by defi-

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nition.
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 \triangleright **Theorem B.2.16.** Let \mathcal{DT} be a $\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}$ -frame and \sim a functional congruence on \mathcal{D} , then the quotient space \mathcal{D}/\sim is a $\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}$ -frame.

 \triangleright *Proof:*

- 1. $\mathcal{D}/\sim = \{[f]_{\sim} \mid f \in \mathcal{D}\}, \text{ define } [f]_{\sim}([a]_{\sim}):=[f(a)]_{\sim}.$
- 2. This only depends on equivalence classes: Let $f' \in [f]_{\sim}$ and $a' \in [a]_{\sim}$.
- 3. Then $[f(a)]_{\sim} = [f'(a)]_{\sim} = [f'(a')]_{\sim} = [f(a')]_{\sim}$
- 4. To see that we have $[f]_{\sim}=[g]_{\sim},$ iff $f\sim g,$ iff f(a)=g(a) since \sim is functional.
- 5. This is the case iff $[f(a)]_{\sim} = [g(a)]_{\sim}$, iff $[f]_{\sim}([a]_{\sim}) = [g]_{\sim}([a]_{\sim})$ for all $a \in \mathcal{D}_{\alpha}$ and thus for all $[a]_{\sim} \in \mathcal{D}/\sim$.
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To apply this result, we have to establish that $=_{\beta\eta}$ -equality is a functional congruence. We first establish $=_{\beta\eta}$ as a functional congruence on $wf_{\mathcal{T}}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}, \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}})$ and then specialize this result to show that is also functional on $cwf_{\mathcal{T}}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}})$ by a grounding argument.

 $\beta\eta$ -Equivalence as a Functional Congruence \triangleright Lemma B.2.17. $\beta\eta$ -equality is a functional congruence on $wf_{\mathcal{T}}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}, \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}})$. \triangleright *Proof:* Let $\mathbf{A} \mathbf{C} =_{\beta\eta} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{C}$ for all \mathbf{C} and $X \in (\mathcal{V}_{\gamma} \setminus (\operatorname{free}(\mathbf{A}) \cup \operatorname{free}(\mathbf{B}))).$ 1. then (in particular) $\mathbf{A} X =_{\beta \eta} \mathbf{B} X$, and 2. $\lambda X \cdot \mathbf{A} X =_{\beta\eta} \lambda X \cdot \mathbf{B} X$, since $\beta\eta$ -equality acts on subterms. 3. By definition we have $\mathbf{A} =_n \lambda X_{\alpha} \cdot \mathbf{A} X =_{\beta n} \lambda X_{\alpha} \cdot \mathbf{B} X =_n \mathbf{B}$. \triangleright Definition B.2.18. We call an injective substitution $\sigma \colon \text{free}(\mathbf{C}) \to \Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}$ a grounding substitution for $\mathbf{C} \in wff_{\mathcal{T}}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}, \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}})$, iff no $\sigma(X)$ occurs in \mathbf{C} . \triangleright **Observation:** They always exist, since all Σ_{α} are infinite and free(**C**) is finite. \triangleright Theorem B.2.19. $\beta\eta$ -equality is a functional congruence on $cuff_{\mathcal{T}}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}})$. \triangleright *Proof:* We use ?? 1. Let $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B} \in cwf\!\!f_{(\alpha \to \beta)}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}})$, such that $\mathbf{A} \neq_{\beta\eta} \mathbf{B}$. 2. As $\beta\eta$ is functional on $wf_{\mathcal{T}}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}, \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}})$, there must be a C with A C $\neq_{\beta\eta}$ B C. 3. Now let $\mathbf{C}' := \sigma(\mathbf{C})$, for a grounding substitution σ . 4. Any $\beta\eta$ conversion sequence for $\mathbf{A} \mathbf{C}' \neq_{\beta\eta} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{C}'$ induces one for $\mathbf{A} \mathbf{C} \neq_{\beta\eta}$ BC. 5. Thus we have shown that $\mathbf{A} \neq_{\beta\eta} \mathbf{B}$ entails $\mathbf{A} \mathbf{C}' \neq_{\beta\eta} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{C}'$. FAU Michael Kohlhase: LBS 332 2025-02-06

Note that: the result for $cwf_{\mathcal{T}}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}})$ is sharp. For instance, if $\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}} = \{c_{\iota}\}$, then $\lambda X.X \neq_{\beta\eta} \lambda X.c$, but $(\lambda X.X) \ c =_{\beta\eta} c =_{\beta\eta} (\lambda X.c) \ c$, as $\{c\} = cwff_{\iota}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}})$ (it is a relatively simple exercise to extend this problem to more than one constant). The problem here is that we do not have a constant d_{ι} that would help distinguish the two functions. In $wff_{\mathcal{T}}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}, \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}})$ we could always have used a variable.

This completes the preparation and we can define the notion of a term algebra, i.e. a $\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}$ algebra whose frame is made of $=_{\beta\eta}$ -normal λ -terms.



And as always, once we have a term model, showing completeness is a rather simple exercise. We can see that $\alpha\beta\eta$ -equality is complete for the class of Σ_{τ} -algebras, i.e. if the equation $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{B}$ is valid, then $\mathbf{A} =_{\alpha\beta\eta} \mathbf{B}$. Thus $\alpha\beta\eta$ equivalence fully characterizes equality in the class of all Σ_{τ} -algebras.

Completetness of $\alpha\beta\eta$ -Equality				
\triangleright Theorem B.2.22. $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{B}$ is valid in the class of $\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}$ -algebras, iff $\mathbf{A} =_{\alpha\beta\eta} \mathbf{B}$.				
\triangleright <i>Proof:</i> For A , B closed this is a simple consequence of the fact that $\mathcal{T}_{\beta\eta}$ is a $\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}$ -algebra.				
 If A = B is valid in all Σ_T-algebras, it must be in T_{βη} and in particular A↓_{βη} = I^{βη}(A) = I^{βη}(B) = B↓_{βη} and therefore A =_{αβη} B. If the equation has free variables, then the argument is more subtle. Let σ be a grounding substitution for A and B and φ the induced variable 				
3. Thus $\mathcal{I}^{\beta\eta}{}_{\varphi}(\mathbf{A}) = \mathcal{I}^{\beta\eta}{}_{\varphi}(\mathbf{B})$ is the $\beta\eta$ -normal form of $\sigma(\mathbf{A})$ and $\sigma(\mathbf{B})$.				
4. Since φ is a structure preserving homomorphism on well-formed formulae, $\varphi^{-1}(\mathcal{I}^{\beta\eta}_{\varphi}(\mathbf{A}))$ is the is the $\beta\eta$ -normal form of both \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{B} and thus $\mathbf{A} =_{\alpha\beta\eta} \mathbf{B}$.				
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?? and ?? complete our study of the semantics of the simply-typed λ -calculus by showing that it is an adequate logical system for modeling (the equality) of functions and their applications.

B.3 Simply Typed λ -Calculus via Inference Systems

Now, we will look at the simply typed λ -calculus again, but this time, we will present it as an inference system for well-typedness jugdments. This more modern way of developing type theories is known to scale better to new concepts.



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Simply Typed λ -Calculus as an Inference System: Rules

 \triangleright Definition B.3.4. $\mathbf{A} \in wf_{\alpha}(\Sigma_{\mathcal{T}}, \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{T}})$, iff $\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} \mathbf{A} : \alpha$ derivable in

$$\begin{array}{ll} \displaystyle \frac{\Sigma \vdash \Gamma : \operatorname{ctx} \ \Gamma(X) = \alpha}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} X : \alpha} \ \text{wff var} & \displaystyle \frac{\Sigma \vdash \Gamma : \operatorname{ctx} \ \Sigma(c) = \alpha}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} c : \alpha} \ \text{wff const} \\ \\ \displaystyle \frac{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} \mathbf{A} : \beta \to \alpha \ \Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} \mathbf{B} : \beta}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} \mathbf{A} \ \mathbf{B} : \alpha} \ \text{wff app} & \displaystyle \frac{\Gamma, [X : \beta] \vdash_{\Sigma} \mathbf{A} : \alpha}{\Gamma \vdash_{\Sigma} \lambda X_{\beta} \cdot \mathbf{A} : \beta \to \alpha} \ \text{wff abs} \end{array}$$

▷ Oops: this looks surprisingly like a natural deduction calculus. (~ Curry-Howard isomorphism)

 \triangleright To be complete, we need rules for well-formed signatures, types and contexts

⊳ Definition B.3.5.

APPENDIX B. PROPERTIES OF THE SIMPLY TYPED λ CALCULUS



Example: A Well-Formed Signature

 \triangleright Let $\Sigma := [\alpha : type], [f: \alpha \to \alpha \to \alpha]$, then Σ is a well-formed signature, since we have derivations \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B}

 $\frac{\vdash \cdot : \operatorname{sig}}{\vdash [\alpha : \operatorname{type}] : \operatorname{sig}} \operatorname{sig} \operatorname{type} \qquad \frac{\mathcal{A} \quad [\alpha : \operatorname{type}](\alpha) = \operatorname{type}}{[\alpha : \operatorname{type}] \vdash \alpha : \operatorname{type}} \operatorname{typ} \operatorname{start}$

and with these we can construct the derivation $\ensuremath{\mathcal{C}}$

$$\frac{\mathcal{B} \quad \mathcal{B}}{\mathcal{A} \quad \overline{[\alpha: type]} \vdash (\alpha \to \alpha): type} typ fn}_{\begin{array}{c} \mathcal{A} \quad \overline{[\alpha: type]} \vdash (\alpha \to \alpha \to \alpha): type} \\ \overline{\mathcal{A} \quad [\alpha: type]} \vdash (\Sigma: sig \\ \end{array} typ fn$$

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Example: A Well-Formed λ -Term

 \triangleright using Σ from above, we can show that $\Gamma := [X:\alpha]$ is a well-formed context:

$$\frac{\mathcal{C}}{\sum \vdash \cdot : \operatorname{ctx}} \operatorname{ctx} \operatorname{empty} \frac{\mathcal{C} \quad \Sigma(\alpha) = \operatorname{type}}{\sum \vdash \alpha : \operatorname{type}} \operatorname{typ} \operatorname{start}_{\sum \vdash \alpha : \operatorname{ctx}} \operatorname{ctx} \operatorname{var}$$

We call this derivation ${\mathcal G}$ and use it to show that

 $ightarrow \lambda X_{lpha} \cdot f \; X \; X$ is well-typed and has type lpha o lpha in Σ . This is witnessed by the type



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Appendix C Higher-Order Dynamics

In this chapter we will develop a typed λ calculus that extend DRT-like dynamic logics like the simply typed λ calculus extends first-order logic.

C.1 Introduction

We start out our development of a Montague-like compositional treatment of dynamic semantics construction by naively "adding λ s" to DRT and deriving requirements from that.



At the sentence level we just disregard that we have no idea how to interpret λ -abstractions over DRSes and just proceed as in the static (first-order) case. Somewhat surprisingly, this works rather well, so we just continue at the discourse level.





Here we have our first surprise: the second $=_{\beta}$ reduction seems to capture the discourse referent U: intuitively it is "free" in $\delta U.$ snores(U) and after $=_{\beta}$ reduction it is under the influence of a δ declaration. In the λ -calculus tradition variable capture is the great taboo, whereas in our example, referent capture seems to drive/enable anaphor resolution.

Considerations like the ones above have driven the development of many logical systems attempting the compositional treatment of dynamic logics. All were more or less severely flawed.



Here we will look at a system that makes the referent capture the central mechanism using an elaborate type system to describe referent visibility and thus accessibility. This generalization allows to understand and model the interplay of λ -bound variables and discourse referents without being distracted by linguistic modeling questions (which are relegated to giving appropriate types to the operators).

Another strong motivation for a higher-order treatment of dynamic logics is that maybe the computational semantic analysis methods based on higher-order features (mostly higher-order unification) can be analogously transferred to the dynamic setting.



To set the stage for the development of a higher-order system for dynamic logic, let us remind ourselves of the setup of the static system



This separation of concerns: structural properties of functions vs. a propositional reasoning level has been very influential in modeling static, intra-sentential properties of natural language, therefore we want to have a similar system for dynamic logics as well. We will use this as a guiding intuition below.

C.2 Setting Up Higher-Order Dynamics

To understand what primitives a language for higher-order dynamics should provide, we will analyze one of the attempts – λ -DRT – to higher-order dynamics

 λ -DRT is a relatively straightforward (and naive) attempt to "sprinkle λ s over DRT" and give that a semantics. This is mirrored in the type system, which had a primitive types for DRSes and "intensions" (mappings from states to objects). To make this work we had to introduce "intensional closure", a semantic device akin to type raising that had been in the folklore for some time. We will not go into intensions and closure here, since this did not lead to a solution and refer the reader to [KKP96] and the references there.



In hindsight, the contribution of λ -DRT was less the proposed semantics – this never quite worked beyond correctness of $=_{\alpha\beta\eta}$ equality – but the logical questions about types, reductions, and the role of states it raised, and which led to further investigations.

We will now look at the general framework of "a λ -calculus with discourse referents and δ -binding" from a logic-first perspective and try to answer the questions this raises. The questions of modeling dynamic phenomena of natural language take a back seat for the moment.

Finding the right Dynamic Primitives				
▷ Need to understand merge reduction	1:	$(\rightarrow_{\tau} \text{-reduction})$		
$\succ \text{ Why do we have } (\delta U.\mathbf{A} \otimes \mathbf{B}) \rightarrow_{\tau} \\ \triangleright \text{ but not } ((\delta U.\mathbf{A}) \Longrightarrow \mathbf{B}) \rightarrow_{\tau} (\delta U.\mathbf{A})$	$(\delta U.\mathbf{A} \wedge \mathbf{B})$			
▷ and Referent Scoping:		($ ho$ -equivalence)		
▷ When are the meanings of $\mathbf{C}[(\delta U.\mathbf{A})]_{\pi}$ and $\mathbf{C}[(\delta V.[V/U](\mathbf{A}))]_{\pi}$ equal? ▷ OK for $\mathbf{C} = \neg$ and $\mathbf{C} = \lambda P.(\delta W.\mathbf{A} \Longrightarrow P)$ ▷ Not for $\mathbf{C} = \lambda P.P$ and $\mathbf{C} = \lambda P.P \land \neg P$.				
\triangleright Observation: There must be a difference of \otimes , \neg , $\lambda P.(\delta W.A \Longrightarrow P)$, $\lambda P.P \land \neg P$ wrt. the behavior on referents				
$\succ \textbf{Intuitively: g} \otimes, \lambda P.(\delta W. \mathbf{A} \Longrightarrow P) \text{ transport } U, \text{ while } \neg\neg, \lambda P. P \land \neg\neg P \text{ do not}$				
\triangleright Idea: Model this in the types		(rest of the talk/lecture)		
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A particularly interesting phenomenon is that of referent capture as the motor or anaphor resolution, which have already encountered Example 35.4 (Discourse Representation Theory) in the LBS lecture notes.



In ?? we see that with the act of anaphor resolution, the discourse referents induced by the anaphoric pronouns get placed under the influence of the dynamic binding in the first DRS – which is OK from an accessibility point of view, but from a λ -calculus perspective this constitutes a capturing event, since the binding relation changes. This becomes especially obvious, if we look at the simplified form, where the discourse referents introduced in the translation of the pronouns have been eliminated altogether.

In ?? we see that a capturing situation can occur even more explicitly, if we allow $\lambda s - and =_{\alpha\beta\eta} equality - in the logic. We have to deal with this, and again, we choose to model it in the type system.$

With the intuitions sharpened by the examples above, we will now start to design a type system that can take information about referents into account. In particular we are interested in the capturing behavior identified above. Therefore we introduce information about the "capturing status" of discourse referents in the respective expressions into the types.



$ ho$ mode $\Gamma = V^-, U^+, \dots$ (V is a free and U a capturing referent)				
\triangleright term type α (type in the old sense)				
\triangleright What about functional types?			(Look at e	example)
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To see how our type system for \mathcal{DLC} fares in real life, we see whether we can capture the referent dynamics of λ -DRT. Maybe this also tells us what we still need to improve.

```
Rational Reconstruction of \lambda - DRT (First Version)
  \triangleright Two-level approach
      ▷ model structural properties (e.g. accessibility relation) in the types
      ▷ leave logical properties (e.g. negation flips truth values) for later
  \triangleright Types: \iota, o, \alpha \rightarrow \beta only. \Gamma \# o is a DRS.
  \triangleright Idea: Use mode constructors \downarrow and \uplus to describe the accessibility relation.
  \triangleright Definition C.2.8. \downarrow closes off the dynamic binding potential and makes the refer-
    ents classically bound
    (U^+, V^+ = U^\circ, V^\circ)
  ▷ Definition C.2.9. The prioritized union operator combines two modes by letting
                                                                            (U^+, V^- \uplus U^-, V^+ = U^+, V^+)
    + overwrite -.
  \triangleright Example C.2.10 (DRT Operators). Types of DRT connectives (indexed by \Gamma, \Delta):
      \triangleright \neg \neg has type \Gamma \# o \rightarrow \Gamma \# o
                                                                                          (intuitively like t \rightarrow o)
      \triangleright \otimes has type \Gamma \# o \rightarrow \Delta \# o \rightarrow \Gamma \uplus \Delta \# o
                                                                                    (intuitively like t \rightarrow t \rightarrow t)
      \triangleright \mathbb{V} has type \Gamma \# o \rightarrow \Delta \# o \rightarrow \Gamma \uplus \Delta \# o
      \triangleright \implies \mathsf{has type } \Gamma \# o \to \Delta \# o \to (\Gamma \uplus \Delta) \# o
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We can already see with the experiment of modeling the DRT operators that the envisioned type system gives us a way of specifying accessibility and how the dynamic operators handle discourse referents. So we indeed have the beginning of a structural level for higher-order dynamics, and at the same time a meta-logic flavor, since we can specify other dynamic logics in a λ -calculus.

C.3 A Type System for Referent Dynamics

We will now take the ideas above as the basis for a type system for \mathcal{DLC} .

The types above have the decided disadvantage that they mix mode information with information about the order of the operators. They also need free mode variables, which turns out to be a problem for designing the semantics. Instead, we will employ two-dimensional types, where the mode part is a function on modes and the other a normal simple type.

Types in \mathcal{DLC} (Final Version)



With this idea, we can re-interpret the DRT types from Example 36.13 (Setting Up Higher-Order Dynamics) in the LBS lecture notes.



Summary: DLC Grammar

▷ We summarize the setup in the following context-free grammar

$\begin{aligned} \alpha &::= \iota \mid o \mid \alpha_1 \to \alpha_2 \\ \gamma &::= \mu \mid \gamma_1 \to \gamma_2 \\ \mathbb{B} &::= \emptyset \mid U^+ \mid U^- \mid U \\ \mathbb{M} &::= \mathbb{B} \mid \mathbb{M}_1 \mathbb{M}_2 \mid \lambda \mathcal{U} \\ \tau &::= \mathbb{M} \# \alpha \\ \mathbb{M} &::= U \mid c \mid \mathbb{M}_1 \mathbb{M}_2 \end{aligned}$	$ \begin{array}{c} \mathcal{V}^{\circ} \mid \mathbb{B}_{1}, \mathbb{B}_{2} \mid \mathbb{B}_{1} \uplus \mathbb{B}_{2} \mid \mathbb{B} \\ F_{\gamma}.\mathbb{M} \\ e \mid \lambda X_{\tau}.\mathbb{M} \mid \delta U.\mathbb{M} \end{array} $	simple types mode types basic modes modes (typed via mode ty DLC types DLC terms (typed via DLC	pes γ) C types $ au$)	
be shown to be well-t	typed.	a meaning \sim only use the	(up next)	
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Type Inference for	\mathcal{DLC} (two dimen	nsions)		
Definition C.3.6. The type inference system for DLC consists of the following rules:				
$\frac{c \in \Sigma_{\alpha}}{\mathcal{A}\vdash_{\Sigma} c \colon \alpha} \frac{\mathcal{A}(X) = F \# \alpha \mathcal{A}(F) = \widetilde{\alpha}}{\mathcal{A}\vdash_{\Sigma} X \colon F \# \alpha} \frac{U \in \mathcal{R}_{\alpha}, \mathcal{A}(U) = \emptyset \# \alpha}{\mathcal{A}\vdash_{\Sigma} U \colon U^{-} \# \alpha}$				
$\frac{\mathcal{A}, [X:F\#\beta],}{\mathcal{A}\vdash_{\Sigma}\lambda X_{F\#\beta}.I}$	$ \begin{array}{l} [F:\widetilde{\beta}] \vdash_{\Sigma} \mathbf{A} \colon \mathbb{A} \# \alpha \\ \mathbf{A} \colon \lambda F. \mathbb{A} \# \beta \to \alpha \end{array} \begin{array}{l} \underline{\mathcal{A}} \vdash_{\Sigma} \\ \end{array} $	$\Sigma \mathbf{A} \colon \mathbb{A} \# eta o \gamma \ \mathcal{A} \vdash_{\Sigma} \mathbf{B} \colon \mathbb{B} \ \mathcal{A} \vdash_{\Sigma} \mathbf{A} \to \mathbf{B} \colon \mathbb{A}(\mathbb{B}) \# \gamma$	# <u>#</u> β	
$\frac{\mathcal{A}\vdash_{\Sigma}\mathbf{A}\colon\mathbb{A}_{\bar{7}}}{\mathcal{A}\vdash}$	$\frac{\#\alpha \mathcal{A}\vdash_{\Sigma} \mathbb{A} =_{\beta\eta\mu} \mathbb{B}}{\Sigma \mathbf{A} : \mathbb{B} \# \alpha} \frac{\mathcal{A}\vdash_{\Sigma} \mathbb{A}}{\mathcal{A}\vdash_{\Sigma}}$		ν ν	
where ${\mathcal A}$ is a variable context mapping variables and referents to types				
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Example (Identity)

 \triangleright We have the following type derivation for the identity.

 $\frac{\overline{[F:\widetilde{\alpha}], [X:F\#\alpha]}\vdash_{\Sigma} X:F\#\alpha}}{\vdash_{\Sigma} \lambda X_{F\#\alpha}.X:\lambda F_{\widetilde{\alpha}}.F\#\alpha \to \alpha}$

 $ightarrow (\lambda X_{F\#\alpha
ightarrow \alpha} X) (\lambda X_{G\#\alpha} X)$ has type

 $\mathcal{A}\vdash_{\Sigma}(\lambda F_{\mu\to\mu}.F)\ (\lambda G_{\mu}.G)\#\alpha\to\alpha=_{\beta\eta\mu}\lambda G_{\mu}.G\#\alpha\to\alpha$

▷ **Theorem C.3.7 (Principal Types).** For any given variable context A and formula \mathbf{A} , there is at most one type $\mathbb{A}\#\alpha$ (up to mode $\beta\eta\mu$ -equality) such that $\mathcal{A}\vdash_{\Sigma}\mathbf{A}$: $\mathbf{A}\#\alpha$ is derivable in \mathcal{DLC} .

C.3. A TYPE SYSTEM FOR REFERENT DYNAMICS



A Further Example: Generalized Coordination

 $\triangleright \text{ We may define a generalised } and: \\ \lambda R^1 \dots R^n . \lambda X^1 \dots X^m . (R^1 X^1 \dots X^m \otimes \dots \otimes R^n X^1 \dots X^m) \\ \text{with type}$



C.4 Modeling Higher-Order Dynamics



Renaming of Discourse Referents?

- \triangleright Consider $\mathbf{A} := (\lambda XY.Y) (\delta U.U)$
 - $\triangleright~\delta U$ cannot have any effect on the environment, since it can be deleted by $=_{\beta}$ -reduction.
 - \triangleright A has type $\lambda F.F \# \alpha \rightarrow \alpha$ (U does not occur in it).
- \triangleright Idea: Allow to rename U in A, if "A is independent of U"
- \triangleright Similar effect for $\mathbf{B} := \neg(\delta U.\operatorname{man}(U))$, this should equal $\neg(\delta V.\operatorname{man}(V))$
- \triangleright **Definition C.4.2.** ρ renaming is induced by the following inference rule:

$$\frac{V \in \mathcal{R}_{\beta} \text{ fresh } U_{\beta} \notin \mathcal{DP}(\mathbf{A})}{\mathbf{A} =_{\rho} \mathcal{C}_{U}^{V}(\mathbf{A})}$$

Where $\mathcal{C}_{U}^{V}(\mathbf{A})$ is the result of replacing all referents U by V.



Some Examples for Dynamic Potential						
	Formula	Mode specifier	\mathcal{DP}			
	$\delta U.P$	U^+	$\{U\}$			
	$\lambda P.(\delta U.P)$	$\lambda F.(U^+ \uplus F)$	$\{U\}$			
	$\neg (\delta U. \operatorname{man}(U))$	U°	Ø			
	$\lambda P.\neg(\delta U.P)$	$\lambda F (U^+), F$	$\{U\}$			
⊳ Example C / 5	$\lambda X.U$	$\lambda F.U^{-}$	$\{U\}$			
	$(\lambda X.X) U$	$(\lambda F.F) \ U^-$	$\{U\}$			
	$\lambda P.\mathrm{man}(U) \wedge P$	$\lambda F.(F \uplus U^-)$	$\{U\}$			
	$\lambda P.P$	$\lambda F.F$	Ø			
	$\lambda XY.Y$	$\lambda FG.G$	Ø			
	$(\lambda XY.Y) (\delta U.U)$	$\lambda G.G$	Ø			
	$\lambda P.P (\lambda Q. \neg (\delta U.Q)) (\lambda$	$R.(\delta U.R))$	$\{U\}$			
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Reductions			
$\succ \beta\eta \text{-reduction:} \ \overline{(\lambda X.\mathbf{A}) \ \mathbf{B}} \rightarrow_{\beta} [\mathbf{B}/X](\mathbf{A}) \ \text{and} \ \frac{X \not\in \text{free}(\mathbf{A})}{\lambda X.\mathbf{A} \ X \rightarrow_{\eta} \mathbf{A}}$			
$\triangleright \text{ Definition C.4.6. Dynamic Reduction: } \frac{\mathcal{A}\vdash_{\Sigma}\mathbf{A} \colon \mathbb{A}\#\alpha \ U^{+} \in \mathbf{Trans}(\mathbb{A})}{\mathbf{A} \ (\delta U.\mathbf{B}) \rightarrow_{\tau} (\delta U.\mathbf{A} \ \mathbf{B})}$			
\triangleright Example C.4.7. Merge-Reduction $(\delta U.\mathbf{A} \otimes \delta V.\mathbf{B}) \rightarrow_{\tau} (\delta U.\delta V.(\mathbf{A} \otimes \mathbf{B}))$			
Intuition: The merge operator is just dynamic conjunction!			
\triangleright Observation: Sequential merge ;; of type $\stackrel{\rightarrow}{\uplus} \# o \rightarrow o \rightarrow o$ does not transport V in the second argument.			



C.5 Direct Semantics for Dynamic λ Calculus



▷ **Two approaches:** "Dynamic" (Amsterdam) and "Static" (Saarbrücken)

- \triangleright Will show that they are equivalent (later)
- \triangleright Use the static semantics for \mathcal{DLC} now.
- \triangleright What is the denotation of a dynamic object?
 - \triangleright "Static Semantics": essentially a set of states (considers only type o) (equivalently function from states to \mathcal{D}_o : characteristic function)
 - \triangleright generalize this to arbitrary base type: $\mathcal{D}_{\alpha}^{\Gamma} = \mathcal{B}_{\Gamma} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}_{\alpha}$, where \mathcal{B}_{Γ} is the set of Γ -states

 $ightarrow \Gamma$ -states: well-typed referent assignments $s \colon \mathbf{Dom}^{\pm}(\Gamma) \to \mathcal{D}$ $s | \Delta \text{ is } s \text{ coerced into a } \Delta$ -state.

 $\triangleright \text{ For expressions of functional type: } \mathcal{D}^{\Phi}_{(\alpha \to \beta)} = \bigcup_{\Psi \in \mathcal{D}_{\widetilde{\alpha}}} \mathcal{D}^{\Psi}_{\alpha} \to \mathcal{D}^{\Phi(\Psi)}_{\beta}$

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Dynamic Semantics (Evaluation)

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Standard Tool: Intensionalization (guards variables by delaying evaluation of current state)

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- \triangleright Theorem C.5.2 (Normalization). $\beta\eta\tau$ -Reduction is terminating and confluent (modulo $\alpha\rho\delta$).
- $\succ \text{ Theorem C.5.3 (Substitution is type-preserving). If } X \notin \text{dom}(\mathcal{A}), \text{ then } \mathcal{A}, [X:F\#\beta]\vdash_{\Sigma} \mathbf{A} \colon \mathbb{A}\#\alpha \text{ and } \mathcal{A}\vdash_{\Sigma} \mathbf{B} \colon \mathbb{B}\#\beta \text{ imply}$

 $\mathcal{A}\vdash_{\Sigma}[\mathbf{B}/X](\mathbf{A}): [\mathbf{B}/F](\mathbb{A})\#\alpha$

- $\succ \text{ Theorem C.5.4 (Subject Reduction). If } \mathcal{A}\vdash_{\Sigma} \mathbf{A} : \mathbb{A} \# \alpha \text{ and } \mathcal{A}\vdash_{\Sigma} \mathbf{A} =_{\beta\eta\tau} \mathbf{B}, \text{ then } \mathcal{A}\vdash_{\Sigma} \mathbf{B} : \mathbb{A} \# \alpha.$
- \triangleright Theorem C.5.5 (Soundness of Reduction). If $\mathcal{A}\vdash_{\Sigma} \mathbf{A} =_{\alpha\beta\delta\eta\tau\rho} \mathbf{B}$, then $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathbf{A}) = \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathbf{B})$.
- \triangleright If $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathbf{A}) = \mathcal{I}_{\varphi}(\mathbf{B})$, then $\mathcal{A}\vdash_{\Sigma} \mathbf{A} =_{\alpha\beta\delta\eta\tau\rho} \mathbf{B}$ (just needs formalisation of equality of logical operators.)

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C.6 Dynamic λ Calculus outside Linguistics

Conclusion ▷ Basis for compositional discourse theories ▷ two-layered approach (only use theorem proving where necessary) ▷ functional and dynamic information can be captured structurally

⊳ con	nprehensive equality theory	(interaction c	of func. and d	yn. part)	
⊳ In part	icular				
⊳ new	<i>v</i> dynamic primitives		(explai	n others)	
⊳ sim	ple semantics	(comp	ared to other	systems)	
\triangleright This leads to					
 dynamification of existing linguistic analyses (DHOU) 					
⊳ rigo	prous comparison of different d	ynamic systems	(Me	ta-Logic)	
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Use \mathcal{DLC} as a model for Programming

- ▷ Ever wanted to determine the \\$PRINTERenvironment variable in a Java applet? (sorry forbidden, since the semantics of dynamic binding are unclear.)

 $\rhd \mathcal{DLC}$ is ideal for that

- \triangleright Example C.6.1 (LISP). give let_U the type $\lambda F.F \uparrow_U^{\circ}$, where $(\mathbb{A}, U^-) \uparrow_U^{\circ} = \mathbb{A}, U^{\circ}$. (no need for U^+ in Lisp)
- ▷ **Example C.6.2 (Java).** If you want to keep your \$EDITOR variable private (pirated?) only allow applets of type $\mathbb{A}\#\alpha$, where \$EDITOR $\notin DP(\mathbb{A})$.
- \triangleright It is going to be a lot of fun!

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(about time too!)

Appendix D

Model Existence and Completeness for Modal Logic



<u>∇-Hintikka Set</u>

 \triangleright **Definition D.0.3.** If ∇ is an abstract consistency class for ML^0 , then we call \mathcal{H} a ∇ -Hintikka set, if \mathcal{H} maximal in ∇ , i.e. for all \mathbf{A} with $\mathcal{H}*\mathbf{A} \in \nabla$ we already have $\mathbf{A} \in \mathcal{H}$.

 \triangleright Theorem D.0.4 (Extension Theorem). If ∇ is an abstract consistency class for *ML* and $\Phi \in \nabla$, then there is a ∇ -Hintikka set \mathcal{H} with $\Phi \subseteq \mathcal{H}$.

Proof:

1. chose an enumeration $A_1, A_2...$ of $wff_0(\mathcal{V}_0)$

2. construct sequence of sets H_i with $H_0 := \Phi$ and

 $\triangleright H_{n+1} := H_n$, if $H_n * \mathbf{A}_n \notin \nabla$

 \triangleright $H_{n+1} := H_n * \mathbf{A}_n$, if $H_n * \mathbf{A}_n \in \nabla$

3. All $H_i \in \nabla$, so choose $\mathcal{H} := \bigcup_{i \in \mathbb{N}} H_i$

4. Ψ ⊆ ℋ finite implies that there is a j ∈ N with Ψ ⊆ H_j, so Ψ ∈ ∇ as ∇ closed under subsets.
5. ℋ ∈ ∇ since ∇ compact.
6. let ℋ*B ∈ ∇, then there is a j ∈ N with B = A_j
7. B ∈ H_{j+1} ⊆ ℋ, so ℋ ∇-maximal.



Model existence for ML⁰

▷ Lemma D.0.7. If $w \in W_{\nabla}$, then $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi_{\nabla}}^{w}(\mathbf{A}) = \mathsf{T}$ iff $\mathbf{A} \in w$. ▷ Proof: Induction on the structure of \mathbf{A} 1. If \mathbf{A} is a variable then we get the assertion by the definition of φ_{∇} . 2. If $\mathbf{A} = \neg \mathbf{B}$ and $\mathbf{A} \in w$ then $\mathbf{B} \notin w$, thus $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi_{\nabla}}^{w}(\mathbf{B}) = \mathsf{F}$, and thus $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi_{\nabla}}^{w}(\mathbf{A}) = \mathsf{T}$. 3. $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{B} \land \mathbf{C}$ analog 4. $\mathbf{A} = \Box \mathbf{B}$ 4.1. Let $\mathbf{A} \in w$ and $w \mathcal{R}_{\nabla} w'$ 4.2. thus $\Box^{-}(w) \subseteq w'$ and thus $\mathbf{B} \in w'$ 4.3. so (IH) $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi_{\nabla}}^{w'}(\mathbf{B}) = \mathsf{T}$ for any such w'. 4.4. and finally $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi_{\nabla}}^{w}(\mathbf{A}) = \mathsf{T}$ 5. $\mathbf{A} = \diamondsuit \mathbf{B}$ 5.1. Let $\mathbf{A} \notin w$ 5.2. so $\neg \mathbf{A} = \diamondsuit \neg \mathbf{B} \notin w$ 5.3. and thus $\neg \mathbf{B} \in w'$ for some $w \mathcal{R}_{\nabla} w'$ by (Lemma1) 5.4. so $\mathbf{B} \in w'$ and thus $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi_{\nabla}}^{w'}(\mathbf{B}) = \mathsf{T}$ by IH and finally $\mathcal{I}_{\varphi_{\nabla}}^{w}(\mathbf{A}) = \mathsf{T}$.



Completeness

▷ Theorem D.0.9. K-consistency is an abstract consistency class for ML⁰
▷ Proof: Let ◇A ∈ Φ
1. To show: □⁻(Φ)*A is K-consistent if Φ is K-consistent
2. converse: Φ is K-inconsistent if □⁻(Φ)*A K-inconsistent.
3. There is a finite subset Ψ ⊆ □⁻(Φ) with Ψ⊢_K(¬A)
4. (□Ψ)⊢_K(□¬A) (distributivity of □)
5. Φ⊢_K(□¬A) = ¬(◇A) since □Ψ ⊆ Φ
6. thus Φ is K-inconsistent.
▷ Corollary D.0.10. K is complete wrt. Kripke models

