

# Conventional implicatures in Dependent Type Semantics

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## Starting point: appositive relative clause

This talk mainly focuses on a construction called an **appositive relative clauses (ARC)**.

- (1) Kim, **who is away**, will return tomorrow.

The content of an ARC (e.g., “Kim is away” in (1)) is **projective**.

- (2) a. Negation

It is not true that [Kim, **who is away**, will return tomorrow].

- b. Conditional antecedent

If Kim, **who is away**, returns tomorrow, we ...

## Is it a presupposition?

However, the content of an ARC is NOT a presupposition.

To see why, recall that presupposition can be **filtered**.

(3) If Kim is away, Alex will have realized *that she is away*.

In contrast, the content of an ARC can NOT be filtered. It must be **new information** to the (local) context (Potts, 2005).

(4) # If Kim is away, Alex will tell us when Kim, *who is away*, will return.

- This type of projective content is called a **conventional implicature (CI)**.
  - Other triggers of CIs: expressives (Potts, 2005; McCready, 2010), evidentials (Murray, 2014)
- CIs pose a challenge to DTS.
  - The @-type cannot be directly used to represent CIs, since it would allow filtering.
  - Although there was a study on CI with an early version of DTS (Bekki & McCready, 2015), the analysis is difficult to reformulate in the current setting. In addition, it cannot handle some properties of CIs.

Q. How can we formally analyze CIs in the framework of DTS?

## **Some properties of CIs**

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## Not-at-issueness

- A CI is **not at-issue**, in the sense that it does not constitute the “central content” of an utterance (Simons et al., 2010; Koev, 2018).
  - A diagnostics for (not-)at-issueness: **Direct Reply Test** (Tonhauser, 2012)
    - Only the at-issue content can be the target of the direct assent/dissent.
- (5)    a. A: Kim, **who is away**, will return tomorrow.  
         b. B: No, she won't. She is planned to be away for a week.  
         c. B': #No, she isn't. She has just come back.

CIs update the discourse in a way that the hearer cannot directly respond to the update (Murray, 2014; AnderBois et al., 2015).

Although the content of an ARC seems to be independent from the at-issue content, there can be an **anaphoric dependency** between the two (Amaral et al., 2007; Nouwen, 2007).

(6) Kim, who has a<sup>i</sup> dog, takes **it<sub>i</sub>** for a walk.

Presupposition filtering shows the same pattern (AnderBois et al., 2015).

(7) Kim, who used to smoke, has **stopped smoking**.

The at-issue content can be anaphorically dependent on CIs.

## Interaction with quantifier scope

When a CI involves a pronoun bound by a quantifier, it may lead to a **universally quantified** projective content.

(8) Every<sup>*i*</sup> cyclist met Lance, who gave him<sub>*i*</sub> a Tour de France souvenir.

⇒ For each cyclist  $x$ , Lance gave  $x$  a TDF souvenir. (Martin, 2016, (13b))

(9) No<sup>*i*</sup> candidate suspects that his<sub>*i*</sub> wife, who is after all his<sub>*i*</sub> biggest supporter, will vote against him<sub>*i*</sub>.

⇒ For each candidate  $x$ ,  $x$ 's wife is  $x$ 's biggest supporter. (Schlenker, 2020, (40))

Denoting a proposition  $\varphi$  with a CI  $\psi$  as  $\varphi_\psi \dots$

$$Qx \in A.(\varphi_{Px}) \implies \forall x \in A.Px$$



## [+] Interaction with quantifier scope: projection

Doesn't the CI take scope below the quantifier in cases like (8)?

—No. The implications is indeed projective.

- (10) If [**every**<sup>*i*</sup> **student** has bid farewell to Nate, who had given **them**<sub>*i*</sub> some great advice during **their**<sub>*i*</sub> individual meetings], then we can officially close off the session.

⇒ For each student  $x$ , Nate gave  $x$  some great advice. (Zhao, 2023, (11a))

Note that the conditional antecedent is a **scope island**: the scope of “every student” cannot go out of it.

**CI type**

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As we have seen, DTS assumes the following steps to obtain semantic representations.

- **Type checking** derives the felicity condition  $\Gamma \vdash A : \text{type}$
- **@-elimination** substitutes  $x @ A$  with the term found in proof search.

Crucially, these steps have a role of **specifying the at-issue content** (= the central message of the speaker's utterance).

Intuition: the hearer cannot accept/reject an utterance with pronouns without specifying their referents.

We can formulate the process of discourse update as follows.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Gamma \vdash A : \text{type} & \xrightarrow{\text{(i) specification}} & \overset{\text{at-issue}}{\Gamma \vdash A' : \text{type}} \\ & \xrightarrow{\text{(ii) hearer's approval}} & \Gamma := \Gamma, x : A' \end{array}$$

Q. Then, how can we incorporate CIs into this picture?

## Sketch of the account

Recall: a CI is not subject to the hearer's direct reply.

This indicates that the update with a CI occurs **while the hearer is specifying the at-issue content**.

$$\begin{array}{lcl} \Gamma \vdash A : \text{type} & \xrightarrow{\text{(i) specification}} & \Gamma, \boxed{y : B} \vdash \boxed{A'} : \text{type} \\ & & \text{CI (not-at-issue)} \\ & & \text{at-issue} \\ & \xrightarrow{\text{(ii) hearer's approval}} & \Gamma := \Gamma, y : B, x : A' \end{array}$$

To formalize this intuition, we introduce a new type constructor (Matsuoka et al., 2024).

## Definition (CI type)

We add  $(x \triangleleft \Lambda) \times \Lambda$  to the recursive definition of UDTT preterms.

We represent a CI  $A$  with a type of the form  $(x \triangleleft A) \times \dots$ .

(1) Kim, **who is away**, will return tomorrow.

$$\rightsquigarrow \left[ \begin{array}{l} u \triangleleft \text{away}(\mathbf{k}) \\ \text{rtn}(\mathbf{k}) \end{array} \right] \quad (\text{we will use the box notation for the CI type, too.})$$

## [+] Semantic composition

An appositive relative pronoun lexically introduces a CI type.

$$(11) \quad \llbracket \text{who} \vdash (NP^* \setminus NP^*) / (S \setminus NP)^* \rrbracket = \lambda P. \lambda X. X \left( \lambda x. \left[ \begin{array}{c} u \triangleleft P(\lambda p. px) \\ \boxed{x} \end{array} \right] \right)$$

Syntactic derivation:

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \begin{array}{c} \text{Kim} \\ \hline NP \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{who} \\ \hline (NP^* \setminus NP^*) / (S \setminus NP)^* \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{is away} \\ \hline (S \setminus NP)^* \end{array} \\
 \hline
 \begin{array}{c} NP^* \end{array} \uparrow \quad \begin{array}{c} NP^* \setminus NP^* \end{array} > \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{will return tomorrow} \\ \hline (S \setminus NP)^* \end{array} >^* \\
 \hline
 \begin{array}{c} NP^* \end{array} < \quad \begin{array}{c} (S \setminus NP)^* \end{array} \\
 \hline
 \begin{array}{c} S^* \\ \hline S \end{array} \checkmark
 \end{array}$$

## [+] Semantic composition (contd.)

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{\text{Kim}}{\frac{k}{\boxed{k}} \uparrow} \quad \frac{\frac{\text{who}}{\lambda P. \lambda X. X \left( \lambda x. \left[ \begin{array}{c} u \triangleleft P(\lambda p. px) \\ \boxed{x} \end{array} \right] \right)} \quad \frac{\text{is away}}{\boxed{\text{away}}} > \\
 \lambda X. X \left( \lambda x. \left[ \begin{array}{c} u \triangleleft \text{away}(x) \\ \boxed{x} \end{array} \right] \right) > \\
 \hline
 \left[ \begin{array}{c} u \triangleleft \text{away}(k) \\ \boxed{k} \end{array} \right] < \quad \frac{\text{will return tomorrow}}{\boxed{\text{rtn}}} >^* \\
 \hline
 \frac{\left[ \begin{array}{c} u \triangleleft \text{away}(k) \\ \boxed{\text{rtn}(k)} \end{array} \right]}{\left[ \begin{array}{c} u \triangleleft \text{away}(k) \\ \text{rtn}(k) \end{array} \right]} \checkmark
 \end{array}$$



The next step is to define the behavior of the CI type by prescribing its typing rules.

Since we will be concerned about context updates, we adopt a slightly different notation, where the **typing contexts are explicitly mentioned**.

Example:  $(\Sigma E_1)$

$$\frac{M : (x : A) \times B}{\pi_1 M : A} (\Sigma E_1) \quad \mapsto \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash M : (x : A) \times B}{\Gamma \vdash \pi_1 M : A} (\Sigma E_1)$$

## Formal preliminaries (contd.)

The next step is to define the behavior of the  $\text{CI}$  type by prescribing its inference rules.

Since we will be concerned about context updates, we adopt a slightly different notation, where the **typing contexts are explicitly mentioned**.

Example:  $(\Pi F)$

$$\frac{\frac{A : \text{type} \quad B : \text{type}}{(x : A) \rightarrow B : \text{type}} \quad (\Pi F)}{\frac{\frac{x : A}{\vdots} \quad \Gamma \vdash A : \text{type} \quad \Gamma, x : A \vdash M : B}{\Gamma \vdash (x : A) \rightarrow B : \text{type}} \quad (\Pi F)} \mapsto$$

First, the formation rule of the CI type is the same as  $(\Pi F)$  and  $(\Sigma F)$ .

Formation rule of the CI type

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A : \text{type} \quad \Gamma, x : A \vdash B : \text{type}}{\Gamma \vdash (x \triangleleft A) \times B : \text{type}} (\triangleleft F)$$

Note: the “official” version of  $(\triangleleft F)$ , where the  $@$ -elimination for  $A$  is appropriately considered, will be given later.

## CI type: @-elimination

The trick lies in the definition of @-elimination. (or  $\triangleleft$ -elimination, so to speak ...)

@-elimination for the CI type

$$\left[ \frac{\mathcal{D}_A \quad \Gamma \vdash A : \text{type} \quad \mathcal{D}_B \quad \Gamma, x : A \vdash B : \text{type}}{\Gamma \vdash (x \triangleleft A) \times B : \text{type}} (\triangleleft^F) \right] = \frac{[\mathcal{D}_B]}{\Gamma, x : A \vdash B : \text{type}}$$

This rule has the effect of “rewriting” the context from  $\Gamma$  to  $\Gamma, x : A$ .

→ Consequently, the CI type **updates the context during @-elimination** (as desired!).

## [+] Type checking: some formal details

Since @-elimination  $\llbracket - \rrbracket$  may change the context of the given typing judgment, we need to care about this effect in the recursive definitions of the UDTT rules.

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A : \text{type} \quad \Gamma, \Delta, x : A' \vdash B : \text{type}}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash (x \triangleleft A) \times B : \text{type}} (\triangleleft^F) \quad \left( \text{where } \llbracket \frac{\mathcal{D}_A}{\Gamma \vdash A : \text{type}} \rrbracket = \Gamma, \Delta \vdash A' : \text{type} \right)$$

context extension due to  $A$

$$\left[ \frac{\frac{\mathcal{D}_A}{\Gamma \vdash A : \text{type}} \quad \frac{\mathcal{D}_B}{\Gamma, \Delta, x : A' \vdash B : \text{type}}}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash (x \triangleleft A) \times B : \text{type}} (\triangleleft^F) \right] = \frac{\llbracket \mathcal{D}_B \rrbracket}{\Gamma, \Delta, x : A, \Theta \vdash B' : \text{type}}$$

context extension due to  $B$

We have introduced the CI type  $(x \triangleleft A) \times B$ , which extends the context with  $A$  during the specification of the semantic representation.

$$\Gamma \vdash \left[ \begin{array}{c} x \triangleleft A \\ B \end{array} \right] : \text{type} \xrightarrow{\text{specification}} \Gamma, x : A \vdash B : \text{type}$$

## **Account**

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So far, we have seen that the CI type predicts ...

- The not-at-issueness of CIs

What remains to see:

- Projection behavior
- Cross-dimensional anaphora
- Interaction with quantifier scope



(2a) It is not true that [Kim, **who is away**, will return tomorrow].

The update with this utterance will proceed as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma \vdash \left( v : \begin{bmatrix} u \triangleleft \text{away}(\mathbf{k}) \\ \text{rtn}(\mathbf{k}) \end{bmatrix} \right) \rightarrow \perp : \text{type} &\xrightarrow{\text{spec.}} \Gamma, \boxed{u : \text{away}(\mathbf{k})} \vdash (v : \text{rtn}(\mathbf{k})) \rightarrow \perp : \text{type} \\ &\quad \checkmark \text{ projected} \\ &\xrightarrow{\text{app.}} \Gamma := \Gamma, u : \text{away}(\mathbf{k}), w : (v : \text{rtn}(\mathbf{k})) \rightarrow \perp \end{aligned}$$

The resulting context indeed entails the content of the ARC (“Kim is away”).

## Cross-dimensional anaphora

(6) Kim, **who has a<sup>i</sup> dog**, takes **it<sub>i</sub>** for a walk.

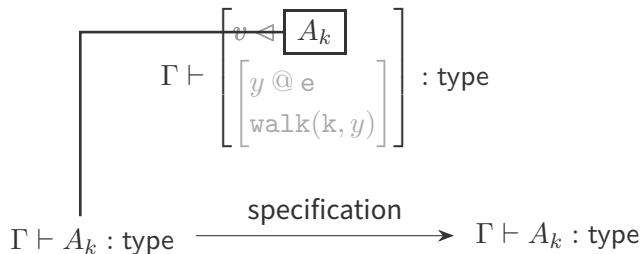
Felicity condition:

$$\Gamma \vdash \left[ \begin{array}{c} v \triangleleft A_k \\ y @ e \\ \text{walk}(k, y) \end{array} \right] : \text{type} \quad \left( A_k \equiv \left[ \begin{array}{c} u : \left[ \begin{array}{c} x : e \\ \text{dog}(x) \end{array} \right] \\ \text{have}(k, x) \end{array} \right] \right)$$

## Cross-dimensional anaphora (contd.)

(6) Kim, who has a<sup>i</sup> dog, takes it<sub>i</sub> for a walk.

Specification (step 1):



## Cross-dimensional anaphora (contd.)

(6) Kim, who has a<sup>i</sup> dog, takes it<sub>i</sub> for a walk.

Specification (step 2):

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \Gamma \vdash \left[ \begin{array}{c} v \triangleleft A_k \\ \boxed{\begin{array}{c} y @ e \\ \text{walk}(k, y) \end{array}} \end{array} \right] : \text{type} \\
 \downarrow \\
 \Gamma, v : A_k \vdash \left[ \begin{array}{c} y @ e \\ \text{walk}(k, y) \end{array} \right] : \text{type} \xrightarrow[\substack{\text{spec.} \\ y := \pi_1(\pi_1 v)}]{\text{spec.}} \Gamma, v : A_k \vdash \text{walk}(k, \pi_1(\pi_1 v)) : \text{type}
 \end{array}$$

## [+] Cross-dimensional anaphora: Order-sensitivity

Cross-dimensional anaphora is sensitive to the order (AnderBois et al., 2015; Elliott & Sudo, 2021).

(12) \*  $Its_i$  reviewers praised Kim, who had submitted a<sup>i</sup> paper on CI.

$$\Gamma \vdash \left[ \begin{array}{c} x @ e \\ \left[ \begin{array}{c} v \triangleleft \left[ \begin{array}{c} u : \left[ \begin{array}{c} y : e \\ \text{paper}(y) \end{array} \right] \\ \dots \end{array} \right] \\ \text{praise}(\text{reviewer}(x), k) \end{array} \right] \end{array} \right] : \text{type}$$

In this case, the @-type must be eliminated **before the CI is added to the context**, correctly blocking the anaphoric dependency.

## Interaction with quantifier scope

(13) Every<sup>i</sup> student bid farewell to Nate, who had given them<sub>i</sub> some great advice.

Felicity condition:

$$\Gamma \vdash \left( u : \begin{bmatrix} x : e \\ \text{std}(x) \end{bmatrix} \right) \rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{c} v \triangleleft \begin{bmatrix} y @ e \\ \text{adv}(\mathbf{n}, y) \end{bmatrix} \\ \text{fwl}(\pi_1 u, \mathbf{n}) \end{array} \right] : \text{type}$$

By resolving the @-type (inside the CI type) with  $\pi_1 u$ , we have ...

$$\left( u : \begin{bmatrix} \boxed{x : e} \\ \text{std}(x) \end{bmatrix} \right) \rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{c} v \triangleleft \text{adv}(\mathbf{n}, \boxed{\pi_1 u}) \\ \text{fwl}(\pi_1 u, \mathbf{n}) \end{array} \right]$$

Issue: A  $\Pi$  type containing local variable leads to a failure of type checking.

$$\Gamma \vdash (u : A) \rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{c} v \triangleleft B(u) \\ C \end{array} \right] : \text{type} \xrightarrow{\text{spec.}} \Gamma, v : \underbrace{B(u)}_{\text{X unbound!}} \vdash (u : A) \rightarrow C : \text{type}$$

Solution: we allow the variables to be bound by the  $\Pi$ -type.

$$\Gamma, f : (u : A) \rightarrow B(u) \vdash (u : A) \rightarrow C[f u / v] : \text{type}$$

## [+] $\Pi$ -closure: some formal details

We revise the typing rule as follows (the @-elimination remains the same).

( $\triangleleft$ ) (a revised version)

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A : \text{type} \quad \Gamma, \Delta, x : A^c \vdash B[xx_0 \cdots x_n/x] : \text{type}}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash (x \triangleleft A) \times B : \text{type}} \quad (\triangleleft F)$$

$$\left( \text{where } \left[ \left[ \Gamma \vdash A : \text{type} \right] \right] = \left[ \left[ \mathcal{D}_A \right] \right] \Gamma, \Delta \vdash A' : \text{type} , \quad A^c = (x_0 : A_0) \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow (x_n : A_n) \rightarrow A' \right. \\ \left. (x_i : A_i \in \Gamma \text{ for each } 0 \leq i \leq n) \right)$$

Note: since this rule may potentially “overgenerate” many readings (with irrelevant  $(x_i : A_i) \rightarrow$  being introduced), we need some pragmatic mechanisms to rule them out.



## Interaction with quantifier scope (contd.)

(13) Every<sup>*i*</sup> student bid farewell to Nate, who had given them<sub>*i*</sub> some great advice.

$$\Gamma \vdash \left( u : \begin{bmatrix} x : \mathbf{e} \\ \mathbf{std}(x) \end{bmatrix} \right) \rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{l} v \triangleleft \mathbf{adv}(\mathbf{n}, \pi_1 u) \\ \mathbf{fwl}(\pi_1 u, \mathbf{n}) \end{array} \right] : \text{type}$$

↓ spec.

$$\Gamma, f : \left( u : \begin{bmatrix} x : \mathbf{e} \\ \mathbf{std}(x) \end{bmatrix} \right) \rightarrow \mathbf{adv}(\mathbf{n}, \pi_1 u) \vdash \left( u : \begin{bmatrix} x : \mathbf{e} \\ \mathbf{std}(x) \end{bmatrix} \right) \rightarrow \mathbf{fwl}(\pi_1 u, \mathbf{n}) : \text{type}$$

“Nate gave every student some advise.”

Q. How can we formally analyze CIs in the framework of DTS?

- We have introduced **the CI type**, which extends the context when eliminated.
  - **not-at-issue update** = context extension during the specification process
- The CI type can capture some important properties of CIs.
  - **Projection**: CIs are directly added to the context, escaping the scope of operators.
  - **Cross-dimensional anaphora**: after added to the context, CIs behave in the same way as the at-issue content.
  - **Interaction with quantifier scope**: it can be handled by assuming  $\Pi$ -closure.

**Thank you for listening!**

For any follow-up questions, please contact me at:

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## **Appendix**

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## Manipulating the context

We have a slight technical issue when a  $\text{CI}$  type appears in the scope of some operators.

Example:  $(x : A) \rightarrow ((y \triangleleft B) \times C)$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A : \text{type} \quad \Gamma, x : A \vdash (y \triangleleft B) \times C : \text{type}}{\Gamma \vdash (x : A) \rightarrow ((y \triangleleft B) \times C) : \text{type}} \quad (\Pi F)$$

After eliminating  $\triangleleft$ , we cannot put back the local variable  $x : A$  since it is not at the right edge of the context.

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A : \text{type} \quad \Gamma, x : A, y : B \vdash C : \text{type}}{\text{-----}} \quad (\Pi F)$$

## Manipulating the context (contd.)

To avoid this problem, we need to use weakening and permutation.

$$\frac{\frac{\Gamma \vdash A : \text{type} \quad \Gamma \vdash B : \text{type}}{\Gamma, y : B \vdash A : \text{type}} \text{ (wk)} \quad \frac{\Gamma, x : A, y : B \vdash C : \text{type}}{\Gamma, y : B, x : A \vdash C : \text{type}} \text{ (term)}}{\Gamma, y : B \vdash (x : A) \rightarrow C : \text{type}} \text{ (IF)}$$

## Details of the derivation: projection

(2a) It is not true that [Kim, **who is away**, will return tomorrow].

Felicity condition:

$$\Gamma \vdash \left( v : \begin{bmatrix} u \triangleleft \text{away } k \\ \text{rtn } k \end{bmatrix} \right) \rightarrow \perp : \text{type}$$

## Details of the derivation: projection (contd.)

(2a) It is not true that [Kim, who is away, will return tomorrow].

Type checking:

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \left[ \begin{array}{l} u \triangleleft \text{away } k \\ \text{rtn } k \end{array} \right] : \text{type} \quad \dots}{\Gamma \vdash \left( v : \left[ \begin{array}{l} u \triangleleft \text{away } k \\ \text{rtn } k \end{array} \right] \right) \rightarrow \perp : \text{type}} \quad (\Pi F')$$



## Details of the derivation: projection (contd.)

(2a) It is not true that [Kim, who is away, will return tomorrow].

Type checking:

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \mathcal{D}_{away} \\ \Gamma \vdash \text{away } k : \text{type} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \mathcal{D}_{return} \\ \Gamma, u : \text{away } k \vdash \text{rtn } k : \text{type} \end{array}}{\Gamma \vdash \left[ \begin{array}{c} u \triangleleft \text{away } k \\ \text{rtn } k \end{array} \right] : \text{type}} \quad (\triangleleft F)$$
$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash \left[ \begin{array}{c} u \triangleleft \text{away } k \\ \text{rtn } k \end{array} \right] : \text{type} \quad \dots}{\Gamma \vdash \left( v : \left[ \begin{array}{c} u \triangleleft \text{away } k \\ \text{rtn } k \end{array} \right] \right) \rightarrow \perp : \text{type}} \quad (\Pi F)$$

## Details of the derivation: projection (contd.)

(2a) It is not true that [Kim, who is away, will return tomorrow].

Type checking:

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \mathcal{D}_A \qquad \mathcal{D}_\perp \\
 \Gamma \vdash \left[ \begin{array}{c} u \triangleleft \text{away } k \\ \text{rtn } k \end{array} \right] : \text{type} \quad \Gamma, u : \text{away } k, v : \text{rtn } k \vdash \perp : \text{type} \\
 \hline
 \Gamma \vdash \left( v : \left[ \begin{array}{c} u \triangleleft \text{away } k \\ \text{rtn } k \end{array} \right] \right) \rightarrow \perp : \text{type} \qquad (\Pi F) \\
 \\
 \left( \because \llbracket \mathcal{D}_A \rrbracket = \begin{array}{c} \mathcal{D}_{\text{return}} \\ \Gamma, u : \text{away } k \vdash \text{rtn } k : \text{type} \end{array} \right)
 \end{array}$$

## Details of the derivation: projection (contd.)

(2a) It is not true that [Kim, who is away, will return tomorrow].

Applying @-elimination to the whole derivation ...

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \llbracket \mathcal{D}_A \rrbracket \\ \Gamma, u : \text{away } k \vdash \text{rtn } k : \text{type} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \llbracket \mathcal{D}_\perp \rrbracket \\ \Gamma, u : \text{away } k, v : \text{rtn } k \vdash \perp : \text{type} \end{array}}{\Gamma, u : \text{away } k \vdash (v : \text{rtn } k) \rightarrow \perp : \text{type}} \quad (\Pi F)$$

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