Noun Phrase Semantics

(Introduction)

NP : e
(John)

S : t
(It rains.)

S\NP : <e,t>
(sleeps)

book : e

↓
denotes a set
<e, t>

NP : e

book := S\NP : λx. book'x
<e,t>

"a book" is an entity
determined noun phrase
(or determiner phrase)

child := S\NP : λx.child'x
<e,t>

"the child" — definite descriptions

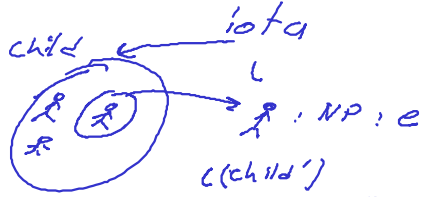
definiteness

- familiar
- salient
- uniqueness
- identifiability
- exhaustivity

} blend these concepts

NP
The child sleeps.

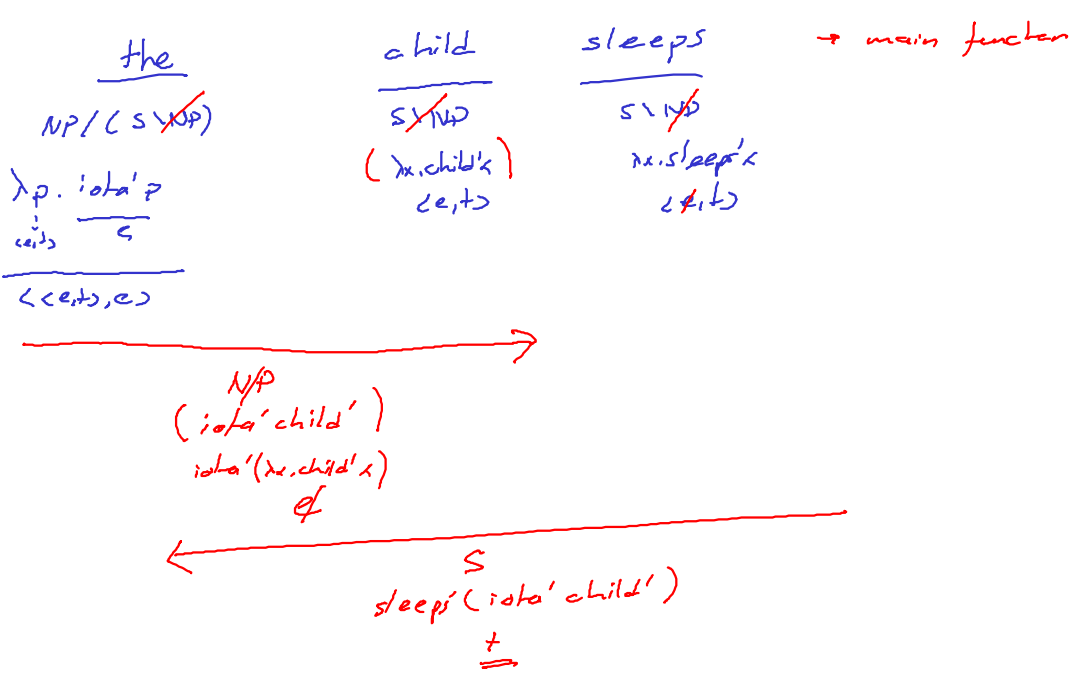
The	child	sleeps.
T	S\NP	S\NP
	λx.child'x	λx.sleeps'x
	<e,t>	<e,t>
NP/(S\NP)		
e + e		
<e,t>		
<<e,t>,e>		



the child ↔ John

NP : e

ι(child') = ιo'child' / e


the
child
sleeps
→ main function
NP/(S\NP)
S\NP
S\NP
λp. iota' p
(λx.child'x)
λx.sleep'x
<e,t>
<e,t>
<e,t>
<<e,t>,e>
NP
(iota' child')
iota'(λx.child'x)
e
S
sleeps'(iota' child')
t

child := S \ NP

sleeps := S \ NP

John sleeps.

*John child

S \ NP [ψ 1] ≡ N

John := NP [ψ 0]

*John child

NP [ψ 0] | S \ NP [ψ 1]

the

NP / (S \ NP) [ψ 1]

"the child" ✓

(S \ NP) [ψ 1]

*the John

NP [ψ 0]

child : N <e,t>

sleeps : S\NP <e,t>

the := NP/N (<e,t>, e>