

# Model-theoretic Semantics: Names and verbs

## Models

A model  $M$  for predicate logic is an ordered pair  $\langle U, \llbracket \cdot \rrbracket \rangle$ , in which:

- $U$  is a nonempty set of individuals;
- $\llbracket \cdot \rrbracket$  is an interpretation function.

Ling-exp  $\longrightarrow \llbracket \cdot \rrbracket \longrightarrow$  some object built from  $U$

## A sample model

$U = \{a, b, c\}$

a: a girl named *Ada*  
 b: a girl named *Becky*  
 c: a girl named *Cindy*

### Facts

- a, b and c are girls.
- a and b danced, but c didn't.
- a saw b, but b didn't see a.
- c saw a, and a saw c, too.
- a and c are Americans, but b is a British.

## Names

$\llbracket \text{Ada} \rrbracket = a$      $\llbracket \text{Becky} \rrbracket = b$      $\llbracket \text{Cindy} \rrbracket = c$

Type  $e$

## Intransitive verbs

$\llbracket \text{dance} \rrbracket = \{x \mid x \text{ dances}\} = \{a, b\} \subseteq U$

### Characteristic functions

$\llbracket \text{dance} \rrbracket = \begin{bmatrix} a \longrightarrow 1 \\ b \longrightarrow 1 \\ c \longrightarrow 0 \end{bmatrix}$

Type  $e \rightarrow t$

## Transitive verbs

$\llbracket \text{see} \rrbracket = \{\langle x, y \rangle \mid x \text{ saw } y\}$   
 $= \{\langle a, b \rangle, \langle c, a \rangle, \langle a, c \rangle\} \subseteq U \times U$

### Characteristic functions

$\llbracket \text{see} \rrbracket = \begin{bmatrix} \langle a, b \rangle \longrightarrow 1 \\ \langle a, c \rangle \longrightarrow 1 \\ \langle c, a \rangle \longrightarrow 1 \\ \langle a, a \rangle \longrightarrow 0 \\ \langle c, b \rangle \longrightarrow 0 \\ \langle c, c \rangle \longrightarrow 0 \\ \langle b, a \rangle \longrightarrow 0 \\ \langle b, c \rangle \longrightarrow 0 \\ \dots \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} a \longrightarrow 1 \\ b \longrightarrow 1 \\ c \longrightarrow 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ b \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} a \longrightarrow 1 \\ b \longrightarrow 0 \\ c \longrightarrow 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ c \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} a \longrightarrow 1 \\ b \longrightarrow 0 \\ c \longrightarrow 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{bmatrix}$

Type  $e \rightarrow e \rightarrow t$

## Combination

$t$

$e$      $e \rightarrow t$   
 Ada    danced

$t$

$e$      $e \rightarrow t$   
 Ada    saw

$e \rightarrow e \rightarrow t$      $e$   
 Becky

### Functional Application

$f :: a \rightarrow b$      $x :: a$   
 $f(x) :: b$

1.  $\llbracket \text{Ada danced} \rrbracket = \llbracket \text{danced} \rrbracket(\llbracket \text{Ada} \rrbracket)$
2.  $\llbracket \text{Ada saw Becky} \rrbracket = \llbracket \text{saw} \rrbracket(\llbracket \text{Becky} \rrbracket)(\llbracket \text{Ada} \rrbracket)$

## Formal concepts

**Set** “a collection of distinct objects, considered as an object in its own right” (thanks wiki)

Defining sets

- Extensionally:  $\{a, b, c\}$
- Intensionally:  $\{x \mid x \text{ is a girl}\}$

Empty set:  $\emptyset$  or  $\{\}$

### Relations between sets

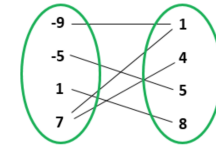
- Proper subset:  $A \subset B$  iff  $A \subseteq B$  and  $B \not\subseteq A$
- Equivalence:  $A = B$  iff  $A \subseteq B$  and  $B \subseteq A$
- Superset:  $B \supseteq A$  iff  $A \subseteq B$

**Power sets**  $\wp(A) = \{B \mid B \subseteq A\}$

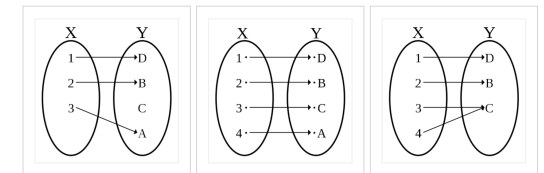
**Pairs**  $\langle a, b \rangle \neq \langle b, a \rangle$     **n-tuples**  $\langle a, b, c, \dots \rangle$

### Relations as sets of pairs (Cartesian products)

$A \times B := \{\langle x, y \rangle \mid x \in A \text{ and } y \in B\}$



**Function** any relation where each input is paired with at most one output



injection

bijection

surjection

**Type** a ‘name tag’ of a set ( $D_e$ ,  $D_t$ )

Basic types:  $e$  (individuals);  $t$  (truth values)

Function types:  $a \rightarrow b$

# Currying

‘In mathematics and computer science, **currying** is the technique of converting a function that takes multiple arguments into a sequence of functions that each take a single argument.’ (thanks wiki)

Given a function  $f : (X \times Y) \rightarrow Z$ ,

**currying** constructs a new function:  $h : X \rightarrow Y \rightarrow Z$

NB: The operation **currying** is named after Haskell Curry, an American mathematician and logician,

## Exponential notation of functions $f \in Y^X$

Given  $X = \{a, b, c\}$  and  $Y = \{1, 0\}$ ,

- For each  $x$  in  $X$ , there are two mappings from  $\{x\}$  to  $Y$

$$S_a = \{[a \mapsto 1], [a \mapsto 0]\}; \quad S_b = \{[b \mapsto 1], [b \mapsto 0]\}; \quad S_c = \{[c \mapsto 1], [c \mapsto 0]\}$$

- Possible functions from  $X$  to  $Y$ :

$$\begin{array}{cccc} \left[ \begin{array}{l} a \mapsto 1, \\ b \mapsto 1, \\ c \mapsto 0 \end{array} \right] & \left[ \begin{array}{l} a \mapsto 1, \\ b \mapsto 0, \\ c \mapsto 0 \end{array} \right] & \left[ \begin{array}{l} a \mapsto 0, \\ b \mapsto 0, \\ c \mapsto 0 \end{array} \right] & \left[ \begin{array}{l} a \mapsto 1, \\ b \mapsto 1, \\ c \mapsto 1 \end{array} \right] \\ \left[ \begin{array}{l} a \mapsto 1, \\ b \mapsto 0, \\ c \mapsto 1 \end{array} \right] & \left[ \begin{array}{l} a \mapsto 0, \\ b \mapsto 1, \\ c \mapsto 1 \end{array} \right] & \left[ \begin{array}{l} a \mapsto 0, \\ b \mapsto 0, \\ c \mapsto 1 \end{array} \right] & \left[ \begin{array}{l} a \mapsto 0, \\ b \mapsto 1, \\ c \mapsto 0 \end{array} \right] \end{array}$$

- The total number of the functions  $X \mapsto Y$  is:  $2 \times 2 \times 2$

- $|Y^X| = |Y|^{|X|} = 2^3$

## Proof of Currying

$$\begin{array}{ll} |Z^{(X \times Y)}| = |Z|^{|X \times Y|} & |Z^{(X \times Y)}| = |Z|^{|X \times Y|} \\ = |Z|^{|X| \times |Y|} & = |Z|^{|X| \times |Y|} \\ = (|Z|^{|Y|})^{|X|} & = (|Z|^{|X|})^{|Y|} \\ = |(Z^Y)^X| & = |(Z^X)^Y| \end{array}$$

## Currying $n$ -ary relations

$$\llbracket \text{see} \rrbracket = \left[ \begin{array}{l} \langle a, b \rangle \mapsto 1, \\ \langle a, c \rangle \mapsto 1, \\ \langle a, a \rangle \mapsto 0, \\ \langle b, a \rangle \mapsto 0, \\ \langle b, c \rangle \mapsto 0, \\ \langle b, b \rangle \mapsto 0, \\ \langle c, a \rangle \mapsto 1, \\ \langle c, b \rangle \mapsto 0, \\ \langle c, c \rangle \mapsto 0 \end{array} \right]$$

Turning  $n$ -ary relations to  $n$ -place functions

$$\begin{array}{cc} \left[ \begin{array}{l} a \mapsto \left[ \begin{array}{l} a \mapsto 0, \\ b \mapsto 0, \\ c \mapsto 1 \end{array} \right] \\ b \mapsto \left[ \begin{array}{l} a \mapsto 1, \\ b \mapsto 0, \\ c \mapsto 0 \end{array} \right] \\ c \mapsto \left[ \begin{array}{l} a \mapsto 1, \\ b \mapsto 0, \\ c \mapsto 0 \end{array} \right] \end{array} \right] & \left[ \begin{array}{l} a \mapsto \left[ \begin{array}{l} a \mapsto 0, \\ b \mapsto 1, \\ c \mapsto 1 \end{array} \right] \\ b \mapsto \left[ \begin{array}{l} a \mapsto 0, \\ b \mapsto 0, \\ c \mapsto 0 \end{array} \right] \\ c \mapsto \left[ \begin{array}{l} a \mapsto 1, \\ b \mapsto 0, \\ c \mapsto 0 \end{array} \right] \end{array} \right] \\ \text{Right to Left} & \text{Left to Right} \end{array}$$

# Model-theoretical Semantics: Connectives

## Connectives

**Negation:** Tom didn't leave.

**Conjunction:** Tom danced and Andy sang.

**Disjunction:** Tom danced or Andy sang.

**Conditional:** If Andy sang, then Tom danced.

## Truth table

$p$	$q$	$p \vee q$	$p$	$q$	$p \wedge q$	$p$	$q$	$p \rightarrow q$
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0
0	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1

$p$	$\neg p$	$p$	$q$	$p \leftrightarrow q$
1	0	1	1	1
0	1	1	0	0
		0	1	0
		0	0	1

## Meaning

$$\llbracket \text{and} \rrbracket = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} 1 \mapsto 1 \\ 0 \mapsto 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ 0 \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} 1 \mapsto 0 \\ 0 \mapsto 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{bmatrix} \quad \llbracket \text{not} \rrbracket = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \mapsto 0 \\ 0 \mapsto 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

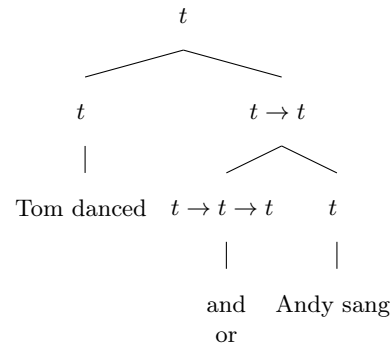
$$\llbracket \text{or} \rrbracket = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} 1 \mapsto 1 \\ 0 \mapsto 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ 0 \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} 1 \mapsto 1 \\ 0 \mapsto 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\llbracket \text{not} \rrbracket :: t \rightarrow t$$

$$\text{Type } \llbracket \text{and} \rrbracket :: t \rightarrow t \rightarrow t$$

$$\llbracket \text{or} \rrbracket :: t \rightarrow t \rightarrow t$$

## Composition



## Logical equivalences

### 1. Double negation elimination

- $\neg\neg p = p$

### 2. Distributive laws

- $p \wedge (q \vee r) = (p \wedge q) \vee (p \wedge r)$
- $p \vee (q \wedge r) = (p \vee q) \wedge (p \vee r)$

### 3. Associative laws

- $(p \wedge q) \wedge r = p \wedge (q \wedge r)$
- $(p \vee q) \vee r = p \vee (q \vee r)$

### 4. DeMorgan's laws

- $\neg(p \wedge q) = \neg p \vee \neg q$
- $\neg(p \vee q) = \neg p \wedge \neg q$

### 5. Eliminability of the material conditional

- $p \rightarrow q = \neg p \vee q$

## A sample proof

$$(p \wedge q) \rightarrow r = p \rightarrow (q \rightarrow r)$$

$$\text{Proof: } (p \wedge q) \rightarrow r = \neg(p \wedge q) \vee r \quad (5)$$

$$= (\neg p \vee \neg q) \vee r \quad (4)$$

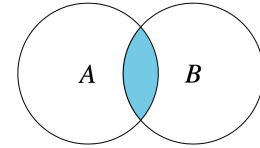
$$= \neg p \vee (\neg q \vee r) \quad (3)$$

$$= p \rightarrow (\neg q \vee r) \quad (5)$$

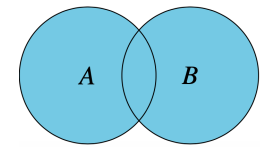
$$= p \rightarrow (q \rightarrow r) \quad (5) \quad \square$$

## Operations on sets

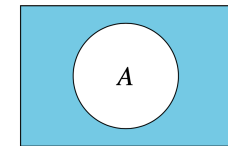
**Intersection**  $A \cap B := \{x \mid x \in A \text{ and } x \in B\}$



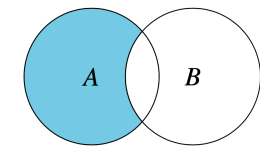
**Union**  $A \cup B := \{x \mid x \in A \text{ or } x \in B\}$



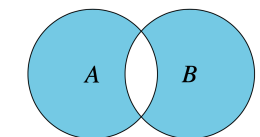
**Complementation**  $\bar{A} := \{x \mid x \notin A\}$



**Difference**  $A - B := \{x \mid x \in A \text{ and } x \notin B\}$



**Exclusive union**  $A \underline{\cup} B := (A \cup B) - (A \cap B)$



# Different kinds of meaning: Presupposition

## What is taken for granted

Possessives

- (1) **Emma's son** is smart.  
 $\rightsquigarrow$  Emma has a son.

Factive verbs

- (2) Becky **knows** Alex is tall.  
 $\rightsquigarrow$  Alex is tall.

Additive adverbs

- (3) Kelly wore a hat, **too**.  
 $\rightsquigarrow$  Someone else wore a hat.

Definites

- (4) **The** student is smart.  
 $\rightsquigarrow$  There is a unique student.

Gender feature

- (5) **She** is knowledgeable.  
 $\rightsquigarrow$  The person referred to by *she* is female.

## What are you protesting

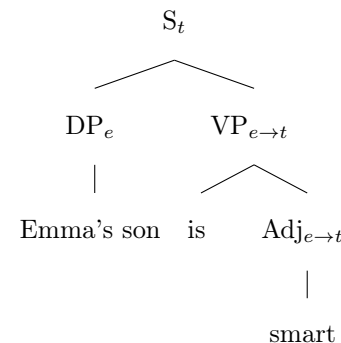
- (6) A: Is Emma's son smart?  
 B: No, he isn't.  
 B': #No, Emma doesn't have a son.  
 B'': Hey wait a minute. I didn't know Emma has a son.

## Projection

- (7) Emma's son is **not** smart. (negation)  
 $\rightsquigarrow$  Emma has a son.  
 (8) **Is** Emma's son smart? (question)  
 $\rightsquigarrow$  Emma has a son.  
 (9) **Maybe** Emma's son is smart. (modal)  
 $\rightsquigarrow$  Emma has a son.  
 (10) **If** Emma's son is smart, **then** he can resolve this puzzle. (conditional)  
 $\rightsquigarrow$  Emma has a son.

## Definedness condition

$\llbracket \text{Emma's son} \rrbracket = a$  Type:  $e$   
 defined only if Emma has a son



- $\llbracket \text{smart} \rrbracket = x \mapsto x \in \{y \mid y \text{ is smart}\}$  Type:  $e \rightarrow t$
- $\llbracket \text{Emma's son is smart} \rrbracket = \llbracket \text{smart} \rrbracket(\llbracket \text{Emma's son} \rrbracket)$   
 $= a \in \{y \mid y \text{ is smart}\}$   
 defined only if  
 Emma has a son

At issue meaning:  $a \in \{y \mid y \text{ is smart}\}$

Non-at-issue meaning: the definedness condition

## Definition

Presuppositions are inferences **backgrounded** and **taken for granted** (Redundancy).

1. A sentence can be felicitously uttered only in contexts where its presupposition is true.
2. Expressions triggering presuppositions are presupposition triggers.

## Three value logic (weak Kleene)

A sentence is neither true (1) nor false (0), but undefined (#) iff its presupposition is false.

$\phi$	$\psi$	$\neg\phi$	$\phi \wedge \psi$	$\phi \vee \psi$	$\phi \rightarrow \psi$
1	1	0	1	1	1
1	0	0	0	1	0
1	#	0	#	#	#
0	1	1	0	1	1
0	0	1	0	0	1
0	#	1	#	#	#
#	1	#	#	#	#
#	0	#	#	#	#
#	#	#	#	#	#

## Filtering

In a sentence consisting of multiple sub-clauses,

1. the presupposition of a sub-clause may be satisfied locally;
2. the whole sentence does not have the presupposition.

Conjunction

- (11) Emma has a son and her son is very smart.  
 $\nrightarrow$  Emma has a son.

Conditional

- (12) If Emma has a son, she would send her son to that school.  
 $\nrightarrow$  Emma has a son.

Disjunction

- (13) Either Emma doesn't have a son, or her son doesn't live with her.  
 $\nrightarrow$  Emma has a son.

## Other types of non-at-issue meanings

**Scalar implicature** (Cancelable)

- (14) Emma ate three apples.  
 $\rightsquigarrow$  Emma ate **only** three apples.

- (15) Emma ate three apples. In fact, she ate four.

**Supplement** (non-at-issue but new)

- (16) Did Alex, who you mistreated, press charges?

- (17) A: Alex is incompetent.  
 B: Does Alex know he is?  
 B': #Is Alex, who is incompetent, aware of this?

# Variables and assignments: Pronouns and (FOL) quantifiers

## Pronouns and quantifiers

**Pronoun:** She is smart.

**Quantification:** Every girl is smart.

Some boy is silly.

**Multiple quantifiers:** Every girl saw a boy.

**Quantifier+pronoun:** No kid likes their school.

What do a pronoun or a quantifier denote?

## Variables

A pronoun does not have a deterministic meaning. Its value varies among different contexts.

- (1) Ada resolved the puzzle. She is smart.
- (2) Becky got an A. She is smart.

Formally, variables do not have deterministic values, either.

## Assignment (function)

$$g = \begin{bmatrix} x \mapsto a \\ y \mapsto b \\ z \mapsto c \end{bmatrix} \quad g = \begin{bmatrix} x \mapsto a \\ y \mapsto a \\ z \mapsto c \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\llbracket \text{she}_x \rrbracket^{M,g} = g(x)$$

The concrete value of  $g$  is **contextually** determined.

- For (1),  $g(x) = a$

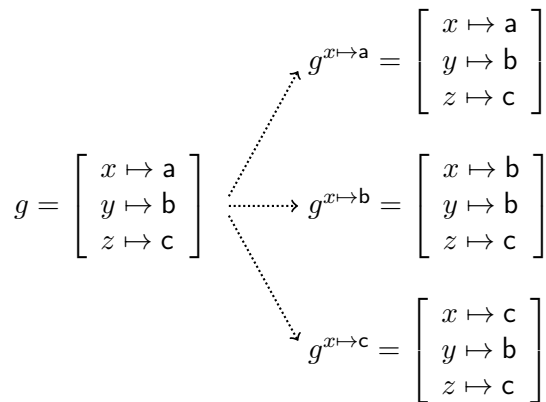
$$\begin{aligned} \llbracket \text{she}_x \text{ is smart} \rrbracket^{M,g} &= \llbracket \text{smart} \rrbracket^{M,g}(\llbracket \text{she}_x \rrbracket^{M,g}) \\ &= \text{smart}(g(x)) \\ &= \text{smart}(a) \end{aligned}$$

- For (2),  $g(x) = b$

$$\begin{aligned} \llbracket \text{she}_x \text{ is smart} \rrbracket^{M,g} &= \llbracket \text{smart} \rrbracket^{M,g}(\llbracket \text{she}_x \rrbracket^{M,g}) \\ &= \end{aligned}$$

## Universal quantification

$$\llbracket \text{everyone is smart} \rrbracket^{M,g} = \forall x. \text{smart}(x)$$

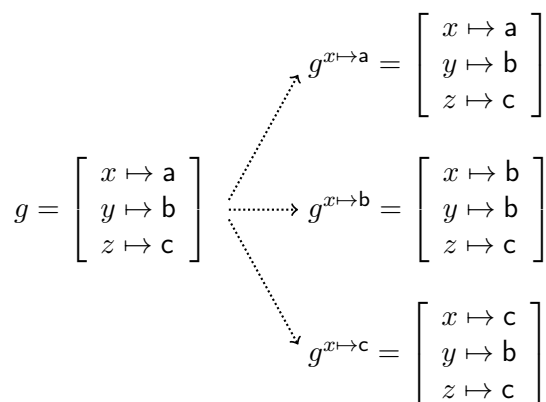


‘ $\forall x. \text{smart}(x)$ ’ means:

$$\text{smart}(g^{x \mapsto a}(x)) \wedge \text{smart}(g^{x \mapsto b}(x)) \wedge \text{smart}(g^{x \mapsto c}(x))$$

## Existential quantification

$$\llbracket \text{someone is silly} \rrbracket^{M,g} = \exists x. \text{silly}(x)$$

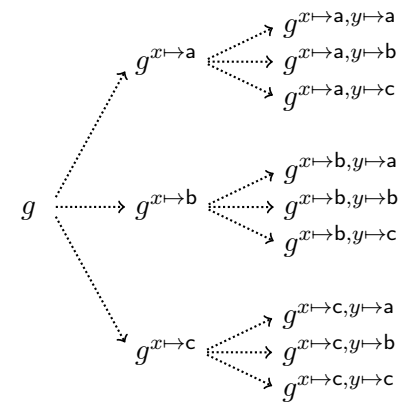


‘ $\exists x. \text{silly}(x)$ ’ means:

$$\text{silly}(g^{x \mapsto a}(x)) \vee \text{silly}(g^{x \mapsto b}(x)) \vee \text{silly}(g^{x \mapsto c}(x))$$

## Multiple quantifiers

$$\llbracket \text{everyone saw someone} \rrbracket^{M,g} = \forall x \exists y. \text{see}(y)(x)$$



‘ $\forall x \exists y. \text{see}(y)(x)$ ’ means:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \bigvee \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{see}(g^{x \mapsto a, y \mapsto a}(y))(g^{x \mapsto a, y \mapsto a}(x)) \\ \text{see}(g^{x \mapsto a, y \mapsto b}(y))(g^{x \mapsto a, y \mapsto b}(x)) \\ \text{see}(g^{x \mapsto a, y \mapsto c}(y))(g^{x \mapsto a, y \mapsto c}(x)) \end{array} \right\} \\ \bigwedge \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \bigvee \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{see}(g^{x \mapsto b, y \mapsto a}(y))(g^{x \mapsto b, y \mapsto a}(x)) \\ \text{see}(g^{x \mapsto b, y \mapsto b}(y))(g^{x \mapsto b, y \mapsto b}(x)) \\ \text{see}(g^{x \mapsto b, y \mapsto c}(y))(g^{x \mapsto b, y \mapsto c}(x)) \end{array} \right\} \\ \bigvee \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{see}(g^{x \mapsto c, y \mapsto a}(y))(g^{x \mapsto c, y \mapsto a}(x)) \\ \text{see}(g^{x \mapsto c, y \mapsto b}(y))(g^{x \mapsto c, y \mapsto b}(x)) \\ \text{see}(g^{x \mapsto c, y \mapsto c}(y))(g^{x \mapsto c, y \mapsto c}(x)) \end{array} \right\} \end{array} \right\}$$

How about the other meaning:  $\exists y \forall x. \text{see}(y)(x)$

## Bound pronouns

$$\begin{aligned} \llbracket \text{no one likes their}_x \text{ school} \rrbracket^{M,g} &= \\ &= \neg \exists x. \text{like}(\text{school-of-}x)(x) \end{aligned}$$

The value of *their<sub>x</sub>* **co-varies** with  $\exists x$

# Lambda calculus: Relative clauses

## λ-notation

Consider a function:

$$f : \mathbb{N} \mapsto \mathbb{N} \text{ for every } x \in \mathbb{N}. f(x) = x + 1$$

The function can be expressed as follows:

$$f = \lambda x : x \in \mathbb{N}. x + 1$$

The (smallest) function which maps every  $x$  such that  $x \in \mathbb{N}$  to  $x + 1$

## Semantic types of λ-terms

If  $x$  is type of  $a$  and  $E$  is type of  $b$ , then  $\lambda x.E$  is type of  $a \rightarrow b$ .

## Intransitive verbs

$$\llbracket \text{dance} \rrbracket^{M,g} = \begin{bmatrix} a \mapsto 1 \\ b \mapsto 1 \\ c \mapsto 0 \end{bmatrix} \text{ i.e., } \begin{matrix} f : D_e \mapsto D_t \\ \text{for every } x, f(x) = 1 \\ \text{iff } x \text{ dance} \end{matrix}$$

$$\llbracket \text{dance} \rrbracket^{M,g} = \overbrace{\lambda x : \in D_e. \underbrace{\text{dance}(x)}_t}^e$$

## Transitive verbs

$$\left[ a \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} a \mapsto 0 \\ b \mapsto 0 \\ c \mapsto 1 \end{bmatrix}, b \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} a \mapsto 1 \\ b \mapsto 0 \\ c \mapsto 0 \end{bmatrix}, c \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} a \mapsto 1 \\ b \mapsto 0 \\ c \mapsto 0 \end{bmatrix} \right]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \llbracket \text{see} \rrbracket^{M,g} &= f : D_e \mapsto D_{e \rightarrow t} \\ &\text{for every } x, f(x) = f' : D_e \mapsto D_t \\ &\text{for every } y, f'(y) = 1 \\ &\text{iff } y \text{ see } x \end{aligned}$$

$$\llbracket \text{see} \rrbracket^{M,g} = \overbrace{\lambda x : x \in D_e. \underbrace{\overbrace{\lambda y : y \in D_e. \text{see}(x)(y)}^e}_t}^e$$

## λ-reduction

η-equivalence

$$f = \lambda x. f(x)$$

Two functions are equivalent iff they return the same values for every argument

$$\llbracket \text{dance} \rrbracket^{M,g} = \text{dance} = \lambda x. \text{dance}(x)$$

β-reduction

$$(\lambda x. E_1)(E_2) = E_1[E_2/x]$$

“ $E_1[E_2/x]$ ” is the expression just like  $E_1$ , but where every free occurrence of  $x$  has been replaced by  $E_2$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \llbracket \text{dance} \rrbracket^{M,g}(\llbracket \text{Ada} \rrbracket^{M,g}) &= [\lambda x. \text{dance}(x)](a) \\ &= \text{dance}(a) \end{aligned}$$

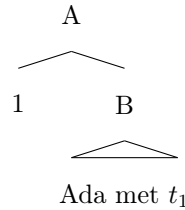
α-equivalence

$$\lambda x. E = \lambda y. E[y/x]$$

A specific choice of a bound variable doesn't matter.

$$\llbracket \text{dance} \rrbracket^{M,g} = \lambda x. \text{dance}(x) = \lambda y. \text{dance}(y)$$

## λ-abstraction

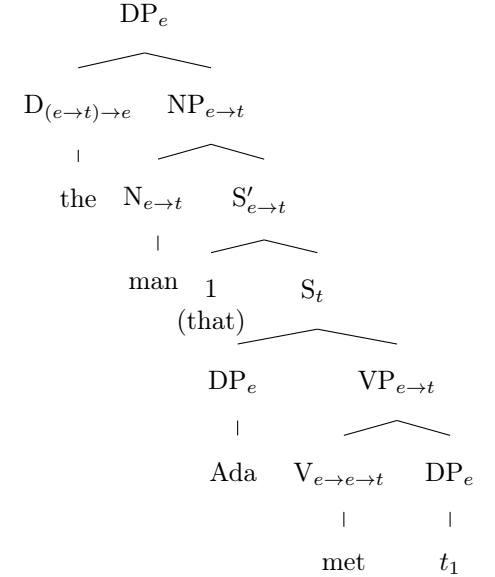


If  $A$  is branching node with daughters  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $B$  of type  $b$ , then  $A$  has type  $a \rightarrow b$  and for any assignment  $g$ ,  $\llbracket A \rrbracket^{M,g} = \lambda x. \llbracket B \rrbracket^{g^{1 \mapsto x}}$

$$\begin{aligned} \llbracket 1 \text{ [Ada met } t_1] \rrbracket^{M,g} &= \lambda x. \llbracket \text{Ada met } t_1 \rrbracket^{M,g^{1 \mapsto x}} \\ &= \lambda x. \llbracket \text{met} \rrbracket^{M,g^{1 \mapsto x}}(\llbracket t_1 \rrbracket^{M,g^{1 \mapsto x}})(\llbracket \text{Ada} \rrbracket^{M,g^{1 \mapsto x}}) \\ &= \lambda x. \text{met}(g(1))(a) = \lambda x. \text{met}(x)(a) \end{aligned}$$

## Relative clauses

(1) the man that Ada met



- $\llbracket t_1 \rrbracket^{M,g} = g(1)$  (the same as a pronoun)
- $\llbracket S' \rrbracket^{M,g} = \lambda x. \llbracket S \rrbracket^{M,g^{1 \mapsto x}} = \lambda x. \text{met}(x)(a)$
- $\llbracket \text{the} \rrbracket^{M,g} = \lambda P. \text{the entity } y \text{ s.t. } P(y)$   
defined only if  
 $\exists y. [P(y) \wedge \forall x. P(x) \rightarrow x = y]$

## Predicate Modification

$$\frac{P :: e \rightarrow t \quad Q :: e \rightarrow t}{\lambda x. P(x) \wedge Q(x) :: e \rightarrow t}$$

- $\llbracket \text{NP} \rrbracket^{M,g} = \lambda x. \llbracket \text{man} \rrbracket^{M,g}(x) \wedge \llbracket S' \rrbracket^{M,g}(x)$   
 $= \lambda x. \text{man}(x) \wedge \text{met}(x)(a)$
- $\llbracket \text{DP} \rrbracket^{M,g} = \llbracket \text{the} \rrbracket^{M,g}(\llbracket \text{NP} \rrbracket^{M,g})$   
 $=$

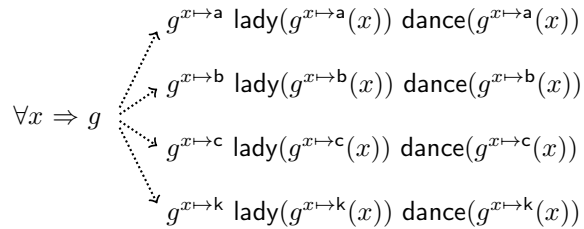
# Generalized quantifiers: Basics

## Quantification in FOL

(1) Every **lady** danced. (2) A **cat** danced.

Suppose that we have two ladies, one boy and one cat

- Ada and Becky danced
- Carl also danced.
- The cat Kitty didn't dance.



Given the fact,

(1) should be translated as:  $\forall x. \text{lady}(x) \rightarrow \text{dance}(x)$

How about (2)?

## Problem

(3) Most ladies danced.

Suppose there're three ladies, one boy and one cat:

**Scenario I:** (3) is true

- Ada danced and Becky, but Cindy didn't
- Donald didn't danced.
- The cat Kitty didn't dance.

**Scenario II:** (3) is false

- Ada danced, but Becky and Cindy didn't
- Donald danced.
- The cat Kitty didn't dance.

Consider the following formulas:

1.  $\text{most } x. \text{lady}(x) \rightarrow \text{dance}(x)$  1 in I; 1 in II
2.  $\text{most } x. \text{lady}(x) \wedge \text{dance}(x)$  0 in I; 0 in II
3.  $\text{most } x. \text{lady}(x) \vee \text{dance}(x)$  1 in I; 1 in II

## Operations on sets

$$\llbracket \text{every lady danced} \rrbracket = \{x \mid \text{lady}(x)\} \subseteq \{x \mid \text{dance}(x)\}$$

$$\llbracket \text{a cat danced} \rrbracket = \{x \mid \text{cat}(x)\} \cap \{x \mid \text{dance}(x)\} \neq \emptyset$$

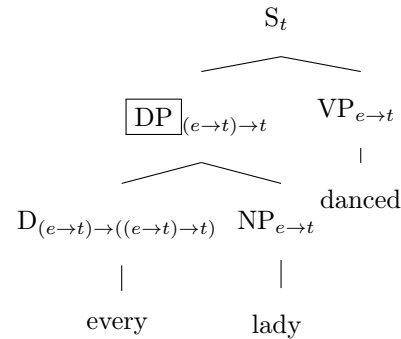
$$\llbracket \text{most ladies danced} \rrbracket = \frac{|\text{lady} \cap \text{dance}|}{|\text{lady}|} > \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\llbracket \text{more than two ladies danced} \rrbracket = |\text{lady} \cap \text{dance}| > 2$$

$$\llbracket \text{at most two ladies danced} \rrbracket = |\text{lady} \cap \text{dance}| \leq 2$$

$$\llbracket \text{no lady danced} \rrbracket = |\text{lady} \cap \text{dance}| = \emptyset$$

## What are quantifiers



Suppose there're three ladies and two boys:

- Ada, Becky, Cindy and Donald danced
- Ada, Becky, Cindy and Eric sang

$$\begin{aligned} \text{dance} &= \{a, b, c, d\} \\ \text{lady} &= \{a, b, c\} \subseteq \text{lady} = \{a, b, c\} \\ \text{sing} &= \{a, b, c, e\} \end{aligned}$$

$$\llbracket \text{every lady} \rrbracket = \{\{a, b, c, d\}, \{a, b, c\}, \{a, b, c, e\}\}$$

1.  $\llbracket \text{every lady is a lady} \rrbracket = \llbracket \text{lady} \rrbracket \in \llbracket \text{every lady} \rrbracket$
2.  $\llbracket \text{every lady danced} \rrbracket = \llbracket \text{dance} \rrbracket \in \llbracket \text{every lady} \rrbracket$
3.  $\llbracket \text{every lady sang} \rrbracket = \llbracket \text{sing} \rrbracket \in \llbracket \text{every lady} \rrbracket$

$$\llbracket \text{every lady} \rrbracket = \lambda P. \text{lady} \subseteq P \quad \text{Type: } (e \rightarrow t) \rightarrow t$$

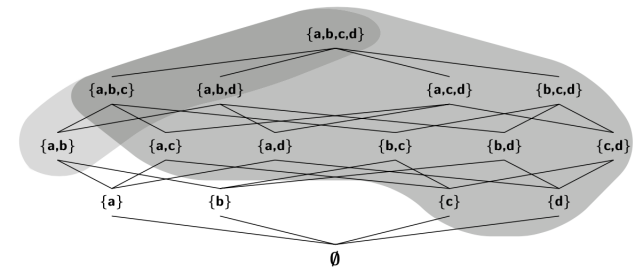
## Boolean compounds

- (4) Every lady **and** at least one boy danced.
- (5) Every lady **or** at least one boy danced.
- (6) Every lady **but** not every boy danced.

Suppose that we have two ladies and two boys:

- Ada and Becky danced and sang.
- Carl danced but not sing.
- Donald sang but not dance.
- Ada and Carl wore a hat.
- Becky and Carl are tall.
- Ada and Donald likes swimming.
- Becky and Donald wore a scarf.

$$\begin{aligned} \llbracket \text{every lady} \rrbracket &= \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{lady} = \{a, b\} \\ \text{dance} = \{a, b, c\} \\ \text{sing} = \{a, b, d\} \\ \text{human} = \{a, b, c, d\} \end{array} \right\} \\ \llbracket \text{at least one boy} \rrbracket &= \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{boy who danced} = \{c\} \\ \text{boy who sang} = \{d\} \\ \text{boy} = \{c, d\} \\ \text{wear.hat} = \{a, c\} \\ \text{wear.scarf} = \{b, d\} \\ \text{tall} = \{b, c\} \\ \text{like.swim} = \{a, d\} \\ \text{dance} = \{a, b, c\} \\ \text{sing} = \{a, b, d\} \\ \text{human} = \{a, b, c, d\} \end{array} \right\} \end{aligned}$$



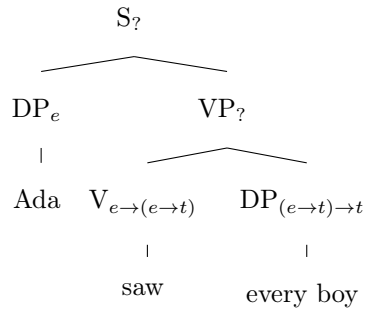
(the picture credited to Szabolcsi 2010)

$\llbracket \text{every lady and at least one boy} \rrbracket$

# Logical Form

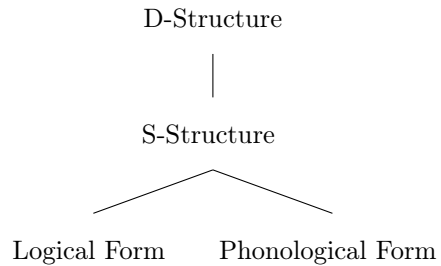
## Object quantifiers

(1) Ada saw every boy.



## Logical Form (LF)

Y-model of grammar:



1. LF is a **SYNTACTIC** component.
2. An LF product serves as the input of  $\llbracket \cdot \rrbracket$ .

## Movement

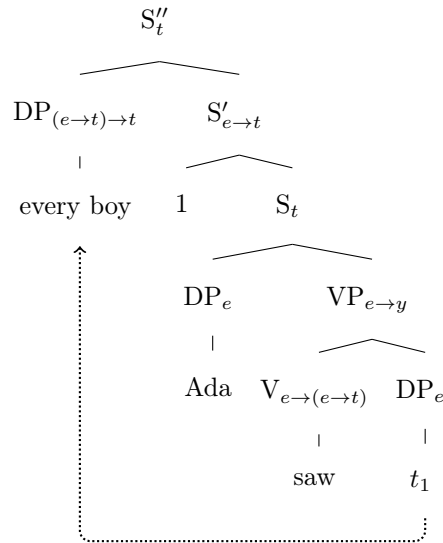
(2) Who did Ada see?

**D-Structure:**  $[_S \text{ Ada } [_{VP} \text{ see who}]]$

**S-Structure:**  $[_{S''} \text{ Who } [_{S'} \text{ did } [_S \text{ Ada see } t ]]]$

A deep structure is transformed to a surface structure via movement.

## Quantifier Raising (QR)



1.  $\llbracket S \rrbracket^{M,g} = \text{see}(g(1))(a)$
2.  $\llbracket S' \rrbracket^{M,g} = \lambda x. \text{see}(x)(a)$
3.  $\llbracket S'' \rrbracket^{M,g} = \llbracket \text{every boy} \rrbracket^{M,g} (\lambda x. \text{see}(x)(a))$   
 $= \{x \mid \text{boy}(x)\} \subseteq \{x \mid \text{see}(x)(a)\}$

## Two quantifiers

(2) A boy saw every lady.

LF:  $\llbracket [a \text{ boy}] [1 [every \text{ lady}] [2 [t_1 \text{ saw } t_2 ]]] \rrbracket$

$$\begin{aligned} & \llbracket [a \text{ boy}] \rrbracket^{M,g} (\lambda x. \llbracket [every \text{ lady}] \rrbracket^{M,g} (\lambda y. \text{see}(y)(x))) \\ &= \llbracket [a \text{ boy}] \rrbracket^{M,g} (\lambda x. \{y \mid \text{lady}(y)\} \subseteq \{y \mid \text{see}(y)(x)\}) \\ &= \{x \mid \text{boy}(x)\} \cap \{x \mid \{y \mid \text{lady}(y)\} \subseteq \{y \mid \text{see}(y)(x)\}\} \neq \emptyset \end{aligned}$$

LF:  $\llbracket [every \text{ lady}] [2 [a \text{ boy}] [1 [t_1 \text{ saw } t_2 ]]] \rrbracket$

$$\begin{aligned} & \llbracket [every \text{ lady}] \rrbracket^{M,g} (\lambda y. \llbracket [a \text{ boy}] \rrbracket^{M,g} (\lambda x. \text{see}(y)(x))) \\ &= \llbracket [every \text{ lady}] \rrbracket^{M,g} (\lambda y. \{x \mid \text{boy}(x)\} \cap \{x \mid \text{see}(y)(x)\} \neq \emptyset) \\ &= \{y \mid \text{lady}(y)\} \subseteq \{y \mid \{x \mid \text{boy}(x)\} \cap \{x \mid \text{see}(y)(x)\} \neq \emptyset\} \end{aligned}$$

## Scope ambiguity

Assuming three boys, Peter, Tom, and Carl, and two ladies, Ada and Becky:

(3) Ada **didn't** see **every** boy.

- not > every: a saw t, but not p and c.
- every > not: a didn't see t, p and c.

(4) **At most two** boys saw **every** lady.

- at most two > every: p and t both saw a and b.
- every > at most two: p and t saw a, and t saw b.

## Scope islands

It is not always the case that a quantifier can take wide scope.

(3) **No** boy thought that [**every** lady could dance].

- no > every: there were some boys who thought some ladies could dance.
- #every > no: for every lady x, there was no boy who thought x could dance.

(4) John dated **a** woman [who loves **every** man].

- a > every: there is one lady such that she loves every man.
- #every > a: for any man x, there is a (different) woman who loves x.

QR is clause bounded.

## Exceptional scope

(5) **Each** boy believes that [**a** paper of mine contains an error].

- each > a: for any boy x, there's a different paper of mine y s.t. x believes y contains an error.
- a > every: there is a paper of mine y s.t. for any boy x, x believes y contains an error.



# Empirical properties of quantifiers: Monotonicity

## Any

1. \*Ann ate **any** fish last night.
2. \*A lady ate **any** fish last night.
3. Ann didn't eat **any** fish last night.
4. No lady ate **any** fish last night.
5. \*Every lady who read a book talked to **any** professor.
6. Every lady who read **any** book talked to a professor.

## Monotonic increasing

Suppose we have three ladies, Ann, Becky, and Cindy, and one body, Donald,

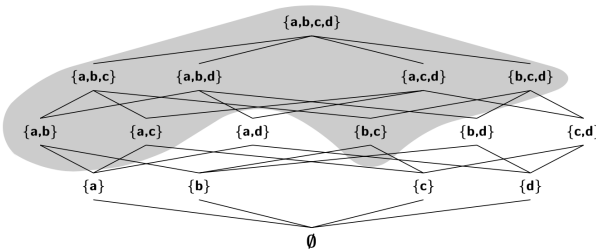
- Ann, Cindy, and Donald walked.
- Ann, Becky, and Cindy talked.

$$(\text{walk} \cap \text{talk}) \subseteq \text{walk} \subseteq (\text{walk} \cup \text{talk})$$

1. More than one lady walked and talked.
2. More than one lady walked.
3. More than one lady walked or talked.

$$1 \text{ entails } 2, 2 \text{ entails } 3, \text{ and } 1 \text{ entails } 3$$

$\llbracket \text{more than one lady} \rrbracket =$



The generalized quantifier  $GQ$  is **monotonically increasing** iff whenever  $X$  is an element of  $GQ$ , all supersets of  $X$  are elements of  $GQ$ .

## Monotonic decreasing

Suppose we have two ladies, Ann and Becky, and two boys, Carl and Donald

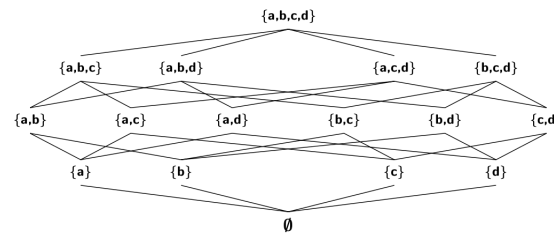
- Ann and Becky jogged.
- Carl walked.
- Carl and Donald talked.

$$(\text{walk} \cap \text{talk}) \subseteq \text{walk} \subseteq (\text{walk} \cup \text{talk})$$

1. No lady walked and talked.
2. No lady walked.
3. No lady walked or talked.

$$3 \text{ entails } 2, 2 \text{ entails } 1, \text{ and } 3 \text{ entails } 1$$

$\llbracket \text{no lady} \rrbracket =$

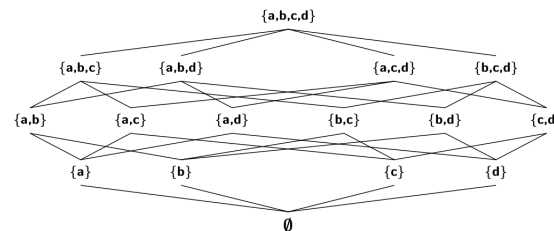


The generalized quantifier  $GQ$  is **monotonically decreasing** iff whenever  $X$  is an element of  $GQ$ , all subsets of  $X$  are elements of  $GQ$ .

## Non-monotonic

1. Exactly two ladies jogged.

$\llbracket \text{exactly two ladies} \rrbracket =$



## Downward and upward entailing

1. Every lady who read a book talked to a professor.
2. Every lady who read a novel talked to a professor.

- $\text{novel} \subseteq \text{book};$
- $\{x \mid x \text{ read a novel}\} \subseteq \{x \mid x \text{ read a book}\}$
- $\llbracket 1 \rrbracket = \{x \mid x \text{ read a novel}\} \subseteq \{x \mid x \text{ talk to prof}\};$
- $\llbracket 2 \rrbracket = \{x \mid x \text{ read a book}\} \subseteq \{x \mid x \text{ talk to prof}\};$
- $\llbracket 2 \rrbracket \text{ entails } \llbracket 1 \rrbracket$

1. Every lady who read a book talked to a teacher.
2. Every lady who read a book talked to a professor.

- $\text{professor} \subseteq \text{teacher};$
- $\{x \mid x \text{ talk to prof}\} \subseteq \{x \mid x \text{ talk to teacher}\}$
- $\llbracket 2 \rrbracket = \{x \mid x \text{ read book}\} \subseteq \{x \mid x \text{ talk to prof}\};$
- $\llbracket 1 \rrbracket = \{x \mid x \text{ read book}\} \subseteq \{x \mid x \text{ talk to teacher}\};$
- $\llbracket 1 \rrbracket \text{ entails } \llbracket 2 \rrbracket$

## The maximality problem

1. At least two ladies walked. = There is a set of men with cardinality at least two such that all its elements walk.
2. At most two ladies walked.  $\neq$  There is a set of men with cardinality at most two such that all its elements walk.
3. Exactly two ladies talked.  $\neq$  There is a set of men with cardinality exactly two such that all its elements walk.

Sentence 1, but not 2 and 3, is true in a situation in which more than two ladies walked.

The diagrams in this handout are credited to Szabolcsi (2010).

# Empirical properties of quantifiers: Witnesses and conservativity

## Topic set

Suppose that we have three ladies, Annie, Becky, and Cindy, and one boys, Donald:

$$\llbracket \text{more than one lady} \rrbracket = \lambda P. |\text{lady} \cap P| > 1 \\ = \{P \mid |\text{lady} \cap P| > 1\}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \{a, b, c, d\}, \{a, b, c\}, \{a, c, d\}, \\ \{a, b, d\}, \{b, c, d\}, \{a, b\}, \\ \{a, c\}, \{b, c\} \end{array} \right\}$$

Topic set = the smallest live-on set:

A generalized quantifier  $Q$  lives on a set of entities  $L$  if, for any set of entities  $X$ ,  $X \in Q$  iff  $(X \cap L) \in Q$ .

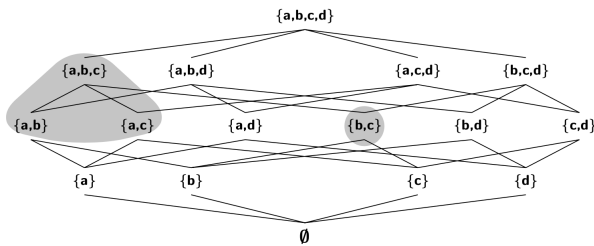
Then, what is the topic set of *more than one lady*?

Which syntactic phrase corresponds to the topic set of *more than one lady*?

## Witness set

$W$  is a witness set of a generalized quantifier  $Q$  iff (a)  $W \in Q$ ; (b)  $W \subseteq L$  and  $L$  is  $Q$ 's topic set.

The witness sets of *more than one lady*:

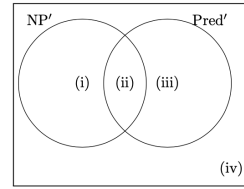


(the picture credited to Szabolcsi 2010)

- If a generalized quantifier  $Q$  is monotonic increasing, for any  $X$ ,  $X \in Q$  iff  $\exists W. W \subseteq X$ ;
- If a generalized quantifier  $Q$  is monotonic decreasing, for any  $X$ ,  $X \in Q$  iff  $\exists W. (X \cap L) \subseteq W$ .

## Conservativity

Consider four subsets of the universe of discourse:



(the picture credited to Szabolcsi 2010)

1.  $\llbracket \text{some} \rrbracket$ : (ii) is not empty
2.  $\llbracket \text{more than one} \rrbracket$ : (ii) has more than one element
3.  $\llbracket \text{every} \rrbracket$ : (i) is empty
4.  $\llbracket \text{most} \rrbracket$ :  $\frac{(ii)}{(i) \cup (ii)} = \frac{1}{2}$

A quantificational determiner does not make reference to (iii) and (iv).

A quantificational determiner  $\mathcal{D}$  is conservative iff  $\mathcal{D}(A)(B) = \mathcal{D}(A)(A \cap B)$

1. Every lady is smart  $\leftrightarrow$  Every lady is a smart lady
2. Some boy is smart  $\leftrightarrow$  Some boy is a smart boy
3. Most ladies got an A  $\leftrightarrow$  Most ladies are ladies who got an A

## Symmetry

1. Some ladies are smart  $\leftrightarrow$  some smart people are ladies
2. At least two ladies got an A  $\leftrightarrow$  at least two people who got an A are ladies
3. No ladies are silly  $\leftrightarrow$  No silly people are ladies
4. Most ladies are smart  $\nleftrightarrow$  most smart people are ladies

A quantificational determiner is symmetric iff  $\mathcal{D}(A)(B) = \mathcal{D}(B)(A)$

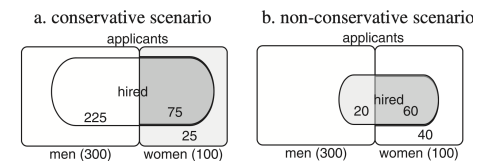
## Pair-list answers

1. Which book did **every** boy read?  
Pair-list answer: Max read *Moby Dick*; Kyle *The Great Gatsby*; Sam *Oliver Twister*.
2. Which book did **no** boy read?  
#Pair-list answer: Max didn't read *Moby Dick*; Kyle didn't read *The Great Gatsby*; Sam didn't read *Oliver Twister*.
3. Which book did **at most two** boys read?  
#Pair-list answer: Max read *Moby Dick*; Kyle *The Great Gatsby*.
4. Which book did **two of the** boys read?  
?(?)Pair-list answer: Max read *Moby Dick*; Kyle *The Great Gatsby*.

Quantifier	Minimal witness set
every boy	$\{m, k, s\}$
two of the boys	$\{m, k\}, \{k, s\}, \{m, s\}$
no boy	$\emptyset$
at most two boys	$\emptyset$

## Is every determiner conservative

1. Huáwéi gù-le 75% de nǚshēng.  
Huawei hire-ASP 30% woman  
a. 'Huawei hired 30% women.'  
b. 'Huawei hired 30% of the women.'



(the picture credited to Ahn & Sauerland 2018)

Conservative:  $\llbracket 75\% \rrbracket(\text{woman})(\lambda x. \text{hire}(x)(h))$   
 $= \llbracket 75\% \rrbracket(\text{woman})(\lambda x. \text{woman}(x) \wedge \text{hire}(x)(h))$   
 $= 75\% \text{ of the women are the ones hired by Huawei.}$

Non-conservative:  $\llbracket 75\% \rrbracket(\lambda x. \text{hire}(x)(h))(\text{woman})$   
 $= \llbracket 75\% \rrbracket(\lambda x. \text{hire}(x)(h))(\lambda x. \text{woman}(x) \wedge \text{hire}(x)(h))$   
 $= 75\% \text{ of the people hired by Huawei are women.}$

# Event semantics

## What are events

(1) Brutus stabbed Caesar yesterday.

The event described by (1):

Agent : b
Patient : c
Nature : stabbing
Runtime : yesterday

Truth condition:

- (1) is true in  $M$  if and only if  $\langle b, c \rangle \in \llbracket \text{stab} \rrbracket^M$
- (1) is true if and only if (1) describes an event  $e$  s.t.
  - the agent of  $e$  is Brutus,
  - the patient of  $e$  is Caesar,
  - $e$  is stabbing,
  - the runtime of  $e$  is yesterday.

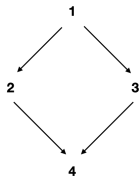
Adding events to a standard model:  $\langle D_e, D_v, \llbracket \cdot \rrbracket \rangle$

A sentence expresses quantification over eventualities, which describes eventualities.

(1)  $\rightsquigarrow \exists e. \text{stab}(e) \wedge \text{ag}(e, b) \wedge \text{pa}(e, c) \wedge \tau(e, \text{yesterday})$

## Diamond entailment

1. Brutus stabbed Caesar in the back with a knife.
2. Brutus stabbed Caesar in the back.
3. Brutus stabbed Caesar with a knife.
4. Brutus stabbed Caesar.



1. I've got big black cars.
2. I've got big cars.
3. I've got black cars.
4. I've got cars.

- $\exists x. \text{cars}(x) \wedge \text{big}(x) \wedge \text{black}(x) \wedge \text{get}(x)(\text{spk})$
- $\exists e. \text{stab}(e) \wedge \text{ag}(e, b) \wedge c \wedge \text{in}(e, \text{bk}) \wedge \text{inst}(e, k)$

## Different types of eventualities

process	state	accomplishment	achievement
<i>run</i>	<i>know</i>	<i>make a chair</i>	<i>recognize</i>
<i>walk</i>	<i>believe</i>	<i>paint a picture</i>	<i>reach</i>
<i>swim</i>	<i>have</i>	<i>build a house</i>	<i>find</i>
:	:	:	:

**Telicity** [ $\pm$  natural ending point]

- **Achievement** and **accomplishment** are telic.
  - Sue made a chair in/\*for an hour.
  - Kate reached the peak in/\*for an hour.
- **Process** and **state** are atelic.
  - Max ran/walked/swam for/\*in an hour.
  - Owen believed the story for/\*in his entire life.

## Describing eventualities

1. Caesar knows Brutus.  
 $\rightsquigarrow \exists s. \text{know}(s) \wedge \text{ho}(s, c) \wedge \text{th}(s, b)$
2. Peter made Karl cry.  
 $\rightsquigarrow \exists e \exists e'. \text{ag}(e, p) \wedge \text{cry}(e') \wedge \text{ag}(e', k) \wedge \text{cause}(e, e')$
3. In every burning, oxygen is consumed.  
 $\rightsquigarrow \forall e. \text{burn}(e) \rightarrow \exists e'. \text{consume}(e') \wedge \text{th}(e', \text{O}_2) \wedge \text{in}(e', e)$

## Tense

A simple existential treatment of tense (anchoring the runtime of an event):

1. John saw Mary. (Past)  
 $\rightsquigarrow \exists e \exists t. t < \text{now} \wedge \tau(e) \subseteq t \wedge \text{see}(e) \wedge \text{ag}(e, j) \wedge \text{th}(e, m)$
2. Owen reaches the peak. (Present)  
 $\rightsquigarrow \exists e \exists t. t = \text{now} \wedge \tau(e) \subseteq t \wedge \text{reach}(e) \wedge \text{ag}(e, o) \wedge \text{th}(e, p)$
3. Kyle will leave. (Future)  
 $\rightsquigarrow \exists e \exists t. t > \text{now} \wedge \tau(e) \subseteq t \wedge \text{leave}(e) \wedge \text{ag}(e, k)$

## The narrowest scope

1. Each boy hugged Sue.

- $\forall x. \text{boy}(x) \rightarrow \exists e. \text{hug}(e) \wedge \text{ag}(e, x) \wedge \text{th}(e, s)$  ✓
- $\exists e. \forall x. \text{boy}(x) \rightarrow \text{hug}(e) \wedge \text{ag}(e, x) \wedge \text{th}(e, s)$  ✗

2. Max didn't love Sue.

- $\neg(\exists e. \text{love}(e) \wedge \text{ag}(e, m) \wedge \text{th}(e, s))$  ✓
- $\exists e. \neg(\text{love}(e) \wedge \text{ag}(e, m) \wedge \text{th}(e, s))$  ✗

3. Exactly one boy hugged Mary.

- $|\text{boy} \cap \{x : \exists e. \text{hug}(e) \wedge \text{ag}(e, x) \wedge e, m\}| = 1$  ✓
- $\exists e. |\text{boy} \cap \{x : \text{hug}(e) \wedge \text{ag}(e, x) \wedge e, m\}| = 1$  ✗

4. Brutus stabbed Caesar and Leo stabbed Hamlet.

- $(\exists e. \text{ag}(e, b) \wedge \text{stab}(e) \wedge \text{pt}(e, c)) \wedge (\exists e'. \text{ag}(e', l) \wedge \text{stab}(e') \wedge \text{pt}(e', h))$  ✓
- $\exists e. \text{ag}(e, b) \wedge \text{stab}(e) \wedge \text{pt}(e, c) \wedge \text{ag}(e, l) \wedge \text{stab}(e) \wedge \text{pt}(e, h)$  ✗

## Composition

$\llbracket \text{stab} \rrbracket = \lambda x \lambda y \lambda e. \text{stab}(e) \wedge \text{ag}(e, x) \wedge \text{pt}(e, y)$

$\llbracket \text{EX} \rrbracket = \lambda V \exists e. V(e)$

