# Introducing a Calculus of Effects and Handlers for Natural Language Semantics

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August 20, 2016

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# Introduction

# Setting

Formal Semantics

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# Compositionality

The meaning of a complex expression is a function of its structure and the meanings of its constituents.

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• use  $\lambda\mu$  [de Groote, 2001] or shift/reset [Shan, 2005] functions

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The meaning of a complex expression is a function of its structure and the meanings of its constituents.

#### Case of quantification

• use  $\lambda\mu$  [de Groote, 2001] or shift/reset [Shan, 2005] functions

#### calculi with effects

 use continuized meanings [Barker, 2002], i.e. generalized quantifiers

term encodings of effects

# **Connections to Existing Work**

#### **Pioneers**

• [Shan, 2002, Hobbs and Rosenschein, 1977]

# Parallel developments

[Charlow, 2014, Kiselyov, 2015]

#### **ESSLLI** courses

[Barker and Bumford, 2015, Giorgolo and Asudeh, 2015]

#### **Effects and Handlers**

 [Cartwright and Felleisen, 1994, Plotkin and Pretnar, 2013, Bauer and Pretnar, 2015, Kammar et al., 2013, Kiselyov et al., 2013]

# Definition of the $(\lambda)$ Calculus

# **STLC** with Computations

Simply typed lambda calculus (STLC) with computation types  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{E}}(\gamma)$ 

Constructors for  $\mathcal{F}_{E}(\gamma)$ 

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash M : \gamma}{\Gamma \vdash \eta M : \mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{E}}(\gamma)} [\eta]$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Gamma \vdash M_{\mathrm{p}} : \alpha & \Gamma, x : \beta \vdash M_{\mathrm{c}} : \mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{E}}(\gamma) \\ & & \mathsf{op} : \alpha \rightarrowtail \beta \in \mathcal{E} \\ \hline \Gamma \vdash \mathsf{op} \, M_{\mathrm{p}} \, (\lambda x . \, M_{\mathrm{c}}) : \mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{E}}(\gamma) \end{array} [\mathsf{op}]$$

# **Example Computation**

```
\begin{split} & \vdash \mathsf{speaker} \, \star \, (\lambda s. \\ & \mathsf{implicate} \, (\mathsf{m} = \mathsf{best-friend}(s)) \, (\lambda\_. \\ & \eta \, (\mathsf{love}(\mathsf{m}, s)))) : \mathcal{F}_{\mathit{E}}(o) \end{split} & E = \{ \, \, \mathsf{speaker} : 1 \rightarrowtail \iota, \\ & \, \, \mathsf{implicate} : o \rightarrowtail 1 \, \} \end{split}
```

# **Example Computation**

```
\Gamma \vdash \operatorname{speaker} \star (\lambda s.
\operatorname{implicate}(\mathbf{m} = \operatorname{best-friend}(s))(\lambda\_.
\eta(\operatorname{love}(\mathbf{m}, s))): \mathcal{F}_{E}(o)
```

$$\label{eq:energy} \begin{split} \textit{E} = \{ \; \mathsf{speaker} : 1 \rightarrowtail \iota, \\ \mathsf{implicate} : \textit{o} \rightarrowtail 1 \; \} \end{split}$$

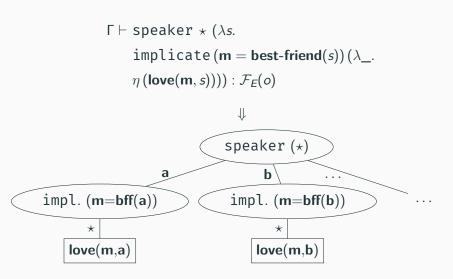
[Mary, my best friend, loves me.]

# **Computations as Programs**

```
\begin{split} & \Gamma \vdash \mathsf{speaker} \, \star \, (\lambda s. \\ & \mathsf{implicate} \, (\mathbf{m} = \mathsf{best-friend}(s)) \, (\lambda\_. \\ & \eta \, (\mathsf{love}(\mathbf{m}, s)))) : \mathcal{F}_{\mathit{E}}(o) \\ & \quad \quad \  \, \Downarrow \end{split}
```

do 
$$s \leftarrow \text{speaker} *$$
implicate  $(m = \text{best-friend}(s))$ 
return  $(\text{love}(m, s))$ 

# **Computations as Algebraic Expressions**



$$E = \{ op_i : \alpha_i \rightarrow \beta_i \}_{i \in I}$$

$$[\Gamma \vdash M_i : \alpha_i \rightarrow (\beta_i \rightarrow \delta) \rightarrow \delta]_{i \in I}$$

$$\Gamma \vdash M_{\eta} : \gamma \rightarrow \delta$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash N : \mathcal{F}_E(\gamma)}{\Gamma \vdash (op_i : M_i)_{i \in I}, \ \eta : M_{\eta}) N : \delta} [()]$$

$$E = \{ \operatorname{op}_{i} : \alpha_{i} \rightarrowtail \beta_{i} \}_{i \in I}$$

$$[\Gamma \vdash M_{i} : \alpha_{i} \to (\beta_{i} \to \delta) \to \delta]_{i \in I}$$

$$\Gamma \vdash M_{\eta} : \gamma \to \delta$$

$$\Gamma \vdash N : \mathcal{F}_{E}(\gamma)$$

$$\Gamma \vdash ((\operatorname{op}_{i} : M_{i})_{i \in I}, \ \eta : M_{\eta}) N : \delta$$

# Types of constructors

- $\operatorname{op}_i: \alpha_i \to (\beta_i \to \mathcal{F}_E(\gamma)) \to \mathcal{F}_E(\gamma)$
- $\eta: \gamma \to \mathcal{F}_{E}(\gamma)$

$$E = \{ op_i : \alpha_i \rightarrow \beta_i \}_{i \in I}$$

$$[\Gamma \vdash M_i : \alpha_i \rightarrow (\beta_i \rightarrow \delta) \rightarrow \delta]_{i \in I}$$

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$$\Gamma \vdash ((op_i : M_i)_{i \in I}, \ \eta : M_{\eta}) N : \delta$$

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# Types of constructors

- $\operatorname{op}_i: \alpha_i \to (\beta_i \to \mathcal{F}_E(\gamma)) \to \mathcal{F}_E(\gamma)$
- $\eta: \gamma \to \mathcal{F}_{E}(\gamma)$

# Handlers are algebras

- $(\delta, M_i)$  an algebra

  - M<sub>i</sub> operations
- $M_{\eta}$  constants

# **Open Handlers**

$$E = \{ \mathsf{op}_i : \alpha_i \rightarrowtail \beta_i \}_{i \in I} \uplus E_f$$

$$E' = E'' \uplus E_f$$

$$[\Gamma \vdash M_i : \alpha_i \to (\beta_i \to \mathcal{F}_{E'}(\delta)) \to \mathcal{F}_{E'}(\delta) ]_{i \in I}$$

$$\Gamma \vdash M_{\eta} : \gamma \to \mathcal{F}_{E'}(\delta)$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash N : \mathcal{F}_{E}(\gamma)}{\Gamma \vdash ((\mathsf{op}_i : M_i)_{i \in I}, \ \eta : M_{\eta}) \ N : \mathcal{F}_{E'}(\delta)} [(|\cdot|)]$$

# **Open Handlers**

$$E = \{ \operatorname{op}_{i} : \alpha_{i} \rightarrow \beta_{i} \}_{i \in I} \uplus E_{f}$$

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$$[\Gamma \vdash M_{i} : \alpha_{i} \rightarrow (\beta_{i} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_{E'}(\delta)) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_{E'}(\delta)]_{i \in I}$$

$$\Gamma \vdash M_{\eta} : \gamma \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_{E'}(\delta)$$

$$\Gamma \vdash N : \mathcal{F}_{E}(\gamma)$$

$$\Gamma \vdash ((\operatorname{op}_{i} : M_{i})_{i \in I}, \ \eta : M_{\eta}) \ N : \mathcal{F}_{E'}(\delta)$$

- *E* input effects
- E<sub>f</sub> forwarded effects

- E' output effects
- E" new effects

#### **Reduction Rules for Handlers**

$$((\mathsf{op}_i:M_i)_{i\in I},\ \eta\colon M_\eta\,)\,(\eta\,N)\to M_\eta\,N$$

$$((\mathsf{op}_i: M_i)_{i \in I}, \ \eta: M_\eta) (\mathsf{op}_j N_{\mathrm{p}} (\lambda x. N_{\mathrm{c}})) \to M_j N_{\mathrm{p}} (\lambda x. ((\mathsf{op}_i: M_i)_{i \in I}, \ \eta: M_\eta) N_{\mathrm{c}})$$

where 
$$j \in I$$

$$((\mathsf{op}_i: M_i)_{i \in I}, \ \eta: M_\eta) (\mathsf{op}_j N_{\mathrm{p}} (\lambda x. N_{\mathrm{c}})) \rightarrow \mathsf{op}_j N_{\mathrm{p}} (\lambda x. ((\mathsf{op}_i: M_i)_{i \in I}, \ \eta: M_\eta) N_{\mathrm{c}})$$

where  $j \notin I$ 

#### **Reduction Rules for Handlers**

$$((op_i: M_i)_{i \in I}, \eta: M_\eta) (\eta N) \rightarrow M_\eta N$$

$$((\mathsf{op}_i: M_i)_{i \in I}, \ \eta: M_\eta) (\mathsf{op}_j N_{\mathsf{p}} (\lambda x. N_{\mathsf{c}})) \to M_j N_{\mathsf{p}} (\lambda x. ((\mathsf{op}_i: M_i)_{i \in I}, \ \eta: M_\eta) N_{\mathsf{c}})$$

$$((\mathsf{op}_{i}:M_{i})_{i\in I}, \ \eta:M_{\eta})(\mathsf{op}_{j}N_{\mathsf{p}}(\lambda x. N_{\mathsf{c}})) \rightarrow \mathsf{op}_{i}N_{\mathsf{p}}(\lambda x. ((\mathsf{op}_{i}:M_{i})_{i\in I}, \ \eta:M_{\eta})N_{\mathsf{c}})$$

where  $j \in I$ 

where  $j \notin I$ 

#### **Reduction Rules for Handlers**

$$((\mathsf{op}_i:M_i)_{i\in I},\ \eta\colon M_\eta\,)\,(\eta\,N)\to M_\eta\,N$$

$$((\mathsf{op}_i: M_i)_{i \in I}, \ \eta: M_\eta) (\mathsf{op}_j N_p (\lambda x. N_c)) \rightarrow M_j N_p (\lambda x. ((\mathsf{op}_i: M_i)_{i \in I}, \ \eta: M_\eta) N_c)$$

where 
$$j \in I$$

$$((\mathsf{op}_i: M_i)_{i \in I}, \ \eta: M_\eta) (\mathsf{op}_j \ N_{\mathrm{p}} (\lambda x. \ N_{\mathrm{c}})) \to \mathsf{op}_j \ N_{\mathrm{p}} (\lambda x. \ ((\mathsf{op}_i: M_i)_{i \in I}, \ \eta: M_\eta) \ N_{\mathrm{c}})$$

where  $j \notin I$ 

$$\_\gg = \_: \mathcal{F}_{E}(\alpha) \to (\alpha \to \mathcal{F}_{E}(\beta)) \to \mathcal{F}_{E}(\beta)$$
  
 $M \gg = N = \{ \eta : N \} M$ 

$$\_\gg = \_: \mathcal{F}_{E}(\alpha) \to (\alpha \to \mathcal{F}_{E}(\beta)) \to \mathcal{F}_{E}(\beta)$$
 
$$M \gg = N = \{ \eta \colon N \} M$$
 
$$\boxed{A}$$
 
$$\text{speaker} \star (\lambda s. \\ \text{implicate} (\mathbf{m} = \mathbf{bff}(s)) (\lambda \_. \\ \eta \ \mathbf{m}))$$

 $\eta (\mathbf{love}(x, s)))$ 

# **Notation: Applying Operations to Computations**

 $\ll \circ \gg$  :  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathsf{F}}(\alpha) \to \mathcal{F}_{\mathsf{F}}(\beta) \to \mathcal{F}_{\mathsf{F}}(\gamma)$ 

 $X \ll 0 \gg Y = X \gg (\lambda x. Y \gg (\lambda y. \eta (x \circ y)))$ 

# Properties of the $(\lambda)$ Calculus

# $(\!(\lambda)\!)$ is Strongly Normalizing

#### Confluence

Combinatory Reduction Systems [Klop et al., 1993]

#### **Termination**

- Inductive Data Type Systems [Blanqui, 2000]
- Higher-Order Semantic Labelling [Hamana, 2007]

# Linguistic Phenomena as Effects

Deixis

#### **Deixis**

John, Mary, me : 
$$NP$$
 Loves :  $NP \multimap NP \multimap S$ 

$$\begin{split} & [\![ \text{JOHN} ]\!] = \eta \, \mathbf{j} \\ & [\![ \text{MARY} ]\!] = \eta \, \mathbf{m} \\ & [\![ \text{ME} ]\!] = \text{speaker} \, \star \, (\lambda x. \, \eta \, x) \\ & [\![ \text{LOVES} ]\!] = \lambda \textit{OS}. \, \mathbf{love} \cdot \gg \textit{S} \ll \cdot \gg \textit{O} \end{split}$$

# **Deixis** — **Examples**

$$\begin{split} & [\![ \text{JOHN} ]\!] = \eta \, \mathbf{j} \\ & [\![ \text{MARY} ]\!] = \eta \, \mathbf{m} \\ & [\![ \text{ME} ]\!] = \text{speaker} \, \star \, (\lambda x. \, \eta \, x) \\ & [\![ \text{LOVES} ]\!] = \lambda \textit{OS}. \, \mathbf{love} \cdot \gg \textit{S} \ll \cdot \gg \textit{O} \end{split}$$

John loves Mary.

[LOVES MARY JOHN]] 
$$\rightarrow \eta$$
 (love j m)

Mary loves me.

[LOVES ME MARY]] 
$$\rightarrow$$
 speaker  $\star (\lambda x. \eta (love m x))$ 

# Deixis — Handler

with Speaker:  $\iota \to \mathcal{F}_{\{\text{speaker}: 1 \mapsto \iota\} \uplus E}(\alpha) \to \mathcal{F}_{E}(\alpha)$ with Speaker =  $\lambda sM$ .  $\{\{\text{speaker}: (\lambda\_k. ks)\}\}$  M

#### **Deixis** — Handler

$$\begin{split} & \text{withSpeaker}: \iota \to \mathcal{F}_{\{\text{speaker}: 1 \rightarrowtail \iota\} \uplus \textit{E}}(\alpha) \to \mathcal{F}_{\textit{E}}(\alpha) \\ & \text{withSpeaker} = \lambda \textit{sM}. \, \{ \text{speaker}: (\lambda\_\textit{k.ks}) \} \, \textit{M} \end{split}$$

```
with Speaker s [LOVES ME MARY] 

\rightarrow with Speaker s (speaker \star (\lambda x. \eta (love m s))) 

\rightarrow \eta (love m s)
```

## **Deixis** — **Shifting** the **Index**

SAID<sub>IS</sub>: 
$$S \rightarrow NP \rightarrow S$$
  
SAID<sub>DS</sub>:  $S \rightarrow NP \rightarrow S$ 

$$\begin{split} \llbracket \mathrm{SAID}_{\mathrm{IS}} \rrbracket &= \lambda \mathit{CS}. \, \mathsf{say} \cdot \gg \mathit{S} \ll \cdot \gg \mathit{C} \\ &= \lambda \mathit{CS}. \, \mathit{S} \gg = (\lambda \mathit{s}. \, \mathsf{say} \, \mathit{s} \cdot \gg \mathit{C}) \\ \llbracket \mathrm{SAID}_{\mathrm{DS}} \rrbracket &= \lambda \mathit{CS}. \, \mathit{S} \gg = (\lambda \mathit{s}. \, \mathsf{say} \, \mathit{s} \cdot \gg \, (\mathsf{withSpeaker} \, \mathit{s} \, \mathit{C})) \end{split}$$

## Deixis — Shifting the Index, Examples

$$\begin{split} \llbracket \mathrm{SAID}_{\mathrm{IS}} \rrbracket &= \lambda \mathit{CS}. \, \mathsf{say} \cdot \gg \mathit{S} \ll \cdot \gg \mathit{C} \\ &= \lambda \mathit{CS}. \, \mathit{S} \gg = (\lambda \mathit{s}. \, \mathsf{say} \, \mathit{s} \cdot \gg \mathit{C}) \\ \llbracket \mathrm{SAID}_{\mathrm{DS}} \rrbracket &= \lambda \mathit{CS}. \, \mathit{S} \gg = (\lambda \mathit{s}. \, \mathsf{say} \, \mathit{s} \cdot \gg \, (\mathsf{withSpeaker} \, \mathit{s} \, \mathit{C})) \end{split}$$

John said Mary loves me.

[SAID<sub>IS</sub> (LOVES ME MARY) JOHN]]

$$\rightarrow$$
 speaker  $\star (\lambda x. \eta (\text{say j (love m } x)))$ 

John said, "Mary loves me".

$$[SAID_{DS} (LOVES ME MARY) JOHN]$$
  
 $\rightarrow \eta (sayj (love mj))$ 

# Linguistic Phenomena as Effects

**Conventional Implicature** 

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## **Conventional Implicature**

APPOS :  $NP \multimap NP \multimap NP$ 

 $\texttt{BEST-FRIEND}: NP \multimap NP$ 

NOT-THE-CASE :  $S \multimap S$ 

## **Conventional Implicature — Handler**

```
\label{eq:accommodate} \begin{split} &\operatorname{accommodate}: \mathcal{F}_{\{\mathsf{implicate}: o \mapsto 1\} \uplus \mathcal{E}}(o) \to \mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{E}}(o) \\ &\operatorname{accommodate} = \lambda \mathit{M}. \ (\mathsf{implicate}: (\lambda \mathit{ik}. \ \mathit{i} \land \gg \mathit{k} \star)) \ \mathit{M} \end{split}
```

## **Conventional Implicature — Handler**

$$\label{eq:accommodate} \begin{split} &\operatorname{accommodate}: \mathcal{F}_{\{\operatorname{implicate}: o \mapsto 1\} \uplus \textit{E}}(o) \to \mathcal{F}_{\textit{E}}(o) \\ &\operatorname{accommodate} = \lambda \textit{M}. \, (|\operatorname{implicate}: (\lambda \textit{ik}. \, \textit{i} \land \gg \textit{k} \star)) \mid \textit{M} \end{split}$$

## **Conventional Implicature — Examples**

It is not the case that John, Mary's best friend, loves Alice.

```
[not-the-case (loves Alice (appos John (best-friend Mary)))]
\rightarrow implicate (j = best-friend m) (\lambda_. \eta (\neg(love ja)))
accommodate [...]
\rightarrow \eta ((j = best-friend m) \land \neg(love j a))
John said, "I, Mary's best friend, love Mary".
[SAID<sub>DS</sub> (LOVES MARY (APPOS ME (BEST-FRIEND MARY))) JOHN]
 \rightarrow \eta (say j ((j = best-friend m) \land love j m))
```

# Linguistic Phenomena as Effects

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Quantification

## Quantification

EVERY, A :  $N \multimap NP$ 

MAN, WOMAN: N

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{[EVERY]} &= \lambda \textit{N.} \, \, \text{scope} \, (\lambda \textit{c.} \, \forall \cdot \gg (\mathcal{C} \, (\lambda \textit{x.} \, (\textit{N} \ll \cdot \textit{x}) \ll \gg \textit{c.x}))) \, (\lambda \textit{x.} \, \eta \, \textit{x}) \\ & \text{[A]} &= \lambda \textit{N.} \, \, \text{scope} \, (\lambda \textit{c.} \, \exists \cdot \gg (\mathcal{C} \, (\lambda \textit{x.} \, (\textit{N} \ll \cdot \textit{x}) \ll \wedge \gg \textit{c.x}))) \, (\lambda \textit{x.} \, \eta \, \textit{x}) \\ & \text{[MAN]} &= \eta \, \text{man} \\ & \text{[WOMAN]} &= \eta \, \text{woman} \end{aligned}$$

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EVERY, A :  $N \multimap NP$ 

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### **Quantification** — Handler

$$SI = \lambda M.$$
 (scope:  $(\lambda ck. ck)$ )  $M$ 

#### Quantification — Handler

$$SI = \lambda M.$$
 (scope:  $(\lambda ck. ck)$ )  $M$ 

## Quantification — Examples

John, my best friend, loves every woman.

w. S. 
$$s$$
 (acc. [LOVES (EVERY WOMAN) (APPOS JOHN (BEST-FRIEND ME))]  
 $\rightarrow \eta$  (( $j = best-friend s$ )  $\land$  ( $\forall x. woman x \rightarrow love j x$ ))

Mary, everyone's best friend, loves John.

acc. [LOVES JOHN (APPOS MARY (BEST-FRIEND EVERYONE))]
$$\rightarrow \eta ((\forall x. \mathbf{m} = \mathbf{best-friend} x) \land (\mathbf{love} \mathbf{m} \mathbf{j}))$$

A man said, "My best friend, Mary, loves me".

[SAID<sub>DS</sub> (LOVES ME (APPOS (BEST-FRIEND ME) MARY)) (A MAN)]   

$$\rightarrow \eta$$
 ( $\exists x$ . man  $x \land say x$  ((best-friend  $x = m$ )  $\land$  (love (best-friend  $x$ )  $x$ )))

## Linguistic Phenomena as Effects

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**Summary** 

## **Effects** — Independence & Interactions

lexical entries (almost) independent

• no generalized quantifiers in  $[\![ JOHN ]\!]$ ,  $[\![ ME ]\!]$ ,  $[\![ BEST-FRIEND ]\!]$ 

changes needed only to account for interactions

- scope islands (SI) in tensed clauses and appositives
- blocking conversational implicature (accommodate) in direct quotation

old results preserved when extending fragment

- adding handlers for new effects preserves old meanings
- e.g. SI is a nop in sentences without quantification

### **Universal Semantic Glue**

$$[LOVES] = \lambda OS.$$
 **love**  $\cdot \gg S \ll \cdot \gg O$  instead of  $[LOVES] = \lambda OSi.$  **love**  $(Si)(Oi)$ 

$$\llbracket \text{LOVES} \rrbracket = \lambda \textit{OS.} \ \textbf{love} \cdot \gg \textit{S} \ll \cdot \gg \textit{O}$$
 instead of 
$$\llbracket \text{LOVES} \rrbracket = \lambda \textit{OS.} \ \langle \textbf{love} \left( \pi_1 \, \textit{S} \right) \left( \pi_1 \, \textit{O} \right), \pi_2 \, \textit{S} \wedge \pi_2 \, \textit{O} \rangle$$

$$[LOVES] = \lambda OS$$
. **love**  $\cdot \gg S \ll \cdot \gg O$  instead of  $[LOVES] = \lambda OSk$ .  $S(\lambda s. O(\lambda o. k(love s o)))$ 

## Conclusion

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[Shan, 2002]: monads are prevalent in NL semantics

 $(\!(\lambda)\!)=$  strongly normalizing  $\lambda$ -calculus with free monads  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{E}}$ 

#### Conclusion

[Shan, 2002] : monads are prevalent in NL semantics  $(\!(\lambda)\!) = \text{strongly normalizing } \lambda\text{-calculus with free monads } \mathcal{F}_E$ 

 $\Downarrow$ 

We can use  $(\lambda)$  to

- write less semantic glue
- study more interactions of phenomena

#### **Future**

#### add more effects

- anaphora and presupposition in upcoming dissertation
  - sketched in [Maršík and Amblard, 2014]

what phenomena can we treat?

all that project?

use effects directly

- glue-free!
- have to define a uniform evaluation strategy

Thank you! Questions?

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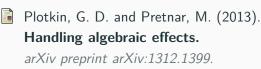
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