

# Presupposition projection as a scope phenomenon

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# The empirical observation

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  - ▶ Karlos has a car. (presupposition)

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  - ▶ The “projection problem” (Langendoen and Sag, 1971)

# Today's talk

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- Presupposition triggers in the scopes of propositional attitude verbs

- 1 The satisfaction theory
- 2 A scopal account
- 3 Presupposition and propositional attitude verbs

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  - ▶ Might amount to set intersection (of sets of worlds, assignments, ...)

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  - ▶ *Karlos brought his car*  $\rightsquigarrow$  *Karlos has a car*

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# The proviso problem

- According to the satisfaction theory, filtration is automatic.
- But sometimes it shouldn't happen.

1 The satisfaction theory

2 A scopal account

3 Presupposition and propositional attitude verbs



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If  $\alpha$  is a branching node and  $\{\beta, \gamma\}$  the set of its daughter, then for any assignment  $a$ ,  $\alpha$  is in the domain of  $\llbracket \cdot \rrbracket^a$  if both  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$  are, and  $\llbracket \beta \rrbracket^a$  is a function whose domain contains  $\llbracket \gamma \rrbracket^a$ . In that case,  $\llbracket \alpha \rrbracket^a = \llbracket \beta \rrbracket^a(\llbracket \gamma \rrbracket^a)$ .

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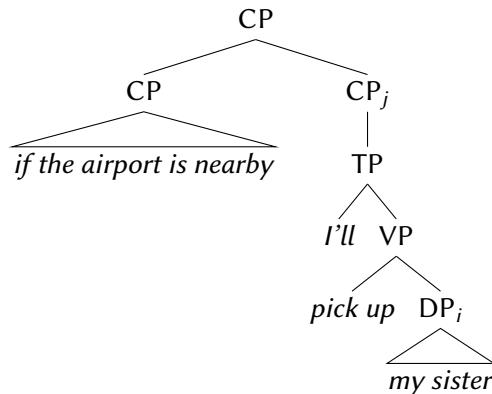
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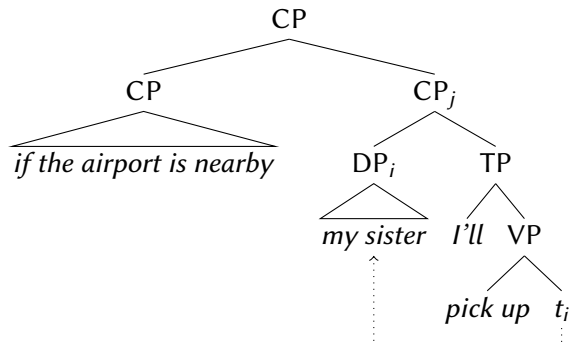
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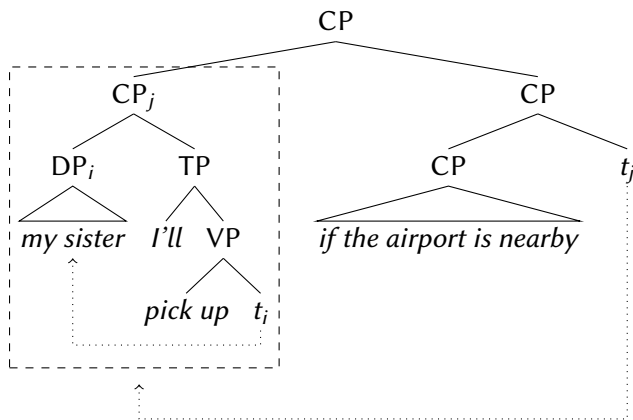
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**Conclusion:** a freer definition of the “Quantifier Raising” rule allows us to circumvent the proviso problem, provided...

- we have a non-compositional, static analysis of conditionals (and other filters)

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- ▶ E.g., the type  $e_{\#}$  is that of something which is either an individual (e.g., Karlos) or undefined ( $\#$ ).
- ▶ This move allows us to treat partial functions as total; e.g., a partial function of type  $e \rightarrow t$  is now a total function of type  $e \rightarrow t_{\#}$  that maps the part of its domain on which it is not defined to  $\#$ .

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A meaning for *if*:

$$\bullet \llbracket \text{if} \rrbracket^{w,g} = \lambda p^{t\#}, q^{t\#}. \begin{cases} 1 & p = 0 \\ 1 & p = 1 \text{ and } q = 1 \\ 0 & p = 1 \text{ and } q = 0 \\ \# & p = \# \\ \# & p = 1 \text{ and } q = \# \end{cases}$$

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- $\llbracket \text{his}_i \text{ car} \rrbracket^{w,g}$  (now of type  $e_{\#}$ )
  - ▶ the unique car of  $g(i)$  in  $w$  if one exists; otherwise,  $\#$

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- $(\cdot)^{\gg=} : \alpha_{\#} \rightarrow (\alpha \rightarrow \beta_{\#}) \rightarrow \beta_{\#}$  (‘bind’)

- $\#^{\gg=} = \lambda f^{\alpha \rightarrow \beta_{\#}}. \#$

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## Two type shifts

In addition, we will introduce two type shifts, which allow for the smooth integration of simple types and Maybe types.

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## Two type shifts

In addition, we will introduce two type shifts, which allow for the smooth integration of simple types and Maybe types.

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- $(\cdot)^{\gg} : \alpha_{\#} \rightarrow (\alpha \rightarrow \beta_{\#}) \rightarrow \beta_{\#}$  (‘bind’)

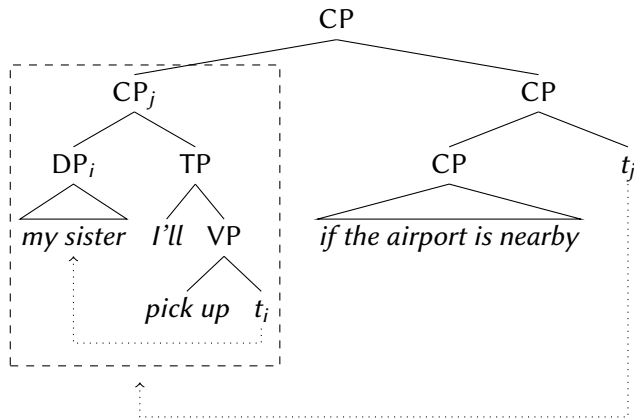
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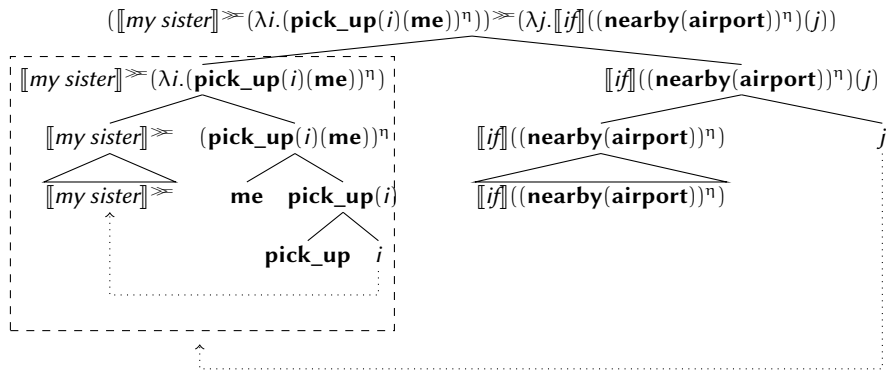
(Together,  $(\cdot)^{\eta}$  and  $(\cdot)^{\gg}$  constitute a monad.)



# Scoping out the consequent

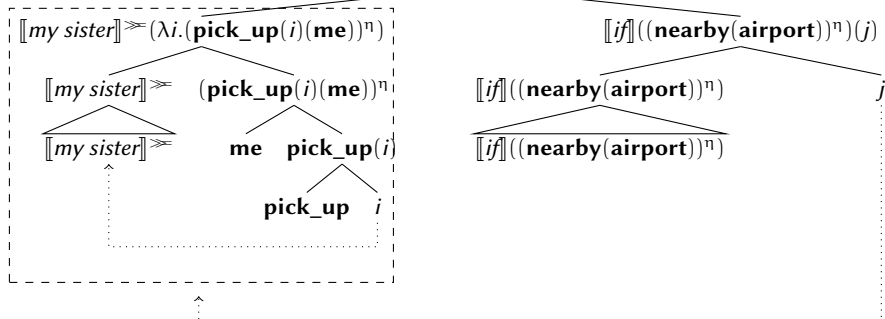


# Scoping out the consequent



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$$(\llbracket \text{my sister} \rrbracket \gg (\lambda i. (\text{pick\_up}(i)(\text{me}))^n)) \gg (\lambda j. \llbracket \text{if} \rrbracket ((\text{nearby}(\text{airport}))^n)(j))$$



1 if I have a sister, and I pick her up if the airport is nearby  
 0 if I have a sister, the airport is nearby, and I don't pick her up  
 # if I don't have a sister

For examples like

- ❶ If Karlos has a car, he brought his car.

we simply don't scope the consequent clause above the filter, allowing presupposition satisfaction to go through.

- Allowing a presupposition trigger to take scope past a filter causes its presupposition to project, even with an interpretation strategy as simple as that of Heim and Kratzer (1998).

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- Introducing Maybe types allows the system to be fully compositional.
- The foregoing analysis of filters is static, but making it dynamic (more straightforwardly in line with Heim (1983)) is a matter of further enriching the types (as done by, e.g., Rothschild (2011)).

- 1 The satisfaction theory
- 2 A scopal account
- 3 Presupposition and propositional attitude verbs**



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Propositions, in this setting, are functions of type  $s \rightarrow t_{\#}$ .

- $\llbracket \text{Karlos brought his car} \rrbracket =$   
 $\lambda w^s. \begin{cases} 1 & \text{Karlos has a car and brought it} \\ 0 & \text{Karlos has a car and didn't bring it} \\ \# & \text{Karlos doesn't have a car} \end{cases}$

# Propositional attitude verbs

- $\llbracket \text{believes} \rrbracket = \lambda p^{s \rightarrow t_{\#}} . x^e . w^s . \forall w'^s : \mathbf{acc}_{w,x}(w') \Rightarrow p(w')$

				$\{\llbracket \Phi \rrbracket_{\mathcal{M},g'} \mid g[x]g'\}$	$\llbracket \ulcorner \forall x : \Phi \urcorner \rrbracket_{\mathcal{M},g}$
$\Rightarrow$	$\top$	$\perp$	$\#$	$\{\top\}$	$\top$
$\top$	$\top$	$\perp$	$\#$	$\{\perp\}$	$\perp$
$\perp$	$\top$	$\top$	$\top$	$\{\#\}$	$\#$
$\#$	$\#$	$\#$	$\#$	$\{\top, \perp\}$	$\perp$
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$\perp$	$\top$	$\top$	$\top$	$\{\top, \perp\}$	$\perp$
$\#$	$\#$	$\#$	$\#$	$\{\top, \#\}$	$\#$
				$\{\perp, \#\}$	$\#$
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- Presupposition failure results if the presupposition fails to hold at some accessible world. (Inaccessible worlds don't matter.)

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- ▶ Defined at any world  $w$  such that  
 $\forall w'^s : \mathbf{acc}_{w, \text{Ashley}} \Rightarrow \text{Ashley has a car in } w'$

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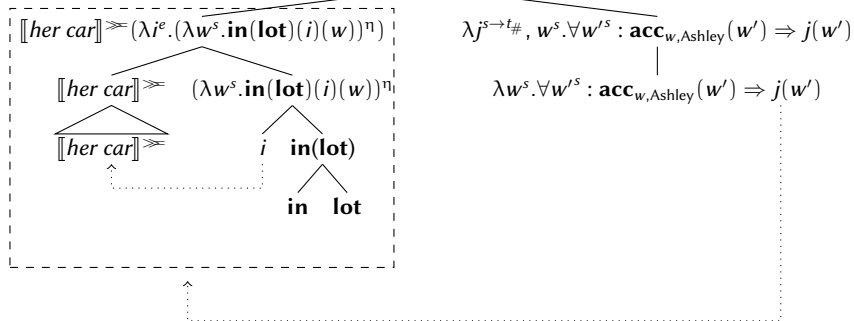
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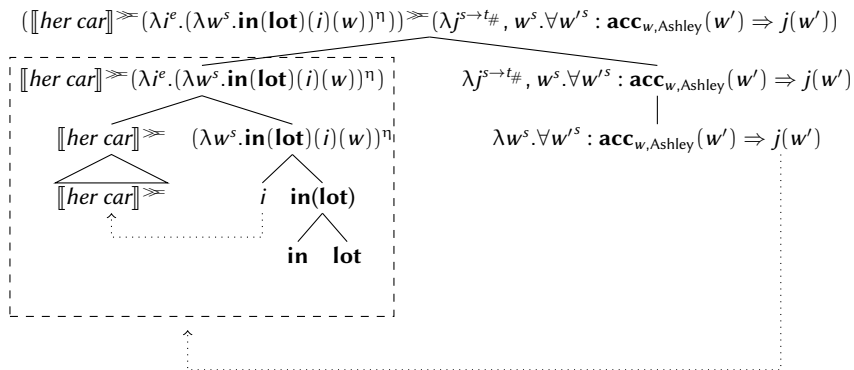
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- $m^{\gg} = \lambda f^{\alpha \rightarrow s \rightarrow \beta_{\#}}, w^s. \begin{cases} \# & m(w) = \# \\ f(a)(w) & m(w) = a \end{cases}$

# Out-scoping propositional attitude filters

$$(\llbracket her\ car \rrbracket \gg (\lambda i^e. (\lambda w^s. \mathbf{in}(\mathbf{lot})(i)(w))^{\eta_i})) \gg (\lambda j^{s \rightarrow t_{\#}}. w^s. \forall w'^s : \mathbf{acc}_{w, \text{Ashley}}(w') \Rightarrow j(w'))$$

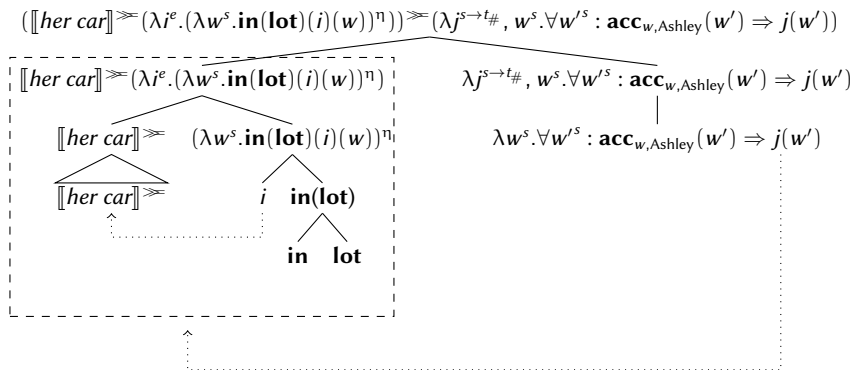


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- The result evaluates to:

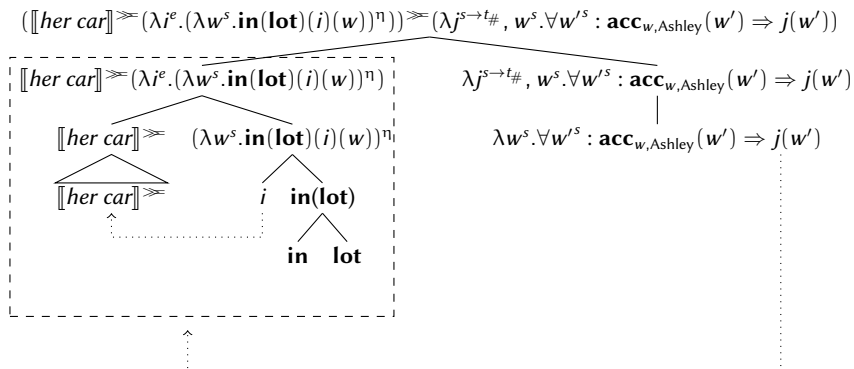
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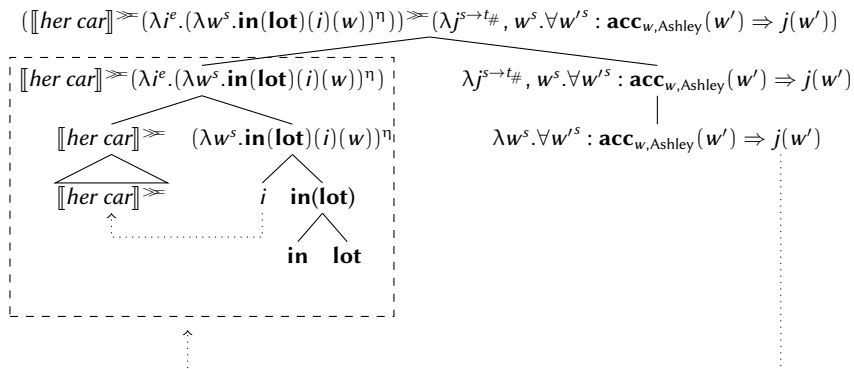
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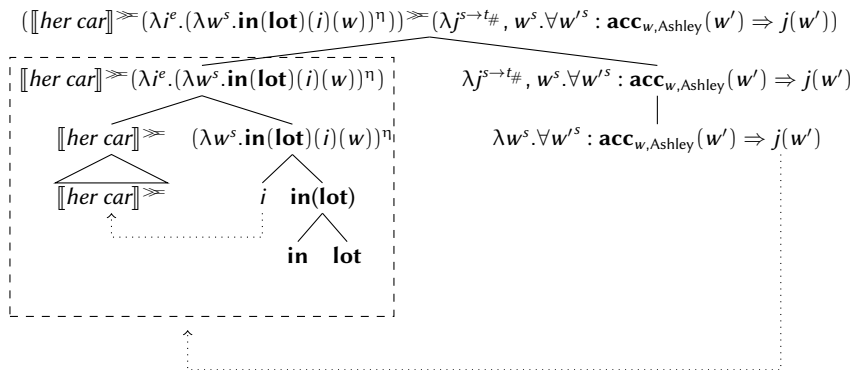


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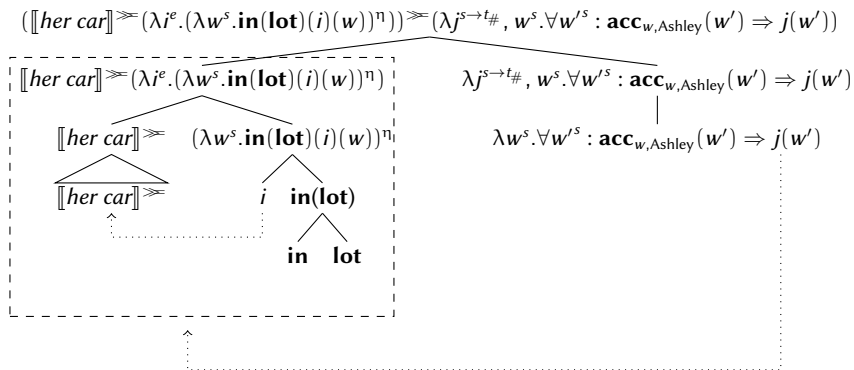
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# Conclusion

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- These tools, with minor extensions, allow us to describe a rich array of projection behaviors: problems of automatic filtration are overcome by allowing presupposition triggers to take scope.
- Could a scopal-mechanism be incorporated into pragmatic alternatives to the satisfaction account (Schlenker, 2008, 2009, 2010)?

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