

Exercises due on: Tuesday, June 19, 10 AM (before class)

## Semantic Theory 2018: Exercise sheet 6

### Exercise 1

Explain why the famous “donkey sentences”, illustrated in (1), pose a problem for traditional type-theoretic semantics. Explain in terms of the general properties of dynamic semantics how this problem is resolved.

- (1) If a farmer owns a donkey, he feeds it.

### Exercise 2

Consider the following discourses:

- (2) Robin is either in love with Ted, or with Barney.  
(2) Barney does not seduce every girl.  
(2) Ted meets a girl. If she forgets her umbrella, he doesn't return it.
- a. Give DRS representation for each of these discourses.  
b. Determine for each DRS which discourse referents are available for anaphoric reference (i.e., from a subsequent sentence).  
c. Give the truth-conditions for the DRS you derived for sentence (3). Use the verifying embeddings to arrive at the model-theoretic interpretation.

### Exercise 3

**3.1** Formulate the lambda-DRSs for the following lexical items:

- (i) to like ::  $\langle e, \langle e, t \rangle \rangle$   
(ii) no ::  $\langle \langle e, t \rangle, \langle \langle e, t \rangle, t \rangle \rangle$   
(iii) because ::  $\langle t, \langle t, t \rangle \rangle$

**3.2** Derive the representation of the following sentence using the lambda-DRSs defined above—see the slides for the lambda-DRSs of names, one-place predicates, and pronouns. Show the relevant beta-reduction steps.

- (5) Ted is sad because no girl likes him.