

Exercise 15 for the mid-term

Solutions

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1. Entailment or Presupposition? Use the tests.

- (1) a. Joan didn't begin doing his homework.
b. Joan had not been doing his homework before.
- (2) a. It was his wallet that Bill lost.
b. Bill lost something.
- (3) a. I know that Sue and Fred went to the party.
b. Sue went to the party.

Solutions

1.(1) (1a) both presupposes and entails (1b).

Contradictory test: # Joan didn't begin doing his homework and he had been doing his homework before.

Negation test: Joa began doing his homework.

(1b) still holds.

(2) (2a) both presupposes and entails (2b).

Contradictory test: # It was his wallet that Bill lost and he didn't lose anything.

Question test: - Was his wallet that Bill lost?

- No, it was his book that he lost.

(2b) still holds.

Solutions

(2) (3a) both presupposes and entails (3b).

Contradictory test: # I know that Sue and Fred went to the party and Sue didn't go to the party.

Negation test: I don't know that Sue and Fred went to the party

(3b) still holds.

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2. Characteristic function and schönfinkelization

Assume $D = \{\text{Mary, John, Jane}\}$. The binary relation $R_{\text{proud of}}$ is defined as in (1).

$$(1) R_{\text{proud of}} = \{ \langle \text{Mary, John} \rangle, \langle \text{Jane, Mary} \rangle \}$$

a. Write the characteristic function of $R_{\text{proud of}}$.

b. Which schönfinkelization of the characteristic function of $R_{\text{proud of}}$ do we assume in English? Write the schönfinkelization out.

Solutions

(2) We assume right (to left) schönfinkelization in English.

$$R_{\text{pround of}} = \begin{bmatrix} \langle \text{Mary, John} \rangle \rightarrow 1 \\ \langle \text{Mary, Jane} \rangle \rightarrow 0 \\ \langle \text{Mary, Mary} \rangle \rightarrow 0 \\ \langle \text{John, Mary} \rangle \rightarrow 0 \\ \langle \text{John, Jane} \rangle \rightarrow 0 \\ \langle \text{John, John} \rangle \rightarrow 0 \\ \langle \text{Jane, John} \rangle \rightarrow 0 \\ \langle \text{Jane, Mary} \rangle \rightarrow 1 \\ \langle \text{Jane, Jane} \rangle \rightarrow 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$[[\text{pround of}]] = \begin{bmatrix} \text{Mary} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \text{Mary} \rightarrow 0 \\ \text{John} \rightarrow 0 \\ \text{Jane} \rightarrow 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ \text{John} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \text{Mary} \rightarrow 1 \\ \text{John} \rightarrow 0 \\ \text{Jane} \rightarrow 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ \text{Jane} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \text{Mary} \rightarrow 0 \\ \text{John} \rightarrow 0 \\ \text{Jane} \rightarrow 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{bmatrix}$$

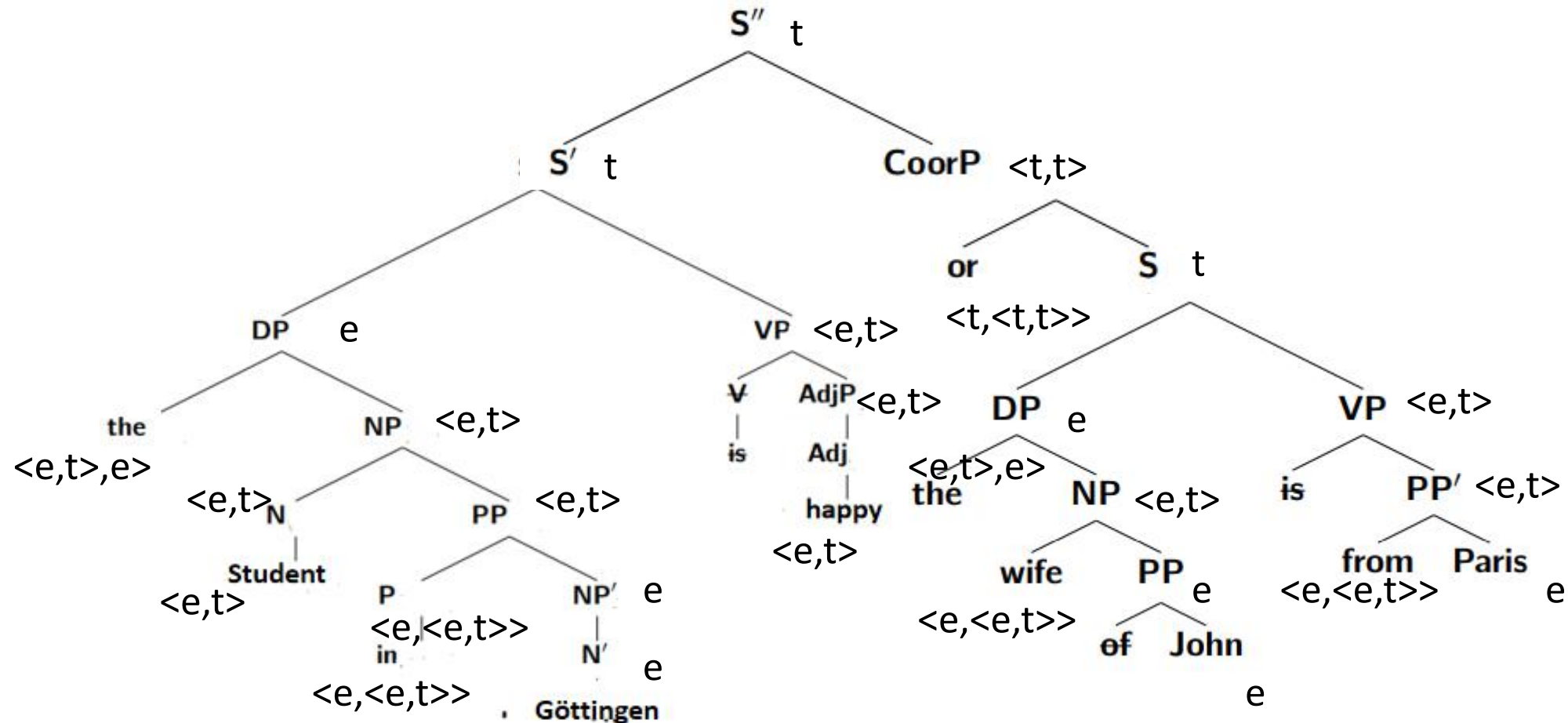
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3. For sentences (1) and (2):

- a. first annotate the tree with denotation types
- b. Compute the truth-conditions (and definedness conditions if necessary)

Solutions

(1) The student in Göttingen is happy or the dog of John is from Paris.



Solution: Exercise 14b

We already computed the truth conditions for $[[S']]$, see details in the slides of week 5, **Exercise 14b**.

$$[[S'']] = [[\text{CoordP}]] ([[S']]) \quad (\text{FA})$$

$$= [[\text{or}]] ([[S]])([[S']]) \quad (\text{FA})$$

$$= [\lambda p \in \text{Dt}. [\lambda q \in \text{Dt}. \text{there is an } r \in \{p, q\} \text{ such that } r = 1]] ([[S]])([[S']]) \quad (\text{TN})$$

$$= 1 \text{ iff there is an } r \in \{[[S]], [[S']]\} \text{ such that } r = 1$$

$$[[S']] = [[\text{VP}]] ([[DP]]) \quad (\text{FA})$$

$$= [\lambda x \in D_e . x \text{ is happy}] (\iota x [x \text{ is a student in Göttingen}])$$

$$\text{defined only if } \exists !x [x \text{ is a student in Göttingen}] \quad ([[VP]], [[DP]])$$

$$= 1 \text{ iff } \iota x [x \text{ is a student in Göttingen}] \text{ is happy}$$

$$\text{defined only if } \exists !x [x \text{ is a student in Göttingen}]$$

$$[[PP]] = [[\text{John}]] = \text{John} \quad (\text{NN, TN})$$

$$[[\text{wife}]] = \lambda x \in D_e . [\lambda y : y \in D_e \text{ and } y \text{ is female} . y \text{ is a wife of } x] \quad (\text{TN})$$

$[[NP]] = [[wife]]([[PP]])$ (FA)

$= [\lambda x \in De . [\lambda y : y \in De \text{ and } y \text{ is female . } y \text{ is a wife of } x]](\text{John})$ ($[[PP]]$, $[[wife]]$)

$= [\lambda y : y \in De \text{ and } y \text{ is female . } y \text{ is a wife of John}]$

$[[the]] = \lambda f : f \in D_{he,ti} \text{ and } \exists !x[f(x) = 1]. \iota x[f(x) = 1]$ (TN)

$[[DP]] = [[the]]([[NP]])$ (FA)

$= [\lambda f : f \in D_{he,ti} \text{ and } \exists !x[f(x) = 1]. \iota x[f(x) = 1]]([\lambda y : y \in De \text{ and } y \text{ is female . } y \text{ is a wife of John}])$
(FA)

$= \iota x[[\lambda y : y \in De \text{ and } y \text{ is female . } y \text{ is a wife of John}](x) = 1]$

only defined if $\exists !x[[\lambda y : y \in De \text{ and } y \text{ is female . } y \text{ is a wife of John}](x) = 1]$

$= \iota x[x \text{ is a wife of John}]$

only defined if $\exists !x[x \text{ is a wife of John}]$ and $\iota x[x \text{ is a wife of John}]$ is female

$[[Paris]] = \text{Paris}$ (TN)

$[[from]] = \lambda x \in De . [\lambda y \in De . y \text{ is from } x]$ (TN)

$[[VP]] = [[PP]] (NN)$

$= [[from]] ([[Paris]])$

(FA)

$= [\lambda x \in De . [\lambda y \in De . y \text{ is from } x]](Paris)$

$([[from]], [[Paris]])$

$= [\lambda y \in De . y \text{ is from Paris}]$

$[[S]] = [[VP]] ([[DP]])$

(FA)

$= [\lambda y \in De . y \text{ is from Paris}]$

$([[DP]]) ([[VP]])$

$= 1$ iff $[[DP]]$ is from Paris

$= 1$ iff $\iota x[x \text{ is a wife of John}]$ is from Paris

only defined if $\exists !x[x \text{ is a wife of John}]$ and $\iota x[x \text{ is a wife of John}]$ is female

$[[S'']] = 1$ iff there is an $r \in \{[[S]], [[S']]\}$ such that $r = 1$

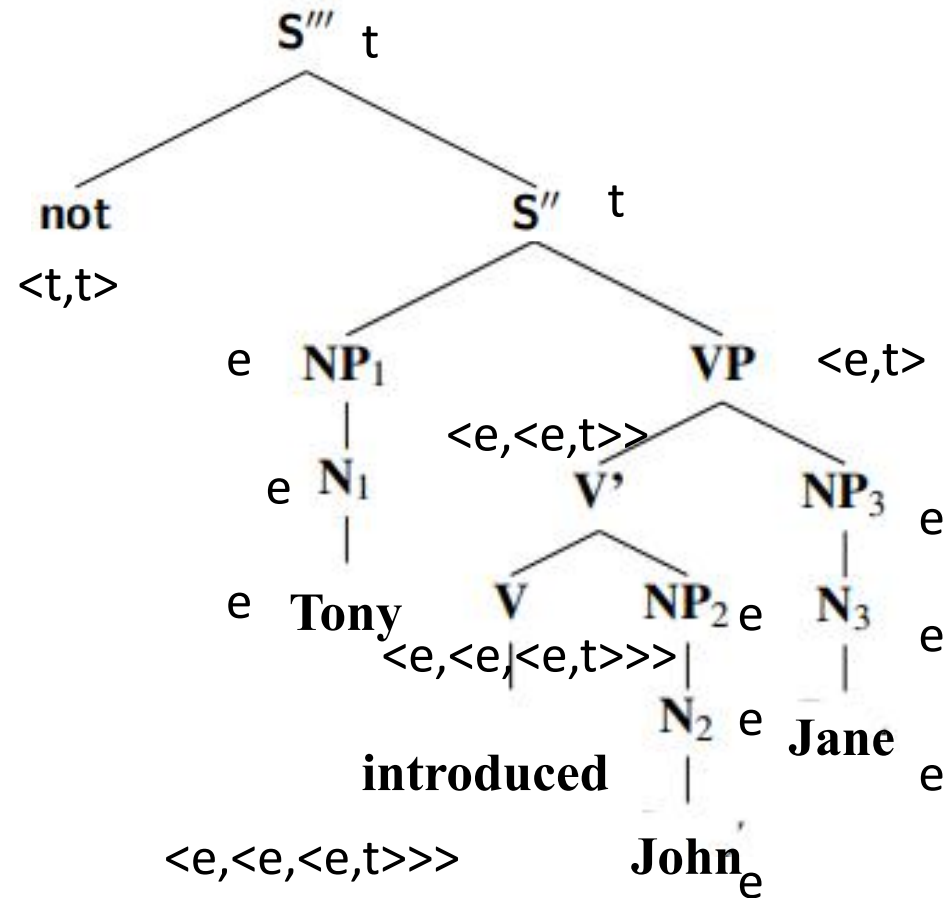
$([[S'']])$

$= 1$ $\iota x[x \text{ is a wife of John}]$ is from Paris or $\iota x [x \text{ is a student in Göttingen}]$ is happy

only defined if $\exists !x[x \text{ is a wife of John}]$ and $\iota x[x \text{ is a wife of John}]$ is female, and $\exists !x [x \text{ is a student in Göttingen}]$

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(2) It is not the case that Tony introduced John Jane.



Solutions

$[[\text{not}]] = \lambda p \in D_t. p = 0$ (TN)

$[[V]] = [[\text{introduced}]] = \lambda x \in D. [\lambda y \in D. [\lambda z \in D. z \text{ introduced } y \text{ to } x]]$ (NN, TN)

$[[NP1]] = [[N1]] = [[\text{Tony}]] = \text{Tony}$ (2xNN, TN)

$[[NP2]] = [[N2]] = [[\text{John}]] = \text{John}$ (2xNN, TN)

$[[NP3]] = [[N3]] = [[\text{Jane}]] = \text{Jane}$ (2xNN, TN)

$[[V']] = [[V]]([[NP2]])$ (FA)
 $= [[\text{introduced}]]([[John]])$ ($[[V]]$, $[[NP2]]$)

$[[VP]] = [[V']]([[NP3]])$ (FA)
 $= [[\text{introduced}]]([[John]])([[Jane]])$ ($[[V']]$, $[[NP3]]$)

$$\begin{aligned}
[[S'']] &= [[VP]]([[NP1]]) \quad (FA) \\
&= [[introduced]]([[John]])([[Jane]])([[Tony]]) \quad ([[VP]], [[NP1]]) \\
&= [\lambda x \in D . [\lambda y \in D . [\lambda z \in D . z \text{ introduced } y \text{ to } x]]] (John)(Jane)(Tony) \\
&= 1 \text{ iff Tony introduced Jane to John} \\
[[S''']] &= [[not]] ([[S'']]) \quad (FA) \\
&= [\lambda p \in Dt. p = 0] ([[S'']]) ([[not]], [[S'']]) \\
&= 1 \text{ iff Tony didn't introduce Jane to John}
\end{aligned}$$