24.973 Advanced Semantics

Spring 2009

TA Advanced Semantics 04/15 Tue Trinh

(1) $[_F$ GQ M VP]

(a) Simplifying assumption = F is always ambiguous between de re and de dicto readings
→ If M is epistemic, M > GQ
→ If GQ = [nobody], GQ > M

(b) Aim = to get grammar to generate both readings = to get it to generate the de dicto reading

(2) Syntactic reconstruction (copy theory version)

(a) LF = $[_F$ ~~[some New Yorker]~~ likely [[some New Yorker] win]]

(b) (i) $[\![\text{likely}]\!]^w = \lambda p.\exists w' \in A(w).p(w') = 1$

(ii) $[\![\text{some}]\!]^w = \lambda P \lambda Q.\exists x.Px \wedge Qx$

(iii) $[\![F]\!]^w = 1$ iff $\exists w' \in A(w).\exists x.[\![\text{New Yorker}]\!]^{w'}(x) \wedge [\![\text{win}]\!]^{w'}(x)$

(3) Higher type trace (GQ)

(a) LF = $[_F\ [_{GQ}$ some New Yorker] $[_{F'}\ \lambda x_{1,GQ}\ [_{F''}$ likely $[_{F'''}\ x_{1,GQ}$ win]]]

(b) $[\![F]\!]^{w,g} = 1$ iff
$[\![F']\!]^{w,g}([\![GQ]\!]^{w,g}) = 1$ iff
$[\lambda_1.[\![F'']\!]^{w,g}]([\![GQ]\!]^{w,g}) = 1$ iff
$[\lambda_1.[\![\text{likely}]\!]^{w,g}(\lambda w'.[\![F''']\!]^{w',g})]([\![GQ]\!]^{w,g}) = 1$ iff
$[\lambda_1.[\![\text{likely}]\!]^{w,g}(\lambda w'.[\![x_1]\!]^{w',g}([\![\text{win}]\!]^{w',g}))]([\![GQ]\!]^{w,g}) = 1$ iff
$[\lambda GQ.[\![\text{likely}]\!]^{w,g}(\lambda w'.[\![x_1]\!]^{w',g[1\rightarrow GQ]}([\![\text{win}]\!]^{w',g}))]([\![GQ]\!]^{w,g}) = 1$ iff
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(4) Higher type trace (<s,GQ>)

(a) LF = $[_F\ [_{GQ}$ some New Yorker] $[_{F'}\ \lambda x_{1,<s,GQ>}\ [_{F''}$ likely $[_{F'''}\ x_{1,<s,GQ>}$ win]]]

(b) $[\![F]\!]^{w,g} = 1$ iff
$[\![F']\!]^{w,g}(\lambda w'.[\![GQ]\!]^{w',g}) = 1$ iff
$[\lambda_1.[\![F'']\!]^{w,g}](\lambda w.[\![GQ]\!]^{w,g}) = 1$ iff
$[\lambda_1.[\![\text{likely}]\!]^{w,g}(\lambda w''.[\![F''']\!]^{w'',g})](\lambda w'.[\![GQ]\!]^{w',g}) = 1$ iff
$[\lambda_1.[\![\text{likely}]\!]^{w,g}(\lambda w''.[\![x_1]\!]^{w'',g}(w'')([\![\text{win}]\!]^{w'',g}))]([\![GQ]\!]^{w,g}) = 1$ iff
$[\lambda IGQ \in D_{<s,GQ>}.[\![\text{likely}]\!]^{w,g}(\lambda w''.[\![x_1]\!]^{w'',g[1\rightarrow IGQ]}(w'')([\![\text{win}]\!]^{w'',g}))](\lambda w'.[\![GQ]\!]^{w',g}) = 1$ iff
…