

# COVERT AND OVERT MOVEMENT IN LOGICAL GRAMMAR

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<http://www.ling.ohio-state.edu/~pollard/cvg/symho.pdf>

# INTRODUCTION: LIFE WITHOUT CONTINUATIONS?

## (1) **The Reason for this Paper**

- Much of the current interest in applying **continuations** to linguistics is centered on issues about **scope** of quantified NPs, *wh*-expressions, and the like.
- But the Extended Montague Grammar (EMG) of the 1970s already had good theories about these, though not always presented in the best light.
- My goal here is to tell the best EMG-style story I can about these things, as a kind of benchmark, so we can get clearer about what is gained by “continuizing”.
- In this paper I focus mostly on **wh-questions**, and next week (in the What Syntax Feeds Semantics Workshop) on some **ellipsis** and **comparative** constructions.
- The paper is about Chinese, but this talk deals with English questions, because they involve both overt and covert movement.

- A Little History
- Back to the Future: Convergent Grammar (CVG)
  - Syntax: Bar-Hillel Meets Gazdar
  - Semantics: Curry Meets Cooper
  - The Syntax-Semantics Interface
- Quantifier Scope
- Wh-Questions
- Conclusion

# A LITTLE HISTORY

## (2) **Extended Montague Grammar (EMG)**

- EMG emerged in the 1970s as an alternative to the then-current avatar of TG, Chomsky's Revised Extended Standard Theory (REST).
- EMG sought greater simplicity, precision, and tractability.
- EMG included practitioners of:
  - PSG, e.g. Cooper, Gazdar, Pullum
  - CG, e.g. Dowty
  - switch hitters, e.g. Bach.
- CG then (essentially AB grammars) was not much different from PSG.
- Lambek's (1958) calculus didn't start to catch on with linguists until the mid-1980's.

### (3) Two Signal Achievements of EMG

- The most obvious difference between EMG and REST was that EMG eschewed **movement**, both **overt** (e.g. *Wh*-Movement ‘at Syntax’) and **covert** (e.g. Quantifier Raising (QR)).
- Two of the most significant achievements of EMG:
  - Cooper’s (1975) **storage** replaced **covert** movement.
  - Gazdar’s (1979) **linking schemata** replaced **overt** movement.
- Proof-theoretically, these two devices are almost identical.

#### (4) **The 1980s and Beyond**

- REST evolved into GB, and then into the MP, where movement is still the central explanatory device.
- Since Chomsky 1993, movement has been viewed as copying, and the covert/overt distinction as a question of which copy is audible.
- EMG spawned such frameworks as CCG, HPSG, TLG, Pregroup Grammars, ACG, etc.
- In spite of the multitude of important contributions of these frameworks, none of them quite capture the simplicity of the intuitions behind Cooper storage and the Gazdar schemata.

# BACK TO THE FUTURE: CONVERGENT GRAMMAR (CVG)

(5) **What is CVG?**

- CVG is yet another post-EMG framework..
- It seeks to synthesize from the best practices of CG and PSG an approach to syntax and semantics that is simple enough to be used as a research framework by actual **linguists**, not just computational linguists and mathematical logicians.
- Logical reformulations of Cooper storage and the Gazdar schemata play a central role.
- CVG closely resembles both ACG and HPSG.

## (6) CVG Compared with ACG and HPSG

- Like both ACG and HPSG, CVG has a **parallel** architecture: independent components generate candidate phonological, syntactic, and semantic entities.
- Like ACG, these candidate entities are **proofs**, each in a different logic. We call this **pure derivationality** as opposed to TG's structural derivationality in TG that builds arboreal representations by sequences of structural operations.
- Like HPSG, the relation between syntax and semantics need **not** be a function: the same syntactic derivation can correspond to two or more distinct semantic derivations.
- This nonfunctionality of the syntax-semantics interface arises from the use of a **generalized form of Cooper storage**.

## (7) Syntax, Semantics, and their Interface in CVG

- Candidate syntactic derivations are specified by a **syntactic logic** similar to ones used in CG, **plus** a (proof-theoretic version of) a **Gazdar-style linking schema**.
- Candidate semantic derivations are specified by a **semantic logic** similar to lambda calculus, but with abstraction replaced by a (proof-theoretic version of) **Cooper storage**.
- The **interface** specifies which pairs of derivations go together.

# CVG SYNTAX: BAR-HILLEL MEETS GAZDAR

## (8) Format for CVG Syntactic Typing Judgments

$\Gamma \vdash a : A$

- ‘Term  $a$  is assigned category  $A$  in context  $\Gamma$ .’
- This is in the **Gentzen-sequent style of natural deduction** with **Curry-Howard proof terms**.
- The **context** is the (nonrepeating) list of **typed syntactic variables**, also called **traces**, that have been bound.
- Contexts work essentially like the HPSG SLASH.
- HPSGs are really natural-deduction systems, a fact which is obscured by the feature-structure encoding.

## (9) CVG Categories

- There are some **basic** categories, such as S, NP, and N
- For present purposes we ignore morphosyntactic details such as case, agreement, verb inflection (the kinds of details handled in HPSG by **head features**). In a more detailed CVG, these would be handled by **subtyping**.
- If  $A$  and  $B$  are categories, then so are  $A \multimap_{\mathbf{F}} B$ , where  $\mathbf{F}$  belongs to a finite set  $\mathbf{F}$  of **grammatical function names**. These are called **functional** categories with **argument** category  $A$  and **result** category  $B$ .
- If  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  are categories, then so is  $G[A, B, C]$ , usually abbreviated to  $A_B^C$ . These are called **operator** categories with **binding** category  $A$ , **scope** category  $B$ , and **result** category  $C$ .

## (10) Functional Categories

- We start off with the grammatical function names (**gramfun**s)  $s$  (subject) and  $c$  (complement). Others can be added as needed.
- The gramfun
s correspond to HPSG **valence features**.- Since the grammatical functions aren't relevant for this talk, you can just think  $\rightarrow_s$  as Lambek's  $\backslash$  and  $\rightarrow_c$  as Lambek's  $/$ .
- Example: a transitive verb has category  $NP \rightarrow_c NP \rightarrow_s S$ .
- There is poetic justice here, since HPSG's valence features originated as a feature-structure encoding of CG category cancellation.

## (11) Syntactic Operator Categories

- These are for expressions analyzed by TG as having overtly moved.
- They correspond to **fillers** in HPSG, which in turn go back to Gazdar's (1979) analysis of **unbounded dependencies**, hence the name G for the category constructor.
- Example: if we call the category of interrogatives Q, then the interrogative pronoun *who* has category  $S_{NP}^Q$ .
- This means *who* combines with an S containing an unbound NP gap to form a Q, at the same time binding the trace.
- The G constructor is reminiscent of Moortgat's (1991) **in-situ scoping** constructor q, but in the syntactic logic G is used for **overt**—not **covert**—movement.

(12) **Some Syntactic Words, CVG Style**

Words are **axioms** of the syntactic logic.

- ⊢ Chris : NP
- ⊢ everyone : NP
- ⊢ someone : NP
- ⊢  $\text{who}_{\text{in-situ}}$  : NP
- ⊢  $\text{what}_{\text{in-situ}}$  : NP
- ⊢  $\text{who}_{\text{filler}}$  :  $\text{NP}_S^Q$
- ⊢  $\text{what}_{\text{filler}}$  :  $\text{NP}_S^Q$
- ⊢ barked :  $\text{NP} \rightarrow_{\text{S}}$
- ⊢ liked :  $(\text{NP} \rightarrow_{\text{C}} (\text{NP} \rightarrow_{\text{S}} \text{S}))$
- ⊢ thought :  $\text{S} \rightarrow_{\text{C}} (\text{NP} \rightarrow_{\text{S}} \text{S})$
- ⊢ wondered :  $\text{Q} \rightarrow_{\text{C}} (\text{NP} \rightarrow_{\text{S}} \text{S})$
- ⊢ whether :  $(\text{S} \rightarrow_{\text{C}} \text{Q})$

(13) **Modus Ponens in CVG Syntax**

These are **inference schemata** of the syntactic logic.

**Schema  $M_s$  (Subject Modus Ponens)**

If  $\Gamma \vdash a : A$  and  $\Gamma' \vdash f : A \multimap_s B$ ,  
then  $\Gamma; \Gamma' \vdash ({}^s a f) : B$

**Schema  $M_c$  (Complement Modus Ponens)**

If  $\Gamma \vdash f : A \multimap_c B$  and  $\Gamma' \vdash a : A$ ,  
then  $\Gamma; \Gamma' \vdash (f a {}^c) : B$

**Note:** These corresponds to HPSG's valence cancellation schemata.

**Also note:** The proof terms are written to be mnemonic of the order in which the words are phonologically realized.

## (14) Introducing Syntactic Hypotheses in CVG

### Schema T (Trace)

$t : A \vdash t : A$  ( $t$  fresh)

**Note:** TGists also call traces “syntactic variables”. But in EST/GB a trace is left behind when the operator that binds it **moves** out of the argument position; and in the MP, the trace and the operator that binds it are **copies**.

Our traces are just ordinary variables.

(15) **Schema G (Generalized Gazdar Schema)**

If  $\Gamma \vdash a : A_B^C$  and  $t : A; \Gamma' \vdash b : B$ ,  
then  $\Gamma; \Gamma' \vdash a_t b : C$  ( $t$  not free in  $a$ )

**Note:** This corresponds to HPSG's Filler-Head schema, which in turn derives from Gazdar's (1979) Linking schemata.

**Also note:** the free occurrence of  $t$  in  $b$  is bound in  $a_t b$ .

(16) **The CVG Syntactic Schemata**

**Schema  $M_s$  (Subject Modus Ponens)**

If  $\Gamma \vdash a : A$  and  $\Gamma' \vdash f : A \multimap_s B$ ,  
then  $\Gamma; \Gamma' \vdash ({}^s a f) : B$

**Schema  $M_c$  (Complement Modus Ponens)**

If  $\Gamma \vdash f : A \multimap_c B$  and  $\Gamma' \vdash a : A$ ,  
then  $\Gamma; \Gamma' \vdash (f a {}^c) : B$

**Schema  $T$  (Trace)**

$t : A \vdash t : A$  ( $t$  fresh)

**Schema  $G$  (Generalized Gazdar Schema)**

If  $\Gamma \vdash a : A_B^C$  and  $t : B; \Gamma' \vdash b : B$ ,  
then  $\Gamma; \Gamma' \vdash a_t b : C$  ( $t$  not free in  $a$ )

## (17) CVG vs. Lambek Calculus or Lambda Calculus

This resembles an ND presentation of lambda calculus or (Buszkowski 1987) Lambek calculus (i.e. bilinear logic). Biggest difference:

- there is no lambda-abstraction/hypothetical proof.
- Instead, the implication  $A \multimap B$  that you *expect* to be introduced by binding the trace is immediately eliminated by Schema G and you go straight to a  $C$ .
- Evidently, in NL as opposed to familiar logics, **implication introduction is lexically coordinated with implication elimination** to avoid introducing implications in derivations.

(18) **A Simple Sentence**

$\vdash (^S \text{ Chris (thought } (^S \text{ Kim (liked Dana } ^C) ^C))) : S$

(19) **An Embedded Polar Question**

$\vdash (\text{whether } (^S \text{ Kim (likes Sandy } ^C) ^C)) : Q$

(20) **An Embedded Constituent Question**

$\vdash [\text{what}_{\text{filler } t}({}^S \text{Kim (likes } t {}^C)]) : Q$

Here *what* is an operator of type  $\text{NP}_S^Q$ : it combines with an S containing an unbound NP trace to form a Q, while binding the trace.

(21) **A Binary Constituent Question**

$\vdash [\text{who}_{\text{filler } t}({}^S t (\text{likes } \text{what}_{\text{in-situ } {}^C}))] : S$

Here *who* is an operator but *what* is just an NP.

(22) **Baker Ambiguity**

$\vdash [\text{who}_{\text{filler } t}({}^S t (\text{wonders } [\text{who}_{\text{filler } t'}({}^S t' (\text{likes } \text{what}_{\text{in-situ } {}^C}))] {}^C))] : S$

Here, both *who* are operators but *what* is just an NP.

This sentence is ambiguous as to whether *what* scopes at the root question or the embedded one.

So far this is just syntax. What do these sentences mean?

# CVG SEMANTICS: CURRY MEETS COOPER

### (23) **Toward RC Calculus**

- RC is a term calculus for NL meaning composition, also in the Gentzen-sequent style of ND with Curry-Howard terms.
- The easiest way to semantically interpret RC terms is to transform RC into TLC (typed lambda calculus), more specifically Ty2.
- Fortunately that is trivially easy.

(24) **Format for RC Typing Judgments**

$\Gamma \vdash a : A \dashv \Delta$

- a. ‘term  $a$  is assigned type  $A$  in context  $\Gamma$  and **co-context**  $\Delta$ .’
- b. The context is used to track semantic variables corresponding to traces (like the semantic halves of HPSG SLASH values).
- c. The co-context is a generalization of Cooper storage, not just for quantifiers, but also indefinites, names, pronouns, reflexives, *wh*-in situ, comparative and superlative operators, subdeletion gaps, topic, focus, and more.
- d. The ‘co-’ is mnemonic for ‘Cooper’ and ‘covert movement’.

(25) **RC Semantic Types**

- a. There are some **basic** semantic types.
- b. If  $A$  and  $B$  are types, then  $A \rightarrow B$  is a **functional** semantic type with **argument** type  $A$  and **result** type  $B$ .
- c. If  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  are types, then  $G[A, B, C]$ , abbreviated to  $A_B^C$ , is an **operator** semantic type with **binding** type  $A$ , **scope** type  $B$ , and **result** type  $C$ .
- d. To summarize: the semantic type system is just like the syntactic category system, except
  - i. different basic types; and
  - ii. only one kind of implication ( $\rightarrow$ ).

(26) **Basic Semantic Types**

For present purposes, we use three basic semantic types:

$\iota$  (individual concepts)

$\pi$  (propositions)

and  $\kappa$  (polar questions).

**Note:** Here  $\kappa$  is mnemonic for ‘Karttunen’ because its transform (see (32) below) into Ty2 will be the Karttunen type for questions.

**Also note:** If you are shaky on intensional types, most of the time you can think of  $\iota$  as e and  $\pi$  as t and still get the gist.

(27) **Abbreviated Notation for Functional Types**

Where  $\sigma$  ranges over strings of types and  $\epsilon$  is the null string:

- i.  $A_\epsilon =_{\text{def}} A$
- ii.  $A_{B\sigma} =_{\text{def}} B \rightarrow A_\sigma$  (e.g.  $\pi_{\iota\iota} = \iota \rightarrow \iota \rightarrow \pi$ )
- iii. For  $n \in \omega$ ,  $A_n =_{\text{def}} A_\sigma$  where  $\sigma$  is the string of  $\iota$ 's of length  $n$

**Example:**  $\pi_2 =_{\text{def}} \pi_{\iota\iota} =_{\text{def}} \iota \rightarrow \iota \rightarrow \pi$ .

**Note:** This clunky notation is the price we pay for not having conjunction in the type logic.

(28) **How the Semantic Operator Types are Used (1/2)**

- Semantic operator types are used for expressions which would be analyzed in TG as undergoing (overt or covert)  $\bar{A}$ -movement.
- ‘Covert movement’: the semantics is an operator, but the syntax is **not**.
- Example: for Moortgat (1991) a QNP has category  $q[NP, S, S]$  and semantic type  $(\iota \rightarrow \pi) \rightarrow \pi$ .

This misses the generalization that the syntactic category of the retrieval site is irrelevant; what matters is that the semantic type be  $\pi$  (or, more generally, a functional type with final result  $\pi$ ).

- Whereas for us a QNP is just an NP with semantic type  $\iota_{\pi}^{\pi}$ .

(29) **How the Semantic Operator Types are Used (2/2)**

- ‘Overt movement’: the semantic G-constructor works in lockstep with the syntactic G-constructor.
- Example: ‘Overtly moved’ *who* has category  $\text{NP}_S^Q$  and semantic type  $\iota_\pi^{\kappa_1}$ , where  $\kappa_1$  is the type of unary constituent questions.
- The standard TLG way to get the effect of  $\text{NP}_S^Q$  is  $Q/(S \uparrow \text{NP})$ , where  $\uparrow$  is Moortgat’s (1988) **extraction** constructor.
- But this misses the generalization that there don’t seem to be any phrases of category  $S \uparrow \text{NP}$ .

(30) **What goes into the Co-Context?**

- a. The co-contexts will contain semantic operators to be scoped, each paired with the variable that it will eventually bind.
- b. We call such stored pairs **commitments**, and write them in the form  $a_x$ , where the type of  $x$  is the binding type of  $a$ .
- c. Then we call  $x$  a **committed** variable, and say that  $a$  is **committed** to bind  $x$ .
- d. By contrast, the variables in the (left-of-turnstile) context are called **uncommitted** variables.

(31) **The Semantic Schemata**

Constants, variables, and Modus Ponens (Function Application) exactly as in the familiar typed lambda calculus, plus:

**Semantic Schema C (Cooper Storage)**

If  $\Gamma \vdash a : A_B^C \dashv \Delta$ , then  $\Gamma \vdash x : A \dashv a_x : A_B^C; \Delta$  ( $x$  fresh)

**Schema R (Retrieval)**

If  $\Gamma \vdash b[x] : B \dashv a_x : A_B^C; \Delta$ , then  $\Gamma \vdash (a_x b[x]) : C \dashv \Delta$ ,  
( $x$  free in  $b$  but not in  $\Delta$ )

**Schema G (Semantic Counterpart of Gazdar Schema)**

If  $\Gamma \vdash a : A_B^C \dashv \Delta$  and  $x : A, \Gamma' \vdash b : B \dashv \Delta'$   
then  $\Gamma; \Gamma' \vdash (a_x b) : C \dashv \Delta, \Delta'$  ( $x$  not free in  $a$ )

**Note:** the underscoring of the bound variable in Schema R is an essential part of the proof term! Without it you can't tell whether the variable was bound by Schema R or by Schema G.

(32) **The Transform  $\tau$  from RC Types to Ty2 Meaning Types**

a.  $\tau(\iota) = s \rightarrow e$

b.  $\tau(\pi) = s \rightarrow t$

c.  $\tau(\kappa) = \tau(\pi) \rightarrow \tau(\pi)$

d.  $\tau(A \rightarrow B) = \tau(A) \rightarrow \tau(B)$

e.  $\tau(A_B^C) = (\tau(A) \rightarrow \tau(B)) \rightarrow \tau(C)$

### (33) The Transform $\tau$ on Terms

a. Variables and basic constants are unchanged except for their types.

b.  $\tau((f a)) = \tau(f)(\tau(a))$

The change in the parenthesization has no theoretical significance. It just enables one to tell at a glance whether the term belongs to RC or to Ty2, e.g. (walk' Kim') vs. walk'(Kim').

c.  $\tau((a_x b)) = \tau(a)(\lambda_x \tau(b))$

**Note:** This is the important clause. It says that operator binding consists of abstraction immediately followed by application.

**THE CVG SYNTAX-SEMANTICS INTERFACE:  
SEVEN SCHEMATA**

(34) **Schema L (Lexicon)**

$\vdash w, c : A, B \dashv$  (for certain pairs  $\langle w, c \rangle$  where  $w$  is a word of category  $A$  and  $c$  is a basic constant of type  $B$ )

This tells what words mean.

(35) **Schema  $M_s$  (Subject Modus Ponens)**

If  $\Gamma \vdash a, c : A, C \dashv \Delta$  and  $\Gamma' \vdash f, v : A \multimap_s B, C \rightarrow D \dashv \Delta'$ ,  
then  $\Gamma; \Gamma' \vdash ({}^s a f), (v c) : B, D \dashv \Delta; \Delta'$

This says that heads combine with subjects semantically by function application.

**Note:** Contexts (unbounded traces) and co-contexts (unscoped Cooper-stored operators) just get passed up, as in old-fashioned PSG.

(36) **Schema  $M_c$  (Complement Modus Ponens)**

If  $\Gamma \vdash f, v : A \multimap_c B, C \rightarrow D \dashv \Delta$  and  $\Gamma' \vdash a, c : A, C \dashv \Delta'$ ,  
then  $\Gamma; \Gamma' \vdash (f a^c), (v c) : B, D \dashv \Delta; \Delta'$

This says that heads combine with complements semantically by function application. Again, (co-)contexts are just passed up.

(37) **Schema T (Trace)**

$t, x : A, B \vdash t, x : A, B \dashv$  ( $t$  and  $x$  fresh)

This says that traces (syntactic variables) are paired with semantic variables from birth.

**Note:** In MP, traces must undergo a multistage process of ‘trace conversion’ in order to become semantically interpretable.

(38) **Schema C (Cooper Storage)**

If  $\Gamma \vdash a, b : A, B_C^D \dashv \Delta$ , then  $\Gamma \vdash a, x : A, B \dashv b_x : B_c^D; \Delta$  ( $x$  fresh)

This says that when a semantic operator gets added to the Cooper store, nothing happens in the syntax (because the phrase whose meaning is stored is **not** an operator syntactically).

(39) **Schema R (Retrieval)**

If  $\Gamma \vdash e, c[x] : E, C \dashv b_x : B_C^D; \Delta$  then  $\Gamma \vdash e, (b_{\underline{x}}c[\underline{x}]) : E, D \dashv \Delta$   
( $x$  free in  $c$  but not in  $\Delta$ )

This says that when a Cooper-stored semantic operator gets retrieved, again nothing happens in the syntax.

**Note:** the underscoring of the bound variable is an essential part of the proof term! Without it you can't tell whether the variable was bound by Schema R or by Schema G (next slide).

(40) **Schema G (Generalized Gazdar Schema)**

If  $\Gamma \vdash a, d : A_B^C, D_E^F \dashv \Delta$  and  $t, x : B, D; \Gamma' \vdash b, e : B, E \dashv \Delta'$ ,  
then  $\Gamma; \Gamma' \vdash (a_t b), (d_x e) : C, F \dashv \Delta, \Delta'$   
( $t$  free in  $b$ ,  $x$  free in  $e$ )

This says that fillers (‘overtly moved’ phrases) are operators, both syntactically and semantically.

**Important:** although co-contexts are **sets** of committed semantic variables, contexts are **lists** of **pairs** of a trace and a semantic variable. This captures the **Prohibition on Crossed Dependencies**.

**Important:** The operator  $a$  **binds** the trace  $t$ , but there is **absolutely** no construal of the words ‘move’ or ‘copy’ under which  $a$  moved from the argument position  $t$  occupies, or copied  $t$ , just as in lambda calculus there is no sense in which  $\lambda_x.\text{bite}'(x)(\text{Fido})$  is derived by movement or copying from  $\text{bite}'(\lambda)(\text{Fido})$ .

# QUANTIFIER SCOPE

(41) **Lexicon for Quantifier Scope Fragment**

⊢ Chris, Chris' : NP,  $\iota$  ⊢ (likewise other names)

⊢ everyone, everyone' : NP,  $\iota_{\pi}^{\pi}$  ⊢

⊢ someone, someone' : NP,  $\iota_{\pi}^{\pi}$  ⊢

⊢ liked, like' : (NP  $\rightarrow_C$  (NP  $\rightarrow_S$  S),  $\iota \rightarrow \iota \rightarrow \pi$  ⊢

⊢ thought, think' : S  $\rightarrow_C$  (NP  $\rightarrow_S$  S),  $\pi \rightarrow (\iota \rightarrow \pi)$  ⊢

(42) **A Refinement**

- Actually the QNP meanings have to be polymorphically typed to  $\iota_{\pi\sigma}^{\pi\sigma}$  where  $\sigma$  ranges over strings of types, since quantifiers can be retrieved not just at proposition nodes, but also at nodes with functional types whose final result type is proposition.
- An important case is  $\sigma = \iota$ : quantifiers can be retrieved at nodes which are semantically individual properties ( $\pi_{\iota} = \iota \rightarrow \pi$ ), such as VPs and Ns:
  - a. [Campaigning in every state] is prohibitively expensive.
  - b. Most [people with few interests] are uninteresting.

(43) **Ty2 Meaning Postulates for Generalized Quantifiers**

$$\vdash \text{every}' = \lambda_Q \lambda_P \lambda_w \forall_x (Q(x)(w) \rightarrow P(x)(w))$$

$$\vdash \text{some}' = \lambda_Q \lambda_P \lambda_w \exists_x (Q(x)(w) \wedge P(x)(w))$$

$$\vdash \text{everyone}' = \text{every}'(\text{person}')$$

$$\vdash \text{someone}' = \text{some}'(\text{person}')$$

Types for Ty2 variables are as follows:

$$x, y, z : s \rightarrow e \text{ (individual concepts)}$$

$$p, q : s \rightarrow t \text{ (propositions); } w : s \text{ (worlds)}$$

$$P, Q : ((s \rightarrow e) \rightarrow (s \rightarrow t)) \text{ (properties of individual concepts).}$$

(44) **Quantifier Scope Ambiguity**

a. Syntax (both readings):

$(^S \text{Chris} (\text{thinks } (^S \text{Kim} (\text{likes everyone } ^C) ^C))) : S$

b. Semantics (scoped to lower clause):

RC:  $((\text{think}' (\text{everyone}'_{\underline{x}} ((\text{like}' \underline{x}) \text{Kim}')) \text{Chris}')) : \pi$

Ty2:  $\text{think}'(\lambda_w(\forall_x(\text{person}'(x)(w) \rightarrow \text{like}'(x)(\text{Kim}') (w))))(\text{Chris}') : s \rightarrow t$

c. Semantics (scoped to upper clause):

RC:  $(\text{everyone}'_{\underline{x}} ((\text{think}' ((\text{like}' \underline{x}) \text{Kim}')) \text{Chris}')) : \pi$

Ty2:  $\lambda_w(\forall_x(\text{person}'(x)(w) \rightarrow \text{think}'(\text{like}'(x)(\text{Kim}') (\text{Chris}') (w)))) : s \rightarrow t$

(45) **Raising of Two Quantifiers to Same Clause**

Note: from now on we omit the Ty2 transform.

- a. Syntax (both readings): (<sup>S</sup> everyone (likes someone <sup>C</sup>)) : S
- b.  $\forall\exists$ -reading: (everyone' x (someone' y ((like' y) x))) :  $\pi$
- c.  $\exists\forall$ -reading: (someone' y (everyone' x ((like' y) x))) :  $\pi$
- d. These are possible because for generalized quantifiers, the result type is the same as the scope type.
- e. Things are not so straightforward in the case of multiple in-situ wh-operators, as we soon will see.

(46) **The Side Conditions in Schema R**

If  $\Gamma \vdash e, c[x] : E, C \dashv b_x : B_C^D; \Delta$  then  $\Gamma \vdash e, (b_{\underline{x}}c[\underline{x}]) : E, D \dashv \Delta$   
( $x$  free in  $c$  but not in  $\Delta$ )

- a. The first conjunct prohibits vacuous quantification. For example, there is no reading of  
*Every owner of a donkey has regrets.*  
where the existential is in the scope (as opposed to the restrictor) of the universal, since *a donkey* binds no variable occurrence.
- b. The second conjunct makes sure that an operator binds every occurrence of ‘its’ variable. For example, there is no reading of  
*A rumor about him upset every boy.*  
where the universal is the antecedent of the pronoun but is outscoped by the existential, since then *every boy* fails to bind the occurrence of ‘its’ variable coming from the pronoun.
- c. The side conditions obviate the need for *nested* storage.

# **WH-QUESTIONS**

(47) **Ty2 Meaning Types**

These are defined as follows:

- a.  $s \rightarrow e$  (individual concepts) is a Ty2 meaning type.
- b.  $s \rightarrow t$  (propositions) is a Ty2 meaning type.
- c. If  $A$  and  $B$  are Ty2 meaning types, then so is  $A \rightarrow B$ .

(48) **Extensional Types Corresponding to Ty2 Meaning Types**

These are defined as follows:

- a.  $E(s \rightarrow e) = e$
- b.  $E(s \rightarrow t) = t$
- c.  $E(A \rightarrow B) = (A \rightarrow E(B))$

(49) **Extensions of Ty2 Meanings**

The relationship between Ty2 meanings and their extensions is axiomatized as follows, where the family of constants  $\mathbf{ext}_A : s \rightarrow (A \rightarrow \mathbf{E}(A))$  is parametrized by the Ty2 meaning types:

- a.  $\vdash \forall_x \forall_w (\mathbf{ext}_w(x) = x(w))$  (for  $x : s \rightarrow e$ )
- b.  $\vdash \forall_p \forall_w (\mathbf{ext}_w(p) = p(w))$  (for  $p : s \rightarrow t$ )
- c.  $\vdash \forall_f \forall_w (\mathbf{ext}_w(f) = \lambda_x \mathbf{ext}_w(f(x)))$  (for  $f : A \rightarrow B$ ,  $A$  and  $B$  Ty2 meaning types).

Note: we suppress the type parameter, and write  $\mathbf{ext}_w$  for  $\mathbf{ext}(w)$ .

## (50) Overall Approach to Interrogative Semantics

The approach is described in detail in Pollard 2008. Key ideas:

- The analysis of polar questions (after transformation into Ty2) is that of Karttunen 1977: at each world  $w$ , an interrogative sentence denotes a set of  $w$ -facts (in this case, a singleton).
- For  $n$ -ary constituent interrogatives, the denotation at  $w$  is a (curried)  $n$ -ary function to  $w$ -facts. The **range** of that function is similar to the Karttunen semantics, except that it contains both positive and negative ‘true atomic answers.’
- An interrogative meaning of this kind induces an equivalence relation on worlds which is a **refinement** of the Groenendijk-Stokhof (1984) partition semantics.

(51) **Types for Polar Questions**

- a. RC meaning type:  $\kappa$
- b. Meaning type of Ty2 transform:  $(s \rightarrow t) \rightarrow (s \rightarrow t)$  (property of propositions)
- c. Type of Ty2 denotation:  $(s \rightarrow t) \rightarrow t$  (characteristic function of a (singleton) set of propositions)
- d. Example: at  $w$ , *Does Chris walk* (or *whether Chris walks*) denotes the singleton set whose member is whichever is true at  $w$ , the proposition that Chris walks or the proposition that s/he doesn't.

(52) **Types for Unary Constituent Questions**

- a. RC meaning type:  $\kappa_1$
- b. Meaning type of Ty2 transform:  $(s \rightarrow e) \rightarrow ((s \rightarrow t) \rightarrow (s \rightarrow t))$   
(function from individual concepts to properties of propositions).
- c. Type of Ty2 denotation:  $(s \rightarrow e) \rightarrow ((s \rightarrow t) \rightarrow t)$  (function from individual concepts to sets of propositions). Technically, the curried version of the characteristic function of a certain binary relation between individual concepts and propositions.
- d. Example: at  $w$ , *who walks* denotes the (functional) binary relation between individual concepts  $x$  and propositions  $p$  that obtains just in case  $x$  is a  $w$ -person and  $p$  is whichever proposition is a  $w$ -fact, that  $x$  walks or that  $x$  does not walk.

### (53) Types for Binary Constituent Questions

- a. RC meaning type:  $\kappa_2$
- b. Meaning type of Ty2 transform:  $(s \rightarrow e) \rightarrow ((s \rightarrow e) \rightarrow ((s \rightarrow t) \rightarrow (s \rightarrow t)))$  (curried function from pairs of individual concepts to properties of propositions).
- c. Type of Ty2 denotation:  $(s \rightarrow e) \rightarrow ((s \rightarrow e) \rightarrow ((s \rightarrow t) \rightarrow t))$  (curried function from pairs of individual concepts to sets of propositions). Technically, the curried version of the characteristic function of a certain ternary relation between individual concepts, individual concepts, and propositions.
- d. Example: at  $w$ , *who likes what* denotes the (functional) ternary relation between individual concepts  $x$  and  $y$  and propositions  $p$  that obtains just in case  $x$  is a  $w$ -person,  $y$  is a  $w$ -thing, and  $p$  is whichever proposition is a  $w$ -fact, that  $x$  likes  $y$  or that  $x$  does not like  $y$ .

(54) **Types for Interrogatives (Summary)**

- a. The RC type for polar interrogatives (*whether Fido barked*) is  $\kappa_0 = \kappa$ , whose Ty2 transform is  $(s \rightarrow t) \rightarrow s \rightarrow t$  (property of propositions).
- b. The RC type for unary constituent interrogatives (*who barked*) is  $\kappa_1 = \iota \rightarrow \kappa$ , whose Ty2 transform is  $\iota \rightarrow (s \rightarrow t) \rightarrow s \rightarrow t$  (function from individuals to properties of propositions).
- c. The RC type for binary constituent interrogatives (*who bit who*) is  $\kappa_2 = \iota \rightarrow \iota \rightarrow \kappa$ , whose Ty2 transform is  $\iota \rightarrow \iota \rightarrow (s \rightarrow t) \rightarrow s \rightarrow t$  (curried function from pairs of individuals to properties of propositions), etc.

(55) **Multiple *Wh*-In Situ vs. Multiple Quantifier Raising**

- a. The fact that not all questions have the same type introduces a complexity that does not arise with quantifier scope.
- b. But as we'll see, it also explains a lot.
- b. Since the result type of a quantifier is the same as its scope type, we can scope multiple quantifiers one after the other (45).
- c. But (for example,) scoping one (overtly moved) *wh*-operator at a proposition produces a unary constituent question, so its type must be  $\iota_{\pi}^{\kappa_1}$ .
- d. So if we want to scope a second (in-situ) *wh*-operator over that unary constituent question to form a binary constituent question, then *its* type must be  $\iota_{\kappa_1}^{\kappa_2}$ , etc.
- d. We will return to this point presently.

(56) **Ty2 Meaning Postulates for Some Standard Logical Constants**

- a.  $\vdash \text{id}_A = \lambda_x x (Z : \tau(\kappa_n))$
- b.  $\vdash \text{and}' = \lambda_p \lambda_q \lambda_w (p(w) \wedge q(w))$
- c.  $\vdash \text{or}' = \lambda_p \lambda_q \lambda_w (p(w) \vee q(w))$
- d.  $\vdash \text{not}' = \lambda_p \lambda_w \neg p(w)$
- e.  $\vdash \text{equals}'_A = \lambda_x \lambda_y \lambda_w (x = y)$

(57) **Ty2 MPs for Some Less Standard Logical Constants**

- a.  $\vdash \text{whether}' = \lambda_q \lambda_p (p \text{ and}' ((p \text{ equals}' q) \text{ or}' (p \text{ equals}' \text{not}'(q))))$
- b.  $\vdash \text{which}^0 = \lambda_Q \lambda_P \lambda_x \lambda_p (Q(x) \text{ and}' \text{whether}'(P(x))(p))$
- c.  $\vdash \text{which}^n = \lambda_Q \lambda_Z \lambda_{x_0} \dots \lambda_{x_n} \lambda_p (Q(x) \text{ and}' Z(x_0) \dots (x_n)(p)) (n > 0)$
- d.  $\vdash \text{who}^n = \text{which}^n(\text{person}' )$
- e.  $\vdash \text{what}^n = \text{which}^n(\text{thing}' )$

(58) **Lexicon for Interrogative Fragment**

- ⊢ Kim, Kim' : NP,  $\iota$  ⊢
- ⊢ liked, like' : (NP  $\rightarrow_{\circ_C}$  (NP  $\rightarrow_{\circ_S}$  S),  $\iota \rightarrow (\iota \rightarrow \pi)$  ⊢
- ⊢ whether, whether' : (S  $\rightarrow_{\circ_C}$  S,  $\pi \rightarrow \kappa$ ) ⊢
- ⊢ wondered, wonder'<sub>n</sub> : S  $\rightarrow_{\circ_C}$  (NP  $\rightarrow_{\circ_S}$  S),  $\kappa_n \rightarrow (\iota \rightarrow \pi)$  ⊢
- ⊢ who<sub>filler</sub>, who<sup>0</sup> : NP<sub>S</sub><sup>Q</sup>,  $\iota_{\pi}^{\kappa_1}$  ⊢
- ⊢ who<sub>in-situ</sub>, who<sup>n</sup> : NP,  $\iota_{\kappa_n}^{\kappa_{n+1}}$  ⊢ (for  $n > 0$ )
- ⊢ what<sub>filler</sub>, what<sup>0</sup> : NP<sub>S</sub><sup>Q</sup>,  $\iota_{\pi}^{\kappa_1}$  ⊢
- ⊢ what<sub>in-situ</sub>, what<sup>n</sup> : NP,  $\iota_{\kappa_n}^{\kappa_{n+1}}$  ⊢ (for  $n > 0$ )

(59) **Observations about Interrogative *who***

- The interrogative 'pronoun' *who* is **syntactically** ambiguous between a syntactic operator  $\mathit{who}_{\text{filler}}$  and an NP,  $\mathit{who}_{\text{in-situ}}$ .
- $\mathit{who}_{\text{filler}}$  can only form an interrogative (Q) by scoping syntactically over a 'declarative' (i.e. semantically propositional) S containing at least one unbound NP trace, and the semantic result (formed by scoping  $\mathit{who}^0$  over an open proposition), is a unary constituent question (type  $\kappa_1$ ).
- $\mathit{who}_{\text{in-situ}}$  cannot scope syntactically, but its stored meaning (any of  $\mathit{who}^n$ ,  $n > 0$ ) can be retrieved at a constituent question (type  $\kappa_n$ ,  $n > 0$ ) to form a 'higher' constituent question (type  $\kappa_{n+1}$ ).

(60) **Consequences**

- There can be no purely in-situ interrogatives (leaving aside pragmatically restricted, intonationally marked ones which we cannot go into here):

*\*I wonder Fido bit who?*

- A *wh*-expression cannot scope, either overtly or covertly, over a polar interrogative:

*\*I wonder whether Fido bit who?*

*\*I wonder who whether Fido bit?*

- In each constituent interrogative, only one ‘overtly moved’ *wh*-expression can take scope there:

*\*I wonder who who(m) bit?*

(61) **More Consequences**

- Arbitrarily many in-situ *wh*-expressions can take their semantic scope at a given constituent interrogative:

*Who gave what to who when?*

- There are (Baker) ambiguities that hinge on how high an in-situ *wh*-expression scopes:

*Who wondered who bit who?*

- Even though subject *wh*-expressions might *look* in situ:

*Who barked?*

they aren't really; if they were, they could also scope higher to form impossible embedded questions as in:

\**Kim wondered Chris thought who barked?*

(Intended meaning: Kim wondered who Chris thought barked.)

(62) **Wh-In Situ Languages**

In languages without overt *wh*-movement, the counterpart of *who* is just an NP with **all** the meanings  $\text{who}^n$  ( $n \geq 0$ ), **including**  $\text{who}^0$ .

That is: the difference between overt and covert *wh*-movement languages is in the lexicon.

(63) **An English Embedded Polar Question**

- a. Syntax:  $\vdash (\text{whether } (^S \text{ Kim } (\text{likes Sandy } ^C)) ^C) : S$
- b. Semantics:  $\vdash (\text{whether}' (\text{like}' \text{Sandy}' \text{Kim}')) : \kappa_0$

(64) **An English Embedded Constituent Question**

- a. Syntax:  $\vdash [\text{what}_{\text{filler } t}^{\text{S}} (\text{Kim} (\text{likes } t^{\text{C}}))] : \text{S}$
- b. Semantics:  $\vdash (\text{what}_y^0((\text{like}' y) (\text{Kim}')) : \kappa_1$

(65) **A English Binary Constituent Question**

- a. Syntax:  $\vdash [\text{who}_{\text{filler } t}^{\text{S}} t (\text{likes } \text{what}_{\text{in-situ}}^{\text{C}}))] : \text{S}$
- b. Semantics:  $\vdash (\text{what}_y^1(\text{who}_x^0((\text{like}' y) (x)))) : \kappa_2$

(66) **Baker Ambiguity**

- a.  $\vdash [\text{who}_{\text{filler } t}(\text{}^s t (\text{wonders} [\text{who}_{\text{filler } t'}(\text{}^s t' (\text{likes } \text{what}_{\text{in-situ } c}))) \text{}^c)]) : \text{S}$
- b.  $\vdash (\text{who}_x^0((\text{wonder}'_2 (\text{what}_y^1(\text{who}_z^0((\text{like}' y) z)))) x)) : \pi$   
(E.g. Chris wonders who likes what.)
- c.  $\vdash (\text{what}_y^1(\text{who}_x^0((\text{wonder}'_1 (\text{who}_z^0((\text{like}' y) z)))) x))) : \pi$   
(E.g. Chris wonders who likes the books, and Kim wonders who likes the records.)

# CONCLUSIONS

(67) **What this Talk was About**

- On the intuitive level, EMG had a simple and elegant theory of so-called movement phenomena.
- But it was hard to present the theory persuasively using 1970's technology (no substructural logic or Curry-Howard).
- HPSG complicated the story line by
  - coding everything up in feature logic
  - abandoning Montague semantics for situation semantics.
- Later CG complicated things in different ways:
  - insisting (as per Montague) that the syntax-semantics interface be a function, no matter how much it complicates the syntax
  - Not picking up on Gazdar's insight that 'overt movement' binds a trace without ever introducing an implication.
- We re-told the EMG movement story, in Curry-Howard terms.

(68) **The EMG Story about Movement, Retold**

- The syntax-semantics interface recursively specifies a set of pairs, each consisting of a syntactic proof and a semantic proof.
- The syntactic logic is like familiar CG, but with  $\uparrow$  replaced by an ND reformulation of Gazdar's machinery for overt movement (traces and a linking schema).
- The semantic logic is like familiar lambda calculus, but with abstraction replaced by an ND reformulation of Cooper's machinery for covert movement (storage and retrieval).
- As far as it goes, this account seems simpler and more straightforward than continuation-based accounts.
- But it remains to be seen whether the full range of phenomena treated in terms of continuations will yield to such elementary methods.