

# A theory of logical form, meaning and synonymy

(The logical form and meaning of attitudinal sentences)

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# $L = L(K)$ : The typed $\lambda$ -calculus with acyclic recursion and propositional attitudes on the lexicon $K$

(the typed  $\lambda$ -calculus with two more constructs, `where` and `that` )

- $L$  is an **interpreted formal** or **programming language** of terms
- A fragment of natural language is **rendered** in  $L$ :

natural language expression + context

$\xrightarrow{\text{render}}$  formal expression of  $L$  [+state]

- $K$  is partitioned into a **denotational** and an **attitudinal** part,

$$K = K_d \cup K_a$$

- (1) Syntax of  $L$  (7 slides)
- (2) Denotational semantics of  $L(K_d)$  (3 slides)
- (3) Intensional semantics of  $L(K_d)$  (12 slides)
- (4) The interpretation of  $L$  into  $L(K_d^*)$  for some  $K^* \supseteq K$  (9 slides)

## The types and typed universes of $L = L(K)$

• **Basic types:** *Entities* :  $e$  *Truth values* :  $t$  *States* :  $s$

• **Types:**  $\sigma ::= e \mid t \mid s \mid (\sigma_1 \rightarrow \sigma_2)$

$$\sigma_1 \times \sigma_2 \rightarrow \tau ::= (\sigma_1 \rightarrow (\sigma_2 \rightarrow \tau)),$$

$$\sigma_1 \times \sigma_2 \times \sigma_3 \rightarrow \tau ::= \sigma_1 \rightarrow (\sigma_2 \times \sigma_3 \rightarrow \tau), \text{ etc.}$$

• Uniquely, every non-basic  $\sigma ::= \sigma_1 \times \dots \times \sigma_n \rightarrow b$  with basic  $b$

• **Interpretation** (standard):

$\mathbb{T}(e)$  = a given set (or class) of people, objects, etc.

$\mathbb{T}(s)$  = a given set of states

$\{\mathbf{t}, \mathbf{ff}, \mathbf{er}\} \subseteq \mathbb{T}(t)$  = a given set of truth values  $\subseteq \mathbb{T}(e)$  ( $\mathbf{er}$  : error)

$\mathbb{T}(\sigma \rightarrow \tau) = (\mathbb{T}(\sigma) \rightarrow \mathbb{T}(\tau))$  = the set of all functions  $f : \mathbb{T}(\sigma) \rightarrow \mathbb{T}(\tau)$

• **State**  $a = (\text{world}(a), \text{time}(a), \text{location}(a), \text{agent}(a), \delta)$

where  $\delta(\text{He}_1) = \dots$ ,  $\delta(\text{this}) = \dots$ , etc.

•  $x : \sigma \iff x \in \mathbb{T}(\sigma)$  ( $x$  is an object of type  $\sigma$ )

## Pure and natural language types and objects

- **Pure types:**  $\sigma ::= e \mid t \mid (\sigma_1 \rightarrow \sigma_2)$  (for abstract objects)

- **Basic natural language types:**

$\tilde{t} ::= (s \rightarrow t)$  (Carnap intensions, propositions)

$\tilde{e} ::= (s \rightarrow e)$  (Carnap individual concepts)

- **Natural language types:**  $\sigma ::= \tilde{e} \mid \tilde{t} \mid (\sigma_1 \rightarrow \sigma_2)$

boy :  $(\tilde{e} \rightarrow \tilde{t})$ , loves :  $\tilde{e} \times \tilde{e} \rightarrow \tilde{t} \equiv (\tilde{e} \rightarrow (\tilde{e} \rightarrow \tilde{t}))$

- **Natural quantifier type:** some(girl), every(boy) :  $\tilde{q} ::= ((\tilde{e} \rightarrow \tilde{t}) \rightarrow \tilde{t})$
- *If  $x : \sigma$  with a natural  $\sigma$ , then  $x : \tilde{t}$ , or  $x : \tilde{e}$ , or  $x$  is a function*

$$x : \mathbb{T}(\sigma_1) \times \cdots \times \mathbb{T}(\sigma_n) \rightarrow \mathbb{T}(\tilde{b})$$

with natural  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n$  and  $b ::= e$  or  $b = t$

- ★ *The terms which render natural language phrases are (hereditarily) of natural language type*

# Constants; a sample lexicon

## Denotational empirical constants:

Entities	0, 1, 2, ..., $\mathbb{R}$ , ..., tt, ff, er	e
Names, indexicals	John, I, he, him	$\tilde{e}$
Common nouns	man, unicorn, temperature	$\tilde{e} \rightarrow \tilde{t}$
Adjectives, adverbs	tall, young, rapidly	$(\tilde{e} \rightarrow \tilde{t}) \rightarrow (\tilde{e} \rightarrow \tilde{t})$
Propositions	it rains	$\tilde{t}$
Intransitive verbs	stand, run, rise	$\tilde{e} \rightarrow \tilde{t}$
Transitive verbs	find, love, be	$(\tilde{e} \times \tilde{e}) \rightarrow \tilde{t}$
Description operator	the	$(\tilde{e} \rightarrow \tilde{t}) \rightarrow \tilde{e}$

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**Attitudinal constants:** Known, Claims, Believes\_of :  $(\tilde{e} \times \dots \times \tilde{e} \times \tilde{t}) \rightarrow \tilde{t}$

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## Pure type logical constants:

$=_{\sigma}$  :  $\sigma \times \sigma \rightarrow t$   
 $\neg$  :  $t \rightarrow t$   
&,  $\vee$ ,  $\Rightarrow$  :  $t \times t \rightarrow t$   
 $\forall_{\sigma}, \exists_{\sigma}$  :  $(\sigma \rightarrow t) \rightarrow t$

## Natural type logical constants

not,  $\square$ , in the future :  $\tilde{t} \rightarrow \tilde{t}$   
and, or, if .. then .. :  $\tilde{t} \times \tilde{t} \rightarrow \tilde{t}$   
every, some :  $(\tilde{e} \rightarrow \tilde{t}) \rightarrow \tilde{q}$   
the :  $(\tilde{e} \rightarrow \tilde{t}) \rightarrow \tilde{e}$

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# Typed variables

★ *Two kinds of typed variables*

- **Pure variables** of type  $\sigma$ :  $v_0^\sigma, v_1^\sigma \dots$
- **Recursion variables** or **locations** of type  $\sigma$ :  $V_0^\sigma, V_1^\sigma \dots$

- Both  $v_i^\sigma$  and  $V_i^\sigma$  range over arbitrary objects  $x : \sigma$   
... but they are treated differently in the syntax

★ Pure variables are bound by  $\lambda$  (as in the typed  $\lambda$ -calculus)

★ Locations are used for **equations** or (formal) **assignments**

$$P := A$$

and are bound by the recursion construct where

★ *There are no variables over entities in the natural language fragment, variables over individual concepts are used instead*

## Terms (defined recursively, with natural restrictions)

$$\begin{aligned} A &::= x \mid c \mid A_1(A_2) \mid \lambda(u)(A_1) && \text{(explicit, } \lambda\text{-calculus)} \\ &\mid A_0 \text{ where } \{P_1 := A_1, \dots, P_n := A_n\} && \text{(acyclic recursion)} \\ &\mid C(B_1, \dots, B_m, \text{that } A) && \text{(attitudinal application)} \end{aligned}$$

Restrictions, typing and binding (except for recursive terms)

- $x$  is a variable of either kind and  $u$  is a pure variable
- $c$  is a typed denotational constant
- Four formations rules: **application**,  **$\lambda$ -abstraction**  
**acyclic recursion** (where) and **attitudinal application** (that)
- $C$  is a typed attitudinal constant
- The obvious type restrictions are observed, and each term is assigned a type,  $A : \text{type}(A)$ 
  - If  $B_1, \dots, B_m : \tilde{e}$  and  $A : \tilde{t}$ , then  $C(B_1, \dots, B_m, \text{that } A) : \tilde{t}$
- Free and bound occurrences of variables are specified in the obvious way, with  $C$  not binding any variables
- $A$  is **explicit** (a  $\lambda$ -calculus term) if there is no “where” or “that” in it

## Acyclic recursion

$$A \equiv A_0 \text{ where } \{P_1 := A_1, \dots, P_n := A_n\}$$

- We allow  $n = 0$ , so that if  $A$  is a term, then so is  $A$  where  $\{ \}$
- The locations  $P_1, \dots, P_n$  are distinct and the **system of equations** (term assignments)

$$\{P_1 := A_1, \dots, P_n := A_n\}$$

is **correctly typed** and **syntactically acyclic**, i.e.,

$$\text{type}(P_i) = \text{type}(A_i) \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, n,$$

and there are numbers  $\text{rank}(P_1), \dots, \text{rank}(P_n)$ , such that

if  $\text{rank}(P_j) \leq \text{rank}(P_i)$ , then  $P_j$  does not occur free in  $A_i$

- $A : \text{type}(A_0)$
- All occurrences of  $P_1, \dots, P_n$  are bound in  $A$
- If a variable  $x$  is not in the list  $P_1, \dots, P_n$ , then an occurrence of  $x$  in any  $A_i$  is free in  $A$  exactly if it is free in  $A_i$



## John loves Mary and dislikes her husband

$$A \equiv P \text{ and } Q \text{ where } \{J := \text{John}, M := \text{Mary}, H := \text{husband}(M), \\ P := \text{loves}(J, M), Q := \text{dislikes}(J, H)\} : \tilde{t}$$

- $A$  is closed,  $\text{den}(A) : \mathbb{T}(s) \rightarrow \mathbb{T}(t)$ , and we compute it as follows:

Stage 1:  $\bar{J} := \text{John} : \tilde{e}, \bar{M} := \text{Mary} : \tilde{e}$

Stage 2:  $\bar{H} := \text{husband}(\bar{M}) := \text{Mary's husband} : \tilde{e}$

$\bar{P} := \text{loves}(\bar{J}, \bar{M}) : \tilde{t}$

Stage 3:  $\bar{Q} := \text{dislikes}(\bar{J}, \bar{H}) : \tilde{t}$

Stage 4:  $\text{den}(A) := \bar{P} \text{ and } \bar{Q} : \tilde{t}$

For any state  $u$ ,

$$\text{den}(A)(u) = (\bar{P} \text{ and } \bar{Q})(u) = \bar{P}(u) \text{ and } \bar{Q}(u)$$

= the truth value of **John loves Mary and dislikes her husband**  
in state  $u$

(= *er* if Mary does not have exactly one husband in state  $u$ )

## Congruence and extended terms

- Two terms are **congruent** if one can be obtained from the other by alphabetic changes of bound variables, re-ordering of the equations in recursive subterms and deleting empty systems. We write

$$A \equiv_c B \iff A \text{ is congruent with } B,$$

so in particular,  $A \equiv_c A$  where  $\{ \}$

- An **extended term** is a pair

$$A[x] \equiv (A, x)$$

of a term  $A$  and a sequence  $x \equiv x_1, \dots, x_k$  of distinct variables (of both kinds) which includes all the free variables of  $A$

- $x$  is the list of **putative free variables** of  $A[x]$
- **Formal substitution**:  $A[B_1, \dots, B_k] \equiv A\{x_i \equiv B_i, i = 1, \dots, k\}$
- **Typing and congruence** for extended terms:  $A[x] : \text{type}(A)$  and

$$A[x] \equiv_c B[y] \iff A \equiv_c B \ \& \ x \equiv y$$

## Denotational semantics for $L(K_d)$

- We assume given with each  $c : \sigma$  an object  $\bar{c} : \sigma$
- If  $A[x]$  is an extended term with  $\mathbf{x} \equiv x_1, \dots, x_k$  and  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_k)$  with  $x_i : \text{type}(x_i)$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ , we define

$$A[x] = \text{the value of } A \text{ when } \mathbf{x} = x$$

by the natural (structural) recursion on  $A$ :

- $x_i[x] = x_i, \quad c[x] = \bar{c},$
- $A(B)[x] = A[x](B[x]),$
- $\lambda(x_1)(A)[x_2, \dots, x_k] = h : \mathbb{T}(\text{type}(x_1)) \rightarrow \mathbb{T}(\text{type}(A)),$   
where for each  $t : \text{type}(x_1), h(t) = A[t, x_2, \dots, x_k],$
- $A_0$  where  $\{P_1 := A_1, \dots, P_n := A_n\}[x] = A_0[\bar{P}_1(x), \dots, \bar{P}_n(x), x],$   
where  $\bar{P}_1(x), \dots, \bar{P}_n(x)$  are the unique solutions of the system

$$P_i := A_i[P_1, \dots, P_n, x] \quad (i = 1, \dots, n)$$

guaranteed by the acyclicity of the term

## The denotation of an extended term

- If  $A[\mathbf{x}]$  is an extended term with  $\mathbf{x} \equiv x_1, \dots, x_k$ , let

$$X = \mathbb{T}(\text{type}(x_1)) \times \dots \times \mathbb{T}(\text{type}(x_n))$$

be the space associated with the sequence of putative free variables  $\mathbf{x}$  and define

$$\text{den}(A[\mathbf{x}]) : X \rightarrow \mathbb{T}(\text{type}(A)) \quad \text{by} \quad \text{den}(A[\mathbf{x}])(x) = A[\mathbf{x}]$$

- Notice that if  $A$  is in the natural fragment of  $L$ , then  $\text{den}(A[\mathbf{x}])$  is always a function; for example, with empty  $\mathbf{x}$

$$\text{den}(\text{likes}(\text{the}(\text{blond}), \text{John})) : \mathbb{T}(s) \rightarrow \mathbb{T}(t),$$

so that for each state  $u$ ,  $\text{den}(\text{likes}(\text{the}(\text{blond}), \text{John}))(u)$  is a truth value

- *Every  $A[\mathbf{x}]$  is denotationally equal to some  $\lambda$ -calculus term  $A^*[\mathbf{x}]$*

## Some (oversimplified) remarks on Montague semantics

- In Montague's *Language of Intensional Logic* LIL, every sentence of the fragment of English that he studies is rendered by a closed term  $A$  of truth-value type  $t$  and interpreted by a **Carnap intension**

$$CI_{\text{Mon}}(A) : \mathbb{T}(s) \rightarrow \{\text{tt}, \text{ff}\}$$

The slogan (not Montague's) is that **all language is situated**

- Montague calls  $CI_{\text{Mon}}(A)$  the **sense** of  $A$ ; which then implies that **all true mathematical sentences are Montague synonymous**
- Gallin interpreted LIL into the typed  $\lambda$ -calculus and hence into  $L$ ; and we can use this embedding to derive non-trivial referential intensions for the sentences in the fragment of English that is rendered in LIL—e.g., mathematical sentences
- However: These meanings derived by mapping English into  $L$  via LIL and Gallin are rarely in the spirit of the work of Montague, whose renderings disregarded meaning and were often eccentric

## The route not taken

- The intensional semantics of  $L(K_d)$  associates with each extended term  $A[x]$  its **referential intension**, an acyclic recursor

$$\text{int}(A[x]) : X \rightsquigarrow \mathbb{T}(\text{type}(A))$$

which computes the denotation of  $A[x]$ ; i.e.,

$$X = \mathbb{T}(\text{type}(x_1) \times \cdots \times \mathbb{T}(\text{type}(x_n)))$$

is the space associated with the list of putative free variables  $x$ , and

$$\overline{\text{int}(A[x])}(x) = \text{den}(A[x])(x) \quad (x \in X)$$

- $\text{int}(A[x])$  can be defined by a direct recursion on  $A$  just like  $\text{den}(A[x])$ ; but we follow a circuitous route which is technically simpler and in the end more illuminating

## ★ Immediate and direct reference

★ *Variables have no meaning*, they **denote immediately** and the same is true of **immediate terms** defined by

$$Im ::= u \mid P \mid P(u_1, \dots, u_n) \mid \lambda(u)Im$$

- *Immediate terms act like **generalized variables***
- Terms which are not immediate are **proper**

★ *Denotational constants are proper and **denote directly***  
i.e., their meaning is exhausted by their reference

They are the simplest **directly referring proper terms**, which include

$$\lambda(u)\text{love}(u, v), \quad \lambda(u)\text{love}(u, u), \quad \text{etc}$$

- *We will characterize syntactically all directly denoting terms*
- The distinctions between **immediate**, **direct** and **complex reference** (via a non-trivial meaning) are basic to this theory —and they come up in various ways in every theory of meaning

## ★ The Reduction Calculus for $L(K_d)$

We define a **reduction relation** between terms so that intuitively

$$A \Rightarrow B \iff A \equiv_c B \quad (A \text{ is congruent with } B)$$

or  $A$  and  $B$  have the same meaning  
and  $B$  expresses that meaning “more directly”

- For  $L(K_d)$ ,  $A \Rightarrow B$  is defined by ten rules, like a proof system
- **Compositionality**:  $C_1 \Rightarrow C_2 \implies A\{u : \equiv C_1\} \Rightarrow A\{u : \equiv C_2\}$
- *Reduction respects free occurrences of variables*,  
and so it extends trivially to extended terms,

$$A[x] \Rightarrow B[y] \iff A \Rightarrow B \ \& \ x \equiv y$$

- $\Rightarrow$  **respects** den:  $A[x] \Rightarrow B[x] \implies \text{den}(A[x]) = \text{den}(B[x])$ ,
- ★ but it only **compiles terms**, it does not compute any values
- ★ A term  $A$  is **irreducible** if  $A \Rightarrow B \implies A \equiv_c B$



## ★ Canonical and logical forms

**Canonical Form Theorem.** For each term  $A$ , there is a *unique* (up to congruence) recursive, irreducible term

$$\text{cf}(A) \equiv A_0 \text{ where } \{P_1 := A_1, \dots, P_n := A_n\}$$

such that  $A \Rightarrow \text{cf}(A)$ . Each  $A_i$  is explicit and irreducible

★  $\text{cf}(A)$  models the **logical form** of  $A$

★ The **parts**  $A_0, A_1, \dots, A_n$  of  $A$  act like **truth conditions** for  $A$

•  $\text{cf}(A)$  can be computed effectively by applying (successively, in any order) the reduction rules to subterms of  $A$ , using compositionality

• **Notation:**  $A \Rightarrow_{\text{cf}} B \iff B \equiv_c \text{cf}(A)$

• **Jos Tellings** is nearly done writing an implementation of the reduction calculus for L which computes the canonical forms of L-terms

## ★ Referential intensions

- **Notation convention:** to interpret  $\lambda(V)$  with a location  $V$ , we set

$$\lambda(V)A \equiv \lambda(v)A\{V \equiv v\}$$

where  $v$  is a **fresh** pure variable of type( $V$ )

- ★ Let  $x \equiv x_1, \dots, x_k$  and  $P \equiv P_1, \dots, P_n$ . If  $A[x]$  is proper and

$$A[x] \Rightarrow_{cf} A_0[x, P] \text{ where } \{P_1 := A_1[x, P], \dots, P_n := A_n[x, P]\},$$

then the **referential intension** of  $A[x]$  is the **acyclic recursor**

$$\alpha(x) = A_0[x, P] \text{ where } \{P_1 := A_1[x, P], \dots, P_n := A_n[x, P]\},$$

and it computes  $\text{den}(A[x])$ . As a tuple of functions,

$$\text{int}(A[x]) = \left( \text{den}(\lambda(x)\lambda(P)A_0), \dots, \text{den}(\lambda(x)\lambda(P)A_n) \right)$$

- ★ If  $A[x]$  is explicit and irreducible, then it **denotes directly**, because

$$A[x] \Rightarrow_{cf} A[x] \text{ where } \{ \}, \text{ and so } \text{int}(A[x]) = \left( \text{den}(A[x]) \right)$$

## John loves Mary and (he) dislikes her husband

Coindexing “he” with “John” and “her” with “Mary”, we render this by

$$A \equiv \text{loves}(J, M) \text{ and } \text{dislikes}(J, \text{husband}(M))$$
$$\text{where } \{J := \text{John}, M := \text{Mary}\}$$
$$\Rightarrow_{\text{cf}} P \text{ and } Q \text{ where } \{J := \text{John}, M := \text{Mary}, H := \text{husband}(M),$$
$$P := \text{loves}(J, M), Q := \text{dislikes}(J, H)\}$$

$$\text{int}(A) = P \text{ and } Q \text{ where } \{J := \text{John}, M := \text{Mary}, H := \text{husband}(M),$$
$$P := \text{loves}(J, M), Q := \text{dislikes}(J, H)\}$$

or, as a tuple of functions, with  $u \equiv (j, m, h, p, q)$ ,

$$\text{int}(A) = \left( \text{den}(\lambda u (p \text{ and } q)), \text{den}(\lambda u \text{ John}), \text{den}(\lambda u \text{ Mary}), \right.$$
$$\left. \text{den}(\lambda u \text{ husband}(m)), \text{den}(\lambda u \text{ loves}(j, m)), \text{den}(\lambda u \text{ dislikes}(j, h)) \right)$$

## ★ Referential synonymy

- Two proper extended terms are **referentially synonymous** if their referential intensions are equal (naturally isomorphic) recursors,

$$A[x] \approx B[x] \iff \text{int}(A[x]) = \text{int}(B[x])$$

**Referential Synonymy Theorem.** *Two proper extended terms  $A[x], B[x]$  are referentially synonymous if and only if*

$$A \Rightarrow_{\text{cf}} A^* \equiv A_0 \text{ where } \{P_1 := A_1, \dots, P_n := A_n\}$$

$$B \Rightarrow_{\text{cf}} B^* \equiv B_0 \text{ where } \{P_1 := B_1, \dots, P_n := B_n\}$$

for suitable  $A^*, B^*$  so that for  $i = 0, \dots, n$ ,

$$\text{den}(\lambda(x)\lambda(P_1, \dots, P_n)A_i) = \text{den}(\lambda(x)\lambda(P_1, \dots, P_n)B_i)$$

★  $A[x] \approx B[x]$  is determined by their **logical forms** and **denotational equality** on their explicit, irreducible parts — their **truth conditions**

- Conjecture:** *If  $K_d$  is finite, then referential synonymy is decidable on terms of  $L(K_d)$*

This is a problem in the typed  $\lambda$ -calculus

# Reduction Calculus: the basic rules

## Congruence, Transitivity, Compositionality

(cong) If  $A \equiv_c B$ , then  $A \Rightarrow B$

(trans) If  $A \Rightarrow B$  and  $B \Rightarrow C$ , then  $A \Rightarrow C$

(rep1) If  $A \Rightarrow A'$  and  $B \Rightarrow B'$ , then  $A(B) \Rightarrow A'(B')$

(rep2) If  $A \Rightarrow B$ , then  $\lambda(u)(A) \Rightarrow \lambda(u)(B)$

(rep3) If  $A_i \Rightarrow B_i$  for  $i = 0, \dots, n$ , then

$A_0$  where  $\{P_1 := A_1, \dots, P_n := A_n\}$

$\Rightarrow B_0$  where  $\{P_1 := B_1, \dots, P_n := B_n\}$

- These do not produce any non-trivial reductions

## Reduction Calculus: the rules for recursion

For distinct locations  $P_1, \dots, P_n$  and  $Q_1, \dots, Q_m$ , and terms  $A_i, B_j$ , set

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{P} &:= \vec{A} \text{ for } P_1 := A_1, \dots, P_n := A_n, \\ \vec{Q} &:= \vec{B} \text{ for } Q_1 := B_1, \dots, Q_m := B_m,\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}(\text{head}) \quad & \left( A_0 \text{ where } \{ \vec{P} := \vec{A} \} \right) \text{ where } \{ \vec{Q} := \vec{B} \} \\ & \Rightarrow A_0 \text{ where } \{ \vec{P} := \vec{A}, \vec{Q} := \vec{B} \}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}(\text{B-S}) \quad & A_0 \text{ where } \{ R := ( B_0 \text{ where } \{ \vec{Q} := \vec{B} \} ), \vec{P} := \vec{A} \} \\ & \Rightarrow A_0 \text{ where } \{ R := B_0, \vec{Q} := \vec{B}, \vec{P} := \vec{A} \}\end{aligned}$$

- These just allow the “parallel” combination of assignments

$$(\text{recap}) \quad \boxed{\left( A_0 \text{ where } \{ \vec{P} := \vec{A} \} \right) (B) \Rightarrow A_0(B) \text{ where } \{ \vec{P} := \vec{A} \}}$$

provided no  $P_i$  is free in  $B$

- (recap) is one the two main rules that produce non-trivial reductions

## Reduction Calculus: the proper application rule

(ap)  $A(B) \Rightarrow A(B)$  where  $\{B := B\}$  ( $B$  proper,  $B$  fresh)

- John is tall  $\xrightarrow{\text{render}}$  tall(John)  $\Rightarrow_{\text{cf}}$  tall(J) where  $\{J := \text{John}\}$
- The blond likes John  $\xrightarrow{\text{render}}$  likes(the(blond))(John)  
 $\Rightarrow$  likes(the(blond))(J) where  $\{J := \text{John}\}$  (ap)  
 $\Rightarrow$  (likes(B) where  $\{B := \text{the(blond)}\}$ )(J) where  $\{J := \text{John}\}$  (ap)  
 $\Rightarrow$  likes(B)(J) where  $\{B := \text{the(blond)}, J := \text{John}\}$  (recap)  
 $\Rightarrow$  likes(B)(J) where  $\{B := \text{the}(B_1)$  where  $\{B_1 := \text{blond}\}, J := \text{John}\}$   
 $\Rightarrow$  likes(B)(J) where  $\{B := \text{the}(B_1), B_1 := \text{blond}, J := \text{John}\}$
- The real work is done by the application rules (ap) and (recap)

# The Reduction Calculus (minus the $\lambda$ -rule) – summary

(cong) If  $A \equiv_c B$ , then  $A \Rightarrow B$

(trans) If  $A \Rightarrow B$  and  $B \Rightarrow C$ , then  $A \Rightarrow C$

(rep1) If  $A \Rightarrow A'$  and  $B \Rightarrow B'$ , then  $A(B) \Rightarrow A'(B')$

(rep2) If  $A \Rightarrow B$ , then  $\lambda(u)(A) \Rightarrow \lambda(u)(B)$

(rep3) If  $A_i \Rightarrow B_i$  for  $i = 0, \dots, n$ , then

$$A_0 \text{ where } \{\vec{P} := \vec{A}\} \Rightarrow B_0 \text{ where } \{\vec{P} := \vec{B}\}$$

(head)  $\left( A_0 \text{ where } \{\vec{P} := \vec{A}\} \right) \text{ where } \{\vec{Q} := \vec{B}\} \Rightarrow A_0 \text{ where } \{\vec{P} := \vec{A}, \vec{Q} := \vec{B}\}$

(B-S)  $A_0 \text{ where } \{R := (B_0 \text{ where } \{\vec{Q} := \vec{B}\})\}, \vec{P} := \vec{A} \Rightarrow A_0 \text{ where } \{R := B_0, \vec{Q} := \vec{B}, \vec{P} := \vec{A}\}$

(recap)  $\left( A_0 \text{ where } \{\vec{P} := \vec{A}\} \right) (B) \Rightarrow A_0(B) \text{ where } \{\vec{P} := \vec{A}\}$  (no  $P_i$  free in  $B$ )

(ap)  $A(B) \Rightarrow A(B) \text{ where } \{B := B\}$  ( $B$  proper,  $B$  fresh)

( $\lambda$ -rule)  $\lambda(u)(A_0 \text{ where } \{\vec{P} := \vec{A}\}) \Rightarrow \lambda(u)A'_0 \text{ where } \{\vec{P}' := \overrightarrow{\lambda(u)A'_0}\}$



## ★ Utterances, local meanings and local synonymy

- For each state  $u$ , we add to  $L(K_d)$  a **parameter**  $\bar{u}$  which names  $u$   
State parameters are treated in the syntax like free pure variables, e.g.,  $\bar{u}$ ,  $P(\bar{u})$  are immediate terms;  
... and they can be avoided, at some cost in notational complexity
- An **extended utterance** is a pair  $(A[x], u)$ , where  $A[x] : \tilde{t}$  is an extended Carnap intension and  $u$  is a state; it is expressed in  $L$  by the extended term  $A(\bar{u})[x] : t$
- The **local meaning** of  $A[x]$  at a state  $u$  is  $\text{int}(A(\bar{u})[x])$ , and

$$A[x] \approx_u B[x] \iff \text{int}(A(\bar{u})[x]) = \text{int}(B(\bar{u})[x]) \iff A(\bar{u})[x] \approx B(\bar{u})[x]$$

- Local synonymy  $\approx_u$  is a very strong equivalence relation, very close to global synonymy
- **Basic principle:** *The objects of belief are local meanings*

For closed  $A$ , *John believes in state  $u$  that  $A$*

*means that in state  $u$ , John believes the utterance  $A(\bar{u})$*

Is he Scott? (Scott-Soames, after Russell, Quine, Church, ...)

In the state  $u$  of a book presentation, Sir Walter Scott is disguised and George IV does not believe that **He is Scott**, but certainly

George IV believes that **Scott is Scott**

which appears to be a paradox. However, **He is Scott**  $\not\approx_u$  **Scott is Scott**:

$$(\text{He is Scott}, u) \xrightarrow{\text{render}} \text{eq}(\text{He}, \text{Scott})(\bar{u})$$

$$\Rightarrow_{\text{cf}} \boxed{\text{eq}(\text{H}, \text{S})(\bar{u}) \text{ where } \{\text{H} := \text{He}, \text{S} := \text{Scott}\}}$$

$$(\text{Scott is Scott}, u) \xrightarrow{\text{render}} \text{eq}(\text{Scott}, \text{Scott})(\bar{u})$$

$$\Rightarrow_{\text{cf}} \boxed{\text{eq}(\text{S}_1, \text{S}_2)(\bar{u}) \text{ where } \{\text{S}_1 := \text{Scott}, \text{S}_2 := \text{Scott}\}}$$

- These are obviously not synonymous, and so the good king can believe one and not the other; he is muddled but not incoherent
- The paradox is more complex if the king has a *de re* belief about *him*

## Believing a closed utterance

George believes that the blond likes John  $\xrightarrow{\text{render}}$  Believes(George, that A)

where the **belief** of George is the closed term

$A := \text{likes}(\text{the}(\text{blond}), \text{John}))$

$\Rightarrow_{\text{cf}} \text{likes}(B, J)$  where  $\{B := \text{the}(B_1), B_1 := \text{blond}, J := \text{John}\}$

- By Frege, Believes operates on the meaning of A, i.e.,  $\text{int}(A)$   
... which is a quadruple of functions  
... and whose **formal version** is the quadruple of closed terms

$\text{fint}(A) \equiv (\lambda BB_1 J \text{likes}(B, J), \lambda BB_1 J \text{the}(B_1), \lambda BB_1 J \text{blond}, \lambda BB_1 J \text{John})$

★ We add a new, **denotational constant**  $\text{Believes}^A$  and the reduction

$\text{Believes}(\text{George}, \text{that } A) \Rightarrow \text{Believes}^A(\text{George}, \text{fint}(A))$

$\equiv \text{Believes}^A(\text{George}, \lambda PBB_1 \text{likes}(B, J),$

$\lambda BB_1 J \text{the}(B_1), \lambda BB_1 J \text{blond}, \lambda BB_1 J \text{John})$

- What is the denotation of  $\text{Believes}^A$ ?

# Coindexing (and quantifying) in

John hopes that the blond likes him

$\xrightarrow{\text{render}}$  Hopes(John, that Likes(the(blond), him))

$\xrightarrow{\text{coindex}}$  Hopes(J, that likes(the(blond), J)) where  $\{J := \text{John}\}$   
 $\Rightarrow$  Hopes(J, that  $A[J]$ ) where  $\{J := \text{John}\}$

with  $A \Rightarrow_{\text{cf}} \text{Likes}(B, J)$  where  $\{B := \text{the}(B_1), B_1 := \text{blond}\}$

$\text{fint}(A[J]) = \left( \lambda BB_1 J \text{Likes}(B, J), \lambda BB_1 J \text{the}(B_1), \lambda BB_1 J \text{blond} \right)$

J is bound in  $\text{fint}(A[J])$ , but  $\text{int}(A[J])$  needs its argument; so we set

$\text{Hopes}(J, \text{that } A[J]) \Rightarrow \text{Hopes}^{A[J]}(J, J, \text{fint}(A[J]))$

with a new denotational constant  $\text{Hopes}^{A[J]}$

where the first argument J refers to the hopeful person,

... the second refers to the argument of the algorithm  $\text{int}(A[J])$ ,

... and both are set to John (in this example)

## ★ The reduction rule (attap) for attitudinal application

- Suppose  $A[x]$  is a proper, extended term, with  $x \equiv x_1, \dots, x_k$ ,

$$A \Rightarrow_{cf} A_0 \text{ where } \{P_1 := A_1, \dots, P_n := A_n\},$$

let  $P \equiv P_1, \dots, P_n$  and let the  $(n+1)$ -tuple of closed terms

$$\text{fint}(A([x])) \equiv (\lambda x \lambda P A_0, \dots, \lambda x \lambda P A_n)$$

be the **formal referential intension** of  $A[x]$

(attap) If  $C(B_1, \dots, B_m, \text{that } A)$  is an attitudinal term whose free variables are all in the list  $x$ , then

$$C(B_1, \dots, B_m, \text{that } A)[x] \Rightarrow C^{A[x]}(B_1, \dots, B_m, x, \text{fint}(A[x]))[x]$$

where  $C^{A[x]}$  is a denotational constant associated with  $C$  and  $A[x]$

## Look at all these constants; what do they all denote?

- We assume given  $\bar{c} : \sigma$  for every denotational constant  $c : \sigma$ , including red, good, loves, . . . , not entirely without controversy or philosophical argument—which, however, is *not a matter of logic*
- We need to assume similarly that we are given an interpretation  $\bar{C}$  for every attitudinal constant  $C$ , including Believes, Claims, . . . —not as a matter of logic but of language
- These interpretations are not objects in the typed universe of L: they are **operators** on this universe and **its acyclic recursors**, and there is a (small but fussy) technical problem in specifying exactly what kind of objects they are

## The (acyclic) L-recursors

If  $\alpha(x) = \alpha_0(x)$  where  $\{d_1 := \alpha_1(x, d), \dots, d_n := \alpha_n(x, d)\} : X \rightsquigarrow \mathbb{T}(\tilde{t})$ ,  
set  $\alpha(x)(u) = \alpha_0(x)(u)$  where  $\{d_1 := \alpha_1(x, d), \dots, d_n := \alpha_n(x, d)\}$

- $\mathbb{T}^* = \left(\bigcup_{\sigma} \mathbb{T}(\sigma)\right)^*$  = the set of all finite sequences of typed objects
- $\mathcal{A}$  = the collection of all acyclic recursors  $\alpha : Z \rightsquigarrow \mathbb{T}(\tilde{t})$  with  $Z \subset \mathbb{T}^*$
- ★ An attitudinal constant  $C : \tilde{e}^m \times \tilde{t} \rightarrow \tilde{t}$  is interpreted by some

$$\bar{C} : \mathbb{T}^* \times \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathbb{T}(\tilde{t})$$

such that for all  $\vec{y} \in \mathbb{T}(\tilde{e})^m, \vec{z} \in \mathbb{T}^*$  and  $\alpha, \beta : Z \rightsquigarrow \mathbb{T}(\tilde{t})$  in  $\mathcal{A}$

$$\alpha(\vec{z})(u) = \beta(\vec{z})(u) \implies \bar{C}(\vec{y}, \vec{z}, \alpha)(u) = \bar{C}(\vec{y}, \vec{z}, \beta)(u)$$

- ★  $C(B_1, \dots, B_m, \text{that } A)[x] \Rightarrow C^{A[x]}(B_1, \dots, B_m, x, \text{fint}(A[x]))[x]$ , with

$$\bar{C}^{A[x]}(y_1, \dots, y_m, x_1, \dots, x_k, \alpha) = \bar{C}(y_1, \dots, y_m, x_1, \dots, x_k, \alpha)$$

## What would be nice to do

- The logic allows  $\text{True}(\text{that } A)$ ,  $\text{True}(x, \text{that } A[x])$  as propositional attitudes (and in more than one ways), but also “unusual” constructs like

$\text{Direct}(\text{that } A) \iff A$  denotes directly,

$\text{Even}(\text{that } A) \iff$  the number of parts in  $\text{int}(A)$  is even

- Find natural conditions for the attitudinal operations which actually occur in natural language
- ... and these should be such that they would make it possible to prove the **Decidability of Synonymy Conjecture** for the full language, not just its denotational part



## Back to the confused king George IV

Suppose  $u$  is the state of Scott's book signing, and set

$A \equiv$  The king believes of Scott that he is Scott

$B \equiv$  The king does not believe of him that he is Scott

- With the correct rendering, we have

Scott is Scott  $\approx_u$  He is Scott (in the context of a de re belief)

and so  $B \equiv \neg A$  and they cannot both be true

We assume that  $A$  is true and so  $B$  is false

- Why do we see a paradox in this? Most likely because
- *the king claims, believes, swears* ... that  $A$  and also that  $B$   
... but  $A \not\approx_u B$ , and so the king may claim, believe, swear ...  
that  $A$  and also that  $B$  without causing a formal contradiction