The Referred Set of Quantifiers, The Precedence Relation of Quantifiers, and The Pair Reading of Quantifiers

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Abstract

Fintel (1994: 28) introduces the "hidden domain argument" of a quantifier as follows: "All quantifiers have a hidden domain argument, whose value is contextually supplied". For instance, for the sentence "everyone is here", the vision of the speaker with regard to the individuals at presence supplies the value of the hidden domain argument of the quantifier "every".

Parallel to this pragmatic condition, I propose a basic property of a quantifier, the Referred Set of a quantifier. In addition, I propose that The Referred Set RS of a quantifier, and the Precedence Relation of two Quantifiers in a clause, compose the Pair Reading of these quantifiers. Further, I introduce that, in relation to the interpretation of the Pair Reading of two Quantifiers, the Compositive and Simultaneous Computation at LF and at PF.

Keywords: referred set, precedence, pair reading, computation, LF, PF

I. Introduction

Fintel (1994: 28) introduces the "hidden domain argument" of a quantifier as follows: "All quantifiers have a hidden domain argument, whose value is contextually supplied". For instance, for the sentence "everyone is here", the vision of the speaker with regard to the individuals at presence supplies the value of the hidden domain argument of the quantifier "every".

Parallel to this pragmatic condition, I propose a basic property of a quantifier, the Referred Set of a quantifier, as follows.

II. The Referred Set of A Quantifier

I propose the Referred Set of a quantifier RS:
The referred set RS of a quantifier, is the basis of which, the quantity denoted by a quantifier takes part. The referred set RS is 100%, out of which, a quantifier is a fraction. The RS of the quantifier phrase QP "most students" is "all of the students" [i.e. "most of all of the students"], which is 70% of 100%. Further, this quantifier "every", or "every other", suggests that,*"Distributivity" or "Discrete natural number", is the* <u>*default*</u> *in the inbuilt mechanism of quantification in a human brain.* For instance, the cognition of "every other", requires each individual unit of its referred set, to be cognized, prior to that, "every other" individual unit, in the referred set of each of the individual units, to be cognized. This cognition is the input which triggers this inbuilt mechanism of quantification. Hence, parallelly, *The Referred Set RS of a quantifier, is inbuilt with this "Distributivity" or "Discrete natural number".* This is further illustrated in Section IV.

The Referred Set is the key to a set of mysteries with the phenomenon Pair Reading:

III. Pair Reading, The Precedence Relation of Two Quantifiers, and Locality

The pair reading of quantifiers, refers to the pair reading, which is interpreted, with a distributive quantifier and the other quantifier in a sentence. I propose the conditions for a Pair Reading of quantifiers as follows:*(A) A Distributive Quantifier Precedes the Other Quantifier:* The availability of a pair reading with two quantifiers illustrates a one to one map to their precedence relation in word order in a sentence, illustrated by (1). This is a PF condition. (B) An adjunct posts interesting computation in relation to where it is interpreted: *An Adjunct, with a Quantifier Q1, Which Denotes a Universal Quantifier, is Interpreted Prior to the Other Quantifier Q2,* illustrated in (2). *(C) Each of (A)(B) Takes Place In A Clause:* This precedence relation with a pair reading is subject to the locality of a clause, illustrated in (3).

(1) a. Every car_1 (∀), a man (∃) likes e_1. (∀>∃, ∃>∀)
b. A car_1 (∃), every man (∀) likes e_1. (*∀>∃, ∃>∀)

(2) a. John showed a man (∃) every car (∀). (*∀>∃, ∃>∀)
b. John showed a man (∃) to every car (∀). (∀>∃, ∃>∀)

(3) [That John likes everyone (∀)] upsets someone (∃). (*∀>∃)

IV. Referred Set, the Quantifier "No", and Pair Reading

Following the proposal in Section II, illustrated in (4), this quantifier "no" further suggests that its referred set is "every" rather than "all", which is the true meaning of the sentence in (4).

(4) No one likes no one. (∀(no)>∃(someone), ∃(someone)>∀(no))
"Meaning: Everyone likes someone."

Further, for the proposal in Section II, that "every" rather than "all", is the referred set of a quantifier: For the quantifier "most", which is 70% of 100%, it takes each distributive unit for the constitution of this percentage, and the correspondence of the referred set, 100%. Hence, the referred set of the quantifier "most" is "every", which is identical to each referred set RS of a quantifier. Hence, *"Distributivity", or "Discrete natural numbers", is the <u>default</u> of this cognition of quantification, which includes a quantifier, and its referred set.*

This referred set of a quantifier, is an LF condition.

V. LF and PF Compute Compositively

By Section III and IV, I propose that LF and PF compute compositively and simultaneously, illustrated by this quantifier "no", at the subject position, in (4):(A) From Section III, this PF condition, the Precedence Relation of two quantifiers in a clause, is one essential component, of the composition, of the pair reading. (B) From Section IV, With a compositive computation, this LF condition of this Referred Set RS "every", of this quantifier "no", is the other essential component, of the composition, of the pair reading. (C) Hence, PF and LF work compositively for the constitution of the pair reading of quantifiers.

(4) No one likes no one. (∀(no)>∃(someone), ∃(someone)>∀(no))
"Meaning: Everyone likes someone."

VI. Conclusion

In this squib, I propose the Referred Set RS, and that: The Referred Set RS of a quantifier, and the Precedence Relation of two Quantifiers in a clause, compose the Pair Reading of these quantifiers. Further, I introduce that, in relation to the interpretation of the Pair Reading of two Quantifiers, the Compositive and Simultaneous Computation at LF and at PF.

References

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