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1 Introduction

The annotation task is to supply preliminary, unscoped logical forms (ULFs) for sentences, which can later be disambiguated into Episodic Logical forms (ELFs). ULF is very close to a sentence’s surface form, needing only minimal human annotations. The current annotation process involves some automated steps to assist the annotator in speed and accuracy.

Let us begin with an example to understand the annotation process. Consider the sentence “Mary loves to solve puzzles”:

1. Group syntactic constituents (NPs, ADJPs, VPs, etc) using round brackets:
   
   \[(\text{Mary} \ (\text{loves} \ (\text{to} \ (\text{solve} \ \text{puzzles}))))\]

2. Run a POS tagger over the original sentence:
   
   \{(nnp \text{Mary}) \ (vbz \text{loves}) \ (to \text{to}) \ (vb \text{solve}) \ (nns \text{puzzles})\};

3. Make any necessary corrections to tags, and then use them as dot-extensions in the bracketed sentence (the tag to dot-extension will be automated):
   
   \{(\text{Mary.nnp} \ (\text{loves.vbz} \ (\text{to.to} \ (\text{solve.vb} \ \text{puzzles.nns}))))\}; \text{No corrections needed}

4. Convert POS extensions to logical-types, and separate tense and plural as operators:
   
   \{(|\text{Mary}| \ ((\text{pres love.v}) \ (\text{to} \ (\text{solve.v} \ (\text{plur puzzle.n})))))); \text{No corrections needed}

5. Add any necessary implicit operators (typically, type-shifting operators):
   
   \{(|\text{Mary}| \ ((\text{pres love.v}) \ (\text{to} \ (\text{slove.v} \ (k \ (\text{plur puzzle.n}))))));

   (k converts a predicate that is true of ordinary singular or plural entities into a kind – i.e. an abstract individual whose instances are ordinary entities; it is applied whenever we have a common noun phrase lacking a determiner (a so-called “bare noun phrase”).)

2 Basic Annotation Components

In this section, we introduce the core logical type extensions and special operators. As the tutorial proceeds additional operators and extensions will be introduced. A more complete list of extensions and operators appears at the end of this document.
3 Listing of Logical Type Extensions and Special Operators for Reference

This section lists the logical-type extensions and special operators for reference.

3.1 Logical-type Extensions

- \( .n \) : nominal predicate (mouse, idea, domination, etc.)
- \( .v \) : verbal predicate (run, love, laugh, etc.)
- \( .a \) : adjectival predicate (happy, green, etc.)
- \( .adv \) : adverbial function
  - \( .adv-a \) : action/attribute modifying function (quickly, angrily, confidently, very, quite, entirely, extremely, etc.)
  - \( .adv-e \) : event modifying function (here, yesterday, etc.)
  - \( .adv-s \) : sentence modifying function (definitely, probably, etc.)
  - \( .adv-f \) : sentence-frequency modifying function (twice, regularly, usually, etc.)
- \( .cc \) : coordinator (and, or, but, etc.)
- \( .p \) : prepositional predicate, taking a noun complement in, with, etc.)
- \( .ps \) : sentential preposition, taking a sentential complement (when, before, until, while, if, as though, etc.); such words are also termed “subordinating conjunctions”, but we use “preposition” because Treebank parsers label them as such.
- \( .pq \) : single-word prepositional question phrase, taking an inverted sentential complement (when, where, meaning “at what time”, “at what place”, as in “When did he leave”, “Where does he live?”)
- \( .pr \) : single-word prepositional relative phrase, heading a relative clause (when, where, etc., meaning “at which” in a temporal or locative sense, as in “the era when...”, or “the place where...”)
- \( .pro \) : pronoun (him, I, it, etc.)
- \( .d \) : determiner (the, some, few, etc.)
- \( .aux-s \), \( .aux-v \) : auxiliary (do, will, may, etc. acting at the sentence or verb phrase level.)
- \( .rel \) : relative pronoun (who, that)
- \( \_ \) : name (i.e. proper noun) (Mary, Star Wars, etc.); not really an extension, but marks the type of an atomic element in the logical form.

3.2 Special Operators

ULF has a set of special operators that are written without logical type extensions. They represent operations that are marked morpho-syntactically in English (making it difficult to handle using symbols that correspond to words in the source sentence) or have notable and consistent interpretations in EL.

- \( not \) : negation
• **plur**: pluralizer
• **past/pres**: tense operators
• **perf**: perfect aspect
• **prog**: progressive aspect
• **pav**: passive tense
• **k**: kind operator (predicate reifier)
• **ke**: kind of event operator (event reifier)
• **to**: action reifier (also written ka)
• **that**: *that* operator (proposition forming operator)
• **fquan/nquan**: quantifier forming operators
• **set-of**: set forming operator

### 4 Examples for Getting Started

We begin the tutorial by walking through the annotation of a few example sentences that include most critical and common phenomena. Understanding these examples will act as the foundation upon which we will add less common phenomena in future sections. We start with a sentence that shows the use of a couple reifying operators.

**Sentence 1:** “Kim knows that Sally likes to run”

1. (Kim (knows (that (Sally (likes (to run)))))
2. (nnp Kim) (vbz knows) (in that) (nnp Sally) (vbz likes) (to to) (vb run)
3. (Kim.nnp (knows.vbz (that.in (Sally.nnp (likes.vbz (to.to run.vb))))))
4. ([Kim] ((pres know.v) (that ((Sally) ((pres like.v) (to run.v)))))

Like the example in the introduction section, the automatic POS tags (step 2) require no corrections as reflected by the POS tags being unchanged in the following step. Notice that **that.in** and **to.to** are mapped to special operators which don’t have logical type extensions. In this example ‘that’ is acting as an operator that maps (the interpretation of) the sentence “Sally likes to run” into a proposition. This is typical of attitude verbs such as ‘know’, and ‘believe’ (or rather, attitude predicates such as ‘know.v’ and ‘believe.v’). Similarly, ‘to’ is forming a kind of action from the verbal predicate ‘run.v’. As we will see, there are instances where the English ‘that’ functions as a determiner (**that.d**, e.g., *that man*), as a pronoun (**that.pro**, e.g., *cancel that*) or as a relative pronoun (**that.rel**, e.g., *in the dog that barked*), and ‘to’ functions as a preposition (**to.p**, e.g., *to Rome*).

Also, notice that ‘know’ and ‘like’ become wrapped in tense operators while ‘run’ does not. Since ‘run’ is untensed here and simply forms a kind of action, no tense operator is applied to it. Also, we do not have an operator for future tense. Future tense is handled as a modal auxiliary, *will* – which is actually a present-tense verb. For a single chain of verbs in a declarative sentence, only the first verb is marked with the tense. As you can see in the above example, operators that create a new sentence context, such as that, allow the introduction of additional tense operators.

**Sentence 2:** “For John to sleep in is unusual”
Sentence 2 shows an example where the subject is a kind of event. The subject argument of `be.v` must be an individual rather than a sentence, and `ke` turns a sentence (meaning) into the kind of event characterized by that sentence, and kinds are (abstract) individuals. Note also that the particle ‘in’ was initially assigned POS ‘in’ (preposition), which is incorrect – it should be ‘prt’ (a particle, which in a sense completes the verb). Ultimately, we combine the verb and its particle in the ULF, using an underscore.

Sentence 3: “Mary certainly doesn’t like the pizza”

Sentence 3 shows the annotation of a sentential adverb, negation, and a lexical determiner. Note that an adverb like `certainly` preceding the verb phrase has been treated as an immediate sentence constituent, but it could have been bracketed with the verb phrase – postprocessing will produce the same result. A negation or other adverb following a verb is treated as an immediate verb phrase constituent (not bracketed with the verb). This is consistent with standard practice in Penn Treebank annotation, but in postprocessing such sentential operators will be “lifted” to sentence-level (retaining their left-to-right order; e.g., the above sentence is taken to mean “It is certain that it is not the case that Mary likes the pizza”, rather than “It is not the case that it is certain that Mary likes pizza”). Determiners are grouped with their restrictor, forming an NP (in the present case, a definite NP). In postprocessing, determiners are scoped (in general, ambiguously) at the sentence level, binding a variable and accompanied by the restrictor, which restricts the domain of the variable.

5 Short Annotation Summaries by Phenomenon

5.1 Preliminary Comments on Predicates, Modifiers, and Adverbials

Adjectival, prepositional, and verbal phrases can all function as both (1-place) predicates and as predicate modifiers (mapping one predicate to another). Their roles as predicates are most obvious when they are used to ascribe a property to some individual, as in “Alice {is very smart, is in Rome, likes poetry}”. The simplest modifier roles of such predicates are in noun post-modification, as in “food {rich in cholesterol, in the pan, spattering oil}.”
As explained fully later on, such postmodifiers add predicates conjunctively to the noun they modify—e.g., we obtain a predicate expressing the property of being food and rich in cholesterol and spattering oil.

But addition of postmodifying properties is just a special way to modify nominal predicates. Nominal predicates can also be transformed by premodifying adjective phrases and nouns, as in “harmful phony cancer drugs” (more on this below): adjectival predicates and some prepositional phrase predicates can be transformed by adverbs, as in “very smart” and “madly in love”; and verb phrase predicates can be transformed by adverbials (adverbs, and phrases used like adverbs), as in “He walked away awkwardly, with some difficulty, limping slightly”. Much else will be said about predicates and modifiers later on, but in the following subsection we just mention basic uses of adjective phrases and examples of adverbs modifying such phrases, since even the simplest sentences often involve such constituents.

5.2 Adjectival Predicates and Modifiers

Adjectives and adjective phrases (APs) like “happy”, “very happy”, “numerous”, “surprisingly numerous”, etc. can play multiple semantic roles; most often they function either as predicates (expressing a property of some entity), as in examples (a) and (c) below, or as predicate modifiers (transforming a property), as in examples (b) and (d) below:

(a) “Alice is happy”
\[
(\text{\texttt{|Alice| ((pres be.v) happy.a)})}
\]

(b) “Alice has a happy disposition”
\[
(\text{\texttt{|Alice| ((pres have.v) (a.d (happy.a disposition.n)))))
}\]

(c) “His off-shore accounts are surprisingly numerous”
\[
(\text{\texttt{|(his.d (off-shore.a (plur account.n)))
((pres be.v) (surprisingly.adv-a numerous.a))}})
\]

(d) “His quite numerous off-shore accounts are illegal”
\[
(\text{\texttt{|(his.d ((quite.adv-a numerous.a) (off-shore.a (plur account.n))))
((pres be.v) illegal.a))}}
\]

So in (a), “happy” ascribes a property to Alice, while in (b), it transforms the predicate disposition.n to a more specific one, ((happy.a) disposition.n). In (c), off-shore.a functions as a predicate modifier, while (surprisingly.adv-a numerous.a) functions as a predicate. In (d), both numerous.a and off-shore.a function as predicate modifiers, while illegal.a functions as a predicate.

Here we should note that we are in effect allowing some “sloppiness” in making type distinctions, because we are using the .a extension for both the predicate role and predicate modifier role of adjectives. This sloppiness is repaired in postprocessing ULFs, by use of an attr type-shifting operator, which converts a predicate to a predicate modifier. So, (happy.a disposition.n) will be converted to ((attr happy.a) disposition.n), (quite.adv-a numerous.a) will be converted to (attr (quite.adv-a numerous.a)), and similarly for off-shore.a in (c) and (d). These repairs are easy to implement, because the attr operator is needed for an AP just in case it modifies a noun. (Well, there’s a slight complication: A few adjectives, like “former”, “consummate”, “utter”, etc., can only function as modifiers, and
and in these cases the postprocessing changes former.a, consummate.a, etc., to former.attr, consummate.attr, etc., rather than (attr former.a), (attr consummate.a), etc.)

A further point here is that numeral adjectives like “5”, “five”, “many”, “numerous”, “few”, “several”, etc., also appear to function as quantifying determiners in sentences like “Tommy found 5/five/many/numerous/... insects” (see below). In fact, in such cases you can annotate the adjectives as 5.d, five.d, many.d, numerous.d, etc. However, this annotation doesn’t work when the adjectives are themselves modified, as in “around 5”, “very many”, “quite numerous”, etc., because the adverbs used here are predicate modifiers, and as such cannot modify a determiner. Therefore we view determiners like 5.d, five.d, many.d, numerous.d, etc., as abbreviations of (nquan 5.a), (nquan five.a), (nquan many.a), (nquan numerous.a), etc., as further illustrated in a later subsection. Here nquan is a type-shifting operator that converts a predicate to a determiner, and as such it can also convert APs with modifiers, e.g., (nquan (about.adv-a 5.a)), (nquan (about.adv-a five.a)), (nquan (very.adv-a many.a)), etc.

By the way, in ULF we also use bare numerals like 0, 1, 2, 3, ..., without any extensions, but these are regarded as names denoting numbers (which are abstract entities). But obviously, these names are related to the corresponding predicates, more specifically, zero.a is equivalent to (= 0) (the property of being equal to 0), five.a is equivalent to (= 5) (the property of being equal to 5), etc.

Finally, noun phrases that start with an adjective (numeral or otherwise) can also be used generically. For example, in “Six adults can carry a coffin”, we are not talking about a specific set of six adults, but about the kind of collective entity whose realizations are sets of six adults. In this case the ULF of the subject is (k (six.a (plur adult.n))), where k is the kind-forming operator, as illustrated further in the following section.

5.3 Reifiers
As we have already shown in the introductory examples, our annotations have operators that convert predicates, sentences, and attitudes to objects in the language – reifiers. Consider the examples below concerning reification.

(a) “Ants are widespread”

((k (plur ant.n)) ((pres be.v) widespread.a))

(b) “Every child likes pets”

((every.d child.n) ((pres like.v) (k (plur pet.n))))

c) “I know that John is a man”

(|i.pro ((pres know.v) (that (|John| ((pres be.v) man.n)))))

d) “Kim believes that every galaxy harbors life”

(|Kim| ((pres believe.v) (that ((every.d galaxy.n) ((pres harbor.v) (k life.n))))))

e) “John knows he’s right”

(|John| ((pres know.v) (tht (he.pro ((pres be.v) right.a)))))
(a,b,d) show the usage of the kind-operator (k), which converts a predicate to an object. This operator is used whenever a predicate is treated as an object in the language. One simple method for identifying whether something is reified, is whether the word is being used as an argument to something other than a predicate-control verb (e.g. be.v, feel.v, impress.v, etc.). (c-e) show the usage of the that-operator (that), which converts attitudes to an object. It is most widely used with attitudinal verbs (e.g. believe, tell, hope, etc.). Notice in example (e), the word “that” doesn’t actually appear in the sentence although it is clearly an attitude. In such cases we use tht operator, which is semantically equivalent to that but signals the fact that “that” did not appear in the sentence.

5.3.1 Kinds of actions and events

Special versions of the kind-forming operator exist for actions and events, to and ke, respectively. (We can also use ka – “kind of action” – as synonym for to.) Kinds of actions are often expressed in English as infinitives, such as to ski. Correspondingly, we form a kind of action in ULF by applying to to the VP meaning. Kinds of events may be expressed in English by a sentence preceded by ‘for’, as was seen in sentence (2). This is coded by applying ke to an untensed sentence meaning; (the instances of the kind thus formed are events of that kind). Note how this contrasts with applying ‘that’ to a sentence meaning, forming an object encapsulating the particular propositional content, or claim, expressed by a sentence. Examples:

(f) “John likes to ski”

(|John| ((pres like.v) (to ski.v)))

(g) “Mary is trying to ignore an itch”

(|Mary| ((pres prog) (try.v (to (ignore.v (an.d itch.n))))))

(h) “For John to sleep in is unusual”

((ke (|John| sleep_in.v)) ((pres be.v) unusual.a))

It’s worth mentioning here that certain gerunds and NPs can also express kinds of actions and kinds of events, as in “John dislikes indoor smoking”, which may mean that he dislikes performing that kind of action, or that he dislikes that kind of event going on. In such cases we use to (or ka) to form the interpretation as a kind of action and the basic kind-forming operator k to form a kind of episode from the nominal.

5.4 Predicate complements vs. object complements

Although the predicate complement order in ULF annotation can simply follow surface order, an important distinction that we must recognize is whether a complement is a predicate or an object argument. Consider the following sentences.

(a1) “John made Mary a bookshelf”

(a2) “John made Mary a superintendent”

Although the sentences have the same surface structure, “a bookshelf” should be interpreted as an object, (a.d bookshelf.n), and “a superintendent” should be interpreted as a predicate, superintendent.n. See the following list of sentences for further practice in differentiating the two types of complements:
(b) “I found him an apartment” – (a.d apartment.n)
(c) “I found him a little apartment” – (a.d (little.a apartment.n))
(d) “I found him a nuisance” – nuisance.n
(e) “I found the house on fire” – (on.p (k fire.n))
(f) “The burglar sounded the alarm” – (the.d alarm.n)
(g) “The burglar sounded angry” – angry.a
(h) “The burglar sounded a little angry” – (a_little.adv-a angry.a)
(i) “The burglar sounded alarmed” – alarmed.a

Please try out the practice annotation problems for this section to ensure understanding of this distinction.

The category of “a little” is a bit tricky to identify; e.g., consider two possible meanings of “Mary had a little lamb”, namely, she owned a small lamb, or she consumed a small amount of lamb meat. In the former, “little” modifies “lamb” and “a” provides a determiner to produce a noun phrase (NP), while in the latter “a” combines with “little” to form a determiner a_little.d meaning “a small amount of”. But “a little” can also be an adverb, a_little.adv, as seen in (h) above, or in “It rained a little, and then the sun came out”.

5.5 Determiners

5.5.1 Lexical Determiners

Lexical determiners are annotated by bracketing the determiner with the semantic restrictor and giving the lexical entry a _d type extension. Determiners combine (only) with nominal predicates, and the combination (which is inherently unscoped in this annotation) introduces an individual or quantifies over individuals for which the nominal predicate holds.

(a) “We ate some bread”
   (we.pro ((past eat.v) (some.d bread.n)))

(b) “Every boy owns a toy”
   ((every.d boy.n) ((pres own.v) (a.d toy.n)))

(c) “Few big dogs are yappy”
   ((few.d (big.a (plur dog.n))) ((pres be.v) yappy.a))

(d) “Such friends are hard to find”
   ((Such.d (plur friend.n)) ((pres be.v) (hard.a (to find.v))))

(e) “Such a storm can ruin a city”
   ((Such.d (= (a.d storm.n))) ((pres can.aux-v) (ruin.v (a-gen.d city.n))))

Notice that in example (e) “a storm” is annotated as (= (a.d storm.n)). This is because the “a” is acting as a vacuous quantifier, similar to the quantifiers in predicative statements, e.g., “John is a lawyer”. The fact that this is vacuous can be observed by the fact that is only appears in singular quantification of “such”. A plural version of example (e) would be “Such storms can ruin a city”. “Such” can also have an adjective interpretation, see Section 5.6, on generated determiners, for an example of such a use.
5.5.2 Determiners with a generic reading

The determiners ‘a’ and ‘an’ can have a generic reading, meaning “just about any” rather than the typical meaning “a particular”. We mark these cases specially (with operators a-gen.d and an-gen.d), since they have a very different semantic interpretation. Also, ‘the’ can be used generically, meaning “the kind”. In this case we use ‘the-gen.d’. Adjectival modification as in (c) was discussed earlier, and will be further illustrated in section 5.10.1 in a broader context. Note that examples (d) and (e) include phenomena that have not been described at this point in the document. Section 5.8 describes that details of auxiliaries such as ‘would.aux-s’, and section 5.12 explains the representation of tacitly relational nouns like friend, and an implicit referent (using place-holder *s). In (e), we use |Javan|.a to mark the adjective as name-like, and the adverb ‘now’ is represented as now.adv-e to indicate that it is an event- (or situation-) modifying adverb.

(a) “Every boy loves a dog”
   ((every.d boy.n) ((pres love.v) (a-gen.d dog.n)))

(b) “A dog loves his master”
   ((a-gen dog.n) (pres love.v) (his.d master.n))

(c) “Sam enjoys a good sandwich”
   (|Sam| ((pres enjoy.v) (a-gen.d (good.a sandwich.n))))

(d) “I would help a friend”
   (I.pro ((pres would.aux-s) (help.v (a-gen.d (friend-of.n *s))))))

(e) “The Javan tiger is now extinct”
   ((the-gen.d (|Javan|.a tiger.n)) ((pres be.v) now.adv-e extinct.a))

5.6 Generated Determiners

Operators fquan and nquan are used to generate determiners from predicates. fquan is applied to fractional predicates and nquan to counting predicates.

(a) “Two out of ten voters are moderate”
   (((fquan (= .2)) (plur voter.n)) ((pres be.v) moderate.a))

(b) “Tommy found five insects.”
   ([|Tommy| ((past find.v) ((nquan (= 5)) (plur insect.n))))
   ([|Tommy| ((past find.v) ((nquan five.a) (plur insect.n))))
   ([|Tommy| ((past find.v) (five.d (plur insect.n))))
   ([|Tommy| ((past find.v) (k five.a (plur insect.n))))
   ([|Tommy| ((past find.v) (these.d (five.a (plur insect.n)))))

(c) “Tommy found these five insects.”
   ([|Tommy| ((past find.v) (these.d (five.a (plur insect.n)))))
   ([|Tommy| ((past find.v) (these.d (5.a (plur insect.n)))))

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(d) “Almost all cats hunt.”

(((fquan (almost.adv-a all.a)) (plur cat.n)) (pres hunt.v))

(e) “Very few people dislike all dogs”

(((nquan (very.adv-a few.a)) (plur person.n))
  ((pres dislike.v) (all.d (plur dog.n))))

(f) “All four such remarks were unacceptable”

(((All.d (four.a (such.a (plur remark.n)))) ((past be.v) unacceptable.a))

(((nquan ((adv-a All.a) four.a)) (such.a (plur remark.n)))
  ((past be.v) unacceptable.a))

Note the various acceptable treatments of “five” in (b), depending on how we represent the predicate meaning of “five”, and whether we make use of the abbreviation of (nquan five.a) as five.d, discussed earlier. The fifth variant is based on the fact that a noun without a determiner can denote a kind, even if there are premodifying adjectives. Indeed, if we replace “found five insects” by “found large insects” or simply “found insects”, the logical form using k is the only possible one: respectively (k (large.a (plur insect.n)) and (k (plur insect.n)). But what does it mean for Tommy to find a kind whose realizations are sets of insects? Well, we take it to mean that he found a realization of that kind! This again involves a postprocessing step.

Example (f) shows how multiple equivalent annotations exist with chained determiners because of different combinations of adjective interpretations of the determiners.

5.6.1 “Headless” noun phrases (i.e., lacking the noun)

In cases where the determiner occurs all on its own, the entire restrictor is implicit (such as in (a) and (b) below), the determiners can be annotated as pronouns, e.g., many.pro. These will be treated as abbreviations of phrases with an implicit restrictor predicate, e.g., (many.d (ref1).n) (equivalently, ((nquan many.a) (ref1).n)). If not specified in the ULF, default restrictors are automatically introduced in postprocessing. If such an annotation is not possible because of a constructed determiner or partially specified restrictors (such as (c-e)), an implicit referent is written in place of the head-noun predicate. Implicit referents are further discussed later in the tutorial, but generally have the syntax {ref#}.[suffix].

(a) “Those are nice”

(Those.pro ((pres be.v) nice.a))

(Those.d (ref1).n) ((pres be.v) nice.a))

(b) “Many gave their lives”

(Many.pro ((past give.v) (their.d (plur life.n))))

((Many.d (ref1).n) ((past give.v) (their.d (plur life.n))))

(c) “Nearly a hundred died”

(((nquan (nearly.adv-a = 100))) (ref1).n) (past die.v))

(d) “These three are nice”

((these.d (three.a (ref1).n)) ((pres be.v) nice.a))

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Post-nominally modified noun phrases are a common form that appear headless in a
determiner. Below are examples of this case (see Section 5.10.5 for more details on post-
nominally modified noun phrases). Example (g) additionally includes a relative clause,
which has a special regular representation – this has not yet been added to the guidelines.

(f) “Those in the display case are nice”

(((Those.d (npreds {ref1}.n (in.p (the.d (display.n case.n))))) ((pres be.v) nice.a))

(g) “Many who served gave their lives”

(((Many.d (npreds {ref1}.n (who.rel (past serve.v)))))

((past give.v) (their.d (plur life.n))))

5.7 Passive Voice

Passive voice is annotated with the pasv operator.

- “He was pushed”
  (he.pro (past (pasv push.v)))

- “She is given an award”
  (she.pro ((pres (pasv give.v)) (an.d award.n)))

There are two important features to keep in mind. pasv is a lexical operator (like plur),
so it takes narrower scope than phrasal operators (such as adverbs or reifying operators).
Also, we drop the copula that accompanies the passive construction, since its semantic signal
is captured by pasv and the tense operator. Thus the syntactic marking of the passive voice
can be reduced to the following construction.

\[ \text{be} + \langle \text{past participle} \rangle \]

Please take a look at the examples above to verify this correspondence.

5.8 Modal Auxiliaries

Annotation of modifiers in ULF requires distinguishing predicate modifiers from sentence
modifiers. For adverb(ial)s, this distinction is made with adv-a extensions or operators,
versus adv-s, adv-e, adv-f extensions or operators; e.g., gracefully, completely, without
difficulty are predicate modifiers while perhaps, surprisingly, in my opinion are sentence
modifiers. This is discussed further in a later section.

For modal auxiliaries, the predicate modifier vs. sentence modifier distinction is marked
with -v and -s suffixes, respectively. For example, must is represented as (pres must.aux-v)
in The cadet must (i.e., is obligated to) obey, whereas it is represented as (pres must.aux-
s) in John must have left. Note that modal auxiliaries are never untensed, i.e., they are
implicitly in present or past tense. This is made explicit in the ULF.

Here are some examples, followed by an exhaustive enumeration.

(a) “This rocket can reach Mars”

((this.d rocket.n) ((pres can.aux-v) (reach.v Mars)))
(b) “This mission can fail”
   ((this.d mission.n) ((pres can.aux-s) fail.v))

(c) “You may sit down”
   (you.pro ((pres may.aux-v) sit_down.v))

(d) “The prisoner may escape”
   ((the.d prisoner.n) ((pres may.aux-s) escape.v))

(e) “I will send Timmy a toy”
   (i.pro ((pres will.aux-s) (send.v |Timmy| (a.d toy.n))))

(f) “I constantly admonish him, but he just will not listen”
   ((i.pro constantly.adv-f ((pres admonish.v) he.pro)) but.cc
    (he.pro just.adv-s ((pres will.aux-v) not listen.v)))

(g) “I constantly admonished him, but he just wouldn’t listen”
   ((i.pro constantly.adv-f ((past admonish.v) he.pro)) but.cc
    (he.pro just.adv-s ((past will.aux-v) not listen.v)))

(h) “Pterodactyls could fly”
   ((k (plur pterodactyl.n)) ((past can.aux-v) fly.v))

(i) “The sea level could rise”
   ((the.d (sea.n level.n)) ((pres could.aux-s) rise.v))

(j) “He might faint”
   (he.pro ((pres might.aux-s) faint.v))

(k) “He knew that he might faint”
   (he.pro ((past know.v) (that (he.pro ((past might.aux-s) faint.v)))))

(l) “I do appreciate it”
   (i.pro ((pres do.aux-v) (appreciate.v it.pro)))

(m) “He didn’t sleep”
   (he.pro ((past do.aux-s) not sleep.v))

To reiterate, modal auxiliary verbs (1) are in present or past tense, and (2) can have sentence-level and VP-level meanings. The sentence-level meanings most often express a possibility or expectation (at present or in the past), and the VP-level meanings typically express an ability, permission, or obligation (but some meanings of will/would and do/did deviate from this general pattern):

- **can** – (pres can.aux-v) if it means something like “presently able to (or permitted to)”
  - “This rocket can reach Mars”
  
  - (pres can.aux-s) if it simply refers to a possibility
    
  “This mission can fail”
could – (pres could.aux-v) if it means something like “presently able to”
“I could easily climb over that fence”

– (pres could.aux-s) if it simply refers to a possibility
“The sea level could rise”

– (past can.aux-v) if it means roughly “able-to in the past”
“Pterodactyls could fly”

– (past can.aux-s) if it refers to a possibility from a past perspective
“He was well aware that he could fail”

may – (pres may.aux-v) if it means something like “presently permitted to”
“You may sit down”

– (pres may.aux-s) if it simply refers to a possibility
“The prisoner may escape”

might – (pres might.aux-s) if it simply refers to a possibility
“He might faint”

– (past may.aux-s) if it refers to a possibility from a past perspective
“He knew that he might faint”

must – (pres must.aux-s) for present certainty or necessity
“A piece of the puzzle must be missing”; “What goes up must come down”;
“He must return at once”; “He must be punished”

– (past must.aux-s) for a past certainty or necessity
“He knew that the child must be nearby, and that he must keep searching”

will – (pres will.aux-s) or (pres futr) for an expectation, at present
“The sun will rise”

– (pres will.aux-v) for present willfulness (esp. resistance)
“No matter how much I cajole him, he just will not cooperate”

would – (cf will.aux-s) if it refers to a conditional possibility in counterfactual construction
“I would go to Mars {if I were an astronaut, if I were to be offered the chance to go}”

– (past will.aux-s) or (past futr) if it refers to the future from a past perspective
“He knew that he would not see her again”

– (past will.aux-v) for past willfulness (esp. resistance)
“No matter how much I cajoled him, he just would not cooperate”

– (pres would.aux-s) for present expectation (especially in questions)
“Would you take him with you?”

shall – (pres shall.aux-s) or (pres futr) for a firm expectation or suggestion (at present)
“We shall overcome”, “Shall we go to the beach?”

should – (pres should.aux-s) for a firm expectation at present
“He should arrive at any moment”
- (past should.aux-s) for a strong (but perhaps disconfirmed) expectation in the past
  “He knew that John should have arrived already”

- (pres should.aux-v) for a present obligation [* but see comment below]
  “John should study harder”

- (past should.aux-v) for a past obligation (perhaps violated) [* but see comment below]
  “John knew that he should {study, have studied} harder”

- (if).ps ... (cf should.aux-s) for a present conditional possibility
  “I’m ready for that, should it happen” (i.e., “if it should happen”)

ought – (pres ought.aux-s) for a strong, present expectation
  “That ought to do the trick!”, “John ought to be awake by now”

- (past ought.aux-s) for a strong, past expectation
  “He went to the pharmacy, thinking that his prescription ought to be ready”

- (pres ought.aux-v) for a present obligation [* but see comment below]
  “He ought to study harder”

- (past ought.aux-v) for a past obligation [* but see comment below]
  “He knew that he ought to study harder”

do – (pres do.aux-v) for present emphasis
  “I do appreciate it”

- (pres do.aux-s) in subject-auxiliary inversion and negation
  “Do you have a car?”, “He did not speak”

did – (past do.aux-v) for past emphasis
  “I did lock the door”

- (past do.aux-s) in past tense subject-auxiliary inversion and negation
  “Did you lock the door?”, “I did not lock the door”

is – (pres be-to.aux-v) for a presently scheduled or mandated action
  “He is to appear in court tomorrow”

was – (past be-to.aux-s) future in the past or event scheduled/mandated in the past
  “Babbage was never to succeed in building the Analytical Engine”

- (cf be-to.aux-s) same as above but in a counterfactual context
  “If he were to leave, the department would collapse”

Progressive & passive uses of “be” are discussed elsewhere. Note that the above modal “is” and “was” senses, like other modal auxiliaries, have no untensed (be/being/been) forms; e.g., *“He has been to appear in court”.

We can also add some unusual items, marginally functioning as modal auxiliaries:
dare – (pres dare.aux-v) for present daring (often with “not”)
   “Dare he leave?”; “He daren’t leave”
   (cf., “He doesn’t dare to leave”, where “dare” is a main verb)

dared – (past dare.aux-v) for past daring (often with “not”)
   “He dared not speak up”; *“He dared speak up”
   (but, “He dared to speak up”, where “dare” is a main verb)

need – (pres need.aux-v) for presently needing or requiring
   “Need you be so negative?”; “School dropouts need not apply”;
   (In “You need to study”, “need” is a main verb)

had better – (pres had_better.aux-s) for a present requirement
   “Someone had better warn him”
   (Note the scope ambiguity – that’s why we want aux-s, not aux-v)

– (past had_better.aux-s) for a past requirement
   “I realized that someone had better warn John”

better – (pres better.aux-s) for a present requirement
   “Someone better warn him”
   (Note the scope ambiguity – that’s why we want aux-s, not aux-v)

had best – (pres had_best.aux-s) for a present requirement
   “Someone had best warn him”
   (Note the scope ambiguity – that’s why we want aux-s, not aux-v)

– (past had_best.aux-s) for a past requirement
   “I realized that someone had best warn John”

Also, “used to”, and “have to” are sometimes regarded as modal auxiliaries. However, we treat “used to” as an aspectual phrase below. [But from the web, “used to” can be broken up: “Rossetti once told me that Hannay, when he first knew him, used to be so hard up that he used never to be at home in the daytime”; thus we have “used never to ...”] Further, we regard “have” in “have to” as a regular main verb, since it can be tenseless and unlike genuine modal auxiliaries can be preceded by another modal auxiliary, as in “I will have to think about it”.

/* NOTE: the suggested aux-v forms of “should” and “ought” are questionable, because with a VP-level modification like
   ((some.d person.n) (should.aux-v (help.v |John|))), or
   ((some.d person.n) (ought.aux-v (help.v |John|))),
   i.e., “Someone {should, ought to} help John”, we can’t explain the ambiguity of such a sentence – we capture the meaning “There is someone who should help John”, but not the meaning “It ought to happen that someone helps John” (sort of a “socially distributed” obligation). But if we use aux-s instead of aux-v for these obligation-implying senses of “should” and “ought”, how do we distinguish them from those that just suggest an expectation? Maybe we need an additional ((pres,past) ought-to-happen.aux-s) operator? Or maybe all uses of should/ought are sentence-level, but when they express an obligation and the subject is definite, they strongly suggest that the obligation falls on that subject. This remains an open question.*/
5.9 Aspect Annotation (Extension Over Time)

Aspect is generally captured by the perfect “have” and progressive “be” auxiliaries in our annotations, as well as by the lexical entries in our annotations (e.g., daily, used to) and less frequently as multi-word modifier phrases (e.g., every day, for an hour). These are all treated in the same manner as other modifiers and we refer to that section for annotation details. Perfect and progressive tense are marked morpho-syntactically in English and require special treatment, which we describe next.

5.9.1 Special Cases – Perfect and Progressive

Perfect and progressive aspects are annotated with operators perf and prog, respectively. They are sentence-level operators, but (as with modifiers in general) the annotation will keep them in surface order and the operators will be lifted in post (similar to auxiliaries and negation).

(a) “He has left Rome”
   (he.pro ((pres perf) (leave.v |Rome|)))

(b) “He is sleeping”
   (he.pro ((pres prog) sleep.v))

(c) “He has been sleeping”
   (he.pro ((pres perf) (prog sleep.v)))

(d) “He will be sleeping”
   (he.pro ((pres will.aux-s) (prog sleep.v)))

(e) “He may have been sleeping”
   (he.pro ((pres may.aux-s) (perf (prog sleep.v))))

(f) “She had been given an award”
   (she.pro ((past perf) ((pasv give.v) (an.d award.n))))

(g) “She was being honored”
   (she.pro ((past prog) (pasv honor.v)))

Notice that we drop the copula that accompanies the progressive aspect, since its semantic signal is captured by prog and the tense operator. The last example is interesting because there are two copulas introduced – one to capture the tense and another to capture the progressive aspect. For full clarity, here are the syntactic markings for the perfect and progressive aspects.

**Perfect:** have + <-ing verb>

**Progressive:** be + <past participle>

Please look at the examples above to verify this. Now that we’ve seen all three forms of ‘be’ (main verb, in a progressive, in a passive construction) see the sentence below that includes all three.

(h) “John is under arrest and is being questioned”
   (|John| (((pres be.v) (under.p (k arrest.n))) and.cc
       ((pres prog) (pasv question.v)))))
5.10 Modifiers (again)

Modifiers are operators that map predicates to predicates or sentences to sentences. They correspond closely with the syntactic class of adverbs. See the examples below to get a feel for what constitutes a modifier:

(a) “Jim is very happy”
\[\text{\midJim\mid ((pres be.v) (very.adv-a happy.a))}\]

(b) “John saw Mary yesterday”
\[\text{\midJohn\mid (((past see.v) |Mary\mid) yesterday.adv-e)}\]

(c) “Mary undoubtedly spoke up”
\[\text{\midMary\mid (undoubtedly.adv-s (past speak_up.v)))}, \text{ or equivalently,}\]
\[\text{\midMary\mid undoubtedly.adv-s (past speak_up.v))}\]

(d) “John sees Mary regularly”
\[\text{\midJohn\mid (((pres see.v) |Mary\mid) regularly.adv-f)\}

We distinguish between four different types of modifiers: action/attribute modifiers, event modifiers, sentence modifiers, and frequency modifiers. These correspond to the suffix tags -a, -e, -s, and -f, respectively. Action/attribute modifiers map the predicate to a new predicate (e.g., ran quickly, very smart). Event modifiers add some information about the event described by the sentence (e.g. in the forest, along the river, at noon). Sentence modifiers comment on the sentence, but do not modify its meaning, such as writer commentary (e.g., surprisingly). Frequency modifiers specify repetitive occurrence of the type of event described by the sentence they modify (e.g. daily, regularly, every week). Below are some additional examples of the different types.

(e) “John politely greeted Mary”
\[\text{\midJohn\mid (politely.adv-a ((past greet.v) |Mary\mid))}\]

(f) “Mary spoke up confidently”
\[\text{\midMary\mid ((past speak_up.v) confidently.adv-a)}\]

(g) “The next meeting will probably be canceled”
\[\text{\midthe.d (next.a meeting.n) ((pres will.aux-s) probably.adv-s (pasv cancel.v)))}\]

(h) “John saw Mary yesterday”
\[\text{\midJohn\mid (((past see.v) |Mary\mid) yesterday.adv-e)}\]

(i) “The meeting took place here”
\[\text{\midthe.d meeting.n) ((past take_place.v) here.adv-e)}\]

(j) “The meeting went on interminably”
\[\text{\midthe.d meeting.n) ((past go_on.v) interminably.adv-e)}\]

(k) “John saw Mary twice”
\[\text{\midJohn\mid (((past see.v) |Mary\mid) twice.adv-f)}\]

(l) “John usually wakes up early”
\[\text{\midJohn\mid (usually.adv-f ((pres wake_up.v) early.adv-e))}\]
5.10.1 Predicates as Modifiers

When modifying non-verbal predicates with other predicates (e.g. \(\text{burning.a hot.a}\)) we omit the type-shifting operators from predicates to predicate modifiers for annotator simplicity. Adding these operators is a completely deterministic process and will be handled in post. If you are curious, please refer to Appendix A.1 for a complete description of the type-shifting operators and the method of inserting them from the present form. Below is an example with multiple predicate modifications.

“I spilled a burning hot melting pot”

1. \((I\ (\text{spilled.a}\ (\text{a}\ ((\text{burning.jj hot.jj)}\ (\text{melting.nn pot.nn})))))\)
2. \((\text{prp}\ I)\ (\text{vbd}\ \text{spilled})\ (\text{dt}\ a)\ (\text{vbg}\ \text{burning})\ (\text{jj}\ hot)\ (\text{nn}\ \text{melting})\ (\text{nn}\ \text{pot})\)
3. \((I.\text{prp}\ (\text{spilled.vbd} (\text{a.dt} ((\text{burning.jj hot.jj}) (\text{melting.nn pot.nn}))))))\)
4. \((I.\text{pro} ((\text{past spill.v}) (\text{a.d} ((\text{burning.a hot.a}) (\text{melting.n pot.n}))))))\)

Also notice that the automatic POS tag for ‘burning’ was incorrect and needed correction. In this example ‘burning’ is acting as an adjective (similar to ‘red hot’) rather than a verb.

5.10.2 Gaps, and topicalization

Sometimes constituents are “moved” from their normal syntactic position, leaving “gaps” (also referred to as “holes” or “traces”) in those positions. For example, “Those dogs, I’m afraid of” can be viewed as a rearrangement of “I’m afraid of those dogs”, but with the final noun phrase placed at the front of the sentence to make it salient, leaving a gap after of. Constituent fronting of this type is called topicalization.

In forming ULFs for such sentences, we might instead put the topicalized constituent in its “normal” place, but it turns out to be better to use a different approach, for preserving pragmatic information and for uniform treatment of related phenomena (especially certain types of relative clauses and wh-questions, as will be seen). This uniform approach employs a macro, \(\text{sub}\), and a special “hole variable”, \(*h\). Here are some examples:

(a) “Those dogs, I’m afraid of”
\(\text{(sub} (\text{those.d (plur dog.n)) (I.pro ((pres be.v) (afraid_of.a *h))))}\)

(b) “About that, I know nothing”
\(\text{(sub} (\text{about.p-arg that.pro}) (I.pro (((pres know.v) nothing.pro) *h))))\)

(c) “Fight our fears, we must”
\(\text{(sub} (\text{fight.v (our.d (plur (fear-of.n *s)))) (we.pro ((pres must.aux-v) *h))})\)

(d) “Swiftly, the fox ran away”
\(\text{(sub} \text{swiftly.adv-a ((the.d fox.n) (((past run.v) away.adv-a) *h))})\)

Note that various types of phrases can be topicalized, including noun phrases, prepositional phrases, verb phrases, and adverbial phrases. The \(\text{sub}\) macro expects two arguments, namely the ULF of the dislocated (“filler”) phrase, and the ULF of an arbitrarily complex clause with a hole variable \(*h\) somewhere in it, usually at or near the end of the clause. In
postprocessing, lambda-abstraction of the hole-variable may be used to make the semantic connection between the filler and the hole explicit.

Occasionally (mostly in old or poetic English) topicalization occurs at the verb phrase level rather than the sentence level, as in

(e) “Let me not to the marriage of true minds admit impediments”

(from a Shakespearean sonnet). In fact, the next line of the sonnet contains another such instance:

(f) “Love is not love which alters when it alteration finds”

Here the direct object, alteration, is moved to the front of the verb phrase. An interesting ambiguity in this example is that the relative clause “which alters when ...” might not modify the second occurrence of love as assumed in the above ULF, but rather the first, i.e., “Love which alters when ... is not love”; in other words, the relative clause may have been right-shifted over “is not love”, much as if the wording had been, “Love is not love if it alters ...”. In such a case, we would have left the relative clause “free-floating” in the main verb phrase, much as if it were an adverbial headed by if.

5.10.3 Modifying phrases (adverbials)

EL provides the operators, adv-a, adv-e, adv-s, and adv-f to construct complex adverbials from predicates (typically, derived from prepositional phrases). The operator names correspond to the suffixes of lexical adverbs: .adv-a, .adv-e, .adv-s, and .adv-f.

(a) “I read with my glasses”

(b) “Wycliffe played the piece with great passion”

(c) “I like to read in the park”

(d) “I slept poorly yesterday”

(e) “She left at noon last Friday”
“She will leave on Friday”

(She.pro ((pres will.aux-s) (leave.v (adv-e (on.p |Friday|))))

“Without a doubt, John was at school today”

((adv-s (without.p (a.d doubt.n)))
 (|John| (((past be.v) (at.p (k school.n))) today.adv-e)))

“Most likely, John went to the store”

((adv-s (most.adv-a likely.a))
 (|John| ((past go.v) (to.p-arg (the.d store.n))))

“Eve eavesdrops on her friends, usually intentionally or knowingly”

(|Eve|
 (((pres eavesdrop.v) (on.p-arg (her.d (plur friend.n))))
  (usually.adv-f (intentionally.adv-a or.cc knowingly.adv-a))))

“Suddenly {}, she left”

(Suddenly.adv-e (she.pro (past leave)))

“Suddenly {}, she left”

(sub sullenly.adv-a (she.pro ((past leave.v) *h)))

One might argue that yesterday and today in (d) and (g) should really be treated as pronouns, in view of examples like “Yesterday was a good day”. This might lead us to expand yesterday.adv-e to (adv-e ({during}.p yesterday.pro)), where {during}.p is a covert constituent. But to keep annotations as simple as possible, we allow both yesterday.adv-e and yesterday.pro.

Names of weekdays, months, etc., present a similar predicament. We do seem to need covert constituents in representing last Friday in (e), namely {during}.p, {the.d}, and Friday needs to be treated as a name-like nominal predicate, |Friday|.n. (Such predicates are further discussed in section 5.11) But in (f), Friday seems to function simply as a name. We could express this occurrence by expanding |Friday| into ({the}.d ({next}.a |Friday|.n)), in order to keep the meaning of Friday unambiguous. But again, we opt instead for simplicity of the ULF, by allowing both a nominal-predicate version and a version as a proper name. We would also employ the proper name, |Friday|, in a generic use such as “Friday is my favorite day of the week”, rather than forming a kind, (k |Friday|.n).

Note as well the contrast between the last two sample sentences. In the last sentence, the initial manner adverb is treated as topicalized, to facilitate its “lowering” to the VP level in postprocessing.

5.10.4 Clausal and verb-phrase adverbials

The examples of adverbials above do not involve verbs, but many adverbials are formed from clauses or verb phrases. Semantically, clausal adverbials are modifiers at the sentence level, though like some of the adverbials in the previous subsection, they can appear in sentence-premodifying, postmodifying, or internal positions:
(a) “Although the sun shone, the air was chilly”

(Although.ps ((the.d sun.n) (past shine.v)))
   ((the.d air.n) ((past be.v) chilly.a)))

(b) “The air was chilly, even though the sun shone”

(((the.d air.n) ((past be.v) chilly.a))
   (even_though.ps ((the.d sun.n) (past shine.v)))))

(c) “The icy wind, though the sun shone, chilled him to the bone”

(((the.d (icy.a wind.n)) (though.ps ((the.d sun.n) (past shine.v))))
   (((past chill.v) he.pro) (adv-a (to.p (the.d bone.n))))))

(d) “Mangoes are delicious when they are ripe”

((k (plur mango.n)) ((pres be.v) delicious.a
   (when.ps (they.pro ((pres be.v) ripe.a)))))

(e) “Mangoes are delicious when they are from India”

((k (plur mango.n)) ((pres be.v) delicious.a
   (when-if.ps (they.pro ((pres be.v) (from.p |India|))))))

We distinguish temporal and atemporal *when* in the last two examples, coding the atemporal version as *when-if.ps* in view of its semantic similarity to *if*.

Verb phrase adverbials use the *-ing* (participial) form or *to*-infinitive form of the verb, and may be VP-modifiers (*adv-a* adverbials), episode-modifiers (like *adv-e* adverbials), or proposition-modifiers (like *adv-s* adverbials):

(f) “The quarterback walked away, limping noticeably”

(((the.d quarterback.n)
   ((past walk.v) away.adv-a) (adv-a (prog (limp.v noticeably.adv-a)))))

(g) “Limping noticeably, the quarterback walked away”

(sub (adv-a (prog (limp.v noticeably.adv-a)))
   ((the.d quarterback.n) (((past walk.v) away.adv-a) *h))))

(h) “The quarterback stumbled, while backing up”

(((the.d quarterback.n)
   ((past stumble.v) (while.ps ({he}.pro ((past prog) back_up.v)))))

(i) “Considering her inexperience, she did very well”

((adv-s (consider.v (her.d inexperience.n)))
   (she.pro ((past do.v) (adv-a (very.adv-a good.a))))))

(j) “The outfielder ran to catch the ball”

(((the.d outfielder.n)
   ((past run.v) (adv-a ({for}.p (to (catch.v (the.d ball.n)))))))

(k) “To put it bluntly, he failed”

((adv-s ({for}.p (to (put.v it.pro bluntly.adv-a))))
   (he.pro (past fail.v))))
In (i), we have treated “considering her inexperience” much as we would have treated “despite her inexperience” or “in light of her inexperience”, though some might want to expand the sentence meaning to something like “if I consider her inexperience, I conclude that she did very well”. But any such expansions should be deferred to postprocessing. Note also that we have rendered very well as the adv-a transform of very good, since very.adv-a needs to operate on a predicate, not on an adverb.

In (j), we have represented the purpose adverbial “to catch the ball” by introducing a covert preposition {for}.p that can take the action type (to (catch.v (the.d ball.n))) as its complement. (We can read the covert {for}.p as for-purpose.) In (k), the adverbial comments on the sentence as a whole, hence the adv-s operator; but again the to-infinitive is used to express a purpose.

5.10.5 Phrasal post-nominal modifiers

For post-nominal modifiers, we introduce macros n+preds and np+preds to simplify the annotation. Since post-nominal modifiers can only add to the meaning of the noun, these macros map to a lambda expression with a conjunction of the listed properties. The syntactic forms of these macros are:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{(n+preds [noun (incl. any arguments)] [predicate 1] [predicate 2] ...)} \\
\text{(np+preds [noun phrase] [predicate 1] [predicate 2] ...)}
\end{align*}
\]

See examples below.

(a) “A table with three legs”

\[
\text{(a.d (n+preds table.n (with.p ((nquan three.a) (plur leg.n)))))}
\]

(b) “The explosion in the city”

\[
\text{(the.d (n+preds explosion.n (in.p (the.d city.n))))}
\]

(c) “The hawk circling overhead”

\[
\text{(the.d (n+pred hawk.n (circle.v (adv-a overhead.a))))}
\]

(d) “John, totally exhausted, ...”

\[
\text{(np+preds |John| (totally.adv-a exhausted.a))}
\]

(e) “John, feeling tired, ...”

\[
\text{(np+preds |John| (feel.v tired.a))}
\]

Note that we use n+preds for restrictive postmodifiers – ones that further limit what entities the noun phrase as a whole can refer to; while we use np+preds for nonrestrictive postmodifiers, i.e., ones that just add supplementary information about the entity, which is already identified by the NP without the postmodifier(s). In English, nonrestrictive postmodifiers are usually separated from the NP they supplement by a comma.

5.10.6 Relative clauses

Relative clauses also postmodify nouns or noun phrases, but they often involve gaps, and thus make use of the sub macro and hole variable *h introduced earlier. In the following examples, only (a) does not require these devices, because the relative pronoun in that example is in subject position, and as such “already in the right place”.

25
(a) “John, who is a lawyer, ...”
   
   (np+preds |John| (who.rel ((pres be.v) lawyer.n)))

(b) “The manager whom you met”
   
   (The.d (n+preds manager.n (sub who.rel (you.pro ((past meet.v) *h)))))

(c) “The car that you bought”
   
   (The.d (n+preds car.n (sub that.rel (you.pro ((past buy.v) *h)))))

(d) “The car you bought”
   
   (The.d (n+preds car.n (sub tht.rel (you.pro ((past buy.v) *h)))))
   (tht.rel, that.rel are synonyms)

(e) “A man not of this world”
   
   (A.d (n+preds man.n (sub tht.rel (not (*h (of.p (this.d world.n)))))))
   or, using non- to negate a predicate,
   (A.d (n+preds man.n (non- (of.p (this.d world.n)))))

(f) “The manager, whom you met”
   
   (np+preds (The.d manager.n) (sub who.rel (you.pro ((past meet.v) *h)))))

(g) “The woman at the door whose brother you met”
   
   (The.d (n+preds woman.n (at.p (the.d door.n)))
   (sub (the.d ((poss-by who.rel) (brother-of.n *s)))
   (you.pro ((past meet.v) *h))))

(h) “The manager, whose house we passed”
   
   (np+preds (The.d manager.n)
   (sub (the.d ((poss-by who.rel) house.n)) (we.pro ((past pass.v) *h)))))

(i) “The dog on the beach, whose owner you know”
   
   (np+preds (The.d (n+preds dog.n (on.p (the.d beach.n))))
   (sub (the.d ((poss-by which.rel) (owner-of.n *s)))
   (you.pro ((pres know.v) *h))))

(j) “The White House, which was designed by James Hoban”
   
   (np+preds (The.d |White House|.n)
   (which.rel ((past (pasv design.v)) (by.p-arg |James Hoban|))))

(k) “The street where you live”
   
   (The.d (n+preds street.n
   (sub (at-loc.p which.rel) (you.pro ((pres live.v) (adv-e *h))))))

(l) “The time when dinosaurs roamed [on] the Earth”
   
   (The.d (n+preds time.n
   (sub (at-time.p which.rel) ((k (plur dinosaur.n))
   ((past roam.v) (on.p (the.d |Earth|.n)) (adv-e *h))))))
(m) “The couch whereon he reclined”

(The. d (n+preds couch.n
   (sub (on-loc.p which.rel) (he.pro ((past recline.v) (adv-e *h))))))

Note that for relative clauses, argument (1) of the sub macro must include a relative pronoun – who.rel, that.rel, tht.rel, or which.rel. Note further that in (i) we have rendered whose owner as “the owner of which.rel” rather than “the owner of who.rel”, because the relative determiner whose, unlike the relative pronoun who, does not imply reference to a person – it may be a person or any other type of thing, and here it is a set of dogs. (We could have used that.rel instead of which.rel to maintain the person/non-person ambiguity of whose, but in this case the referent is clearly non-human.)

Like whose, the relative prepositions when, where, whereon, etc., need to be decomposed in the ULF to expose a relative pronoun (here, which.rel), since in postprocessing we need to have a pronoun that is coreferential with the entity whose type is specified by the main noun of the noun phrase. For example, in the street where you live, where needs to be expanded so that it contains a relative pronoun that refers to the street being described. Hence we render where as (at-loc.p which.rel), where which.rel refers to the particular street. In post-processing, the argument of street.n would become a variable, and that same variable would replace which.rel. We may in future leave the decomposition of relative determiner whose and of the “relative sentential prepositions” when, where, whereon, etc., to post-processing as well, writing them in ULF as whose.dr, when.pr, where.pr, whereon.pr, etc.

5.10.7 It-clefts, extraposition, and there-sentences

It-clefts, it-extraposition, and there-sentences are are all constructions where a portion of the sentence is right-shifted in the sentence for reduced processing load. Each of these will be annotated with specific mechanisms that reflect the correspondence between their syntactic realizations and their semantics.

The difference between clefts and extrapositions are not consistent in the linguistic literature so we will define what we mean in this document. We restrict ‘clefts’ to constructions starting with ‘it + be’ and ends in a relative clause indicating the semantic equivalent of the predicate or NP following ‘it + be’ filling the relative clause gap. We restrict ‘extraposition’ to constructions what start with “it” and end with a nominalized action, event, or proposition which corefers to “it”. For other right-shifted meanings, we will simply call them right-shifted or rightwardly displaced. These can be rewritten by moving the rightshifted clause to the appropriate location in the sentence. Here are examples.

- **It-cleft**
  
  It was Mary who arrived first
  
  It was Rome that I went to

- **It-extraposition**

  It’s surprising that Mary arrived first
  
  It’s surprising for Mary to arrive first

1There are some more subtle issues related to the semantic of it-clefts which are discussed in Appendix A.5.

27
• Rightward Displacement

Someone left a message whom we don’t know
How frustrated are they with their kids?

It-clefts. It-clefts can be interpreted as a paraphrase of a sentence which adds emphasis to a particular part of the sentence by rightshifting the rest of the sentence meaning in a relative clause. To keep the annotation process as simple as possible, we simply introduce a special sense of ‘it’ for clefts, it-cleft.pro which allows proper analysis of the following be.v statement with two arguments. That is, the right-shifted relative clause will be supplied as an additional argument to be.v in this special construction. Here are examples followed by a discussion of some tricky cases or aspects and the translation process.

(a) “It was Mary who arrived first”
   (It-cleft.pro (((past be.v) |Mary|)
   (who.rel ((past arrive.v) first.adv-a)))

(b) “It was Mary he gave the book to”
   (It-cleft.pro (((past be.v) |Mary|)
   (sub tht.rel
   (he.pro (((past give.v) (the.d book.n)) (to.p-arg *h))))))

(c) “It was Rome that he traveled to”
   (It-cleft.pro (((past be.v) |Rome|)
   (sub that.rel (he.pro (((past travel.v) (to.p-arg *h))))))

(d) “It was to Rome that he traveled”
   (It-cleft.pro (((past be.v) (to.p-arg |Rome|))
   (sub that.rel (he.pro (((past travel.v) *h))))))

(e) “It is Jaime for whom we are looking”
   (It-cleft.pro (((pres be.v) |Jaime|)
   (sub (for.p-arg whom.rel)
   (we.pro ((pres prog) (look.v *h))))))

(f) “It was because he was ill (that) we decided to return.”
   (It-cleft.pro (((past be.v) (because.ps (he.pro ((past be.v) ill.a)))
   (that.rel (we.pro ((past decide.v) (to return.v))))))

(g) “It was in September that he first found out about it.”
   (It-cleft.pro
   (((past be.v) (in.p |September|))
   (sub that.rel
   (he.pro ((first.adv-a ((past find_out.v) (about.p-arg it.pro))) (adv-e *h))))))

2 The it-cleft construction also adds a presupposition that the relative clause is satisfied by something. For example, “It might have been Mary who went home” presupposes that someone went home.
(h) “It was on foot that he went there.”
   (It-cleft.pro (((past be.v) (on.p (k foot.n)))
      (sub that.rel
         (he.pro (((past go.v) there.adv-e) (adv-a *h)))))))

(i) “It was greedily and speedily that Homer Simpson drank his beer.”
   (It-cleft.pro (((past be.v) (greedily.adv-a and.cc speedily.adv-a))
      (sub that.rel
         ([Homer Simpson] (((past drink.v) (his.d beer.n)) *h))))))

(j) “It is to address a far-reaching problem that Oxfam is launching this campaign”
   (It-cleft.pro
      (((pres be.v) (to (address.v (a.d (far-reaching.a problem.n)))))
      (sub that.rel
         ([Oxfam] (((pres prog) (launch.v (this.d campaign.n)))
            (adv-a ({for}.p *h)))))))

(k) “It was because she was so lonely all the time that she decided to move out.”
   (It-cleft.pro
      (((past be.v) (because.ps (she.pro (((past be.v) (so.adv-a lonely.a))
         (adv-e ({during}.p (all.d ({of}.p (the.d time.n)))))
         (that.rel (she.pro ((past decide.v) (to (move.v out.adv-a))))))))

(l) “It could be Mary he gave the book to”
   (It-cleft.pro
      (((pres can.aux-s) ((be.v |Mary|)
      (sub that.rel
         (he.pro (((past give.v) (the.d book.n)) (to.p-arg *h)))))))

This construction has a close correspondence to topicalization in general. Every one of
these examples can be rewritten by removing the “it + be” and relativizer and undoing any
pied-piping without modification of the truth-value meaning. It does, of course, reduce the
emphasis of the topicalized phrase and result in awkward sentences. For example, “It was
Rome that he traveled to” can be rewritten as “Rome, he traveled to” and “It is Jaime for
whom we are looking” as “Jaime, we are looking for”

Item (i) shows that this it-cleft construction needs to be resolved before other syntactic
expansion. In this case, the coordination of two adverbs needs to be factored, but only
after resolving the slot of the coordinated adverb. Furthermore, it-clefts in general do not
correctly resolve semantic types in the surface form.

Mapping from this cleft to non-cleft construction details in the Appendix A.5.

**It-extraposition.** This is a phenomenon that at first glance looks very similar to *it-clefts*,
but have distinct semantic effects. Whereas in *it-clefts* the “it + be” simply indicates a
reordering the remainder of the sentence, in *it-extraposition* the “it” corefers to the reified sentence or action that is supplied in a right-shifted location. The structural similarities are reflected in similar annotation methods. Here we annotate “it” as *it-extra.pro* and the right-shifted argument is supplied as an additional argument to the verb in which *it-extra.pro* itself participates as an argument.

(a) “It’s surprising that Mary arrived first”

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{(It-extra.pro ((pres be.v) surprising.a))} \\
\text{(that (|Mary| ((past arrive.v) first.adv-a))))}
\end{align*}
\]

(b) “He saw to it that Mary would get the book”

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{(He.pro (((past see.v) (to.p-arg it-extra.pro))} \\
\text{(that (|Mary| ((past will.aux-s) (get.v (the.d book.n))))))}
\end{align*}
\]

(c) “It was frustrating that I burned the potatoes”

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{(It-extra.pro (((past be.v) frustrating.a))} \\
\text{(that (I.pro ((past burn.v) (the.d (plur potato.n))))))}
\end{align*}
\]

(d) “Did it surprise you that that happened?”

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{(((past do.aux-s) it-extra.pro)} \\
\text{((surprise.v you.pro) (that (that.pro (past happen.v))))) ?)}
\end{align*}
\]

(e) “We suggested it to them that we leave today”

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{(We.pro (((past suggest.v) it-extra.pro) (adv-a (to.p them.pro))} \\
\text{(that (we.pro ((pres leave.v) today.adv-e))))}
\end{align*}
\]

(f) “Nobody believes it for a second that Newt will get the nomination”

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{(Nobody.pro (((pres believe.v) it-extra.pro) (adv-e (for.p (a.d second.n))))} \\
\text{(that (|Newt| ((pres will.aux-s) (get.v (the.d nomination.n))))))}
\end{align*}
\]

(g) “It is unusual for John to sleep in”

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{(It-extra.pro (((pres be.v) unusual.a) (ke (|John| sleep_in.v))))}
\end{align*}
\]

(h) “I find it hard to exercise everyday”

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{(I.pro (((pres find.v) it-extra.pro) hard.a)} \\
\text{(to (exercise.v everyday.adv-f))})
\end{align*}
\]

Notice that in all cases we get a grammatical (if awkward) sentence with the same meaning if we replace the “it” with the right-ward displaced argument. For example, “It’s surprising that Mary arrived first” has the same meaning as “That Mary arrived first is surprising”. The “it” can appear as a non-subject argument as well, as shown in examples (b), (e), (f), and (h). For these cases, we still supply the coreferring expression as an extra argument to the verb that “it” participates as an argument.

This phenomenon can occur in the context of a question, including auxiliary inversion as shown in example (d). And finally, the coreferring expression is often a proposition, as shown in the first handful of examples, but can also be a kind of event or kind of action as shown by examples (g) and (h), respectively.
**General Rightward Displacement.** In addition to the more constrained *it-cleft* and *it-extraposition* phenomena, English allows rightward displacement of almost any clause in appropriate context. Since this truly is a case of movement, rather than restructured sentence meaning or coreference, we introduce the rep, or *replace* operator, which is the reverse of the sub operator, in that the marked location in the first argument is replaced by the second argument. For rep we will annotate the marked location with *p, for placeholder.*

(a) “Someone left a message whom we don’t know”

```
(rep ((Some.d (n+preds person.n *p)) ((past leave.v) (a.d message.n))))
```

(sub whom.rel (we.pro ((pres do.aux-s) not (know.v *h)))))

(b) “Susan said something again that nobody expected”

```
(rep ([Susan] (((past say.v) (Some.d (n+preds thing.n *p))) again.adv-s))
(sub that.rel (nobody.pro ((past expect.v) *h)))))
```

(c) “Some guy was there with red hair”

```
(rep ((Some.d (n+preds guy.n *p)) ((past be.v) there.adv-e))
(with.p (red.a hair.n)))
```

(d) “How frustrated are they with their kids?”

```
((rep (sub (How.adv-a (frustrated.a (adv-a *p))) ((pres be.v) they.pro *h))
(with.p (their.d (plur kid.n)))) ?)
```

(e) “What actually happened that was so entertaining?”

```
((rep ((What.d *p) (actually.adv-s (past happen.v)))
 (that.rel ((past be.v) (so.adv-a entertaining.a)))) ?)
```

(f) “What do you think they did that upset everyone?”

```
((rep (sub (What.d *p) ((pres do.aux-s) you.pro
 (think.v (tht (they.pro ((past do.v) *h)))))
 (that.rel ((pres upset.v) everyone.pro))) ?)
```

Please study examples (d), (e), and (f) to get comfortable with interactions between sub, rep, and question inversions. Please see the Appendix section A.7 for an explicit definition of rep and an example walkthrough of the macro expansion.

**Existential there-sentences.** This phenomenon is quite distinct from the others we have just discussed, so it is pretty easy to distinguish from the other cases. The treatment of existential “there” is superficially similar to “it-clefts” in that we specially interpret “there” and “be”, if present, and restructure the sentence to get the appropriate semantics.

We will always treat there.pro as ‘existential-there’, whereas all other forms of “there” are annotated as an adverb, there.adv-e, or an adjective, there.a. This is based on the observation that “there” generally cannot replace or be replaced by NPs. “I went there” cannot be changed to *“I went school”* or *“I went the store”* (“I went home” is an exception). Similarly, “I go to the park” cannot be changed to *“I go to there”*.

(a) “There is a tavern in the town”

```
(There.pro (((pres be.v) (= (a.d tavern.n))) (adv-e (in.p (the.d town.n)))))
```
(b) “There exist two major variants”
   (There.pro ((pres exist.v) (two.d (major.a (plur variant.n)))))

(c) “There occurred a strange incident”
   (There.pro ((past occur.v) (a.d (strange.a incident.n))))

(d) “Is there a test today?”
   (((pres be.v) there.pro ((a.d test.n) today.adv-e)) ?)

Notice that existential “there” can occur with verbs other than “be” (examples (b) and (c)). Also, it can occur with an inverted question (example (d)). See Appendix A.8 for interpretive details and an examples of the explicit interpretation process.

5.10.8 Yes-no questions

Syntactically, the simplest questions are declarative questions, which only require addition of a question mark:

(a) “Bob has left?”
   (((pres perf) |Bob| leave.v)) ?

(b) “Bob has left, hasn’t he?”
   (((|Bob| ((pres perf) leave.v)) .?)

(c) “Bob hasn’t left yet, has he?”
   (((|Bob| ((pres perf) not.adv-s (leave.v yet.adv-e))) .?)

It’s worth mentioning that despite the superficial similarity of yes-no questions (especially declarative ones) to declarative statements, they are of different semantic types. Roughly speaking, the meaning of a question is taken to be its true answer(s) in each possible world. For example, the question in (a) denotes the fact that Bob has left (if in actuality he has), or that he has not left (if in actuality he has not); similarly in non-actual possible worlds.

You can take the question mark as signalling this distinct semantics.

In the “tag questions”, (b) and (c), we don’t code the tag explicitly, but use ‘.’ as shown, indicating that the speaker/writer presumes truth, but asks anyway. The period only has pragmatic significance – the semantics of ‘.’ is the same as for ‘?’.

More commonly, yes-no questions involve subject-auxiliary inversion:

(e) “Has Bob left?”
   (((pres perf) |Bob| leave.v) ?)

(f) “Is Bob well-liked by his co-workers?”
   (((pres be.v) |Bob| (well-liked.a (by.p-arg (his.d (plur co-worker.n)))))) ?

(g) “Isn’t Bob going to leave?”
   (((pres be.v) not.adv-s |Bob| (going_to.v leave.v)) ?)

(h) “Didn’t she eventually hire Bob?”
   (((past do.aux-s) not.adv-s she.pro eventually.adv-e (hire.v |Bob|)) ?)
(i) “Will he have finished the assignment by that time?”
((((pres will.aux-s) he.pro
((perf (finish.v (the.d assignment.n))) (adv-e (by.p (that.d time.n))))) ?)

Note that “subject-auxiliary inversion” is a somewhat inaccurate term; for example, in (e) and (f) the main copular verb is fronted. In British English have is sometimes fronted: “Have you a pencil?”; and in old or poetic English other main verbs may be fronted: “Hear ye not?” For pragmatic reasons we retain the subject-auxiliary inversion in the ULF, even though post-processing will probably rearrange constituents into declarative-question-like form. For example, the ULF for (f) may be rearranged into

((((pres be.v) not.adv-s |Bob| (going_to.v leave.v)) ?).

We should note that some other subject-verb inversion are seen occasionally, in particular in sentences beginning with an adverbial, and some imperatives:

“Under the tree sat Bob”
“Under the ice have been found new deep-sea creatures”
“Away ran the wolf”
“Merrily did we drop, below the kirk, below the hill, ...” (Coleridge)
“Get thee to a nunnery” (Shakespeare’s Hamlet)
“Take you a course, get you a place, ...” (John Donne)

It appears that the locative inversions in the first three examples involve interchange of the entire intransitive verb phrase, not just the tensed verb, with the subject. Subject-object ambiguities may result if we retain such an inversion in the ULF, so the inversion should probably be undone; whereas the initial adverbial should probably be treated as topicalized. Under these assumptions, the ULF for the second example would be

(sub (adv-e (under.p (the.d ice)))
 ((k (new.a (deep.a sea.n) ( plur creature.n)))
  ((pres pref) (pasv find.v) *h)).

The fourth example also involves topicalization and subject-auxiliary inversion, very much as in a question like “How did we drop?”. In the imperative examples we would likewise retain the surface ordering.

In the rare instance where a modifier or an argument must scope outside of the inverted verb or auxiliary, supply those modifiers and arguments flat following the remaining components of the verb phrase. For example, “Was he happy holding the balloon?” is annotated as

((((past be.v) he.pro happy.a (adv-a (hold.v (the.d balloon.n)))) ?)

In general the mapping rule is roughly as follows:

((V/AUX SUBJ REST EXTRA1 ... EXTRAN) ?)
⇒ ((SUBJ (V/AUX REST) EXTRA1) ... EXTRAN)) ?)

5.10.9 Wh-questions (constituent questions)

The simplest kinds of wh-questions have the same form as declarative sentences, either because the constituent being questioned is the subject, or because the embedded wh-constituent is left in place, rather than being fronted:
(a) “Who arrived?”
   ((Who.pro (past arrive.v)) ?)

(b) “You did what?”
   ((You.pro ((past do.v) what.pro)) ?)

Note that we can also have multiple wh-constituents in a question:

(c) “Which sandwiches were ordered by which guests?”
   (((which.d (plur sandwich.n))
     (past (pasv order.v)) (by.p-arg (which.d (plur guest.n))))))) ?)

But again, the most common forms of wh-questions involve subject-auxiliary inversion, and additionally the wh-constituent is fronted, leaving a gap. So in essence, such sentences consist of a wh-constituent preceding an “inverted sentence” of the same form as a yes-no question (but containing a gap):

(d) “Whom did you invite?”
   ((sub who.pro ((past do.aux-s) you.pro (invite.v *h))) ?)

(e) “Why did you fix it?”
   ((sub Why.adv-s ((past do.aux-s) you.pro (fix.v it.pro *h))) ?)

(f) “With what did you fix it?”
   ((sub (adv-a (with.p what.pro))
     ((past do.aux-s) you.pro (fix.v it.pro *h))) ?)

(g) “On which topic have you decided to focus?”
   ((sub (on.p-arg (which.d topic.n))
     ((pres perf) you.pro (decide.v (to (focus.v *h))))) ?)

(h) “What topic have you decided to focus on?”
   ((sub (what.d topic.n)
     ((pres perf) you.pro (decide.v (to (focus.v (on.p-arg *h))))))) ?)

(i) “How smart is he?”
   ((sub (How.adv-a smart.a) ((pres be.v) he.pro *h)) ?)

(j) “How quickly can you say ‘desserts’ backward?”
   ((sub (adv-a (how.adv-a quick.a))
     ((pres can.aux-v) you.pro (say.v (" (plur dessert.n) ") (adv-a backward.a)
       *h))) ?)

(k) “Which sandwiches did you give to which guests?”
   ((sub (which.d (plur sandwich.n))
     (past do.aux-s) you.pro
     (give.v *h (to.p-arg (which.d (plur guest.n))))))) ?)
As in the case of yes-no questions, there are occasional examples in old and poetic English of main-verb inversions (for main verbs other than be):

“Dear heart, how like you this?” (Sir Thomas Wyatt)
“Why wayle we then?” (Edmund Spenser)
“Why brook’st thou, ignorant horse, subjection?” (John Donne)
“Why bows the side-box from its inmost rows?” (Alexander Pope)

We would still form ULFs as in the case of auxiliaries, i.e., the embedded inverted sentential ULF starts with a tensed verb, followed immediately by the subject noun phrase, followed by any verb complements or adjuncts.

5.10.10 Lexical and Prepositional Wh-questions (.pq)

For preposition wh-questions that are lexical, we use the .pq extension. This includes when.pq, where.pq, and how.pq, which roughly map to (adv-e (at-time.p which.pro)), (adv-e (at-loc.p which.pro)), and (adv-a (by-means-of.p which.pro)).

(a) “Where did you go?”
   \[
   \text{(sub Where.pq ((past do.aux-s) you.pro (go.v *h))) ?}
   \]

(b) “When will you arrive?”
   \[
   \text{(sub When.pq ((pres will.aux-s) you.pro (arrive.v *h))) ?}
   \]

(c) “How did you see me?”
   \[
   \text{(sub How.pq ((past do.aux-s) you.pro ((see.v me.pro) *h))) ?}
   \]

5.10.11 Reified questions

Recall that declarative sentences can be type-shifted to become individuals (and thus arguments of predicates) using reification operator operator that (and this very sentence is an example, containing a reified sentence as object argument of recall). Similarly yes-no questions and wh-questions can be reified, using operators whether and ans-to respectively:

(a) “I don’t know whether/if it will rain”
   \[
   \text{(I.pro ((pres do.aux-s) not.adv-s}
   \text{(know.v (whether (it.pro ((pres will.aux-s) rain.v))))))}
   \]

(b) “I know what you did last summer”
   \[
   \text{(I.pro ((pres know.v)
   \text{(ans-to (sub what.pro}
   \text{(you.pro}
   \text{(past do.v) *h
   \text{(adv-e ({during}.p ({the}.d (last.a summer.n))))))))))))}
   \]

Note that if would be interpreted as whether in (a) – its use for question reification is quite different from its use as a conditional (subordinating) conjunction if.ps, as in “I’ll be surprised if it rains”.

35
5.11 Names

Names must distinguish between true names and predicate names. True names are those that can be used without a preceding determiner, while predicate names requires a preceding determiner. Notice that we need the Delaware River for (b) to be grammatical.

(a) Mary is beautiful [good!]
(b) Delaware River is beautiful [bad!]

True names are annotated with surrounding pipes |_|. Spaces and capitalization are preserved in the pipes. For readers familiar with Lisp, this corresponds to Lisp’s escape symbols. Below are some examples of true name annotation:

- Mary → |_Mary|
- John → |_John|
- Three Mile Island → |_Three Mile Island|
- The Hague → |_The Hague|
- New York → |_New York|

Predicate names are annotated with surrounding pipes and followed by the noun suffix |_|.n. Below are some examples of this annotation:

- Delaware River → |_Delaware River|.n
- Eiffel Tower → |_Eiffel Tower|.n

The semantic information from the name would be extracted with a separate module, since it requires extensive interaction with the surface form. For example, “Three Mile Island” being an island. For cases such as “his name is John” or “love is a four-letter word” where the string is referred to as the word itself rather than what it means, the quotes are elided so we annotate them as we would object quotes (see Section 5.14.1).

(((his.d name.n) ((pres be.v) (= (" |_John| "))))
(((" (k love.n) ") ((pres be.v) ((four-.a letter.n) word.n))))

5.11.1 Numbers as Names

There are cases where numbers are used as labels rather than to denote the number itself, e.g. the 1990s means the years labeled by the number 1990. So we use pipes to mark numbers as names separate from numbers themselves.

(a) The late 1990s
   (the.d (late.a (|1990| (plur {year}.n))))
(b) His late 20s
   (his.d (late.a (|20| (plur {year}.n))))
(c) 1990 was a great year
   (|1990| ((past be.v) (= (a.d (great.a year.n))))))
Possessives are semantically handled with the binary predicate \textit{poss-by}. See basic examples below and further discussion following:

(a) “The kindergarten’s boisterous children”
\[
\text{(((the.d kindergarten.n) 's) (boisterous.a (plur child.n)))}
\]
\[
\text{(the.d ((poss-by (the.d kindergarten.n)) (boisterous.a (plur child.n))))}
\]

(b) “My dogs are happy”
\[
\text{((My.d (plur dog.n)) ((pres be.v) happy.a))}
\]
\[
\text{(((the.d ((poss-by Me.pro) (plur dog.n))) ((pres be.v) happy.a)))}
\]

(c) “The dogs are mine”
\[
\text{((The.d (plur dog.n)) ((pres be.v) mine.a))}
\]
\[
\text{((The.d (plur dog.n)) ((pres be.v) (poss-by me.pro))))}
\]

(d) “That is John’s dog”
\[
\text{(That.pro ((pres be.v) (= ((|John| 's) dog.n))))}
\]
\[
\text{(That.pro ((pres be.v) (= (the.d ((poss-by |John|) (child-of.n *s))))))}
\]

(a) is the bare possessive phrase and (b) uses possessive phrase as an argument. (c) shows a usage where poss-by is separated from the rest of the phrase. (d) shows a predicative use of the possessive where we wrap the possessive NP with (= ..) to turn it into a predicate.

5.12.1 Relational Predicates in Possession

Relational predicates (e.g. sister of, child of, etc.) are handled by creating relational predicates P-of. This naming convention was chosen because the postnominal genitive (e.g. “the father of John”) strongly prefers a relational interpretation. *s and *ref are anaphoric variables used to mark the participant of the relation: *s for internal relations where the possessive represents a relation involving the possessor, and *ref for external relations where the noun is relational to some external entity. Below are examples of annotations for these cases.

Possessives with Internal Relations

(e) “John’s boisterous children”
\[
\text{(((|John| 's) (boisterous.a (plur (child-of.n *s))))}
\]
\[
\text{(the.d ((poss-by |John|) (boisterous.a (plur (child-of.n *s)))))}
\]

*The internal relations seem to parallel the linguistic notion of inalienable possession, i.e., there is necessarily a possessor, though English does not grammatically mark this variant of possession as some languages do.\footnote{\textit{Inalienable possession}}

(d) 20 years
\[
(2\text{0 (plur year.n))}
\]

\[\text{[a}, \text{[b}, \text{and [c] show examples of the number used as a label. See the difference against [d] where “20 years” really refers to a particular multiplicity of years, rather than say, a label for certain years in relation to a particular person’s age.}\]
(f) “My children are happy”

```
(My.d (plur (child-of.n *s))) ((pres be.v) happy.a))
((the.d ((poss-by Me.pro) (plur (child-of.n *s)))) ((pres be.v) happy.a))
```

(g) “The children are mine”

```
(The.d (plur (child-of.n *s))) ((pres be.v) mine.a))
((The.d (plur (child-of.n *s))) ((pres be.v) (poss-by me.pro)))
```

(h) “That is John’s child”

```
(That.pro ((pres be.v) (= ((|John| 's) (child-of.n *s))))))
(That.pro ((pres be.v) (= (the.d ((poss-by |John|) (child-of.n *s))))))
```

(i) “The boisterous children of John”

```
The.d (boisterous.a (plur (child-of.n |John|)))
```

(e-h) show examples of internal relations in a possessive phrase and correspond respectively to (a-d) basic cases. Notice that the child-of.n relation uses the *s anaphoric variable in this case, but not in (a). This allows unambiguous location of the argument from the rest of the LF for (e). In (a) “the kindergarten” does not partake in the ‘child-of’ relation. (i) shows a postnominal genitive, aka of-possession, which strongly correlates with a relational predicate interpretation (e.g. “the dog of John” and “the children of the kindergarten” are not acceptable to most speakers or do not preserve the ‘s’ interpretation).

**Possessives with External Relations**

(j) “My side is winning”

```
(My.d (side-of.n *ref)) ((pres prog) win.v))
((the.det ((poss-by Me.pro) (side-of.n *ref))) ((pres prog) win.v))
```

(k) “John’s mothers keep wandering away”

```
((|John| 's) (plur (mother-of.n *ref)))
((pres keep.v) (ka (wander.v away.adv-a))))
((the.d ((poss-by |John|) (plur (mother-of.n *ref))))
((pres keep.v) (ka (wander.v away.adv-a))))
```

(l) “This is her side”

```
(This.pro ((pres be.v) (= (her.d (side-of.n *ref))))))
(This.pro ((pres be.v) (= (the.d ((poss-by she.pro) (side-of.n *ref))))))
```

(j) shows an example where the sentence context pushes the predicate meaning away from the internal relation reading. (k) and (l) are ambiguous between an internal and external reading. ‘mothers’ in (k) could refer to John’s mother and step-mother (internal), but just as likely a group of mothers he’s in charge of guiding (external). Similarly, ‘side’ could refer to ‘side of her’, which would be an internal relation reading, but just as likely her side of some partitioned area, or opposing players in a game, etc.

The lines between relational and non-relational nouns, and internally relational and externally relational possession are fuzzy – dependent on both grammatical signals and semantic concepts. These criteria are designed to be relatively simple to follow and to be
conservative in our designation of relational possession.

**Criteria for Relational Predicates**

1. The noun must have two participants to be satisfied, or even possible to interpret. For example, a father without a child is not a father, nor can a side exist without being the side of something. Relational nouns often have sortal alternatives denoting the same entity without the relation (father – man, birthday – day), though this is not always true, e.g. side, weight, pinnacle, etc. These exceptions tend to be functional nouns, which describe an entity’s intrinsic property as opposed to a relation between two distinct entities. Under this definition body parts are not relational since they can exist independently of a person without losing the noun meaning (e.g. a hand grown in a test tube would still be a hand).

2. The noun can be used in post-nominal genitive construction (e.g. father of John) and preserve the original relation meaning. **Beware**, the post-nominal genitive is not the same as the double genitive (father of John ≠ father of John’s). Only the post-nominal genitive strongly prefers relational nouns (e.g. “This is a book of Bob’s” is okay, but not *“This is a book of Bob”).

**Criterion for Internally Relational Possession**

1. Satisfies the criteria for relational predicates in possessives.

2. The interpretation where the possessor participates in the relation is heavily favored, in the context of the given sentence. For example, in the sentence “This is her child” (without further context), the interpretation “child-of her(s)”, in the offspring (or legal parent) sense, is heavily favored. So in this case you would use \((\text{child-of.n } *s)\), even though other interpretations are possible in certain contexts (e.g., as “the child the nanny is caring for”). By contrast, “This is her side” (without further context) does not heavily favor a reading as “side of her(s)”, i.e., a side of her body; it could be her side of some partitioned area, or opposing players in a game, or of a debatable issue, etc., so you would use \((\text{side-of.n } *\text{ref})\). On the other hand, if the sentence was “She was reclining on her side”, the interpretation “side of her(s)” in the bodily sense is heavily favored, so you would use \((\text{side-of.n } *s)\) in this case.

If the criterion for internally related possession is not satisfied, but the criteria for relational predicates in possessives is, then it is assumed to be an externally related possession and annotated with \(*\text{ref}\).

For reference, here are two short lists of words whose most common senses are relational and not relational (by criterion 1), respectively.

**Commonly Relational**: mother, father, daughter, son, uncle, (other kinship terms), birthday, pet, enemy, sake, side, top, bottom, edge, pinnacle, (other views or areas of objects), temperature, weight, (other functional properties)

**Commonly Not Relational**: hand, hair, leg, (other body parts), dog, table, wheel, door, etc.

**5.12.2 Relational Nouns Outside of Possessives**

Relational nouns can be used outside of possessive contexts, and we still want to annotate them as relational. The Criteria for Relational Predicates described for possessives holds outside of possessives as well. Below are a few clarifying examples:
“We reached the pinnacle”
(We.pro ((past reach.v) (the.d (pinnacle-of.n *ref))))

“I started at the foot of the mountain”
((I.pro (past start.v)) (adv-e (at.p (the.d (foot-of.n (the.d mountain.n))))))

“Legs ache when they are strained”
(((k (plur Leg.n)) (pres ache.v)) (adv-e (when.ps (they.pro (pres (pasv strain.v))))))

“I was surprised by the weight”
(I.pro (((past be.v) surprised.a) (by.p-arg (the.d (weight-of.n *ref)))))

“I met some mothers”
(I.pro ((past meet.v) (some.d (plur (mother-of.n *ref)))))

“I met some sisters”
(I.pro ((past meet.v) (some.d (plur sister.n))))

The difference between examples (q) and (r) is likely most surprising. This arises from the fact that “mother” does not have an alternate, non-relational sense that can be used in the context whereas “sister” may mean a nun, which is not relational.

5.12.3 Role Nouns and Other Context-Dependent Relational Nouns
There are a number of nouns that have both a relational sense and a non-relational sense, so the criteria must be checked every time to verify that they are satisfied. An example below:

“This is my residence” – (my.d (residence-of *s)), relational
“This is a nice residence” – (nice.a residence.n), not (necessarily) relational

A common and tricky class of these nouns is role nouns, e.g. tutor, pilot, bouncer, mascot, pet, etc. These job-like terms are non-relational in general use, rather denoting an agent that habitually and/or professionally holds a particular relation with various entities. These are annotated with simple predicates, except where it is explicitly relational – “She’s my tutor”. Some examples:

“I saw a mascot today” – (a.d mascot.n)
“I saw my school’s mascot today” – ((my.d school.n) (mascot-of *s))

Johnny wants to become a captain” – (a.d captain.n)
“I met the captain of the USS Alabama” – (captain-of.n (the.d |USS Alabama|.n))

5.12.4 Verbal Possession
Verbal possession (e.g. “John has a dog”) is annotated with have.v. The criteria for annotating relative predicates and internal/external variants are the same here. Examples:

“John has a dog”
(|John| ((pres have.v) (a.d dog.n)))
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Personal Pronoun</th>
<th>Possessive Determiner</th>
<th>Possessive Pronoun</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>my</td>
<td>mine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>you</td>
<td>your</td>
<td>yours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>he</td>
<td>his</td>
<td>his</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>she</td>
<td>her</td>
<td>hers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>it</td>
<td>its</td>
<td>its</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>we</td>
<td>our</td>
<td>ours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>they</td>
<td>their</td>
<td>theirs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>one</td>
<td>one's</td>
<td>one's</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NP (John)</td>
<td>NP's (John's)</td>
<td>NP's (John's)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1: Listing of personal pronouns with corresponding possessive determiners and possessive pronouns.

(w) “Mary has an assistant”

((Mary) ((pres have.v) (an.d (assistant-of.n *s))))

(x) “Bambi’s father had antlers”

(((the.d ((poss-by Bambi) (father-of.n *s))) ((past have.v) (plur antler.n))))

(y) “I have the poster ready for the conference”

(I.pro (((pres have.v) (the.d poster.n))

(ready.a (adv-a (for.p (the.d conference.n))))))

(z) “She had her audience in stitches”

(She.pro (((past have.v)

(the.d ((poss-by she.pro) (audience-of.n *s))))

in_stitches.a))

Notice that in examples (y) and (z) have.v takes two complements, one NP and one monadic predicate. Please keep in mind that “have” can indicate the perfect aspect (see Section 5.9).

5.12.5 Possessive Determiners and Pronouns

Some examples have already shown uses of possessive determiners. These have special interpretations that rely on the corresponding pronoun. For example, my.d is rewritten as (i.pro ’s) (which itself is a macro – see Appendix A.10 for details). Possessive pronouns have a similar mapping. For reference, here is a table of possessive determiners and pronouns in relation to the basic pronouns.

5.13 Comparatives, superlatives, etc.

Comparatives involve explicit or implicit comparison of measures on some scale, as in “Pi is greater than 3”, or “Al is older than Bill”. To treat all such examples systematically, we first need to digress into measures.

[The examples in the comparatives (sub)sections still need indenting repaired, and some uncertainties resolved.]
5.13.1 Measures

We often measure entities quantitatively in terms of units of some sort, such as miles, grams, minutes, light years, miles per hour, city blocks, etc. English and other languages specify quantities using the same kinds of phrases as are used to describe entities of other sorts. For example, *twenty nautical miles* has the same structure as *twenty naval vessels*, and so we would expect the ULF forms to be similar:

\[
\begin{align*}
&\text{(twenty.a \ (nautical.a \ (plur \ mile.n)))}, \\
&\text{(twenty.a \ (naval.a \ (plur \ vessel.n)))},
\end{align*}
\]

(before formation of kind-level or quantified terms from these nominal predicates).

What is unusual about such quantities, however, is their identity conditions. For example, while it’s hard to find an alternative specification equivalent to *three naval vessels*, we could specify a distance of twenty nautical miles equivalently as *twenty-three miles, thirty-seven kilometers*, etc. It appears that all these expressions map to some common abstract length or distance entity. Since such distance entities are produced by combining a number with a unit of length, theorists often regard units of measurement as functions on numbers, e.g., \((\text{mi} \ 23)\) or \((\text{km} \ 37)\), where these have abstract lengths/distances as values (in this case, approximately the same). However, we do not switch to such representations here, in part because staying closer to the surface structure should make machine learning easier, and in part because the functional view requires invention of length “functions” used in informal and technical language such as paces, horse-lengths, hair-widths, football-fields, Planck-lengths, Earth-radii, astronomical-units, etc. By retaining the compositional structure of such units, we may also be able to infer the approximate length-amounts they refer to, if we know for instance what the standard length of a football field is, or what the Earth’s radius is. Similar comments apply to measures for other quantities, such as duration, weight, volume, speed, acceleration, temperature, etc.

So when we form terms from predicates like \((\text{twenty.a \ (nautical.a \ (plur \ mile.n))})\), we will do so by applying the kind-forming operator \(k\); so

\[(k \ (\text{twenty.a \ (nautical.a \ (plur \ mile.n))})\)

is regarded as a kind whose realizations are abstract distances along specific paths, as in

“In the last twenty nautical miles of its journey, the ship rounded the Cape of Good Hope.”

Note that this would not be easy to express using functions for units.

5.13.2 Comparing quantities

We annotate comparatives using the special relations more-than and less-than, which relate two quantities. (You can think of them as special adjectival predicates, of the same general semantic type as near.a, fond-of.a, divisible-by.a, etc.) The simplest cases are ones where the quantities are directly specified in English; e.g.,

(a) “One mile is more than one kilometer”

\[((k \ (\text{one.a \ mile.n})) \ (\text{pres \ be.v}) \ (\text{more-than} \ (k \ (\text{one.a \ kilometer.n}))))\]

(b) “The width of the Lower Mississippi is more than a mile”

\[((\text{the} \ (\text{width-of.f} \ (\text{the} \ [\text{Lower Mississippi}.n]))) \ (\text{pres \ be.v}) \ (\text{more-than} \ (k \ (\text{one.a \ mile.n}))))\]

Note: Though width is a noun, we can write width-of.f instead of width-of.n, to indicate that this relation is necessarily single-valued, i.e., a function (when measured
at a particular cross-section of an object); contrast this with parent-of.n (there are typically two), and even mother-of.n, where under special circumstances, such as birth mother and adoptive mother, there may be more than one. But measure nouns such as size, length, weight, square (of), as well as “topological” part-selectors such as surface (of), interior (of), etc., can typically be treated as functions. Of course mathematical functions such as sine, ratio, derivative, etc., can also be coded with .f (but beware: e.g., the square root of 1 can be 1 or -1 when we’re considering the real numbers; when in doubt, use .n.)

(c) “The Lower Mississippi is more than one mile wide” (cf., “very wide”, i.e., more than one mile, like very, functions as an adverbial)

```
((the |Lower Mississippi| .n) ((pres be.v)
   ((adv-a (more-than (k (one.a mile.n)))) wide.a)))
```

We can modify this relation (once it’s applied to the second element in the comparison), as in

(d) “One mile is quite a bit more than one kilometer”

```
(k (one.a mile.n)) ((pres be.v)
   ((adv-a (quite.adv-a a_bit.a))
    (more-than (k (one.a kilometer.n))))))
```

(e) “One mile is 600 meters more than a kilometer”

```
(k (one.a mile.n)) (pres be.v)
   ((adv-a ((num 600) (plur meter.n)))
    (more-than (k (one.a kilometer.n))))
```

(f) “One mile is more than the length of 5 city blocks.”

```
(k (one.a mile.n)) ((pres be.v)
   (more-than
    (the.d (length-of.f
     (k (five.a ((nn city.n) (plur block.n)))))
     (initially.adv-e (much.adv-a (less-than (k (one.a micron.n)))))))))
```

(g) “The size of the cosmos was initially much less than one micron”

```
((the.d (size-of.f (the |cosmos| .n))) ((past be.v)
   initially.adv-e (much.adv-a (less-than (k (one.a micron.n))))))
```

Note that the representations for more than are similar to what we would use for equivalent phrasings such as exceeds or is in excess of. Also more modifying a noun (i.e., as adjective or quantifying determiner) often means a greater {amount / number} of, as in more money, while applied to an adjective it means to a greater degree. However, more in the former sense of a greater {amount / number} of can be recast technically in terms of degrees as to-a-greater-degree much (with much regarded as an adjective – it can also function as an adverb, as in much further, much to my surprise, and as a quantifying determiner, as in Much rain fell). So in, principle all comparisons can be framed in terms of degrees. [There’s more to be said about much, e.g., (adv-a (very.adv-a much.a)), but perhaps not here...]

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5.13.3 More complex comparatives

The quantities being compared were explicit in all the above examples. But when the comparative phrase (headed by an -er word, like “more” or “faster”) modifies another phrase and/or contains a sentential complement (as in “He walks faster than I do / I jog”), then either or both quantities being compared become implicit – and we leave them that way in ULF, while “marking” the locations where the quantities implicitly occur with special adverbs ‘degree1’ and ‘degree2’ (for comparands 1 and 2 respectively). So an apparent sentence of form [...degree1...] will actually serve as a term of type the degree d such that [...(to-degree d)...]. Furthermore, macros more-x-than and less-x-than are introduced to handle these constructs while preserving word order. (see more formal expansions below):

(a) “John jogged further than five miles”

```
(|John| (past jog.v)
  (more-x-than (adv-e (degree1 far.a))
   (k (five.a (plur mile.n))))))
```

↓ expanding more-x-than macro

```
(((|John| (past jog.v) (adv-e (degree1 far.a))))
 more-than
 (k (five.a (plur mile.n))))
```

(for “jogged more than five miles” we would use (adv-e (degree1 much.a)) instead of (adv-e (degree1 far.a)).) So this says that the degree d1 such that John jogged far to-degree d1, is more than five miles. Postprocessing will make the quantities compared explicit.

(...degree1...) expands to

```
(the.d (:l d1 (...(to-degree d1)...))), and similarly
```

(...degree2...) expands to

```
(the.d (:l d2 (...(to-degree d2)...) ))
```

If we amplify further to much further in (g), then in the ULF we need to bracket more-x-than with its second argument before applying the adverb:

```
((|John| (past jog.v)
  ((much.adv-a more-x-than) (adv-e (degree1 far.a))
   (k (five.a (plur mile.n))))))
```

↓ more-x-than expansion with modifier.

```
((|John| (past jog.v) (adv-e (degree1 far.a)))
 (much.adv-a (more-than (k (five.a (plur mile))))))
```

(b) “This pizza is more (food) than I can eat”

```
((This.d pizza.n) (pres be.v)
 (more-x-than ((degree1 (much).a) food.n)
  (I.pro ((pres can.aux) (eat.v {(k ((degree2 much.a) food.n))})))))
```

↓

```
((This.d pizza.n) (pres be.v) ((degree1 much.a) food.n))
```

(or, if food is missing, ((degree1 much.a) stuff.n))
(c) “More food than I could eat was on the plate”

\[
\text{(more-x-than (k ((degree1 (much).a) food.n))}
\]

\[
\text{(I.pro ((past can.aux-v) (eat.v {(k ((degree2 much.a) food.n))}))))}
\]

\[
\text{(past be.v) (on.p (the.d plate.n)))}
\]

\[
\downarrow
\]

\[
\text{{{(k ((degree1 {much}.a) food.n)) (past be.v) (on.p (the.d plate.n))}}}
\]

more-than

\[
\text{((k ((degree2 much.a) food.n)))}
\]

(d) “The size of the cosmos is more than I can fathom”

\[
\text{(the (size-of.f (the |cosmos|.n))) more-than}
\]

\[
\text{(i.pro ((pres can.aux-v) (fathom.v (a-gen.d ((degree2big.a) (size-of.f (the |cosmos|.n)))))))}
\]

\[
\text{very tentative proposal by LKS}
\]

Here we need to recognize that there is a gap at the end of the sentence, for the thing
being fathomed—which is a certain size of cosmos, i.e., a size that is big to a certain
degree. We can assume axiomatically that the degree to which a size is big equals that
size; so when 'degree2' is expanded to make 'd2' explicit, d2 becomes equated to the
(possible) size of the cosmos.

(e) “John is taller than Bill”

\[
\text{([John] (pres be.v) (degree1 tall.a))}
\]

more-than

\[
\text{([Bill] (pres be.v) (degree2 tall.a)))}
\]

(f) “Mary is smarter than anyone (else)”

\[
\text{([Mary] (pres be.v) (degree1 smart.a))}
\]

more-than

\[
\text{((any.d (n+pred person.n (distinct-from.a |Mary|))) (pres be.v) (degree2 smart.a)))}
\]

In an upward-entailing context, any.d is equivalent to every.d, except that it prefers
to take narrow scope.

(g) “The bed is wider than the door is high”

\[
\text{((the (bed.n) (pres be.v) (degree1 wide.a))}
\]

more-than

\[
\text{((the (door.n) (pres be.v) (degree2 high.a)))}
\]

(h) “The movie was more silly than scary”

\[
\text{((the (movie.n) (past be.v) (degree1 silly.a)) more-than}
\]

\[
\text{((the (movie.n) (past be.v) (degree2 scary.a)))}
\]

(i) “A man taller than Bill showed up”

\[
\text{((a.d (n+pred man.n (that.rel ((*h (degree1 tall.a)) more-than (Bill (degree2 tall.a))))) (past show-up.v))}
\]
i.e., “A man such that the degree to which he is tall is more than the degree to which Bill is tall showed up”. Seems complicated; but this would also extend to “A bed wider than the entrance is high was delivered”.

(j) “John sneezed more than Mary coughed”

\[
(\text{John} \ (\text{past sneeze.v}) \ (\text{adv-a} \ (\text{degree1} \ \text{much.a}))) \\
\text{more-than} \\
(\text{Mary} \ (\text{past cough.v}) \ (\text{adv-a} \ (\text{degree2} \ \text{much.a}))))
\]

(k) “The pizza was bigger than I expected (it to be)”

\[
(\text{(the.d pizza.n) (past be.v) (degree1 big.a)}) \\
\text{more-than} \\
(\text{(I.pro (past expect.v) ((the.d pizza.n) be.v (degree2 big.a))))}
\]

The assumption about expect here is that it takes a single complement of form (NP VP[to-inf]), rather than an NP object and a separate infinitive complement, because otherwise we can’t account for the scope ambiguity of, e.g., someone in “John expects someone to give him a ride”. If “someone to give him a ride” sentential, we can restrict the scope of someone to that sentence, so that it stays within the scope of expects.

(l) “John baked fewer cookies than Mary wanted to eat”

\[
(\text{(John} \ (\text{past bake.v}) \ ((\text{nquan (degree1 many.a)}) (\text{plur cookie.n}))))) \\
\text{less-than} \\
(\text{(Mary} \ (\text{past want.v}) \\
\text{(to eat.v ((nquan (degree2 many.a)) (plur cookie.n))))})
\]

(m) “For some reason I feel more alive at night”

\[
(\text{(adv-s (for.p (some.d reason.n)) \\
\text{(i.pro ((pres feel.v) (degree1 alive.a) (adv-e (at.p (k night.n)))))}) \\
\text{more-than} \\
\text{(i.pro ((pres feel.v) (degree2 alive.a) \\
\text{(adv-e (at.p (k {ref1}.n)))))))
\]

i.e., we leave open the problem of filling in a reference predicate. This is a reasonable strategy, because in general the reference predicate, if omitted, is context-dependent. For example, if the preceding sentence is “I’m not a morning person”, then the reference predicate seems to be “morning time”.

So filling in {ref1}.n becomes a postprocessing problem, just like anaphora (pronoun) reference determination. Perhaps by default we contrast night-time with day-time (an antonymic relation), and this could be coded as

\[
(\text{adv-e (at.p (k (n+pred time.n (\l t (not (t night-time.n)))))))}
\]

This unfortunately still requires lambda abstraction (despite the use of ‘n+pred’, which often avoids lambdas), so we might allow ourselves a predicate modifier ‘non-’, so that we can express “non-night-time”:

\[
(\text{adv-e (at.p (k (n+pred time.n (non- night-time.n))))})
\]

We use a hyphen at the end of the ‘non’ because this normally occurs as a prefix, e.g., in non-scientist, non-expert, etc.
Superlatives require the identification of a quality that is maximized by a given statement over a set of statements. In the simplest examples, the quality is an adjective (e.g. tall.a), the set of statements is characterized by a noun (e.g. mammal.n), and the unique statement is characterized by an individual (e.g. giraffe.n). These cases can be delineated with a straightforward macro, most-n, that maps the adjective and the noun to a lambda expression describing the individual that maximizes over the set. The exact mapping is given at the end of the section.

However, there are cases where the set of statements is characterized by an adverb (“Cheetahs run fastest in a straight line”) or by the full sentence (“Today I ran the fastest I have ever”), which require their own macros for proper handling. All the macros work similarly at a superficial level – they specify the adjective maximized and the characterization of the comparison set of sentences. The macro identifies the corresponding maximizing statement from the context to map to the explicit semantic representation. The macros are most-* where * is replaced by the characterizing type (e.g. n, adv, s, etc.). See below for examples:

(a) 2 is the smallest prime

\[
(2 \text{ ((pres be.v) (= (the.d (most-n small.a prime.n)))))}
\]

(b) 7 is the largest prime number less than 10

\[
(7 \text{ ((pres be.v) (= (the.d (most-n large.a (n+preds (prime.a number.n) (less-than 10))))))})
\]

(c) The swift is the fastest flyer

\[
((\text{The-gen.d swift.n}) \text{ ((pres be.v) (= (the.d (most-n fast.a flyer.n)))))}
\]

(d) Cheetahs run the fastest (among animal species)

\[
((k \text{ (plur Cheetah.n)}) \text{ ((pres run.v) (adv-a (most-n fast.a (ref).n)))))
\]

\[
\text{(most-n fast.a (animal.a (plur species.n)))}
\]
(e) The toddler has the cutest smile

\[
\text{The} \cdot \text{d \ toddler} \cdot \text{n} \ \text{(pres have} \cdot \text{v}) \ \text{(the} \cdot \text{d \ most-n cute} \cdot \text{a \ (smile-of} \cdot \text{n \ *)}}
\]

(f) The blue whale is the largest mammal

\[
\text{The} \cdot \text{gen-d \ blue\_whale} \cdot \text{n} \ \text{(pres be} \cdot \text{v}) \ \text{(the} \cdot \text{d \ most-n large} \cdot \text{a \ mammal} \cdot \text{n})
\]

(g) The largest mammal weighs about 200 tons

\[
\text{The} \cdot \text{d \ (most-n \ large} \cdot \text{a \ mammal} \cdot \text{n}) \ \text{(pres weigh} \cdot \text{v}) \ \text{(k \ (about} \cdot \text{adv-a \ 200} \cdot \text{a \ (plur ton} \cdot \text{n}))}
\]

(h) The human foot is narrowest at the heel

\[
\text{The} \cdot \text{gen-d \ (human} \cdot \text{n \ foot} \cdot \text{n}) \ \text{(pres be} \cdot \text{v}) \ \text{(most-pc \ narrow} \cdot \text{a \ (adv-e \ (at-p \ (the} \cdot \text{d \ {ref} \cdot \text{n}))))} \ \text{(most-max \ (adv-e \ (at-p \ (the} \cdot \text{d \ heel} \cdot \text{n}))}
\]

(i) First Class mail usually arrives the fastest

\[
\text{(most-max \ (k \ (First\_Class} \cdot \text{a \ mail} \cdot \text{n))) \ usually.adv-s \ ((pres \ arrive} \cdot \text{v}) \ \text{(adv-a \ (most-pc \ fast} \cdot \text{a \ (ref} \cdot \text{n}))}
\]

(j) Today, I ran the fastest I had ever

\[
\text{(most-max \ (Today.adv-e \ (I.pro ((past run} \cdot \text{v}) \ \text{(most-pc \ fast} \cdot \text{a \ (I.pro ((past perf} \ \text{(run} \cdot \text{v \ (adv-a \ (fast} \cdot \text{a)) \ ever.adv-e)))))) (by.p-diff \ (k \ ((several.a \ hundred.a) \ feet} \cdot \text{n}))}
\]

(k) The Burj Khalifa in Dubai is the tallest building by several hundred feet

\[
\text{(most-max \ (np+preds \ (The.d \ |Burj\ Khalifa|.n) \ \text{(in} \cdot \text{p} \ |Dubai|))) \ \text{(pres be} \cdot \text{v}) \ \text{(=} \ \text{(the} \cdot \text{d \ (most-pc \ tall} \cdot \text{a \ building} \cdot \text{n}))) \ \text{(by.p-diff \ (k \ ((several.a \ hundred.a) \ feet} \cdot \text{n})))}
\]

(l) I hit the table hardest of them all

\[
\text{(i.pro (((past \ hit} \cdot \text{v}) \ \text{(most-max \ (the} \cdot \text{d \ table} \cdot \text{n))) \ \text{(adv-a \ (most-pred \ hard} \cdot \text{a)) \ (adv-a \ (most-class \ (of} \cdot \text{p \ them.pro))))}
\]

(m) I hit the table hardest of us all

\[
\text{(most-max \ i.pro) (((past \ hit} \cdot \text{v}) \ \text{(the} \cdot \text{d \ table} \cdot \text{n))) \ \text{(adv-a \ (most-pred \ hard} \cdot \text{a)) \ \text{(adv-a \ (most-class \ (of} \cdot \text{p \ us.pro))})}
\]

(n) Cheetahs run fastest in a straight line

\[
\text{[TODO(GK): need to update so that most-class is different for noun-ind vs. pred-pred]}
\]

Notice in (i) that usually.adv-s will need to be lifted above the full comparison whereas in (j) Today.adv-e will stay at sentence level for the correct interpretation. That is for (i) it is usually the case the First Class mail arrives faster than any other mail, while for (j), the run from today was faster than all other runs. Now if we replace usually.adv-s with a {.adv-e}, say Today.adv-e, we get the interpretation that the first class mail arrives today faster than any other mail arrives today.

**Definitions of Macros**

(most-n A.a N.n) =>

\[
\text{:l x \ (x N.n) \ and}
\]

\[
\text{(forall \ y}
\]

\[
\text{(y N.n) \ and \ (not \ (y = x))}
\]

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\[\rightarrow ((x \text{ (degree1 A.a)}) \text{ more-than } (y \text{ (degree2 A.a)}))\]

\[S[(\text{most-pc A.a Pc})/(\text{most-max Pm})] \Rightarrow\]
\[S[(\text{most-pc A.a Pc}) \leftarrow (\text{degree1 A.a}); (\text{most-max Pm}) \leftarrow \text{Pm}] \ast\ast e1\]

5.13.5 Excessives

(a) The temperature is too hot for comfort by 20 degrees
\[(\text{The.d temperature.n}) \text{ ((pres be.v)} (\text{hot.a}) \text{ by 20 degrees})\]

5.14 Punctuation

We only mark punctuation as needed to capture semantic content that is not represented elsewhere in the ULF. For example, periods marking the end of the sentence and commas marking subordinate clauses are ignored since the bracketing captures their semantic content. We have two sentence-level operators, ! for imperatives and ? for questions, which correspond, at least in part, to their surface-form meanings. Here are some examples.

(a) “She is happy.”
\[(\text{She.pro} \text{ ((pres be.v)} \text{ happy.a})\)

(b) “She is happy?”
\[(\text{She.pro} \text{ ((pres be.v)} \text{ happy.a}) ?)\]

(c) “Go home!”
\[(\text{((you).pro} \text{ ((pres go.v)} \text{ (k home.n)))} !)\]

(d) “John, go home!” (This imperative includes a vocative term – see Sec. 5.18)
\[(\text{((voc |John|) (\text{you}.pro} \text{ ((pres go.v)} \text{ (k home.n)))} !)\]

(e) “I’m going home!”
\[(\text{I.pro} \text{ ((pres prog go.v)} \text{ (k home.n)))}\]

(f) “You’re falling asleep, go to bed(!”
\[(\text{((You.pro} \text{ (pres (prog fall_asleep.v)))} \text{ (so).cc}\]
\[(\text{((you).pro} \text{ ((pres go.v)} \text{ (to.p-arg (k bed.n)))} !))\]

Notice all the commas and periods were dropped in these examples. Furthermore, the exclamation mark in (e) is dropped since the exclamation mark is not acting as an imperative. Similarly, the exclamation mark in (f) is optional, hence the parentheses, and both versions have the same annotation with the ! imperative marking.

Also, in example (c), we introduce an implicit argument of the listener with {you}.pro. However, in example (d), we use the explicit argument that exists in the sentence. In (f) notice that the imperative marker only operates on the inner sentence. Also there is an convert conjunction {so}.cc. It’s easy to see that the sentence has the same meaning with or without “so”.
5.14.1 Quotes

Quotes can be categorized into two types, *mentioned quotes* and *integrated quotes*, according to the interaction between the content of the quote and the type system.

1. mentioned quotes

Mentioned quotes are characterized by being able to replace it with an arbitrary piece of text and retain the superficial grammaticality of the sentence. For example, consider the sentence

"Love is a four-letter word."

We can replace “Love” with “Until tomorrow” a retain grammaticality, though the sentence would be patently false (“Until tomorrow” as more than four letters and isn’t even a word).

We annotate mentioned quotes by interpreting the content and wrapping it in (\" \").

So the example above would be annotated:

((\" (k Love.n) \") ((pres be.v) (= (a.d ((four.a letter.n) word.n)))))

The interpretation within the quote is dependent on the context which becomes apparent with the annotation for “Love” is a transitive verb.

((\" love.v \") ((pres be.v) (a.d (transitive.a verb.n))))

There will be cases where the context will not fully disambiguate the word, such as the first example sentence (notice that it is a possibility that “Love” in that sentence refers to the transitive verb). Please annotate the most readily available interpretation. For single words this will likely be kind terms.

Notice that if the quoted material is not interpretable due to being a different language or gibberish, we have ways of annotating that, see Section 5.15 “bonsoir, monsieur”, was the sharp reply.

((\" (ds fws “bonsoir, monsieur”) \") ((past be.v) (= (the.d (sharp.a reply.n)))))

Here are several examples of mentioned quote annotations.

(a) ““Love” is a four-letter word”

((\" (k Love.n) \") ((pres be.v) (a.d ((four.a letter.n) word.n))))

(b) “Love is a four-letter word”

((\" (k Love.n) \") ((pres be.v) (a.d ((four.a letter.n) word.n))))

(c) “‘O’ is a vowel”

((\" |O| \") ((pres be.v) (a.d vowel.n)))

(d) ““Bonsoir, Monsieur,” he said archly”

(sub “Bonsoir, Monsieur” (he.pro (((past say.v) *h) archly.adv-a)))

(e) ““Goodnight”, he said archly. “Quite so”, I replied.”

(sub \" Goodnight.gr \") (he.pro (((past say.v) *h) archly.adv-a-a)))

(sub \" (quite.adv-a so.a) \") (I.pro ((past reply.v) *h)))

(f) ““Good morning, Sir,” he said cheerily”

(sub \" ((Good.a morning.n) (np+preds you.pro (= |Sir|))) \")

(he.pro (((past say.v) *h) cheerily.adv-a)))
(g) “He said, “My bagels are the best””

(He.pro
 (past say.v
 (\" \:\ ((My.d (plur bagel.n)))
 (pres be.v) (= (the.d (best.a {ref1}.n))) ) ) )

When mention quotes are missing, as in (b), we add them to the ULF. We always annotate quotes with a double quote even if the surface word was quoted with single quotes, see (c). Notice that all the quotes except (d) are fully interpreted. The quotes in (e) and (f) are annotated with greetings which has not been introduced yet and their annotations may change in the near future. Finally, we don’t have any examples of nested quotes, but it can be handled straightforwardly with (\" ... (\" ... \") ... \") . The bracketing around the quotes make the nesting unambiguous.

2. integrated quotes

We call quotes that do not retain grammaticality when replaced by an arbitrary piece of text integrated quotes. This is because the type structure of the quoted material is integrated into the surrounding sentence. Consider the sentence: John’s new “theory” is confusing. If we replace “theory” with “Until tomorrow” it is no longer grammatical.

In these cases we simply ignore the quotes since the quote is not relevant for the semantic type structure.

(h) “John’s new theory of everything is confusing”

(((|John| 's) (new.a (n+preds theory.n (of-topic.p everything.pro))))
 (pres be.v) confusing.a))

(i) “Maldacena’s “AdS/CFT correspondence” hypothesis is astounding”

(((|Maldacena| 's) ((|AdS/CFT| correspondence.n) hypothesis.n))
 (pres be.v) astounding.a))

(j) “According to him, AI “cannot ever” be achieved”

((adv-s (According_to.p he.pro))
 ((k |AI|.n) (pres can.aux-s ever.adv-e (pasv achieve.v))))

(k) “Harvey said an inquiry would not be ruled out, “should serious and systematic issues” emerge.”

(|Harvey|
 (past say.v
 (tht (((an.d inquiry.n)
 (past will.aux-s) not.adv-s ((pasv rule_out.v))))
 (if).ps ((k ((serious.a and.cc systematic.a) (plur issue.n)))
 (pres should.aux-s) emerge.v)))))

Although these quotes hold information that is important for further resolution of meaning, they turn out to be too difficult to properly handle. Since these integrated quotes don’t need to be constituents in the formula, in general these require lexical marking of the quote. Even so, we lose parts of the surface form that are not captured by ULFs (spaces, punctuation, capitalization, etc.) that could be relevant for exact processing of the quoted material.
In fact these issues have a correspondence even to non-quoted material. A sentence could be self-referential of its surface form, which the ULF alone would not be able to handle: “The interpretation of this sentence has more atoms than the original number of words.”

See Appendix B.1 for a more careful discussion of the issues surrounding integrated quote annotation and what we dubbed the quote dilemma, which describes challenges in capturing all of the content of quotes that are needed for inference in the ULF framework.

Incomplete Quotes

For dangling sentence-initial or sentence-final quote marks (perhaps part of a multisentence quotation), such as (l), we ignore those quote marks. Our focus is on single-sentence ULFs; if in future we tackle multi-sentence ULFs, and these are quoted, we could note this as (\" sentential-ULF1 ... sentential-ULFn \") . Obvious accidental omission of a matching quotation, (m), mark should be corrected in the ULF. Obviously incomplete utterances such as (n) should not be annotated. A dangling quote mark for an integrated quote with unclear boundaries, (o), should be ignored.

(l) “I will tell you a story. ... And that’s the end of my story.”

(I.pro ((pres will.aux-s) ((tell.v you.pro) (a.d story.n))))
...
(And.cc (that.pro ((pres be.v) (= (the.d (end-of.n (my.d story.n)))))))

(m) “He said “I will and promptly regretted it”

(He.pro (((past say.v) \" (I.pro ((pres will.aux-s) {ref1}.v)) \") and.cc (promptly.adv-e ((past regret.v) it.pro))))

(n) “He said “I will do it and”

Ignore

(o) “He said that he was “truly sorry for having insulted her.”

(He.pro ((past say.v) (that (he.pro (((past be.v) ((truly.adv-a sorry.a) (for.p-arg (ka (perf (insult.v her.pro)))))))))))

Interleaved Mention Quote Attribution

Sometimes, particularly in dialogue heavy texts, mention quotes will be attributed in the middle of the quote for stylistic or temporal/causative marking purposes. To handle these we use a special operator qt-attr and a specially interpreted symbol *qt. qt-attr will take one argument, which is a ULF interpretation with *qt marking where the quote should lie. Then the contained ULF will be lifted out of the mention quote and replace *qt with the mention quote.

(p) “Well, perhaps not,” said Alice in a soothing tone, “don’t be angry about it”

(" (Well.x (perhaps.adv-s (not (ref).sent)))
 (qt-attr (|Alice| (((past say.v) *qt)
 (adv-a (in.p (a.d (soothing.a tone.n)))))))
 ( (you).pro ((pres do.aux-s) not
 (be.v angry.a) (adv-a (about.p it.pro))))))) !")
“Won’t you,” he said, interrupting John’s monologue, “please get on with it.”

\( ((\text{pres will.aux-s}) \text{not you.pro} (\text{qt-attr (he.pro (\text{\text{(past say.v) } \text{*qt}} (\text{adv-a (interrupt.v (\text{[John\ text{’}s} monologue.n))}) (\text{please.adv-s (\text{get.v on.adv-a} (\text{with.p-arg it.pro}))})})})) \)

Special Cases

Other uses of quote symbols – Quote symbols are sometimes used as special characters, such as to denote the length units feet and inches. In these cases, we use the domain specific operator ds, see Section 5.15.

[Introduce operator for marking domain specific content with quote]

5.14.2 Parentheses

Parentheses annotation is done very similarly to quotes. Please annotated them where they occur in relation to the other words, using a backtick (‘’) to mark quotes that integrate into the sentence and a single quote (‘’) for those that do not. Again parentheses need to be backslashed for Lisp compatibility. More details will be described after the presented examples.

(a) “For appositives (see Section 4.10.3) the commas are dropped”

[b]“[He] hate[s] to do laundry”

\( (\text{\text{‘\text{‘\[ He.pro \]} ((\text{pres hate.v}) (\text{ka (do.v (k laundry.n)))})}) \)

TODO: [Change annotation to distinguish between different types of parentheses (e.g. embedded, interleaved, appositive, domain specific, etc.)]

5.15 Domain Specific Grammars

Some phenomena in language have their own domain specific grammars (e.g. time, dates, phone numbers, etc.) that do not fit directly into general English grammar. To reduce the learning difficulty, these will simply be wrapped in quotes. These could be further resolved into record syntax using a domain-specific parser. For example: “My number is 555 123 5555” would be annotated

\( ((\text{my.d number.n}) ((\text{pres be.v}) (\text{ds phone-number "555 123 5555"]))))

Here are a list of domains and associated examples. Please let us know if you come across something that seems domain-specific, but isn’t listed here.

1. phone-number
   \( (\text{ds phone-number "555 555-5555"}) \)
   \( (\text{ds phone-number "(555)555-5555"}) \)
   \( (\text{ds phone-number "5555555"}) \)

2. date-time
   \( (\text{ds date-time "5:30pm"}) \)
   \( (\text{ds date-time "June 18th 2017"}) \)
   \( (\text{ds date-time "quarter after 3"}) \)
3. currency
   (ds currency "$50.12")
   (ds currency "Fifty dollars and 12 cents")
   (ds currency "€30")

4. address
   (ds address "880 Linden Ave")
   (ds address "Rochester NY 14620")

5. fws (foreign words)
   (ds fws "'bonjour monsieur'")
   (ds fws "君の名は"")
   (ds fws "dm-drogerie markt")

6. temperature
   (ds temp "5 degrees Celsius")
   (ds temp "-12.3°F")

7. length (includes height and distance)
   (ds length "5'11")
   (ds length "seven meters")
   (ds length "80km")
   (ds length "about 17 miles")

8. speed
   (ds speed "17kph")
   (ds speed "50mile per hour")
   (ds speed "8.2 m/s")
   (ds speed "0.8c")
   (ds speed "faster than 2mph")

9. unk (unknown domain/uninterpretable)
   (ds unk "whhhatre yooooouuuuse doeeeeein")
   (ds unk "001asc21")

   Notice that modifying or approximating phrases (about, faster than) are not allowed in the domain specific area. Those should compose with the domain-specific expressions since they are structurally simple English. There are additional categories of weight, acceleration, etc. which are not shown here.

   See Appendix B.2 for how we intend to further resolve these annotations.

5.16 Ellipsis

TODO [We won’t try to cover all types; start with simple ones like “Alice left, and Bob did too”; “Kim gave Alice a book, and Bob a sweater”; “Bob didn’t turn in his essay but Bill did” (ambiguous possessive ellipsis); etc.]

5.17 Coordination

(a) “I ate pizza and ice cream”
   (i.pro ((past eat.v) (set-of (k pizza.n) (k ice_cream.n))))
(b) “Most eyes are brown, green, or blue”
   
   (most.d (plur eye.n))
   (pres be.v)
   (brown.a or.cc green.a blue.a))

(c) “Al and Clyde love Mary or Sue”
   
   ([|Al| and.cc |Clyde|])
   (pres love.v)
   ([|Mary| or.cc |Sue|)))

(d) “John went to the store and bought some peanuts”
   
   ([|John| (past go.v) (to.p-arg (the.d store.n))) and.cc
    (past buy.v) (some.d (plur peanut.n))))

(e) “I found a bag of food and drinks”
   
   (I.pro ((past find.v)
    (a.d (n+preds bag.n
     (of.p (set-of (k food.n) (k (plur drink.n)))))))))

(f) “John and Mary hugged each other”
   
   (set-of [|John| |Mary|] (past hug.v each_other.pro))

(g) “Bob and I chatted over tea and crackers”
   
   (set-of [|Bob| I.pro]
    (past chat.v) (adv-a (over.p (set-of (k tea.n) (k (plur cracker.n)))))))

(h) “I bought apples and oranges”
   
   (i.pro ((past buy.v) (set-of (k (plur apple.n)) (k (plur orange.n)))))

There is ambiguity between the collective and distributive readings of “and”. The collective reading creates a new individual, which is the collection made up of the individuals that are enumerated within in scope of “and”. This is annotated with the operator set-of. The distributive reading is the sentence-level logical conjunction. There are instances where a coordinating conjunction is unambiguously the collective reading of a specific scope. (e), (f), and (g) are examples of this. Also, there are cases where all sensible interpretations of the sentence satisfy both the collective and distributive readings. (a) and (h) are examples of this case. (h) specifically means that the speaker bought a collection of apples and oranges, but in doing so also bought apples and bought oranges. For such cases we default to the collective reading and leave the distributive (and concurrently true) reading to the semantics of the words.

Coordination can also occur at both predicate and individual levels. See that (b), and (d) show coordinated predicates, while (c) show coordinated individuals. However, the arguments must have consistent types, semantically and syntactically, since when the coordinators are scoped, the arguments must be able to distribute coherently. Of course, the collective reading can only occur with coordinated individuals.

or.cc and and.cc have the same scoping ambiguity as quantifiers. This isn’t surprising considering that some.d and all.d quantifiers can be rewritten as or.cc and and.cc statements respectively over the restrictor predicate members.
5.18 Vocatives

Vocatives, used for addressing the individual at whom the speech is directed, play primarily a discursive role and are largely detached, syntactically, from the sentences in which they occur. Thus, in ULFs we will mark vocatives with a voc operator which can occur free-floating in the formula and is lifted out of the sentence in post-processing. Since vocatives can be complex expressions themselves, the vocative expression should be interpreted into ULFs (similar to how we handle mentioned quotes 5.14.1).

(a) “Mary, I see you”
((voc |Mary|) (I.pro ((pres see.v) you.pro)))

(b) “I don’t think I understand, Susan”
((I.pro ((pres do.aux-s) not
  (think.v (tht (I.pro ((pres understand.v) {ref}.pro)))))
  (voc |Susan|))

(c) “My ill feelings towards you, Lex, are endless”
((My.d (n+preds (ill.a (plur feeling.n))
  (towards.p you.pro)))
  (voc |Lex|) ((pres be.v) endless.a))

(d) “You in the yellow shirt, call 911!”
((voc (np+preds You.pro
  (in.p (the.d (yellow.a shirt.n))))
  ({you}.pro ((pres call.v) |911|)) !)

(e) “John, you rascal, where have you been?”
((voc |John|) (voc (np+preds you.pro rascal.n))
  (sub (at.p (what.d place.n)) ((pres perf) you.pro (be.v *h))) ?)

(f) “You rascal where have you been, John?”
((voc (np+preds you.pro rascal.n))
  (sub (at.p (what.d place.n)) ((pres perf) you.pro (be.v *h)))
  (voc |John|) ?))

(g) “Mr. President, we must call evil by its name”
((voc |Mr. President|)
  (we.pro ((pres must.adv-s) ((call.v (k evil.n))
    (by.p-arg (its.d (name-of.n *s)))))))

(h) “Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith?”
((Why.adv-s ((pres be.v) ye.pro fearful.a))
  (voc-O (np+preds ye.pro
    (of.p (little.a faith.n))))))

Examples [a] and [b] show basic usages of the voc operator. [c] shows how vocatives they can appear in the middle of sentences – they are simply placed where they occur with no additional bracketing. [d] demonstrates a complex vocative, where the vocative is more than simply a name. Examples [e] and [f] show how a sentence can have multiple vocatives, even one right after another.
The vocative use of ‘O’ needs special attention. ‘O’ can be used to preface a vocative phrase in poetic speech. One needs to be careful not to conflate it with the injection ‘Oh’ (the spellings of the two can be interchanged). For vocatives with this ‘O’ preface, mark it by using voc-O instead of voc as in example (h).

5.19 Idioms

Idioms should be annotated as if they are literal. We treat idioms compositionally – such that the idioms are interpreted as having different idiomatic word senses than the non-idiomatic counterparts. This analysis allows us to account for variation of constructions in idioms (e.g. passivization in “Strings were pulled to get this position”). Paul Kay, Ivan Sag, and Dan Flickinger published a document in 2015 with a linguistic analysis using such an approach. This approach reduces the problem of identifying idioms to a word sense disambiguation problem. Below are example annotations of idioms. As you can see, nothing is added to the ULF for the idiom.

(a) “John kicked the bucket”
   (|john| ((past kick.v) (the.d bucket.n)))

(b) “Losing my job was a blessing in disguise”
   (|(ka lose.v (my.d job.n))|
   
   ((past be.v) (= (a.d (n+preds blessing.n) (in.p (k disguise.n))))))

(c) “He's spilling the beans as we speak!”
   (|(He.pro ((pres prog) (spill.v (the.d (plur bean.n))))|
   
   (adv-e (as.ps (we.pro (pres speak.v)))))

(d) “Strings were pulled to get this position”
   (|(k (plur String.n)) ((past (pasv pull.v))|
   
   (adv-a ((for).p (to (get.v (this.d position.n))))))

5.20 Exclamatory Wh-words

Exclamatory wh-words are a semantically curious use of the words “what” and “how” for expressing emotional emphasis. For example, “what” in “What a beautiful car!” is simply expressing emphasis of the evaluation. The analysis for these sentences will be based on its similarity to sentences such as “That is such a beautiful car”.

(That.pro ((pres be.v) (such.a (= (a.d (beautiful.a car.n)))))))

In these examples “such” and “what” are acting as adjectives, similar to “I know many such people”, “All four such remarks are stricken from the record”. In past sections we have shown determiner uses of “such”, Section 5.5.1 and “what”, Section 5.10.3. This parallels other determiners in having adjectival markings (see Section 5.6. We can also see that “a” in this example is a vacuous quantifier since a plural form does not allow any quantifier – “Those are such beautiful cars”. Here are a series of examples to demonstrate this phenomenon.

(a) “What a beautiful car that is!”
   (sub (What.a (= (a.d (beautiful.a car.n)))))
   (that.pro ((pres be.v) *(h))))
As you can see in examples (f-j), the pronoun and copula can often be omitted. Please insert the most appropriate pronoun in these cases (often “that” or “those”). (i) shows an example of a use with a collection noun (e.g. bunch, couple, handful, etc.).

It is important that “such” and “what” are modifying predicates, not noun phrases. In both instances “what” and “such” are acting as emphasis to the adjective associated with the noun – “beautiful” is being emphasized in the example above – though this may be implicit (e.g. “What an idea!”). The fact that a predicate, not an individual, is being modified, means that these operators can modify the predicate itself, not simply speak about the individual.

Exclamatory “how” turns out to be much simpler to handle since it only modifies adjectives or verb phrases and the whole issue of vacuous predicate-marking determiners can be ignored. “How” is simply marked with an adv-a extension with the expected composition based on the types. The issue of implicit pronouns for evaluation (e.g. “How strange that is”) exists here as well, but they will be handled in the exact same manner as they are for “what”-exclamatory statements.

(j) “How studious he is!”
(sub (How.adv-a studious.a) (he.pro ((pres be.v) *h))))
“How curious they are!”
(sub (How.adv-a curious.a) (they.pro ((pres be.v) *h))

“How strange!”
(sub (How.adv-a strange.a) {{that}.pro ((pres {be}.v) *h))

“How I used to enjoy this!”
(sub How.adv-a (I.pro (((past use.v) (to (enjoy.v this.pro))) *h))

5.21 Adjectives with Complements

While most adjectives are monadic, there are certain classes of adjectives that take arguments. A prime example of this is adjectival derivations of verbs, e.g. “frightened”.

“John is frightened of spiders”
(|John| ((pres be.v) (frightened.a (of.p-arg (k (plur spider.n)))))

Distinguishing adjectival derivations of verbs from passive voice.

Distinguishing between adjectival derivations of verbs and passive voice can be very tricky because in many cases the semantic differences between these two interpretations are subtle or not apparent at all. Compare the example above with:

“John was frightened by his coworkers”
(|John| ((past (pasv frighten.v)) (by.p-arg (his.d (plur (coworker-of.n *s))))))

Though not an exhaustive test, we will primarily rely on the following test to distinguish between adjectival and passive readings.

“A verb is passive if we can reasonably use ‘by’ to supply the agent/subject while retaining the same meaning of the word.”

In cases where the adjectival and passive readings have no differences in meaning, it does not really matter which annotation is given since we should be able to draw the same inferences from both.

TODO: add other tests.

TODO: look at Chomsky’s discussion of past-participle adjectives for more nuanced discussion.

Infinitive complements.

Some adjectives take infinitive complements rather than prepositionally marked ones which we found to be particularly tricky to analyze. We list some here and how we analyze them for reference during annotation.

(a) was supposed to
   “I was supposed to go home”
   (I.pro ((past be.v) (supposed.a (to (go.v (k home.n))))))

(b) was obligated to
   “I was obligated to stay”
   (I.pro ((past be.v) (obligated.a (to stay.v))))

(c) was destined to
   “I was destined to fail”
   (I.pro ((past be.v) (destined.a (to fail.v))))
was apt to
“I was apt to agree”
(I.pro ((past be.v) (apt.a (to agree.v))))

was able to
“I was able to finish in time”
(I.pro ((past be.v) (able.a (to ((finish.v {ref}.pro) (adv-e (in.p (k time.n))))))))

Notice that some of these can become passive in the right context. “I was destined by my circumstances to ...”

5.21.1 Special case “used to”
“used to” is a particularly tricky case with a lot of variants and exceptional uses.

• Basic example
  I used to sleep 8 hours a night.

• Tense disappears with ‘did’ auxiliary
  Did you use to work here?
  We didn’t use to earn much.

• We can include negation in between
  They used not to allow shops to be open on Sundays

• Different meanings in difference contexts
  I am used to doing something
  I used to do something
  The first example involves a gerund (an -ing construction) as argument, not an infinitive. (A noun phrase could replace the gerund: “I am used to a busy work schedule”.)
  Also we can’t make the variants listed above where ‘used’ and ‘to’ are split apart, or a tenseless ‘use’ while preserving the meaning.

  Given these issues, there seem to be two different types of ‘used to’ in the examples above. First the version that takes an infinitives (without the -ing) is annotated as a verb.
  (I.pro ((past use.v) (to (do.v something.pro))))
  The other one seems to be an adjective reading with a gerund, gd second argument.
  (I.pro ((pres be.v) (used_to.a (gd (do.v something.pro)))))
  This is further supported by the fact that when we the copula for the second variant, we don’t lose the apparent ‘tense’ marking on ‘used’: “Were you used to doing something”. Furthermore, we can’t add a negation in between ‘used’ and ‘to’ for the adjectival reading:
  *“They were used not to going shopping on Sundays.”
  Of course also beware of the passive form of ‘use’, which can look a lot like the adjectival version, but without the gerund.
  “I was used to confuse John” (say I look a lot like another person John knows)
  – sim. “I was used for confusing John”
  – sim. “I was used in order to confuse John”
  (I.pro ((past (pasv use.v)) (adv-a ({for}.p (to (confuse.v |John|)))))
  TODO: how to handle ‘going to’?
5.22 Interjections

Interjections include semantically distinct subcategories that we will handle separately: evaluations (Cool!, Nice day), expletives (ow!, damn!), yes-no, and discourse level connectives (but, for, so).

5.22.1 Evaluative Interjections

Evaluative interjections are really sentences with an implicit reference sentence that is being evaluated. They are very commonly phrasal utterances, so rather than always supplying an the implicit sentence in every case, we introduce the macro pu, for *phrasal utterance*, which marks a coherent phrase (one that is an acceptable and interpretable utterance to a speaker) that is acting as a sentence.

(a) “Cool!”
   (pu Cool.a)

(b) “Nice day”
   (pu (Nice.a day.n))

(c) “Great”
   (pu Great.a)

(d) “Fantastic”
   (pu fantastic.a)

(e) “Most definitely”
   (pu (adv-s ((adv-a most.a) definite.a)))

Since we consider these evaluative interjections full sentences on their own, they will be completely separated from sentences following them.

(f) “Fantastic, that works for me”
   ((pu Fantastic.a)
    (that.pro ((pres work.v) (for.p-arg me.pro))))

5.22.2 Expletives & Non-compositional Utterances

Expletives are words that express emotional intensity, often using curse words. When used alone – say as a reaction – they will be annotated with a .x extension. It will represent a sentence on its own. Multi-word expletives can each use a .x extension and simply bracketed together. We’ll include in this category phrases that are technically not expletives, but which are similarly non-propositional or have non-compositional meanings without being fillers such as “huh?”, “Oh!”, “Shh”, and “Tsk-tsk”.

(a) “Damn!” – Damn.x

(b) “Bloody hell!” – (Bloody.x hell.x)

(c) “Ow!” – Ow.x
(d) “Huh?” – Huh?.x

(e) “Oh, what a nice surprise!”
   (Oh.x (sub (what.a (= (a.d (nice.a surprise.n)))
   ((this).pro ((pres (be).v) *h))))

(f) “Shh, this is a library”
   ((Shh.x !) (this.pro ((pres be.v) (= (a.d library.n))))))

(g) “Tsk-tsk, I did warn you”
   (Tsk-tsk.x (I.pro ((past do.aux-v) (warn.v you.pro))))

Notice that in example (f), we can still use the imperative operator ! with the interjections. This is because they act as sentences. Also, “Shh” has an imperative meaning: you be quiet!

Expletives can also be used in attributive adjective position. For these uses mark them as adjectives since they are performing a syntactic functionality. The meaning will be resolved in the word sense disambiguation step.

(h) “That wretched spider”
   (That.d (wretched.a spider.n))

Fillers

Hesitation markers and filler words seem similar to the .x markings, but we will ignore them in the annotation since they are either disfluencies or turning-holding.

(i) “That was, um, not my intention”
   (That.pro ((past be.v) not (my.d intention.n)))

(j) “Er, okay”
   (pu okay.a)

5.22.3 Yes-no

Any word to express ‘yes’ or ‘no’ semantically will be annotated with .yn extension. These make a truth-value evaluation over a sentence – thus is a special case of the general evaluative statements. In practice, these are used separately from the evaluated sentence, which is supplied by the context, so we will annotate correspondingly. The annotated yes-no expressions can be thought of as macro’d expressions that hide an implicit referential sentence. Thus yes-no expression will have a sentence meaning. If they come before a sentence, we will annotate them as two separate statements that are grouped together – just like two statements joined by semi-colons.

(a) “Yes” – Yes.yn

(b) “Uh-huh, that’s the plan”
   (Uh-huh.yn (that.pro ((pres be.v) (the.d plan.n))))

(c) “Definitely yes”
   (Definitely.adv-s yes.yn)
(d) “Yes, definitely”
(Yes.yn (pu definitely.adv-s))

(e) “Surprisingly, no”
(Surprisingly.adv-s no.yn)

Here is a small sample of words in this category: yes, no, yeah, uh-huh, uh-uh, sure,
nope, nah.

5.22.4 Discourse-Level Connectives

Coordinating conjunctions can be used at a discourse-level by starting a sentence rather
than in between two sentence clauses (e.g. “But, that was ...”). We want to distinguish
these uses because a sentence-level coordination with one argument is simply vacuous, while
these are not. These are really making statements about the sentence in relation to the
discourse context, so we will mark these with an .adv-s extension. This naturally makes a
correspondence between these uses of the coordinators with unambiguously sentence-level
adverbials (e.g. actually, in fact). Notice the similarity between switching between these
words “But/Actually/In fact, that was not the case”. Now we list some examples.

(a) “But applying this rationale to society yields bizarre results”
(But.adv-s ((ka ((apply.v (this.d rationale.n)) (to.p-arg (k society.n))))
((pres yield.v) (k (bizarre.a (plur result.n)))))

(b) “And of course, this is what happened”
(And.adv-s ((adv-s (of.p (k course.n))))
((this.pro ((pres be.v) (np+preds what.pro (past happen.v)))))

One must be careful to distinguish discourse connectives which are about propositions
with adverbs about events.

(c) “And then, he slipped on a banana peel”
(And.adv-s (then.adv-e (he.pro ((past slip.v) (adv-a (on.p (a.d (banana.n peel.n)))))))

5.22.5 Miscellaneous

Annotating “please”

“Please” has a fully pragmatic reading, syntactically acts as an adverb, and operates over
an full proposition (though it may have a pragmatic focus on different specific parts of the
sentence) so it will be annotated as please.adv-s.

Phrasal Question Answers

Often times phrasal utterances are used to answer questions:
 “Where were you over the weekend?”
 “at home”

We will use the pu operator that was introduced in Section 5.22.1. In fact, many of the
examples in that section could be used in this context.

(a) “at home” – (pu (at.p (k home.n)))
5.23 Greetings

Single word greetings are annotated with a .gr extension.

(a) hi – hi.gr
(b) hello – hello.gr
(c) goodnight – goodnight.gr
(d) farewell – farewell.gr

Multi-word greetings implicitly bidding the listener some predicate are annotated with a greeting-forming operator gr, which takes one predicate argument. The greeting forming operator (gr <pred>) is synonymous with “I bid you <pred>”

(e) Good night – (gr (Good.a night.n))

Most other greetings are conventionalized sentences, so we’ll annotate them literally, similar to idioms. These will often be phrasal utterances.

(f) “See you tomorrow”
   (pu ((See.v you.pro) tomorrow.adv-e))

(g) “How’s it going?”
   ((sub How.adv-s ((pres prog) it.pro (go.v *h))) ?)

(h) “Pleased to meet you”
   (pu (pleased.a (to (meet.v you.pro))))

NB: There are some greetings that use implicit it-extraposition construction, so we can’t annotate them yet: “it is Nice to meet you”, “it is Good to see you”.

5.24 Singular Plurals

Some nouns act as plurals even though they are singular objects: pants, glasses, scissors, etc. Given that there is not just thing as a ‘pant’, it seems strange to annotate ‘pants’ as (plur pant.n). However, there are contexts in which ‘pant’ does occur, e.g. as a nominal modifier: pant salesman and scissor maker rather than *pants salesman or *scissors maker. Furthermore, there are instances where its ambiguous whether the word is a singular plural or homonym that is used plurally. For example, “I would like my glasses back” could refer to a pair of eye-glasses or some plurality of water-glasses. Given these observations, we will annotate plurals just as they appear syntactically:

    glasses - (plur glass.n); pants - (plur pant.n); scissors - (plur scissor.n).

5.25 Counterfactuals & Conditionals

Counterfactuals in English appear through syntactic past tense in a phenomenon called “fake tense” (for example (a) and (b) below), with the exception of explicit subjective mood, which uses ‘were’ regardless of the number (for example (c)). Counterfactuality will be marked with a cf operator, which is supplied instead of the tense operator. That is, counterfactual sentences will not be marked with tense.
(a) “I wish I was rich”
   (I.pro ((pres wish.v) (tht (I.pro ((cf be.v) rich.a)))))

(b) “I wish I believed you”
   (I.pro ((pres wish.v) (tht (I.pro ((cf believe.v) you.pro)))))

(c) “I wish I were rich”
   (I.pro ((pres wish.v) (tht (I.pro ((cf were.v) rich.a)))))

(d) “If I was rich, I would own a boat.”
   ((if.ps (I.pro ((cf be.v) rich.a)))
    (I.pro ((cf will.aux-s) (own.v (a.d boat.n)))))

(e) “Were he to leave, the project would collapse”
   (((cf be-destined.aux-v) he.pro leave.v)
    ((the.d project.n) ((cf will.aux-s) collapse.v))))

(f) “Had I forseen this, I would never have participated”
   (((cf perf) I.pro (forsee.v this.pro))
    (I.pro ((cf will.aux-s) never.adv-e (perf participate.v))))

(g) “If I had been rich, I would own a boat” ((If.ps (I.pro ((cf perf) (be.v rich.a))))
   (I.pro ((cf will.aux-s) (own.v (a.d boat.n)))))

(h) “If I had been rich, then I would have owned a boat”
   (((If.ps (I.pro ((cf perf) (be.v rich.a))))
    (then.adv-s (I.pro ((cf will.aux-s) (perf (own.v (a.d boat.n)))))))

Using the cf operator easily generalizes to cases where the counterfactual is marked through a tense on the verb or auxiliary such as examples (b) and (f) (rather than say ‘were’). Since counterfactuals are formed using syntactic tense, counterfactuals about the past are handled through perfect aspect, see examples (f), (g), and (h). As far as the annotation is concerned, simply mark the counterfactual with cf and otherwise annotate the perfect as usual.

Since the semantics of perfect is that the verb phrase is completed, it enables a past tense reading of the embedded verb phrase. Also, not all counterfactual constructions will be strictly counterfactual. There are phenomena that are in some sense “future counterfactuals” which are counterfactual constructions on future events which indicate that the event is unlikely to occur. Since this is the future, it cannot be strictly counterfactual. Here’s an example for clarity.

If you gave me $5, I would buy a soda
This turns out to have to do with the verb class distinction, which you don’t need to fully understand. But basically, telic verbs (those that have an defined end – give, stop, finish something) lead to these 'future counterfactual' readings. Statives on the other hand get strict counterfactual readings. This relates to the fact that in non-counterfactual conditionals telic verbs get a future evaluation, but not static verbs, e.g.

If you give me $5, I will buy a soda (future eval of antecedent)
If you are tall, I will buy a soda (present eval of antecedent)
It turns out you can turn strict counterfactuals to “future counterfactuals” and vice-versa using temporal adverbials (though it can be awkward).

If I were tall tomorrow, I would be able to touch the ceiling.
If you gave me $5 yesterday, I would buy a soda

So we’ll annotate these two case in the same way. The difference in semantic interpretation will have to be managed along with the full temporal context.

Examples (e) and (f) show cases of an implicit “if” via auxiliary inversion. For these, the inversion captures the full meaning of the counterfactual conditional antecedent, so no additional annotation is necessary. Please keep in mind that the meaning of this inversion is the same as regular “if”-conditional antecedents. That is, this is post-processed with the following rule.

\[
((\text{cf aux}) \text{ np vp}) \equiv (\text{if.ps} (\text{np} ((\text{cf aux}) \text{ vp})))
\]

(h) shows how to handle ‘then’ in if-then statements. Simply annotate them as \text{then.adv-s} which scope over the consequent. It helps mark the consequent, but in post-processing will be reduced into the semantics of the ‘if’ conditional.

Finally, ‘would’ in these counterfactual constructions are annotated with (cf \text{will.aux-s}) due to the correspondence in the sentences below:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{If you give me $5 I will go buy a cake} \\
\text{If you gave me $5 I would go buy a cake} \\
\text{If I am rich, I will buy a boat} \\
\text{If I was rich, I would buy a boat}
\end{align*}
\]

Note that the second and fourth sentences are the counterfactual variants of the first and third. Thus it is consistent to annotate the change in the consequent \text{will} \rightarrow \text{would} using the same operator as the the change in the antecedents \text{give} \rightarrow \text{gave} and \text{am} \rightarrow \text{was}.

5.26 Discussion on Annotating Prepositions

By and large, prepositions will be annotated in one of the following two contexts:

\[
(\text{adv-*} (\text{p} \text{ something.pro})) \\
(\text{p-arg} \text{ something.pro})
\]

Selecting between \text{p-arg} and (\text{adv-*} (\text{p ..}))

\text{p-arg} marks arguments of a verb that are denoted with a preposition. This will mean that the preposition will not have its typical meaning (as used with other verbs). Additionally, the supplied argument is in fact an argument and not a modifier of the verb, e.g.

\[
(\text{believe.v} (\text{in.p-arg someone.pro}))
\]

Notice that “in” here doesn’t mean the same thing as “Saw him in the building” or “I found him in the mall”. The adverbial readings of prepositions are applicable in a wide variety of contexts so please consider other verbs to see if the preposition preserves meaning when selecting between the two preposition options. Also, if the adverbial prepositional phrases are dropped, the full meaning of the verb is preserved.

\text{p-arg} can be used with verbs or verb derived words only! This is because it marks an argument in relation to the verb. So we can’t do

\[
(\text{man.n} (\text{of.p-arg (the.d (plur person.n))}))
\]

but we can do

\[
(\text{sale.n} (\text{of.p-arg (the.d car.n)})) \\
(\text{collapse.n} (\text{of.p-arg (the.d building.n)}))
\]

On rare occasion prepositions will be used bare because of one of the following contexts:
• Prepositional phrase after a copula acting directly as a predicate.
  \( (\text{I}.\text{pro} \ ((\text{pres be.v} \ (\text{in.p (the.d forest.n))})) \)

• Post-nominal modification.
  \( (\text{n+preds day.n (of.p (the.d week.n)))} \)

• Predicate complement.
  \( \text{I'm not sure if this ever happens. I can't think of an example. It is possible in principle.} \)

5.27 -ing VPs as Action Adverbials
There remains a reading of -ing VPs that have not gotten proper mention in the guidelines so far. That is the -ing which marks verb phrases as action adverbials. For example

\( I \text{ took a stroll last night, looking at the stars.} \)

“I looking at the stars” is a verb phrase that describes a concurrent action taken during the main verb phrase. This is annotated by \( \text{adv-a} \) and a tense-less verb phrase, e.g.

\[
\left( \text{I}.\text{pro} \ \left( \text{((past take.v) (a.d stroll.n)) (adv-e (last.d night.n)))} \right) \right. \\
\left. \left( \text{adv-a (look.v (at.p-arg (the.d (plur star.n))))} \right) \right)
\]

The tense of the verb phrase this verb phrase is tense-less because the tense is dependent on the modified verb phrase:

\( I \text{ took a stroll last night, looking at the stars.} \)
\( I \text{ will take a stroll tonight, looking at the stars.} \)

As with most clauses, this can be topicalized as well: “Looking at the stars, I took a stroll.”

5.28 Unacceptable Fragments

For fragments do not make coherent statements are not annotated.

- “So, why did”
- “It depends on the”
- “when you touch it”

6 Conclusion

Now that you have gone through this tutorial, you should be equipped to annotate most sentences with the corresponding ULF. For a more thorough guide to annotating ULFs see the complete annotation guide. If while annotating, you see a situation that has not been covered in this tutorial or the complete annotation guide, please contact the project coordinators through the link in the ULF editor so that we may add guidelines for this new annotation situation.

Appendices

A Macros and ULF Relaxations

In the main document we superficially describe the macros and ULF relaxations to give an intuitive explanation of how they fit into the annotation process. Here we will look at the
macros and ULF relaxations in depth, describing the process of getting exact ULFs from
the version described in these guidelines in depth to show that type coherence and sentence
meaning are preserved.

A.1 Type-shifter Dropping (Predicates as Modifiers)

Section 5.10.1 introduces using predicates as modifiers in the formula. This superficially
leads to type-incoherency, but for the predicate combinations that we allow in using predi-

cates as modifiers, we can automatically insert the appropriate type-shifter.

The predicate combinations that are allowed are “non-verbal predicates with other pred-
icates”. The fully explicit type shifting of predicates to predicate-modifiers can be done with
the following operators:

• nn - shifts noun predicate to noun predicate modifier
• *nnp - shifts noun phrase to noun predicate modifier
• attr - shifts adjective predicate to noun predicate modifier
• adv-a - shifts any predicate to monadic verb/adjective predicate modifier

*nnp doesn’t fit exactly into the way we have been talking since it’s formal type is an
individual, not a predicate. But the principles are the same.

Below are the mapping functions that introduce the operators. They are applied bottom
up and after relaxations that change bracketing such as sentence-level operator lifting. The
constituent labels are the expected syntactic type (e.g. N for noun), indexed if two of the
same type occur in the rule, and the ending quote denotes that it is the interpretation of
the syntactic category.

\[
\begin{align*}
(N_1' \ N_2') & \rightarrow ((nn \ N_1') \ N_2') \\
(NP' \ N') & \rightarrow ((nnp \ NP') \ N') \\
(A' \ N') & \rightarrow ((attr \ A') \ N') \\
(A_1' \ A_2') & \rightarrow ((adv-a \ A_1') \ A_2') \\
(N' \ A') & \rightarrow ((adv-a \ N') \ A')
\end{align*}
\]

Note that verb modifiers are not constructed implicitly. This is because verb modifiers
look close to and occur in the same places as sentence modifiers. Thus they are annotated
explicitly so we can distinguish verb modifiers from sentence modifiers.

A.2 Post-nominal Modifiers (n+preds and np+preds)

Definitions

\[
\begin{align*}
(n+preds \ N' \ Pred1 \ Pred2 \ ... \ PredN) & \equiv \\
& (\lambda x ((x = \lambda x ((x = N') \ and \ (x Pred1)) \ (x Pred2) \ ... \ (x PredN)))) \\
(np+preds \ NP' \ Pred1 \ Pred2 \ ... \ PredN) & \equiv \\
& (the.d (\lambda x ((x = NP) \ and \ (x Pred1)) \ (x Pred2) \ ... \ (x PredN))))
\end{align*}
\]

:lambda is our ascii writing of lambda (\). This macro can be applied at anytime.

These macros are introduced in Section 5.10.3 which give many examples of its uses. An
important distinction here is that n+preds results in a predicate type and np+preds results in
an individual type. In light of their uses in handling restrictive and non-restrictive relative
clauses, respectively, this is not so surprising. Also, the type correspond to the first argument
of the macro, which makes it easy to remember. Since these macros don’t do any reordering,
they can be applied at basically any time.
A.3 Handling Gaps (sub)

Definition
\[(\text{sub } \text{C } S[^*h]) \equiv S[^*h\leftarrow C]\]

Example
\[(\text{sub } |\text{Juliet}| (|\text{Romeo}| ((\text{pres love.v}) ^*h)))) \rightarrow (|\text{Romeo}| ((\text{pres love.v}) |\text{Juliet}|))\]

\(\text{sub}\) is introduced in Section 5.10.2 and the following sections further discuss its uses. \(\text{sub}\) takes two arguments and substitutes its first argument into all free occurrences of \(^*h\) in the second sentences. Identifying which occurrences of \(^*h\) are free can be done with methods similar to avoiding variable capture in lambda-calculus, treating the \(\text{sub}\), its first and second arguments similar to the \(\lambda\) symbol, the lambda bound variable, and the formula, respectively.

A.4 Relativizers (\text{that.rel} and \text{who.rel})

Definitions
\[\text{semb}[\text{that.rel}] \equiv (:l \, ^*r \, \text{ssemb}[\text{that.rel}^-^*r])\]
\[\text{ssemb}[\text{who.rel}] \equiv (:l \, ^*r \, \text{ssemb}[\text{who.rel}^-\text{the.d} (:l \, y \, ((y \, \text{person.n}) \, \text{and} \, (y = ^*r)))))\]

Relativizers \text{that.rel} and \text{who.rel} have a fairly radical affect on the type structure where they lie. They are regarded as a variables that are lambda-abstracted at the level determined by identification of the appropriate type incoherence. What this reduces to is identifying when a sentence is supplied where a predicate is required. This apparent type incoherence is resolved when the sentence is lambda-abstracted and thus converted to a predicate. Notice below that unlike scope raising, relativizer wrapping is not trapped by sentence embedding boundaries.

“... the table that John knew I liked.” gets annotated as
\[(\text{the.d} \, (n+preds \, \text{table.n}) \, (\text{sub} \, \text{that.rel}) \, (|\text{John}| \, ((\text{past know.v}) \, \text{tht} ((\text{I.pro} \, ((\text{past like.v}) \, ^*h)))))\)]

Which when \(n+preds\) and \(\text{sub}\) are expanded results in
\[(\text{the.d} \, (:l \, x \, ((x \, \text{table.n}) \, \text{and} \, (x \, (|\text{John}| \, ((\text{past know.v}) \, (\text{tht} \, ((\text{I.pro} \, ((\text{past like.v}) \, \text{the.rel}))))))))))\]

The resolution of \text{that.rel} that we want is the following
\[(\text{the.d} \, (:l \, x \, ((x \, \text{table.n}) \, \text{and} \, (x \, (:l \, ^*r \, (|\text{John}| \, ((\text{past know.v}) \, (\text{tht} \, ((\text{I.pro} \, ((\text{past like.v}) \, ^*r)))))))))))\]

Notice that if we naively wrap the lowest embedding sentence we get the following unwanted, and type incoherent result. The incoherent operations are underlined at the operator.
\[*(\text{the.d} \, (:l \, x \, ((x \, \text{table.n}) \, \text{and} \, (x \, (:l \, ^*r \, (|\text{John}| \, ((\text{past know.v}) \, (\text{tht} \, ((\text{I.pro} \, ((\text{past like.v}) \, ^*r))))))))))))\]

Of course correct resolution of \text{that.rel} relies on correct annotations, but that is true of other ULF relaxations as well.

*If you’re not sure how these expansions work step-by-step, take a look at Appendix Section A.4.1 for a
In English relativizers appear directly to the left of the relative clause (what will become the lambda abstracted formula) so we can write simpler mappings from the annotated ULFs to the desired expansions by working on the ULF with relativizer position preserved. This amounts to pre-empting the expansion of sub macros that move the relativizer.

**Simplified Relativizer Mappings**

\[
\text{(sub C[that.rel] F) } \equiv \text{ (:l } \ast r \text{ (sub C[that.rel←\ast r] F))}
\]

\[
\text{(that.rel VP) } \equiv \text{ (:l } \ast r \text{ (∗r VP))}
\]

With these rules we still substitute ∗r for that.rel and abstract the appropriate constituent with a lambda expression. Though this increases the number of rules, these rules don’t require identifying the embedding sentence that is acting as a predicate. The main restriction for using these rules is that the first rule must be applied first if possible since there is some overlap in contexts where these rules apply. There are equivalent rules for who.rel which is replaced by (∶l y ((y person.n) and (y = ∗r))) rather than ∗r.

**A.4.1 Walkthroughs: Handling a Relative Clauses**

Now that we have discussed the macros n+preds, sub, and relativizers that.rel and who.rel, we’re at a point where we can use them to handle relative clauses in full. Here we walk through the macro expansions to show that we preserve the overall type structure and sentence meaning of the relative clause.

**Walkthrough 1 (basic example)**

Consider the formula for “car that you bought”

\[\text{(n+preds car.n (sub that.rel (you.pro ((past buy.v) ∗h)))},\]

now we can expand n+preds into the lambda expression

\[(:l x (\langle x \text{ car.n} \rangle (x (\text{sub that.rel (you.pro ((past buy.v) ∗h))))))),\]

then sub moves the relativizer into the relative clause

\[(:l x (\langle x \text{ car.n} \rangle (x (\text{you.pro ((past buy.v) that.rel)))))),\]

then we interpret the relativizer that.rel to ∗r in a lambda expression

\[(:l x (\langle x \text{ car.n} \rangle \text{and.cc (x (∶l ∗r (you.pro (past buy.v) ∗r)))))),\]

via lambda-conversion becomes

\[(:l x ((x \text{ car.n}) \text{and.cc (you.pro (past buy.v) x))}),\]

i.e., the predicate that is true of an entity if it is a car and you bought it.

**Walkthrough 2 (simplified relativizer mapping)**

This uses the same sentence as Walkthrough 1, but uses the simplified relativizer mapping. Consider the formula for “car that you bought”

\[\text{(n+preds car.n (sub that.rel (you.pro ((past buy.v) ∗h)))},\]

now we can expand n+preds into the lambda expression

\[(:l x (\langle x \text{ car.n} \rangle (x (\text{sub that.rel (you.pro ((past buy.v) ∗h))))))),\]

then we used the simplified rule (sub C[that.rel] F) \(\equiv\) (∶l ∗r (sub C[that.rel←∗r] F))

\[(:l x (\langle x \text{ car.n} \rangle \text{and.cc (x (:l ∗r (you.pro (past buy.v) ∗h)))))),\]

then sub moves the ∗r into the relative clause

\[(:l x (\langle x \text{ car.n} \rangle (x (:l ∗r (you.pro ((past buy.v) ∗r)))))),\]

via lambda-conversion becomes

\[(:l x ((x \text{ car.n}) \text{and.cc (you.pro (past buy.v) x))}),\]

and the result is the same as Walkthrough 1.

**Walkthrough 3 (who.rel)**

More subtly, who.rel will be rewritten as (the.d (:l x ((x person.n) and.cc (x = ∗r)))),
i.e. the entity that is a person and is identical with \( r \), so that, for example, “the manager who you met” is annotated as

\[
\text{the} (\text{d manager.n})
\]

\[
\text{sub who.rel} (\text{you.pro ((past meet.v) \(*h\))}),
\]

via np+preds and sub becomes

\[
\text{the} (\:\!: y (\text{y} = (\text{the} \text{d manager.n})) \text{and.cc} (\text{y} (\text{you.pro ((past meet.v) who.rel))))),
\]

via who.rel becomes

\[
\text{the} (\:\!: y (y = (\text{the} \text{d manager.n})) \text{and.cc} (y (\text{you.pro ((past meet.v) (the.d (:l x ((x person.n) and.cc (x = \(*r\)))))))},
\]

which after \( r \) lambda-conversion becomes

\[
\text{the} (\:\!: y ((y = (\text{the} \text{d manager.n})) \text{and.cc} (\text{you.pro ((past meet.v) (the.d (:l x ((x person.n) and.cc (x = y))))))}),
\]

simplify with lambda-conversion

\[
\text{the} (\:\!: y ((y = (\text{the} \text{d manager.n})) \text{and.cc} (\text{you.pro ((past meet.v) y)) and.cc (y person.n) and.cc (y = y)))),
\]

reduce tautology to \( T \)

\[
\text{the} (\:\!: y ((y = (\text{the} \text{d manager.n})) \text{and.cc} (\text{you.pro ((past meet.v) y)) and.cc (y person.n) and.cc T))),
\]

simplify trivial and.cc, i.e. \((p \text{and.cc} T) \rightarrow p\)

\[
\text{the} (\:\!: y ((y = (\text{the} \text{d manager.n})) \text{and.cc} (\text{you.pro ((past meet.v) y)) and.cc (y person.n))}),
\]

flatten nested and.cc

\[
\text{the} (\:\!: y ((y = (\text{the} \text{d manager.n})) \text{and.cc} (\text{you.pro ((past meet.v) y)) (y person.n)))),
\]

i.e., the individual \( y \) such that \( y \) is the manager, you met \( y \), and \( y \) is a person.

\textit{Definition of rule used for the.d with equality}

\[
S_{le}[((x = y))] \equiv (S_{le}[(x = y)]) \text{and.cc} (y (1 x F))
\]

\( S_{le} \) is the lowest embedding sentence that contains the bracketed formula. This rule says that if the restrictor for the.d is a complex lambda predicate containing a positive assertion of the equality of the quantified variable (here \( x \)) with some other individual (here \( y \)), we’re replacing the quantification with the other individual \( y \). As for the rest of the restrictor,
we can now assert that the substituting individual (y) satisfies the restrictor and lift that predication to the lowest embedding sentence level, $S_{le}$.

### A.5 It-clefts

It clefts are annotated by marking the “it” as `it-cleft.pro` and supplying the topicalized argument as the first argument and the relative clause as the second argument to `be.v`. Post-processing it-clefts boils down to inserting the first argument into the relativizer position. It turns out that it-clefts allow arbitrary clauses so the relativizer will be replaced directly, rather than expanding to the lambda expression.

#### Simple definition of it-cleft rule

$$\text{It-cleft.pro (}}{{<\text{tense}> \text{ be.v} \ A}) \ R[*.\rel])) \rightarrow R[*.\rel\leftarrow A]$$

Here’s an example of this rule application:

$$(\text{It-cleft.pro (}}{{(\text{past be.v}) \ |Mary|}) \ (\text{who.rel ((past arrive.v) first.adv-a)}))) \Rightarrow (|Mary| \ (\text{past arrive.v}) \ \text{first.adv-a}))$$

This turns out not to be quite enough to handle all the cases of it-clefts, since it-clefts can include auxiliaries preceding `be.v` which applies to the mapped sentence as well as question constructions. So we’ll first require that all the rules in this section be applied after question inversion is undone and add the following for it-clefts with auxiliaries.

#### Definition of it-cleft rule including auxiliary handling.

$$\text{It-cleft.pro (}}{{<\text{tense}> \text{ <aux>} \ A}) \ R[*.\rel])) \rightarrow (\text{<aux> R[*.\rel\leftarrow A]})$$

Here’s an example.

$$(\text{It-cleft.pro (}}{{(\text{past can.aux-s}) \ (\text{be.v \ |Mary|}) \ (\text{that.rel (past leave.v)})})) \Rightarrow (\text{can.aux-s (|Mary| (\text{past leave.v})})$$

This mapping doesn’t have the tense and auxiliary marking in the same location as the surface ULF annotation. We can write more sophisticated mapping rules so that the surface form is the same as the guidelines. However, this mapping will capture the correct further post-processed meaning since the sentence-level auxiliaries and tenses are lifted to sentence level anyway.

#### A.5.1 Presupposition from it-clefts

You may have noticed that the rules listed so far don’t seem to quite capture the meaning of the it-cleft. This is because the it-cleft carries a strong presupposition that the relative clause is satisfied by something. From the example above “It could be Mary that left” we infer that “Someone left” regardless of whether it is in fact Mary that left. Presuppositional meanings must be handled distinctly from the truth-functional meaning so this will need to involve a separate, presuppositional inference rule.

$$(\text{It-cleft.pro (}} \ldots \ A \ . \ . \ R[*.\rel])) \Rightarrow_{\text{presuppositional}} ((\text{Some.d <bleached A type>}) (\lambda x R[*.\rel\leftarrow x]))$$

TODO: Clean up this rule. It needs to handle a bunch of types...
A.6  It-extraposition

A.7  Rightshifting (rep operator)

A.8  Existential there

A.9  Mapping Names to Lisp

It turns out that when we load |_| into Lisp, we won’t be able to distinguish it from _ on
its own if all alphabetic characters between the pipes are upper case, and don’t include any
of the reserved characters of Lisp. For example, |C++| and |WABC-TV| would look the same
as C++ (or C++) and WABC-TV (or WABC-TV) respectively in Lisp; (whereas |C#| would retain
the pipes, and in fact for c# or C#, pipes would be added by the Lisp reader). So, to map into
Lisp, the annotation is post-processed at the character level so that names in pipes where
Lisp would drop the pipes are prefixed with a blank space. For example, |C++| becomes
| C++| and |WABC-TV| becomes | WABC-TV|. Then when read into Lisp, the pipe-enclosed
symbol will remain pipe-enclosed and thus is identified as a name. The same happens for
name predicates, |_|.n

|John| → |John| (no change)
|U.S.A.|.n → | U.S.A..N|
|NY| → | NY|
|Missouri|.n → |Missouri.N|

Note that there is a distinction between using a name, and mentioning it. Names enclosed
in pipes are being used (to refer to some entity in the world), whereas names (or other
strings) in quotes are mentions of those strings, standing for the literal strings themselves.
It turns out that the Lisp string function applied to a name in pipes replaces the pipes
by quotes; for example, (string '|John|) evaluates to "John", so a use is converted to a
mention. (However, any initial blank characters need to be removed.)

A.10  Possessives

Prenominal Possessive Rewriting Definitions

((NP 's) N[-of.n *s]) ≡ (the.d N[*s→NP])
((NP 's) N![-of.n *s]) ≡ (the.d (n+preds N (poss-by NP)))

The expansions reflect the post-nominal possession constructions described in Section 5.12
which are different for relational and non-relational possessives. poss-by is a binary pred-
icate indicating general, unspecified possession which is only distinguished from relational
possession, which is lexicalized in the relational predicate. Section 5.12 also lists a bunch
of formulas before and after this rewriting for reference. An additional layer is built for
possessive determiners to further lexicalize and simplify the annotations.

Possessive Determiner Rewriting Definition

my.d ≡ (me.pro 's)

my.d and me.pro can be replaced by any corresponding pair of possessive determiner and
personal pronoun (fully listed at Table 1).

Possessive Pronoun Rewriting Definitions

mine.a ≡ (poss-by i.pro)
mine.pro \equiv ((i.pro 's) ref.n)

mine.a, mine.pro, and i.pro can be replaced by corresponding possessive pronoun and personal pronoun. Here are some examples:

That is mine \rightarrow (that.pro ((pres be.v) mine.a))
\rightarrow (that.pro ((pres be.v) (poss-by i.pro)))

Mine is red \rightarrow (mine.pro ((pres be.v) red.a))
\rightarrow (((i.pro 's) (ref).n) ((pres be.v) red.a))
\rightarrow ((the.d (n+preds (ref).n (poss-by i.pro))) ((pres be.v) red.a))

B Deeper Discussion

B.1 Issues Surrounding Quote Annotations
TODO: talk about quote dilemma – need both interpretation and surface form to properly handle
TODO: talk about options for annotating integrated quotes and why they’re too much to deal with

B.2 Post-processing Domain Specific Content

There are certain categories where we really use domain-specific representations so rather than trying to tie these subgrammars into our general English grammar handling, EL uses a “record type” to write these down

\begin{verbatim}
<record> ::= ($ <record type> <term>1 <term>2 ... <term>n), n geq 1
\end{verbatim}

For ULF, we simply mark these as domain specific grammars and preserve the string (see Section 5.15). The ULFs should be further resolved into record types as discussed here. This multi-step approach is necessary because these phenomena have complex grammars but do not appear often enough in general text to be learned from a small dataset. Thus, domain-specific parsers either hand-written or trained on a dedicated dataset can be used to resolve the semantic content of these phenomena.

For dates and times we have the record type date-time where by convention we use “-” for “unspecified”, and always go in the order year, month, day, hour, minute, second, but stop as soon as there are no more specified items. So “5:30pm” would be ($ date-time - - - 17 30) and “June 18th, 2017” would be ($ date-time 2017 6 18).

Below are a listing of common record types to get a sense of this representation.

1. Dates and Times

\begin{verbatim}
("5:30pm" - ($ date-time - - - 17 30)
"June 18(th) 2017" - ($ date-time 2017 6 18)
\end{verbatim}

2. Currency

\begin{verbatim}
("Five dollars and thirty cents" - ($ currency |dollar| 5.30)
"€30" - ($ currency |euro| 30)
\end{verbatim}
“Three pound seventeen pence” – ($ currency |pound| 3.17)

3. Address

($ us_addr <street #> <street name> <street type> <city/town> <state> <zip>)

“880 Linden Ave” – ($ us_addr 880 |Linden| (k avenue.n))

Notice that for address, we specify us_addr. Since other countries may have significantly different address structures, each will need its own record type. See below for a reference of most US street types and their abbreviations:

- Road (Rd.)
- Way
- Street (St.)
- Avenue (Ave.)
- Boulevard (Blvd.)
- Lane (Ln.)
- Drive (Dr.)
- Terrace (Ter.)
- Place (Pl.)
- Court (Ct.)

A special case of record type is numbers, which we write down simply by the number (without $ or record type). So “one thousand nine hundred and seventy-four”, “nineteen hundred and seventy-four”, and “nineteen seventy-four” are all annotated as 1974 or the adjective or determiner variants of numbers mentioned in Section 5.6 on generated determiners.

C POS Tagset

We use the Penn Treebank POS tagset supplemented with an AUX tag for non-modal verbs (which are annotated as VB in the Penn Treebank). Below is a table of the tags for reference. Please look at the pos annotation guidelines for in depth discussion of the annotations [http://repository.upenn.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1603&context=cis_reports](http://repository.upenn.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1603&context=cis_reports).
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