

Reasoning with an (Experiential) Attitude: inference relations between same-type attitude reports

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Objectives

Objective 1 (empirical)

Identify & classify inference relations b/w same-attitude reports:

- (†) a. Ida imagined/saw a penguin dive into the sea.
→ b. Ida imag'd/saw that a penguin dove into the sea.

Note: for 'see', many of these rel's have been identified in situation semantics (Barwise 1981; B & Perry '83; Asher & Bonevac '85)

Hint: for 'imagine', these relations are different than for 'see'!

Objective 2 (formal)

- Give a simple (!) compositional semantics for imagination and vision reports that captures these differences

← **Strategy:** use a non-clausal syntax for bare infinitive/gerundive attitude reports; give it a situation-based semantics

Empirical Domain

Domain: grammatically different same-type attitude reports:

- ① Ida imagined a penguin.
- ② Ida imagined a penguin diving into the sea.
- ③ Ida imagined that a penguin dove/was diving into the sea

← we find most differences for '**experiential**' attitude verbs:

- **epistemic verbs:** remember, notice, ...
- **counterfactual attitude verbs:** imagine, dream, ...
- **perception verbs:** see, hear, feel, sense, ...

→ these verbs ...

- ... accept nominal (①) & clausal complements ([②] ③)
- ... have experiential (①, ②) & non-experiential readings (③)

Why do this?

- ① Non-perception experiential attitude reports have been *neglected in situation semantics* (cf. Barwise-Perry, Kratzer, Cooper-Ginzburg)
- ② Newer semantics for such reports (e.g. Stephenson 2010; cf. Zimmermann 1993, 2016) *focus on certain grammatical forms*
→ they fail to capture inferences involving other forms:

- (*) a. Ida imagined a penguin diving into the sea.
⇒ b. Ida imagined that a penguin was diving ...

- (**) a. Ida imagined a penguin diving into the sea.
⇒ b. Ida imagined a penguin.

The Plan

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Inferences & Inference Classes
 - Diagnostics: testing for valid inferences
 - Typology: identifying classes of valid inferences
- 3 Background
 - Non-clausal syntax
 - Situation(-based) semantics
- 4 Modelling: capturing the inferences
 - Capturing 'see'-inferences
 - Capturing 'imagine'-inferences
- 5 Conclusion

Sample Attitude Reports

- 1 (A) Ida i. imagined / ii. saw a penguin.
- (B) Ida i. imagined / ii. saw a **real-world** penguin [dive(ing) ...]
- 2 (C) Ida i. imagined / ii. saw a penguin **dive(ing)** into the sea.
- (D) Ida i. imagined / ii. saw **an aquatic flightless bird** dive ...
- (E) **A penguin** is s.t. Ida i. imagined / ii. saw **it** dive into the sea.
- 3 (F) Ida i. imagined / ii. saw **that** a penguin dove into the sea.

Combinatorics of Sample Reports

	A	B	C	D	E	F
A	≡					
B		≡				
C			≡			
D				≡		
E					≡	
F						≡

grey = 30 interesting pairs of attitude reports

Tests for Valid Inferences

(Grice 1975; Blome-Tillmann 2013)

Test 1 (non-cancellability): If $X \Rightarrow Y$ is a valid inference, then 'X, but not Y' is a contradiction in any context (**general n.-c.**) or in some context (**contextual non-cancellability**)

- (*) # Ida imagined a **real-world** penguin, but not a penguin.
 (‡) B.i. Ida imagined a real-world penguin.
 ⇒ A.i. Ida imagined a penguin.

Test 2 (non-reinforceability): If $X \Rightarrow Y$ is a valid inference, then 'X and (also) Y' is redundant/semantically deviant

- (**) ? Ida imagined a **real-world** penguin and (also) a penguin

Inference Classes

	A	B	C	D	E	F
A	≡	↯/⇒	↯	↯	↯	↯
B	⇒	≡	⇒	↯/⇒	↯/⇒	⇒/↯
C	⇒	↯/⇒	≡	↯/⇒	↯/⇒	⇒/↯
D	↯/⇒	↯/⇒	↯/⇒	≡	↯/⇒	↯
E	⇒	↯/⇒	⇒	↯/⇒	≡	⇒/↯
F	↯	↯	↯	↯	↯	≡

white = 10 generally **invalid** inferences (↯)

20 valid inferences:

green = 5 **generally valid** inferences (⇒)

grey = 15 'lexical' inferences (↯/⇒, ⇒/↯)

Inference Classes (cont'd)

	A	B	C	D	E	F
A	≡	↯/⇒	↯	↯	↯	↯
B	⇒	≡	⇒	↯/⇒	↯/⇒	⇒/↯
C	⇒	↯/⇒	≡	↯/⇒	↯/⇒	⇒/↯
D	↯/⇒	↯/⇒	↯/⇒	≡	↯/⇒	↯
E	⇒	↯/⇒	⇒	↯/⇒	≡	⇒/↯
F	↯	↯	↯	↯	↯	≡

Class 1 (B–C, E ⇒ A, C): generally valid inferences:

- (1) C. Ida imagined/saw a penguin dive into the sea.
 ⇒ A. Ida imagined/saw a penguin.

Inference Classes (cont'd)

	A	B	C	D	E	F
A	≡	↯/⇒	↯	↯	↯	↯
B	⇒	≡	⇒	↯/⇒	↯/⇒	⇒/↯
C	⇒	↯/⇒	≡	↯/⇒	↯/⇒	⇒/↯
D	↯/⇒	↯/⇒	↯/⇒	≡	↯/⇒	↯
E	⇒	↯/⇒	⇒	↯/⇒	≡	⇒/↯
F	↯	↯	↯	↯	↯	≡

Class 2 (A, C–E ⇒ B): DP-veridicality inferences for 'see'

- (2) A. Ida i. imagined / ii. saw a penguin.
 B. Ida ↯ i. imag'd / ⇒ ii. saw a real-world penguin.

Inference Classes (cont'd)

	A	B	C	D	E	F
A	≡	↯/⇒	↯	↯	↯	↯
B	⇒	≡	⇒	↯/⇒	↯/⇒	⇒/↯
C	⇒	↯/⇒	≡	↯/⇒	↯/⇒	⇒/↯
D	↯/⇒	↯/⇒	↯/⇒	≡	↯/⇒	↯
E	⇒	↯/⇒	⇒	↯/⇒	≡	⇒/↯
F	↯	↯	↯	↯	↯	≡

Class 3 (B–C, E ⇒ D): DP-substitution infer's for 'see'

- (3) C. Ida i. imagined / ii. saw a penguin dive ...
 D. Ida ↯ i. imagined / ⇒ ii. saw an aquatic flightless bird dive ...

Inference Classes (cont'd)

	A	B	C	D	E	F
A	≡	≠/⇒	≠	≠	≠	≠
B	⇒	≡	⇒	≠/⇒	≠/⇒	⇒/≠
C	⇒	≠/⇒	≡	≠/⇒	≠/⇒	⇒/≠
D	≠/⇒	≠/⇒	≠/⇒	≡	≠/⇒	≠
E	⇒	≠/⇒	⇒	≠/⇒	≡	⇒/≠
F	≠	≠	≠	≠	≠	≡

Class 4 (B–D ⇒ E): DP-specificity inferences for 'see'

- (4) C. Ida i. imagined / ii. saw a penguin dive ...
 E. **A penguin** is s.t.
 Ida ≠ i. imagined / ⇒ ii. saw **it** dive ...

Inference Classes (cont'd)

	A	B	C	D	E	F
A	≡	≠/⇒	≠	≠	≠	≠
B	⇒	≡	⇒	≠/⇒	≠/⇒	⇒/≠
C	⇒	≠/⇒	≡	≠/⇒	≠/⇒	⇒/≠
D	≠/⇒	≠/⇒	≠/⇒	≡	≠/⇒	≠
E	⇒	≠/⇒	⇒	≠/⇒	≡	⇒/≠
F	≠	≠	≠	≠	≠	≡

Class 5 (B–C, E ⇒ F): epistemic positivity for 'imagine'

- (5) C. Ida i. imagined / ii. saw a penguin dive ...
 F. Ida ⇒ i. imagined / ≠ ii. saw **that** a penguin
 was diving ...

Epistemic Positivity ≠ (Experiential) Indirectness

- (5) C. Ida i. imagined / ii. saw a penguin dive ...
 F. Ida ⇒ i. imagined / ≠ ii. saw **that** a penguin ...

Note: C.i is **direct** (i.e. contains a non-finite gerundive constructn) and is **epistemically positive** (i.e. resists DP-substitution)

⚡ This goes against Barwise (cf. Dretske 1970) and Kratzer, who associate **epistemic positiveness** with **indirectness**!

➡ **Problem/question:**

- How can we ensure that direct imagination reports are epistemically **positive**, but direct vision reports are epist'y **neutral**?

Strategy

➡ **Problem/question:**

- How can we ensure that direct imagination reports are epistemically **positive**, but direct vision reports are epist'y **neutral**?

Strategy

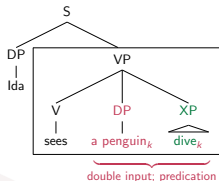
- Assign a **non-clausal syntax** to bare infinitive/gerundive attitude reports (see Williams 1983; vs. Barwise 1981)
 - ⚡ This gives us a better handle on the scope of the embedded DP!
- Show:** this syntax can be given a **situation-based semantics!** (see Barwise 1981; cf. Kratzer 2002; Liefke & Werning 2018)

Non-Clausal Syntax

(Williams 1983, 2010)

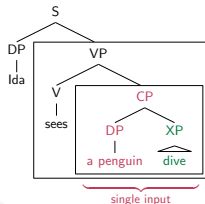
Assumption (predication theory): the complement in C (D-E) is a non-constituent element of a ternary branching VP:

⚡ This gives us a better handle on the scope of the embedded DP



Comparison: Small Clause Syntax (Stowell 1981; s. Barwise 1981)

Assumption (small clause theory): the complement in C (D-E) forms a constituent small clause:



Syntax-Semantics Interface: interpreting non-clausal 'see'

Ida $[_{VP} \text{sees } [_{DP} \text{a penguin}]_k \text{ } [_{XP} \text{dive into the sea}]_k]$

Attempt 1: $[[\text{see } [_{DP}] \text{ } [_{XP}]]]^i = \lambda Q \lambda P \lambda z [\text{see}''(z, Q_i, P)]$
 (⚡ predication?)

Attempt 2: $= \lambda Q \lambda P \lambda z [Q_i(\lambda j \lambda y. \text{see}''(z, y, \lambda k. P_k(y)))]$
 $\approx [[\text{find } [_{DP}]]]^i = \lambda Q \lambda z [Q_i(\lambda j \lambda y. \text{find}_j(z, y))] \quad (\text{⚡ redundant } y?)$

Attempt 3: $= \lambda Q \lambda P \lambda z [Q_i(\lambda j \lambda y. \text{see}''(z, \lambda k. P_k(y)))]$
 (⚡ a proposition; ? better: a situation)

Evidence for Situation Arguments (see Stephenson 2010)

Observation: A-E have an 'experiential' reading, i.e. their complements denote a **situation**/informationally incomplete world-part

⚡ **Support:**

- the matrix verb in A-E allows for 'experiential' modification:
 - (o) Ida **vividly** imagined (/saw) a penguin.
- A-E can be rephrased with an eventive *how*-complement:
 - (•) Ida imagined/saw **how** a penguin was diving ...

⚡ **Proposal:** turn the proposition-argument of *see'* in **Attempt 3** into a situation:

(van der Does 1991: "Adopting [Williams'] syntactic structure does not force one to reject Barwise's semantics")

Situations & Non-Clausal 'See'

Attempt 3: = $\lambda Q \lambda P \lambda z [Q_i (\lambda j \lambda y. \text{see}_j'(z, \lambda k. P_k(y)))]$

a proposition
↓

Attempt 4: = $\lambda Q \lambda P \lambda z [Q_i (\lambda j \lambda y. \text{see}_j(z, \underbrace{f_c(\lambda k. P_k(y))}_{\text{a situation}}))]$
(final)

Above, f is an event-dependent choice function (v. Heusinger '13):

- f selects a situation from a given set of situations $\lambda k [\dots]$
- f depends on a parameter, c , for the described attitudinal event (here: $c := (\iota e)[\text{see}_e(e) \wedge \text{AGENT}_j(e) = z]$, i.e. the event of z 's seeing in j)

← **Attempt 4'** (event-semantic version):

$$\lambda Q \lambda P \lambda z [Q_i (\lambda j \lambda y \exists e. \text{see}_j(e, z, f_c(\lambda k. P_k(y))))]$$

AGENT_j(e) ↑ ↑ THEME_j(e)

Situations & Non-Clausal 'See' (cont'd)

Note: the parameterizing event constrains the choice of situation

↳ f 's dependence on vision events ensures the factivity of 'see':

$$[\text{see}_{[\text{DP}]}][\text{XP}]^i \equiv \lambda Q \lambda P \lambda z [Q_i (\lambda j \lambda y. \text{see}_j(z, f_c(\lambda k. P_k(y) \wedge k \leq j)))]$$

Below: $E_k(y) := 'y \text{ exists in } k'; j \leq i := 'i \text{ contains all info of } j'$:

The semantics of 'see'

$$[\text{see}_{[\text{DP}]}][\text{XP}]^i = \lambda Q \lambda P \lambda z [Q_i (\lambda j \lambda y. \text{see}_j(z, f_c(\lambda k. P_k(y))))]$$

$$[\text{see}_{[\text{DP}]}]^i = \lambda Q \lambda z [Q_i (\lambda j \lambda y. \text{see}_j(z, f_c(\lambda k. E_k(y))))]$$

$$[\text{see}_{[\text{CP}]}]^i = \lambda P \lambda z [\text{see}_i(z, \lambda j. P_j \wedge j \leq i)]$$

!! situations need not be spatio-temporally located/anchored

↳ we represent situations by sets of anchored situations

visual scenes := singletons containing an anchored situation

imagined situations := sets of qualitatively identical anchored sit's

↳ we can use see to interpret all above occurrences of 'see'!

Interpreting Bare Infinitive Vision Reports

$$[\text{see}_{[\text{DP}]}][\text{XP}]^i = \lambda Q \lambda P \lambda z [Q_i (\lambda j \lambda y. \text{see}_j(z, f_c(\lambda k. P_k(y))))]$$

$$[[\text{Ida sees}_{[\text{DP}]} \text{a penguin}]_{[\text{XP}]} \text{div}]^i$$

$$= \lambda Q \lambda P \lambda z [Q_i (\lambda j \lambda y. \text{see}_j(z, f_c(\lambda k. P_k(y))))]$$

$$\quad (\lambda \lambda P' (\exists x) [\text{penguin}_i(x) \wedge P_i(x)], \text{div}, \text{ida})$$

$$\stackrel{!}{=} (\lambda P (\exists x) [\text{penguin}_i(x) \wedge P_i(x)])$$

$$\quad (\lambda j \lambda y. \text{see}_j(\text{ida}, f_c(\lambda k. \text{div}_k(y))))$$

$$\equiv (\exists x) [\text{penguin}_i(x) \wedge \text{see}_i(\text{ida}, f_c(\lambda j. \text{div}_j(x)))]$$

$$= [[\text{DP} \text{a penguin}] [\lambda_1 [\text{Ida}]_{[\text{VP}]} \text{sees } t_1 [\text{XP} \text{div}]]]^i$$

- (4) C. Ida i. imagines/ii. sees a penguin dive.
E. A penguin is s.t. Ida ↗ i. imagines/ ⇒ ii. sees it dive.

Against the 'Small Clause'-Approach

$$[\text{see}_{[\text{DP}]}][\text{XP}]^i = \lambda Q \lambda P \lambda z [Q_i (\lambda j \lambda y. \text{see}_j(z, f_c(\lambda k. P_k(y))))]$$

Alternative (?): $[\text{see}_{[\text{CP}]}]^i = \lambda P \lambda z [\text{see}_i(z, f_c(P))]$

↳ But: $[[\text{Ida sees}_{[\text{CP}]} \text{a penguin dive}]^i]$

$$= \lambda P \lambda z [\text{see}_i(z, f_c(P))](\lambda j (\exists x) [\text{penguin}_j(x) \wedge \text{div}_j(x)], \text{ida})$$

$$\equiv \text{see}_i(\text{ida}, f_c(\lambda j \exists x. \text{penguin}_j(x) \wedge \text{div}_j(x)))$$

$$\neq (\exists x) [\text{penguin}_i(x) \wedge \text{see}_i(\text{ida}, f_c(\lambda j. \text{div}_j(x)))]$$

$$= [[\text{DP} \text{a penguin}] [\lambda_1 [\text{Ida}]_{[\text{VP}]} \text{sees } t_1 [\text{XP} \text{div}]]]^i$$

(Problematic) **Remedy:** Adopt the ff. quantifier exportation rule:

$$(Q\text{-Exp}) (\forall z)(\forall Q)(\forall P)[\text{see}_i(z, f_c(\lambda j \exists x. Q_j(x) \wedge P_j(x)) \rightarrow (\exists y)[Q_i(y) \wedge \text{see}_i(z, f_c(\lambda j. P_j(y)))]]$$

Capturing 'See'-Inferences: Class 3

- (3) C. Ida i. imagines / ii. sees a penguin dive into the sea.
 D. Ida \nrightarrow i. imag's / \Rightarrow ii. sees an aquatic flightless bird.

Note: the DP-argument of 'see' has an **extensional** interpret'n:

$$[\text{Ida sees a penguin} \dots]^i = (\exists x)[\text{penguin}_i(x) \wedge \text{see}_i(\dots)]$$

→ granted (Ext), C.ii \Rightarrow D.ii is a valid inference:

- a. $[\text{C.ii}]^i = (\exists x)[\text{penguin}_i(x) \wedge \text{see}_i(\text{ida}, f_c(\lambda j. \text{dive}_j(x)))]$
 (Ext). $(\forall x)[\text{penguin}_i(x) \leftrightarrow \text{aquatic-flightless-bird}_i(x)]$
 ≡ b. $[\text{D.ii}]^i = (\exists x)[\text{aquatic-flightless-bird}_i(x) \wedge \text{see}_i(\text{ida}, f_c(\lambda j. \text{dive}_j(x)))]$

Note: the XP-argument of 'see' stays **intensional**
 (see Asher & Bonevac 1985)

Capturing 'See'-Inferences: Class 1

- (1) C. Ida i. imagines / ii. sees a penguin **dive into the sea.**
 → A. Ida i. imagines / ii. sees a penguin.

Note: 'see' in A.ii and C.ii has the same(-type) translation:

$$[\text{see a penguin}]^i \equiv [\text{see a penguin existing/being there}]^i$$

→ granted (Gen), C.ii \Rightarrow A.ii is valid: (analogously for 'imagine')

- (1) a. $[\text{C.ii}]^i = (\exists x)[\text{penguin}_i(x) \wedge \text{see}_i(\text{ida}, f_c(\lambda j. \text{dive}_j(x)))]$
 (Gen). $(\forall j)(\forall x)[\text{dive}_j(x) \rightarrow E_j(x)]$
 → b. $[\text{A.ii}]^i = (\exists x)[\text{penguin}_i(x) \wedge \text{see}_i(\text{ida}, f_c(\lambda j. E_j(x)))]$

Interpreting 'Objectual' Vision Reports

$$[\text{see } [_{\text{DP}}]]^i = \lambda Q \lambda z [Q_i(\lambda j \lambda y. \text{see}_j(z, f_c(\lambda k. E_k(y))))]$$

$$\begin{aligned} & [\text{Ida sees } [_{\text{DP}} \text{ a penguin}]]^i \\ &= \lambda Q \lambda z [Q_i(\lambda j \lambda y. \text{see}_j(z, f_c(\lambda k. E_k(y)))) \\ & \quad (\lambda l \lambda P (\exists x)[\text{penguin}_i(x) \wedge P_l(x)], \text{ida}) \\ & \equiv (\exists x)[\text{penguin}_i(x) \wedge \text{see}_i(\text{ida}, f_c(\lambda j. E_j(x)))] \\ & \equiv (\exists x)[\text{penguin}_i(x) \wedge \text{see}_i(\text{ida}, f_c(\lambda j. E_j(x) \wedge j \leq i))] \\ & = [\text{Ida sees } [_{\text{DP}} \text{ a penguin}] [\text{being there (in the real world)}]]^i \\ & \equiv [\text{Ida sees } [_{\text{DP}} \text{ a real-world penguin}]]^i \quad (\uparrow \text{see Parsons 1997}) \end{aligned}$$

- (1) A. Ida i. imagines / ii. sees a penguin.
 B. Ida \nrightarrow i. imagines / \Rightarrow ii. sees a **real-world penguin.**

Interpreting Clausal Vision Reports

$$[\text{see } [_{\text{CP}}]]^i = \lambda p \lambda z [\text{see}_i(z, \lambda j. p_j \wedge j \leq i)]$$

$$\begin{aligned} & [\text{Ida sees } [_{\text{CP}} \text{ that a penguin dives}]]^i \text{ de dicto} \\ &= \lambda p \lambda z [\text{see}_i(z, \lambda j. p_j \wedge j \leq i)] \\ & \quad (\lambda k (\exists x)[\text{penguin}_k(x) \wedge \text{dive}_k(x)], \text{ida}) \\ & \equiv \text{see}_i(\text{ida}, \lambda j \exists x. (\text{penguin}_i(x) \wedge \text{dive}_j(x)) \wedge j \leq i) \\ & \neq (\exists x)[\text{penguin}_i(x) \wedge \text{see}_i(\text{ida}, f_c(\lambda j. \text{dive}_j(x) \wedge j \leq i))] \\ & = [[_{\text{DP}} \text{ a penguin}] \lambda_1 [\text{Ida } [_{\text{VP}} \text{ sees } [_{\text{CP}} \text{ that } t_1 [_{\text{XP}} \text{ dives}]]]]]^i \\ & \equiv [\text{Ida sees } [_{\text{DP}} \text{ a penguin}] [_{\text{XP}} \text{ dive}]]^i \end{aligned}$$

- (5) C. Ida i. imagines / ii. sees a penguin dive into ...
 F. Ida \Rightarrow i. imagines / \nrightarrow ii. sees **that a penguin dives ...**

Interpreting (Gerundive) Imagination Reports

Note: the DP-argument of 'imagine' (unlike 'see') is **intensional**

↩ two strategies for capturing this:

Strategy 1 (s. Montague 1973; cf. Quine 1956): lexically decompose 'imagine' into '■' to 'see', where ■ is an intensional operator:

$$\begin{aligned} \llbracket \text{imagine}_{[\text{DP}]} \rrbracket^i &= \lambda Q \lambda z [\llbracket \blacksquare \rrbracket_i(z, \lambda j. Q_j(\lambda k \lambda y. \text{see}_k(z, f_c(\lambda l. E_l(y)))))] \\ &\approx \llbracket \text{seek} \rrbracket^i = \lambda Q \lambda z [\text{try}_i(z, \lambda j. Q_j(\lambda k \lambda y. \text{find}_k(z, y)))] \end{aligned}$$

▶ **Strategy 2** (see Montague 1970; cf. Moltmann 1997): interpret 'imagine' as a quantifier *low scope*-version of 'see':

$$\begin{aligned} \llbracket \text{imagine}_{[\text{DP}]} \rrbracket^i &= \lambda Q \lambda z [\text{imagine}_i(z, f_c(\lambda j. Q_j(E)))] \\ &\approx \llbracket \text{seek}_{[\text{DP}]} \rrbracket^i = \lambda Q \lambda z [\text{seek}_i(z, Q)] \end{aligned}$$

Capturing 'Imagine'-Inferences: Class 4

- (4) C. Ida i. imagines / ii. sees a penguin div.
E. A penguin is s.t. Ida ↗ i. imagines / ⇒ ii. sees it div.

$$\begin{aligned} \llbracket \text{Ida imagines}_{[\text{DP} \text{ a penguin}]} \rrbracket_{[\text{XP} \text{ diving}]}^i & \text{ de dicto} \\ &= \lambda Q \lambda P \lambda z [\text{imagine}_i(z, f_c(\lambda j. Q_j(P))) \\ & \quad (\lambda k \lambda P' (\exists x) [\text{penguin}_k(x) \wedge P'_k(x)], \text{div}, \text{ida})] \\ &\equiv \text{imagine}_i(\text{ida}, f_c(\lambda j \exists x. \text{penguin}_j(x) \wedge \text{div}_j(x))) \\ & \neq (\exists x) [\text{penguin}_i(x) \wedge \text{imagine}_i(\text{ida}, f_c(\lambda j. \text{div}_j(x)))] \\ &= \llbracket [\text{DP} \text{ a penguin}] \rrbracket [\lambda_1 [\text{Ida} [\text{VP} \text{ imagines } t_1 [\text{XP} \text{ diving}]]]]^i \\ &\equiv \llbracket [\text{DP} \text{ A penguin}] \rrbracket \text{ is s.t. Ida imagines it } [\text{XP} \text{ diving}]^i \end{aligned}$$

N.B.: the *de re*-cases are analogous to the resp. 'see'-inference

Semantics of 'Imagine'

Below: c' := the event of z 's imagining in i

The semantics of 'imagine'

$$\begin{aligned} \llbracket \text{imagine}_{[\text{DP}]} \rrbracket_{[\text{XP}]}^i &= \lambda Q \lambda P \lambda z [\text{imagine}_i(z, f_{c'}(\lambda j. Q_j(P)))] \\ \llbracket \text{imagine}_{[\text{DP}]} \rrbracket^i &= \lambda Q \lambda z [\text{imagine}_i(z, f_{c'}(\lambda j. Q_j(E)))] \\ \llbracket \text{imagine}_{[\text{CP}]} \rrbracket^i &= \lambda p \lambda z [\text{see}_i(z, \lambda j. p_j)] \end{aligned}$$

Note: 'imagine' is counterfactual/non-verid'l (no conjunct ' $j \leq i$ ') (we can also imagine what is not there)

The semantics of 'see'

$$\begin{aligned} \llbracket \text{see}_{[\text{DP}]} \rrbracket_{[\text{XP}]}^i &= \lambda Q \lambda P \lambda z [Q_i(\lambda j \lambda y. \text{see}_j(z, f_c(\lambda k. P_k(y))))] \\ \llbracket \text{see}_{[\text{DP}]} \rrbracket^i &= \lambda Q \lambda z [Q_i(\lambda j \lambda y. \text{see}_j(z, f_c(\lambda k. E_k(y))))] \\ \llbracket \text{see}_{[\text{CP}]} \rrbracket^i &= \lambda p \lambda z [\text{see}_i(z, \lambda j. p_j \wedge j \leq i)] \end{aligned}$$

Capturing 'Imagine'-Inferences: Class 3

- (3) C. Ida i. imagines / ii. sees a penguin div into the sea.
D. Ida ↗ i. imagines / ⇒ ii. sees an aquatic flightless bird div.

Note: the DP-arg. of 'imagine' can have an **intensional** interpr'n:

$$\llbracket \text{Ida imagines a penguin} \dots \rrbracket^i = \text{imagine}_i(\text{ida}, f_{c'}(\lambda j \exists x. \dots))$$

↗ even with (Ext), C.i ⇒ D.i is not a valid inference:

- (3) a. $\llbracket \text{C.i} \rrbracket^i = \text{imagine}_i(\text{ida}, f_c(\lambda j \exists x. \text{penguin}_j(x) \wedge \text{div}_j(x)))$
(Ext). $(\forall x) [\text{penguin}_i(x) \leftrightarrow \text{aquatic-flightless-bird}_i(x)]$
↗ b. $\llbracket \text{D.i} \rrbracket^i = \text{imagine}_i(\text{ida}, f_c(\lambda j \exists x. \text{aquatic-flightless-bird}_j(x) \wedge \text{div}_j(x)))$

Interpreting 'Objectual' Imagination Reports

$$[[\text{imagine}_{\text{DP}}]]^i = \lambda Q \lambda z [\text{imagine}_i(z, f_{c'}(\lambda j. Q_j(E)))]$$

$$\begin{aligned} & [[\text{Ida imagines}_{\text{DP}} \text{a penguin}]]^i \text{ de dicto} \\ &= \lambda Q \lambda z [\text{imagine}_i(z, f_{c'}(\lambda j. Q_j(E))) \\ &\quad (\lambda k \lambda P (\exists x) [\text{penguin}_k(x) \wedge P_k(x)], \text{ida})] \\ &\equiv \text{imagine}_i(\text{ida}, f_{c'}(\lambda j \exists x. \text{penguin}_j(x) \wedge E_j(x))) \\ &= [[\text{Ida imagines}_{\text{DP}} \text{a penguin} [\text{being there (in her imag'd} \\ &\quad \text{(see Parsons 1997; Liefke, accepted) situation}]]^i \\ &\neq [[\text{Ida imagines}_{\text{DP}} \text{a real-world penguin}]]^i \\ &= \text{imagine}_i(\text{ida}, f_{c'}(\lambda j \exists x. \text{penguin}_j(x) \wedge E_j(x))) \end{aligned}$$

- (2) A. Ida i. imagines / ii. sees a penguin.
B. Ida ↗ i. imagines / ⇒ ii. sees a real-world penguin.

Comparison with Other Approaches

$$[[\text{imagine}_{\text{DP}}]_{\text{XP}}]]^i = \lambda Q \lambda P \lambda z [\text{imagine}_i(z, f_{c'}(\lambda j. Q_j(P)))]$$

Stephenson 2010 (simplified to center-less situations)

$$[[\text{imagine}_{\text{CP}}]]^i_{\text{vidid}} = \lambda P \lambda j \lambda z [p_j \wedge \text{vivid-imagine}_i(z, j)],$$

where $\text{vivid-imagine}_i(z, j) = 1$

iff z forms a mental image of j as if by directly witnessing it

Problems:

- Which expression (if any) contributes the imag'd situation j ?
- How do we explain inferential diff's b/w 'see' and 'imagine'?
- How do we interpret vivid/non-vivid coordinations?

(i) Ida imagined a penguin and that it was diving into the sea.

Interpreting Clausal Imagination Reports

- (5) C. Ida i. imagines / ii. sees a penguin diving into ...
F. Ida ⇒ i. imagines / ↗ ii. sees that a penguin dives ...

$$\begin{aligned} & [[\text{Ida imagines}_{\text{CP}} \text{that a penguin is diving}]]^i \text{ de dicto} \\ &= \lambda p \lambda z [\text{imagine}_i(z, \lambda j. p_j)] \\ &\quad (\lambda k (\exists x) [\text{penguin}_k(x) \wedge \text{dive}_k(x)], \text{ida}) \\ &\equiv \text{imagine}_i(\text{ida}, \lambda j \exists x. \text{penguin}_j(x) \wedge \text{dive}_j(x)) \end{aligned}$$

→ granted (M↑), C.i ⇒ F.i is a valid inference:

- (5) a. $[[C.i]]^i = \text{imagine}_i(\text{ida}, f_{c'}(\lambda j \exists x. \text{penguin}_j(x) \wedge \text{dive}_j(x)))$
(M↑). $(\forall p)(\forall z)[\text{imagine}_i(z, p) \rightarrow (\forall q. p \subseteq q \rightarrow \text{imagine}_i(z, q))]$
⇒ b. $[[F.i]]^i = \text{imagine}_i(\text{ida}, \lambda j \exists x. \text{penguin}_j(x) \wedge \text{dive}_j(x))$

Prospects

Note:

- Our interpretations of 'see' and 'imagine' give the embedded DP **maximal wide resp. narrow scope**

$$\begin{aligned} & [[\text{see}_{\text{DP}}]_{\text{XP}}]]^i = \lambda Q \lambda P \lambda z [Q_i(\lambda j \lambda y. \text{see}_i(z, f_c(\lambda k. P_k(y))))] \\ & [[\text{imagine}_{\text{DP}}]_{\text{XP}}]]^i = \lambda Q \lambda P \lambda z [\text{imagine}_i(z, f_{c'}(\lambda j. Q_j(P)))] \end{aligned}$$

- intermediate-scope interpretations are also possible & could be used to capture the inferential behavior of other verbs:

Conjecture

???

$$\begin{aligned} & [[\text{remember}_{\text{DP}}]_{\text{XP}}]]^i \text{ (intensionality + factivity)} \\ &= \lambda Q \lambda P \lambda z [\text{remember}_i(z, f_{c'}(\lambda j. Q_j(\lambda k \lambda y. P_k(y) \wedge (k \leq i \wedge k \prec i))))] \\ & [[(\text{non-veridical}) \text{see}_{\text{DP}}]_{\text{XP}}]]^i \text{ (extensionality + positivity)} \\ &= \lambda Q \lambda P \lambda z (\exists x) [E_i(x) \wedge \text{see}_i(z, f_{c'}(\lambda j. Q_j(\lambda k \lambda y. P_k(y) \wedge x = y)))] \\ & \quad \leftarrow \text{Szabó's (2010) rule 'split QR'} \end{aligned}$$

Prospects (cont'd)

$$\llbracket \text{remember } [_{DP}] [_{XP}] \rrbracket^i \quad (\text{intensionality} + \text{factivity})$$

$$= \lambda Q \lambda P \lambda z \llbracket \text{remember}_i(z, f_{e'}(\lambda j. Q_j(\lambda k \lambda y. P_k(y) \wedge (k \leq i \wedge k \prec i))) \rrbracket$$

$$\llbracket (\text{non-veridical}) \text{ see } [_{DP}] [_{XP}] \rrbracket^i \quad (\text{intensionality} + \text{positivity})$$

$$= \lambda Q \lambda P \lambda z \llbracket (\exists x) [E_i(x) \wedge \text{see}_i(z, f_{e'}(\lambda j. Q_j(\lambda k \lambda y. P_k(y) \wedge x = y))] \rrbracket$$

← Szabó's (2010) rule 'split QR'

Support:

- (†) a. Ida remembers a penguin (diving into the sea).
 → b. Ida remembers a **real-world** penguin (diving ...).
 → c. Ida remembers a **currently existing** penguin (diving).
- (‡) a. Ida (non-veridically) sees a penguin dive into the sea.
 → b. **Something** (in *i*) is s.t. Ida sees **it** dive into the sea.
 → c. **A penguin** (in *i*) is s.t. Ida sees **it** dive into the sea.

Wrap-Up

We have provided a new semantics for imagination and vision reports that ...

- ... assigns a non-clausal syntax to gerundive attitude reports
- ... assumes that nominal, gerundive & *that*-clause complements are uniformly interpreted in the type of (coded) situations

The resulting semantics ...

- ... is compositional
- ... captures the different inferential behavior of imagination & vision reports
- ... obviates the need for 'external' lexical-semantic axioms
- is (comparatively) simple (e.g. quantifier exportation)

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