

well-formed predication: *John wanted to bank his check that very day* or *Mary wanted to bank the airplane*.

## 4.2 The basic system of types

Let us begin by examining simple, functional, and disjunctive types, as well as the types that carry presuppositions. Thus, we have

- **Simple or Primitive Types:**  $\mathbb{E}$ ,  $\mathbb{T}$ , PHYSICAL OBJECT, etc.
- **Presuppositional Type:**  $\Pi$ , another base type that carries the type presuppositions of terms.
- **Disjunctive Types:** If  $\sigma$ ,  $\tau$ , and  $\rho$  are types,  $\sigma \sqsubseteq \rho$  and  $\tau \sqsubseteq \rho$ , then  $(\sigma \vee \tau)$  is a type.
- **Functional Types:** If  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  are types, then so is  $(\sigma \Rightarrow \tau)$ .
- **Quantificational Types:** If  $\sigma$  is a simple type, and  $\tau$  is any expression denoting a type and  $x$  is a variable ranging over types, then  $\exists x \sqsubseteq \sigma \tau$  is a type.<sup>8</sup> To illustrate, a term  $t$  is of this quantificational type if there is a subtype  $x$  of  $\sigma$  such that  $t$  is of type  $\tau[x]$ .

The set of simple types, ST, forms the core of the system. It contains the basic types countenanced by Montague Grammar,  $\mathbb{E}$ , the general type of entities, and  $\mathbb{T}$ , the type of propositions, along with a finite set of subtypes of  $\mathbb{E}$  and a countable set of subtypes of  $\mathbb{T}$ . Another distinguished subtype is  $\perp$ , the absurd type. When there is no type in the type hierarchy  $\gamma$  such that  $\alpha \sqsubseteq \gamma$  and  $\beta \sqsubseteq \gamma$ ,  $\alpha \vee \beta$  represents a disjunctive object that is the internal semantics of an accidentally polysemous term that must be resolved to assign the term a determinate type. Functional types represent properties. ST comes with the subtyping relation  $\sqsubseteq$ , which forms a semi-lattice over ST with  $\perp$  at the base.<sup>9</sup>

Using  $\sqsubseteq$  on the simple types, we define a greatest lower bound operation  $\sqcap$  for elements of ST.

**Definition 2** *Greatest Lower Bound:*  $\alpha \sqcap \alpha' = \beta$  iff  $\beta \sqsubseteq \alpha$  and  $\beta \sqsubseteq \alpha'$  and there is no  $\gamma \neq \beta$  such that  $\beta \sqcap \gamma$  and  $\gamma \sqsubseteq \alpha$  and  $\gamma \sqsubseteq \alpha'$ .

$\sqcap$  has the usual properties—e.g., idempotence, commutativity, and  $\alpha \sqsubseteq \beta$  iff  $\alpha \sqcap \beta = \alpha$ . TCL captures incompatibility between types in terms of their

<sup>8</sup>  $x$  is, I realize, close to an individual level variable  $x$ . I strived for typographic consistency making all type formulas in small caps. Hopefully this will not cause too much confusion.

<sup>9</sup> As we will see, the subtyping relation as defined in the next section will entail that  $\mathbb{T}$  is not the supremum of the lattice. In fact  $\mathbb{T}$  is not a type. Note that the fact that  $\mathbb{T}$  is not a type in the hierarchy does not stop us from using the tautology  $\mathbb{T}$  in logical forms. These are quite different objects.

common join,  $\perp$ . We can also define a dual to greatest lower bound, least upper bound, or  $\sqcup$ :  $\alpha \sqcup \beta = \gamma$  iff  $\gamma$  is the least general type in the hierarchy such that  $\alpha \sqcup \gamma$  and  $\beta \sqcup \gamma = \gamma$ . Note that  $\sqcup$  may not be always defined, since there may be no type that is the least upper bound of arbitrary types  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$

### 4.2.1 Subtyping

In the previous chapter, we saw that the standard set theoretic model of types fails to provide a coherent notion of subtyping for functional types, once we admit a rich set of subtypes of the type of entities  $E$ . To summarize the difficulty, recall that according to set theory, the set of physical properties or functions of type  $P \Rightarrow T$ , that is, the set of all functions from objects of PHYSICAL OBJECT type to propositions, and the set of first-order properties or functions of type  $E \Rightarrow T$  (the set of all functions from entities to propositions) are disjoint, even though  $P \sqsubseteq E$  in the lattice of simple types and even though every function in  $P \Rightarrow T$  is a subfunction of some function in  $E \Rightarrow T$ . There is no coherent notion of subtyping for higher-order types, where subtype is understood as subset, once we admit multiple subtypes of  $E$ .

Type theory and the categorial models that I develop below provide a coherent notion of subtyping for all types, in the sense that, together with the rules of the simple, typed  $\lambda$  calculus, they generate a consistent logic or system of proof. We need such a notion of subtyping to specify an appropriate rule of application for  $\beta$  reduction: roughly one can apply a  $\lambda$  term  $\lambda x\phi$  to a term  $t$  if the type of  $t$  is a subtype of the type of  $x$ . I will specify subtyping using a restricted, intuitionistic notion of deduction or proof for types,  $\vdash_{\Delta}$ .

- From subtyping to logic:

$$\frac{\alpha \sqsubseteq_{\text{ST}} \beta}{\alpha \vdash_{\Delta} \beta}$$

In particular, the model will verify:

**Fact 1** *Subtyping for functional types:*

$$\frac{\alpha \sqsubseteq \alpha' \quad \beta \sqsubseteq \beta'}{(\alpha' \Rightarrow \beta) \sqsubseteq (\alpha \Rightarrow \beta')}$$

Subtyping for functional types implies that  $E \Rightarrow T \sqsubseteq P \Rightarrow T$ . This makes sense from a proof theoretic or computational point of view: if you have a proof that given a proof of an entity, you have the proof of some proposition, then you have a proof that given a proof of an entity of a particular type (say

a physical object), you have a proof of a proposition. But we cannot derive  $P \Rightarrow T \sqsubseteq E \Rightarrow T$ . This seems not to get us what we want for our type hierarchy, since this implies, on the usual conception of first-order properties, that the type of first-order properties is a subtype of the type of physical properties.<sup>10</sup>

In light of this, we must re-examine what we mean by a first-order property. In a system with many subtypes of  $E$ , something is a first-order property just in case it is a function from some subtype of  $E$  into the type of propositions. To spell this out, our types must be defined in a second-order language for types. The type of first-order property would thus not be what we naively take it to be, namely  $E \Rightarrow T$ , but rather something that is implied by all function types taking as inputs subtypes of  $E$  and returning a proposition. That is, the type of a first-order property is:

$$(4.4) \quad \exists x \sqsubseteq E (x \Rightarrow T)$$

Anything from whose type declaration we can “prove” (4.4) is a first-order property. To get anywhere, we must provide subtyping rules for existentially quantified types. To get a sensible notion of subtyping as deduction, my subtyping rules follow the standard introduction and elimination rules for  $\exists$ . In particular, where  $A$  is any type expression with an occurrence of  $\beta$  and  $B$  a type expression where  $\beta$  does not occur, then

- Type theoretic  $\exists$  introduction:

$$\frac{\beta \sqsubseteq \alpha}{A \sqsubseteq (\exists x \sqsubseteq \alpha A(\frac{x}{\beta}))}$$

- Type theoretic  $\exists$  “exploitation”:

$$\frac{\beta \sqsubseteq \alpha, A \sqsubseteq B}{(\exists x \sqsubseteq \alpha A(\frac{x}{\beta})) \sqsubseteq B}$$

This enables us to get the right facts about first-order properties. In particular, take the  $\lambda$  expression for *black dog*, whose course grained, denotational meaning is a function from physical objects to propositions. The NP has the type  $P \Rightarrow T$ , from which we can easily prove (4.4) using the  $\exists$  introduction rule. We can now combine *black dog* with a determiner whose type presupposition

<sup>10</sup> This has disastrous consequences for the construction of logical form. Consider the rule of application in the  $\lambda$  calculus which is like Modus Ponens—given a type  $\alpha$  and a type  $\alpha \Rightarrow \gamma$ , we get  $\gamma$ . Now take the case of a determiner which is something of type  $(E \Rightarrow T) \Rightarrow ((E \Rightarrow T) \Rightarrow T)$  and it must combine with something of  $P \Rightarrow T$ . We have by assumption that  $E \Rightarrow T \vdash P \Rightarrow T$ . But we cannot now apply the determiner meaning to its restrictor; application is not sound in this case, just as  $\beta \vdash \alpha$  does not allow us to conclude:  $\beta \rightarrow \gamma, \alpha \vdash \gamma$ .

on its first argument is that given by (4.4). We also have the general type of physical properties,  $\exists x \sqsubseteq \mathsf{P} (x \Rightarrow \tau)$ , the general type of informational properties,  $\exists x \sqsubseteq \mathsf{I} (x \Rightarrow \tau)$ , and so on. The subtype hierarchy for these will be the intuitive one.

(4.4) is the type presupposition of anything that intuitively takes a first-order property as an argument—e.g., a determiner or DP. Any expression that expresses a particular first-order property will satisfy this presupposition in the sense of entailing it. Thus:

**Fact 2** *Any ordinary physical property (e.g., mass, shape, weight, color, etc.) is a first-order property and any property of informational objects (e.g., the property of being interesting, intelligible, etc.) is a first-order property.*

In addition, applying a physical property to an object of non-physical type is not defined (yields a type clash), and similarly applying a property defined only on entities of abstract object type, i.e., of type  $\mathsf{I}$ , to something of type  $\mathsf{P}$  is not defined.

### 4.3 Lexical entries and type presuppositions

In the simply typed lambda calculus, type checking is done automatically during the moment of application. In the system developed here, however, a clash between the type requirements of a predicate and the types of its arguments may require adjustments to the predication relation and to logical form. Doing this directly within the typed  $\lambda$  calculus led Asher and Pustejovsky (2006) to unwanted complexity, and so I have chosen a different route, separating out those operations involving type presupposition justification from the core of the simply typed  $\lambda$  calculus. To pass presuppositions through properly from predicates to arguments, I add a presuppositional parameter to each type as de Groote (2006) and Pogodalla (2008) do to handle dynamic contexts.<sup>11</sup>

Each term has an extra argument for a presupposition element that can be modified by the lexical item. For instance, the standard lexical semantic entry for *tree* looks like this:

(4.5)  $\lambda x: \mathsf{P} \text{ tree}(x)$

<sup>11</sup> Since I'm not trying to embed dynamic semantics in the  $\lambda$  calculus, I do not resort to their continuation style semantics. They add two parameters of interpretation, but I shall add only one. I use standard dynamic semantics for passing type values across discourse spans. Nevertheless, everything I do here should be fully compatible with other approaches to dynamic semantics.