Przepiórkowski-inspired Quantification in TRALE

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Agenda

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Quantifiers and Quantificational NPs

- Representing quantifiers:

every car	**a** car
$\forall x(\textsc{car}(x))$	$\exists x(\textsc{car}(x))$
Universal quantification	Existential quantification

Quantifier Scope Ambiguity

A representative visits each customer.

- There is a different representative for each customer.
- There is one representative for all customers.

Quantifier Scope Ambiguity

A representative visits each customer.

- There is a different representative for each customer.
  $\forall y(\text{CUSTOMER}(y) \rightarrow \exists x(\text{REPRESENTATIVE}(x) \wedge \text{VISITS}(x, y)))$
- There is one representative for all customers.
  $\exists x(\text{REPRESENTATIVE}(x) \wedge \forall y(\text{CUSTOMER}(y) \rightarrow \text{VISITS}(x, y)))$

Given that we only have one syntactic structure, how can we represent the ambiguity?

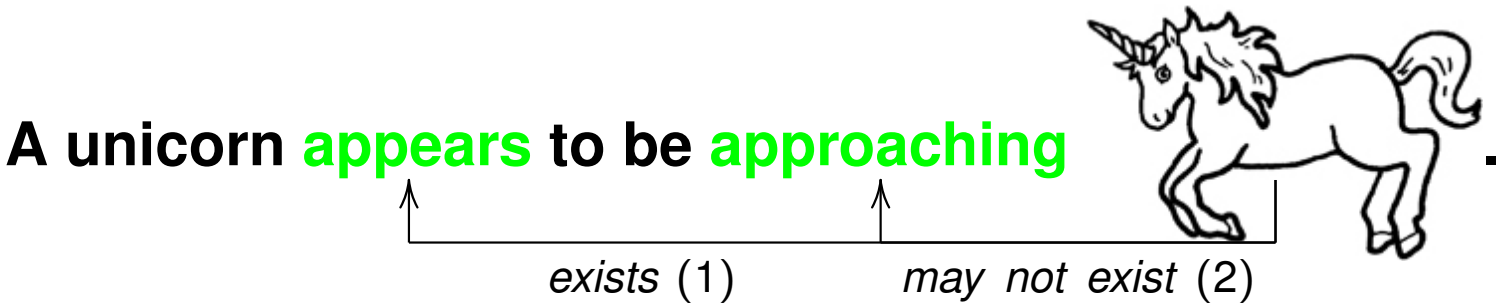
Quantifier Storage to the Rescue!

- “Cooper Storage”
- As a sentence is parsed, quantifiers go into *storage* as they are encountered
- They can be *retrieved* appropriately when enough information

- Goal: Represent all possibilities

Quantifier Scope Ambiguity

A unicorn appears to be approaching.



1. Something appears to be approaching, and it is a unicorn.
2. Something appears to be approaching, and it appears to be a unicorn.

Development of Quantification in HPSG

- Pollard and Sag (1994) (from Pollard and Yoo (1998))

$$\begin{bmatrix} \textit{sign} & & \\ \text{PHONOLOGY} & \langle \textit{every student} \rangle & \\ \text{SYNSEM} & \begin{bmatrix} \text{LOCAL} & \begin{bmatrix} \text{CATEGORY} \mid \text{HEAD} & \textit{noun} \\ \text{CONTENT} & \textit{npro} \end{bmatrix} \\ \text{NONLOCAL} & \textit{nonlocal} \end{bmatrix} & \boxed{1}=[\forall y \mid \textit{student}(y)] \\ \text{QSTORE} & \{\boxed{1}\} & \\ \text{RETRIEVED} & \langle\rangle & \end{bmatrix}$$

Development of Quantification in HPSG

- Pollard and Yoo (1998)

$$\begin{bmatrix} \textit{sign} & & \\ \text{PHONOLOGY} & \textit{list(phonstring)} & \\ \text{SYNSEM} & \begin{bmatrix} \text{LOCAL} & \begin{bmatrix} \text{CATEGORY} & \textit{category} \\ \text{CONTENT} & \textit{content} \\ \text{QSTORE} & \textit{set(quantifier)} \\ \text{POOL} & \textit{set(quantifier)} \end{bmatrix} \end{bmatrix} \\ \text{RETRIEVED} & \textit{list(quantifier)} & \end{bmatrix}$$

Fixed: Filler-gap and raising constructions

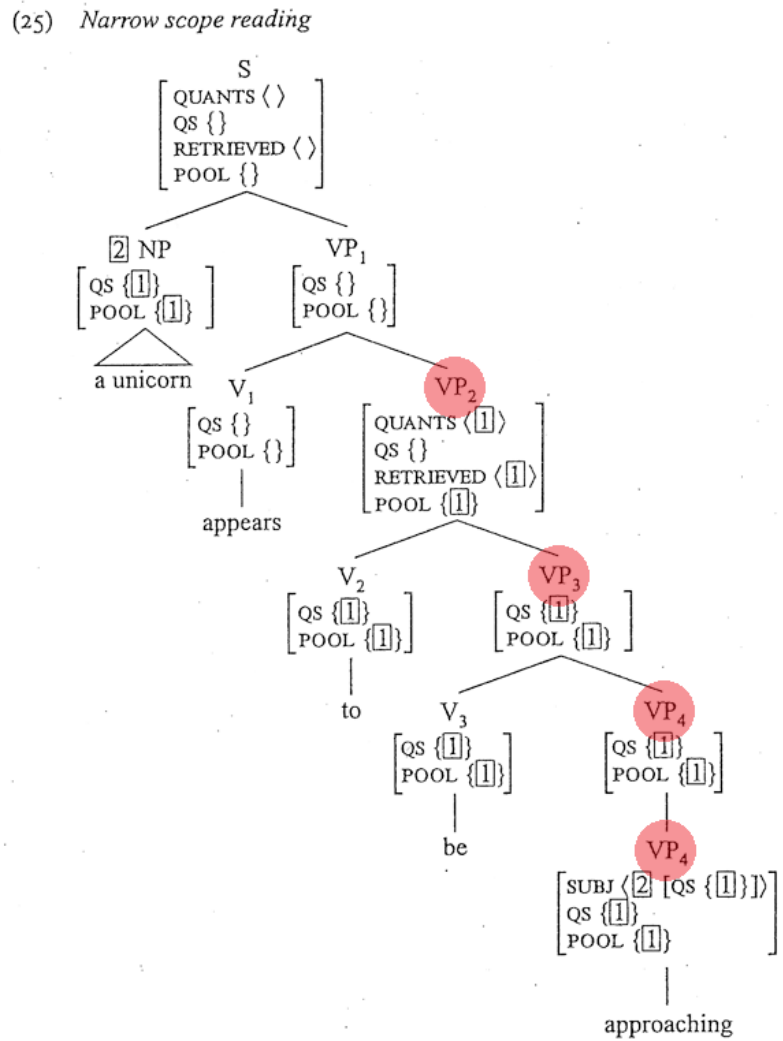
Agenda

Fixes

- Simpler analysis: completely lexical
  - No complex constraints
  - Semantics completely in CONTENT
- Works with traceless extractions [ARG-ST]
- PY: Retrieval at all *psoa*s $\rightarrow$ spurious ambiguities [word restriction]

Spurious Ambiguities in PY

- Retrievals at VP_2, VP_3, VP_4, and V_4 yield the same reading



Overview

(1.2a)
$$\begin{bmatrix} \textit{content} \\ \text{QSTORE} \quad \{\textit{quant}^*\} \end{bmatrix}$$

psoa *nom-obj* *quant*

(1.2b)
$$\begin{bmatrix} \textit{word} \\ \ldots \\ \text{NEW-QUANTIFIERS} \quad \{\textit{quant}^*\} \end{bmatrix}$$

(1.3) $\textit{word} \rightarrow \text{Desc}_1 \vee \text{Desc}_2$

(1.4)
$$\text{Desc}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} \text{SS|LOC|CONT} & \begin{bmatrix} \textit{nom-obj} \vee \textit{quant} \\ \text{QSTORE} \quad \boxed{1} \end{bmatrix} \vee \begin{bmatrix} \textit{psoa} \\ \text{QSTORE} \quad \boxed{2} \\ \text{QUANTS} \quad \boxed{3} \end{bmatrix} \\ \text{NEW-QUANTIFIERS} \quad \boxed{5} \end{bmatrix}$$

where $\boxed{1} = \boxed{5} \uplus$ union QSTOREs of selected arguments
$\boxed{4} =$ set of elements of $\boxed{3}$
$\boxed{1} = \boxed{2} \uplus \boxed{4}$

(1.5)
$$\text{Desc}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} \text{SS|LOC|CONT} \quad \boxed{1} \\ \text{ARG-ST} \quad \left\langle \ldots, \begin{bmatrix} \text{SS|LOC|CONT} \quad \boxed{1} \end{bmatrix}, \ldots \right\rangle \end{bmatrix}$$

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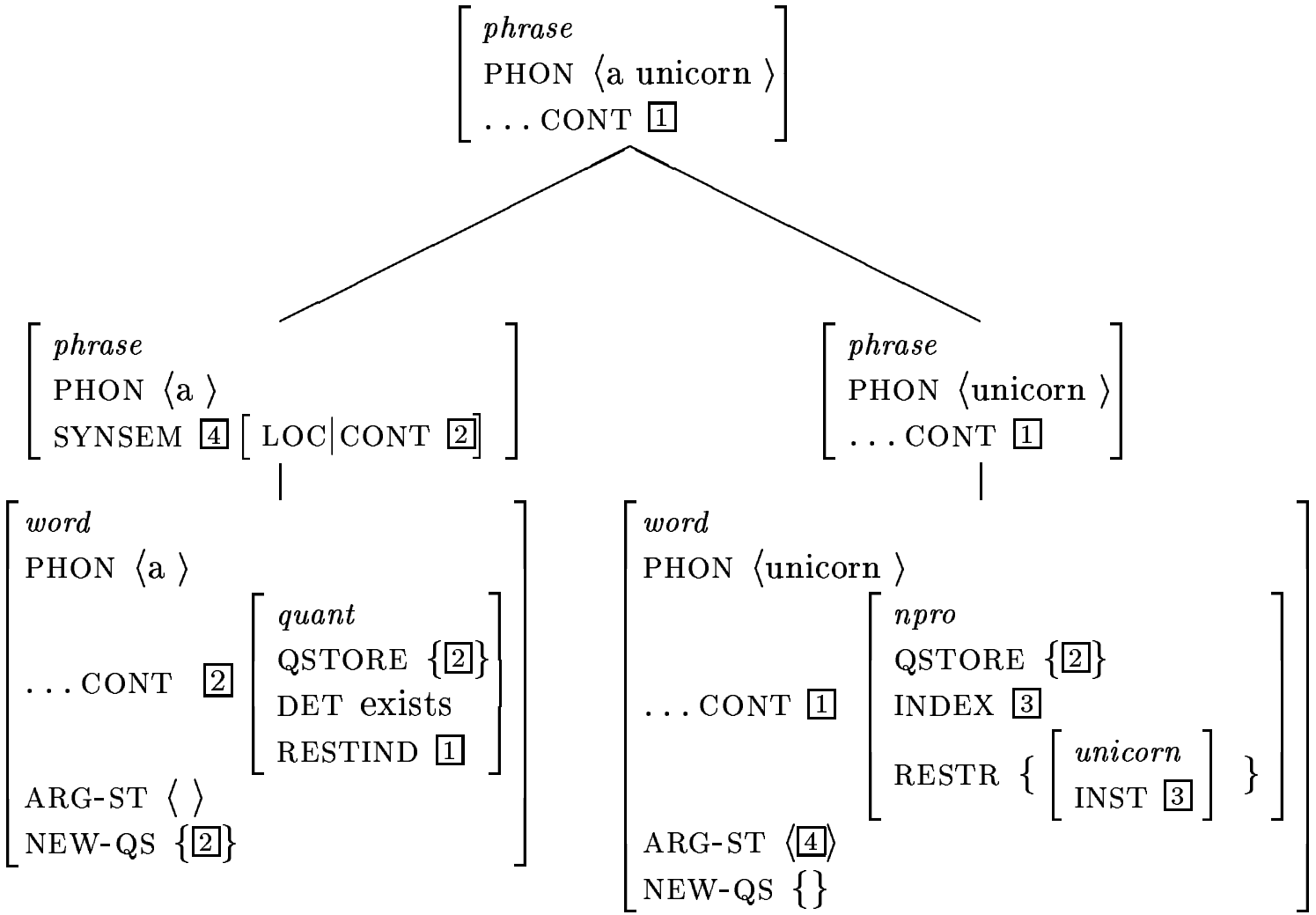
Concepts

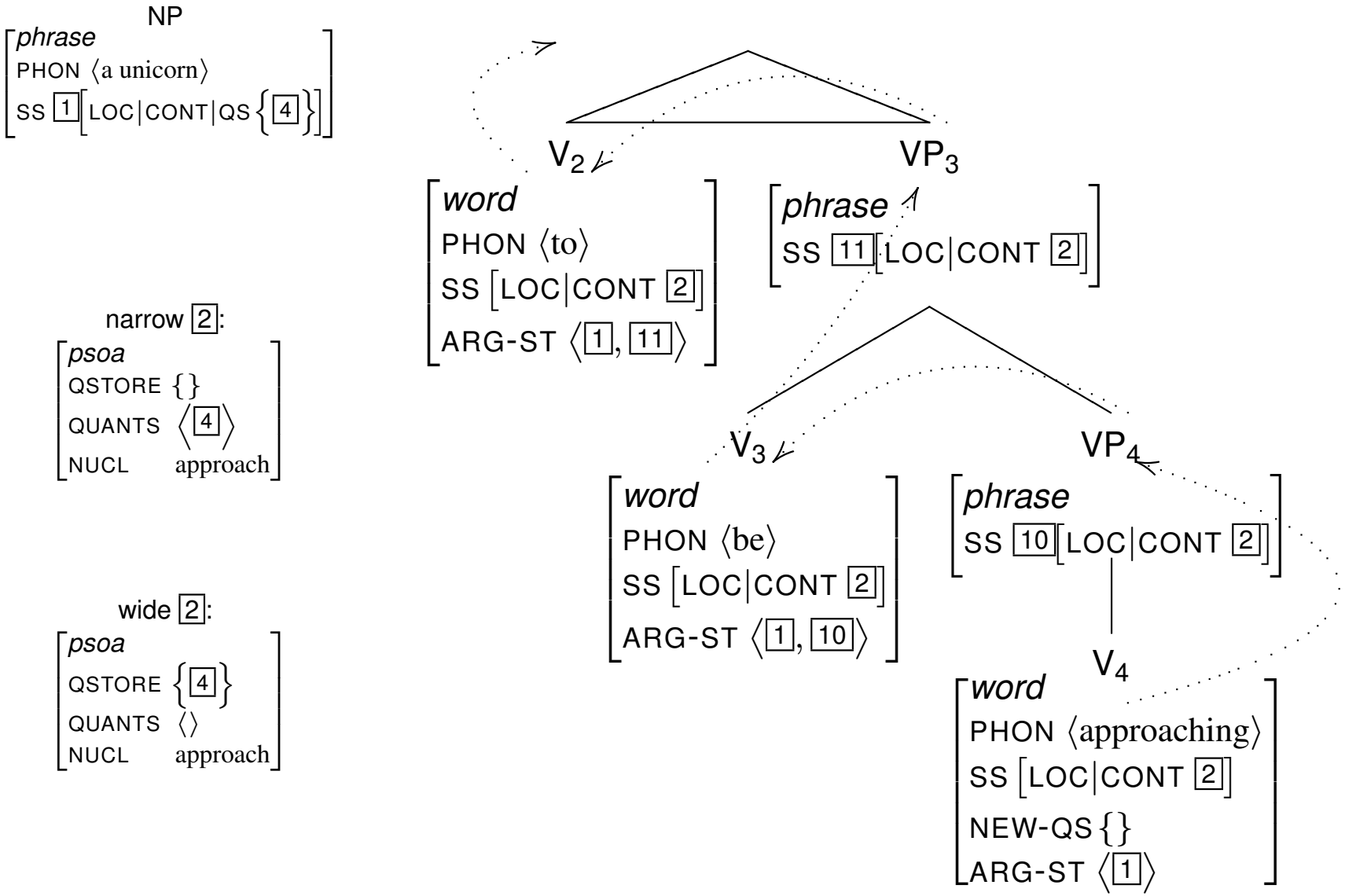
- QSTORE filled from *selected arguments*
  - QSTORE accumulates quantifiers from QSTOREs of those members of ARG-ST ***not*** raised from other arguments
- ARGUMENT-STRUCTURE
  - Semantics-driven subcategorization frame
- Devolution of Semantics Principle
  - "The CONTENT value of a phrase is token-identical to that of the head daughter." (PS94)

A unicorn appears to be approaching.

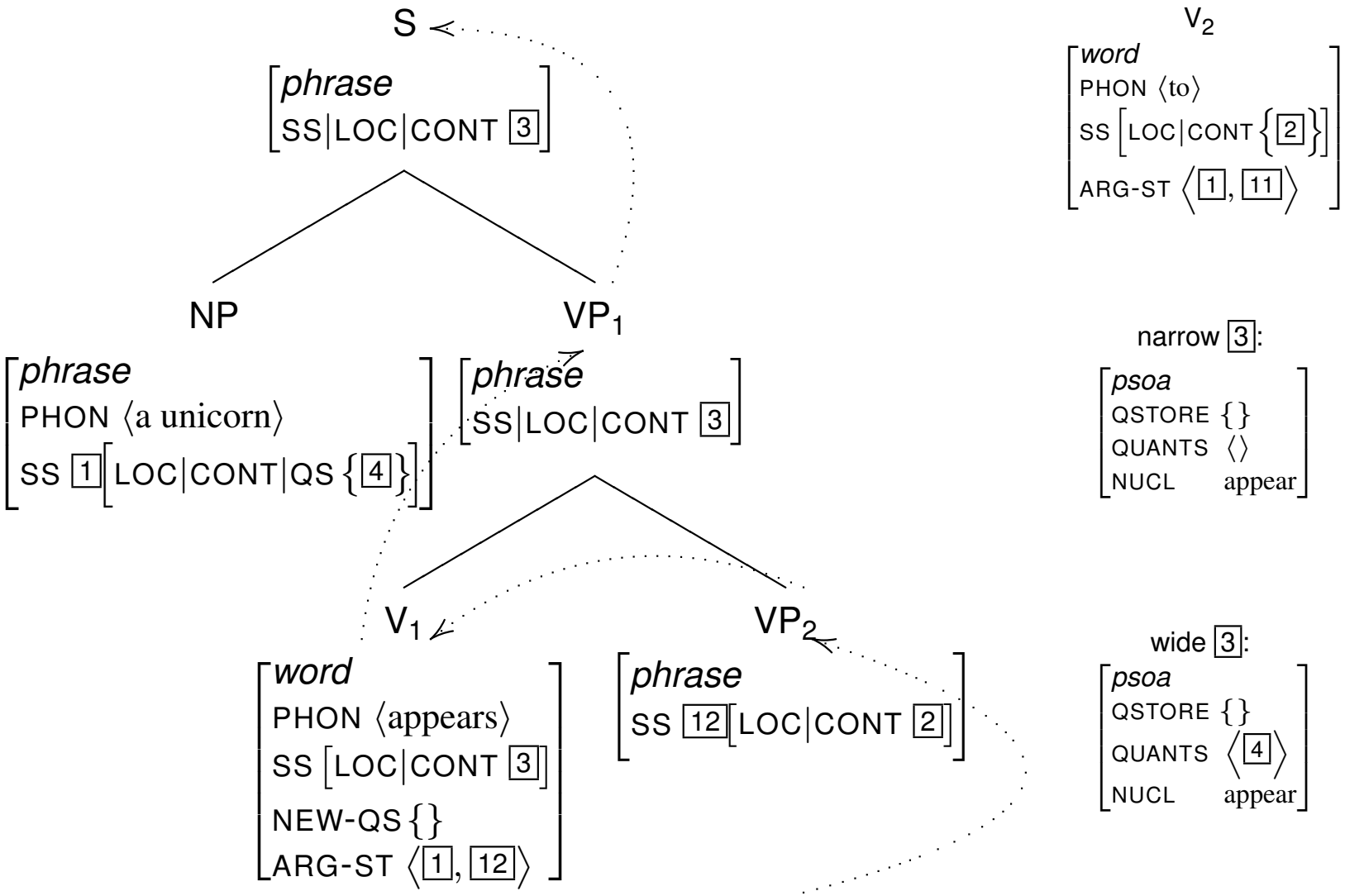
(1.6)



A unicorn appears to be approaching. (bottom)



A unicorn appears to be approaching. (top)



Agenda

End Point

- End Points
  - **Primary goal:**
    “A representative visits each customer.”
    (two quantifiers, one retrieval site)
  - **Secondary goal:**
    “A unicorn appears to be approaching.”
    (one quantifier, two retrieval sites)

At First Glance...

(1.2a)
$$\begin{bmatrix} \textit{content} \\ \text{QSTORE} \quad \{\textit{quant}^*\} \end{bmatrix}$$

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Starting Point

- Given this preliminary information, what would make sense?
- Choices
  - Scratch
  - Group Project Grammar
  - Core Fragment from Richter (2005)
- Why Core Fragment?
  - ARG_ST set up
  - Basic principles set up (Subcat, Semantics)
  - Repurpose LEs

Preliminary Signature Changes

- Sign level of *word*: NEWQS { }, CR *boolean*
- Attribute of *content*: QSTORE { }
- Subsorts of *content*
  - *psoa* (already present)
    - *visit_rel*: VISITOR:*ref* VISITEE:*ref*
  - *nom_obj*
  - *quant*
- Subsorts of *quantifier*
  - *forall_quant*
  - *exists_quant*

Preliminary Goals for the Theory

- New quantifiers are placed in NEWQS
- Move NEWQS to QSTORE
- Amalgamate QSTOREs of selected arguments
- Pass CONTENT values up
- ARG_ST captures valence information
- Semantically vacuous words take CONTENT value from argument
- Retrieve by moving quantifiers from QSTORE to QUANTS @ *psoas*

Fist Step: NPs

- “a representative”
- “each customer”

Lexical Entries for the Nouns

- Use “Mary” as the basis for “representative” and “customer”

```
representative ~~> (synsem:loc:(cat:head:(noun,
                                         pred:minus),
                                cont:(nom_obj,index:(ref,
                                                     num:sg,
                                                     pers:third,
                                                     gen:neut))),
                    arg_st:e_list).
```

Lexical Entries for Quantifiers

- How to represent quantifiers in the QSTORE?
  - In PS94: $\begin{bmatrix} \textit{quantifier} & \\ \text{DET} & \textit{semdet} \\ \text{RESTIND} & \textit{npro} \end{bmatrix}$
  - In Przepiórkowski: *quant* is a subsort of *content*
    No separate sort for quantifiers – makes it easier!
  - Instead of setting up QSTORE and NEWQS in the LE, do it via a principle

Lexical Entries for Quantifiers

- Very simple:

```
a ~~> (word, synsem:loc:(cont:(quant, det:exists_quant),
                         cat:val:comps:e_list)).

each ~~> (word, synsem:loc:(cont:(quant, det:forall_quant),
                           cat:val:comps:e_list)).
```

New Quantifier Principle

- Sets the NEWQS and QSTORE for quantifiers

```
(word, synsem:loc:cont:(quant)) *>
      (synsem:Synsem, newqs:[Synsem], synsem:loc:cont:qstore:[Synsem]).
```

“A representative”

- At this point, 2 results
- Both take the quantifier as the CONTENT
- One has the noun in SUBJ, the other in COMPS
  - Ran into trouble with Subj-Aux Inversion and Head-Complement Rule, and later, Head-Adjunct Rule
- Thought about using something like the Functional Preposition Principle to set SUBJ and COMPS:

```
(word,
phon:ne_list,
synsem:loc:cat:head:(prep,
                     pform:non_lexical))
*>
(synsem:loc:(cat:(head:(mod:none,pred:minus)),
             cont:Cont),
arg_st:([(loc:(cat:val:(subj:[],comps:[]),
               cont:Cont))])
).
```

Head Adjunct Rule for Quantifiers

- New PSR by reversing HA

```
head_adjunct_rule_q ##
(phrase,
 synsem:loc:cat:val:(subj:List,
                     comps:e_list),
 daughters:(qh_struc,
            hdtr:Hdtr,
            ndtr:Ndtr))
   ===>
cat> (Ndtr, synsem:loc:cat:(head:mod:Synsem,
                            val:(subj:e_list,
                                 comps:e_list))),
cat> (Hdtr, synsem:(Synsem,
                    loc:(cat:val:(subj:List,
                                  comps:e_list),
                         cont:nom_obj))).
```

- New subsort of *const_struc*: *qh_struc*
- Added `cat:val:comps:e_list` to the SAI phrase structure rule to prevent application

Lexical Entry for the Verb

- Use “likes” as the basis for “visits”

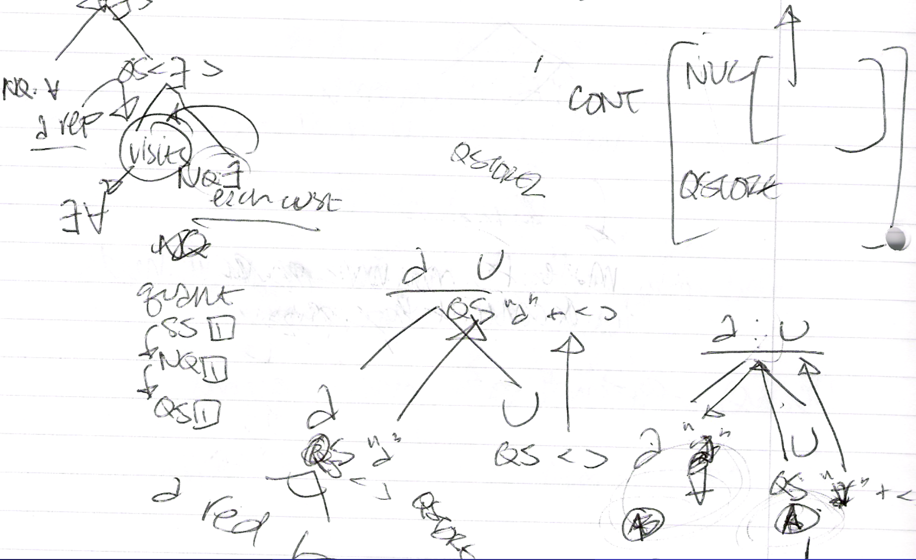
```
visits ~~>  (synsem:loc:(cat:(head:(verb,
                                    vform: fin,
                                    pred: plus,
                                    aux: minus),
                               val:subj:[(loc:cont:(psoa;index:(pers:third,
                                                                num:sg)))]),
                          cont:(visit_rel,
                                visitor:Index1,
                                visitee:Index2)),
            arg_st:[(loc:(cat:(head:noun,
                               val:(subj:e_list,
                                    comps:e_list)),
                          cont:index:Index1)),
                    (loc:(cat:(head:noun,
                               val:(subj:e_list,
                                    comps:e_list)),
                          cont:index:Index2))]).
```

QSTORE Accumulation and Problems with the Content Principle

- Make quantifier accumulation part of phrase structure rule?
- Semantics principle says CONTENT of mother = CONTENT of hdtr
- **BUT** QSTORE involves ndtr
- Conflict because parent QSTORE (and thus, CONTENT) different from hdtr QSTORE

- problem: semantics principle says mother CONT = hdtr CONT

BUT need to Δ the qstore



Possible Solutions to the Accumulation Problem

At this point...

- Continue and try to find a solution
- Separate the quantifiers from the "nucleus" inside CONTENT
- Move the quantifiers from CONTENT
- Have some sort of temporary storage (QSTORETEMP external to CONTENT)

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Digging a Hole

```
% Quantifier Accumulation and Distribution Principle for psoa
(phrase, daughters:(hs_struc)) *>
      (daughters:ndtr:synsem:loc:cont:qstore:QstoreA,
       daughters:hdtr:synsem:loc:cont:qstore:QstoreB,
       daughters:ndtr:qstoretemp:QstoreC,
       daughters:hdtr:qstoretemp:QstoreD,
       qstoretemp:Qcombo)
goal
     append(QstoreA,QstoreC,Qcombo1),
     append(QstoreB,QstoreD,Qcombo2),
     append(Qcombo1,Qcombo2,Qcombo).

(phrase, daughters:(hc_struc)) *>
      (daughters:ndtr:synsem:loc:cont:qstore:QstoreA,
       qstoretemp:QstoreA).
```

New Direction: A Principled Decision

- Move from using DTRS to having principles on *word*s only
- Returns back to original Przepiórkowski theory

First Version of Quantifier Accumulation Principle

```
(word, synsem:loc:(cont:psoa,
                   cat:val:(subj:ne_list,comps:ne_list))
) *>
     (synsem:loc:(cat:val:(subj:[(loc:cont:qstore:QstoreA)|Rest1],
                           comps:[(loc:cont:qstore:QstoreB)|Rest2]),
                  cont:qstore:Qcombo))
goal
     append(QstoreA,QstoreB,Qcombo).
```

Combinatorics

- Six possibilities
- Realized QSTORE + QUANTS must be the sum of the QSTOREs of the selected arguments

QSTORE	QUANTS
⟨∃∀⟩	⟨⟩
⟨∀∃⟩	⟨⟩
⟨∀⟩	⟨∃⟩
⟨∃⟩	⟨∀⟩
⟨⟩	⟨∃∀⟩
⟨⟩	⟨∀∃⟩

Final Quantifier Accumulation Principle

- Three parts, (*ne_list*/*ne_list*, *e_list*/*ne_list*, *ne_list*/*e_list*)
- Retrieval (all combinations from QSTORE to QUANTS)

```
(word, synsem:loc:(cont:psoa,
                   cat:(val:(subj:ne_list,comps:ne_list),
                        head:aux:minus))
) *>
     (synsem:loc:(cat:val:(subj:[(loc:cont:qstore:QstoreA)|Rest1],
                           comps:[(loc:cont:qstore:QstoreB)|Rest2]),
                  cont:(qstore:Qstore,quants:Quants)))
goal
     ((append(QstoreA,QstoreB,TotalQs);append(QstoreB,QstoreA,TotalQs)),
     append(Qstore,Quants,TotalQs)).
```

Elimination of Invalid Combinations

- We need all combinations if there are two retrieval sites
- Also need to ensure that QSTORE empty at the top of the tree

```
head_subject_rule ##
(phrase,
 synsem:loc:(cat:(val:(subj:e_list,
                       comps:e_list)),
             cont:qstore:e_list),
 daughters:(hs_struc,
            hdtr:Hdtr,
            ndtr:Ndtr))
   ===>
cat> (Ndtr, synsem:Synsem),
cat> (Hdtr, synsem:loc:(cat:val:(subj:[Synsem],
                                 comps:e_list),
                        cont:psoa)).
```

- ...2 results!

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Summary

- Quantifier storage viable option for quantifier semantics
- System inspired by Przepiórkowski can be successfully implemented in TRALE
  - At least for “A representative visits each customer.”
- Lessons learned
  - TRALE is intimidating
  - But, comfort level $\propto$ time spent working on it
  - Learn the syntax
  - Path errors won’t be caught; principles appear not to work
  - Draw things out, keep notes
  - Overgeneration is better than undergeneration
  - Chip away at the problem little by little

Questions?

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