Course in Semantics · Ling 531 / 731 McKenzie · University of Kansas

Let's explore this example before we get started. Set aside the  $\phi$ -features of the pronoun.

(1) No actress pays herself.

It's common to write out the LF of such expressions linearly, with x already replacing the variable. The scope of the  $\lambda$ -operator is often in brackets.

No actress  $\lambda_1$  [ pays  $x_1$  ] No actress  $\lambda x$  [ pays x ]

Oddly enough, this isn't quite right, since we've moved the quantified DP and left a trace. The actual LF ought to be:

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No actress \lambda_1 [ x_1 pays x_1 ]
No actress \lambda x [ x pays x ]
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Chalk this difference up to yet another shortcut taken in the literature.

## Now for the actual exercise

**1.** For each of the following ambiguous sentences, write out the LF for each of its readings, either linearly or as a tree.

Then, paraphrase the truth-conditions (basically, write the sentence more formally).

Or, create a context (or draw one out with circles) for each reading. For example:

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(2) Every tenor loves his voice.
Anaphoric reading:

paraphrase: There's this one guy who's got a voice that every tenor loves.
LF : Every tenor λ<sub>1</sub> [ x<sub>1</sub> loves x<sub>2</sub>'s voice ]

For possessives, use x<sub>i</sub>'s NP, where i is an index.
Covariant reading:

paraphrase: Tenor A loves Tenor A's voice, Tenor B loves Tenor B's, and so on.
LF : Every tenor λ<sub>1</sub> [ x<sub>1</sub> loves x<sub>1</sub>'s voice ]

(3) None of the girls thinks she runs the place.
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(4) Every mother likes her parenting.

This works in other languages, too. Figure out the two readings of the following sentence:

(5) *Chaque patissier a réussi son gateau.* each pastry chef has succeeded x's cake 'Each pastry chef nailed their cake.'

(French)