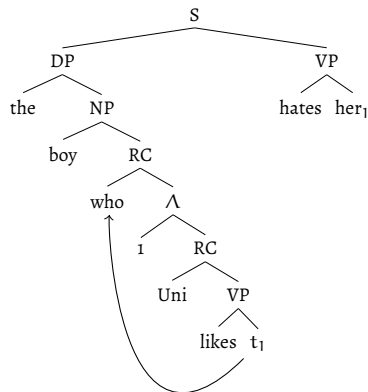


Homework for Wednesday October 28, 2015

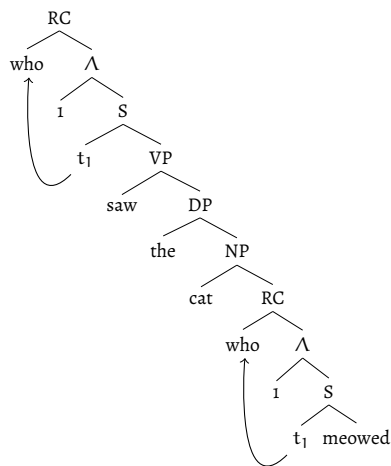
Please **type** your answers, but feel free to draw trees by hand. I encourage you to work in groups, but please write up your answers individually.

A. Practice with Predicate Abstraction

- Here's a possible tree for the sentence *the boy who Uni likes hates her*.



- ▷ Calculate the interpretation for this tree at an assignment g . Go **top-down**, saying which rule(s) justify each step in the calculation. (Assume $\llbracket \text{the} \rrbracket^g = \lambda P. \iota x. P x$, and ignore issues of definedness.)
 - ▷ Is the trace t_1 bound or free in this tree (i.e., does the choice of assignment function matter for its interpretation)? Is the object pronoun her_1 bound or free in this tree?
 - ▷ What does this tell you about what needs to hold for a variable to get bound by an abstraction index?
- Here's a tree for the larger relative clause in the DP *the man who saw the cat who meowed*.



- ▷ Assign this tree an interpretation relative to an assignment function g .
- ▷ Which abstraction index binds which trace?
- ▷ What does this tell you about what needs to hold for a variable to get bound by an abstraction index?

B. Binding pronouns

Propose a tree for *Bob is a linguist who cites himself*, and use it to calculate an interpretation (again, going top-down). Assume simply that the reflexive *himself* has the same kind of meaning as a regular pronoun.

C. Interpreting successive cyclic movement

- (Problem borrowed from Chris Kennedy.) Research in syntax suggests that *wh*-movement is **successive cyclic**: when a word moves out of a clause, it must make a pit stop at the clause's edge, as in the following structure:

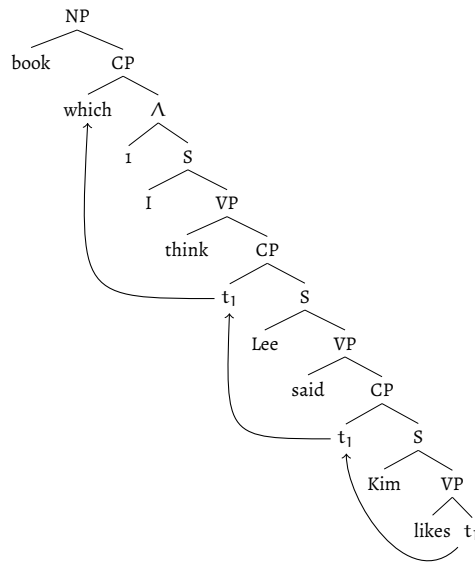


Figure 1: Possible LF for *book which I think Lee said Kim likes?*

- ▷ Explain in clear and precise terms why our system doesn't derive an interpretation for the structure in Figure 1.
- ▷ Propose a solution.