

- Focus:
- semantics of *but*-phrases
 - correct truth-conditions
 - explanation of co-occurrence restrictions
 - syntactic structure of quantified nominals with exceptives
 - → Danny on extraposition and exceptives (based on Reinhart)

References

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The Meaning of Quantified Statements with Exceptives

- (12) Every student but John complained.
- John is a student.
 - John did not complain.
 - Every student who is not John complained.
 - ➔ John is the one and only student who did not complain.
- (13) No student but John complained.
- John is a student.
 - John complained.
 - No student who is not John complained.
 - ➔ John is the one and only student who complained.

Tests for Presuppositions/Implicatures

- (14) I just noticed that even Bill likes Mary.
- (15) I just noticed that every student but John attended the meeting.
- (16) Q: Is every student but John straight?
A: No, John is not a student. (Hoeksema)
A': No, every student is straight. John is not a student. (Partee, pc)
- (17) Well, except for Dr. Samuels everybody has an alibi, inspector.
Let's go see Dr. Samuels to find out if he's got one too. (Hoeksema)
- (18) Well, everybody but Dr. Samuels has an alibi, inspector.
??Let's go see Dr. Samuels to find out if he's got one too.
- (19) a. John has three children. In fact, he has at least five.
b. Except for John, everybody showed up. #In fact, John did too.
c. Everybody but John showed up. #In fact, John did too.
- (20) $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Except for Dr. Samuels, everybody} \\ \text{Everybody but Dr. Samuels} \end{array} \right\}$ definitely has an alibi.
Let's go see Dr. Samuels to find out if he's got one too.
- (21) Mary knows that $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{except for Dr. Samuels, everybody} \\ \text{everybody but Dr. Samuels} \end{array} \right\}$ has an alibi.
#And she has doubts about Dr. Samuels.

First Step: Set Subtraction

- (22) $\llbracket \text{students but John} \rrbracket = \llbracket \text{students} \rrbracket - \{ \}$
- (23) $[D(A \text{ but } C)](B) = D(A - C)(B)$

Add: Restrictiveness

- (24) $[D(A \text{ but } C)](B) = D(A - C)(B) \ \& \ \square D(A)(B)$

Add: Cardinal Minimality

- (25) $[D(A \text{ but } C)](B) = D(A - C)(B) \ \& \ \square S: [D(A - S)(B) \ \square \ |C| \ \square \ |S|]$

Add: Unique Minimality

- (26) $[D(A \text{ but } C)](B) = D(A - C)(B) \ \& \ \square S: [D(A - S)(B) \ \square \ C \ \square \ S]$

(27) Truth-conditions of *every + but*:

(every A but C) B

- $\square A - C \square B \ \& \ \square S: (A - S \square B) \square (C \square S)$
- $\square A \square \bar{B} \square C \ \& \ \square S: (A \square \bar{B} \square S) \square (C \square S)$
- $\square A \square \bar{B} \square C \ \& \ C \square A \square \bar{B}$
- $\square A \square \bar{B} = C$

(28) Truth-conditions of *no + but*:

(no A but C) B

- $\square (A - C) \square B = \emptyset \ \& \ \square S: ((A - S) \square B = \emptyset) \square (C \square S)$
- $\square A \square B \square C \ \& \ \square S: (A \square B \square S) \square (C \square S)$
- $\square A \square B \square C \ \& \ C \square A \square B$
- $\square A \square B = C$

Exceptive Constructions (2)

Semantics for *but* in von Fintel (1993)

$$(1) \quad [D(A) \text{ but } C](B) = D(A - C)(B) \ \& \ \exists S: [D(A - S)(B) \ \square \ C \ \square \ S]$$

Co-Occurrence Restrictions

- (2) \uparrow mon determiners: always false
- (3) *exactly 4, at most 4*: always false (?)
- (4) *most*: almost always false

limiting case: two students (John, Harry), John didn't complain

Most students but John complained.

Can we say that *most* is infelicitous with a singleton argument?

Compositionality Issues

- (5) *but*-phrases as modifiers of determiners
(type of *but*: $\langle et, \langle \langle et, ett \rangle, \langle et, ett \rangle \rangle \rangle$):

(*every ... but John*) student
(*no ... but John*) student

$$[[\text{but}]] = \square C_{|e,t|} \cdot \square D_{|et,ett|} \cdot \square A_{|e,t|} \cdot \square B_{|e,t|} \cdot \\ D(A - C)(B) \ \& \ \exists S_{|e,t|}: [D(A - S)(B) \ \square \ C \ \square \ S]$$

- (6) *but*-phrases as creating higher type common noun phrase
(type of *but*: $\langle et, \langle et, \langle \langle et, ett \rangle, ett \rangle \rangle \rangle$):

$$[[\text{but}]] = \square C_{|e,t|} \cdot \square A_{|e,t|} \cdot \square D_{|et,ett|} \cdot \square B_{|e,t|} \cdot \\ D(A - C)(B) \ \& \ \exists S_{|e,t|}: [D(A - S)(B) \ \square \ C \ \square \ S]$$

The status of the exception set C

- (7) Every student but John/No student but John

John \rightarrow type e: j the individual John

We could give *but* an type e argument and let it shift that into a set it can manipulate.

Lifting individuals to sets: for any individual $x \rightarrow \{x\}, \exists y.y=x$

(8) Every student but John and Mary/No student but John and Mary

(9) Boolean Conjunction

Proper names as quantifiers

John \rightarrow type $\langle et, t \rangle$: $\lambda P. P(j)=1$ the set of properties true of John,
 $\{X: j \in X\}$ the set of sets containing John

John and Mary: $\lambda P. P(j)=1 \wedge \lambda P. P(m)=1 = \lambda P. P(j)=1 \ \& \ P(m)=1$
 $\{X: j \in X\} \wedge \{X: m \in X\} = \{X: \{j, m\} \subseteq X\}$

the set of those sets that contain (possibly among others) both John and Mary

(10) Quantifier Raising to alleviate type mismatch in the argument of *but*?
Wrong meaning – in fact contradictory
(Each of John and Mary is the unique exception).

(11) The generator set of a principal ultrafilter

$\mathbf{Q} \rightarrow \lambda \mathbf{Q}, \lambda x. \lambda P \subseteq \mathbf{Q}: P(x)=1$

$\lambda (\mathbf{John \ and \ Mary}) = \lambda \{X: \{j, m\} \subseteq X\} = \{j, m\}$

(12) Minimal sets in a quantifier

$\min(\mathbf{Q}) = \{X \subseteq \mathbf{Q}: \lambda Y (Y \subseteq X \ \& \ Y \subseteq \mathbf{Q})\}$

Examples ...

(13) *Every A but C* \rightarrow true of any B such that there is a set D in $\min(C)$ which is ...

(14) Non-Boolean Conjunction

John and Mary \rightarrow the plural individual $j+m$

If the underlying theory of plurality is of the right sort, we can retrieve the atomic individuals that are part of a plurality.

(15) a. All the students but five law students complained.
b. #All the students but at least five law students complained.

(16) QR again obviously wrong approach.

- (17) Choice-function indefinites?

\exists f: all (students but f(five law students)) complained

five law students \rightarrow the set of pluralities made up of five law students

There is a way of choosing a plurality of five law students such that the chosen plurality corresponds to the unique exception set for the claim that all the students complained.

- (18) a. All the students but at most five law students complained.
b. #All the students but less than five law students complained.

- (19) Reference to witness sets?

$\llbracket \text{but} \rrbracket = \lambda Q_{\langle e,t \rangle} \lambda D_{\langle e,t \rangle} \lambda A_{\langle e \rangle} \lambda B_{\langle e \rangle}$

$\lambda C: C \subseteq W(Q) \ \& \ D(A - C)(B) \ \& \ \exists S_{\langle e \rangle} : [D(A - S)(B) \subseteq C \subseteq S]$

- (20) The “lives on” relation

A generalized quantifier Q lives on a set A iff for all B: $B \subseteq Q \subseteq A \subseteq B \subseteq Q$.

- (21) Conservativity

A determiner D is conservative iff for all sets A, D(A) is a quantifier that lives on A.

- (22) All natural language determiners are conservative.

- (23) All generalized quantifiers expressible in natural language have a smallest set that they live on. We’ll write SL(Q) for this set.

[Proposition 1 in Johnsen, Lars. 1987. *There-Sentences and Generalized Quantifiers*. In *Generalized Quantifiers: Linguistic and Logical Approaches*, ed. Peter Gärdenfors, 93-107. Dordrecht: Reidel.]

- (24) For permutation-invariant determiners D, we can prove that for any set A the smallest set that D(A) lives on is A itself.

[Proposition 2 in Johnsen 1987.]

- (25) Witness Sets (Barwise & Cooper)

A set C is a witness set for a generalized quantifier D(A) living on A iff (i) $C \subseteq A$, and (ii) $C \subseteq Q$.

(26) Moltmann Witness Sets

A set C is a Moltmann witness set for a generalized quantifier Q iff (i) $C \models SL(Q)$ and (ii) $C \models Q$.

We write $W(Q)$ for the set of Moltmann witness sets for Q .

(27) Examples of witness sets

every man → the set of all men

most men → any set of men containing more than half of the men

(at least) three men → any set of men containing at least three men

at most three men → any set of men containing at most three men (including \emptyset)

no man → the empty set is the only witness set

John and Mary → the set containing John and Mary is the only witness set

John or Mary → {John}, {Mary}, {John, Mary} are the witness sets

Much more on witness sets in Szabolcsi, Anna ed. 1995. *Ways of Scope Taking*. Kluwer.

(28) $(D A \text{ but } Q) (B)$ is true iff there is a (non-empty?) Moltmann witness set of Q which is the unique smallest set of exceptions C such that $D (A-C) (B)$ is true.

(29) Every student but no law student complained.

(30) All the students but five law students complained.

(31) a. Every student except/#but John or Mary complained.
b. Every student except/#but possibly John complained.

(32) With the possible exception of John, every student complained.

(33) My old footnote:

Another twist in the initially straightforward meaning of exceptive sentences may come from an expression very familiar from the idiolect of logicians.

(i) a coincides with b everywhere except possibly at c .

The adverb *possibly* in (i) has a very strange effect. The closest paraphrase is disjunctive as in (ii).

(ii) a coincides with b everywhere or a coincides with b everywhere except at b .

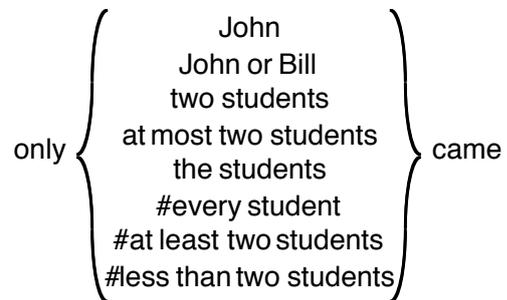
Something similar would have to be said about (i):

(iii) a. John and possibly Mary will be here.
b. John or (John and Mary) will be here.

Here, I will ignore this issue.

- (34) Szabolcsi's observation (cited by Moltmann in a footnote):

The constraints on what kind of NPs can be the complement of *but* "appear to be the same as the constraints on the NPs that may be modified by *only*(or *at most*):



- (35) Only John and possibly Mary came.

Reasons to prefer a treatment of *but*-phrases as DP-modifiers

- (36) Everybody but John complained.
Nobody but John complained.
- (37) Every man and every woman but Adam and Eve were born in sin.

Exceptive Constructions (3)

1. More on *at most five students*

2. NP-modifier analysis

Reminder

$$(1) \quad [D(A) \text{ but } C](B) = D(A - C)(B) \ \& \ \exists S: [D(A - S)(B) \ \& \ C \ \& \ S]$$

(2) Every student except/but at most five (students) complained about the noise.

Methods for Retrieving a Set from a Quantifier

(3) The generator set of a principal ultrafilter

$$\mathbf{Q} \rightarrow \exists \mathbf{Q}, \exists x. \exists P \subseteq \mathbf{Q}: P(x)=1$$

$$\exists (\mathbf{John \ and \ Mary}) = \exists \{X: \{j,m\} \subseteq X\} = \{j,m\}$$

$$\exists (\mathbf{every \ student}) = \exists \{X: \text{Students} \subseteq X\} = \text{Students}$$

$$\exists (\mathbf{exactly \ five \ students}) = \exists \{X: |X \cap \text{Students}| = 5\} = \emptyset \quad (\text{if } |\text{Students}| > 5)$$

$$\exists (\mathbf{John \ or \ Mary}) = \exists \{X: \{j,m\} \subseteq X \neq \emptyset\} = \emptyset$$

$$\exists (\mathbf{at \ most \ five \ students}) = \exists \{X: |X \cap \text{Students}| \leq 5\} = \emptyset$$

(4) *Every A but C* \rightarrow true of any B such that $\exists C$ is the unique exception set ...

(5) Minimal sets in a quantifier

$$\min(\mathbf{Q}) = \{X \subseteq \mathbf{Q}: \exists Y (Y \subseteq X \ \& \ Y \subseteq \mathbf{Q})\}$$

$$\min(\mathbf{John \ and \ Mary}) = \min \{X: \{j,m\} \subseteq X\} = \{\{j,m\}\}$$

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$$\min(\mathbf{exactly \ five \ students}) = \min \{X: |X \cap \text{Students}| = 5\} = \{X: |X \cap \text{Students}| = 5\}$$

$$\min(\mathbf{John \ or \ Mary}) = \min \{X: \{j,m\} \subseteq X \neq \emptyset\} = \{\{j\}, \{m\}\}$$

$$\min(\mathbf{at \ most \ five \ students}) = \min \{X: |X \cap \text{Students}| \leq 5\} = \{\emptyset\}$$

(6) *Every A but C* \rightarrow true of any B such that there is a set D in $\min(C)$ which is ...

(7) Choice-function indefinites

\square f: all (students but f(five law students)) complained

five law students \rightarrow the set of pluralities made up of five law students

There is a way of choosing a plurality of five law students such that the chosen plurality corresponds to the unique exception set for the claim that all the students complained.

But *at most five students* is not one of those indefinites that otherwise show pseudo-scope behavior.

If three relatives of mine die, I will inherit this house.

If at most three relatives of mine die, I will inherit this house.

(8) Witness Sets

Every A but C \rightarrow true of any B such that there is a witness set D of C which is ...

(9) The “lives on” relation

A generalized quantifier Q lives on a set A iff for all B: $B \square Q \square A \square B \square Q$.

(10) Conservativity

A determiner D is conservative iff for all sets A, D(A) is a quantifier that lives on A.

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We write W(Q) for the set of Moltmann witness sets for Q.

(16) Examples of witness sets

$W(\mathbf{John\ and\ Mary}) = \{\{j,m\}\}$

$W(\mathbf{every\ student}) = \{\text{Students}\}$

$W(\mathbf{exactly\ five\ students}) = \{X: |X \cap \text{Students}| = 5\}$

$W(\mathbf{John\ or\ Mary}) = \{\{j\},\{m\},\{j,m\}\}$

$W(\mathbf{at\ most\ five\ students}) = \{\emptyset, [\text{all singleton sets of students}], [\text{all sets containing two students}], \dots, [\text{all sets containing five students}]\}$

Much more on witness sets in Szabolcsi, Anna ed. 1995. *Ways of Scope Taking*. Kluwer.

(17) (D A *but* Q) (B) is true iff there is a (non-empty?) Moltmann witness set of Q which is the unique smallest set of exceptions C such that D (A-C) (B) is true.

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Another twist in the initially straightforward meaning of exceptive sentences may come from an expression very familiar from the idiolect of logicians.

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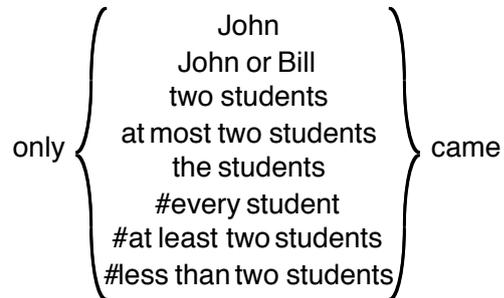
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b. John or (John and Mary) will be here.

Here, I will ignore this issue.

- (23) Szabolcsi's observation (cited by Moltmann in a footnote):

The constraints on what kind of NPs can be the complement of *but* "appear to be the same as the constraints on the NPs that may be modified by *only*(or *at most*):



- (24) Only John and possibly Mary came.

QR?

- (25) John and Mary \exists x. every student but x complained

Distributive reading: contradiction!
Collective reading: OK

- (26) John or Mary \exists x. every student but x complained

correctly derives that disjunction is read exclusively here

- (27) At most five students \exists x. every student but x complained

- (28) Usual distributive reading

There are at most five students x such that x is the unique exception ...

true if the *every*-claim is true without exception (OK?)
true if there is a single exception (OK)
true if there are two exceptions (OK)
true if there are six exceptions (not OK)

in fact, this reading is a tautology! (so, perhaps that's why we don't perceive it)

- (29) Usual collective reading

There is no group of students X that has more than 5 members and that is the unique exception set ...

- (30) Every student but at most five foreign students complained.

predicted to be true if the exceptions are two American students.

(31) A different collective reading

There is a group of students X that has at most 5 members and that is the unique exception set ...

correctly predicts (30) to be false

(32) But that's not what we normally want!

John saw at most five students \neq There is a group of students X that has at most 5 members and that John saw. [The latter is verified by the empty set or by any small set of students']

For such normal occurrences, (28) or (29) are what we thought we want.

(33) Another alternative

There is a group X containing at most five members which is the maximal group of students such that ...

correct for both kind of examples

(34) Maximality

no group that this one is part of has the property

or

no group that is bigger than this one has the property

(35) At most five people fit in this elevator.

2. Moltmann, Lappin, and the NP-level Analysis

(36) Evidence given for an NP-level analysis (Hoeksema, Moltmann, Lappin)

- a. every man and every woman except the parents of John
- b. the wife of every president except Hilary Clinton
- c. ?neither John nor Bill nor Mary nor Sue except the oldest

(37) Moltmann's Proposal

- does not decompose NP-meaning into its ingredients
- figures out indirectly whether *every* or *no* was involved
- does one of two things to the quantifier denoted by the NP

(38) Moltmann's Homogeneity Condition

A quantifier Q is homogeneous wrt a set C iff

- (i) either $C \sqsubseteq X$, for all $X \sqsubseteq Q$, or (ii) $C \sqsubseteq X = \emptyset$, for all $X \sqsubseteq Q$

(39) $\llbracket NP_1 \text{ except } NP_2 \rrbracket$ is defined only if $\llbracket NP_1 \rrbracket$ is homogeneous wrt $\llbracket NP_2 \rrbracket$

(40) If defined,

$$\llbracket NP_1 \text{ except } NP_2 \rrbracket = \begin{cases} \{V - \llbracket NP_2 \rrbracket : V \sqcap \llbracket NP_1 \rrbracket\}, & \text{if } \sqcap V \sqcap \llbracket NP_1 \rrbracket : \llbracket NP_2 \rrbracket \sqcap V \\ \{V \sqcap \llbracket NP_2 \rrbracket : V \sqcap \llbracket NP_1 \rrbracket\}, & \text{if } \sqcap V \sqcap \llbracket NP_1 \rrbracket : \llbracket NP_2 \rrbracket \sqcap V = \emptyset \end{cases}$$

(41) Problem: in a world w (or a model M) where there are ten boys,

$$\llbracket \text{ten boys} \rrbracket = \llbracket \text{every boy} \rrbracket$$

(42) Moltmann: Homogeneity Condition has to hold in all appropriate extensions of M

A model M' is an appropriate extension of model M for NP_1 *except* NP_2 iff

(i) $\llbracket NP_2 \rrbracket^M = \llbracket NP_2 \rrbracket^{M'}$

“for an EP-complement such as the president or the boys, one should not consider models in which there is not exactly one president or there are no boys. Rather, in the relevant models, the denotation of the EP-complement should be defined whenever it is defined in the intended model”

(ii) “the denotations of predicates in M' should be the same when restricted to the domain of M ” (?)

(iii) “however, the presuppositions of the EP-associate should not have to be satisfied in the relevant models. The reason is that quantifiers such as *all ten students* or *all of the ten students* accept EPs, but their presupposition, namely that there are exactly ten students, would not be satisfied in any extension of the intended model in which more students have been added. The Homogeneity Condition certainly should be checked in extensions that contain more students than the intended model. It should therefore not be required that the presuppositions of the EP-associate be satisfied in the relevant extensions. This means that *all ten students* will be evaluated simply like *all students* in those extensions, with its presupposition that there are exactly ten students being suspended.”

(43) $\llbracket NP_1 \text{ except } NP_2 \rrbracket^M$ is defined only if

$\llbracket NP_1 \rrbracket^{M'}$ is homogeneous wrt $\llbracket NP_2 \rrbracket^{M'}$, for all appropriate extensions M' of M

$$(44) \quad \llbracket NP_1 \text{ except } NP_2 \rrbracket^M = \begin{cases} \{V - \llbracket NP_2 \rrbracket^M : V \sqcap \llbracket NP_1 \rrbracket^M\}, & \text{if in every appropriate extension } M' \text{ of } M, \\ & \sqcap V \sqcap \llbracket NP_1 \rrbracket^{M'} : \llbracket NP_2 \rrbracket^{M'} \sqcap \\ \{V \sqcap \llbracket NP_2 \rrbracket^M : V \sqcap \llbracket NP_1 \rrbracket^M\}, & \text{if in every appropriate extension } M' \text{ of } M, \\ & \sqcap V \sqcap \llbracket NP_1 \rrbracket^{M'} : \llbracket NP_2 \rrbracket^{M'} \sqcap V = \end{cases}$$

(45) Last amendment: reference to witness sets to make space for quantifiers in complement of *except*.

(46) Lappin's Proposal

R is total iff (i) $R = \square$, or (ii) for any two sets A,B: $R(A,B)$ iff $A \square B = \emptyset$.

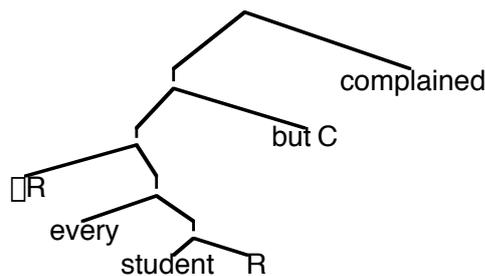
$$\llbracket NP_1 \text{ except } NP_2 \rrbracket = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} X: R(A^{\text{rem}}, X), \text{ where } \llbracket NP_1 \rrbracket = \{X: R(A, X)\}, \text{ and} \\ \square S \left(S \square W(\llbracket NP_2 \rrbracket) \ \& \ S \square A \ \& \ A^{\text{rem}} = A - S \ \& \ R(S, \bar{X}) \right) \end{array} \right\}, \\ \text{if } A \neq \emptyset \text{ and } R \text{ is total in every model } M \text{ s.t. } \llbracket NP_1 \rrbracket \text{ is defined in } M \\ \text{undefined otherwise} \end{array} \right.$$

An Alternative?

(47) At least three men and at least four women other than John and Mary complained.

(48) At most three men and at most four women other than John and Mary complained.

(49) An NP-level analysis based on von Fintel (1993)



$$\llbracket \text{but} \rrbracket (C) (\square_{\langle \text{et}, \text{ett} \rangle}) (P) = \square (\bar{C})(P) \ \& \ \square S [\square (\bar{S})(P) \ \square C \ \square S]$$

$$\llbracket \text{other than} \rrbracket (C) (\square_{\langle \text{et}, \text{ett} \rangle}) (P) = \square (\bar{C})(P)$$

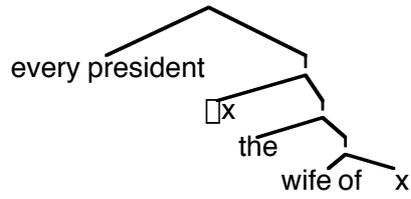
(50) $\left[\text{but John and Mary } (\square R. \text{ every man } R \text{ and every woman } R) \right] (\text{complained})$

(51) every president's wife except Hilary Clinton

(52) Moltmann's denotation for *every president's wife*

$$\left\{ P: \square x (x \square \text{Presidents} \ \& \ \square y (y \text{ wife of } x) \ \square P) \right\}$$

(53) Compositional derivation: [Re-read Section 8.6 in Heim & Kratzer !!]



the wife of x \rightsquigarrow {P: the wife of x \square P}

every president \rightsquigarrow $\square_{\langle e,ett \rangle}$ {P: for every president x, P \square f(x)}

(54)

