The Parallel Meaning Bank

TODAY: Computational Semantics, Meaning Representations and Discourse Representation Theory

FRIDAY: Producing Meaning Representations



WHAT IS COMPUTATIONAL SEMANTICS?

Truth Verification



A man is playing the accordion.

Two boys are making music.



A man is playing the accordion.

Two boys are making music.

Reinterpretation

Turn left and or right to reach San Marco.





Checking for new information

.. when there's more trade, there's more commerce!



Checking for new information

.. when there's more trade, there's more commerce!





Checking for new information





Contradiction Checking



Contradiction Checking



Creating Interpretations

• How do you put an elephant in a fridge?



хуе

x is an elephant y is a fridge e is a "put" event Theme of e is x Destination of e is y

The big idea of computational semantics

 Automate the process of associating semantic representations with expressions of natural language



 Use logical representations of natural language to automate the process of drawing inferences

Controlling Inference





Planet Semantics



Planet Semantics



Representation



Proof-Theoretical Semantics



Model-Theoretic Semantics



Model-Theoretic Semantics



Models

- Model-theoretic semantics
- Alfred Tarski



Models: approximations of reality









(non-logical) **symbols**: man/1, woman/1, house/1, dog/1, bird/1, car/1, tree/1, happy/1, near/2, at/2



(non-logical) **symbols**: man/1, woman/1, house/1, dog/1, bird/1, car/1, tree/1, happy/1, near/2, at/2

VOCABULARY



(non-logical) **symbols**: man/1, woman/1, house/1, dog/1, bird/1, car/1, tree/1, happy/1, near/2, at/2 $M = \langle D, F \rangle$ $D=\{d1,d2,d3,d4,d5,d6,d7,d8\}$ $F(man) = \{d1\}$ F(woman)={d2} F(house)={d3,d4} $F(dog)=\{d5\}$ $F(bird)=\{d6\}$ $F(tree) = \{d7\}$ $F(car) = \{d8\}$ $F(happy)=\{d1,d2\}$ $F(near) = \{(d5, d2), (d2, d5)\}$ $F(at) = \{(d6, d3)\}$

A first-order model

- A first-order model <D,F> has two parts:
 - D: a domain (the universe) of objects (entities)
 - F: an interpretation function
- The interpretation functions maps symbols from our vocabulary to members of the domain
 - Zero-place symbols (constants) are mapped to a single domain member
 - One-place symbols (predicates) are mapped to a set of domain members
 - Two-place symbols (relations) are mapped to a set of ordered pairs of domain members

M = < D, F > $D=\{d1, d2, d3, d4\}$ F(mia)=d2 F(honey-bunny)=d1 F(vincent)=d4 F(yolanda)=d3 F(customer)={d1,d2,d4} F(robber)={d3} F(love)=Ø

A very small model



 $M = \langle D, F \rangle$ $D = \{d1, d2, d3, d4, d5, d6, d7, d8, d9, d10\}$ $F(man) = \{d1, d4, d12\}$ $F(woman) = \{d2, d3\}$ $F(car) = \{d14, d13\}$ $F(love) = \{(d2, d1), (d4, d4)\}$ $F(hate) = \{(d5, d1), (d1, d4), (d2, d2)\}$ F(chopper)={d10}

A very large model

Finite models

- In practice we can only work with finite models (obviously)
- But it is easy to find a description that is satisfiable but does not have a finite model

Alternative names for models

- Interpretation
- Structure

Model Extraction

 The task of mapping sensory input (an image, video, or audio) to a model

Input: image Output: model

> M=<D,F> D={d1,d2,d3,d4,d5} F(Jacket)={d2} F(LongHair)={d3} F(Has)={(d1,d3)}



source: Joo, Wang & Zhu (2013)

FIRST-ORDER LOGIC (FOL)

FORMULA IN FOL = MEANING REPRESENTATION = SEMANTIC REPRESENTATION

Ingredients of a first-order language

- 1. All **symbols** in the vocabulary the non-logical symbols of the first-order language
- Enough variables (a countably infinite collection):
 x, y, z, etc.
- 3. The **connectives** \neg (negation), \land (conjunction), \lor (disjunction), and \rightarrow (implication)
- 4. The quantifiers ∀ (the universal quantifier) and ∃ (the existential quantifier)
- 5. Some **punctuation** symbols: brackets and the comma.



The satisfaction definition for FOL

 $\begin{array}{lll} M,g \models R(\tau_1,\cdots,\tau_n) & \textit{iff} & (I_F^g(\tau_1),\cdots \\ M,g \models \tau_1 = \tau_2 & \textit{iff} & I_F^g(\tau_1) = I \\ M,g \models \neg \phi & \textit{iff} & \textit{not} \ M,g \models \\ M,g \models (\phi \land \psi) & \textit{iff} & M,g \models \phi \\ M,g \models (\phi \lor \psi) & \textit{iff} & M,g \models \phi \\ M,g \models (\phi \rightarrow \psi) & \textit{iff} & \textit{not} \ M,g \models \phi \\ M,g \models \exists x\phi & \textit{iff} & M,g' \models \phi, \\ M,g \models \forall x\phi & \textit{iff} & M,g' \models \phi, \end{array}$

$$\begin{aligned} & \textit{ff} \quad (I_F^g(\tau_1), \cdots, I_F^g(\tau_n)) \in F(R), \\ & \textit{ff} \quad I_F^g(\tau_1) = I_F^g(\tau_2), \\ & \textit{ff} \quad \text{not } M, g \models \phi, \\ & \textit{ff} \quad M, g \models \phi \text{ and } M, g \models \psi, \\ & \textit{ff} \quad M, g \models \phi \text{ or } M, g \models \psi, \\ & \textit{ff} \quad \text{not } M, g \models \phi \text{ or } M, g \models \psi, \\ & \textit{ff} \quad M, g' \models \phi, \text{ for some x-variant } g' \text{ of } g, \\ & \textit{ff} \quad M, g' \models \phi, \text{ for all x-variants } g' \text{ of } g. \end{aligned}$$

 $I_F^g(\tau)$ is F(c) if the term τ is a constant c, and g(x) if τ is a variable x.
Model Checking

• The task of the determining whether a given model satisfies a formula (or a set of formulas)

Input: model + formula Output: true or false

Model Checking

M = < D, F > $D=\{d1, d2, d3, d4\}$ F(mia)=d1 F(honey-bunny)=d2 F(vincent)=d3 F(yolanda)=d4 F(customer)={d1,d3} $F(robber) = \{d2, d4\}$ $F(love) = \{(d4, d2), (d3, d1)\}$

Q1: Does M satisfy: $\exists x(customer(x) \land \exists y(customer(y) \land love(x,y)))$ Q2: Does M satisfy: $\exists x(robber(x) \land love(x,x))$

The Parallel Meaning Bank

 Input: texts (English, Dutch, German, Italian)

 Output: Discourse Representation Structures (DRS)

DRSs are the meaning representations proposed by Discourse Representation Theory. They are first-order representations.

A SIMPLE EXAMPLE

x1 e1 t1 male(x1) Name(x1, tom) grin(e1) Time(e1, t1) Agent(e1, x1) time(t1) t1 = now

There are three discourse referents in this DRS

```
x1 e1 t1
male(x1)
  Name(x1, tom)
grin(e1)
  Time(e1, t1)
  Agent(e1, x1)
time(t1)
  t1 = now
```



The non-logical symbols in this DRS

```
x1 e1 t1

<u>male(x1)</u>

Name(x1, tom)

<u>grin(e1)</u>

<u>Time(e1, t1)</u>

<u>Agent(e1, x1)</u>

<u>time(t1)</u>

<u>t1 = now</u>
```

The constants in this DRS

```
x1 e1 t1

male(x1)

Name(x1, tom)

grin(e1)

Time(e1, t1)

Agent(e1, x1)

time(t1)

t1 = now
```

x1 e1 t1 male(x1)Name(x1, tom) There are three grin(e1) concept conditions in this DRS Time(e1, t1)Agent(e1, x1) time(t1) t1 = now

 There are three role conditions in this DRS
 male(x1)

 Mame(x1, tom)
 grin(e1)

 Time(e1, t1)
 Agent(e1, x1)

 time(t1)
 t1 = now

There is one comparison condition in this DRS x1 e1 t1 male(x1) Name(x1, tom) grin(e1) Time(e1, t1) Agent(e1, x1) time(t1) t1 = now

x1 e1 t1

x1 is a male person with the name "tom"

```
male(x1)
Name(x1, tom)
grin(e1)
Time(e1, t1)
Agent(e1, x1)
time(t1)
t1 = now
```

e1 represents a a grinning event with agent x1 and time t1 x1 e1 t1 male(x1)Name(x1, tom) grin(e1) Time(e1, t1)Agent(e1, x1) time(t1) t1 = now

Tom is grinning.

t1 is a time point equal to the utterance time x1 e1 t1 male(x1)Name(x1, tom) grin(e1) Time(e1, t1)Agent(e1, x1) time(t1) t1 = now

Tom is grinning.

```
x1 e1 t1
male(x1)
Name(x1, tom)
grin(e1)
Time(e1, t1)
Agent(e1, x1)
time(t1)
t1 = now
```

in first-order logic

∃x∃e∃t(male(x)&Name(x,tom)&grin(e)&Time(e,t)&Agent(e,t)&time(t)&t=now)

A first-order model M=<D,F>

D={d1,d2,d3,d4} F(male)={d1} F(grin)={d3} F(time)={d4} F(Time)={(d3,d4)} F(Agent)={(d3,d1)} F(Name)={(d1,d2)} F(now)=d4 F(tom)=d2 x1 e1 t1 male(x1) Name(x1, tom) grin(e1) Time(e1, t1) Agent(e1, x1) time(t1) t1 = now

AN EXAMPLE WITH NEGATION

x1						
male(x1)						
Name(x1, tom)						
-	x2 t1					
	celebrated(x2)					
	Time(x2, t1)					
	Theme(x2, x1)					
	time(t1)					
	t1 = now					







Adjective

• <u>S:</u> (adj) <u>celebrated</u>, <u>famed</u>, <u>far-famed</u>, **famous**, <u>illustrious</u>, <u>notable</u>, <u>noted</u>, <u>renowned</u> (widely known and esteemed) "a famous actor"; "a celebrated musician"; "a famed scientist"; "an illustrious judge"; "a notable historian"; "a renowned painter"



in first-order logic

∃x(male(x)&Name(x,tom)&¬∃e∃t(celebrated(e)&Time(e,t)&Theme(e,x)&time(t)&t=now)

A first-order model M=<D,F>

D={d1,d2,d3} F(male)={d1} F(celebrated)={} F(time)={} F(Time)={} F(Theme)={} F(Name)={(d1,d2)} F(now)=d3 F(tom)=d2

x1						
male(x1)						
	Name(x1, tom)					
7	x2 t1					
	celebrated(x2)					
	Time(x2, t1)					
	Theme(x2, x1)					
	time(t1)					
	t1 = now					

AN EXAMPLE WITH IMPLICATION

Everyone smiled at me.



Everyone smiled at me.



Everyone smiled at me.



in first-order logic

 $\forall x(person(x) \rightarrow \exists e \exists t(smile(e) \& Recipient(e, speaker) \& Time(e, t) \& Agent(e, x) \& \dots)$

The Big Picture



real world

The Big Picture





Motivation

Integrate Lexical and Formal Semantics

- Gold-standard meanings
- Multi-lingual (not just English)
- Resource for parsing/translation

pmb.let.rug.nl

Discourse Representation Theory



Hans Kamp, Irene Heim, Nirit Kadmon, Rob van der Sandt, Bart Geurts, David Beaver, Jan van Eijck, Uwe Reyle, Robin Cooper, Reinhard Muskens, Nicholas Asher, Alex Lascarides

DRS example

Damon showed me his stamp album.



x1 x2 e1 t1 male n.02(x1) Name(x1, damon) time.n.08(t1) t1 < nowshow v.04(e1) Time(e1, t1) Recipient(e1, speaker) Theme(e1, x2) Agent(e1, x1) stamp_album.n.01(x2) Owner(x2, x1)

Most likely interpretation

41/2289: Tom is stuck in his sleeping bag.



$sleeping_bag.n.01(x)$

in his sleeping~bag PP λv1. x1 x2 Location(v1, x2) male.n.02(x1) sleeping_bag.n.01(x2) User(x2, x1)

Quantification

Whoever guesses the number wins.

x1 x2 e1 t1	⇒	e2 t1	
person.n.01(x1)		time.n.08(t1)	
time.n.08(t1)		t1 = now	
t1 = now		win.v.01(e2)	
guess.v.04(e1)		Time(e2, t1)	
Time(e1, t1)		Agent(e2, x1)	
Theme(e1, x2)			
Agent(e1, x1)			
number.n.02(x2)			

Negation

My uncle isn't young, but he's healthy.



	x1 x2		x1 s2 t2		
b1 ::	uncle.n.01(x2)	. ♦ b4 :	: male.n.02(x1)		
	Of(x2, speaker)		Attribute(x1, s2)		
	person.n.01(x1)		time.n.08(t2)		
	Role(x1, x2)		t2 = now		
(¬ 💁 t1		healthy.a.01(s2)		
	time.n.08(t1)		Time(s2, t2)		
	t1 = now				
	young.a.01(s1)				
	Time(s1, t1)				
	Attribute(x1, s1)				
CONTRAST(b1, b4)					
Pronouns

My uncle isn't young, but he's healthy.





Verb phrase coordination

Tom grabbed his umbrella and headed for the elevator.



Possessives

Jane Austen's books a: very beautiful!



```
x1 x2 s1 s2 t1
female.n.02(x1)
  Name(x1, jane~austen)
book.n.01(x2)
  Attribute(x2, s1)
  Creator(x2, x1)
time.n.08(t1)
  t1 = now
beautiful.a.01(s1)
  Time(s1, t1)
  Degree(s1, s2)
very.r.01(s2)
```

Spatial expressions

There's a parrot in the birdcage.



e1 x1 t1 x2 x3 time(t1) t1 = nowbe(e1) Location(e1, x3) Time(e1, t1)Theme(e1, x1) parrot(x1) location(x3) STI(x3, x2)birdcage(x2)

Measure phrases

Tom bet \$300 on the race.



x1 x2 e1 x3 t1 male.n.02(x1)Name(x1, tom) time.n.08(t1) t1 < nowbet.v.02(e1) Time(e1, t1)Theme(e1, x3) Asset(e1, x2) Agent(e1, x1) measure.n.02(x2) Unit(x2, dollar) Quantity(x2, 300)race.n.02(x3)

Comparison

More than 1,500 people died when the Titanic sank in 1912.



x1 n1 x2 e1 t1 x3 e2 quantity.n.01(n1) n1 > x2person.n.01(x1) Quantity(x1, n1) quantity.n.01(x2) $x^2 = 1500$ die.v.01(e1) Time(e1, t1)Patient(e1, x1) vehicle.n.01(x3) Name(x3, titanic) sink.v.04(e2) Time(e2, t1)Patient(e2, x3) time.n.08(t1) YearOfCentury(t1, 1912) t1 < now

Lists

I visited cities such as New York, Chicago and Boston.



x1 x2 x3 x4 x5 e1 t1 time.n.08(t1) t1 < nowvisit.v.01(e1) Time(e1, t1) Theme(e1, x1) Agent(e1, speaker) city.n.01(x1)Sub(x1, x2)city.n.01(x3)Name(x3, new~york) city.n.01(x4) Name(x4, chicago) entity.n.01(x2) Sub(x2, x5)Sub(x2, x4)Sub(x2, x3)city.n.01(x5) Name(x5, boston)

Discourse relations

Tom will be absent today because he has a cold.



Date expressions

Carl Smith died on August 8.



x1 e1 t1 male.n.02(x1)Name(x1, carl~smith) die.v.01(e1) Time(e1, t1)Patient(e1, x1) time.n.08(t1) DayOfMonth(t1, 08) MonthOfYear(t1, 08) t1 < now

Kamp 2018





It rained yesterday.

Evaluating Meaning Representations

Semantic Evaluation

- Check for logical equivalence
- Use standard theorem provers for first-order logic (Blackburn & Bos 2005)
- Discrete score:
 0 (no proof)
 1 (proof)

Syntactic Evaluation

- Check matching clauses
- Implementations:
 - Allen et al. 2008
 - Smatch (Cai & Knight 2013)
 - Counter (van Noord et al. 2018)

 Continuous score: 0.00 (no matches) 0.X (some but not all) 1.00 (perfect match)

Clause Notation

b1 REF e1	% It [02] rained [39]
b1 TPR t1 "now"	% rained [39]
b1 rain "v.01" e1	% rained [39]
b1 REF t1	<pre>% rained [39] yesterday [1019]</pre>
b1 Time e1 t1	<pre>% rained [39] yesterday [1019]</pre>
b1 time "n.08" t1	<pre>% rained [39] yesterday [1019]</pre>
b1 REF t2	% yesterday [1019]
b1 REF x1	% yesterday [1019]
b1 TAB x1 t2	% yesterday [1019]
b1 TIN "now" t2	% yesterday [1019]
b1 TIN t1 x1	% yesterday [1019]
b1 day "n.03" t2	% yesterday [1019]
b1 day "n.03" x1	% yesterday [1019]
	% . [1920]



It rained yesterday. 012345678901234567890

Van Noord et al. 2018

Figure 4: The SPAR DRS (Section 5.1) matches the DRS of 00/3514 PMB document with an F-score of 54.5%. If redundant REF-clauses are ignored, the F-score drops to 40%. These results are achieved with the help of the mapping $\{k0 \mapsto b0, e1 \mapsto v1\}$.

01/3445: He smiled.

00/3514: She fled Australia.

 $\begin{array}{c|cccc} x_1 & e_1 & t_1 \\ \hline male.n.02(x_1) \\ smile.v.01(e_1) \\ \hline Time(e_1,t_1) \\ Agent(e_1,x_1) \\ time.n.08(t_1) \\ t_1 \prec now \end{array}$

SPAR DRS

 b1 REF x1
 k

 b1 male n.02 x1
 k

 b3 REF t1
 k

 b3 TPR t1 "now"
 k

 b3 time n.08 t1
 k

 k0 Agent e1 x1
 k

 k0 Time e1 t1
 k

 k0 smile v.01 e1
 k

b1 REF x1
b1 female n.02 x1
b3 REF t1
b3 TPR t1 "now"
b3 time n.08 t1
b0 Theme v1 x1
b0 Source v1 x2
b0 REF v1
e1 b0 Time v1 t1
b0 flee v.01 v1
b2 REF x2
b2 Name x2 "australia"
b2 country n.02 x2

Logical symbols

- \Box negation
- □ conditionals
- □scope (boxes)
- □variables

Non-logical symbols

predicates (concepts)constants (names)relations (roles)

 \Box comparison operators

Logical symbols

☑negation□ conditionals□ scope (boxes)

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□ predicates (concepts)
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☑ constants (names)
☑ relations (roles)
☑ comparison operators

Kamp 2018





It rained yesterday.

Representing Predicate Symbols

- Wordnet Synsets
- Wordnet encodings
- Word embeddings
 - static: word2vec
 - dynamic: Elmo, Bert, XLNet

WordNet

- words meanings via synonym sets (synsets)
- relations between synsets (hyperonymy)

{plant, factory}
{plant, flora}



WordNet

- words meanings via synonym sets (synsets)
- relations between synsets (hyperonymy)

```
{plant.n.01, factory.n.01}
{plant.n.02, flora.n.01}
```

WordNet

- words meanings via synonym sets (synsets)
- relations between synsets (hyperonymy)

08293644 :: {plant.n.01, factory.n.01} 07253221 :: {plant.n.02, flora.n.01}

Interlingual WordNet

- words meanings via synonym sets (synsets)
- relations between synsets (hyperonymy)

{plant.n.01.en, factory.n.01.en, fabriek.n.01.nl} {plant.n.02.en, flora.n.01.en, pflanze.n.01.de}

Knowledge in WordNet

- words meanings via synonym sets (synsets)
- relations between synsets (hyperonymy)



Representing Concepts: WordNet

```
x1 e1 t1
08293641(x1)
15160774(t1)
  YearOfCentury(t1,1650)
   t1 < now
02431950(e1)
  Time(e1,t1)
   Theme(e1,x1)
```

This school was founded in 1650.

Representing Concepts: WordNet

x1 e1 t1

```
school.n.01(x1)
time.n.08(t1)
    YearOfCentury(t1,1650)
    t1 < now
found.v.02(e1)
    Time(e1,t1)
    Theme(e1,x1)</pre>
```

This school was founded in 1650.

The Parallel Meaning Bank

TODAY: Computational Semantics, Meaning Representations and Discourse Representation Theory

FRIDAY: Producing Meaning Representations **Tokenisation, Semantic Tagging, Composition**

