

# Dynamic Montague Grammar Lite

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*“... we are convinced that the capacities of [Montague Grammar] have not been exploited to the limit, that sometimes an analysis is carried out in a rival framework simply because it is more fashionable.”*

— Groenendijk & Stokhof,  
‘Dynamic Montague Grammar’

## Some definitions and some facts

### Definition 1 (uparrow)

If neither  $p$  nor  $g$  occurs freely in  $\phi$ :

$$\uparrow : p \rightarrow d$$

$$\uparrow : (s \rightarrow t) \rightarrow ((s \rightarrow t) \rightarrow s \rightarrow t)$$

$$\uparrow\phi := \lambda p. \lambda g. (\phi(g) \wedge p(g))$$

### Definition 2 (downarrow)

$$\downarrow : d \rightarrow p$$

$$\downarrow : ((s \rightarrow t) \rightarrow p) \rightarrow p$$

$$\downarrow\Phi := \Phi(\lambda g. \top)$$

### Definition 3 (truth)

$$\text{True} : d \rightarrow t$$

$$\text{True} : (p \rightarrow s \rightarrow t) \rightarrow t$$

$$\text{True}(\Phi) := \forall_s(\downarrow\Phi)$$

### Fact 1 ( $\downarrow\uparrow$ -elimination) $\downarrow\uparrow\phi = \phi$

$$\begin{aligned} & \downarrow(\uparrow\phi) \\ = & \downarrow[\lambda p. \lambda g. (\phi(g) \wedge p(g))] && g \text{ not free in } \phi \\ = & [\lambda p. \lambda g. (\phi(g) \wedge p(g))](\lambda h. \top) \\ \rightarrow_{\beta} & \lambda g. (\phi(g) \wedge [\lambda h. \top](g)) \\ \rightarrow_{\beta} & \lambda g. (\phi(g) \wedge \top) \\ = & \lambda g. \phi(g) \\ \rightarrow_{\eta} & \phi && \text{since } g \text{ not free in } \phi \end{aligned}$$

**Fact 2 (failure of  $\uparrow\downarrow$ -elimination)**  $\uparrow\downarrow\Phi \neq \Phi$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \uparrow(\downarrow\Phi) \\
= & \uparrow(\Phi(\lambda h. \top)) \\
= & \lambda p. \lambda g. (\Phi(\lambda h. \top)(g) \wedge p(g)) \\
& \text{Let } \Phi := \lambda p'. \lambda g'. (\phi(g') \wedge p'(k)), \text{ then continue:} \\
= & \lambda p. \lambda g. ([\lambda p'. \lambda g'. (\phi(g') \wedge p'(k))](\lambda h. \top)(g) \wedge p(g)) \\
\rightarrow_{\beta} & \lambda p. \lambda g. ([\lambda g'. (\phi(g') \wedge [\lambda h. \top](k))](g) \wedge p(g)) \\
\rightarrow_{\beta} & \lambda p. \lambda g. ((\phi(g) \wedge [\lambda h. \top](k)) \wedge p(g)) \\
\rightarrow_{\beta} & \lambda p. \lambda g. ((\phi(g) \wedge \top) \wedge p(g)) \\
= & \lambda p. \lambda g. (\phi(g) \wedge p(g)) =_{\alpha} \lambda p'. \lambda g'. (\phi(g') \wedge p'(g'))
\end{aligned}$$

**Definition 4 (static negation)**

If  $g$  has no free occurrence in  $\Phi$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
\sim & : d \rightarrow d \\
\sim & : (p \rightarrow s \rightarrow t) \rightarrow d \\
\sim\Phi & := \uparrow[\lambda g. \neg((\downarrow\Phi)(g))]
\end{aligned}$$

N.B.: If  $\neg$  is generalized negation, define  $\sim\Phi := \uparrow\neg\downarrow\Phi$ .

**Fact 3**  $\sim\sim\Phi = \uparrow\downarrow\Phi$

$$\begin{aligned}
\sim\sim\Phi & = \uparrow[\lambda g. \neg(\downarrow\sim\Phi)(g)] \\
& = \uparrow[\lambda g. \neg(\downarrow\uparrow[\lambda g'. \neg(\downarrow\Phi)(g')])](g) \\
& = \uparrow[\lambda g. \neg[\lambda g'. \neg(\downarrow\Phi)(g')]](g) \\
\rightarrow_{\beta} & \uparrow[\lambda g. \neg\neg(\downarrow\Phi)(g)] \\
& = \uparrow[\lambda g. (\downarrow\Phi)(g)] \\
\rightarrow_{\eta} & \uparrow(\downarrow\Phi)
\end{aligned}$$

### Definition 5 (dynamic conjunction)

If  $p$  has no free occurrence in  $\Phi$  or  $\Psi$ :

$$\wp : d \rightarrow d \rightarrow d$$

$$\wp : (p \rightarrow p) \rightarrow (p \rightarrow p) \rightarrow p \rightarrow p$$

$$(\Phi \wp \Psi) := \lambda p. \Phi(\Psi(p))$$

### Definition 6 (update)

What it means to update an assignment function:

$$\text{update} : m \rightarrow e \rightarrow s \rightarrow s$$

$$\text{update} : m \rightarrow e \rightarrow (m \rightarrow e) \rightarrow m \rightarrow e$$

$$\text{update}(d)(x)(g)(d) := x$$

$$\text{update}(d)(x)(g)(d') := g(d') \text{ provided } d \neq d'$$

Generously add syntactic sugar:  $\{x/d\}g := \text{update}(d)(x)(g)$

### Definition 7 (dynamic existential quantifier)

If there are no free occurrences of  $p, g, x$  in  $\Phi$ :

$$\mathcal{E} : m \rightarrow d \rightarrow d$$

$$\mathcal{E} : m \rightarrow (p \rightarrow s \rightarrow t) \rightarrow p \rightarrow s \rightarrow t$$

$$\mathcal{E}d\Phi := \lambda p. \lambda g. \exists x \Phi(p)(\{x/d\}g)$$

### Definition 8 (remaining connectives)

1. internally dynamic implication:  $(\Phi \Rightarrow \Psi) := \sim(\Phi \wp \sim\Psi)$

2. static disjunction:  $(\Phi \text{ or } \Psi) := (\sim\Phi \Rightarrow \Psi)$

3. static universal quantifier:  $\mathcal{A}d\Phi := \sim\mathcal{E}d\sim\Phi$

**Fact 4**  $\sim \mathcal{E}d\Phi = \mathcal{A}d\sim\Phi$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sim \mathcal{E}d\Phi \\
= & \uparrow[\lambda g. \neg(\downarrow \mathcal{E}d\Phi)(g)] \\
= & \uparrow[\lambda g. \neg(\downarrow[\lambda p'. \lambda g'. \exists x\Phi(p')(\{x/d\}g')])](g)] \\
= & \uparrow[\lambda g. \neg[\lambda p'. \lambda g'. \exists x\Phi(p')(\{x/d\}g')](\lambda h. \top)(g)] \\
\rightarrow_{\beta} & \uparrow[\lambda g. \neg[\lambda g'. \exists x\Phi(\lambda h. \top)(\{x/d\}g')](g)] \\
\rightarrow_{\beta} & \uparrow[\lambda g. \neg\exists x\Phi(\lambda h. \top)(\{x/d\}g)] \\
& \mathcal{A}d\sim\Phi \\
= & \sim \mathcal{E}d\sim\sim\Phi \\
= & \sim \mathcal{E}d\uparrow\downarrow\Phi \\
= & \uparrow[\lambda g. \neg\exists x[\uparrow\downarrow\Phi](\lambda h. \top)(\{x/d\}g)] \\
= & \uparrow[\lambda g. \neg\exists x[\lambda p'. \lambda g'. ((\downarrow\Phi)(g') \wedge p'(g'))](\lambda h. \top)(\{x/d\}g)] \\
\rightarrow_{\beta} & \uparrow[\lambda g. \neg\exists x[\lambda g'. ((\downarrow\Phi)(g') \wedge [\lambda h. \top](g'))](\{x/d\}g)] \\
= & \uparrow[\lambda g. \neg\exists x[\lambda g'. ((\downarrow\Phi)(g') \wedge \top)](\{x/d\}g)] \\
= & \uparrow[\lambda g. \neg\exists x[\lambda g'. (\downarrow\Phi)(g')](\{x/d\}g)] \\
\rightarrow_{\beta} & \uparrow[\lambda g. \neg\exists x(\downarrow\Phi)(\{x/d\}g)] \\
= & \uparrow[\lambda g. \neg\exists x\Phi(\lambda h. \top)(\{x/d\}g)]
\end{aligned}$$

**Fact 5**  $\mathcal{E}d\Phi \ ; \ \Psi = \mathcal{E}d(\Phi \ ; \ \Psi)$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \mathcal{E}d(\Phi \ ; \ \Psi) \\
= & \lambda p. \lambda g. \exists x(\Phi \ ; \ \Psi)(p)(\{x/d\}g) \\
= & \lambda p. \lambda g. \exists x[\lambda p'. \Phi(\Psi(p'))](p)(\{x/d\}g) \\
\rightarrow_{\beta} & \lambda p. \lambda g. \exists x\Phi(\Psi(p))(\{x/d\}g)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \mathcal{E}d\Phi \ ; \ \Psi \\
= & \lambda p. [\mathcal{E}d\Phi](\Psi(p)) \\
= & \lambda p. [\lambda p'. \lambda g. \exists x\Phi(p')(\{x/d\}g)](\Psi(p)) \\
\rightarrow_{\beta} & \lambda p. \lambda g. \exists x\Phi(\Psi(p))(\{x/d\}g)
\end{aligned}$$

**Fact 6**  $(\mathcal{E}d\Phi \Rightarrow \Psi) = \mathcal{A}d(\Phi \Rightarrow \Psi)$

$$\begin{aligned}
& (\mathcal{E}d\Phi \Rightarrow \Psi) \\
= & \sim(\mathcal{E}d\Phi \ ; \ \sim\Psi) && \text{definition of } \Rightarrow \\
= & \sim\mathcal{E}d(\Phi \ ; \ \sim\Psi) && \text{Fact 5} \\
= & \mathcal{A}d\sim(\Phi \ ; \ \sim\Psi) && \text{Fact 4} \\
= & \mathcal{A}d(\Phi \Rightarrow \Psi) && \text{definition of } \Rightarrow
\end{aligned}$$

## Dynamic Montague Grammar

Say  $P(\downarrow d) := \lambda g. P(g(d))$  for all  $P : e \rightarrow t$ .

### Definition 9 (translation of basic expressions)

$$\begin{aligned}
 \llbracket a^i \rrbracket &:= \lambda P. \lambda Q. \mathcal{E}d_i(P(d_i) \ ; \ Q(d_i)) && : (m \rightarrow d) \rightarrow (m \rightarrow d) \rightarrow d \\
 \llbracket man \rrbracket &:= \lambda d. \uparrow \text{man}(\downarrow d) && : m \rightarrow d \\
 &= \lambda d. \lambda p. \lambda g. (\text{man}(g(d)) \wedge p(g)) \\
 \llbracket walks \rrbracket &:= \lambda d. \uparrow \text{walk}(\downarrow d) && : m \rightarrow d \\
 \llbracket he_i \rrbracket &:= \lambda Q. Q(d_i) && : (m \rightarrow d) \rightarrow d \\
 \llbracket talks \rrbracket &:= \lambda d. \uparrow \text{talk}(\downarrow d) && : m \rightarrow d
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \llbracket a^1 man \rrbracket &= \llbracket a^1 \rrbracket(\llbracket man \rrbracket) \\
 &= \llbracket \lambda P. \lambda Q. \mathcal{E}d_1(P(d_1) \ ; \ Q(d_1)) \rrbracket(\llbracket man \rrbracket) \\
 &= \lambda Q. \mathcal{E}d_1(\llbracket man \rrbracket(d_1) \ ; \ Q(d_1)) \\
 &= \lambda Q. \mathcal{E}d_1(\llbracket \lambda d. \lambda p. \lambda g. (\text{man}(g(d)) \wedge p(g)) \rrbracket(d_1) \ ; \ Q(d_1)) \\
 &= \lambda Q. \mathcal{E}d_1([\lambda p. \lambda g. (\text{man}(g(d_1)) \wedge p(g))] \ ; \ Q(d_1))
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\llbracket a^1 \text{ man walks} \rrbracket &= \llbracket a^1 \text{ man} \rrbracket(\llbracket \text{walks} \rrbracket) \\
&= [\lambda Q. \mathcal{E}d_1([\lambda p. \lambda g. (\text{man}(g(d_1)) \wedge p(g))] \ddagger Q(d_1))](\llbracket \text{walks} \rrbracket) \\
&= \mathcal{E}d_1([\lambda p. \lambda g. (\text{man}(g(d_1)) \wedge p(g))] \ddagger \llbracket \text{walks} \rrbracket(d_1)) \\
&= \mathcal{E}d_1([\lambda p. \lambda g. (\text{man}(g(d_1)) \wedge p(g))] \ddagger [\lambda d. \lambda p'. \lambda g'. (\text{walk}(g'(d)) \wedge p'(g'))](d_1)) \\
&= \mathcal{E}d_1([\lambda p. \lambda g. (\text{man}(g(d_1)) \wedge p(g))] \ddagger [\lambda p'. \lambda g'. (\text{walk}(g'(d_1)) \wedge p'(g'))]) \\
&= \mathcal{E}d_1 \lambda p''. [\lambda p. \lambda g. (\text{man}(g(d_1)) \wedge p(g))]( [\lambda p'. \lambda g'. (\text{walk}(g'(d_1)) \wedge p'(g'))](p'')) \\
&= \mathcal{E}d_1 \lambda p''. [\lambda p. \lambda g. (\text{man}(g(d_1)) \wedge p(g))](\lambda g'. (\text{walk}(g'(d_1)) \wedge p''(g'))) \\
&= \mathcal{E}d_1 \lambda p''. \lambda g. (\text{man}(g(d_1)) \wedge [\lambda g'. (\text{walk}(g'(d_1)) \wedge p''(g'))](g)) \\
&= \mathcal{E}d_1 \lambda p''. \lambda g. (\text{man}(g(d_1)) \wedge \text{walk}(g(d_1)) \wedge p''(g)) \\
&= \lambda p'. \lambda g'. \exists x [\lambda p''. \lambda g. (\text{man}(g(d_1)) \wedge \text{walk}(g(d_1)) \wedge p''(g))](p')(\{x/d_1\}g') \\
&= \lambda p'. \lambda g'. \exists x [\lambda g. (\text{man}(g(d_1)) \wedge \text{walk}(g(d_1)) \wedge p'(g))](\{x/d_1\}g') \\
&= \lambda p'. \lambda g'. \exists x (\text{man}(\{x/d_1\}g'(d_1)) \wedge \text{walk}(\{x/d_1\}g'(d_1)) \wedge p'(\{x/d_1\}g')) \\
&= \lambda p'. \lambda g'. \exists x (\text{man}(x) \wedge \text{walk}(x) \wedge p'(\{x/d_1\}g'))
\end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}
\llbracket he_1 \text{ talks} \rrbracket &= \llbracket he_1 \rrbracket(\llbracket \text{talks} \rrbracket) \\
&= [\lambda Q. Q(d_1)](\llbracket \text{talks} \rrbracket) \\
&= \llbracket \text{talks} \rrbracket(d_1) \\
&= [\lambda d. \lambda p. \lambda g. (\text{talk}(g(d)) \wedge p(g))](d_1) \\
&= \lambda p. \lambda g. (\text{talk}(g(d_1)) \wedge p(g))
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\llbracket a^1 \text{ man walks. } he_1 \text{ talks} \rrbracket &= \llbracket a^1 \text{ man walks} \rrbracket \circ \llbracket he_1 \text{ talks} \rrbracket \\
&= \lambda p. \llbracket a^1 \text{ man walks} \rrbracket(\llbracket he_1 \text{ talks} \rrbracket(p)) \\
&= \lambda p. \llbracket a^1 \text{ man walks} \rrbracket([\lambda p'. \lambda g'. (\text{talk}(g'(d_1)) \wedge p'(g'))](p)) \\
&= \lambda p. \llbracket a^1 \text{ man walks} \rrbracket(\lambda g'. (\text{talk}(g'(d_1)) \wedge p(g'))) \\
&= \lambda p. [\lambda p'. \lambda g. \exists x(\text{man}(x) \wedge \text{walk}(x) \wedge p'(\{x/d_1\}g))](\lambda g'. (\text{talk}(g'(d_1)) \wedge p(g'))) \\
&= \lambda p. \lambda g. \exists x(\text{man}(x) \wedge \text{walk}(x) \wedge [\lambda g'. (\text{talk}(g'(d_1)) \wedge p(g'))](\{x/d_1\}g)) \\
&= \lambda p. \lambda g. \exists x(\text{man}(x) \wedge \text{walk}(x) \wedge \text{talk}(\{x/d_1\}g(d_1)) \wedge p(\{x/d_1\}g)) \\
&= \lambda p. \lambda g. \exists x(\text{man}(x) \wedge \text{walk}(x) \wedge \text{talk}(x) \wedge p(\{x/d_1\}g))
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \text{True}(\llbracket a^1 \text{ man walks. } he_1 \text{ talks} \rrbracket) \\
&= \forall_s(\downarrow \llbracket a^1 \text{ man walks. } he_1 \text{ talks} \rrbracket) \\
&= \forall_s(\downarrow [\lambda p. \lambda g. \exists x(\text{man}(x) \wedge \text{walk}(x) \wedge \text{talk}(x) \wedge p(\{x/d_1\}g))]) \\
&= \forall_s([\lambda p. \lambda g. \exists x(\text{man}(x) \wedge \text{walk}(x) \wedge \text{talk}(x) \wedge p(\{x/d_1\}g))](\lambda h. \top)) \\
&= \forall_s[\lambda g. \exists x(\text{man}(x) \wedge \text{walk}(x) \wedge \text{talk}(x) \wedge [\lambda h. \top](\{x/d_1\}g))] \\
&= \forall_s[\lambda g. \exists x(\text{man}(x) \wedge \text{walk}(x) \wedge \text{talk}(x) \wedge \top)] \\
&= \forall_s[\lambda g. \exists x(\text{man}(x) \wedge \text{walk}(x) \wedge \text{talk}(x))] \\
&= [\lambda g. \exists x(\text{man}(x) \wedge \text{walk}(x) \wedge \text{talk}(x))] \equiv [\lambda g. \top] \\
&= \exists x(\text{man}(x) \wedge \text{walk}(x) \wedge \text{talk}(x)) \equiv \top \\
&= \exists x(\text{man}(x) \wedge \text{walk}(x) \wedge \text{talk}(x))
\end{aligned}$$