

Computational Semantics (UE 903, EC2)

Consider the following abstract syntax together with its associated Montague-like semantics:

EVERYBODY	:	NP
SOMEBODY	:	NP
NEED	:	NP \rightarrow NP \rightarrow S
TRACE	:	NP _X
MOVE	:	(NP \rightarrow NP \rightarrow S) \rightarrow NP _X \rightarrow NP \rightarrow S _X
QR	:	NP \rightarrow S _X \rightarrow S

[[NP]]	=	(e \rightarrow t) \rightarrow t
[[S]]	=	t
[[NP _X]]	=	e \rightarrow (e \rightarrow t) \rightarrow t
[[S _X]]	=	e \rightarrow t

[[EVERYBODY]]	=	$\lambda p. \forall x. (\mathbf{human} x) \rightarrow (p x)$
[[SOMEBODY]]	=	$\lambda p. \exists y. (\mathbf{human} y) \wedge (p y)$
[[NEED]]	=	$\lambda o s. s (\lambda x. o (\lambda y. \mathbf{need} x y))$
[[TRACE]]	=	$\lambda x k. k x$
[[MOVE]]	=	\dots
[[QR]]	=	$\lambda n v. n v$

where:

human	:	e \rightarrow t
need	:	e \rightarrow (e \rightarrow t)

1. Compute the semantic representation of the sentence *everybody needs somebody*, the abstract syntax of which is given by the following term:

$$(\text{NEED SOMEBODY}) \text{ EVERYBODY}$$

2. Assume that:

$$\text{MOVE NEED} \rightarrow_{\beta} \lambda q s z. s (\lambda x. q z (\lambda y. \mathbf{need} x y))$$

Compute another semantic representation of the sentence *everybody needs somebody*, the alternative abstract syntax of which is given by the following term:

$$\text{QR SOMEBODY} (\text{MOVE NEED TRACE EVERYBODY})$$

3. Assign an appropriate semantic interpretation to MOVE such that:

$$\text{MOVE NEED} \rightarrow_{\beta} \lambda q s z. s (\lambda x. q z (\lambda y. \mathbf{need} x y))$$

4. Discuss the difference between the two interpretations you have obtained for the sentence *everybody needs somebody*.