# Representations in Syntax 

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## Introduction

## Gereon (disappointedly) everyone is moving to representations

## Introduction


What are representations?

- how should we think of them?
- what are the questions that we should ask?
- what is the trade-off with derivations?

What are derivations? ibid.

## We should focus on

what information we need to support the interface maps

## Representations of Derivations

## A derivation

## A derivation

1. select every
every

## A derivation

1. select every
every
2. select boy
boy

## A derivation

1. select every
every
2. select boy
boy
3. merge 1 and 2
[DP every [NP boy ]]

## A derivation

1. select every
every
2. select boy
boy
3. merge 1 and 2
[DP every [NP boy ]]
4. select laugh
laugh

## A derivation

1. select every
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2. select boy
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3. merge 1 and 2
[DP every [NP boy ]]
4. select laugh
laugh
5. merge 4 and 3
[ $V P$ laugh [DP every boy ]]

## A derivation

1. select every
every
2. select boy
boy
3. merge 1 and 2
[DP every [NP boy ]]
4. select laugh
laugh
5. merge 4 and 3
[ $v P$ laugh [DP every boy ]]
6. select will

## A derivation

1. select every every
2. merge 6 and 5
[IP will [ $V P$ laugh [DP every boy ]]]
3. select boy
boy
4. merge 1 and 2
[DP every [np boy ]]
5. select laugh
laugh
6. merge 4 and 3
[ $v P$ laugh [DP every boy ]]
7. select will

## A derivation

1. select every every
2. select boy
boy
3. merge 1 and 2
[DP every [NP boy ]]
4. select laugh
laugh
5. merge 4 and 3
[ $V P$ laugh [DP every boy ]]
6. select will

## Derivations are processes

A derivation is the process of constructing an expression

- derivations are important
- important things need to be thought about!
- it is helpful to be able to represent important things


## Recipes are representations of processes

- lexical items are ingredients
- merge and move instead of bake, broil, whip, ...



## Derivations as recipes

1. select every
2. select boy
3. merge 1 and 2
4. select laugh
5. merge 4 and 3
6. select will
7. merge 6 and 5
8. move 3 in 7

## Derivations are structured

Order is important

- Some things must happen before others
- Sometimes, it doesn't matter
- merge det and noun
- before you merge the verb
- cream sugar and butter
- before you add the flour

Represent before-ness as dominance:
if $A$ must happen before $B$, then $B$ should be higher than $A$

## Representing derivations

## Representing derivations

1. select every

## Representing derivations

\author{

1. select every <br> 2. select boy
}

## Representing derivations

1. select every
2. select boy
3. merge 1 and 2


## Representing derivations

1. select every
2. select boy
3. merge 1 and 2
4. select laugh


## Representing derivations

1. select every
2. select boy
3. merge 1 and 2
4. select laugh
5. merge 4 and 3


## Representing derivations

1. select every
2. select boy
3. merge 1 and 2
4. select laugh
5. merge 4 and 3
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## Representing derivations

1. select every
2. select boy
3. merge 1 and 2
4. select laugh
5. merge 4 and 3
6. select will
7. merge 6 and 5


## Representing derivations

1. select every
2. select boy
3. merge 1 and 2
4. select laugh
5. merge 4 and 3
6. select will
7. merge 6 and 5
8. move every boy

## The structure of derivations


subtrees: describe how to construct something

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subtrees: describe how to construct something
$x$ dominates $y$ : to build $x$, you first have to build $y$
x c-commands y : before x can be used, you first have to build $y$
$x$ and $y$ are independent: they can be built in any order

## For comparison

1. cream sugar and butter
2. add eggs to 1
3. beat 2
4. add flour to 3
5. beat 4
6. stir chocolate chips into 5
7. bake 6


## Infinite regress?

Do we have to build derivation trees?
NO!!!

- a recipe is a description of the process, not the process itself
- a recipe is helpful to think about what you did/will do

You can make a cookie without writing down what you did/are doing/will do

## Properties of Derivations

## Why do derivations look the way they do?

Why?


## Why do derivations look the way they do?

Why?
because every selects for a $N$, and boy is an $N$


## Why do derivations look the way they do?

Why?
because every selects for a $N$, and boy is an $N$


## Why do derivations look the way they do?

Why?
because laugh selects for an $D$, and every is a $D$


## Why do derivations look the way they do?

Why?
because laugh selects for an $D$, and every is a $D$


## Why do derivations look the way they do?

Why?
because will selects for a $V$, and laugh is a $V$


## Why do derivations look the way they do?

Why?
because will selects for a $V$, and laugh is a $V$


## Why do derivations look the way they do?

Why?
because every boy needs case, and will assigns case


## Why do derivations look the way they do?

Why?
because every boy needs case, and will assigns case


## Derivations are endocentric



## Derivations are endocentric



## Derivations are endocentric



## Derivations are endocentric



## Derivations are endocentric



## Derivations are endocentric



## (... unless countercyclicity)

1. select laugh
2. select will
3. merge 2 and 1
4. select every
5. select boy

6. merge 4 and 5
7. LATE merge 6 to 1 in 3
8. move 6 in 7

## Headedness



## Headedness



## Headedness



## Headedness



## Headedness



## Headedness



## Headedness



## Headedness



## The same recipe



## Derived structure

every every

## Derived structure

every every

## Derived structure

every boy every boy

## Derived structure



## Derived structure



## Derived structure



## Derived structure



## Derived structure



## Derived structure



## Derived structure (II)

## Derived structure (II)

## Derived structure (II)

every boy
every
boy

## Derived structure (II)



## Derived structure (II)



## Derived structure (II)



## Derived structure (II)



## Derived structure (II)



## Derived structure (II)



## Derived structure (III)

every every

## Derived structure (III)

every every

## Derived structure (III)

every
boy
every
boy

## Derived structure (III)



## Derived structure (III)



## Derived structure (III)



## Derived structure (III)



## Derived structure (III)



## Derived structure (III)



## Same or Different?



## Comparing Derived and Derivational Structure

- easy identity conditions for derivational structure
- derived structure is a copy of the derivation

Can we replace derived structure with derivational structure?

- what is at issue here?

Processing

## Is derivational structure real or not?

Previously:
Do we have to build derivation trees?
NO!!!
But now...?

- am I proposing to replace derived trees w/ derivation trees?
- does this change things?


## A parser

## must construct a

1. well-formed
2. structure
the derivation
3. determines whether an expression is well-formed
4. gives you all the information you could ever want
a parser

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## must construct a

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a parser 1. must reconstruct a derivation

## A parser

## must construct a

1. well-formed
2. structure
the derivation
3. determines whether an expression is well-formed
4. gives you all the information you could ever want
a parser 1. must reconstruct a derivation and
5. needn't reconstruct anything else

## Parsing top down

$\square$

## Parsing top down

move


## Parsing top down



## Parsing top down



## Parsing top down



## Parsing top down



## Parsing top down



## Parsing top down



## Parsing top down



## Parsing top down



## Looking at the parsing model

- parser must reconstruct the derivation
- so the derivation is a 'real' level of structure?


## Compositionality

## Grammatical architecture



The question
how do we go from derivations to sounds and meanings?

## Interpreting derivations


a canonical idea

1. start $w /$ derivation tree
2. do the derivation described
3. interpret the derived object

But step 2. is just building a copy of what we started with!

## Globality vs Locality

What is agreed upon?
never need to see the whole previous structure to decide about outcome of next step

'phases'

## Ultra-locality

## Compositionality

 only use information about immediate arguments, and mode of combination, to determine result$$
\llbracket /_{\alpha}^{\text {merge }} \backslash_{\beta} \rrbracket=f_{\text {merge }} \llbracket \alpha \rrbracket \llbracket \beta \rrbracket
$$

## Ultra-locality

## Compositionality

 only use information about immediate arguments, and mode of combination, to determine result
if interface maps are compositional

- then we never need to construct a derivation tree
- can interpret every step as we postulate it
(an example is coming)


## The meaning of partial parse trees



# Deforestation of parsing 

$\lambda x_{\square} \cdot x_{\square}$

## Deforestation of parsing

move

$\lambda x_{\square}, f_{\bigcirc} .\left(f_{\bigcirc} x_{\square}\right)^{\prime}$

## Deforestation of parsing



$$
\lambda x_{\square}, y_{\square}, f_{\bigcirc} \cdot\left(f_{\bigcirc}\left(x_{\square} \oplus y_{\square}\right)\right)^{\prime}
$$

## Deforestation of parsing



$$
\lambda y_{\square}, f_{\bigcirc} \cdot\left(f_{\bigcirc}\left(\llbracket \text { every } \rrbracket \oplus y_{\square}\right)\right)^{\prime}
$$

## Deforestation of parsing


$\lambda f_{\mathrm{O}} \cdot\left(f_{\mathrm{O}}(\llbracket \text { every } \rrbracket \oplus \llbracket \text { boy } \rrbracket)\right)^{\prime}$

## Deforestation of parsing



$$
\lambda x_{\square}, f_{\bigcirc} \cdot\left(x_{\square} \oplus\left(f_{\bigcirc}(\llbracket \text { every } \rrbracket \oplus \llbracket b o y \rrbracket)\right)\right)^{\prime}
$$

## Deforestation of parsing


$\lambda f_{\mathrm{O}} \cdot\left(\llbracket \text { will } \rrbracket \oplus\left(f_{\bigcirc}(\llbracket \text { every } \rrbracket \oplus \llbracket b o y \rrbracket)\right)\right)^{\prime}$

## Deforestation of parsing



$$
\lambda x_{\square}, f_{\mathrm{O}} \cdot\left(\llbracket \text { will } \rrbracket \oplus\left(x_{\square} \oplus\left(f_{\bigcirc}(\llbracket \text { every } \rrbracket \oplus \llbracket b o y \rrbracket)\right)\right)\right)^{\prime}
$$

## Deforestation of parsing



$$
\lambda f_{\mathrm{O}} \cdot\left(\llbracket \text { will } \rrbracket \oplus\left(\llbracket \text { laug } h \rrbracket \oplus\left(f_{\bigcirc}(\llbracket \text { every } \rrbracket \oplus \text { bboy } \rrbracket)\right)\right)\right)^{\prime}
$$

## Deforestation of parsing


$(\llbracket \text { will } \rrbracket \oplus(\llbracket \text { laugh } \rrbracket \oplus(\llbracket \text { every } \rrbracket \oplus \llbracket \text { boy } \rrbracket)))^{\prime}$

## Dirty Tricks

A trick
add input structures to output domain

$$
f_{\text {merge }} a b=/_{\alpha}^{\text {merge }}
$$

## Dirty Tricks

## A trick

add input structures to output domain

$$
f_{\text {merge }} \text { a } b=/ \bigwedge_{\alpha}^{\text {merge }}
$$

This is the point of derived structure

## Compositionality

Compositionality is a restriction when

1. we limit what $f_{\text {merge }}$ and $f_{\text {move }}$ can do, and
2. we restrict what interpretations can be

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Compositionality is a restriction when

1. we limit what $f_{\text {merge }}$ and $f_{\text {move }}$ can do, and
2. we restrict what interpretations can be

What should interpretations be?

- whatever we need
- if we end up needing craziness, we should worry


## One man's junk ...

Computer scientists usually are happy to attach extra information to interpretations

- as long as it is finite


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Example add categorial information to strings

## One man's junk ...

## Computer scientists usually are happy to attach extra information to interpretations

- as long as it is finite

Example
add categorial information to strings
because we can think of this as being part of the operations instead:
not just merge, but merge-D-NP, merge-V-DP,...

## What do we need

keep track of the unchecked syntactic features (I won't talk about this here)

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keep track of the unchecked syntactic features (I won't talk about this here)

## For PF

keep track of which phrases are still moving
but not of their internal structure

## An example

## An example

## every

(every, =n.d.-k)

## An example

every boy
(every, =n.d.-k) (boy, n)

## An example


(every, =n.d.-k) (boy, n)
(every boy, d.-k)

## An example



$$
(\text { laugh, }=\text { d.v }) \quad \frac{(\text { every, =n.d.-k) } \quad(\text { boy, n) }}{(\text { every boy, d. }-\mathrm{k})}
$$

## An example


$\frac{(\text { laugh, =d.v }) \quad \frac{(\text { every, =n.d.-k) (boy, } \mathrm{n})}{(\text { every boy, d.-k) }}}{(\text { laugh, v) },(\text { every boy, }-\mathrm{k})}$

## An example



## An example

## An example



| (will, =v.+k.s) |  | (every, =n.d.-k) | (boy, n) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | (laugh, =d.v) | (every boy |  |
|  | (laugh | , (every boy, -k) |  |
| (will laugh, +k.s), (every boy, -k) |  |  |  |
| (every boy will laugh, s) |  |  |  |

## An example



| (will, =v.+k.s) |  | (every, =n.d.-k) | (boy, n) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | (laugh, =d.v) | (every boy |  |
|  | (laugh | , (every boy, -k) |  |
| (will laugh, +k.s), (every boy, -k) |  |  |  |
| (every boy will laugh, s) |  |  |  |

## Semantics

## What is necessary for semantics?

keep track of the unchecked syntactic features (I won't talk about this here)

For PF
keep track of which phrases are still moving
but not of their internal structure
For LF
???

## Revisiting meaningless parts

What is the contribution of praise every boy to expressions it is part of?
praisé merge



## Revisiting meaningless parts

What is the contribution of praise every boy to expressions it is part of?
praise merge

a quantifier part every(boy)( $\lambda x \ldots$
and a property part praise $(x)$

## Revisiting meaningless parts

What is the contribution of praise every boy to expressions it is part of?
praise merge


## Notation and Operations

## $[\text { every(boy) }]_{x} \vdash$ praise(x)

The general case, with multiple stored quantifiers:

$$
\left[Q_{1}\right]_{x_{1}}, \ldots,\left[Q_{i}\right]_{x_{i}} \vdash M
$$

## Notation and Operations

## [every(boy)] ${ }_{x} \vdash$ praise( $x$ )

The general case, with multiple stored quantifiers:

$$
\left[Q_{1}\right]_{x_{1}}, \ldots,\left[Q_{i}\right]_{x_{i}} \vdash M
$$

The entire point is to ignore what is stored

$$
\frac{M}{\vdash M} \uparrow
$$

$$
\frac{\Gamma \vdash M \quad \Delta \vdash N}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash M N}<*>
$$

## Working with Storage



## Building praise every boy



## Building praise every boy



We want to 'insert a trace'

$$
\frac{\vdash M}{[M]_{x} \vdash x} \square
$$

## Building praise every boy



We want to 'insert a trace'

$$
\frac{\vdash M}{[M]_{x} \vdash x} \square
$$

## Building praise every boy



We want to 'insert a trace'

$$
\frac{\vdash M}{[M]_{x} \vdash x} \square
$$

## Taking things out of storage



## Taking things out of storage


retrieval

$$
\frac{\Gamma,\left[M_{i}\right]_{x_{i}}, \Delta \vdash N}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash M_{i} \oplus\left(\lambda x_{i} . N\right)}\left\langle\left\rangle_{\oplus}^{i}\right.\right.
$$

## Taking things out of storage


retrieval

$$
\frac{\Gamma,\left[M_{i}\right]_{x_{i}}, \Delta \vdash N}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash M_{i} \oplus\left(\lambda x_{i} . N\right)}\langle\cdot\rangle_{\oplus}^{i}
$$

## Manipulating Stores

pure

$$
\frac{M}{\vdash M} \uparrow
$$

apply

$$
\frac{\Gamma \vdash M \quad \Delta \vdash N}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash M N}<*>
$$

retrieve

$$
\frac{\Gamma,\left[M_{i}\right]_{x_{i}}, \Delta \vdash N}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash M_{i} \oplus\left(\lambda x_{i} . N\right)}\langle\cdot\rangle_{\oplus}^{i}
$$

$$
\frac{\vdash M}{[M]_{x} \vdash x} \square
$$

## Understanding stores

$$
\begin{aligned}
& {\left[M_{1}\right]_{x_{1}}, \ldots,\left[M_{i}\right]_{x_{i}} \vdash N} \\
& \quad \Rightarrow \lambda k . k M_{1} \ldots M_{i}\left(\lambda x_{1}, \ldots, x_{i} . N\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

## Example

> [every boy] $]_{x} \vdash$ praise $x$
> $\quad \Rightarrow \lambda k . k$ (every boy) $(\lambda x$. praise $x)$

## Some examples

pure
$\frac{M}{\vdash M} \uparrow$
$\Downarrow$
$\frac{M}{\lambda k \cdot k M} \uparrow$
$M^{\uparrow} \equiv \lambda k \cdot k M$
storage

$$
\frac{\vdash M}{[M]_{x} \vdash x} \square
$$

$\Downarrow$

$$
\frac{\lambda k \cdot k M}{\lambda k \cdot k M(\lambda x \cdot x)} \square
$$

$\square m \equiv \lambda k \cdot m(\lambda M . k M(\lambda x . x))$

## More notation

idiom brackets

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { write }\left(\begin{array}{llll}
f & a_{1} & \ldots & a_{i}
\end{array}\right) \\
& \quad \text { for } f^{\uparrow}\left\langle *>a_{1}<*>\ldots<*>a_{i}\right.
\end{aligned}
$$

application
Forward $f \triangleleft a:=f a$
Backward $a \triangleright f:=f a$

## Minimalist semantics

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \llbracket \text { merge】 } \mapsto \lambda m, n .(m \oplus n) \\
& \text { 【merge】 } \mapsto \lambda m, n .(m \oplus \square n)
\end{aligned}
$$

【move】 $\mapsto \lambda m . m$
$\llbracket m o v e \rrbracket \mapsto \lambda m .\langle m\rangle_{\oplus}^{k}$

$$
\llbracket \ell \rrbracket=\mathcal{I}(\ell)^{\uparrow}
$$

for $\oplus \in\{\triangleleft, \triangleright\}$

## Unpacking the notation

Recall that

$$
\lambda m, n .(|m \triangleleft n|)
$$

means

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \lambda m, n .(\triangleleft)^{\uparrow}\langle *>m<*>n
\end{aligned}
$$

## Every boy laughs



## Every boy laughs

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { 【move】 } \\
& \text { 【merge】 } \\
& \mathcal{I}(\text { will })^{\uparrow} \quad \text { !merge】 } \\
& \mathcal{I}(\text { laugh })^{\uparrow} \text { 【merge】 } \\
& \mathcal{I}(\text { every })^{\uparrow} \quad \mathcal{I}(\text { boy })^{\uparrow}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Every boy laughs



## Every boy laughs



## Every boy laughs



## Every boy laughs

$\begin{aligned} & \text { move』 } \\ & \text { 【merge』 } \\ & \vdash\end{aligned}$

$$
\text { will } \quad \lambda m, n \cdot(|m \triangleleft \square n|)
$$

$$
\text { laugh } \quad \vdash \text { every boy }
$$

## Every boy laughs



## Every boy laughs

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { 【move】 } \\
& \lambda m, n .(|m \triangleleft n|) \\
& \vdash \text { will } \quad[\text { every boy }]_{x} \vdash \text { laugh } x
\end{aligned}
$$

## Every boy laughs

$$
\begin{gathered}
\llbracket \mathrm{move} \rrbracket \\
{[\text { every boy }]_{x} \vdash^{\prime} \text { will (laugh } x \text { ) }}
\end{gathered}
$$

## Every boy laughs

$$
\begin{gathered}
\lambda m \cdot\langle m\rangle_{\triangleright}^{1} \\
{[\text { every boy }]_{x} \vdash \text { ' will (laugh } x \text { ) }}
\end{gathered}
$$

## Every boy laughs

$$
\vdash \text { every boy }(\lambda x \text {.will (laugh } x))
$$

## Compositional interfaces

... allow for elimination of representational structure Performance systems can 'use' the derivation in 'the wrong order' to construct the desired interface objects

## Deforestation of parsing (Again)

$\lambda x_{\square} \cdot x_{\square}$

## Deforestation of parsing (Again)

move

$\lambda x_{\square}, f_{\bigcirc} \cdot\left\langle f_{\bigcirc} x_{\square}\right\rangle_{\oplus}^{k}$

## Deforestation of parsing (Again)



$$
\lambda x_{\square}, y_{\square}, f_{\bigcirc} .\left\langle f_{\bigcirc}\left(\left(x_{\square} \oplus y_{\square} \mid\right)\right)\right\rangle_{\oplus}^{k}
$$

## Deforestation of parsing (Again)



$$
\lambda_{\square}, f_{\bigcirc} .\left\langle f_{\bigcirc}\left(\left((\lambda z . \text { every } \oplus z)^{\uparrow} y_{\square}\right)\right)\right\rangle_{\oplus}^{k}
$$

## Deforestation of parsing (Again)


$\lambda f_{\mathrm{O}} .\left\langle f_{\mathrm{O}}\left(\text { every } \text { boy }^{\uparrow}\right)\right\rangle_{\oplus}^{k}$

## Deforestation of parsing (Again)


$\lambda x_{\square}, f_{\bigcirc} \cdot\left\langle\left(\mid x_{\square} \oplus\left(f_{\bigcirc}\left(\text { every boy }{ }^{\uparrow}\right)\right)\right\rangle\right\rangle_{\oplus}^{k}$

## Deforestation of parsing (Again)



$$
\lambda f_{O} \cdot\left\langle\left((\lambda z \text { will } \oplus z)^{\uparrow}\left(f_{\bigcirc}(\text { every boy } \uparrow)\right)\right)\right\rangle_{\oplus}^{k}
$$

## Deforestation of parsing (Again)


$\lambda x_{\square}, f_{\bigcirc} \cdot\left\langle\left((\lambda z \text {.will } \oplus z)^{\uparrow}\left(x_{\square} \oplus\left(f_{\bigcirc}\left(\right.\right.\right.\right.\right.$ every boy $\left.\left.\left.\left.\left.\left.{ }^{\uparrow}\right)\right)\right)\right)\right)\right\rangle_{\oplus}^{k}$

## Deforestation of parsing (Again)



$$
\lambda f_{O} \cdot\left\langle\left((\lambda z . \text { will }(\text { laugh } \oplus z))^{\uparrow}\left(f_{\bigcirc}(\text { every boy } \uparrow)\right) D\right\rangle_{\oplus}^{k}\right.
$$

## Deforestation of parsing (Again)


every boy $(\lambda z \text {.will }(\text { laugh } z))^{\uparrow}$

## Conclusions

Derivations have structure

- with clear identity conditions
- of just the kind we want to assign

Interface maps focus our attention on what matters:
how much information (representation) we need to compositionally interpret our derivations

Derived structure is a familiar trick to circumvent compositionality

