



Discussion: Distinction Between Scopal and Intersective Modifiers

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Basis for Distinction



- Denotations (set intersection)
- Scope ambiguities
- Syntactic classes

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- grammar
-
- A diagram consisting of three orange square bullet points on the left. To the right of the first two bullet points is a large orange right-facing curly brace. To the right of the first three bullet points is a large purple right-facing curly brace. The text 'MRS' is positioned between the orange and purple braces, and 'grammar' is positioned to the right of the purple brace.

Denotations / Truth Conditions

it's raining heavily \Rightarrow it's raining
it's probably raining $\not\Rightarrow$ it's raining
it's not raining $\not\Rightarrow$ it's raining

Scope Ambiguities

- Every dog barked (one reading)
- Every dog barked loudly (one reading)
- Every dog didn't bark (two readings)

Syntactic classes

- It's probably raining
- * It's raining probably
- It's heavily raining
- It's raining heavily

Questions

- Is the denotational distinction clear-cut?
- Is the scoping machinery adequate?

1. Set Intersection

- What sets?
 - Reified events, mass nouns
 - Reified adjectival events
- Intersective distinction clear in practice?
- Underspecify the distinction?

2. Badly-behaved scopes

- Kim didn't speak for a long time
- Kim deliberately didn't speak

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- (cf. Claudia Maienborn, “frame-setting” locatives)

2. Badly-behaved scopes – Options

- Ignore it
- Same MRS, different interpretation
- Same framework, different MRS
- Different machinery: intersective with scope
 - Underspecify it? cf. Crysman (2004)