

Movement as delayed evaluation: WH-fronting and reconstruction

Chris Barker, *NYU*

Synopsis: the simplest possible analysis of fronted wh phrases, motivated independently of reconstruction facts, automatically explains a systematic class of apparent counterexamples to the linear constrain on quantificational binding.

Simple relative clauses: gaps

- (1)
- the woman who [left]
 - the woman who [__ left]
 - the woman who [John likes __]

(2)

$$\frac{\text{DP} \setminus \text{S} \mid \text{DP} \setminus \text{S}}{\text{DP}} \quad \left(\frac{\text{DP} \setminus \text{S} \mid \text{DP} \setminus \text{S}}{(\text{DP} \setminus \text{S}) / \text{DP}} \quad \frac{\text{DP} \setminus \text{S} \mid \text{S}}{\text{DP}} \right) = \frac{\text{DP} \setminus \text{S} \mid \text{S}}{\text{S}}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{John} \\
 \underline{[]} \\
 \mathbf{j}
 \end{array}
 \quad \left(\begin{array}{c}
 \text{likes} \\
 \underline{[]} \\
 \mathbf{likes}
 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c}
 \text{--} \\
 \underline{\lambda y.[]} \\
 y
 \end{array} \right) = \begin{array}{c}
 \text{John likes} \\
 \underline{\lambda y.[]} \\
 \mathbf{likes y j}
 \end{array}$$

LOWER

⇒

$\text{DP} \setminus \text{S}$
 John likes __
 $\lambda y. \mathbf{likes y j}$

In-situ wh is a scope-taking expression

(3)

$DP?S \mid DP?S$	($DP?S \mid DP?S$	$DP?S \mid S$
DP		$(DP \setminus S) / DP$	DP
John		likes	who
[]		[]	who ($\lambda y. []$)
j		likes	y

LOWER DP?S
 \Rightarrow John likes who?
who($\lambda y. \mathbf{likes} y \mathbf{j}$)

(4)

$(DP?S) / (DP \setminus S)$	$DP \setminus S$	$DP?S$
<i>who</i>	<i>does John like ..</i>	<i>Who does John like ..?</i>
$\lambda \kappa. \mathbf{who}(\lambda x. \kappa x)$	$\lambda x. \mathbf{like} x \mathbf{j}$	$\mathbf{who}(\lambda x. \mathbf{like} x \mathbf{j})$

(5)

$A_F // B$	\Rightarrow	A / B
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Relative clauses parallel wh-fronting

$$(6) \quad \frac{\frac{(N \setminus N)_F \mid S}{DP}}{\lambda Qx.(Qx) \wedge [\]_x} \quad \text{FRONT} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{(N \setminus N)/(DP \setminus S)}{who_{rel}} \quad \lambda \kappa Qx.(Qx) \wedge (\kappa x)$$

$$(7) \quad \frac{\frac{(DP?S)_F \mid S}{DP}}{who_q} \quad \text{FRONT} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{(DP?S)/(DP \setminus S)}{who} \quad \lambda \kappa.who(\lambda x.\kappa x)$$

$$(8) \quad \frac{(N \setminus N)/(DP \setminus S)}{who_{rel}} \quad \frac{DP \setminus S}{\text{John likes } _ _} \quad = \quad \frac{N \setminus N}{who_{rel} \text{ John likes } _ _} \quad \lambda \kappa Qx.(Qx) \wedge (\kappa x) \quad \lambda y.\mathbf{likes} y \mathbf{j} \quad \lambda Qx.(Qx) \wedge (\mathbf{likes} x \mathbf{j})$$

$$(9) \quad \frac{(DP?S)/(DP \setminus S)}{who_q} \quad \frac{DP \setminus S}{\text{does John like } _ _} \quad = \quad \frac{DP?S}{who_q \text{ does John like } _ _} \quad \mathbf{who} \quad \lambda y.\mathbf{like} y \mathbf{j} \quad \mathbf{who}(\lambda y.\mathbf{likes} y \mathbf{j})$$

(10)

$$\frac{\frac{(\text{DP?S})_F \mid (\text{DP?S})_F}{\text{PP/DP}} \quad \frac{(\text{DP?S})_F \mid \text{S}}{\text{DP}}}{\frac{\text{to}}{[\]} \quad \text{to}}{\text{to}} = \frac{\frac{(\text{DP?S})_F \mid \text{S}}{\text{PP}}}{\frac{\text{to whom}}{\text{who}(\lambda x[\])} \quad \text{to}(x)}{\text{to}(x)}}$$

FRONT

\Rightarrow

$$\frac{(\text{DP?S})/(\text{PP} \setminus \text{S})}{\text{to whom}} \quad \lambda \kappa. \text{who}(\lambda x. \kappa(\text{to}(x)))$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \frac{((DP/N)?S)_F \mid S}{DP/N} & S \mid S & \frac{((DP/N)?S)_F \mid S}{DP} \\
 \textit{which} & \textit{man} & \textit{which man} \\
 \frac{\mathbf{which}(\lambda f.[\])}{f} & [\] & \mathbf{which}(\lambda f.[\]) \\
 & \mathbf{man} & f(\mathbf{man})
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \text{FRONT} \\
 \Rightarrow \\
 ((DP/N)?S)/(DP \setminus S) \\
 \textit{which man} \\
 \lambda \kappa. \mathbf{which}(\lambda f. \kappa(f(\mathbf{man})))
 \end{array}$$

- (12) a. [Who] did John speak to? $\mathbf{who}(\lambda x. \mathbf{speak}(\mathbf{to}(x)))\mathbf{j}$
 b. [To whom] did John speak? $\mathbf{who}(\lambda x. \mathbf{speak}(\mathbf{to}(x)))\mathbf{j}$

- (13) a. [Which man] did John speak to? $\mathbf{which}(\lambda f. \mathbf{speak}(\mathbf{to}(f(\mathbf{man}))))$
 b. [To which man] did John speak? $\mathbf{which}(\lambda f. \mathbf{speak}(\mathbf{to}(f(\mathbf{man}))))$

Before turning to superiority, inverse scope: multiple layers^{7/24}

(14)

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \frac{S \mid S}{DP} & \text{LIFT} & \frac{B \mid B}{S \mid S} \\
 \frac{\text{everyone}}{\forall y. []} & \Rightarrow & \frac{\text{everyone}}{[]} \\
 \frac{}{y} & & \frac{\forall y. []}{y}
 \end{array}$$

(15)

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \frac{S \mid S}{DP} & \text{LIFT} & \frac{S \mid S}{B \mid B} \\
 \frac{\text{everyone}}{\forall x. []} & \Rightarrow & \frac{\text{everyone}}{\forall x. []} \\
 \frac{}{x} & & \frac{[]}{x}
 \end{array}$$

(16)

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{S \mid S}{S \mid S} \\
\hline
DP \\
\text{someone} \\
\frac{[]}{\exists x. []} \\
\hline
x
\end{array}
\left(
\begin{array}{cc}
\frac{S \mid S}{S \mid S} & \frac{S \mid S}{S \mid S} \\
\hline
(DP \setminus S) / DP & DP \\
\text{loves} & \text{everyone} \\
\frac{[]}{\forall y. []} \\
\hline
[] & y \\
\text{loves} &
\end{array}
\right)
=
\begin{array}{c}
\frac{S \mid S}{S \mid S} \\
\hline
S \\
\text{someone loves everyone} \\
\frac{\forall y. []}{\exists x. []} \\
\hline
\text{loves } yx
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
\text{Lower} \\
\Rightarrow \\
\frac{S \mid S}{S} \\
\text{someone loves everyone} \\
\frac{\forall y. []}{\exists x. \text{loves } yx}
\end{array}
\quad
\begin{array}{c}
\text{Lower} \\
\Rightarrow \\
S \\
\text{someone loves everyone} \\
\forall y. \exists x. \text{loves } yx
\end{array}$$

Also need to generalize COMBINE and LOWER in straightforward ways.

- (17) a. Who ate what?
b. *What did who eat __?
- (18) a. Who_i ___i bought [*pro*_i what]?
b. *What_i did [*pro*_i who] buy ___i?

(19)

$$\frac{DP \setminus (DP ? S) \mid DP ? S}{DP} \quad \left(\begin{array}{c} \frac{DP ? S \mid DP ? S}{(DP \setminus S) / DP} \\ \text{ate} \\ \frac{[]}{\text{ate}} \end{array} \quad \frac{DP ? S \mid S}{DP} \right)$$

$$\frac{\lambda y. []}{y} \quad \frac{\text{what}(\lambda x. [])}{x}$$

$$= \frac{DP \setminus (DP ? S) \mid S}{S} \quad \text{LOWER} \quad \frac{DP \setminus (DP ? S)}{\text{ate } xy}$$

$$\frac{\text{ate what} \lambda y. \text{what}(\lambda x. [])}{\text{ate } xy} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{\text{ate what} \lambda y. \text{what}(\lambda x. \text{ate } xy)}{\text{ate } xy}$$

(20)

$$\frac{\frac{(DP \text{ ? } A)_F \mid A}{DP}}{\text{who}(\lambda x. [\])}{x}$$

(21)

DP \ S	DP \ S
DP ? S	S
DP	
who	
[]	
who ($\lambda x.$ [])	
x	

DP \ S	DP \ S	DP \ S	S
S	S	S	S
(DP \ S) / DP		DP	
ate		--	
[]		$\lambda y.$ []	
[]		[]	
ate		y	

	DP \ S	S
	DP ? S	S
	S	
=	who ate --	LOWER
	$\lambda y.$ []	\Rightarrow
	who ($\lambda x.$ [])	DP \ S
	ate y x	DP ? S
		who ate --
		$\lambda y.$ []
		who ($\lambda x.$ ate y x)

Reconstruction effects

- (22) a. Which of his_i relatives does everyone_i love __?
b. the relative of his_i that everyone_i loves __
- (23) a. *Which of her_i relatives __ loves everyone_i?
b. *the relative of hers_i who __ loves everyone_i
- (24) a. Which strings did John pull?
b. the strings that John pulled
- (25) a. Which picture of herself does Mary like?
b. the picture of herself that Mary likes
- (26) a. Which pictures of each other did they like?
b. the pictures of each other that they liked

(27) Which of his_i relatives does everyone_i love ___?

(28)

<table style="border-collapse: collapse; margin: 0 auto;"> <tr><td style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">((DP/N)?S)_F</td><td style="padding: 5px;">S</td></tr> <tr><td style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">DP ▷ S</td><td style="padding: 5px;">DP ▷ S</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2" style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">DP/N</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2" style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;"><i>which</i></td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2" style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">which(λ<i>f</i>.[])</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2" style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">[]</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2" style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">f</td></tr> </table>	((DP/N)?S) _F	S	DP ▷ S	DP ▷ S	DP/N		<i>which</i>		which (λ <i>f</i> .[])		[]		f		(<table style="border-collapse: collapse; margin: 0 auto;"> <tr><td style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">S</td><td style="padding: 5px;">S</td></tr> <tr><td style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">DP ▷ S</td><td style="padding: 5px;">DP ▷ S</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2" style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">N/DP</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2" style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;"><i>relative-of</i></td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2" style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">[]</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2" style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">[]</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2" style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">rel</td></tr> </table>	S	S	DP ▷ S	DP ▷ S	N/DP		<i>relative-of</i>		[]		[]		rel)	<table style="border-collapse: collapse; margin: 0 auto;"> <tr><td style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">S</td><td style="padding: 5px;">S</td></tr> <tr><td style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">DP ▷ S</td><td style="padding: 5px;">S</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2" style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">DP</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2" style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;"><i>his</i></td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2" style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">[]</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2" style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">λ<i>z</i>.[]</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2" style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;"><i>z</i></td></tr> </table>	S	S	DP ▷ S	S	DP		<i>his</i>		[]		λ <i>z</i> .[]		<i>z</i>		=	<table style="border-collapse: collapse; margin: 0 auto;"> <tr><td style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">((DP/N)?S)_F</td><td style="padding: 5px;">S</td></tr> <tr><td style="border-right: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">DP ▷ S</td><td style="padding: 5px;">S</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2" style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">DP</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2" style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;"><i>which rel of his</i></td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2" style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">which(λ<i>f</i>.[])</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2" style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">λ<i>z</i>.[]</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2" style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">f(rel <i>z</i>)</td></tr> </table>	((DP/N)?S) _F	S	DP ▷ S	S	DP		<i>which rel of his</i>		which (λ <i>f</i> .[])		λ <i>z</i> .[]		f(rel <i>z</i>)	
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(29)

pn \ S	pn \ S	(pn \ S	pn \ S	pn \ S	S
S	DP ▷ S		DP ▷ S	DP ▷ S	DP ▷ S	S
DP			(DP \ S) / DP		DP	
<i>everyone</i>			<i>love</i>		--	
[]			[]		$\lambda \mathcal{P}. []$	
$\forall y. [] y$		[]		$\mathcal{P}(\lambda w. [])$		
<i>y</i>		love		<i>w</i>		

pn \ S	S	=	(does) everyone love --	⇒	pn \ S	(does) everyone love --	
S	S				LOWER		$\lambda \mathcal{P}. \forall y. (\mathcal{P}(\lambda w. \mathbf{love} w y)) y$
S					⇨		$\lambda \mathcal{P}. \forall y. (\mathcal{P}(\lambda w. [])) y$
$\lambda \mathcal{P}. []$					⇨		$\lambda \mathcal{P}. \forall y. (\mathcal{P}(\lambda w. \mathbf{love} w y)) y$
$\forall y. (\mathcal{P}(\lambda w. [])) y$					⇨		$\lambda \mathcal{P}. \forall y. (\mathcal{P}(\lambda w. \mathbf{love} w y)) y$
love w y							

(30)

$((DP/N)?S)/(pn \setminus S)$

which relative of his

$pn \setminus S$

does everyone love _

$\lambda \gamma. \mathbf{which}(\lambda f. \gamma(\lambda \kappa \lambda z. \kappa(f(\mathbf{rel}z)))) \quad \lambda \mathcal{P}. \forall y. \mathcal{P}(\lambda w(\mathbf{love}wy))y$

(31)

$(\lambda \gamma. \mathbf{which}(\lambda f. \gamma(\lambda \kappa \lambda z. \kappa(f(\mathbf{rel}z)))))(\lambda \mathcal{P}. \forall y. \mathcal{P}(\lambda w. \mathbf{love}wy)y)$

$\rightsquigarrow \mathbf{which}(\lambda f. (\lambda \mathcal{P}. \forall y. \mathcal{P}(\lambda w. \mathbf{love}wy)y))(\lambda \kappa \lambda z. \kappa(f(\mathbf{rel}z))))$

$\rightsquigarrow \mathbf{which}(\lambda f. \forall y. (\lambda \kappa \lambda z. \kappa(f(\mathbf{rel}z)))(\lambda w. \mathbf{love}wy)y)$

$\rightsquigarrow \mathbf{which}(\lambda f. \forall y. \mathbf{love}(f(\mathbf{rel}y))y)$

Despite reconstruction, crossover effects remain in force

(32) a. Which relative of his does everyone _ love?

b. ?Which of his_i relatives _ loves everyone?

Quantifier must linearly precede the *reconstructed* pronoun

Principle C effects are not expected

- (33) *He_i likes John_i's friends.
- (34) Which of John_i's friends does he_i like ___?
- (35) a. Which biography of Picasso_i do you think he_i wants to read?
b. Which witness's attack on Lee_i did he_i try to get expunged from the trial records?
c. Whose criticism of Lee_i did he_i choose to ignore?

Reconstruction into relative clauses

- (36) a. [Which relative of his] does everyone love ___?
 b. [the relative of his] that everyone loves __

	$((DP/N)?S)_F \mid S$		$DP_F \mid S$
	DP/N		DP/N
(37)	<i>which</i>		<i>the</i>
	$\mathbf{which}(\lambda f.[\])$		$\mathbf{the}(\lambda f.[\])$
	<i>f</i>		<i>f</i>

- (38) a. Which relative of his does everyone love ___?

b. $\mathbf{which}(\lambda f.\forall y.\mathbf{love}(f(\mathbf{rel}y))y)$

- (39) a. the relative of his that everyone loves __

b. $\mathbf{the}(\lambda f.\forall y.\mathbf{love}(f(\mathbf{rel}y))y)$

(40) Relative pronouns:

$$\frac{(A \setminus S)_F \mid S}{A}$$

$$\frac{\lambda x. [\]}{x}$$

who(se)/which

- (41) a. the man [who] John saw
 b. the man [whose mother] John saw
 c. the man [the mother of whom] John saw

(42) John is a man [[whose opinion of her_i] every woman_i respects ...]

(43) a theory [[every proponent_i of which] {?he_i/?his_i advisor} cites ...]

Idiom chunks

- (44) a. How much care did Mary say that John took of Bill?
 b. the lip service that Mary said that John paid to civil liberties

$$(45) \left(\begin{array}{c} \frac{((DP/N)?S)_F \mid S}{DP_\gamma/N_\gamma} \\ \textit{which} \\ \frac{\textit{which}(\lambda f.[\])}{f} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \frac{S \mid S}{N_{str}} \\ \textit{strings} \\ [\] \\ \textit{connections} \end{array} \right)$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{c} \frac{DP_{str} \setminus S \mid DP_{str} \setminus S}{DP} \\ \textit{John} \\ [\] \\ \mathbf{j} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \frac{DP_{str} \setminus S \mid DP_{str} \setminus S}{(DP \setminus S)/DP_{str}} \\ \textit{pull} \\ [\] \\ \textit{use} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \frac{DP_{str} \setminus S \mid S}{DP_{str}} \\ - \\ \lambda x.[\] \\ x \end{array} \right)$$

- (46)
- a. John liked a picture of himself.
 - b. *Mary liked a picture of himself.
 - c. *John claimed Mary liked a picture of himself.
 - d. *A picture of himself was liked by John.

- (47)
- a. Which picture of himself does John like __?
 - b. the picture of herself that Mary likes __

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \frac{\text{DP}\backslash\text{S} \mid \text{DP}\backslash\text{S}}{(\text{DP}\backslash\text{S})/\text{DP}} & \frac{\text{DP}\backslash\text{S} \mid \text{DP}\backslash\text{S}}{\text{DP}} & \frac{\text{DP}\backslash\text{S} \mid \text{DP}\backslash\text{S}}{\text{DP}\backslash\text{S}} \\
 \text{(48)} \quad \frac{\textit{saw}}{[\]} & \frac{\textit{himself}}{\lambda x. [\]x} & = \frac{\textit{saw himself}}{\lambda x. [\]x} \\
 \hline \textbf{saw} & \hline x & \hline \textbf{saw}x \\
 & & \text{LOWER} \quad \text{DP}\backslash\text{S} \\
 & & \Rightarrow \quad \textit{saw himself} \\
 & & \quad \lambda x. \textbf{saw}xx
 \end{array}$$

(49) Which picture of himself did John see?

(50)

$((DP/N)?S)_F$	S
DP\S	DP\S
DP/N	
<i>which</i>	
which ($\lambda f. []$)	
[]	
<i>f</i>	

S	S
DP\S	DP\S
N	
<i>picture of himself</i>	
[]	
$\lambda x. []x$	
pic <i>x</i>	

FRONT $((DP/N)?S) / (\frac{DP\S \mid DP\S}{DP} \setminus S)$
 \Rightarrow *which picture of himself*
 $\lambda \gamma. \mathbf{which}(\lambda f. \gamma(\frac{\lambda x. []x}{f(\mathbf{pic}x)}))$

- (51) a. Which picture of himself does John claim Mary liked ___?
 b. *John claimed Mary liked a picture of himself.

- (52) a. Which of each other's papers did they read ___?
 b. the descriptions of each other that they offered __

Conclusions concerning reconstruction

(53)

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{FRONT} \\ A_F // B \Rightarrow A/B \end{array}$$