

The World as Process

the chapters on logic

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In my paper “The World as Process” I set out a view of the world as mass-process, the flow of all, in contrast to the view that the world is made up of things. In the chapters here I present formal languages and logics based on that view. They are meant to be the middle section of a book *The World as Process*, which will be Volume 3 of the series *Logic, Language, and the World*. Preceding these chapters will be an exposition of the view of the world as process as in that paper. Following the chapters here will be chapters that reflect on the significance of the work for our views of metaphysics, language, translation, ethics, and more. This will be supplemented by a collection of essays *Language and the World: Essays New and Old*, a tentative table of contents of which is attached.

I would be very grateful for comments and criticism of this work.

Previous volumes in the series *Logic, Language, and the World*:

Volume 0 *An Introduction to Formal Logic* (2016)

Volume 1 *The Internal Structure of Predicates and Names* (2016)

Volume 2 *Time and Space in Formal Logic* (draft 2018)

(draft Base Logic 27, Time & Locations 20, Temp Prop Connectives 9)



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**REASONING about the
WORLD as PROCESS-MASS**

1 Logic and the World as Process

Our goal is to have a language and guide to reason about the world as process-mass. We want to investigate our conception of the world as process, the flow of all, without confusing it with a mixture of the view of the world as made up of things.

For reasoning we need some notion of proposition, what is or can be construed as true or false. In this series of volumes, as in my other work, I assume that utterances or written inscriptions are what are true or false.¹ Does that involve us in talk of things? Aren't inscriptions and utterances things? Isn't a sentence a thing?

Out of the stream of talk we identify parts. No two utterances of "dog" are identical, just as no two bits of mud are. How and why we identify them I cannot say. But we do. That does not make them into things any more than talking of the mud here and the mud there make "those" into things. Whether as specific utterances or types, a part of the flow of speech and writing need not be construed as a thing.

There are many ways we impose or recognize a dichotomy of sentences into those that are correct to proceed on as the basis for good reasoning and those that are not. Each can be and has been used as a true-false division.² What I have assumed in the previous volumes of this series is that a proposition is true if it is a good/accurate/correct description of (some part of) the world. That leaves open what is meant by "good" or "accurate" or "correct". It leaves open what we mean by "the world" and a "part of the world". But it has been enough to guide us in developing logics in this series. It doesn't depend on a notion of thing.

But consider:

(1) Every bachelor is an unmarried man.

This is true, but not because it is a good/accurate/correct description of (some part of) the world. The sentence sets out or recognizes part of how we agree to use the word "bachelor", where the agreement need not be explicit.³ In predicate logic we adopt a formal version of (1) as a meaning axiom, treating it as true in a model but not as a description of the world.⁴ With it we constrain how we shall use those words.

Some disagree. They maintain that (1) is true because that's the way the world is. The contrast is clearer if we consider a Latin example:

¹ I do not know whether the view of propositions as abstract objects is compatible with seeing the world as process. But even if abstract propositions exist and are fundamental, utterances and inscriptions can and must stand in for them in our reasoning together, perhaps as representatives or expressions of them, as I explain in "Truth and Reasoning".

² See my "Truth and Reasoning". Arne Naess in *"Truth" as Conceived of by Those Who Are Not Professional Philosophers* shows that ordinary folks differ in their ideas of truth in the same way that philosophers do, and no one conception merits being called the common notion.

³ Much of truth can be understood as based on such agreements, as I discuss in the concluding chapter of *Propositional Logics*.

⁴ See *Predicate Logic* or Volume 1.

(2) (a) Homo est animalum.

In English, this translates word-for-word as⁵:

(b) Man is animal.

Many medievals and all modern logicians choose to understand (2) as:

(3) Every man is an animal.

This, they say, is true just as (1) is because it correctly describes the world. That forces a thing-view reading of (2), yet (2) would be true were all men and all animals annihilated. The issue of whether “every” includes “and there exists” is irrelevant. If (2) is true because it correctly describes the world, it is about the relation between genus and species, not the things that are in genus and species. That, indeed, is how medieval realists construed (2), taking genus and species to be abstract things. Nominalists since medieval times say that (2) is true because that’s how we do or should use the words. That does not make all truth into just correct use of words: “Socrates was a philosopher” is not about how to use “Socrates”.⁶

The reading of (2) as (3) is not possible in the view of the world as process. Nor in the view of the world as process can we understand (2) in terms of abstract things. But we can understand (2a) as true because it correctly tells us how we do or should use the mass-terms “homo” and “animalum”. For our work here we will adopt the view of truth as correct description or as correct use of words, seeing those as complementary.

Proposition A *proposition* is a written or uttered piece of language used in such a way that it is true or false, but not both.

A proposition is true if it is a good/accurate/correct description of the world or if it codifies a good/accurate/correct use of words.

A proposition is false if it is not true.

With this assumption, we can define the notion of inference.

Inference An *inference* is a collection of two or more propositions, one of which is designated the *conclusion* and the others the *premises*, that is intended by the person who sets it out as either showing that the conclusion follows from the premises or investigating whether that is the case.

⁵ I use the traditional translation rather than the gender-neutral “Human is animal” in order to facilitate comparisons with other expositions and discussions of medieval logic.

⁶ Chinese is a mass-process language (see the discussion and quotations in Chapter XX above). In ancient pre-Han Chinese the focus in analysis of reasoning was on “rectification of names”, which seems to include what I have called here “the correct use of words”. See Chad Hansen’s *Language and Logic in Ancient China* for a fuller discussion, or the extracts from that book in my *Language and the World: Essays New and Old*.

An inference is *valid* means that there is no way the premises could be true and the conclusion false.

An inference is *strong* means that there is a way the premises could be true and the conclusion false, but all such ways are unlikely. An invalid inference that is not strong is *weak*.

If an inference is valid or strong, then the conclusion *follows from* the premises; the conclusion is a *consequence* of the premises.

I'll leave to you to puzzle out whether these definitions depend on a notion of thing. I think they don't.

In this series of books we are focussing on the formal aspects of reasoning.

Formal logic *Formal logic* is (i) the analysis of inferences for validity in terms of the structure of the propositions appearing in the inference, and (ii) the analysis of propositions for truth in terms of their structure.

We now make explicit that we will focus on the view of the world as process.

The World as Process and Propositions The world is process, a flow of all. The propositions in which we are interested are about the world as process.

If this sounds unsatisfyingly vague, compare it to the assumption on which predicate logic is based:

Things, the World, and Propositions

The world is made up at least in part of things.

The propositions in which we are interested are about things.

For over 2,500 years logicians and philosophers have been trying to come to some agreement about what we do or should mean by "thing". We use a vague notion to develop predicate logic. Then by analyzing and formalizing many examples from English and other thing-languages we come to a better understanding of the idea of an individual thing. Similarly, we hope to clarify the conception of the world as process, the flow of all, as we develop the language and logic here. But we can't expect to go as far as we have with the notion of thing, especially since I can't give examples of formalizing from an ordinary mass-process language since I speak none.

In assuming "Things, the World, and Propositions" for predicate logic we do not say that the world is made up only of things. We recognize that there are masses, such as mud and snow. We do not consider it a defect that we cannot formalize much less analyze in predicate logic "Snow is white". That claim is simply outside the scope of that work.

But in the view of the world as process, there is no division of the flow

of all into things. It is a consequence of that view, not a limitation we adopt to simplify our work, that we will not be able to formalize and reason about things. To see this as counting against the view of the world as process and our work here can only be on the assumption that there are things in the world and relations among them that are real.

In all our work setting out formal guides for how to reason well we have incorporated some formalization of the English sentence connectives “and”, “or”, “not”, “if . . . then . . .”. Those are ubiquitous in our reasoning in English and in many other languages. Our simplest formalization of them is with classical propositional logic using the symbolizations \wedge , \vee , \neg , \rightarrow , as presented in Volume 0. For that logic we assume only that each proposition is (agreed to be) true or false and that the truth-value of the whole is a regular compound of the truth-values of its parts. That abstraction is compatible with our reasoning about the world as process-mass, for it does not matter whether the propositions are about things, masses, process, dogs, mud, or flame. So we can use classical propositional logic in our talk and reasoning about the world as process-mass.

Aside: Possibilities

Some people talk of a way the world could be as if that were a thing, a “possibility”. But if possibilities are things, are they physical or abstract? Look around the room where you are reading now. That’s a possible way the world could be. It sure seems physical: you can touch the table, see the wall and a light fixture. What about the possibility of the table being moved 50 cm south? That’s abstract: it’s not part of the physical world. So you move the table, and now it’s a physical possibility. So a possibility can change from being abstract to physical. If so, how can we quantify over them? Are there both real dogs and possible dogs?

We “pick out” possibilities with descriptions. We describe as much as we need, and that’s what we pay attention to. We have no other choice, for we cannot describe “all of the world”, not even all of “the way the world is” in the room where you are reading this.

But what counts as a good description? We say that the description has to be consistent. There is no way this table could be both rectangular and round. But then we’re in a vicious circle: what counts as a consistent description depends on evaluating consequences through validity, but what counts as a valid inference depends on what counts as a possibility.

Three ways have been proposed to get out of this circle. Possibilities are real—some abstract and some physical—and we “pick out” those with descriptions. The description is good if it describes a “real” possibility. But how we can tell if it does invariably ends up invoking consistency.

We can say that consistency does not matter. There is a way the world could be in which the table is both round and rectangular. That’s what Alexius Meinong suggested, but it’s no help in evaluating reasoning.

The other way to get out of the circle is through formal logic. A formal logic gives a clear definition of consistency. Then formal semantics for a formal logic give structural conditions and restrict to a very limited conception of how the world can be, which serves for what counts as a good description of the world. See my “Valid Inferences and Possibilities” in *Reasoning and Formal Logic* for a fuller discussion.

Aside: The universality of propositional logic

I said in *Propositional Logics*:

It seems hard for me to conceive of someone who reasons who doesn't have a smallest unit of language to which a Yes-No, Accept-Reject dichotomy is applied, and hence to conceive of someone who uses connectives that would not be expressible by the general tables [for \neg , \rightarrow , \wedge , \vee]. So perhaps the story of propositional logics I give is universal. For it to be useful for us, for us to develop it, we will probably have to believe that. p. 408

Yet in "Codifications of Reality: Lineal and Non-Lineal" Dorothy Lee says:

But the Trobrianders do not describe their activity lineally; they do no dynamic relating of acts; they do not even use so innocuous a connective as *and*.

[p. 112/p.??]

And Lee says in "Conceptual Implications of an Indian Language" that the Wintu do not have "not" as a propositional negator:

To express negative obligation the *-les* is affixed to the negative auxiliary *ele(u)* which means *to not (do)*, *to not (be)*.

I translate *eleu* as *to not-do* or *to not-be*; actually, it means: *to not*.

It is not a negative statement, but rather, a positive assertion of negation.

[p. 96/??]

Compare our use of "refrain from" as discussed in my "Reasoning with Prescriptive Claims".

The question is whether people using these languages speak and act in any way that *we* would recognize as reasoning.

2 Base Mass-Process Words

The basis of all we say in our mass-process language will be words we use to divide up or pay attention to or describe some or all of the flow of all. The simplest of these, the basic concept words that are grammatically indivisible, are the base mass-process words. I do not know a mass-process language, so I will have to improvise some from English. For example:

DOG-ing	MUD-ing	SNOW-ing
BARK-ing	TALK-ing	CHIMERA-ing
RUN-ing	UNICORN-ing	HATE-ing
CAT-ing	RAIN-ing	LOVE-ing
MEOW-ing	BANANA-ing	FLOWER-ing
SUN-ing	BEAN-ing	ELEPHANT-ing
AUTOMOBILE-ing	JUSTICE-ing	HEROIN-ing

I write these in capital letters and add “-ing” to remind us that we are not using these words as in English.⁷ They are meant to direct our attention to a concept or category or genus independent of any grammatical form or place in a language. Really, there is no good English term for how these are meant to evoke, but you can get a better idea in my essay “Language-Thought-Meaning”. From our thing-language perspective, “DOG-ing” can describe dog-ing, essence of dog, a dog, dogs, and more. In that respect, these are closer to their Latin equivalents.

In this list we have words that we as English speakers would consider to stand for masses: “MUD-ing”, “SNOW-ing”. We have words that we as English speakers would consider to stand for processes: “RUN-ing”, “HATE-ing”. We have words that we as English speakers would consider to pick out things: “BANANA-ing”, “UNICORN-ing”. And we have words that we as English speakers have no clear conception of as process, mass, or thing, such as “JUSTICE-ing”. It is not that each of these words is a word for a mass or process or even a thing conceived of as a mass or process. We are to think of them as describing the flow of all, process, in a mass-like way. “BANANA-ing” is a concept word of banana as mass or process as much as “MUD-ing”; “JUSTICE-ing” is a concept word of justice as mass or process as much as “RUN-ing”.

Mass-process words A *mass-process word* is a way to divide up, describe, or make distinctions of the flow of all. A *base mass-process word* is one that is grammatically indivisible.

⁷ If we were to borrow from Italian we’d use infinitives, which are used like gerunds in English.

I have spoken loosely in this definition, for a word does not divide up or make distinctions. Using a mass-process word, we hope to describe some of the flow of all, to direct someone's attention. When I say "RAIN-ing" and point out the window, that utterance is true or false. That's because the context indicates that I'm talking about now and outside the window. By itself, "RAIN-ing" is just a way to describe, not a description. Some context, either physical or with other words, is needed to make a mass-process word into a proposition.

In saying "RAIN-ing" while pointing out the window, when that's true I do not direct someone's attention to a part of the flow of all. That would be to take parts of the flow of all as things, yet raining is not a part of the flow of all. There is only my pointing to establish a context and I have used the way of describing the flow of all with "RAIN-ing" correctly: it is true.

A mass-process word is not by itself true or false; it is true or false given a context. A context can be established in many ways. For example:

"RAIN"	pointing	is true or false
"DOG"	touching a dog	is true or false
"SMOKE"	smelling	is true or false
"WIND"	feeling the breeze	is true or false
"SHEEP"	saying "At the corral, last week"	is true or false

It's tempting to say that a context is a possibility. But that seems odd to say about these examples. Rather, establishing a context is like picking out a possibility. But that, too, seems odd, for what is the possibility when smelling? The notion of a mass-process word being true in, or of, or relative to a context seems much more physical and behavioral than any idea we have of possibility. I hope to have led you to understand it enough to take it as a primitive semantic notion that we will explore in this volume.

Establishing a context, or simply a context, is not meant to be understood as a thing. When I get you to smell, that's not a thing. Yet in what follows, I'll talk of all contexts in which, say, "ELEPHANT-ing" could be true, which seems to depend on thinking of contexts as things. I'll talk of some context in which "HATE-ing" could be true, which suggests I'm talking of contexts as things. But that needn't be, any more than when I talk of all mud I am intending for you to think of "muds" as things, or when I talk of some running I am intending for you to think of "runnings" as things.

So in what follows I will talk of a context, of some context, or of all contexts in which a mass-process word could be true. And speaking English to you, in many examples I'll describe a context using thing-talk.

Names

If all is process, and talk is talk of the flow of all, then names in English, the quintessential words for things, are ways of describing in the flow of all. What is Zoe? She is a woman; but that's to talk of her as a thing. She doesn't like to be talked of as a thing. She sees herself as more than that, as something that continues in time, has continuity, is a process. Being true to that vision, we treat her name as a process-mass word. To assert "ZOE-ing" about here and now is to say here and now Zoe-ing.

Thinking of the world as made up of things, we have to figure out what unifies all the life of Zoe. What is it that makes Zoe last year the same as Zoe this year, though not the same but the same "thing"? Do we talk of an "instance" of Zoe? A "time-slice" of Zoe? So we have the time-slice of Zoe at August 2, 2003. But that's a pretty big time. There's the time-slice of Zoe at 10:22 a.m. August 2, 2003. And "smaller and smaller" time-slices. And that looks very much like taking parts of a mass. Viewing the world as process-mass, "ZOE-ing" is a word that we can use to distinguish in the flow of all; there is no question of unifying the "parts" of Zoe. Zoe-ing is a mass that is unified no differently than water. We can talk of some Zoe-ing, and that way of talking fits better into the idea of time-slices than the thing-talk. The idea that Zoe is a thing is quite bizarre, absurd, an idea whose justification is only to use nouns and verbs well in English (and other thing-languages). There is a whole there, but not one made up of parts, a unity that we know as much as we know the unity of the water in this lake is not the same as the water in this other lake.

In what follows, then, I will use as base mass-process words English words that we as thing-talkers would consider to be names.

Aside: Parts of the flow of all?

Suppose that we were to think of parts of the flow of all as what makes a mass-process word like "RAIN-ing" true or false. That would be to divide the flow of all into things. And that won't do. It's not just that smelling to establish a context does not pick out part of the flow of all. It's that we have no way to conceive of the flow of all divided into parts because we cannot identify particular parts of the flow of all.

The problem of taking parts of the flow of all to be things is like the problem of taking parts of space as things, which we discussed in Volume 2. Space is a mass. Yet to establish a formal logic of things in time and space in Volume 2, we had to adopt the pretense that we could describe and pick out parts of the mass of space to treat as things. That is more comfortable for us because of our habit of marking off parts of space, either physically with stones, or noting the location of a patch of cactus, or by using co-ordinates.

Can't we take parts of the flow of all to be (like) events? Those are things. No, events are not things, as I've explained in Appendix 2, "Events in the Metaphysics of Predicate Logic" in Volume 2. The only way we can pick out an event is with a description. "The stabbing of Julius Caesar" supposedly describes an event, but whether it's the same event as "The stabbing of Julius Caesar with a knife slowly" is a question we try to ponder with no clear answer. In contrast, we have clear criteria for whether "Birta the dog of Richard L.

Epstein” and “the dog that is in the patio of Richard L. Epstein’s ranch on June 6, 2009” describe the same thing. When we do not have clear criteria, we doubt that we are talking about what can be conceived of as things.

But can’t we assume that we have (or there exist) complete descriptions of events and similarly of parts of the flow of all? In Chapters 35 and 37 of Volume 2 we saw that we cannot specify a minimal location for a particular dog, a place where there is just the dog. And if things don’t determine locations, what more specific could we use? There is no unique place where “Birta is running on July 10, 2012” is true, even if Birta ran only once that day. There is no description that is complete enough to pick out in a context just that part of the flow of all that is run-ing other than to point and say “RUN-ing”.

In what follows, I will not speak of a part of the flow of all. Contexts, yes; some of the flow of all, yes; parts of the flow of all, no.

Aside: Contexts and conceptions in pre-Han China thought

According to Chad Hansen in *Language and Logic in Ancient China*, pre-Han Chinese is (what I would call) a mass-process language. His description below is what led me to see what it might mean for a mass-process word to be true in (of, relative to) a context. Because of the limitations of my computer system (and my limitations), I insert the symbol \square where Hansen has written a Chinese character/graph.

Behavioral nominalism captures both “negative” features of the philosophical perspective of Chinese thinkers. I use *behavioral* because, in the place of mental representations of particulars and properties, the Chinese view of mind (heart-mind) is dynamic; the mind is the ability to discriminate and distinguish “stuffs” and thereby guide evaluation and action. I use *nominalism* because the Chinese philosopher is not committed to any entities other than names and objects. There is no role in Chinese philosophical theories like that played by terms such as *meaning*, *concept*, *notion*, or *idea* in Western philosophy.

Positively characterized, the Chinese picture went as follows. Language consists of *ming* \square ‘names’ which have a one-to-one relation to *shih* \square ‘stuffs’. Chinese ontology, I suggest, is mereological. For every abstract *set* of objects one can construct a concrete mereological object by regarding all of the members of the set as one discontinuous stuff. Identifying different members of the set is the same as identifying spatio-temporally different parts of the same stuff. In learning names we learn to discriminate or divide reality into these mereological stuffs which names name. Naming is not grounded on the notion of an abstract concept, a property, an essence, or an ideal type, but rather on finding “boundaries” between things. Accordingly, Chinese philosophers view minds not as repositories of weird objects called ideas, but as the faculty encompassing the abilities and inclinations to discriminate stuffs from each other. This mass stuff view can be explained by special features of the logical structure of Chinese nouns. pp. 31–32

3 Conjunctions of Mass-Process Words

I point and mean to get you to notice that my dog Birta is running. I might point and say “DOG-ing and RUN-ing” and mean that the two are joined. It’s not just that in the direction I’m pointing “DOG-ing” can describe correctly and “RUN-ing” can describe correctly, for that could be (in our thing-talk) if there were a dog sleeping and a woman running. No, I mean for the two descriptions to describe together.

It is tempting to say that the process of dog-ing and the process of run-ing were intertwined, meshed to be one process. But to talk of an intertwining or meshing is to treat “DOG-ing” and “RUN-ing” as names of processes, and hence as things. They are not names: there is only the flux of all, and these words used to describe. We have descriptions of process. Together “DOG-ing” and “RUN-ing” can be used to describe the flux of all in that context. That “together” is what distinguishes dog-running from burro-running and dog-sleeping. There is a difference between “DOG-ing” and “RUN-ing” applied separately or together as a description of a time and place, and the difference in the description comes from a difference in the world. But we find it hard to say more than that, and we need not. We do not need to give a metaphysics of processes combining, and trying to do so leads me into thing-talk. We need only recognize a part of the flux of all as allowing for a description combining two base mass-process words. And we need a way to write that.

We could write the two words in succession: “DOG-ing RUN-ing”. But to make this clear, let’s use the symbol “+” when we want to conjoin two mass-process words as a description. So we can have:

CAT-ing + MEOW-ing

JUSTICE-ing + BARK-ing

ELEPHANT-ing + MUD-ing

RUN-ing + DOG-ing

The last could be used to describe what we would call in English a dog running, or some running done by a dog, or a pack of dogs running, or the concept of dog-running. Pointing to my dogs chasing a rabbit, this would be true. Pointing to my patio now, though Birta is there, it would be false. Pointing to a marathon race with no dogs in sight, it would be false. Even pointing to a marathon race with a dog looking on, it would be false: the dog-ing and the running are not mixed.

The suffix “-ing” is useful for reminding us of our new way of using words, but it is distracting. I’ll use it now only when I want to emphasize the difference of our language from English. You’ll remember, I hope, that “RUN” is not meant to be read as a verb, and “DOG” is not meant to be read as a noun (or vice-versa).

So consider:

DOG + HUMAN

Surely this can never be correctly asserted about any part of the flow of all. It is vacuous. After all, we can't mate. But that's to think in thing-talk. Yes, no object can be both dog and human. But "DOG + HUMAN" correctly describes me when my dog Birta is walking alongside me in the hills, or when she and I are playing, rolling around on the ground, or when I am petting her stomach. It is easy to slip into thinking of the world as made up of things.

There is a temptation to think of a conjunction of mass-process words as a kind of predication. "DOG + RUN" is like asserting "A dog is running". But equally it would be true in a context of many dogs running. And equally it serves as a way of paying attention to the flow of all, like a concept word. And certainly "SNOW + WHITE" is not a predication in the sense used in thing-talk.

Here is an example that we can't construe in thing-talk:

SALT + WATER

This can be true about the mixture I get if I start with water and add some salt or start with salt and add some water. All that matters is that the part of the flow of all can be described by both "SALT" and "WATER" together. The order of the terms doesn't matter any more than it does in "DOG + HUMAN". If a conjunction of mass-process words is a correct description, then the mass-process word with the parts reversed is a correct description, too: they establish the same concept.

We can conjoin more than two mass-process words:

- (1) (CAT + LOVE) + HUMAN
- (2) CAT + (LOVE + HUMAN)

These are not equivalent descriptions. The first could be true (describing in thing-talk) if a cat is loving a woman who has no interest in the cat but is simply holding it in her arms for a friend who's gone to answer the telephone. But for the second to be true, the human-ing must be mixed with the loving, while the cat could be quite indifferent, which is the normal state of affairs. And neither of these is equivalent to:

- (3) CAT + LOVE + HUMAN

Here cat-ing is mixed with loving and human-ing, which would describe my friend who is petting her loving cat that is sitting on her lap. We need to allow for conjunctions of more than two mass-process words both with and without internal parentheses. We can then join a conjunction without parentheses with a mass-process word:

(CAT + LOVE + HUMAN) + DOG

This would be true of the same situation as described for (3) if there is also a dog sitting next to the woman trying to get the woman to pay attention to him.

If (3) is true, then so is "CAT + HUMAN + LOVE". As I prepare my soup, the mixture is described equally by "SALT + WATER + VINEGAR", "SALT + VINEGAR

+ WATER”, “WATER + SALT + VINEGAR”. Though the salt and vinegar cannot be extracted from the mixture as a separate combination, they are both there in a mixture. In all conjunctions the order does not matter.

To make that precise and give a definition of a conjunction of mass-process words, we need some symbols to stand for mass-process words. Let’s use:

$E, F, E', F', E_1, E_2, \dots$

But don’t the numerals introduce a notion of thing? We use numerals to count, and it’s things we count. The numerals are only for our convenience as thing-language speakers. We could accomplish indexing by using colors. Imagine:

$E(\text{black}), E(\text{light grey}), E(\text{very light grey}), E(\text{royal blue}),$
 $E(\text{navy blue}), E(\text{sky blue}), E(\text{chartreuse}), E(\text{puce}), E(\text{rose}), \dots$

Doing so would not introduce a notion of thing.

Conjunctions of mass-process words If E_1, \dots, E_n are mass-process words, then $(E_1 + \dots + E_n)$ is a mass-process word. It is a *conjunction of mass-process words*; each E_i is a *conjunct*.

The conjunction $(E_1 + \dots + E_n)$ is a good/accurate/correct description if each conjunct is a good/accurate/correct descriptions and all of the conjuncts are used to describe in some mixed, or joined, or together way.

We read the symbol “+” as “plus”.

What we mean by “some mixed, or joined, or together way” will depend on the particular mass-process words that are being conjoined. We understand the together of “DOG + RUN” differently from the together of “SHOE + FOOT”. Yet there seems to me to be some underlying, general notion of two mass-process describing together.

I’ll let you give more examples of a conjunction of mass-process words used in a context in which it is true and used in a context in which it is false. But I suspect that you, as I, will be able to set out those contexts only using thing-talk.

Aside: Disjunctions of mass-process words?

Our work in Volume 1 on combining predicates suggests that we could allow for disjunctions of mass-process words, too. I’ll leave that to others to investigate.

Aside: Chinese poetry

In Chapter XX (p. ??) we saw how Chinese characters can be used in juxtaposition to say quite a lot without any connectives, indications of time or location, or words to indicate a comparison. Those characters are like our mass-process words. In the passages there they were used in poetry, the lines of which are not meant as propositions. Still, those passages suggests that we could use mass-process words in juxtaposition to make propositions.

Those passages in word-for-word translation are difficult for us because we don't know the allusions or the way of life the poems are meant to reflect. At the risk of being ridiculous, I offer here four poems in that style to give an idea how using mass-process words by themselves can convey a great deal and in the hope, probably quite forlorn, that these will help us appreciate Chinese poetry more.

DOG BARK MIDDLE NIGHT
COCK VILLAGE DAWN
SLEEP ABSENT SLEEP ABSENT
WOOF CREE-CREE

LEAF WATER FLOAT
FISH GULP
OOPS

SUN HOT SHINE HOT SWEAT
TREE BRANCH SPIKE SHADE-NO
SHE VOICE WATER ROCK RIPPLE
DRINK DEEP

DOG BARK
CAT RUN
LIFE GOOD

4 Adjectives and Adverbs?

All the base mass-process words we've been using have been derived from English nouns and verbs. Yet we'd like a way to assert that there outside the window is white snow-ing, or there in my friend's house is gentle cat-ing. Can we find a way to use adjectives and adverbs from English in our mass-process language?

The phrase "white snow" tells us what kind of snow. But what difference is there between saying that there (pointing) is snow-ing and there (pointing) is whiteness? We can say "white-ing" to describe some of the flow of all, viewing white-ing as process as much as dog-ing. Whiteness is in the world, as much a mass (concept) as mud, as much a process as running. We can treat color words as base mass-process words: they divide up, describe, or make a distinction in the flow of all. In this context there is white-ing. In that context there is red-ing. All is flow in the flow of all. We can adopt the following as base mass-process words:

WHITE	GREEN
RED	YELLOW
BROWN	CHARTREUSE

So to say that there is white snow, we can use "WHITE + SNOW" or equivalently "SNOW + WHITE". There (pointing) snow-ing and white-ing serve as descriptions mixed together, and one word does not have precedence over the other.⁸

I can point and assert that there is red hat-ing or hat red-ing with "RED + HAT" or equivalently "HAT + RED". I can point and assert that there is yellow sun-ing with "YELLOW + SUN". We can see yellow-ing in the world, as if the sun is not yellow but is a process, sun-ing, mixed with yellow-ing. It might seem that in these examples the color words are conjoined with only base mass-process words derived from English nouns. But "SUN" is not a noun, nor is it a verb.⁹ It describes in the flow of all as much as "RUN". We can use "COLOR", too, as a base mass-process word. It's more general, yet meaningful in the same way.

What about "gentle"? As English speakers, we could understand six dogs or a dog running or a pack of dogs as gentle. Would that be a comparison to only other dog-ing? Surely "gentle" means the same for a gentle dog and a gentle elephant. But does it mean the same for a gentle boa constrictor? For a gentle ferris-wheel

⁸ Compare W.V.O. Quine, *Word and Object*, p. 104:

In attributive position next to a mass term the adjective must be taken as a mass term: thus "red" in "red wine". The two mass terms unite to form a compound mass term. When we think of the two component mass terms as singular terms naming two scattered portions of the world, the compound becomes a singular term naming that smaller scattered portion of the world which is just the common part of the two.

⁹ See the quotes by Waismann and Hanson [old Dynamic vs. Static appendix to ISP&N].

ride? To say no is, I suspect, to think of “gentle” as needing a basis for comparison—of things. But even in English we have a mass-word for the idea of being gentle: “gentleness”. A big problem in treating “gentle” as a modifier of predicates in Volume 1 is how to discern a general notion of gentle from its disparate uses modifying “— is a dog”, “— is an elephant”, “— is a boa constrictor”, “— is a ferris wheel”. Here we can say that “gentle” gives a concept that we can use in combination with other concept words, that is, with other mass-process words; a comparison is not needed. We can take “GENTLE” as a base mass-process word. Then we can say “GENTLE + CAT” or equivalently “CAT + GENTLE”: there (pointing) is cat-ing plus gentle-ing, or equivalently gentle-ing plus cat-ing.

Similarly, in English we have mass forms of “loud” (“loudness”) and “strong” (“strength”). We can take “LOUD” and “STRONG” as base mass-process words, too, and have mass-process words:

BARK + LOUD

JUSTICE + STRONG

We also have “beauty” as the mass form of “beautiful”. So we can take “BEAUTY” as a base mass-process word. Yet isn’t that platonizing? Isn’t that to take beauty as a universal, independent of the kind? Yes, in thing-talk it would be. But here we are not comparing things of a kind, saying that “beautiful” is meant differently in the comparisons “beautiful woman” and “beautiful dog”. There is only “BEAUTY” that can be a good mass description of some of the flow of all. We have the concept, but not necessarily an abstract or platonic universal.

What about the adjective “big”? What would it mean to say that “BIG” divides up the flow of all? Is there “big-ing” here and now? We don’t have in English a mass form of “big”, not “bigness” for sure. If I say “Bidú is big”, you’ll want to know what kind of thing Bidú is. He’s a dog, and yes, he’s big compared to other dogs. He’s an animal, and no, he’s not big compared to other animals like bulls, elk, and elephants. What is big depends on the kind of things we’re talking about. In the view of the world as process, there are no things and no kinds of things. “DOG” can correctly describe some part of the flow of all that we as speakers of English would say is two dogs, or six dogs, or a pack of dogs, or two dogs running, or What would it mean to say in such cases that “big” is a correct description? Adjectives we use in English to compare a thing to other things of a particular kind are not suitable to use as mass-process words.

Words like “very”, “nearly”, and “almost” whose role in English is to modify other adjectives and adverbs also don’t make sense to use as mass-process words. We’ll consider them at the end of the Chapter 7.

In general, then, we can adopt adverbs and adjectives from English to use as base mass-process words as long as their use and our understanding of them is not solely for comparison, as with “big”, or used solely (primarily?) as modifiers of adjectives or adverbs.

5 Subordination

In English we talk of some mud, this mud, that mud, parts of mud. Basic to our talk of masses is the idea of a part of a mass. But the word “part” is wrong. It’s not just that it suggests physical parts. It’s that it is used to contrast with a whole, and a whole is a thing. With masses there is part but no whole. The mud in my patio is part of all mud, and all mud is not a whole. The word “MUD” does not pick out a whole.

The word “ANIMAL” also does not pick out a whole. It can be used to describe in many contexts of the flow of all; it is mass-process as much as what we describe with “MUD”. Animal-ing here and now is “part of” what we understand with “ANIMAL”. In particular, the dog-ing in my patio is part of animal-ing. In any context in which I can correctly assert “DOG”, it is also correct to assert “ANIMAL”. We can view that as a deep metaphysical observation about the nature of dog-ing and animal-ing. Or we can see it as an observation about how to use those words correctly. Or we can see it as a relation between the concepts of dog-ing and animal-ing. It is not a part-whole relation nor an inclusion relation, for in the mass-process view of the world, there are no wholes and no mental or platonic entities that could be included one in another. Or at least none are needed.¹⁰ I would rather call it *subordination* of ways of dividing up, of paying attention to the flow of all.

Subordination For mass-process words E and F, we write “E sub F” for “E is *subordinate* to F”. It is true if and only if the way of dividing up, paying attention to the flow of all given by E is included in, part of the way of dividing up or paying attention to the flow of all by F. It codifies a correct use of words.

So the following are propositions:

WOMAN sub MAMMAL

BANANA sub FRUIT

SNOW sub WHITE

WHITE sub COLOR

FLOWER sub LOVE

JUSTICE sub VIRTUE

Each of is true or false. They are not about the words, relating “WOMAN” to “MAMMAL”, for then we should write: “WOMAN” sub “MAMMAL”. They are about ways of paying attention to the flow of all, which are concepts, ways of seeing, so long as you do not think of concepts as things, especially not disembodied things.¹¹

¹⁰ See the aside at the end of Chapter 2.

¹¹ See the discussion in “Language-Thought-Meaning”.

The proposition “BANANA sub FRUIT” is true: banana-ing is “part of”, “included in”, subordinate to fruit-ing. As a consequence, in whatever context it is correct to assert “BANANA”, it is also correct to assert “FRUIT”. In contrast, “FLOWER sub LOVE” is false: flower-ing is not “part of”, is not “included in”, is not subordinate to fruit-ing. I can point to a daffodil in a field without any animals and say “FLOWER”, and that’s correct, but “LOVE” is not correct to assert.

It is tempting to understand subordination in terms of when it is correct to assert mass-process words:

- (1) E is subordinate to F iff
in any context in which it is correct to assert E, it is also correct to assert F.

That would reduce subordination to the semantic primitive we’ve already adopted: truth in a context. But then consider:

PEGASUS sub DOG

By (1), this would be true because there is no context (in the world as we know it) in which it is correct to assert “PEGASUS”. Yet in terms of paying attention to the flow of all, the concept elicited by “PEGASUS” is not part of the concept elicited by “DOG”. We have, rather, “PEGASUS sub HORSE”.

We are at a divide that medieval logicians and metaphysicians faced. When we assert “Homo est animalum”, are we talking about concepts or are we talking only about what can be referred to or picked out by the words “homo” and “animalum”? The nominalists rejected universals and said that “Homo est animalum” is true iff every thing that can be correctly described by “homo” can also be correctly described by “animalum”. That’s like the equivalence at (1). But even they, even the arch-nominalist Buridan, had recourse to mental concepts to justify why that should be. They avoided classifying “Pegasus est canis” as true by excising the default option: for “E est F” to be true, there must be some thing, some individual of which E is true. We could go that route here, taking (1) as the condition for subordination. But to do so would be to eliminate the following as more than vacuously valid:

PEGASUS sub HORSE
HORSE sub ANIMAL
Therefore, PEGASUS sub ANIMAL

It would be to eliminate any talk of ideas or concepts as part of our informal semantics. Only a strong commitment to what I would call *mass-process nominalism* would be motive for doing that.¹²

I think that the definition of subordination above, talking of ways of paying

¹² See the discussion of the ambiguity of using “est” for a genus-species relation and as predication in medieval logic compared to philosophical analyses in the mass-process language Chinese in Appendix 2 of *Disputers of the Tao* by A. C. Graham.

attention to the flow of all understood as invoking ideas or concepts, is the better way to go. The truth-in-a-context condition is a consequence of, but is not sufficient for there to be subordination.

Subordination and correct use of a mass-process word in a context

If E sub F is true, then in any context in which E can be used correctly to describe, F can be used correctly to describe.

It may be that the way we come to accept or recognize a subordination relation is through considering in what contexts a mass-process word can be correctly asserted, invoking different ways the world could be according to the metaphysics we adopt. That is how I will often justify a subordination proposition in the discussions that follow. But subordination cannot be reduced to talk of truth in contexts, though it is “expressed” in such talk. Subordination is about concepts, or correct use of words, or ways of paying attention to the flow of all.

But suppose that some baby, Houle, is born and cries from the moment of its birth until it dies two days later.¹³ Then in every context in which we could correctly assert “HOULE”, we could correctly assert “CRY”. Or not, depending on whether “any context” means in the world as it is or as it might be. Perhaps Houle could have been born to a rich Saudi prince and hardly ever cried, so that there are contexts in which we could correctly assert “HOULE” and it would be incorrect to assert “CRY”.

The difference between “all” contexts and contexts restricted to some “possibility”, say the way the world is and has been, is reflected in what is true in all models and what is true in only some models. But we can’t take “DOG sub ANIMAL” as an axiom true in all models for it can’t be distinguished in form from “HOULE sub CRY”, and it is formal logic we are building. We may take “DOG sub ANIMAL” as true in every model we consider, but if so it is because of what we believe about the ways of dividing up the flow of all that are given by “DOG” and “ANIMAL”. Moreover, we want to be able to disagree, for some to say that “DOG sub ANIMAL” is true and others to say it is false and compare those views by looking at different models.

But what of the assumption in all of logic that in any discussion, any reasoning we do, we use words the same: words are types that do not change their meaning. In formal logic, what we mean by “in a discussion” is captured by a model, and there “DOG sub ANIMAL” has only one truth-value. We as logicians, as people concerned with the forms of language and meaning, are not setting ourselves up as arbiters of truth, as saying what is true and what is false in this our world as it is. That would be to take logic back to the days when there were no models, only a semi-formal language meant to codify all truths.

The subordination relation is primitive. We classify “DOG sub ANIMAL” as

¹³ This could well happen in Yemen where the Saudis, with the guidance and support of the United States, have bombed the infrastructure, including hospitals, and kept food from reaching the people.

true and “HOULE sub CRY” as false in our understanding of ways of dividing up, paying attention to the flow of all, in terms of concepts. But those classifications are only relative to us, now, as we conceive and use those words. Those classifications could be different, and that is what we mean by taking a model.

Example 1 FISH sub WATER

Analysis Suppose a child asks whether this is true. Yes, the mother says, and by doing so excludes the fish on a dinner plate as part of fish-ing and excludes “FISH” from describing correctly a fish flopping on the beach. In that case, she’ll need a word other than “FISH” for what we call a fish out of water. Thus the example, which seems to be an assertion about how the world is or a relation of ways of dividing up the flow of all could be construed as a way to constrain the meaning of “FISH”.

Example 2 HORSE sub COLOR

Analysis With our “usual” understanding of these words, this is true. Whenever I can point and correctly describe with “HORSE”, I can correctly describe with “COLOR”. Conceiving of horse-ing entails conceiving of color-ing. This is clearly not a part-whole relation. In the Western tradition, philosophers argue whether color is an attribute of horses, or whether color is part of the essence of being a horse, or whether color is of a horse. Modern logicians evade these debates by reading the example as “If anything is a horse, then it’s colored”, reducing all to thing-talk. We can’t use the conditional “If HORSE, then COLOR” because “HORSE” and “COLOR” are not propositions. We have only “HORSE sub COLOR”.

Aside: Concept inclusion

“DOG sub ANIMAL” is true. But some contend this is backwards. What we should have is “ANIMAL sub DOG” is true, for the concept of animal is contained in the concept of dog. Whenever I try to understand this, I just end up with the converse of the subordination relation. You could start with that instead, I suppose.

In Chinese writing:

the character for *dog* includes the radical for *animal*.

the character for *fox* includes the radical for *animal*.

the character for *lion* includes the radical for *animal*.

Perhaps this means that for Chinese speakers it is more natural to take the converse of subordination as primary.

Aside: Comparing our mass-process language to English

Consider

(*) JUSTICE sub VIRTUE

Translating this to English perhaps we should use:

Justice is virtue.

But that's not right, for in this "is" has to be read as identity. Perhaps we should say:

Justice is a virtue

But then virtues are viewed as things, and justice is one of them, which can't be right.

Nor can we translate (*) as:

Whatever is just is (a) virtuous (thing).

That's almost certainly false, whereas "JUSTICE sub VIRTUE" is almost certainly true.

In English, we're forced to ask:

Is justice a thing?

Does justice exist?

That's because "justice" is a noun. Both questions are nonsense in a mass-process language.

Indeed, they can't even be said. And on reflection, we English speakers should consider them to be nonsense, too: grammar misleading into stupid ontology.

6 Principles of Subordination

Using our informal understanding of the world as process, what subordination principles should we adopt in building a formal logic?

Reflexivity of subordination $E \text{ sub } E$

Transitivity of subordination If $(E_1 \text{ sub } E_2)$ and $(E_2 \text{ sub } E_3)$, then $(E_1 \text{ sub } E_3)$.

I can't justify these beyond pointing to the idea of subordination as inclusion of ways of describing the flow of all or as codifying correct uses of words. These principles are fundamental, and more examples won't make them more plausible.

Equivalence

Suppose that “ $E \text{ sub } F$ ” and “ $F \text{ sub } E$ ” are true. Then whenever we can use E to describe correctly, we can use F to describe correctly; and whenever we can use F to describe correctly, we can use E to describe correctly. Does that mean they are the same? No, for both of the following are true:

DOG sub (CANINE + DOMESTIC)

(CANINE + DOMESTIC) sub DOG

“DOG” and “(CANINE + DOMESTIC)” are not the same: they are equivalent ways to divide the flow of all. We could take this notion of equivalence as fundamental, but we need not, for we can make the following definition.

Equivalence of subordination $E \approx F \equiv_{\text{Def}} (E \text{ sub } F) \wedge (F \text{ sub } E)$

By propositional logic, we have that if $E \approx F$ then $F \approx E$. Since subordination is reflexive and transitive, it follows that \approx is an equivalence relation—on ways of describing the flow of all. Note that I am using the terminology of relations from thing-talk in the analyses here; I know no other way to proceed or talk. Perhaps someone will be able to formulate what we're doing here in a mass-process way of talking.¹⁴

Substitution

If two mass-process words are equivalent, then they establish the same concept, or they give the same way of paying attention to the flow of all, or the equivalence codifies a correct use of words. So if one appears in a proposition, we can substitute

¹⁴ The pre-Han Chinese philosopher Kung-sun Lung stated “White horse is-not horse”, which has been commented on by many as paradoxical. See the discussion in Chapter 5 of *Language and Logic in Ancient China* by Chad Hansen. In our perspective the assertion is an obvious truism: $\neg ((\text{HORSE} + \text{WHITE}) \approx \text{HORSE})$.

the other for it and get a proposition with the same truth-value, for semantically they are indistinguishable.

Substitution of equivalent mass-process words If $E \approx F$, and $A(E)$ is an atomic proposition in which E appears, and $A(F)$ is $A(E)$ with F replacing some but not necessarily all occurrences of E , then $A(F)$ is true iff $A(E)$ is true.

We need this principle for atomic propositions only, as it will follow for compound ones by our use of classical propositional logic.

Commutativity of conjuncts

We have “DOG + RUN \approx RUN + DOG”, for, as we said earlier, the order is irrelevant for there being a together-mix of the two. Generally, $(E + F) \approx (F + E)$. Here is a rule that covers longer conjunctions, too.

Commutativity of conjuncts in a conjunction If F is a conjunction of mass-process words, and both E_1 and E_2 are conjuncts in F , and F' is F with E_1 and E_2 replacing each other, then $F \approx F'$.

This does not validate:

$$((\text{CAT} + \text{LOVE}) + \text{HUMAN}) \approx ((\text{HUMAN} + \text{LOVE}) + \text{CAT})$$

That’s because “CAT” is not a conjunct of “(CAT + LOVE) + HUMAN”; it is a conjunct of a conjunct of that.

Subordination of a conjunction to its conjuncts

The definition of a conjunction of mass-process words says that if a conjunction is a correct description, then each conjunct is too. So “(DOG + HUMAN) sub DOG” and “(DOG + HUMAN) sub HUMAN” are true. When “SALT + WATER” correctly describes, “SALT” correctly describes, too. So “SALT + WATER sub SALT” is true. But wait, you say, there is a big difference between salt mixing with water and a dog mixing with a human. Salt and water really mix, the salt dissolves, while the dog and human remain distinguishable. To say that is to adopt the implicit metaphysics of English, where the world is made up of things and masses. Humans and dogs retain their identity: they are individuals; water and salt don’t retain any identity because they have none: they are masses. From the view of the world as process-mass, human-ing is as much mass-process as water or salt. Yes, we understand the together evoked in “WATER +SALT” differently from how we understand the together evoked in “DOG + HUMAN”, and that is different from the together meant in “DOG + RUN”. What counts as together described by two mass-process words conjoined depends on the mass-process words that are being conjoined. We have $(E + F)$ sub E . But we also have:

(CAT + LOVE + HUMAN) sub HUMAN

(CAT + LOVE + HUMAN) sub (CAT + LOVE)

Subordination of a conjunction to its conjuncts If E is a conjunction of mass-process words, and F is E with one of its conjuncts deleted, then E sub F.

For example, the following are true:

((CAT + LOVE) + HUMAN) sub (CAT + LOVE)

(CAT + LOVE) sub (CAT)

So we have by transitivity, we have:

((CAT + LOVE) + HUMAN) sub CAT

The reverse, “E sub (E + F)”, does not hold. For example, “DOG sub (DOG + RUN)” is false: I can point out my window now and correctly assert “DOG” but not “DOG + RUN”, for my dogs are sleeping. Nor do we have:

$$\neg [(E_1 + E_2) \text{ sub } F \rightarrow ((E_1 \text{ sub } F) \wedge (E_2 \text{ sub } F))]$$

For example, “(DOG + HUMAN) sub ANIMAL” is true, and so are “DOG sub ANIMAL” and “HUMAN sub ANIMAL”

Conjunction preserves subordination

We have “DOG sub ANIMAL”. So, it seems to me, we should have:

(DOG + RUN) sub (ANIMAL + RUN)

Whatever concept of running we have that is together with dog-ing is the same concept of running mixed with animal-ing generally. This constrains our notion of “together” or “mixing” of two mass-process descriptions. I suggest we adopt the following principle.

Conjunction preserves subordination If $E_1 \text{ sub } E_2$, then $(E_1 + F) \text{ sub } (E_2 + F)$.

It does not follow from the principles we’ve adopted that in any context in which we can describe with both “DOG” and “CAT” we can also describe with “DOG + CAT”. Both “DOG” and “CAT” are correct descriptions of the animal shelter in my town yesterday, while “DOG + CAT” isn’t. What we have, for example, is:

If (DOG sub ANIMAL), then (DOG + CAT) sub ANIMAL

The consequent would be true describing a dog and cat that are sleeping touching each other or are fighting.

Example 1 SNOW sub WHITE

WHITE sub COLOR

Therefore, SNOW sub COLOR.

Analysis Doesn't this example show that subordination isn't transitive?

No, for "SNOW sub WHITE" is false: it's not true that in any context in which we can use "SNOW" to describe correctly, we can use "WHITE" to describe correctly, as people in New York can tell you (compare this to analyzing "Snow is white" in English where we have to talk of bits of snow being white or gray). Moreover, "SNOW sub COLOR" is true: any time I point and say "SNOW" and that's a correct description, I could point and say "COLOR" and that would be a correct description (in English we'd have to say something like "All snow is colored", understanding "white(ness)" to be a color, or else say that no bit of snow is transparent).

Example 2 (GENEROUS + HATE) sub GENEROUS

GENEROUS sub VIRTUE

Therefore, (GENEROUS + HATE) sub VIRTUE

Analysis The first premise is true by the subordination of a conjunction to its conjuncts. The second seems true, too: even in English we say that generosity is a virtue, or every instance of generosity is virtuous, or any generous action is virtuous. Don't we? Would we say that an action that is both generous and hateful is virtuous? That is not an issue in syntax and semantics but in ethics. If you say no, then the second premise and the conclusion are false, for the second premise does not say that the generosity is unmixed. If you say yes, then the premises are true and the conclusion is true. The inference is valid.

Example 3 DOG sub MAMMAL

Therefore, (DOG + RUN) sub MAMMAL

Analysis Because conjunction preserves subordination, from the premise we have:

(DOG + RUN) sub (MAMMAL + RUN)

By subordination of a conjunction to its conjuncts, we have:

(MAMMAL + RUN) sub MAMMAL

So by transitivity, the conclusion follows. The inference is valid.

We have the derived principle:

(*) If $(E_1 \text{ sub } F)$, then $(E_1 + E_2) \text{ sub } F$.

Example 4 DOG \approx (DOG + DOG)

Analysis By reflexivity: DOG sub DOG. So by principle (*) in the last example: (DOG + DOG) sub DOG. By subordination of a conjunction to its conjuncts:

DOG sub (DOG + DOG). Hence the example follows. Generally:

$$E \approx (E + E)$$

I'll leave as an exercise for you to show:

$$\text{If } (E_1 \text{ sub } E_2) \text{ and } (F_1 \text{ sub } F_2), \text{ then } [(E_1 + F_1) \text{ sub } (E_2 + F_2)]$$

Aside: Subordination as part-whole?

The subordination relation satisfies the standard conditions for a part-whole relation: reflexivity, transitivity, and anti-symmetry.¹⁵ But part-whole relations are about things, not masses. The equivalence condition for a part-whole relation is that if object c is a part of object d and object d is a part of object c, then c and d are equal: the same thing, not equivalent or useful in place of the other. All talk of conditions on part-whole relations are about things, not how things are named. For the latter we have extensionality conditions in predicate logic.¹⁶

¹⁵ See Roberto Casati and Achille Varzi, *Parts and Places* and Chapter XX of *Time and Space in Formal Logic*.

¹⁶ But see the discussion of the predicate logic criterion of identity in *Predicate Logic*.

7 Mass-Process Words as Modifiers

I point and say “doghouse”, and you agree. Seeing the world as mass-process, “HOUSE” is a correct description in that context: there is house-ing. But “DOG” need not be a correct description. My dogs could be out running. So in that context, “DOG + HOUSE” would not be a correct description. Still, the idea, the concept of dog-ing has to be involved in the description of doghouse-ing: we can understand the compound “doghouse” only if we understand “dog”. In order to have a mass-process word that is apt to use in this context, let’s adopt a new notation:

(1) HOUSE / DOG

When I assert this, it’s as if I were to assert “HOUSE” and say “think of dog-ing”. I am saying that the concept of dog-ing is needed, involved, linked somehow to house-ing. But there need not be dog-ing there, though there could be if Birta were in the doghouse. It’s hard to get this right, but it’s the same problem of how to understand “dog” in “doghouse” in English.¹⁷ So we have:

HOUSE / DOG sub HOUSE
 \neg ((HOUSE / DOG) sub DOG)

Contrast (1) with:

(2) DOG / HOUSE

This would be true if I were picking out one or more dogs that are what we call “house dogs” in English, ones that live indoors. For this we have:

DOG / HOUSE sub DOG
 \neg (DOG / HOUSE sub HOUSE)

Contrast (1) and (2) with:

(3) DOG + HOUSE

I could have used this correctly when a friend’s dog came into my house and laid down. For this we have:

DOG + HOUSE sub DOG
DOG + HOUSE sub HOUSE

The choice of which of (1), (2), or (3) to use depends on which of the mass-process words in the composite the composite is subordinate to.

As another example, if I want to describe a context in which my dog Birta is hungry, I should use:

DOG + HUNGER

¹⁷ See Appendix F on compound nouns.

That's because in any context in which this is true, both "DOG" and "HUNGER" are correct descriptions, which isn't the case if I use "DOG/HUNGER" or "HUNGER/DOG".

Modified mass-process words If E and F are mass-process words, then E/F is a *modified mass-process word*. The word F *modifies* the word E; it is the *modifier*.

The word E/F is a good/accurate/correct description in a context if E is a good/accurate/correct description in a way modified by our understanding of F.

The general principle illustrated in the examples is the following.

Subordination of a modified mass-process word (E/F) sub E

Though "(E/F) sub F" can be false, as in the examples above, it need not be. For example, "HOUSE/WOOD sub WOOD" is true, at least in a model of how we ordinarily live. We can adopt a meaning axiom in cases for which $\neg((E/F) \text{ sub } F)$ holds, for example, " $\neg(\text{HOUSE/DOG sub DOG})$ ".

Now consider:

HOUSE/HOUSE

Using "HOUSE" to modify itself neither adds nor subtracts anything. It's the same concept as given by "HOUSE". That is,

HOUSE/HOUSE \approx HOUSE

Modifying a mass-process word by itself adds nothing (E/E) \approx E

Example 1 Toy bears and bear toys.

Analysis In English I can point to a shop window and say "toy bear": that's a toy resembling or somehow meant to evoke the idea of a bear. At the zoo I can point to a bear playing with a tire hung from a branch and say "bear toy": that's a toy meant for bears to play with. But in our mass-process language we have only one word to use in both contexts:

TOY/BEAR

To distinguish the two contexts, we could use an additional description for the bear playing with the tire swing:

(TOY/BEAR) + (BEAR + TOY)

I can't think of a context in which it would be correct to use "BEAR/TOY".

Example 2 Cartoon cat.

Analysis Suppose I'm watching TV and I call to you and point to the screen and say "cartoon cat". In that context, "CARTOON" is a correct description, but "CAT" is not. Unless, that is, you think that cartoon cat-ing is just another kind of cat-ing. That does not seem a good way to go, no more than in our thing-conception of the world we should populate the universe with not only siamese cats and calico cats but also cartoon cats and imaginary cats. So we can't use "CARTOON + CAT" to describe in that context. Yet the idea, the concept of cat-ing has to be involved in the description in some way. We use "CARTOON/CAT".

Example 3 Fake dog.

Analysis I have a small purple hand puppet called "Ralph" that looks like a dog. There, pointing, is fake-ing, imitation-ing if you like, but not dog-ing. So to describe when I point to it, I can use:

FAKE / DOG

There is fake-ing in the style of, meant to suggest, looking like, resembling in some way dog-ing. But there is not fake-ing and dog-ing mixed, for which we would use:

DOG + FAKE

This would have been a correct description of the two dogs Birta and Buddy I had when I fed them. Birta would eat hurriedly then run off a little way and start barking as if there were something in that direction. Buddy, who was bigger and dominant, would then run there, too, and start barking, and Birta would run back to eat Buddy's food while he was barking. In contrast, to correctly describe what we in thing-talk would call a dog dressed up in a Santa Claus costume we can use:

DOG / FAKE

Example 4 Fake unicorn.

Analysis Consider:

FAKE / UNICORN

This can be true when I point to a stuffed toy that looks like what we imagine a unicorn to be. Not only is "UNICORN" not a correct description in this context, it is not a correct description in any context in the world as we know it. Yet it is useful as a modifier, for it does elicit a conception.

Example 5 Imaginary dog.

Analysis A fellow talks when there's no one around. He says he's talking to a dog, but there's no dog there. Pressed, he says uncomfortably that he's talking to an imaginary dog. An imaginary dog is not a dog. An imaginary dog would be outside space and time, it seems. But we need not talk of an imaginary dog in that context

but only of imagine-ing somehow linked to the concept of dog-ing, resembling in some way dog-ing, for which we can use:

IMAGINE / DOG

I'll let you supply contexts to distinguish the correct use of this from contexts in which "DOG / IMAGINE" or "DOG + IMAGINE" are correct.

Example 6 Competent teaching.

Analysis Suppose a mother goes to watch her child's 4th grade arithmetic class; she says later that she saw competent teaching. Should we say that she saw both teaching and competence? Can there be competence-ing absent a comparison? I'm not sure. Is competence the same for teaching and for auto repair? Is it the same for ski-ing? Can we take "COMPETENCE" as a mass-process word? There are going to be lots of examples like this that will stop us. It's not just that we have to think of the concept of competence; after all, "competent" is defined in the dictionary without reference to teaching, auto repair, or ski-ing. No, the issue is how to think of competence in a mass-process language, and for that it would be better to see how that concept is used in ordinary mass-process languages.

Modified mass-process can be used in the same way as other mass-process words

A modified mass-process word can be used in a conjunction. For example, to describe when my donkey is carrying around my dog puppet on her back I can use:

DONKEY + (FAKE / DOG)

A modified mass-process word can be modified further, as with:

(HOUSE / DOG) / CASTLE

This would be correct were I to point at what in English we'd say is a doghouse that is shaped like a castle. And we can use a modified mass-process word to modify a mass-process word, as with:

(HOUSE / DOG) / (CASTLE / FAIRY)

Modifiers that aren't mass-process words

To say that there is very loud barking is to say that not only is the barking loud, but compared to other loud barking it is loud. It seems that "very" is used only for a comparison with a base. How could we say that (pointing) there is very-ing? It doesn't make sense to use "very" as a base mass-process word.

Consider "nearly". To say that Birta is nearly barking is clear enough. But how could we use "nearly" as a base mass-process word—there (pointing) is "nearly-ing"?

Consider "almost". To say that this pond is almost frozen is clear enough. But how could we use "almost" as a base mass-process word—there is "almost-ing"?

There are some adjectives and adverbs from English that we would like to use as modifiers of mass-process words but not as mass-process words themselves. The mass-process words are the concept words of our language. They are categorematic. The words “very”, “nearly”, “almost”, and others are syncategorematic: they have meaning only when used with a categorematic word. But they are not logical words like our formalizations of “and” or “not”. We can say they are non-logical-syncategorematic.

How could we use those in our language? We can write them in lower case to distinguish them from the base mass-process words:

very
almost
nearly

We could then use them as modifiers with the same slash notation:

BARK / almost
RED / nearly
MEOW / (LOUD / very)

In this way, perhaps, we could also have other modifiers that we wouldn’t want to take as mass-process words, for example, “fast” or “big”. Then we could say “RUN / fast”. These would set up comparisons: “RUN / fast” is true if the running I am pointing to is fast in comparison to other running. These would also be syncategorematic, pulling their meaning by attachment to a categorematic word, that is, to a mass-process word.

If we were to adopt such modifiers into our language, then we would have to divide them into restrictors and negators as we did modifiers of predicates in Volume 1. We have “MEOW / (LOUD / very) sub (MEOW / (LOUD))” but “¬ (BARK / almost) sub BARK”. That would complicate the presentation of the language and logic considerably and, I fear, obscure the more basic points. Moreover, we should consider how or whether such modifiers are used in ordinary mass-process languages as a guide. So I will leave that project to others.

Substitution of equivalents?

Some, it seems, take as true:

$$(4) \quad (\text{MIND} + \text{HUMAN}) \approx (\text{BODY} + \text{HUMAN})$$

If we were to adopt “fast” as a modifier, as suggested above, both of the following would be false:

$$\begin{aligned} & ((\text{MIND} + \text{HUMAN}) / \text{fast}) \text{ sub } ((\text{BODY} + \text{HUMAN}) / \text{fast}) \\ & ((\text{BODY} + \text{HUMAN}) / \text{fast}) \text{ sub } ((\text{MIND} + \text{HUMAN}) / \text{fast}) \end{aligned}$$

An olympic sprinter could be as mentally slow as a president, and a university professor could walk barely fast enough to get to her classroom in time. Doesn't this show that the principle of substitution of equivalent mass-process words can fail?

The problem here is not with substitution but with (4). I can understand how someone could believe, and perhaps it is true, that in any context in which it is correct to assert "MIND + HUMAN" it is correct to assert "BODY + HUMAN", and vice-versa. But that, recall, is a consequence of assuming (4), not the basis for the truth of (4). I do not see how even a committed materialist could say that the concept of "MIND + HUMAN" is the same as the concept of "BODY + HUMAN", or that they are equivalent ways of paying attention in the flow of all, or that (4) codifies a correct use of words.

Aside: Mass-process words and parts of speech

Since every mass-process word can be used in the same way, there is no distinction between noun, verb, adjective, and adverb. There are only the mass-process words, whether we think of them as concept words, generic words, mass words, process words, or simply as ways of describing the flow of all. Compare how Gladys A. Reichard describes Navajo (Navaho, Diné) in "The Character of the Navaho Verb Stem"

In many languages adjectival ideas have verbal forms so that there is no such part of speech as the adjective—"it is red, there is redness, condition or quality of redness exists". In certain respects this is true in Navaho as evidenced by the static verbs. Some of these verbs may be called "absolute" since they are not modified in the active or passive voice, nor do they have activated forms. Nevertheless, if the meaning allows, they are conjugated in all persons. p. 57

This also seems to be the way of Wintu, as Dorothy Lee describes that language in "Categories of the Generic and the Particular in Wintu":

The category of the generic since it refers only to a quality of being, is adjectival in force. There is no adjective as such in Wintu'. The generic noun, on the one hand, and the generic form of the nominalized verb, on the other, function as attributives. p. 363

In "Altaic Languages", Georg Hazai describes Altaic languages, including Mongolian and Turkish [[Encyclopedia Britannica](#)]. He says:

Parts of speech in the Altaic languages are less differentiated than they are in the Indo-European languages; essentially, only nominals (words used as nouns), verbs, and particles (words that are neither nouns nor verbs) may be considered as separate parts of speech. In contrast with the Tungus languages, the Turkic and Mongolian languages do not possess any morphological means, such as specific suffixes, to distinguish between nouns and adjectives. Altaic languages are rich in nominal verbals (nouns, adjectives, and adverbs derived from verbs), as well as in nouns of action, participles, and gerunds; these perform important grammatical functions in Altaic sentences. A conspicuous ancient Altaic peculiarity is that verbal predicative expressions (finite verbs) are of verbal-nominal origin; that is, these verbal formations are in most cases verbal nouns in predicate positions and express their personal relations with added personal or possessive pronouns: *e.g.*, Old Turkic *bil-t-m* "I knew" is literally "having known my,"

and Old Turkic *bil-ir-biz* “we know” is literally “knowing we.” In Altaic languages, there is no word that corresponds to the English “to have.” To express this concept, a periphrastic construction (circumlocution) is used; *e.g.*, an Altaic speaker might say “The book is with me” rather than “I *have* the book.” pp. 712–713

Hazai shows his prejudice in favor of English (or Indo-European languages) when he says, “To express this concept, a periphrastic (circumlocution) is used.” Yes, it might seem an odd construction to him, but Altaic speakers might consider much that we say as circumlocutions. The talk of verbs and nouns here seems odd at best: verbs being nouns, nouns being verbs, nouns and adjectives not distinguished. This would be straightforward if we consider Altaic languages to be mass-process languages. Then what Hazai is doing is trying to force an analysis of those languages with the categories of grammar made for Indo-European languages. When the only tool you have is a hammer, everything looks like a nail.

Even for English it seems wrong to categorize words as nouns or verbs or modifiers. Consider the word “lamb”:

That is a big lamb.

Let’s eat some lamb meat.

Next month the sheep will lamb.

The word “lamb” by itself is not a noun, a modifier, or a verb. It is used as a noun, a modifier, or a verb. Even the obvious adjective “red” is equally a noun, as in “Red is the color of blood.” Syntactic criteria are not sufficient to distinguish the use of a word in one of these categories: compare (i) “dog house” and (ii) “cartoon cat”, where in (i) “dog” comes first and is used as a modifier, while in (ii) “cat” comes second and is used as a modifier. We have concept words that we use in different ways, those ways being distinguished semantically.

8 A Formal Logic of Mass-Process and Subordination

The formal language

Vocabulary

base mass-process word symbols $B_1, B_2, \dots, B_n, \dots$

mass-process word conjoiner $+$

subordination symbol sub

propositional connectives $\neg, \rightarrow, \wedge, \vee$

Punctuation

parentheses $()$

slash $/$

Mass-Process Words

- i. If B is a base mass-process word symbol, then (B) is a formal mass-process word of degree 1.
- ii. If E_1, \dots, E_r are formal mass-process words where $r \geq 2$ and the maximum of the degrees of E_1, \dots, E_r is n , then $(E_1 + \dots + E_r)$ is a formal mass-process word of degree $n + 1$. It is a *conjunction of* formal mass-process words. Each of E_1, \dots, E_r is a *conjunct* of it.
- iii. If E and F are formal mass-process words, and the maximum of the degrees of E and F is n , then E/F is a formal mass-process word of degree $n + 1$. It is a *modified* formal mass-process word. F is the *modifier* and E is the word *modified*.
- iv. A concatenation of symbols is a formal mass-process word iff for some n it is a formal mass-process word of degree n .

If E is a formal mass-process word of degree ≥ 2 , then E is a *complex* formal mass-process word. I'll let you show that there is one and only one way to parse each formal mass-process word.

Well-formed formulas (wffs)

- i. If E and F are formal mass-process words, then $(E \text{ sub } F)$ is a wff of length 1.
- ii. If A is a wff of length n , then $(\neg A)$ is a wff of length $n + 1$.
- iii. If A and B are wffs and the maximum of the lengths of A and B is n , then each of $(A \rightarrow B)$, $(A \wedge B)$, $(A \vee B)$ is a wff of length $n + 1$.

- iv. A concatenation of symbols is a *wff* iff it is a wff of length n , for some $n \geq 1$.

A wff of length 1 is *atomic*. All other wffs are *compound*.

The unique readability of wffs follows as for classical propositional logic. We have the following definition:

$$E \approx F \equiv_{\text{Def}} (E \text{ sub } F) \wedge (F \text{ sub } E)$$

We adopt the usual conventions on informally deleting parentheses from propositional logic. We also informally delete parentheses around a base mass-process word when that isn't likely to lead to confusion.

Realizations and semi-formal languages

A mass-process word of our “ordinary” language is *simple* iff it contains no proper part that we could formalize as a mass-process word, a propositional connective, word negation, or some combination of those with + and /.

A *realization* of the formal language is an assignment of simple mass-process words to the base mass-process symbols. The resulting wffs constitute a *semi-formal language*. We do not assume that there is just one realization where “all” mass-process words are used: we don't need to use all ways of dividing the flow of all to have any talk at all. I will write “ $\forall (E \approx F) = \top$ ” as an abbreviation of: “ $\forall (E \text{ sub } F) = \top$ and $\forall (F \text{ sub } E) = \top$ ”.

Semantics

The notion of a model is as for classical propositional logic: a realization plus an assignment of truth-values to the atomic propositions, with the usual evaluation of compound wffs. We need add only that the evaluation of atomic wffs satisfies the principles for the subordination relation that we adopted in the preceding chapters.

Explicitly, given a semi-formal language, a *valuation* ν is an assignment of truth-values to the atomic propositions of it. The valuation satisfies the following conditions respecting the internal structure of atomic propositions.

Reflexivity of subordination

$$\nu (E \text{ sub } E) = \top$$

Transitivity of subordination

$$\text{If } \nu (E_1 \text{ sub } E_2) = \top \text{ and } \nu (E_2 \text{ sub } E_3) = \top, \text{ then } \nu (E_1 \text{ sub } E_3) = \top.$$

Substitution of equivalent mass-process words If $\nu (E \approx F) = \top$, and $A(E)$ is an atomic proposition in which E appears, and $A(F)$ is $A(E)$ with F replacing some but not necessarily all occurrences of E , then $\nu (A(F)) = \top$ iff $\nu (A(E)) = \top$.

Commutativity of conjuncts in a conjunction If F is a conjunction of mass-process words, and both E_1 and E_2 are conjuncts in F , and F' is F with E_1 and E_2 replacing each other, then $\upsilon(F \approx F') = \top$.

Subordination of a conjunction to its conjuncts

If E is a conjunction of mass-process words, and F is E with one or more of its conjuncts deleted, then $\upsilon(E \text{ sub } F) = \top$.

Conjunction preserves subordination

If $\upsilon(E_1 \text{ sub } E_2) = \top$, then $\upsilon((E_1 + F) \text{ sub } (E_2 + F)) = \top$.

Subordination of a modified mass-process word

$\upsilon((E/F) \text{ sub } E) = \top$.

Modifying a mass-process word by itself adds nothing

$\upsilon((E/E) \approx E) = \top$.

A *model* is the semi-formal language, a valuation, and the extension of the valuation to all compound wffs by the truth-tables:

$\upsilon(\neg A) = \top$ iff $\upsilon(A) = \text{F}$

$\upsilon(A \rightarrow B) = \top$ iff $\upsilon(A) = \text{F}$ or $\upsilon(B) = \top$

$\upsilon(A \wedge B) = \top$ iff $\upsilon(A) = \top$ and $\upsilon(B) = \top$

$\upsilon(A \vee B) = \top$ iff $\upsilon(A) = \top$ or $\upsilon(B) = \top$

This is the *base logic of mass-process and subordination*, **MPSub**.

Note that we do not assume that there is only one model with the correct assignment of truth-values to the atomic propositions. We might want to investigate the consequences of whether “WHITE sub COLOR” is true by considering a model in which it is true and a model in which it is false.

Axiomatization

Propositional axioms

The axiom schemes of classical propositional logic (Chapter 2 of Volume 0), where A , B , and C are any wffs of the formal language.

$\forall \dots (\neg A \rightarrow (A \rightarrow B))$

$\forall \dots (B \rightarrow (A \rightarrow B))$

$\forall \dots ((A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow ((\neg A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow B))$

$\forall \dots ((A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow C)) \rightarrow ((A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow (A \rightarrow C)))$

$\forall \dots (A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow (A \wedge B)))$

$$\begin{aligned}
&\forall \dots ((A \wedge B) \rightarrow A) \\
&\forall \dots ((A \wedge B) \rightarrow B) \\
&\forall \dots (A \rightarrow (A \vee B)) \\
&\forall \dots (B \rightarrow (A \vee B)) \\
&\forall \dots ((A \rightarrow C) \rightarrow ((B \rightarrow C) \rightarrow ((A \vee B) \rightarrow C)))
\end{aligned}$$

*Subordination axioms**Reflexivity of subordination*

$$E \text{ sub } E$$

Transitivity of subordination

$$((E_1 \text{ sub } E_2) \wedge (E_2 \text{ sub } E_3)) \rightarrow (E_1 \text{ sub } E_3)$$

Substitution of equivalent mass-process words

$$E \approx F \rightarrow (A(F) \leftrightarrow A(E))$$

where $A(E)$ is an atomic proposition in which E appears, and $A(F)$ is $A(E)$ with F replacing some but not necessarily all occurrences of E .

Commutativity of conjuncts in a conjunction

$$F \approx F'$$

where F is a conjunction of mass-process words, and both E_1 and E_2 are conjuncts in F , and F' is F with E_1 and E_2 replacing each other.

Subordination of a conjunction to its conjuncts

$$E \text{ sub } F$$

where E is a conjunction of mass-process words, and F is E with one of its conjuncts deleted.

Conjunction preserves subordination

$$(E_1 \text{ sub } E_2) \rightarrow [(F + E_1) \text{ sub } (F + E_2)]$$

Subordination of a modified mass-process word

$$(E/F) \text{ sub } E$$

Modifying a mass-process word by itself adds nothing

$$(E/E) \approx E$$

Rule

$$\textit{modus ponens} \quad \frac{A, A \rightarrow B}{B}$$

The definitions of theorem and valid formal inference are the usual ones (Volume 0).

Each axiom of the formal system is a scheme of tautologies. For the propositional logic axioms this was shown in Volume 0. For the subordination axioms this follows by the conditions on the valuations of atomic wffs. Since the single rule preserves truth in a model, each of the theorems of our system is a scheme of tautologies. And every formally valid inference is a scheme of valid inferences. Moreover, by the constructive proof of completeness of classical propositional logic¹⁸, this logic is complete, relative to these formal semantics.

Our reasons for accepting the conditions on valuations on atomic wffs are not reflected in this formal system. They come from the ideas of meaning and truth for our mass-process language developed in the preceding chapters. They are based on experience, but not the experiences of our ordinary lives, for those are grounded in and shaped by our thing-language.¹⁹ Even establishing a formal language I have had to use methods and concepts of thing-languages, giving inductive definitions. I cannot help but do this, for what we are doing here is looking at the idea of the world as process from the outside, as an anthropologist would look at a very different culture, trying to understand it while nonetheless filtering it through his or her own culture and language. I hope to have led you to begin talking a bit in this mass-process way so you can have some experiences in that way of being in the world. A monolingual speaker of a mass-process language has a wealth of experience in seeing and living the world as mass-process. But to convey our ideas to him or her, one of us must speak the other's language, and then perhaps we can ask whether our work is apt as an abstraction from what he or she knows—if abstraction is even an intelligible idea for a person raised in that language and culture.

We have no reason to think that if a realization of a wff of this language is a tautology relative to our informal semantics, our view of the world as process-mass, then the wff is a theorem of the formal system. The best and to my knowledge the only way to ensure that we have sufficient axioms for every informal tautology to be a theorem is to regularize the idea of context, making clear(er) the notion of model for this logic by formalizing and restricting what we mean by a context. Then we can try to prove a completeness theorem, either being successful or finding new axioms that we need.²⁰ How can we make the notion of context for a mass-process language precise?

Most naturally for us as inheritors of the western tradition of logic and reasoning is to formalize context in terms of time and location, which we'll do in the next section. But that will involve treating times and locations as things, so that we will be viewing mass-process through our own language and community.

In the last section of this text on reasoning about the world as process, we'll see how to regularize the idea of context with a minimal idea of time, thinking only

¹⁸ See Carnielli's and my *Computability*.

¹⁹ Note the use of the word "experience" as if that were a thing, whereas "EXPERIENCE" is most certainly a mass-process word.

²⁰ See my "Possibilities and Valid Inferences".

in terms of before and after, and that will be more compatible with the idea of the world as process-mass.

These are only two ways we can formalize the idea of a context in which a mass-process word is or is not a good/accurate/correct description. We could, perhaps, mark contexts by pointing, or by touch, or, if our noses were as sensitive as those of dogs, by smells. But that is another story.

**CONTEXTS GIVEN by
TIMES and LOCATIONS**

9 Times and Locations

The mass-process word “RAIN” is neither true nor false without a context. One way to provide a context is to say the when and where the mass-process word is meant to describe:

RAIN now, there

RAIN 3 p.m. September 12, 2018, Socorro

These are true or false. Can we use time and space to establish contexts in this way? To do so, it seems, would be to talk of times and places as things.

Time is process-mass. Time flows, time runs, time is a river. Space is process-mass. Space is all-encompassing, every part of space is space. Indeed, time and space are archetypal process-mass.

We do not count time; it is not a thing, nor is it composed of things. We measure time, we divide it up by measuring. We have standard measures. The first were days, then periods between moons, and then periods between solstices. Now we have more ways, more precise for talking about parts of the process-mass of time. We talk about hours, minutes, seconds, nano-seconds. We talk of weeks, months, years, decades, centuries. We measure with these relative to a fixed part of time, whether that be now or what we call 0 BC/AD, or when Juney died. Words like “yesterday” and “12:42 p.m. April 20, 2010” are ways we use to focus attention on some of the process of time. But we treat them as if they pick out things. This is not to deny their process-mass nature, but rather to pay attention to measures of time in a very restricted way. No less than Zoe-ing or dog-ing, there was yesterday-ing, though we choose not to look at it that way in our reasoning.

We do not count space; it is not a thing, nor is it composed of things. We measure space, we divide it up by measuring. The oldest measures used rocks, trees, and other parts of a landscape to mark off some area. Later cubits, or feet, or hand-lengths were used. Now we have more ways, more precise for talking about the process-mass of space. We use meters, cubic meters, light-years to divide up space with reference to some fixed location. We talk of the parcel of land described on a survey, we talk of the space enclosed by the Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem. None of these is a thing, for some of a mass is still mass, some of a process is still process. The path from my house to the river is mass-process, but I conceive of it as a thing in order to talk about some of the flux of space, to allow you, too, to focus your attention by dividing, measuring in the same way.

There is a great difference between how we measure time and how we measure space. We have fixed time markers in our language, each marking an interval, a mass of time within the mass of all time. We use these to talk about times. But we have no standard measures we use in our ordinary speech for space, a mass of space within the mass of all space. We cannot use a co-ordinate system to pick out regions

of space generally because, even discounting the difficulty of reconciling points of space denoted by numbers with the process of space, we have no idea how to give co-ordinates for the boundary of the corral at my ranch. What dividing we do of space is via talk of what is true about some of space, as when we describe a location as one in which Spot is barking and Dick is yelling, or via pointing and marking, as when we put up survey stakes. We use many ways to divide space, though no standard ones.

We have ways of talking about the archetypal masses of time and space as divided into parts. To the extent we believe such ways of measuring-dividing—treating times and locations as things—are compatible with a view of the world as process-mass, we can use them to devise a way to make descriptions of the world with our base mass-process words. Or at least in the hope of making some clearer bridge from our view of the world as made up of things and the world as process-mass, let's treat the results of measuring and dividing time and space as things. Viewed as things we can reason about them with classical predicate logic.

From Volume 2, we have the pure logic of space and time that we can use here. We have first a two-sorted language for predicate logic.

Vocabulary for times and locations as things

<i>time name symbols</i>	b_0, b_1, \dots	} <i>time terms</i>
<i>time variables</i>	t_0, t_1, \dots	
<i>location name symbols</i>	e_0, e_1, \dots	} <i>location terms</i>
<i>location variables</i>	l_0, l_1, \dots	
<i>time order predicate</i>	$— <_{\text{time}} —$	
<i>time part predicate</i>	$W_{\text{time}}(—, —)$	
<i>time equality predicate</i>	\equiv_{time}	
<i>location part predicate</i>	$W_{\text{location}}(—, —)$	
<i>location equality predicate</i>	\equiv_{location}	
<i>quantifiers</i>	\forall, \exists	

We use $t, w, t', w', w_0, w_1, \dots$ as meta-variables ranging over time terms, and $l, l', p, p', p_0, p_1, \dots$ as meta-variables ranging over location terms.

We can have different universes of time for a model, corresponding to different ways of staking out parts of the mass-process of time. We can have different universes of locations even more naturally, for we have no standard names for parts. We stake out parts of space with our descriptions, and we talk of those parts as things, and we find that what we are reasoning about in adopting a universe of locations are the ways we describe parts of that mass.

For our logic, we have the axioms of propositional logic and the usual axioms governing quantifiers in a two-sorted predicate logic, for example $\forall t \forall w A \rightarrow \forall w \forall t A$. We also assume that how we refer to times and things does not matter: our use of variables and names for them is extensional. I'll use t for t_1 , w for t_2 , t' for t_3 , w' for t_4 , l for l_1 , p for l_2 , and l' for l_2 .

Axioms for equality and extensionality

$$\forall t (t \equiv_{\text{time}} t)$$

$$\forall \dots \forall t \forall w (t \equiv_{\text{time}} w \rightarrow (A(t) \rightarrow A(w/t)))$$

where A is atomic and w replaces some
but not necessarily all occurrences of t in A

$$\forall l (l \equiv_{\text{location}} l)$$

$$\forall \dots \forall l \forall p (l \equiv_{\text{location}} p \rightarrow (A(l) \rightarrow A(p/l)))$$

where A is atomic and p replaces some
but not necessarily all occurrences of l in A

In Volume 2, we adopted assumptions about the nature of time and space that models must satisfy. The motivations/justifications for those, we were careful to note there, are compatible with viewing times and locations as parts picked out from the mass-process of time and space. So we adopt them here.

Axioms for time

W_{time} is a part-whole relation

$$\forall t W_{\text{time}}(t, t)$$

$$\forall t \forall w (W_{\text{time}}(t, w) \wedge W_{\text{time}}(w, t) \rightarrow (t \equiv_{\text{time}} w))$$

$$\forall t \forall w \forall t' (W_{\text{time}}(t, w) \wedge W_{\text{time}}(w, t') \rightarrow W_{\text{time}}(t, t'))$$

Parts determine times

$$\forall t \forall w ((t \equiv_{\text{time}} w) \leftrightarrow \forall t' (W_{\text{time}}(t', t) \leftrightarrow W_{\text{time}}(t', w)))$$

$<_{\text{time}}$ determines an ordering

$$\forall t \neg (t <_{\text{time}} t)$$

$$\forall t \forall w \forall t' ((t <_{\text{time}} w) \wedge (w <_{\text{time}} t') \rightarrow (t <_{\text{time}} t'))$$

Parts and wholes are unrelated in the ordering

$$\forall t \forall w (W_{\text{time}}(t, w) \rightarrow \neg (t <_{\text{time}} w) \wedge \neg (w <_{\text{time}} t))$$

Parts of times are related to other times in the ordering as the whole is related

$$\forall t \forall w \forall t' (W_{\text{time}}(t, w) \wedge (w <_{\text{time}} t') \rightarrow (t <_{\text{time}} t'))$$

$$\forall t \forall w \forall t' (W_{\text{time}}(t, w) \wedge (t' <_{\text{time}} w) \rightarrow (t' <_{\text{time}} t))$$

Times are intervals

1. $\forall t \forall w \forall t' (W_{\text{time}}(t, t') \wedge W_{\text{time}}(w, t') \rightarrow W_{\text{time}}(w, t) \vee W_{\text{time}}(t, w) \vee X_{<}(t, w) \vee X_{<}(w, t) \vee (t <_{\text{time}} w) \vee (w <_{\text{time}} t))$
2. $\forall t \forall w \forall t' (W_{\text{time}}(w, t) \wedge W_{\text{time}}(t', t) \wedge (w <_{\text{time}} t') \rightarrow \forall t_4 ((w <_{\text{time}} w' <_{\text{time}} t') \rightarrow W_{\text{time}}(w', t)))$

Overlapping times are not related in the ordering

$$\forall t \forall w (X_{<}(t, w) \rightarrow (\neg (t <_{\text{time}} w) \wedge \neg (w <_{\text{time}} t)))$$

$X_{<}(t_1, w)$ is a defined predicate that is true for t, w as references for t, w iff there is some time in both t and w and there is some time in t_1 that is before every time in w .

Axioms for locations

W_{time} is a part-whole relation

$$\forall l W_{\text{time}}(l, l)$$

$$\forall l \forall p (W_{\text{time}}(l, p) \wedge W_{\text{time}}(p, l) \rightarrow (l \equiv_{\text{location}} p))$$

$$\forall l \forall p \forall l_3 (W_{\text{time}}(l, p) \wedge W_{\text{time}}(l, l_3) \rightarrow W_{\text{time}}(l, l_3))$$

Parts determine locations

$$\forall l \forall p ((l \equiv_{\text{location}} p) \leftrightarrow$$

$$\forall l_3 (W_{\text{location}}(p', l) \leftrightarrow W_{\text{location}}(p', p)))$$

Note that the part-whole relations are for a time as part of another time, a location as part of another location, not for a time as part of “all” time, a location as part of “all” space.

Should we adopt more assumptions to reflect our view of time and space as mass, perhaps requiring that there is no smallest time or smallest location? We may wish to restrict our attention in our reasoning—that is, in a particular model—to only some of the flow of all, and doing so we might want to allow for smallest times or smallest locations. So let us adopt only these minimal assumptions from Volume 2, allowing others to be imposed for particular models.

We have a two-sorted pure logic of space and time. Now let's consider how to use times and locations to establish contexts for the truth or falsity of mass-process words.

10 Times and Locations for Context

We have mass-process words, as defined and conceived of in the logic of mass-process and subordination. We can give a context for, say, “RAIN” with a time and place. Then “RAIN” is either true or false at that time in that place.

This is compatible with treating “RAIN” as a predicate of a time and place—but not, as in the logic of physical things of Volume 2, also of an individual or individuals. We can mark “RAIN” and any other mass-process word as a predicate in this way. For example:

RAIN ($-_{\text{time}}, -_{\text{location}}$)

DOG ($-_{\text{time}}, -_{\text{location}}$)

(DOG/HOUSE) ($-_{\text{time}}, -_{\text{location}}$)

(CAT + MEOW) ($-_{\text{time}}, -_{\text{location}}$)

Each will be an atomic predicate. Note that an atomic predicate can have internal structure.

The time-marked blank is meant to be filled with a time term, and the location-marked blank with a location term in order to have a well-formed formula. So the following are well-formed formulas:

DOG ($-_{\text{time}}, -_{\text{location}}$) (January 6 1947, Omaha)

(DOG/HOUSE) ($-_{\text{time}}, -_{\text{location}}$) (September 13 2018, corral)

(CAT + MEOW) ($-_{\text{time}}, -_{\text{location}}$) (12:15 pm May 6 2011, Socorro)

RAIN ($-_{\text{time}}, -_{\text{location}}$) (t, l)

We take as primitive whether these are true or false in a model (with references supplied for the variables) just as in classical predicate logic we take “— is a dog” as true or false of Birta. In both cases we are building on an intuition and much motivation and discussion of when such an expression is true. This is not to say that I think that the idea of a mass-process word being a good/accurate/correct description at a time in a place is clear. It is certainly not familiar. But I hope to have led you in our work on the logic of mass-process and subordination to see how to use the idea well enough to start our investigations. We hope to come to a better understanding as we use it.

As an example, consider:

DOG ($-_{\text{time}}, -_{\text{location}}$) (February 6 2010, l)

where l refers to a location of my ranch Dogshine

This is true iff it is accurate to describe the part of flow at that time and in that place

with “DOG” . In thing-talk we’d say it’s true if there was a dog or there were dogs at that time and place. But “DOG” here is not a name, nor does it pick out anything. Words like “RUN”, “MUD”, “DOG + PLAY”, “DOG/HOUSE” used as mass-process words do not denote, they do not refer to anything in the world. They describe some of the flux of all. What we pick out is what we describe with the mass-process word with the help of time and location terms.

But doesn’t invoking time and space for establishing a context mean that we are constrained to talk only of the material world? There is no conception of material versus abstract in the view of the world as process-mass. There is no conception of the physical. There is only the flow of all, described in various ways. All is in time and space; the flow of all is not in time and space but time and space are the web and woof of the flow of all.

What assumptions shall we make about truth of a mass-process word in relation to times and locations? Consider again,

- (1) DOG ($\text{—}_{\text{time}}, \text{—}_{\text{location}}$) (February 6 2010, l)
 where l refers to a location of my ranch Dogshine

If this is true, then “DOG ($\text{—}_{\text{time}}, \text{—}_{\text{location}}$)” is true then of any location that encloses my ranch Dogshine, any location of which the location specified for l is a part, for example, the state of New Mexico. We adopt just as for the logic of physical things an assumption of the outward closure of truth for locations, where “E” stands for a mass-process word. Here I’ll give the principles syntactically because they’re easier to read.

Outward closure of truth for locations

$$\forall t \forall l [E(\text{—}_{\text{time}}, \text{—}_{\text{location}})(t, l) \rightarrow (\forall p (W_{\text{location}}(l, p) \rightarrow E(\text{—}_{\text{time}}, \text{—}_{\text{location}})(t, p)))]$$

If (1) is true, then it is true of any “smaller” time, too, that is any time that is within February 6 2010. And if it is true of every time within February 6 2010, it is true at February 6 2010. We adopt with the same motivation as for the logic of physical things an assumption of the downward and upward closure of truth in time.

Downward and upward closure of truth in time at a location

$$\forall t \forall l [E(t, l) \leftrightarrow \forall w (W_{\text{time}}(w, t) \rightarrow E(w, l))]$$

We have the mass-process words from the logic of mass-process and subordination. Should we incorporate all of that logic by including reasoning using “sub” for the subordination relation?

Subordination is about relating conceptions that mass-process words elicit, or it can be understood as relating ways of dividing up the flow of all, or we can under

stand it as codifying the correct use of words. It is a consequence of a subordination proposition such as “DOG sub ANIMAL” that in every context in which “DOG” is true, so, too, is “ANIMAL”. But that is not all there is to subordination. In a model meant to codify what (we believe) is true of our world now and in the past, we would have that in every context in which “UNICORN” is true, “AUTOMOBILE” is true, for “UNICORN” is true in no context. Yet we want “UNICORN sub AUTOMOBILE” false and “UNICORN sub ANIMAL” true, for those codify the conceptual relation or they mark correct uses of those words. We could have a model with so few locations and times that the following could be true:

$$\forall t \forall l ((\text{DOG} (-\text{time}, -\text{location}) (t, l) \rightarrow \text{HUMAN} (-\text{time}, -\text{location}) (t, l))$$

Yet, unless we are very committed nominalists, we won't want to say for that model “DOG sub HUMAN” must be true. We need to retain the logic of mass-process words and subordination, while linking it to truth in context with the following.

Subordination and truth in a context

$$(\text{E sub F}) \rightarrow \forall t \forall l (\text{E} (-\text{time}, -\text{location}) (t, l) \rightarrow \text{F} (-\text{time}, -\text{location}) (t, l))$$

I'm going to assume that what I've described is enough for a logic to be able to continue our discussions, leaving a full formal presentation for Chapter 19 when we have added more to our language and semantic assumptions.

Aside: Water everywhere

Some people who wish to analyze talk of masses in ordinary English say that “water” is a mass-term which refers to all water at all times and places.²¹ The water in the pond in my patio is part of that water, and similarly for other masses. But this seems too broad, indeed, a confusion of the term “water” being true of various times and places with the wish to have something corresponding to it, almost an abstract entity, which is what is at all those times and places. We do not say that my dog Birta is part of all dogs that are at all times and places; we may, if we are platonists, say there is a thing that is the collection of all dogs at all times and places and Birta is part of that, but to do so is a great way from our ordinary talk and demands a great deal of metaphysics beyond what most of us find plausible or necessary to explain the truth of what we say. In the view of the world as flux, “water” is a mass-process word which we understand to be true or false of particular times and locations. There is no water we can refer to that is of all times and places, for there is no largest time nor largest location we can talk about: to assume there is would be to deny the mass-process nature of time and location. To say that this water here and now is part of all water is to say no more than that “WATER(-time, -location) (t, l)” is true of here and now.²²

²¹ Willard Van Orman Quine says in *Word and Object*:

There is no reason to boggle at water as a single though scattered object, the aqueous part of the world. p. 98

²² But Harry C. Bunt in *Mass Terms and Model-Theoretic Semantics* presents a theory of parts for masses which is based on an atemporal, allocational conception of mass.

11 Examples of Formalizing: Predications

We are not formalizing reasoning from an ordinary language here. We are devising a way to talk about the world from a different perspective than our ordinary language allows. But what we mean by “the world” is not clear. What we think of as the world is surely formed by the language we use, as I hope to have led you to see in these chapters. Perhaps what we are trying to do here is create a new world, not denying that there is something “out there” but insisting that how we see is not a trivial addition to our sensory inputs or a clear lens to see precisely what can be seen in only one way. Still, I have no choice but to give examples in English, either as propositions which we can try to re-interpret or as descriptions of an experience we might have that we can try to cast in the view of the world as flux.

In order to make the examples and discussions easier to read, I will often delete the blanks in a predicate, since in all cases there will be two blanks, one for time and one for location. So instead of “(RAIN) ($-$ time, $-$ location) (t, l)” I’ll write “RAIN (t, l)”. I’ll also assume that we have a name “now” in our semi-formal language meant to pick out the present of the model.

Example 1 Birta is a dog.

Analysis This is thing-talk. Logicians call it a predication.

If what is meant is that Birta has some property, some quality, is a dog in some essential way, then we can formalize the example as:

(a) BIRTA sub DOG

Birta-ing is dog-ing. Not now, not always, but in the relation of those ways of dividing the world, a relation of concepts, or as a correct use of those words.

The proposition (a) is atemporal and alocational. It has as consequence the temporal-locational proposition:

(b) $\forall t \forall l (\text{BIRTA} (t, l) \rightarrow \text{DOG} (t, l))$

Whenever and wherever there is Birta-ing, there is dog-ing.

But (b) doesn’t reflect our ordinary use of names in English which supposes that “Birta” refers to something that exists. So for a temporal-locational formalization of (a), we should use:

(c) $\forall t \forall l (\text{BIRTA} (t, l) \rightarrow \text{DOG} (t, l)) \wedge \exists t \exists l \text{BIRTA} (t, l)$

But this could be true in a model if Birta were a human yet we don’t have enough locations in the model to distinguish where “BIRTA” is a good description from where “DOG” is a good description. This lack of enough locations or enough times to distinguish Birta-ing from dog-ing is comparable to using the predicate logic criterion of identity to evaluate the equality predicate in classical predicate logic,

which classifies two objects as the same if there are not enough predicates in a model to distinguish them.²³ Only here we are not trying to distinguish things but to distinguish Birta-ing from dog-ing.

We encounter the same problem in trying to formalize a reading of the example as in the present. Perhaps (describing in thing-talk) Birta was previously a beautiful princess. We can restrict (c) to the present rather than all times:

$$(d) \quad \forall l (\text{BIRTA}(\text{now}, l) \rightarrow \text{DOG}(\text{now}, l)) \wedge \exists l (\text{BIRTA}(\text{now}, l))$$

But this could be true in ways that we would not accept in thing-talk: Birta could be a human who in the present is always close to a dog, so close that we haven't enough locations in the model to distinguish them.

Perhaps, though, if the example is meant about the present, we could just restrict the subordination relation (a) to hold in the present, using a new form:

$$(e) \quad (\text{BIRTA sub DOG})(\text{now}, \text{here})$$

This would have as consequence that in any place at any time in the present, if it is correct to assert "BIRTA", then it is correct to assert "DOG", but that need not hold at times outside the present. That is, (d) would be a consequence of (e), but (e) would have primacy: it's not just that Birta-ing happens to be dog-ing now and here, but that the relation is fully conceptual.

But how could subordination change over time? How can a relation of concepts, or a relation of dividing up ways of describing the flow of all, or a correct use of words change? Maybe dog-ing was once fish-ing but no longer is fish-ing, now it is mammal-ing? I can imagine how once something was a fish and now is a dog, but I can't understand how all dogs were once fishes, and anyway that's not what's meant. There might not be any dog now that was once a fish. It's that at one time the concept of dog-ing was included in that of fish-ing, but now no longer is. A most basic requirement in our work in both formal and informal logic is that during a discussion, during any particular reasoning, we continue to use words in the same way. Colloquially, words do not change their meanings. Yet to take (e) as true as well as " $\exists t \exists l \neg (\text{BIRTA sub DOG})(t, l)$ " is to say that the relation between the concepts or ways of paying attention in the flow of all given by "BIRTA" and "DOG" have changed, or that what was once not a correct use of words now is a correct use of words.

Perhaps we could formalize the example not by way in terms of a conjunction:

$$\forall t \forall l ((\text{BIRTA}(t, l) \rightarrow (\text{BIRTA} + \text{DOG})(t, l))$$

But this could be true if it just happens that Birta was a human child, born outside in freezing weather, and the moment she was born she was licked and was touched by a dog to keep her warm until she was rescued the next day.

We can formalize the example as an atemporal subordination. We have no way

²³ See Chapter VI.D of *Predicate Logic*.

to formalize it as a temporal predication. This is not a fault of our logic but a reflection of how different the thing-view of the world is from the mass-process view.

Example 2 Birta is brown.

Analysis This is not meant as an atemporal proposition, unless you think that being brown is an essential property of a thing. Rather, Birta is brown now; later when she gets old she could be mostly grey.

We cannot use:

$$\forall l (\text{BIRTA}(\text{now}, l) \rightarrow \text{BROWN}(\text{now}, l)) \wedge \exists l (\text{BIRTA}(\text{now}, l))$$

This could be true in a model if it just happens that in every location now where there is Birta-ing there is also brown gerbil-ing, though she is what we would call in thing-talk black and white.

Instead, consider:

$$\begin{aligned} \forall l [\text{BIRTA}(\text{now}, l) \rightarrow (\text{BIRTA} + \text{BROWN})(\text{now}, l)] \\ \wedge \exists l (\text{BIRTA}(\text{now}, l)) \end{aligned}$$

Wherever there is Birta-ing, there also is Birta-ing mixed with brown-ing. Mixing Birta-ing and brown-ing can only be (it seems to me) if Birta is brown, at least if “BIRTA” describes what we would call a single dog. But the example does not assert that Birta is a dog. “Birta” could be used in English as a name for a chipmunk, a duck, a rock, a piston, a herd of buffalo, a collection of cars. Yet for each of those, conceived of in mass-process terms, if mixed with brown-ing would amount to what we would say with “Birta is brown”, and the formalization would be good.

Example 3 Birta is brown. Therefore, something is brown.

$$\begin{array}{l} \forall l [\text{BIRTA}(\text{now}, l) \rightarrow (\text{BIRTA} + \text{BROWN})(\text{now}, l)] \\ \wedge \exists l (\text{BIRTA}(\text{now}, l)) \\ \hline \exists l \text{BROWN}(\text{now}, l) \end{array}$$

Analysis We can’t say that there is something that is brown, but only that there is brown-ing. The example is valid by the principle of subordination of a conjunction to its conjuncts.

Example 4 Birta is not brown.

$$\forall l \neg (\text{BIRTA} + \text{BROWN})(\text{now}, l) \wedge \exists l (\text{BIRTA}(\text{now}, l))$$

Analysis If we accept the formalization in Example 2, this follows.

Example 5 Birta is not a cat.

Analysis Perhaps we could use:

$$\neg (\text{BIRTA sub CAT})$$

This says that the concept of Birta-ing is not contained in the concept of cat-ing. It does not preclude that (as we would say in thing-talk) Birta is a cat, just as “ \neg (BIRTA sub BROWN)” does not preclude that Birta is brown. As some philosophers would say, being a cat is not an essential property of Birta.

Perhaps we should use instead the time-and-location version of subordination:

$$\forall t \forall l (\text{BIRTA} (t, l) \rightarrow \neg (\text{CAT} (t, l)))$$

But that could be false even though Birta is not a cat if there were a field in which Birta is chasing a cat.

Nor can we use:

$$\forall t \forall l ((\text{BIRTA} (t, l) \rightarrow \neg (\text{BIRTA} + \text{CAT}) (t, l)))$$

Birta might have caught the cat.

There is a solution, however. We could use the negated context version of “BIRTA sub CAT”:

$$\neg [\forall t \forall l (\text{BIRTA} (t, l) \rightarrow \text{CAT} (t, l))]$$

This is equivalent to:

$$\exists t \exists l (\text{BIRTA} (t, l) \wedge \neg \text{CAT} (t, l))$$

At some time and location there is Birta-ing and not cat-ing, which in our thing-view would amount to Birta not being a cat.

Example 6 Birta is running.

$$\exists l (\text{BIRTA} + \text{RUN}) (\text{now}, l)$$

Analysis I think that this is a good formalization. How could there be Birta-ing mixed with running unless, as we conceive it in thing-talk, Birta is running?

If so, then we can similarly formalize:

$$\text{Birta is eating.} \quad \exists l (\text{BIRTA} + \text{EAT}) (\text{now}, l)$$

$$\text{Birta is sleeping.} \quad \exists l (\text{BIRTA} + \text{SLEEP}) (\text{now}, l)$$

But, as in Example 1, we cannot formalize:

Birta is (at present) hungry.

Birta is (at present) tired.

There seems to be a big difference between process predicates and classification predicates. In Volume 1, *The Internal Structure of Predicates and Names*, I argued that the difference tracks only how we use those predicates in English without a clear metaphysical basis.²⁴ Yet we can formalize:

$$\text{Birta is gentle.} \quad \exists l (\text{BIRTA} + \text{GENTLE}) (\text{now}, l)$$

And “gentle” in English would be a classification predicate, just as is “brown”.

²⁴ See particularly Appendix 3 there.

We derive the concepts for “DOG” and “RUN”, for “GENTLE” and “BROWN” from the English words “dog” and “run” and “gentle” and “brown”—we have no other choice in our limited work here. And so we carry with us the baggage of how we conceive of running and being a dog and being gentle and being brown in English into our mass-process language. Whether or how we can formalize a temporal predication or the negation of a temporal predication depends on the meaning of the English words in it that we have imported into our mass-process language.

We have the convention if not illusion that using our thing-language we can focus on just a dog. But we do not have a dog independent of all else even in our conceiving. The dog is brown or black, sitting or standing, wagging her tail or sleeping. Some philosophers say we can focus on the dog simpliciter, that thing independent of its properties. Others say this cannot be: any particular dog cannot be disentangled from its properties, whether those be essential ones or accidental of a particular time. But those properties are not other things. The idea that we can focus our attention on just one thing depends on our distinguishing between things and properties of things. But “DOG”, “BROWN”, “WAG + TAIL”, “BREATHE”, “SIT” are all mass-process words, all play the same role in our talk and reasoning about the flow of all. There is no difference between mass, process, quality, or property. There is only the flow of all described in different ways.

In a model of the way the world is now, we do not have contexts in which only “DOG” is true. Even though in English “dog” and “cat” are contrary properties of things (both cannot be true of one thing at a time, but both can be false), both “DOG” and “CAT” can be a good description of a context given by a time and location. There is no description that is complete enough to pick out some of the flow of all that is just dog-ing, even when we restrict our attention to my patio. Nor is it just location: I can point to my patio and say “DOG ” intending it to mean during the past week, and you could say “CAT” and be right, for you saw a cat there two days ago. To say that whatever is correctly described with “DOG” is not correctly described with “CAT” is to fall into thing-talk.

We can focus on, pay attention to just dog-ing by using “DOG”. That, we indicate, is what we’re concerned with in this context, not because it is the only description that can apply in the context, but that is all we are concerned with.

12 Examples of Formalizing

Example 1 Dick (to Tom): Be careful. *The paint there is wet.*

Analysis We can't formalize this in classical predicate logic because "paint" is a mass-term. Here we can use, for appropriate references for the variables:

(a) (PAINT + WET) (t, l)

This is to take "WET" as a mass-process word: look, see, there "WET". There can be wet-ing, though in English we demand that "wet" describe some stuff: wet paint, wet cat, wet weather.

I think that (a) is preferable to "(PAINT / WET) (t, l)" because at that time and location "WET" is a good description. And we have that as a consequence of (a) by the principle of subordination and truth in a context and the subordination of a conjunction to its conjuncts. Generally we have²⁵:

$$\forall t \forall l ((E + F) (t, l) \rightarrow E(t, l))$$

Example 2 Dick (to Tom): *The paint there is drying.*

Analysis It would seem that to formalize this we can use, for appropriate references for the variables:

(a) (PAINT + DRY) (t, l)

This is correct if we understand "DRY" as a process, dry-ing, which is the reading most compatible with our view of the world as process-mass. But then how can we formalize what Dick said later to Tom, "The paint is dry"?

In English we distinguish between drying and being dry. We might construe "dry" as an adjective to mean the completion of the process of drying and then use the methods of endings and beginnings developed in Volume 2. But there are many times and places where we talk of dry without assuming that the dryness is the end result of some drying. I look at Birta now and say that she's dry without thereby invoking the end of becoming dry. It seems that we need a mass-process word for being dry and not the process of drying and not the end of a process of drying.

We don't have this problem with "DOG", for we don't have in English an idea of becoming dog as opposed to being dog. We don't have this problem with "RUN", for we don't have in English the idea of a run-ing as opposed to run. But we do have this problem with "RED", for we have the word in English "reddening" for becoming red as opposed to being red.

Example 3 Dick and Tom are watching their friend Luis build an adobe home. Luis takes clayey mud, mixes it with straw, forms it into bricks, then dries those bricks in the sun. When he has enough bricks, he builds part of a wall, using more

²⁵ Compare the principle that + implies \wedge in *The Internal Structure of Predicates and Names*.

of the clayey mud and straw as mortar to bind the bricks together. Tom says to Dick, “I always thought that all mud is bad, but *some mud is useful*.”²⁶

Analysis How can we say in process-mass logic that some mud is useful?

The word “some” is acting as a quantifier. We talk of some mud, some candy, some water. We also talk of some dogs, some chairs, some houses. In English these kinds of quantification function very differently: one is meant to quantify over “parts” of a mass and the other to quantify over things. Yet they are the same in process-mass logic. We can describe in process-mass logic what “Some mud is useful” is meant to describe:

$$(a) \quad \exists t \exists l (\text{MUD} + \text{USEFUL})(t, l)$$

We can describe what we would say in English as “Some lions are fierce” with:

$$(b) \quad \exists t \exists l (\text{LION} + \text{FIERCE})(t, l)$$

The difference between (a) and (b) is not in the nature of the quantification, but in how we conceive and understand “MUD” and “LION” to describe the flux.

Example 4 *It’s raining.*

Analysis We would usually understand the example to mean that it’s raining here and now, where it’s spoken. Let’s suppose we have a name “here” in our semi-formal language.²⁷ Then we can formalize the example as:

RAIN (now, here)

What’s the point in formalizing this proposition? What relations between it and other propositions need to be respected for us to bother investigating it? From “That’s a dog” we can conclude that there is a dog, but what can we conclude from “It’s raining”? We can’t relate it to anything but “rain”: there is no subject.

We might assert:

$$(\text{RAIN (now, here)} \wedge \text{MAN (now, here)}) \rightarrow (\text{MAN} + \text{WET})(\text{now, here})$$

We could use this and the formalization of the example together in an inference.

Example 5 *Um ser superior cuida de nos.*

Analysis I heard a Brazilian friend say this, which we’d roughly translate into English as “A superior being takes care of us”. The word “ser” is a verb meaning “to be” in the sense of always or a considerable length of time. Here “ser” is made to do duty as a noun. Yet we cannot use “ser” as a base mass-process word because being, existing is how we describe things. Consider:

DOG (4:43 p.m. April 10 2010, *l*)

To say this is true of the location of my ranch is to say that there is dog-ing going

²⁶ Luis suggests that instead of talking they should be helping him.

²⁷ But see Chapter 44 of *Time and Space in Formal Logic* for problems with using such a name.

on at that time and place, and there is nothing more to say about existing. Similarly for mud-ing and running: there are no assertions of existence but only assertions of mass-process words at times and places.

Example 6 Unicorns don't exist.

Analysis We can become confused trying to reason with this sentence by asking what it is that doesn't exist. We resolve that problem in classical predicate logic by formalizing the example as:

$$\neg \exists x (\text{— is a unicorn}) (x)$$

We use the existence operator to say that there is no thing (in the universe of a model) of which “— is a unicorn” is true. In our process-mass logic we can formalize the example as:

$$\neg \exists t \exists l \text{ UNICORN} (t, l)$$

There is no time and location (in a model) at which “UNICORN” is a good/accurate/correct description.

Example 7 Leucippus . . . proclaimed that empty space—or the void—exists and that the atoms move in it. This was a revolutionary assertion for his day, since it was tantamount, in the language of the times, to maintaining the existence of that in which nothing exists.

B.A.G. Fuller and Sterling M. McMurrin, *A History of Philosophy*, p. 88

Analysis The oddity here is using the word “exists” for describing the void, as if it were a thing. In the logic of physical things from Volume 2 we don't talk of the void as a thing. Rather, we say:

$$\exists t \exists l \forall x \neg ((\text{— to exist}) (\text{—}_{\text{time}}, \text{—}_{\text{location}}, \text{—}) (t, l, x))$$

This is true iff there is a time and place at which no thing—in the universe of the model—exists. We cannot say that there is a time and place at which no thing whatsoever exists because we have no clear idea what we mean by “no thing whatsoever”.

In the process-mass view of the world, we don't talk of a void as a thing, nor do we talk of things or masses existing. We could say that there is a time and place at which no base mass-process word applies, but only if we were to allow for quantification over base-mass process words.

Example 8 Snow is white.

SNOW sub WHITE

Analysis The formalization is false (recall Example 1 of Chapter 6, p. 25). Also false is the temporal-locational consequence of it:

$$\forall t \forall l (\text{SNOW} (t, l) \rightarrow \text{WHITE} (t, l))$$

If the example is meant, however, as an assertion about the inherent nature of snow, it is an abstraction in the same way a scientific law is an abstraction. It serves as a guide to us in our understanding of the world: if we ignore all of the stuff we pick up on the sidewalk in New York two days after it snowed except for the crystalline part, if we ignore the soot and dust that is mixed with it, then that stuff is white. The crystalline part is what we take to be “really” snow, in the first steps of scientific analysis.²⁸ I don’t see how to make such assertions based on abstractions in our mass-process logic. But then I don’t see how to formulate in predicate logic scientific abstractions.

The example cannot be formalized in predicate logic because it uses the mass term “snow”.

Example 9 Suzy: Swimming is fun.

Analysis Suzy believes this. But swimming isn’t always fun, as Dick knows from when he fell out of a canoe and had to swim in cold water and was exhausted when he arrived at the shore. Similarly we say:

Running is good exercise.

Dieting is difficult.

These are not meant as omnitemporal, omnilocational assertions nor as telling us how to use words. Nor are they meant as talk about abstractions. They are more like rough generalizations: all else being equal, swimming is fun for me, running is good exercise for most people most of the time, dieting is usually difficult for most people. We can’t formalize these in our logic.

Example 10 Money is evil.

Analysis When someone says this we don’t understand it as a rough generalization but as a comment about the institution of money. The word “money” is shorthand for the social arrangements whereby we exchange goods in our society, and the assertion is a moral one about the nature of those arrangements. Social arrangements are not abstract, for they exist in time and place, but how we could formalize this example I don’t know.

Example 11 Suzy had an idea where Puff is.

Analysis Ideas in our common conception in thing-talk are quite odd. It’s not clear if we conceive of an idea as being of time or not. Did Einstein’s idea of time as relative exist before he had it? Did he discover it or was it part of his brain process? If part of his brain process, how can someone else have the same idea?

In the process view of the world we can take “IDEA” to be a base mass-process word and then say of a time and place:

²⁸ See “On Models and Theories” for a fuller discussion of this view of science.

(SUZY + IDEA) (*t, l*)

The description of that part of the flux conjoins the descriptions of Suzy-ing and idea-ing. There was idea-ing going on there. Still, we don't have a way to say what an idea might be about. That would require relating mass-process words.

13 Relating

Suzy brought her cat Puff to Dick and Zoe's home. Spot got excited.

(1) Puff is running from Spot.

To formalize this in classical predicate logic, we parse it as an atomic predicate “— ran from —” and two names, “Puff” and “Spot”. But that is an inadequate analysis of the structure of (1) because from (1) we can conclude:

Puff is running.

To respect inferences of this sort, we introduced in Volume 1 the idea of a variable restrictor which allows us to parse (1) as a predicate “— is running” and a variable restrictor “from —”, with one name “Spot” to fill the blank in that and one name “Puff” to fill the blank in the predicate. Taking account also of time and location (Volume 2), we could formalize (1) as:

$$\exists l [((- \text{ to run } -_{\text{time}}, -_{\text{location}}) / \text{from (Spot)}) (\text{Puff, now, } l)]$$

It's wrong to ask how we can formalize (1) in our mass-process logic. That sentence construes experience in terms of things and relations between them. But we can imagine the same scene construed in the view of the world as process. We can treat the names “Puff” and “Spot” as describing Puff-ing and Spot-ing, for which we can use “PUFF” and “SPOT”. Dubbing a location for that scene as “DZY” (Dick and Zoe's yard), we have both:

(PUFF + RUN)(now, DZY)

SPOT(now, DZY)

Each of these is a proposition: an accurate description of that time and place in the flow of all. But together they do not describe the scene of (1) because there is no “from”. We need to relate these two propositions:

(2) (PUFF + RUN)(now, DZY) from SPOT(now, DZY)

We are not relating a process-mass at one time and place to another process-mass at another time and place, for that is to conceive of process-mass words as names of things. We are relating descriptions of particular times and places in the flow of all. That is, we are relating propositions. The directedness, the relating of “from” is formalized as a propositional connective. Semantically it represents how a part of the flux of all is directed in some way towards another part of the flux of all. But those parts aren't things, they do not stand in a relationship. Indeed, they are not even parts but just some of the flow of all under particular descriptions. They do not have any properties or qualities. But the descriptions can be related with some kind of directionality, directedness, towards-ness, relatedness of the “one” part-

description to the other, which is as well as I can say it in English. There are two rivers in the Amazon, one clear and one muddy, and as they flow to the ocean they come together. At the juncture you can see the muddy river flowing into the clear river: the joining of the flows is directed in a way we indicate with “into”. The processes are not related: they are relating. So, too, Puff-ing + running is relating to Spot-ing, the relating of the flows being described with “from”, which I underline to stress it’s new role. What we previously viewed as variable restrictors in Volume 1—not only “from” and “into” but also “to”, “with”, and many others—in a process-mass view we understand as propositional connectives, not logical ones but *categorematic*.

But (1) is an incomplete description of the scene. In thing-talk, a fuller description is:

(3) Puff is running from Spot barking.

We have no way to formalize this in classical predicate logic with modifiers: “Spot barking” is not a thing, so no name for that can fill the blank in the variable restrictor “from (—)”. Here it is straightforward to give a formal description of the scene:

(PUFF + RUN)(now, DZY) from (SPOT + BARK)(now, DZY)

Or we could use a less complete description which shows that the names are inessential for our use of this *categorematic* propositional connective:

RUN(now, DZY) from BARK(now, DZY)

A general categorematic propositional connective

Suppose at the time and place of (3),

(4) Dick is watching Spot.

To formalize this in classical predicate logic with modifiers, we use a variable restrictor for direct objects, “obj (—)”, and then take account of time and space:

((— to watch —_{time}, —_{location})/obj(Spot)) (Dick, now, DZY)

The variable restrictor “obj (—)” is a general kind of directedness we can attach to any predicate.

How can we formalize in our mass-process language what (4) is meant to describe? We don’t want to use “obj”, for that suggests directedness towards an object. We need a way to indicate an equally general kind of directedness with process-mass. Let’s use “directed towards” as a propositional connective. Then we can formalize a process-mass interpretation of the scene that (4) describes:

(5) (DICK + WATCH)(*t, l*) directed towards (SPOT)(*t, l*)

Compounding uses of categorematic propositional connectives

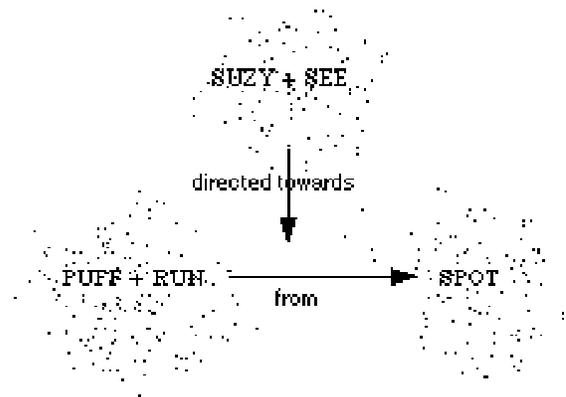
Suppose at the time of (1):

(6) Suzy sees Puff running from Spot.

We have no way to formalize this in classical predicate logic, for what's asserted—in thing-talk—is Suzy seeing what's described by a proposition: (6) is elliptical for “Suzy sees *that* Puff is running from Spot”. But in our mass-process logic we can formalize what (6) is meant to describe:

(7) (SUZY + SEE)(now, DZY) directed towards
 [(PUFF + RUN)(now, DZY) from (SPOT)(now, DZY)]

To do this we have to allow for a categorematic connective to join an atomic proposition with another that is a categorematic compound. What does that mean? The wff (2) describes a nexus, a view of the flux under distinct descriptions as a unity of some sort. The wff (7) describes a larger nexus. With considerable risk of being misleading, I'll try to picture what (7) describes.



Starting with atomic propositions we can iterate the use of categorematic connectives. This much we should allow. I do not have an idea what it would mean to join with a categorematic connective either quantified wffs or compounds using logical propositional connectives, and to do so would complicate the analyses a great deal. So let's allow no more complexity than iterating categorematic compounds. Moreover, until we find a need to extend our work, let's consider only binary categorematic connectives. I'll set out explicitly how to modify the formal language in the presentation of the entire formal logic in Chapter 19.

Semantics of categorematic propositional connectives

What is the relation of the truth-value of a wff such as (2), (5), or (7) to the semantic properties of its parts? In a model of classical predicate logic we take as primitive which objects “— ran from —” is true of. Here, we will take as primitive which atomic wffs can be connected with “from” to form a true wff.

That we take “applications” of these connectives as primitive is no worse than taking the application of “(— runs/from —)” as primitive in classical predicate logic with modifiers. It is also no better. If you thought that the presentation of classical predicate logic with modifiers was lacking because no compositional semantics were

given for restrictors modifying predicates, then you'll likely not be satisfied with this presentation in which the truth-value of (2) is not determined by the semantic values of its parts. In both cases I hope that you'll have an incentive to extend this work.

Though we cannot fully explain the truth-value of a proposition of a proposition of the form " $E(t, l) \underline{c} F(t', l')$ " in terms of the semantic values of " $E(t, l)$ " and " $F(t', l')$ " and the categorematic compound \underline{c} , we can note that, as in the examples, if the parts are not true then there is no description, no nexus: we can't relate what isn't. So if the whole is true, the parts must be true. Each categorematic connective c is a kind of conjunction.

Categorematic connectives are conjunctions

$$(E(t, l) \underline{c} F(t', l')) \rightarrow (E(t, l) \wedge F(t', l'))$$

Let's suppose that we understand "BARK" in a way that the following is true.

(8) BARK \approx DOG + VOCAL

Does it follow that:

(9) ((DICK + THINK) of BARK) \leftrightarrow ((DICK + THINK) of (DOG + VOCAL))

How could this fail? Could Dick's thinking be directed only toward bark-ing and not toward dog + vocalizing? Could how we describe the flow of all matter to the truth of a categorematic compound?

If (8) is true, the two mass-process words evoke the same concepts or (8) codifies a correct use of those words. But do they evoke the same concepts for Dick? I don't know how to consider that issue. Some say in thing-talk that Dick could think of Zoe under the name "Zoe" yet not think of her under the descriptive name "the woman that Matilda and Johnny saw in Dick and Zoe's yard". But in (9) there is no what that is the same. There is only the flow of all and different descriptions. Some of those descriptions may be equivalent (for what we're considering). But they aren't of something, of some "what". To say that there is some "what", is to reify parts of the flow of all. Mass-process words are descriptions that apply to some of the flow in some context. Equivalent descriptions are equally useful for describing. We can extend our rule of substitution of equivalent mass-process words to compound wffs.²⁹

Substitution of equivalent mass-process words If $E \approx F$, and $A(E)$ is an atomic proposition in which E appears, and $A(F)$ is $A(E)$ with F replacing some but not necessarily all occurrences of E , then $A(F)$ is true iff $A(E)$ is true.

²⁹ It is tempting to say that our logic is then extensional. But the question of extensionality does not arise for there is no thing to be described in two ways. In any case, the term "extensional" is unclear even in predicate logics. See the discussion in Chapter 13 of *The Internal Structure of Predicates and Names*.

14 Examples of Formalizing: Relating

Example 1 Spot was chasing Puff.

$$\begin{aligned} & \exists t \exists l (((\text{SPOT} + \text{CHASE}) (t, l) \text{ directed towards PUFF } (t, l)) \\ & \quad \wedge (t <_{\text{time}} \text{now})) \end{aligned}$$

Analysis It is easy to misread this and think of “PUFF” as marking a direct object of “(SPOT + CHASE)”.

Example 2 Dick wants to eat a steak.

Analysis We cannot formalize this in predicate logic because there is no object towards which Dick’s wanting is directed.³⁰ We cannot formalize this in process-mass logic because there is no process-mass description at a particular time and place towards which Dick’s wanting is directed.

Example 3 Dick heard Spot begin to bark.

$$\begin{aligned} & \exists t \exists l [(\text{DICK} + \text{HEAR}) (t, l) \text{ directed towards } (\text{SPOT} + \text{BARK}) (t, l) \\ & \quad \wedge (t <_{\text{time}} \text{now})) \wedge \exists t_1 ((t_1 <_{\text{time}} t) \wedge \\ & \quad \forall t_2 ((t_1 <_{\text{time}} t_2 <_{\text{time}} t) \rightarrow \neg \exists l_1 (\text{SPOT} + \text{BARK}) (t_2, l_1))] \end{aligned}$$

Analysis We can adapt to process-mass logic the methods of formalizing talk of beginnings and endings that we devised for things in time in Volume 2. I’ll let you formalize how to say what in thing-talk we might describe with “Dick heard Spot stop barking”.

Example 4 Socrates was shorter than Julius Caesar.

Analysis We cannot formalize this in classical predicate logic because we cannot interpret it atemporally: it purports to describe a relation of things in time and space, not some essential attributes of those. But if not atemporal, this is not a proposition because it lacks an indication of what times in the life of Socrates and of Julius Caesar their heights are meant to be compared. Suppose we make that explicit:

- (a) Socrates on January 1, 401 BC in Athens was shorter than Julius Caesar on March 1, 44 BC in Rome.

We still have no way to formalize this in the predicate logic of physical things because we have no way to talk of objects at different times and places within a single predication.

Understanding (a) in our process-mass way, the relation is between what we describe as Socrates-ing and as Julius Caesar-ing at those times and places. Letting t_1, l_1 stand for the time and place specified for Socrates-ing, and t_2, l_2 for the time

³⁰ See Chapter 29 of Volume 2.

and place specified for Julius Caesar-ing, we can give a description of the world that (a) is meant to describe:

SOCRATES (January 1 401 BC, Athens) shorter than
JULIUS CAESAR (March 1 44 BC, Rome)

Here “shorter than” relates two atomic propositions as a categorematic propositional connective to yield a new proposition. What we take in predicate logic to be a comparison, we take here to be a connective of descriptions of parts of the flux of all.

Example 5 Last week Dick and Tom were downtown and suddenly Zoe came running around a corner looking behind her. Dick said to Tom:

(a) *Zoe is running from something.*



Analysis What could that something be? It might be an accident she’s seen, a vicious cat, an hallucination, the sparking of a wire, water gushing from a standpipe, skunk odor. Many of the possibilities of what she is running from would not be things in the sense in which we reason about them in predicate logic, so to formalize (a) in predicate logic with a quantifier and variable for “something” would be wrong. How can we formalize (a) if we don’t know what Zoe is running from?

The word “something” in (a) should be taken in our mass-process view as some atomic proposition of a time and place. If we were to allow quantification over mass-process words, assuming we have references for the variables, we could use “ $\exists E ((ZOE + RUN)(t_1, l_1) \text{ from } E(t_2, l_2))$ ”. To do this we would have to allow quantifying over ways to describe the flow of all, which is to reify them: we’d have to have a universe of such ways. That’s wrong.

But more, in the picture at (a) Zoe could be just running from, with a general anxiety of there being a reason to run from without any idea of something she is running from.³¹ In (a) the pronoun “something” is as much a dummy as “it” is in “It’s raining”. Just as informatively Dick could have said:

(b) *Zoe is running from.*

It’s not that (a) and (b) are equivalent: (a) is a bad way we are forced to talk because English is demanding of subjects and objects; (b) is more accurate as a description of the world that Dick is trying to give.

How can we formalize (b) in our mass-process language and logic?³² We

³¹ See “The Directedness of Emotions” for a fuller discussion.

³² In classical predicate logic with restrictors perhaps we could allow for a non-variable version of “from”, writing “ $((- \text{ run})/\text{from})(Zoe)$ ”. That would follow from “ $((- \text{ run})/\text{from})(\text{Puff})(Zoe)$ ”, but “ $\exists x ((- \text{ run})/\text{from}(x))(Zoe)$ ” would not follow from it. See p. 73 of Volume 1, *The Internal Structure of Predicates and Names*.

have no guide, for it is not a natural way to talk in English; it arises only by reflection on the nature of what we do and think. I don't know if speakers of some mass-process language conceive of their experience in this way. So all I can do is suggest some possibilities.

We've taken "from" to be a binary propositional connective. To formalize (b) we could use it as a unary connective, too. Then, assuming references for the variables, and placing the unary connective before the proposition, we'd have:

(c) from ((ZOE + RUN)(t, l))

But what sense do we have of (c)? We seem to need some property or quality of the proposition "(ZOE + RUN)(t, l)" or perhaps of "(ZOE + RUN)". We could just take the truth-value of (c) as primitive, assuming as a meaning axiom:

$$\forall t \forall l \forall t' \forall l' (E(t, l) \text{ from } F(t', l')) \rightarrow \text{from}(E(t, l))$$

Another categorematic propositional connective might have a different meaning axiom.

An alternative is to view "from" in (b) as a modifier of "Zoe is running", not modifying the proposition but the mass-process word:

$$((ZOE + RUN)/\text{from})(t_1, l_1)$$

To do this, we'd have to follow up on the idea of using modifiers that aren't mass-process words, which we considered at the end of Chapter 7. We'd have no more problems with this semantically than we had with modifiers in Volume 1 (which was bad enough). But then we'd have two uses of the same word "from":

"from" as a binary propositional connective

"from" as a modifier

Each seems well-motivated. They would be connected by:

$$\forall t_1 \forall l_1 \forall t_2 \forall l_2 [(E(t_1, l_1) \text{ from } F(t_2, l_2)) \rightarrow (E/\text{from})(t_1, l_1)]$$

The converse would be false.

Example 6 Spot's barking caused Dick to wake up.

Analysis If the world is made up of things, and propositions are about properties that things have or relations among things, then it is natural to think that causes are due to things. A cause is or comes from a power in a thing; cause and effect is a relation between things. Since ancient times speakers of our languages have held such a view. How, then, can a view of the world as process allow for cause and effect?

The idea that a cause is a power in a thing, that things have powers inherent in them as if they were creatures with will, has been thoroughly abandoned in the sciences.³³ Requiring that things be at the heart of causal analyses leads people to

³³ See pp. 41–42 of "Reasoning about Cause and Effect".

view waves, weather, indigestion to be things. Or it leads to the view that the things that are causally related are events.

We do not have to take barking to be a thing nor Spot's barking to be an event to give a causal analysis of the example. We can describe the purported cause with:

(a) Spot barked.

We can describe the purported effect with:

(b) Dick woke up.

Whatever causes and effects are, we can describe "them" with propositions.

Those propositions need not be about things. Indeed, it's hard to understand barking as a thing. We can say in our mass-process language what (a) and (b) are meant to describe, where t_1, l_1 and t_2, l_2 are given appropriate references:

(c) (SPOT + BARK) (t_1, l_1)

(d) (DICK + AWAKE) (t_2, l_2)

For there to be cause and effect, (c) must be properly related to (d). That is, "cause" can be understood as a relation on propositions. Can we treat it as a categorematic propositional connective?

(SPOT + BARK) (t_1, l_1) cause (DICK + AWAKE) (t_2, l_2)

For this to be true, we must have³⁴:

- The cause happened (the proposition describing it is true).
- The effect happened (the proposition describing it is true).
- The cause precedes the effect.
- It is nearly impossible for the cause to happen (be true) and the effect not to happen (be false)—given some normal conditions.
- The cause makes a difference—if the cause had not happened (been true), the effect would not have happened (been true).
- There is no common cause.

The first two conditions require that cause is a kind of conjunction, like other categorematic connectives. The third requires that $t_1 <_{\text{time}} t_2$. But the fourth and fifth conditions require importing the metalogic into the logic and characterizing normal conditions. That is beyond any obvious formal analysis. So we won't take cause to be a categorematic propositional connective.

Still, this discussion leads us to an understanding of cause-and-effect that is not static, not just a relation of ways the world can be, but a kind of transformation, a kind of function.

³⁴ These conditions are given in my textbook *Critical Thinking*, and the analysis is defended in "Reasoning about Cause and Effect".

Example 7 Functions

Analysis In our ordinary speech, when we talk about a function we understand some kind of process or connection. We say that the volume of a gas is a function of the pressure and temperature, understanding it somehow as a physical or perhaps causal connection. We speak of addition of counting numbers as a function of two numbers, understanding that as a procedure to obtain a new number from two given ones. We speak of the tangent of an angle, understanding that as a ratio we calculate from co-ordinates of the point where the angle intersects a unit circle.³⁵

Mathematicians in the 19th century found that the notion of function as process did not help to resolve problems in reasoning with infinitesimals in the calculus. They found that the notion of a function as a procedure impeded deriving theorems about functions. So they abstracted from the notion of a function as process or procedure to view a function as just a correlation between things. The volume of a gas as a quantity is abstracted to be a number that is correlated to numbers giving the pressure and temperature of the gas; measurement and causal relations are ignored. Addition of counting numbers is abstracted to correlating a number to a pair of numbers, for example, 7 is correlated to 3 and 4; actual counting as the basis of addition is ignored. The tangent of an angle is a correlation of a real number to a real number; the procedure of thinking through how the angle intersects a unit circle yielding a ratio of two numbers is ignored. The procedures or processes are what establish the correlations, but once we have the correlations we ignore those procedures or processes. We simply have the correlations and take those to be the functions.

We can recapture the idea of a function as a transformation by considering it as relating how the world is described in one proposition to how the world is described in another proposition. Or at least some functions can be thought of this way. That relating is what we do here with categorematic propositional connectives. Functions treated this way are no different from other categorematic connectives, such as from and to. The problem of representing partial functions arises in classical predicate logic because functions there are name-makers, and we have to consider, for example, what thing is named with $\sqrt{-2}$ or with $3/0$. Here, we are relating propositions, and what is nonsensical is simply false.

I hope someone will investigate more how we can deal with functions in our mass-process logic of contexts given by times and locations.

³⁵ This and the succeeding paragraph are from *The Internal Structure of Predicates and Names*.

15 Examples of Formalizing: Describing Locations

Example 1 Spot is barking to the left of Dick.

Analysis Viewing Spot and Dick as physical things, “to the left of” is a location restrictor: it orients us in space, in this case relative to Dick.³⁶

How can we formalize in process-mass logic what the example is meant to describe? There is no Spot and no Dick as things; there is only Spot-ing and Dick-ing at particular times and locations. We need to assert a relation between those.

$$\exists l_1 \exists l_2 ((\text{SPOT} + \text{BARK})(\text{now}, l_1) \text{ to the left of DICK}(\text{now}, l_2))$$

Dick-ing here gives us orientation as much as Dick as a thing does in predicate logic.

Example 2 There is a place to the left of Dick where Spot is barking.

Analysis The formalization is the same as for the previous example.

Example 3 The place where Spot is barking is to the left of where Dick is now.

Analysis The difference between this and the previous example is the use of “the”. We often talk about “the location” or “the time” as if those were clearly referring when they rarely are. Here, with space and time both understood as process-mass, the idea that we can specify a unique location or a unique time for a wff to be true is more than problematic. There seems to be no good motive and much reason not to add to process-mass logic a method of generating descriptive names for locations and times.

Example 4 The place where Spot bit Puff is to the left of where Dick is now.

$$\exists l_1 \exists l_2 \exists t (([(\text{SPOT} + \text{BITE})(t, l_1) \text{ directed towards PUFF}(t, l_1)] \text{ to the left of DICK}(\text{now}, l_2)) \wedge (t <_{\text{time}} \text{now}))$$

Analysis The formalization says that there is a time before now and a place where Spot-ing and bite-ing was directed towards Puff-ing and that place is to the left of where Dick-ing is going on now.

In taking this formalization we would not be talking about the location in relation to another location so much as the location where something “happened” in relation to where something else is now “happening”. This is to take to the left of as a relation between descriptions of the flux and not as between locations. But how else could we do this if we are to have orientation?

Example 5 Spot is barking in front of Dick and between Suzy and Tom.

Therefore, there is a place that is in front of Dick and between Suzy and Tom.

Analysis How shall we take account of “between”? If we extend process-mass

³⁶ See Chapter 45 of Volume 2, *Time and Space in Formal Logic*.

logic to allow for “between” to be treated as a ternary categorematic propositional connective, we could formalize the premise as:

$$\begin{aligned} & \exists l_1 \exists l_2 \exists l_3 \exists l_4 [(\text{SPOT} + \text{BARK}) (\text{now}, l_1) \text{ in front of DICK} (\text{now}, l_2)) \\ & \wedge ((\text{SPOT} + \text{BARK}) (\text{now}, l_1) \text{ between (SUZY} (\text{now}, l_3) , \text{TOM} (\text{now}, l_4)))] \end{aligned}$$

Or since evaluating “between” does not depend on orientation, we could adopt a pure location-predicate “between ($\text{—}_{\text{location}}$, $\text{—}_{\text{location}}$, $\text{—}_{\text{location}}$)”. But that is problematic, as we saw in Example 9 of Chapter 46 of *Time and Space in Formal Logic*.

How shall we formalize the conclusion? It says that there is a place, and describes it not by “what is happening” there but in relation to other places which are given by mass-process descriptions. The only way we can talk about a location absent a mass-process description that holds of it is to use W_{location} , and that is not helpful here.

We could introduce a location-existence predicate “exist ($\text{—}_{\text{location}}$)” into process-mass logic as part of the pure location vocabulary. Then we could allow categorematic propositional connectives to connect not only categorematic atomic wffs but also atomic propositions of the form “exist ($\text{—}_{\text{location}}$) (l)”. In that case we could formalize the conclusion of the example as:

$$\begin{aligned} & \exists l_1 \exists l_2 \exists l_3 \exists l_4 ((\text{exist} (\text{—}_{\text{location}}) (l_1) \text{ in front of DICK} (p, l_2)) \\ & \wedge (\text{exist} (\text{—}_{\text{location}}) (l_1) \text{ between (SUZY} (p, l_3) , \text{TOM} (p, l_4)))) \end{aligned}$$

Or we could allow for locational connectives that would relate a term for a location to an atomic wff. Then we could formalize the example as:

$$\begin{aligned} & \exists l_1 \exists l_2 \exists l_3 \exists l_4 ((l_1 \text{ in front of DICK} (p, l_2)) \wedge \\ & (l_1 \text{ between (SUZY} (p, l_3), \text{TOM} (p, l_4)))) \end{aligned}$$

Either approach would complicate our process-mass logic considerably.

Or we could say that our talk of times and places as things is meant only to facilitate reasoning about the flow of all. We need to be able to make assertions about the existence of times and places solely in relation to other times and places in order to ensure that our conception of time and space is adequate for reasoning about mass-process. Those assumptions are made in the pure language of space and time. It is not a flaw in our theory that we cannot relate a location absent any description of what is happening there to other locations that are picked out by what is happening at them. In that case, we can do no more than use the formalization of the premise as the formalization of the conclusion, too.

16 Referring

Reference is most often understood in terms of picking out things. But in our ordinary speech we pick out more than things. We point and say “this mud”, we talk about the barking that was near the corral last night. Drawing attention, whether that be thought of in our ordinary speech as describing a thing, a mass, or a process, is referring, too. Referring to things, as we’ve analyzed that in previous volumes, is only one kind of referring.

We need a way to refer in our logic because we want to take account in our speech and reasoning of stability and change. If we can only describe process-mass, we can talk of dog-ing here and now, we can talk of dog-ing there and then, but not the continuity of this dog-ing with that dog-ing, nor how this dog-ing was conjoined with sleep-ing and now is conjoined with awake-ing.

When I point and say “this mud” I direct your attention to some place now where that description applies. I am referring to the mud-ing, not to some part of the flow of all; the time and place only facilitate how to pay attention. When I talk about the barking near the corral last night, I direct your attention to some place at some time in the past where “BARK” applies. I am not pointing to a part of the flow of all, but to where and when “BARK” applies.

If “DOG(t, l)” is true at a time in a place, then that wff directs our attention to “the” dog-ing that is going on there, whether that be, in thing-talk, one dog barking, or two dogs sleeping, or a pack of bloodhounds following a scent baying, or a dead dog. Likewise, if “MUD(t, l)” is true at a time in a place, then that wff directs our attention to “the” mud-ing there, whether that be a single spot of mud on a sidewalk, or a rain-drenched clayey path in a forest, or several patches of mud in a field. If “RUN(t, l)” is true at a time in a place, then that wff directs our attention to “the” running there, whether that be what we would describe in thing-talk as Birta running after a rabbit or 302 people running in a marathon. We need a way to use these words again to refer to what they described at that time in that place.

Local mass-process words

I can direct your attention to the dog-ing now here in the patio with the following:

- (1) DOG (—time, —location) (now, patio)

That’s true. I’d like to tell you that this dog-ing was also in the corral last night. How can I do that?

We can use (1) to create a new mass-process word:

- (2) \llbracket this DOG (—time, —location) (now, patio) \rrbracket

This establishes a concept, a way of dividing up the flow of all, as much as “RUN”. And that’s because (1) is true. Normally we do not inquire into how a concept of a

mass-process word is established or given. Simply, “DOG” can be used by us as a way of describing in the flow of all. But with (2), the new concept is established with a time and location relative to our understanding of “DOG”. It is a local version of “DOG”, a *local mass-process word*. Using our abbreviations, let’s write (2) as:

(3) \llbracket this DOG (now, patio) \rrbracket

Certainly, (3) is true of now and the patio, for that’s exactly how it was meant to describe. That is, the following is true:

\llbracket this DOG (now, patio) \rrbracket (now, patio)

The mass-process word (3) gives a restricted concept of dog-ing. That is dog-ing, too. We have either conceptually or as a correct use of words:

(4) \llbracket this DOG (now, patio) \rrbracket sub DOG

Now I can say that the dog-ing in the patio now was in the corral last night:

(5) \llbracket this DOG (now, patio) \rrbracket (last night, corral)

The mass-process concept word established in relation to now and the patio with “DOG” is true of last night in the patio.

Suppose (5) is true. That does not mean that (3) describes “all” of the dog-ing in the corral last night. It could be that Birta is in the patio now, while last night both Birta and Bidu were in the corral. What we have is that by (4) the following is true:

DOG (last night, corral)

And we can form:

(6) \llbracket this DOG (last night, corral) \rrbracket

And this is true of last night in the corral:

\llbracket this DOG (last night, corral) \rrbracket (last night, corral)

But as just pointed out, the following can be false:

\llbracket this DOG (last night, corral) \rrbracket (now, patio)

Change

Now we can say:

(6) (\llbracket this DOG (now, patio) \rrbracket + AWAKE) (now, patio)

\wedge (\llbracket this DOG (now, patio) \rrbracket + SLEEP) (last night, corral)

Suppose this is true. That doesn’t mean that all of the dog-ing last night in the corral was mixed with sleep-ing, for Bidu could have been awake and alert for coyotes. Nor does it mean that Birta has one property now and had a different property last

night. It means that the dog-ing here now was mixed with awake-ing, and the same dog-ing was mixed with sleep-ing last night in the corral. We pick out what we shall consider stable in our talk with a local mass-process word, and then find out whether it applies, how it applies, and with what it applies at various times in various locations. That (5) is true does not mean that the dog-ing now in the patio existed last night in the corral. That is thing-talk. We're not talking about existence: a local version of a mass-process word does not pick out something that exists. It only provides a way to describe with a time-and-place restricted mass-process word.

To make that clearer, suppose I direct your attention to an odd smell now in the patio with:

SMELL (now, patio)

Then I can say that the same smell was in the corral last night:

[[this SMELL (now, patio)]] (last night, corral)

Suppose then that the following is true:

([[this SMELL (now, patio)]] + WIND) (now, patio)

∧ ([[this DOG (now, patio)]] + WATER) (last night, corral)

That does not mean that a thing that's now in the patio had one property and that in the corral last night it had another, unless you think that any time we use "this", as in "this smell", we have to be talking about a thing. The mass-process word "[[this SMELL (now, patio)]]" can be used to refer, but not to something that has properties.

Open local mass-process words

We can use variables for times and locations to form local mass-process words, too, so long as those are assigned reference. For example, let:

(6) t_1 have reference now

l_1 have reference the patio

t_2 have reference last night

l_2 have reference the area in the corral

According to what we assumed above, the following are then true:

DOG (t_1, l_1)

DOG (t_2, l_2)

And so relative to these assignments of references, we can form (abbreviating):

[[this DOG (t_1, l_1)]]

[[this DOG (t_2, l_2)]]

These are “open” local mass-process formulas. Each establishes a concept, a mass-process word for referring, but only because the variables in them are assigned reference as at (6). Then according to what we assumed in the last section, the following are true:

[[this DOG (t_1, l_1)]] (t_1, l_1)

[[this DOG (t_1, l_1)]] (t_2, l_2)

[[this DOG (t_2, l_2)]] (t_2, l_2)

But we need not have:

[[this DOG (t_2, l_2)]] (t_1, l_1)

To say that relative to the references at (6), “[[this DOG (t_1, l_1)]]” establishes the same concept as “[[this DOG (now, patio)]]”, that they are equivalent under subordination. But for that we’ll have to talk about subordination relative to an assignment of references, which I’ll leave to the next chapter.

The same?

But what do we mean by “the same”? What do we mean by saying that the same smell-ing that’s in the patio now was in the corral last night? The same mud-ing? The same running? What is the same dog-ing?

What we mean by “the same” is primitive, fundamental, whether talking of things or the flow of all. In thing-talk we become tongue-tied trying to say what we mean by identity, by this thing here being the same as that thing to which we referred earlier. We talk about properties of “the thing”, and essential properties, but at best what we can do is try to draw out some important characteristics of that notion, not reduce it to any other semantic one. Here, we can talk about continuity over time, about our perception of stability in the flux, but at best what we can do is try to draw out some important characteristics of our idea of sameness of the flow under particular descriptions.

Whatever this notion of sameness, it is not an identity of things, even if what we are talking about in our process language would be characterized as a thing in English. No two dog-ings are identical. There is no idea here of unchanging stability, for all is flux and process. Rather, we mean that describing this in the flux (pointing) is somehow continuous with describing that in the flux (pointing). There is some likeness that justifies our saying that the descriptions pick out the same.

Suppose “DOG” is true at t, p because the only dog-ing going on there is Birta-ing; in thing-talk it’s true because Birta is there and she’s the only dog there. Suppose it is also true at t', p' for the same reason. We think in thing-talk that Birta is a stable thing and that she is located at the one time and place and at the other, so that what this wff picks out at the first time is a slice of Birta in time, and what it

picks out at the second is another slice of Birta in time. But how can those be the same if, for example, t is very much longer than t' or if at the first time Birta is barking and at the second she is sleeping? It is not time-slices of a thing that are the same. It is what we are paying attention to, dog-ing only, that is the same. What we have is process under various descriptions, and the process, the dog-ing at the one time and place is the same process, dog-ing, at the other time and place—though that way makes it sound as if we were considering processes as things. What we have are words we use for descriptions, and sometimes a local version of one can be understood to apply in another context. This sameness, this likeness does not assume a notion of a thing continuous in time.

Continuity of reference in time

With t standing for now as I write and l for the location of my patio, each of the following is true:

DOG (t, l)

MUD (t, l)

SLEEP (t, l)

So relative to those references for t and l , each of the following local mass-process words can be used for referring:

- (7) (a) \llbracket this DOG (t, l) \rrbracket
 (b) \llbracket this MUD (t, l) \rrbracket
 (c) \llbracket this SLEEP (t, l) \rrbracket

What (7a) picks out at that time and place is the entirety of dog-ing there; what (7b) picks out at that time and place is the entirety of mud-ing there; what (7c) picks out is the entirety of sleeping there.

The entirety of dog-ing has continuity in time: if, in thing-talk, one of the dogs were to be killed by a mountain lion, then at that later time (7a) is not true in any place. If all of the patches of mud in the patio dry up and then it rains and is muddy in exactly the same places again, at the later time it's not the same mud-ing as before: (7b) at that later time is not true in any place. If Birta is sleeping in the patio, wakes up, then goes back to sleep again, it's not the same sleeping as before: (7c) at that later time is not true in any place.

The notion of “same” in the world as process requires continuity in time. If any of the referring words at (7) is true of a later time, it must be true at all times in between the time we assigned to t and the later time—in some place or places.

But what place or places? Suppose that “ \llbracket this DOG (t, l) \rrbracket ” is true now in Dick and Zoe's yard and was true earlier in the day in a small location around the bus stop (think: Spot is here now and was at the bus stop earlier). It seems there should be a continuous path of locations from the bus stop to Dick and Zoe's yard in which

“[[this DOG (t, l)]]” is true in a continuous path of time from that earlier time to now. I don’t know how to formulate such a condition with the vocabulary of space and time we have, just as I failed to see how to enforce a condition of continuity in location for objects in the classical predicate logic physical things in Volume 2 (Chapter 36).

Complex descriptions for referring

Dick asks Zoe why she’s screwing up her nose. She says she smells the same skunk odor that was here yesterday. Suppose:

t_3 has reference when Dick and Zoe are talking

l_3 has reference a small location where Dick and Zoe are

t_4 has reference the day previous to when Dick and Zoe are talking

With those references, we can use mass-process talk for what Zoe described in thing-talk:

(ZOE + SMELL) (t_3, l_3) directed towards
[[this (ODOR/SKUNK) (t_4, l_3)]] (t_3, l_3)

That is, Zoe-ing + smelling was directed toward skunk odoring that was the same as the skunk odoring at the earlier time. From this, because categorematic connectives are conjunctions, we can conclude:

[[this (ODOR/SKUNK) (t_4, l_3)]] (t_3, l_3)

And from this we can conclude both:

(ODOR/SKUNK) (t_3, l_3)

(ODOR/SKUNK) (t_4, l_3)

We can also use a local mass-process word as a modifier, as in:

ODOR / [[this SKUNK (t_4, l_3)]]

And we can use that in a wff:

(ODOR / [[this SKUNK (t_4, l_3)]]) (w, p).

In thing-talk we might say the odor at w, p is from the skunk (or skunks) at t_4, l_3 .

We can use local mass-process words in the same way as we used any mass-process word before.

Mistaken referring

We can be mistaken in our referring. You might think that some sheep are in the corral now and use:

(8) [[this SHEEP (now, corral)]]

But I've moved them. So this word picks out nothing. So it can't be true of any time or place. That is, for any assignment of references to t and l , the following is false:

[[this SHEEP (now, corral)]] (t, l)

This seems like "UNICORN". But there's a difference. "UNICORN" is meaningful, just not a good description of any time and place. But (8) does not establish a concept we can use to see if it's true or false of a time and place. It's nonsense—like talking about the man who wasn't there on the stair yesterday. As nonsense it yields nonsense when used as part of any other mass-process word. So the following are nonsense:

DOG + [[this SHEEP (now, corral)]]

IDEA / [[this SHEEP (now, corral)]]

It makes no sense to talk of dog-ing mixed with some sheep-ing when we're not describing any sheep-ing. We can't talk about an idea of the sheep-ing in the corral if we're mistaken in describing sheep-ing. What is nonsense is false, as we've assumed in all our work. So for any assignment of references to t and l , the following are false:

(DOG + [[this SHEEP (now, corral)]]) (t, l)

(IDEA / [[this SHEEP (now, corral)]]) (t, l)

In contrast, "IDEA/UNICORN" can be true of a time and place, say, yesterday when Suzy was at home thinking of unicorns.

Why not get rid of such nonsense by requiring that $E(t, l)$ has to be true in order for "[[this $E(t, l)$]]" to be a part of our language? If t or l is a variable, then for some assignments $E(t, l)$ could be true and so "[[this $E(t, l)$]]" would be meaningful, while for some assignments $E(t, l)$ could be false and it would not be meaningful. Giving semantic criteria for an inscription to be a formula leads to major confusions: we can't even give an inductive definition of the formal language.³⁷

Some definitions and principles

To bring together these discussions, here are definitions and statements of principles that will be the basis for extending our formal logic in Chapter 19.

Local mass-process words Given any mass-process word E , we can form the expression:

[[this $E(\text{—time, —location})(t, l)$]]

It is a *local mass-process word* or *this-formula*. Informally, we abbreviate it as [[this $E(t, l)$]].

³⁷ See "On the Error in Frege's Proof that Names Denote" in *Reasoning and Formal Logic*.

If either of t or l is a variable, then $\llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket$ is an *open local mass-process word* or *open this-formula*. Given an assignment of references σ , $\llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket$ is a *local mass-process word relative to σ* .

What we previously called mass-process words are distinguished as those in which no term appears; we call those *ordinary* mass-process words.

A local mass-process word can be used to form complex formulas in the same way as an ordinary mass-process word.

Non-referring local mass-process words

For any assignment of references σ , if $E(t, l)$ is false, then $\llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket$ is *non-referring relative to σ* .

If neither t nor l is a variable, then $\llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket$ is *non-referring*.

Non-referring local mass-process words are nil

If $\llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket$ is non-referring relative to σ , then for any atomic proposition A in which $\llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket$ appears, and for any τ that agrees with σ on all the variables that appear in $E(t, l)$, A is false relative to τ .

Note that from this, if $\llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket (w, p)$ is true relative to σ , so is $E(t, l)$.

Referring local mass-process words

For an assignment of references σ , if $E(t, l)$ is true, then $\llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket$ is *referring relative to σ* .

If neither t nor l is a variable, then $\llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket$ is *referring*.

Referring mass-process words are true of their time and location

If $E(t, l)$ is true relative to σ , then:

- a. $\llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket (t, l)$ is true relative to σ .
- b. For any τ that agrees with σ on all the variables that appear in $E(t, l)$, if $\llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket (w, p)$ is true relative to τ , then so is $E(w, p)$.

Continuity of reference in time

If relative to σ , $\llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket (t_1, l_1)$ is true, and $\llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket (t_2, l_2)$ is true, and $t_1 <_{\text{time}} t_3 <_{\text{time}} t_2$ is true, then there is some τ that agrees with σ on all of t_1, l_1, t_2, l_2, t_3 such that $\llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket (t_3, l_3)$ is true.

Aside: Quantifiers in this-words?

Why not form this-words from descriptions that contain quantifiers? For example,

$\llbracket \text{this } (\exists l_1 (\text{HUSBAND}(\text{now}, l_1) \text{ of } \text{WOMAN}(\text{now}, l))) \rrbracket$

This refers to what we in English would call a married woman—or perhaps many married women. I think. Actually, I get confused about how to understand this expression. And if we allow quantifiers to appear in a this-word, we will involve ourselves in considerable technical complications. So let's not pursue that here.

Aside: Linguists on referring

Cite linguists who consider reference to be a basic in every language. Croft ties that to objects--his notion of reference is just for those. Perhaps some linguists do use "referring" in the broader sense that I do. Certainly that's applicable even to English when I point to some mud, which is hard to think of as pointing to an object. Talk to Croft about this.

Pointing can provide reference, but there are lots of other ways as I noted previously, for example smell and feeling a breeze.

17 Local Mass-Process Words and Subordination

Subordination relative to an assignment of references

The principle of subordination and truth in a context for ordinary mass-process words is:

$$(E \text{ sub } F) \rightarrow \forall t \forall l (E(t, l) \rightarrow F(t, l))$$

Now we have local mass-process words that contain variables. So subordinations can be relative to an assignment of references. For example, the following is true or false only relative to an assignment of references to w and p :

$$(1) \quad \llbracket \text{this SHEEP}(w, p) \rrbracket \text{ sub ANIMAL}$$

If “ $\llbracket \text{this SHEEP}(w, p) \rrbracket$ ” is not referring, that is, if “SHEEP(w, p)” is false, then (1) is false, for non-referring words are nil. If “ $\llbracket \text{this SHEEP}(w, p) \rrbracket$ ” is referring, then (1) could be true or false. If true, it follows that relative to any τ that agrees with σ on w and p : if $\llbracket \text{this SHEEP}(w, p) \rrbracket(t, l)$, then ANIMAL(t, l).

More generally, we have the following principle.

Subordination and truth in a context

$$\forall \dots [(E \text{ sub } F) \rightarrow \forall t \forall l (E(t, l) \rightarrow F(t, l))]$$

(We needn't put in a clause that E and F are referring, for if they are non-referring then the antecedent is false.)

Subordination of local mass-process words and the words on which they are based

Suppose that “ $\llbracket \text{this SHEEP}(w, p) \rrbracket$ ” is referring relative to a particular assignment of references. Then that word establishes a restricted concept of sheep-ing. That is, sheep-ing, too. We have either conceptually or as a correct use of words:

$$\llbracket \text{this SHEEP}(w, p) \rrbracket \text{ sub SHEEP}$$

We also have:

$$(2) \quad \text{SHEEP sub ANIMAL}$$

So it follows by transitivity that:

$$\llbracket \text{this SHEEP}(w, p) \rrbracket \text{ sub ANIMAL}$$

But more, if “SHEEP(w, p)” is true, then by (2), “ANIMAL(w, p)” is true. So we can form:

$$\llbracket \text{this ANIMAL}(w, p) \rrbracket$$

The sheep-ing at w, p is not only subordinate to animal-ing generally, it is subordinate to this local version of animal-ing. We have:

$\llbracket \text{this SHEEP } (w, p) \rrbracket \text{ sub } \llbracket \text{this ANIMAL } (w, p) \rrbracket$

To state the general principles, we have to note that these relations hold only if the local mass-process words are referring.

Subordination of a local mass-process word to the mass-process word on which it is based

$\forall \dots (E(t, l) \rightarrow (\llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket \text{ sub } E))$

Subordination yields subordination of the local mass-process words

$\forall \dots [(E \text{ sub } F) \wedge E(t, l) \rightarrow \llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket \text{ sub } \llbracket \text{this } F(t, l) \rrbracket]$

Note that the last principle does not hold if a time or location term is not the same in the two local mass-process words. For example, the following is true:

DOG sub DOG

But if (in thing-talk) in the patio now there is just Birta, and last night only Chocolate was in the corral, the following is false:

$\llbracket \text{this DOG (last night, corral) } \rrbracket \text{ sub } \llbracket \text{this DOG (now, patio) } \rrbracket$

The concept of Chocolate-ing is not included in the concept of Birta-ing.

Identity and equivalence of mass-process words

Suppose that the following are both true:

(3) $\llbracket \text{this DOG (now, patio) } \rrbracket \text{ (last night, corral)}$

$\llbracket \text{this DOG (last night, corral) } \rrbracket \text{ (now, patio)}$

Then, since “ $\llbracket \text{this DOG (now, patio) } \rrbracket$ ” refers to the entirety of dog-ing now in the patio, and “ $\llbracket \text{this DOG (last night, corral) } \rrbracket$ ” refers to the entirety of the dog-ing last night in the corral, those two words must establish the same concept, be suitable to be used one in place of the other. That is:

(4) $\llbracket \text{this DOG (now, patio) } \rrbracket \approx \llbracket \text{this DOG (last night, corral) } \rrbracket$

But how can these be conceptually the same if they involve different times and places? The times and places direct us to how to find the conception; they are not part of the conception. Compare:

(5) DOG \approx CANINE / DOMESTIC

The words direct us to the conception, but the words are not part of the conception; we need not be complete nominalists. We might not agree on what we mean by “a concept” or “conception” or “conceiving” or “correct use of words”. But we have enough in common in our use of those phrases, and perhaps even in how we

understand them, to use them together in our reasoning and try to come to some clearer idea of what we can agree on by codifying our correct uses.

From (4) by the relation of subordination to truth in context, for any assignment of references to t and l , we have:

$$\llbracket \text{this DOG (now, patio)} \rrbracket (t, l) \leftrightarrow \llbracket \text{this DOG (last night, corral)} \rrbracket (t, l)$$

But remember that the context version of subordination is a consequence of an equivalence but does not imply an equivalence. For example, the following might be true in a model:

$$\forall t \forall l (\llbracket \text{this DOG (last night, corral)} \rrbracket (t, l) \leftrightarrow \\ \llbracket \text{this SHEEP (last night, corral)} \rrbracket (t, l))$$

We might not have enough times and locations in the model to distinguish that dogging from that sheep-ing (think: the sheep dog and the sheep are always together). But that does not mean that “ $\llbracket \text{this DOG (last night, corral)} \rrbracket$ ” is equivalent to “ $\llbracket \text{this SHEEP (last night, corral)} \rrbracket$ ”. The conceptions are different, not established solely by the times and locations but by the times and locations relative to different mass-process words.

We have (4) because of (3). But equally, by (4) and (5) and the principle that subordination yields subordination of the local mass-process words, we have:

$$\llbracket \text{this DOG (now, patio)} \rrbracket \approx \llbracket \text{this (CANINE/DOMESTIC) (last night, corral)} \rrbracket$$

Here is the general principle for talking about the same.

Identity and equivalence

$$\forall \dots [((E \approx F) \wedge \llbracket \text{this E (t, l)} \rrbracket (w, p) \wedge \llbracket \text{this F (w, p)} \rrbracket (t, l)) \\ \leftrightarrow (\llbracket \text{this E (t, l)} \rrbracket) \approx (\llbracket \text{this F (w, p)} \rrbracket)]$$

We’ve assumed in our logic that the use of time and location terms is extensional: same reference, same semantic values result. So if t is assigned reference last night, and l is assigned reference the area in the corral, if “DOG (last night, corral)” is true, then:

$$\llbracket \text{this DOG (last night, corral)} \rrbracket \approx \llbracket \text{this DOG (t, l)} \rrbracket$$

Iteration of the this-operator

To return to one of our earlier examples, suppose that the following is referring because now just Birta is in the patio:

$$\llbracket \text{this DOG (now, patio)} \rrbracket$$

Now consider:

$$\llbracket \text{this DOG (now, patio)} \rrbracket (\text{last night, corral})$$

For this to be true, there had to be Birta-ing last night in the corral. But there could be more dog-ing. Perhaps Bidu was in the corral last night, too. So consider:

[[this [[this DOG (now, patio)]] (last night, corral)]]

This establishes the same concept as “[[this DOG (now, patio)]]”. That is,

[[this [[this DOG (now, patio)]] (last night, corral)]] ≈ [[this DOG (now, patio)]]

For any ordinary mass-process words,

$$(7) \quad \forall t \forall l \forall w \forall p [E(t, l) \wedge \text{[[this E}(t, l)\text{]]}(w, p) \rightarrow \\ \text{[[this [[this E}(t, l)\text{]]}(w, p)\text{]]} \approx \text{[[this E}(t, l)\text{]]}]$$

However, as in the example, the following can fail:

$$E(t, l) \wedge \text{[[this E}(t, l)\text{]]}(w, p) \rightarrow \\ \text{[[this [[this E}(t, l)\text{]]}(w, p)\text{]]} \approx \text{[[this E}(w, p)\text{]]}$$

This would hold relative to an assignment of references only if [[this E (t, l)]] ≈ [[this E (w, p)]] .

What if E is or contains a local mass-process word? For example, suppose in (7), E is “[[this SHEEP (last night, corral)]]”:

$$\forall t, l [(\text{[[this SHEEP (last night, corral)]]}(t, l) \wedge \\ \text{[[this [[this SHEEP (last night, corral)]]}(t, l)\text{]]}(w, p)) \rightarrow \\ \text{[[this [[this [[this SHEEP (last night, corral)]]}(t, l)\text{]]}(w, p)\text{]]} \approx \\ \text{[[this [[this SHEEP (last night, corral)]]}(t, l)\text{]]}]$$

This is true: the reasoning is the same, just harder to parse.

In (7), for “[[this E(t, l)]](w, p)” to be true, both “[[this E(t, l)]]” must be true, and hence “E(t, l)” is true and any local mass-process word that appears in E must be referring. So for the general principle we can take the following.

Iterations of local mass-process words

$$\forall \dots (\text{[[this E}(t, l)\text{]]}(w, p) \rightarrow \\ \text{[[this [[this E}(t, l)\text{]]}(w, p)\text{]]} \approx \text{[[this E}(t, l)\text{]]})$$

Disjoint locations

We can have:

$$\text{[[this DOG (last night, corral)]]} \approx \text{[[this DOG (now, patio)]]}$$

The dog-ing in the corral last night and the dog-ing in the patio now are the same. But since the patio and the corral are completely separate, we can't have:

$\llbracket \text{this DOG (now, corral)} \rrbracket \approx \llbracket \text{this DOG (now, patio)} \rrbracket$

What's dog-ing in the one location can't be the same as the dog-ing in the other separate location. That's not just for dog-ing. Suppose that there is a lake with two coves called "Shady Cove" and "Sunny Cove". Then even though "WATER" is true in both those locations now, the following is false:

$\llbracket \text{this WATER (now, Shady Cove)} \rrbracket \approx \llbracket \text{this WATER (now, Sunny Cove)} \rrbracket$

The first picks out "the" water in Shady Cove and the second picks out "the" water in Sunny Cove.

If two local mass-process words are equivalent at the same time, then there must be some overlap in their locations. And it must be in some such overlap that the referring is established.

Disjoint locations at the same time yield different references

$\forall . . . [\llbracket \text{this E } (t, l_1) \rrbracket \approx \llbracket \text{this E } (t, l_2) \rrbracket \rightarrow$
 $(\exists p (W_{\text{location}(p, l_1)} \wedge W_{\text{location}(p, l_2)}) \wedge \llbracket \text{this E } (t, p) \rrbracket \approx \llbracket \text{this E } (t, l_1) \rrbracket)]$

Other subordination principles

All the previous principles we adopted for subordination for ordinary mass-process words apply to ones that are or contain local mass-process words so long as the latter are referring and we take the universal closure.

Reflexivity If E is an ordinary mass-process word, (E sub E).

$\forall . . . (E (t, l) \rightarrow \llbracket \text{this E } (t, l) \rrbracket \text{ sub } \llbracket \text{this E } (t, l) \rrbracket)$

I don't see how to combine these two principles into one because "UNICORN sub UNICORN" is true, yet "UNICORN (t, l)" is not true for any assignment of references.

Note, then, that "E sub E" is true iff every local mass-process word appearing in E is referring.

Subordination is transitive

$\forall . . . [((E_1 \text{ sub } E_2) \wedge (E_2 \text{ sub } E_3)) \rightarrow (E_1 \text{ sub } E_3)]$

Commutativity of conjuncts in a conjunction

$\forall . . . (A (F) \leftrightarrow A (F'))$

where F is a conjunction of mass-process words; E_1 and E_2 are conjuncts in F; F' is F with E_1 and E_2 replacing each other; $A(F)$ is an atomic proposition in which F appears; and $A(F')$ is $A(F)$ with some but not necessarily all occurrences of F replaced with F' .

Subordination of a conjunction to its conjuncts

If E is a conjunction of mass-process words, and F is E with one of its conjuncts deleted, then

$$\forall \dots (E \text{ sub } E \rightarrow (E \text{ sub } F))$$

Conjunction preserves subordination

$$\forall \dots ((E_1 \text{ sub } E_2) \wedge (F \text{ sub } F)) \rightarrow ((F + E_1) \text{ sub } (F + E_2))$$

Subordination of a modified mass-process word

$$\forall \dots ((E/F) \text{ sub } (E/F)) \rightarrow (E/F) \text{ sub } E$$

Modifying a mass-process word by itself adds nothing

$$\forall \dots (E \text{ sub } E \rightarrow (E/E \approx E))$$

18 Names

Descriptive names?

In Chapter 2 we agreed that we can use a name from our ordinary thing-talk, such as Zoe, as a mass-process word, “ZOE”. To assert “ZOE” about here and now is to say here and now Zoe-ing. When “DZY” stands for Dick and Zoe’s yard, we can assert:

DICK (now, DZY)

SPOT (now, DZY)

There, now, the flux viewed locally as Dick-ing; there, now, the flux viewed locally as Spot-ing.

Can we use a description of Zoe and abbreviate that as a name rather than taking “ZOE” as mass-process word? Right now in Dick and Zoe’s yard, there is woman-ing: “WOMAN(now, DZY)” is true. From our thing-talk perspective that’s because Zoe is there and no other woman is there. Matilda and her boyfriend Johnny are just outside the gate. Before they go in, Matilda says to Johnny, “See that woman there, that’s Zoe.” “Oh, I see,” says Johnny, “now I know who Zoe is.” So it seems that whenever he or Matilda use the name “ZOE”, Johnny can understand it as:

(1) \llbracket this WOMAN(now, DZY) \rrbracket

But that’s not how Shondel, a friend of Zoe’s mother, understands “ZOE”. She learned that name when she and Zoe’s mother met at a park 15 years ago when Zoe was 8 years old. Let t stand for that time and l stand for a location of that park where the only female child at that time is Zoe. Then Shondel associates “ZOE” with:

(2) \llbracket this GIRL(t, l) \rrbracket

But (1) and (2) can’t be equivalent, because at t and l there is no woman-ing, and now in Dick and Zoe’s yard there is no girl-ing.

Things, as we conceive of them in English, can have different properties at different times. But there is no thing in mass-process talk that can have those different properties. There are only the descriptions, nothing to “hang them on”. We cannot have descriptive names.

Characterizing names

Consider:

\llbracket this CAT(t_1, l_1) \rrbracket

\llbracket this CAT(t_2, l_2) \rrbracket

Suppose that relative to an assignment of references these are both referring. It does not follow that relative to that assignment of references:

$\llbracket \text{this E}(t_1, l_1) \rrbracket \text{ sub } \llbracket \text{this E}(t_2, l_2) \rrbracket$

It might be that at t_1 in l_1 there were two cats fighting and at t_2 in l_2 there was only Puff sleeping.

In contrast, suppose that relative to some assignment of references τ , both of the following are referring:

$\llbracket \text{this BIRTA}(t_1, l_1) \rrbracket$

$\llbracket \text{this BIRTA}(t_2, l_2) \rrbracket$

Need the following be true relative to τ ?

$\llbracket \text{this BIRTA}(t_1, l_1) \rrbracket \text{ sub } \llbracket \text{this BIRTA}(t_2, l_2) \rrbracket$

What if $\tau(t_1)$ is much shorter than $\tau(t_2)$? What if $\tau(l_1)$ is completely disjoint from $\tau(l_2)$? That doesn't matter. We are referring the same: in both places there is Birta-ing. It's always the same Birta-ing.

For any τ , if BIRTA(t, l) is true relative to τ , then so is,

$\llbracket \text{this BIRTA}(t, l) \rrbracket \approx \text{BIRTA}$.

If N is a mass-process word that is meant as a name, it should satisfy the following.

Unity of names $\forall t \forall l (N(t, l) \rightarrow \llbracket \text{this N}(t, l) \rrbracket \approx N)$

For example, "PEGASUS" satisfies this condition, since it is true of no time and location. It is not vacuous, like " $\llbracket \text{this CAT}(\text{now}, \text{corral}) \rrbracket$ " which is non-referring, for "PEGASUS sub HORSE" is true, either in terms of concepts or according to our correct use of these words. Also, "DRAGON" satisfies this condition of unity of names. It, too, is not vacuous since "DRAGON sub BREATHE" is true. We use and understand "PEGASUS" as a name, but we don't use or understand "DRAGON" as a name: there is nothing in the concept that precludes "DRAGON" being true of disjoint places at the same time, giving non-equivalent references. It just happens that there are no dragons. To classify a word as a name, the condition of the unity of names has to be true not just in a model but across all models. We can't enforce that with any axiom. So instead we'll use separate symbols for names and then require that in any model the condition of unity of names applies for those mass-process words.

Names are mass-process words, so they satisfy all the principles we adopted for those. But names are used for referring, so we should consider whether or how they satisfy the principles we adopted for local mass-process words.

Non-referring local mass-process words are nil. But we just saw that a non-referring name such as "PEGASUS" can figure in true subordination propositions. But perhaps we should treat non-referring names as nil. To do so would be to

eliminate the possibility of talking and reasoning about “fiction” in our system, which we’ll explore in Examples 16–18 in Chapter 21

The principle of continuity of reference for local mass-process words says that if a local mass-process word is true at some time and again at some later time, then it is true at all times between those. That, too, we want to apply to names, for that is the nature of referring.

Continuity in time for names

$$\forall t \forall t' \forall w \forall l \forall l' \forall p (N(t, l) \wedge N(t', l') \wedge (t <_{\text{time}} w <_{\text{time}} t')) \\ \rightarrow \exists p (N(w, p))]$$

With local mass-process words we have the condition that disjoint locations at the same time yield different references. Here we can’t have different references using “ZOE”. Rather, “ZOE” can’t apply in disjoint locations at the same time: it can’t be Zoe-ing in Dick and Zoe’s yard and at the bus stop down the road at the noon. But more, if the locations are not disjoint, then the Zoe-ing has to be in the common part.

A name cannot be true at some time in disjoint locations

$$\forall t \forall l \forall l' [(N(t, l) \wedge N(t, l')) \rightarrow \\ \exists p W(p, l) \wedge W(p, l') \wedge N(t, p)]$$

Now we are ready to formulate a logic of mass-process with contexts given by times and locations.

19 A Formal Logic of Mass-Process with Contexts Given by Times and Locations

The formal language

Vocabulary

base mass-process word symbols

ordinary $B_1, B_2, \dots, B_n, \dots$

name $N_1, N_2, \dots, N_n, \dots$

mass-process word conjoiner +

reference word maker this

subordination symbol sub

binary categorematic propositional connective symbols c_1, c_2, \dots

logical propositional connectives $\neg, \rightarrow, \wedge, \vee$

time name symbols b_0, b_1, \dots } *time terms*

time variables t_0, t_1, \dots

time order predicate $- <_{\text{time}} -$

time part predicate $W_{\text{time}}(-, -)$

time equality predicate \equiv_{time}

location name symbols e_0, e_1, \dots } *location terms*

location variables l_0, l_1, \dots

location part predicate $W_{\text{location}}(-, -)$

location equality predicate \equiv_{location}

quantifiers \forall, \exists

Punctuation

parentheses ()

time-marked blank $-_{\text{time}}$

location-marked blank $-_{\text{location}}$

slash /

comma ,

double brackets []

We adopt the following meta-variables:

B, B' stand for base mass-process word symbols, ordinary or name.

N, N' stand for name base mass-process symbol.

$E, E', E_1, E_1 \dots, F, F'$ stand for formal mass-process words as defined below.

$t, t', w, w', w_1, w_2, \dots$ stand for time terms.

$l, l', p, p', p_0, p_1, p_2, \dots$ stand for location terms.

$\underline{c}, \underline{c}'$ stand for categorematic propositional connective symbols.

Mass-Process Words

- i. If B is a base mass-process word symbol, then (B) is a formal mass-process word of degree 1.
- ii. If E_1, \dots, E_r are formal mass-process words where $r \geq 2$ and n is the maximum of the degrees of E_1, \dots, E_r , then $(E_1 + \dots + E_r)$ is a formal mass-process word of degree $n + 1$. It is a *conjunction* of formal mass-process words. Each of E_1, \dots, E_r is a *conjunct* of it.
- iii. If E and F are formal mass-process words, and the maximum of the degrees of E and F is n , then E/F is a formal mass-process word of degree $n + 1$. It is a *modified* formal mass-process word. F is the *modifier* and E is the word *modified*.
- iv. If E is a formal mass-process word, then the following is a *local formal mass-process word* of degree $n + 1$:

$$\llbracket \text{this } E(-_{\text{time}}, -_{\text{location}})(t, l) \rrbracket$$
 It is also called a *this-word*. If neither t nor l is a variable, it is a *reference mass-process word* or simply a *reference word*.
- v. A concatenation of symbols is a formal mass-process word iff for some n it is a formal mass-process word of degree n .

A formal mass-process word is *open* if it contains a variable; otherwise, it is *closed*. If E is a formal mass-process word that is not of degree 1, then E is a *complex* formal mass-process word.

I'll let you show that there is one and only one way to parse each formal mass-process word.

Well-formed formulas (wffs)

- i. If E and F are formal mass-process words, then $(E \text{ sub } F)$ is a wff of length 1.
- ii. If E is a formal mass-process word, t a time term, and l a location term, then $(E(-_{\text{time}}, -_{\text{location}})(t, l))$ is a wff of length 1.

iii. If t and w are time terms, each of the following is a wff of length 1:

$$((-\prec_{\text{time}}-) (t, w))$$

$$(W_{\text{time}}(-, -) (t, w))$$

$$((-\equiv_{\text{time}}-) (t, w))$$

iv. If l and p are location terms, each of the following is a wff of length 1:

$$(W_{\text{location}}(-, -) (l, p))$$

$$((-\equiv_{\text{location}}-) (l, p))$$

Each occurrence of a variable in a wff of length 1 is *free*.

v. If \underline{c} is a propositional connective symbol, and E and F are formal mass-process words, then the following is a wff of length 2:

$$(E(-_{\text{time}}, -_{\text{location}}) (t, l)) \underline{c} (F(-_{\text{time}}, -_{\text{location}}) (w, p))$$

It is a *categorematic* compound. Each occurrence of a variable in it is free.

vi. If A and B are categorematic compounds, and the maximum of the lengths of A and B is n , and \underline{c} is a propositional connective symbol, then $(A \underline{c} B)$ is a wff of length $n + 1$. It is a *categorematic compound*. Each occurrence of a variable in it is free.

v. If A is a wff of length n , then $(\neg A)$ is a wff of length $n + 1$. An occurrence of a variable in $(\neg A)$ is free iff it is free in A .

vi. If A and B are wffs, and the maximum of the lengths of A and B is n , then each of $(A \rightarrow B)$ and $(A \wedge B)$ and $(A \vee B)$ is a wff of length $n + 1$. An occurrence of a variable in $(A \rightarrow B)$ is free iff the corresponding occurrence of the variable in A or in B is free, and similarly for $(A \wedge B)$ and $(A \vee B)$.

vii. If A is a wff of length n and some occurrence of a time variable t is free in A , then each of $(\forall t A)$ and $(\exists t A)$ is a wff of length $n + 1$. An occurrence of a variable in either $(\forall t A)$ or $(\exists t A)$ is free iff the variable is not t and the corresponding occurrence in A is free.

viii. If A is a wff of length n and some occurrence of a location variable l is free in A , then each of $(\forall l A)$ and $(\exists l A)$ is a wff of length $n + 1$. An occurrence of a variable in either $(\forall l A)$ or $(\exists l A)$ is free iff the variable is not l and the corresponding occurrence in A is free.

ix. A concatenation of symbols is a *wff* iff it is a wff of length n for some $n \geq 1$.

I'll let you prove the unique readability of wffs.

A wff of length 1 is *atomic*; all other wffs are *compound*. A wff is *closed* if there is no occurrence of a variable free in it; otherwise it is *open*.

In $(\forall t A)$ the initial $\forall t$ has *scope* A and *binds* each free occurrence of t in A , and that occurrence is *bound* by that quantifier; similarly for $(\exists t A)$.

In $(\forall l A)$ the initial $\forall l$ has *scope* A and *binds* each free occurrence of l in A , and that occurrence is *bound* by that quantifier; similarly for $(\exists l A)$.

The universal closure of a wff

Let t_{m_1}, \dots, t_{m_s} be a list of all the time variables that occur free in A such that $m_1 < \dots < m_s$. Let l_{i_1}, \dots, l_{i_v} be a list of all the time variables that occur free in A such that $i_1 < \dots < i_v$. The *universal closure* of A is:

$$\forall \dots A \equiv_{\text{Def}} \forall t_{m_1} \dots \forall t_{m_s} \forall l_{i_1} \dots \forall l_{i_v} A$$

We take the usual definitions of substituting for variables from classical predicate logic. We define:

$$E \approx F \equiv_{\text{Def}} ((E \text{ sub } F) \wedge (F \text{ sub } E))$$

We adopt the usual conventions on informally deleting parentheses from propositional logic and the usual informal abbreviations from predicate logic and particularly from the pure logic of space and time. We can informally delete parentheses around a base mass-process word when that isn't likely to lead to confusion. Informally, we delete the time-marked blanks and the location-marked blanks in formal mass-process words.

Realizations and semi-formal languages

A mass-process word of our “ordinary” language, or a time name, or a location name, or a categorematic connective is *simple* iff it contains no proper part that we could formalize as a mass-process word, a time name, a location name, a logical propositional connective, a categorematic propositional connective, a quantifier, or some combination of those with $+$, $/$, or the this-operator.

A *realization* of the formal language is an assignment of:

- Simple mass-process words to some or all of the ordinary mass-process symbols.
- Simple names to none, some, or all of the name mass-process symbols.
- Simple time names to none, some, or all of the time symbols.
- Simple location names to none, some, or all of the location symbols.
- Simple categorematic connectives to none, some, or all of categorematic propositional connective symbols.

No word can be assigned to more than one symbol.

The definition of *realization of a formal wff*, *semi-formal wff*, and *semi-formal language* are the usual ones.

Models

Given a realization, we define a model.

Universes

We adopt two universes:

A universe \mathcal{T} which is a non-empty collection of things that are *times*.

A universe \mathcal{P} which is a non-empty collection of things that are *locations*.

Nothing is in both \mathcal{T} and \mathcal{P} .

We adopt the following meta-variables:

$t, t', t_1, t_2, \dots, \omega, \omega', \omega_1, \omega_2, \dots$ stand for elements of \mathcal{T} .

p, p', p_1, p_2, \dots stand for elements of \mathcal{P} .

Relations on the universes

There is a binary relation $<$ on \mathcal{T} .

There is a binary relation $\mathcal{W}_{\text{time}}$ on \mathcal{T} .

There is a binary relation $\mathcal{W}_{\text{location}}$ on \mathcal{P} .

$\mathcal{X}_<(\omega_1, \omega_2) \equiv_{\text{Def}}$ there is some t such that $\mathcal{W}_{\text{time}}(t, \omega_1)$ and $\mathcal{W}_{\text{time}}(t, \omega_2)$,
and there is some t' such that $\mathcal{W}_{\text{time}}(t', \omega_1)$ and for all ω
such that $\mathcal{W}_{\text{time}}(\omega, \omega_2)$, $t' < \omega$.

These relations satisfy the following conditions:

$\mathcal{W}_{\text{time}}$ is a *part-whole relation*

$\mathcal{W}_{\text{time}}(t, t)$

If $\mathcal{W}_{\text{time}}(t, \omega)$ and $\mathcal{W}_{\text{time}}(\omega, t)$, then $t = \omega$.

If $\mathcal{W}_{\text{time}}(t_1, t_2)$ and $\mathcal{W}_{\text{time}}(t_2, t_3)$ then $\mathcal{W}_{\text{time}}(t_1, t_3)$.

Parts determine times

[For all ω , $\mathcal{W}_{\text{time}}(\omega, t)$ iff $\mathcal{W}_{\text{time}}(\omega, t')$] iff $t = t'$.

$<$ is an *ordering*

Not $t < t$.

If $t_1 < \omega$ and $\omega < t_2$, then $t_1 < t_2$.

Parts and wholes are unrelated in the ordering

If $\mathcal{W}_{\text{time}}(t_1, t_2)$ then neither $t_1 < t_2$ nor $t_2 < t_1$.

Parts of times are related to other times in the ordering as the whole is related

If $W_{\text{time}}(t_1, t_2)$ and $t_2 < t_3$ then $t_1 < t_3$.

If $W_{\text{time}}(t_1, t_2)$ and $t_3 < t_2$ then $t_3 < t_1$.

Times are intervals (sequentially connected)

If $W_{\text{time}}(t_1, \omega)$ and $W_{\text{time}}(t_2, \omega)$ then: $W_{\text{time}}(t_1, t_2)$ or $W_{\text{time}}(t_2, t_1)$
or $X_{<}(t_1, t_2)$ or $X_{<}(t_2, t_1)$ or $t_1 < t_2$ or $t_2 < t_1$.

If $W_{\text{time}}(t_1, \omega)$ and $W_{\text{time}}(t_2, \omega)$ and $t_1 < t_2$, then for every t_3
such that $t_1 < t_3 < t_2$, $W_{\text{time}}(t_3, \omega)$.

Overlapping times are not related in the ordering

If $X_{<}(t, \omega)$, then neither $\omega_1 < \omega_2$ nor $\omega_2 < \omega_1$.

W_{location} is a part-whole relation

$W_{\text{location}}(p, p)$

If $W_{\text{location}}(p, p')$ and $W_{\text{location}}(p', p)$, then $p = p'$.

If $W_{\text{location}}(p_1, p_2)$ and $W_{\text{location}}(p_2, p_3)$ then $W_{\text{location}}(p_1, p_3)$.

Parts determine locations

[For all p , $W_{\text{time}}(p, p_1)$ iff $W_{\text{time}}(p, p_2)$] iff $p_1 = p_2$.

Assignments of references

An assignment of references σ assigns:

To each time variable t a time $\sigma(t)$ from \mathbb{T} .

To each time name b a time $\sigma(b)$ from \mathbb{T} such that for every assignment
of references τ , $\sigma(b) = \tau(b)$.

To each location variable l a location $\sigma(l)$ from \mathbb{P} .

To each location name e a location $\sigma(e)$ from \mathbb{P} such that for every assignment
of references τ , $\sigma(e) = \tau(e)$.

Completeness of the collection of assignments of references

There is at least one assignment of references.

For every assignment of references σ , and every time variable t , and every
time in \mathbb{T} , either σ assigns that time to t or there is an assignment τ that differs
from σ only in that it assigns that time to t .

For every assignment of references σ , and every location variable l , and
every location in \mathbb{P} , either σ assigns that location to l or there is an assignment τ
that differs from σ only in that it assigns that location to l .

We say that τ agrees with σ on t if $\tau(t) = \sigma(t)$, and in that case we write
 $\tau \sim_t \sigma$, and similarly for more variables and for location variables.

Satisfaction of atomic wffs

For each assignment of references σ , there is a valuation ν_σ that assigns to each atomic wff A a truth-value T or F . If true, we write $\nu_\sigma(A) = T$ or $\nu_\sigma \models A$; if false we write $\nu_\sigma(A) = F$ or $\nu_\sigma \not\models A$. If A is $E(-_{\text{time}}, -_{\text{location}})(t, l)$ and $\nu_\sigma(A) = T$, we say that $E(-_{\text{time}}, -_{\text{location}})(t, l)$ is *true at time* $\sigma(t)$ *in location* $\sigma(l)$.

I will write $\nu_\sigma \models E \approx F$ as shorthand for $\nu_\sigma \models E \text{ sub } F$ and $\nu_\sigma \models F \text{ sub } E$.

The valuations of the atomic wffs satisfy the following conditions.

$$\nu_\sigma \models (w <_{\text{time}} t) \text{ iff } \sigma(w) < \sigma(t).$$

$$\nu_\sigma \models W_{\text{time}}(w, t) \text{ iff } W_{\text{time}}(\sigma(w), \sigma(t)).$$

$$\nu_\sigma \models W_{\text{location}}(l, p) \text{ iff } W_{\text{location}}(\sigma(l), \sigma(p)).$$

$$\nu_\sigma \models w \equiv_{\text{time}} t \text{ iff } \sigma(w) \text{ is the same time as } \sigma(t).$$

$$\nu_\sigma \models l \equiv_{\text{location}} p \text{ iff } \sigma(l) \text{ is the same location as } \sigma(p).$$

The extensionality condition

Let w be a time term in A (if any), and p a location term in A (if any).

For any σ and τ that agree on all the variables in A except possibly w and p , if $\sigma(w) = \tau(w')$ and $\sigma(p) = \tau(p')$, then

$$\nu_\sigma \models A \text{ iff } \nu_\tau \models A(w'/w, p'/p).$$

Outward closure of truth for locations

If $\nu_\sigma \models E(t, l)$, then for all τ that agree with σ on all the variables in $E(t, l)$,

if $\nu_\tau \models W_{\text{location}}(l, p)$, then $\nu_\tau \models E(t, p/l)$.

Downward and upward closure of truth in time at a location

$\nu_\sigma \models E(t, l)$ iff for all τ that agree with σ on all the variables in $E(t, l)$ except possibly t , if $\nu_\tau \models W_{\text{time}}(w, t)$, then $\nu_\tau \models E(w/t, l)$.

Subordination and truth in a context

If $\nu_\sigma \models (E \text{ sub } F)$ then for every assignment of references τ that agrees with σ on all the variables in E and F : if $\nu_\tau \models (E(-_{\text{time}}, -_{\text{location}})(t, l))$, then $\nu_\tau \models (F(-_{\text{time}}, -_{\text{location}})(t, l))$.

Substitution of equivalent mass-process words

If $\nu_\sigma \models E \approx F$, and $A(E)$ is an atomic proposition in which E appears, and $A(F)$ is $A(E)$ with F replacing some but not necessarily all occurrences of E , then $\nu_\sigma A(F)$ iff $\nu_\sigma A(E)$.

Non-referring mass-process words are nil

If $\nu_\sigma \not\models E(t, l)$, and A is an atomic proposition in which $[[\text{this } E(t, l)]]$ appears, then for any τ that agrees with σ on all the variables that appear in $E(t, l)$, $\nu_\tau \not\models A$.

Referring mass-process words are true of their time and location

If $\nu_\sigma \models E(t, l)$, then:

- a. $\nu_\sigma \models \llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket (t, l)$.
- b. For any τ that agrees with σ on all the variables that appear in $E(t, l)$, if $\nu_\tau \models \llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket (w, p)$, then $\nu_\tau \models E(w, p)$.

Continuity of reference in time (including names)

If E is a formal local mass-process word or a name symbol, and $\nu_\sigma \models E(w_1, p_1)$ and $\nu_\sigma \models E(w_2, p_2)$, $\sigma(w_1) < \sigma(w_3) < \sigma(w_2)$, then there is some τ that agrees with σ on w_3 such that $\nu_\tau \models E(w_3, p_3)$.

Subordination of a local mass-process word to the mass-process word on which it is based

If $\nu_\sigma \models E(t, l)$, then $\nu_\sigma (\llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket \text{ sub } E)$.

Subordination yields subordination of the local mass-process words

If $\nu_\sigma \models E \text{ sub } F$ and $\nu_\sigma \models E(t, l)$, then $\nu_\sigma \models \llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket \text{ sub } \llbracket \text{this } F(t, l) \rrbracket$.

Identity and equivalence

If $\nu_\sigma \models E \approx F$, and $\nu_\sigma \models \llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket (w, p)$, and $\nu_\sigma \models \llbracket \text{this } F(w, p) \rrbracket (t, l)$, then $\nu_\sigma \models \llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket \approx \llbracket \text{this } F(w, p) \rrbracket$.

Iterations of local mass-process words

If $\nu_\sigma \models \llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket (w, p)$, then $\nu_\sigma \models \llbracket \text{this } \llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket (w, p) \rrbracket \approx \llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket$.

Disjoint locations at the same time yield different references

If $\nu_\sigma \models \llbracket \text{this } E(t, l_1) \rrbracket \approx \llbracket \text{this } E(t, l_2) \rrbracket$, then there is some τ that agrees with σ on all the variables in E as well as t, l_1 and l_2 such that $\nu_\sigma \models (W_{\text{location}(p, l_1)}, \text{ and } \nu_\sigma \models W_{\text{location}(p, l_2)})$, and $\nu_\sigma \models \llbracket \text{this } E(t, p) \rrbracket \approx \llbracket \text{this } E(t, l_1) \rrbracket$.

A name cannot be true at some time in disjoint locations

If $\nu_\sigma \models N(t, l_1)$ and $\nu_\sigma \models N(t, l_2)$, then there is some τ that agrees with σ on t, l_1 and l_2 such that $\nu_\sigma \models (W_{\text{location}(l_3, l_1)}, \text{ and } \nu_\sigma \models W_{\text{location}(l_3, l_2)})$, and $N(t, l_3)$.

Subordination is reflexive

- a. If E is an ordinary mass-process word, then $\nu_\sigma \models (E \text{ sub } E)$.
- b. If $\nu_\sigma \models E(t, l)$, then $\nu_\sigma \models \llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket \text{ sub } \llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket$.

Subordination is transitive

If $\nu_{\sigma} \models (E_1 \text{ sub } E_2)$ and $\nu_{\sigma} \models (E_2 \text{ sub } E_3)$, then $\nu_{\sigma} \models (E_1 \text{ sub } E_3)$.

Commutativity of conjuncts in a conjunction

$\nu_{\sigma} \models A(F)$ iff $\nu_{\sigma} \models A(F')$

where F is a conjunction of mass-process words; E_1 and E_2 are conjuncts in F ; F' is F with E_1 and E_2 replacing each other; $A(F)$ is an atomic proposition in which F appears; and $A(F')$ is $A(F)$ with some but not necessarily all occurrences of F replaced with F' .

Subordination of a conjunction to its conjuncts

If E is a conjunction of mass-process words, and F is E with one or more of its conjuncts deleted, and $\nu_{\sigma} \models (E \text{ sub } E)$, then $\nu_{\sigma} \models (E \text{ sub } F)$.

Conjunction preserves subordination

If $\nu_{\sigma} \models (E_1 \text{ sub } E_2)$ and $\nu_{\sigma} \models (F \text{ sub } F)$, then $\nu_{\sigma} \models (F + E_1) \text{ sub } (F + E_2)$.

Subordination of a modified mass-process word

If $\nu_{\sigma} \models (E/F) \text{ sub } (E/F)$, then $\nu_{\sigma} \models ((E/F) \text{ sub } E)$.

Modifying a mass-process word by itself adds nothing

If $\nu_{\sigma} \models (E \text{ sub } E)$, then $\nu_{\sigma} \models (E/E \approx E)$.

Unity of names

If $\nu_{\sigma} \models N(t, l)$, then $\nu_{\tau} \models \llbracket \text{this } N(t, l) \rrbracket \approx N$.

Satisfaction of compound wffs

The valuations for all assignments of wffs are extended to all wffs simultaneously in the usual way for classical predicate logic:

$$\nu_{\sigma}(\neg A) = \text{T} \quad \text{iff} \quad \nu_{\sigma}(A) = \text{F}$$

$$\nu_{\sigma}(A \rightarrow B) = \text{T} \quad \text{iff} \quad \nu_{\sigma}(A) = \text{F} \text{ or } \nu_{\sigma}(B) = \text{T}$$

$$\nu_{\sigma}(A \wedge B) = \text{T} \quad \text{iff} \quad \nu_{\sigma}(A) = \text{T} \text{ and } \nu_{\sigma}(B) = \text{T}$$

$$\nu_{\sigma}(A \vee B) = \text{T} \quad \text{iff} \quad \nu_{\sigma}(A) = \text{T} \text{ or } \nu_{\sigma}(B) = \text{T}$$

$$\nu_{\sigma}(\exists t A) = \text{T} \quad \text{iff} \quad \text{for some } \tau \text{ such that } \tau \sim_t \sigma, \nu_{\tau}(A) = \text{T}$$

$$\nu_{\sigma}(\forall t A) = \text{T} \quad \text{iff} \quad \text{for every } \tau \text{ such that } \tau \sim_t \sigma, \nu_{\tau}(A) = \text{T}$$

$$\nu_{\sigma}(\exists l A) = \text{T} \quad \text{iff} \quad \text{for some } \tau \text{ such that } \tau \sim_l \sigma, \nu_{\tau}(A) = \text{T}$$

$$\nu_{\sigma}(\forall l A) = \text{T} \quad \text{iff} \quad \text{for every } \tau \text{ such that } \tau \sim_l \sigma, \nu_{\tau}(A) = \text{T}$$

Catagorematic connectives are conjunctions

If $\nu_{\sigma} \models (E(t, l) \subseteq F(t', l'))$, then $\nu_{\sigma} \models E(t, l)$ and $\nu_{\sigma} \models F(t', l')$.

We write $\upsilon_{\sigma} \models A$ to mean that $\upsilon_{\sigma}(A) = \top$, and $\upsilon_{\sigma} \not\models A$ to mean $\upsilon_{\sigma}(A) = \text{F}$.

The *valuation* υ is defined on all closed wffs A by:

$$\upsilon(A) = \top \text{ iff every } \sigma, \upsilon_{\sigma}(A) = \top.$$

A *model* \mathbf{M} is a realization, universe of times, universe of locations, complete collection of assignments of references, valuations for atomic wffs satisfying the conditions above, extension of the valuations to all wffs by the inductive definition, and the valuation on all closed wffs. A proposition A of the semi-formal language is *true in the model* iff $\upsilon(A) = \top$, in which case we write $\mathbf{M} \models A$. Otherwise, A is *false in the model*, and we write $\mathbf{M} \not\models A$.

A formal wff A is *valid* or a *tautology* iff in every model its realization is true; in that case we write $\models A$. The formal inference Γ therefore A is *valid*, written $\Gamma \models A$, means that there is no model in which the realizations of all the wffs in Γ are true and the realization of A is false. These definitions are extended to semi-formal wffs via formal wffs of which they are realizations.

The formal logic of mass-process with contexts given by times and locations

The formal language, definition of models, definition of tautology, and definition of semantic consequence constitute the logic **IXNAHFROBITZ**.

20 An Axiom System

A, B, C stand for any wffs of the formal language L of the last chapter.

Propositional axioms

The axiom schemes of classical propositional logic (Chapter 2 of Volume 0).

- $$\begin{aligned} &\forall \dots (\neg A \rightarrow (A \rightarrow B)) \\ &\forall \dots (B \rightarrow (A \rightarrow B)) \\ &\forall \dots ((A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow ((\neg A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow B)) \\ &\forall \dots ((A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow C)) \rightarrow ((A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow (A \rightarrow C))) \\ &\forall \dots (A \rightarrow (B \rightarrow (A \wedge B))) \\ &\forall \dots ((A \wedge B) \rightarrow A) \\ &\forall \dots ((A \wedge B) \rightarrow B) \\ &\forall \dots (A \rightarrow (A \vee B)) \\ &\forall \dots (B \rightarrow (A \vee B)) \\ &\forall \dots ((A \rightarrow C) \rightarrow ((B \rightarrow C) \rightarrow ((A \vee B) \rightarrow C))) \end{aligned}$$

Axioms governing \forall

1. a. $\forall \dots (\forall t (A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow (\forall t A \rightarrow \forall t B))$
if t is free in both A and B
b. $\forall \dots (\forall t (A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow (\forall t A \rightarrow B))$
if t is free in A and not free in B
c. $\forall \dots (\forall t (A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow (A \rightarrow \forall t B))$
if t is free in B and not free in A
2. $\forall \dots (\forall t \forall w A \rightarrow \forall w \forall t A)$
3. $\forall \dots (\forall t A(t) \rightarrow A(w/t))$
if w is free for t in A
4. a. $\forall \dots (\forall l (A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow (\forall l A \rightarrow \forall l B))$
if l is free in both A and B
b. $\forall \dots (\forall l (A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow (\forall l A \rightarrow B))$
if l is free in A and not free in B
c. $\forall \dots (\forall l (A \rightarrow B) \rightarrow (A \rightarrow \forall l B))$
if l is free in B and not free in A
5. $\forall \dots (\forall l \forall p A \rightarrow \forall p \forall l A)$

$$6. \forall \dots (\forall l A(l) \rightarrow A(p/l))$$

where p is free for l in A

$$7. \forall \dots (\forall t \forall l A \rightarrow \forall l \forall t A)$$

$$8. \forall \dots (\forall l \forall t A \rightarrow \forall t \forall l A)$$

Axioms for the relation between \forall and \exists

$$9. \text{ a. } \forall \dots (\exists t A \rightarrow \neg \forall t \neg A)$$

$$\text{ b. } \forall \dots (\neg \forall t \neg A \rightarrow \exists t A)$$

$$10. \text{ a. } \forall \dots (\exists l A \rightarrow \neg \forall l \neg A)$$

$$\text{ b. } \forall \dots (\neg \forall l \neg A \rightarrow \exists l A)$$

Axioms for equality and extensionality

$$11. \forall t (t \equiv_{\text{time}} t)$$

$$12. \forall \dots \forall t \forall w (t \equiv_{\text{time}} w \rightarrow (A(t) \rightarrow A(w/t)))$$

where A is atomic and w replaces some
but not necessarily all occurrences of t in A

$$13. \forall l (l \equiv_{\text{location}} l)$$

$$14. \forall \dots \forall l \forall p (l \equiv_{\text{location}} p \rightarrow (A(l) \rightarrow A(p/l)))$$

where A is atomic and p replaces some
but not necessarily all occurrences of l in A

Axioms for time

W_{time} is a part-whole relation

$$\forall t_1 W_{\text{time}}(t_1, t_1)$$

$$\forall t_1 \forall t_2 (W_{\text{time}}(t_1, t_2) \wedge W_{\text{time}}(t_2, t_1) \rightarrow (t_1 \equiv_{\text{time}} t_2))$$

$$\forall t_1 \forall t_2 \forall t_3 (W_{\text{time}}(t_1, t_2) \wedge W_{\text{time}}(t_2, t_3) \rightarrow W_{\text{time}}(t_1, t_3))$$

Parts determine times

$$\forall t_1 \forall t_2 ((t_1 \equiv_{\text{time}} t_2) \leftrightarrow \forall t_3 (W_{\text{time}}(t_3, t_1) \leftrightarrow W_{\text{time}}(t_3, t_2)))$$

$<_{\text{time}}$ determines an ordering

$$\forall t_1 \neg (t_1 <_{\text{time}} t_1)$$

$$\forall t_1 \forall t_2 \forall t_3 ((t_1 <_{\text{time}} t_2) \wedge (t_2 <_{\text{time}} t_3) \rightarrow (t_1 <_{\text{time}} t_3))$$

Parts and wholes are unrelated in the ordering

$$\forall t_1 \forall t_2 (W_{\text{time}}(t_1, t_2) \rightarrow \neg (t_1 <_{\text{time}} t_2) \wedge \neg (t_2 <_{\text{time}} t_1))$$

Parts of times are related to other times in the ordering as the whole is related

$$\begin{aligned} \forall t_1 \forall t_2 \forall t_3 (W_{\text{time}}(t_1, t_2) \wedge (t_2 <_{\text{time}} t_3)) &\rightarrow (t_2 <_{\text{time}} t_3) \\ \forall t_1 \forall t_2 \forall t_3 (W_{\text{time}}(t_1, t_2) \wedge (t_3 <_{\text{time}} t_3)) &\rightarrow (t_3 <_{\text{time}} t_1) \end{aligned}$$

Times are intervals

$$\begin{aligned} \forall t_1 \forall t_2 \forall t_3 (W_{\text{time}}(t_1, t_3) \wedge W_{\text{time}}(t_2, t_3) &\rightarrow W_{\text{time}}(t_2, t_1) \vee \\ W_{\text{time}}(t_1, t_2) \vee X_{<}(t_1, t_2) \vee X_{<}(t_2, t_1) \vee (t_1 <_{\text{time}} t_2) \vee (t_2 <_{\text{time}} t_1)) & \\ \forall t_1 \forall t_2 \forall t_3 (W_{\text{time}}(t_2, t_1) \wedge W_{\text{time}}(t_3, t_1) \wedge (t_2 <_{\text{time}} t_3) & \\ \rightarrow \forall t_4 ((t_2 <_{\text{time}} t_4 <_{\text{time}} t_3) \rightarrow W_{\text{time}}(t_4, t_1)) &)) \end{aligned}$$

Overlapping times are not related in the ordering

$$\forall t_1 \forall t_2 (X_{<}(t_1, t_2) \rightarrow (\neg (t_1 <_{\text{time}} t_1) \wedge \neg (t_2 <_{\text{time}} t_1)))$$

Axioms for locations

W_{time} is a part-whole relation

$$\begin{aligned} \forall l W_{\text{time}}(l, l) \\ \forall l \forall p (W_{\text{time}}(l, p) \wedge W_{\text{time}}(p, l) &\rightarrow (l \equiv_{\text{location}} p)) \\ \forall l_1 \forall l_2 \forall l_3 (W_{\text{time}}(l_1, l_2) \wedge W_{\text{time}}(l_2, l_3) &\rightarrow W_{\text{time}}(l_1, l_3)) \end{aligned}$$

Parts determine locations

$$\begin{aligned} \forall l_1 \forall l_2 ((l_1 \equiv_{\text{location}} l_2) \leftrightarrow \\ \forall l_3 (W_{\text{location}}(l_3, l_1) \leftrightarrow W_{\text{location}}(l_3, l_2))) \end{aligned}$$

Axioms for truth related to time and location

Outward closure of truth for locations

$$\forall t \forall l (E(t, l) \rightarrow (\forall p (W(l, p) \rightarrow E(t, p))))$$

Downward and upward closure of truth in time at a location

$$\forall t \forall l (E(t, l) \leftrightarrow (\forall w W_{\text{time}}(w, t) \rightarrow E(w, l)))$$

Mass-process axioms and contexts

Subordination and truth in a context

$$\forall \dots (E \text{ sub } F) \rightarrow \forall t \forall l (E(t, l) \rightarrow F(t, l))$$

Substitution of equivalent mass-process words

$$\forall \dots (E \approx F \rightarrow (A(F) \leftrightarrow A(E)))$$

where $A(E)$ is an atomic proposition in which E appears,
and $A(F)$ is $A(E)$ with F replacing some but not necessarily
all occurrences of E .

Non-referring mass-process words are nil

$$\forall \dots (\neg E(t, l) \rightarrow \neg A)$$

where A is an atomic proposition in which $\llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket$ appears.

Referring mass-process words are true of their time and location

$$\text{a. } \forall \dots (E(t, l) \rightarrow \llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket (t, l))$$

$$\text{b. } \forall \dots (\llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket (w, p) \rightarrow E(w, p))$$

Continuity of reference in time

$$\forall \dots (E(w_1, p_1) \wedge E(w_2, p_2) \wedge w_1 <_{\text{time}} w_3 <_{\text{time}} w_2 \\ \rightarrow \exists w_3 E(w_3, p_3))$$

where E is any formal local mass-process word or a name symbol

Subordination of a local mass-process word to the mass-process word on which it is based

$$\forall \dots (E(t, l) \rightarrow (\llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket \text{ sub } E))$$

Subordination yields subordination of the local mass-process words

$$\forall \dots (E \text{ sub } F \wedge E(t, l) \rightarrow (\llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket \text{ sub } \llbracket \text{this } F(t, l) \rrbracket))$$

Identity and equivalence

$$\forall \dots (E \approx F \wedge \llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket (w, p) \wedge \llbracket \text{this } F(w, p) \rrbracket (t, l), \\ \rightarrow \llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket \approx \llbracket \text{this } F(w, p) \rrbracket)$$

Iterations of local mass-process words

$$\forall \dots (\llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket (w, p) \rightarrow \\ \llbracket \text{this } \llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket (w, p) \rrbracket \approx \llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket)$$

Disjoint locations at the same time yield different references

$$\forall \dots (\llbracket \text{this } E(t, l_1) \rrbracket \approx \llbracket \text{this } E(t, l_2) \rrbracket \rightarrow \\ \exists p (W_{\text{location}}(p, l_1) \wedge W_{\text{location}}(p, l_2) \wedge \\ \llbracket \text{this } E(t, p) \rrbracket \approx \llbracket \text{this } E(t, l_1) \rrbracket)$$

A name cannot be true at some time in disjoint locations

$$\forall \dots (N(t, l_1) \wedge N(t, l_2) \rightarrow \\ \exists l_3 (W_{\text{location}}(l_3, l_1) \wedge W_{\text{location}}(l_3, l_2) \wedge N(t, l_3))$$

Subordination is reflexive

$$\text{a. } E \text{ sub } E$$

if E is an ordinary formal mass-process word

$$\text{b. } \forall \dots (E(t, l) \rightarrow \llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket \text{ sub } \llbracket \text{this } E(t, l) \rrbracket)$$

Subordination is transitive

$$\forall \dots ((E_1 \text{ sub } E_2) \wedge (E_2 \text{ sub } E_3) \rightarrow (E_1 \text{ sub } E_3))$$

Commutativity of conjuncts in a conjunction

$$\forall \dots A(F) \leftrightarrow A(F')$$

where F is a conjunction of mass-process words; E_1 and E_2 are conjuncts in F ; F' is F with E_1 and E_2 replacing each other; $A(F)$ is an atomic proposition in which F appears; and $A(F')$ is $A(F)$ with some but not necessarily all occurrences of F replaced with F' .

Subordination of a conjunction to its conjuncts

$$\forall \dots (E \text{ sub } E) \rightarrow (E \text{ sub } F)$$

where E is a conjunction of mass-process words, and F is E with one or more of its conjuncts deleted.

Conjunction preserves subordination

$$\forall \dots [((E_1 \text{ sub } E_2) \wedge (F \text{ sub } F)) \rightarrow ((F + E_1) \text{ sub } (F + E_2))]$$

Subordination of a modified mass-process word

$$\forall \dots ((E/F) \text{ sub } (E/F) \rightarrow (E/F) \text{ sub } E)$$

Modifying a mass-process word by itself adds nothing

$$\forall \dots (E \text{ sub } E) \rightarrow E/E \approx E$$

Unity of names

$$\forall \dots N(t, l) \rightarrow \llbracket \text{this } N(t, l) \rrbracket \approx N$$

Rule

$$\textit{modus ponens} \quad \frac{A, A \rightarrow B}{B} \quad \text{where } A \text{ and } B \text{ are closed formulas}$$

The definitions of theorem and valid formal inference are the usual ones (Volume 0).

The logical axioms here are those for two-sorted classical predicate logic, and so the axiom system is strongly complete.³⁸ But, as in the remarks following the axiom system **MPSub**, there is no reason to think that all formal wffs that are true relative to our informal conceptions of mass-process, subordination, relating, reference, identity, and names are theorems of this logic.

³⁸ See *Classical Mathematical Logic*.

21 Examples of Formalizing

Example 1 Suzy (pointing, on April 29, 2010): *This dog existed three years ago.*

Analysis This is thing-talk. All we can say in our mass-process language is that the dog-ing here is the same as three years ago:

$$\exists l (\llbracket \text{this DOG (April 29 2010, here)} \rrbracket \approx \llbracket \text{this DOG (April 29 2007, } l) \rrbracket)$$

But this would be true whether “DOG (April 29 2010, here)” is a correct description of one dog or many dogs, dead or alive, or served on a platter.

Example 2 *The dog barked.*

Analysis It might seem that we can formalize this with:

$$\exists t \exists l ((\text{DOG} + \text{BARK}) (t, l) \wedge (t <_{\text{time}} p))$$

But this would be true if there were several dogs barking. The word “the” in the example is meant to indicate only one dog, the reference of which is given by context in ordinary speech. Perhaps that context could provide a way to formulate a this-word to use here.

Example 3 *The waves crashed on the shore.*

Analysis In process-mass logic we can describe the scene we imagine the example is meant to describe:

$$\exists t \exists l ((\text{WATER} + \text{WAVE} + \text{CRASH}) (t, l) \text{ on } (\text{SHORE}) (t, l) \wedge (t <_{\text{time}} p))$$

This would serve also to describe what we might say in English as “Some waves crashed on the shore” or “Some waves crashed on a shore”. The use of the first “the” is a dummy word, not meant to indicate a single thing but used only as a variant way to say “Waves crashed on the shore”. The second is used to point our attention to the land that is picked out by context in ordinary speech, but we need not take it into consideration here for it treats a shore as a thing.

Waves in both our common and scientific thought are mass-process, not things. Yet in English we talk of waves and speak of the first wave, the second wave, and so on. Describing waves in the flow of all, we can talk of one versus another only by talking of one time and location of the flux versus another. We see water rising and crashing on the shore, then rising and crashing on the shore again and again. We could talk of crashings as much as waves. A wave is a particular rising of the water, which we can single out only by singling out the time and place of that rising and water. So we can describe the first wave crashing on the shore, after, say, 3:00 p.m. April 19, 2010 as:

$$\begin{aligned} & \exists t \exists l ((\text{WATER} + \text{WAVE} + \text{CRASH}) (t, l) \text{ on } (\text{SHORE}) (t, l) \\ & \quad \wedge (3:00 \text{ p.m. April 19 2010} <_{\text{time}} t)) \\ & \quad \wedge \neg \exists t_1 ((\text{WATER} + \text{WAVE} + \text{CRASH}) (t_1, l) \text{ on} \\ & \quad \quad (\text{SHORE}) (t_1, l) \wedge (3:00 \text{ p.m. April 19, 2010} <_{\text{time}} t_1 <_{\text{time}} t)) \end{aligned}$$

Example 4 If we take some ice cubes from the refrigerator, crush them, and put them into a glass of coke, we may say:

The ice in the coke is the same ice that was in the refrigerator before.³⁹

Analysis We can assert the identity of the ice in the form of cubes with the ice that is crushed in the glass. With appropriate references for t_1, l_1 and t_2, l_2 , where the time for the former is before that of the latter, we have:

$$\llbracket \text{this ICE } (t_1, l_1) \rrbracket \approx \llbracket \text{this ICE } (t_2, l_2) \rrbracket$$

In contrast,

$$\begin{aligned} & \llbracket \text{this (ICE + CUBE)} (t_1, l_1) \rrbracket \text{ is referring while} \\ & \llbracket \text{this (ICE + CUBE)} (t_2, l_2) \rrbracket \text{ is not referring.} \end{aligned}$$

If at a later time t_3 the variable l_3 refers to a location where the glass is, and the ice in it has partially melted, then:

$$\neg (\llbracket \text{this ICE } (t_2, l_2) \rrbracket \approx \llbracket \text{this ICE } (t_3, l_3) \rrbracket)$$

Example 5 *On the table there is a gold ring, a gold pin, and a gold coin.*

Analysis With appropriate references for the variables, we might use:

$$\begin{aligned} & (\text{GOLD} + \text{RING}) (t, l_1) \text{ on } (\text{TABLE}) (t, l) \\ & \quad \wedge (\text{GOLD} + \text{PIN}) (t, l_2) \text{ on } (\text{TABLE}) (t, l) \\ & \quad \wedge (\text{GOLD} + \text{COIN}) (t, l_3) \text{ on } (\text{TABLE}) (t, l) \end{aligned}$$

But this misses the uses of “a” and “the”. We could, though, distinguish the ring-ing and the pin-ing and the coin-ing by saying they are in different locations:

$$\begin{aligned} & (\text{GOLD} + \text{RING}) (t, l_1) \text{ on } (\text{TABLE}) (t, l_4) \\ & \quad \wedge (\text{GOLD} + \text{PIN}) (t, l_2) \text{ on } (\text{TABLE}) (t, l_4) \\ & \quad \wedge (\text{GOLD} + \text{COIN}) (t, l_3) \text{ on } (\text{TABLE}) (t, l_4) \\ & \quad \wedge \neg \exists l (W_{\text{location}}(l, l_1) \wedge W_{\text{location}}(l, l_2)) \\ & \quad \wedge \neg \exists l (W_{\text{location}}(l, l_2) \wedge W_{\text{location}}(l, l_3)) \\ & \quad \wedge \neg \exists l (W_{\text{location}}(l, l_3) \wedge W_{\text{location}}(l, l_1)) \end{aligned}$$

If the reference for l is a small enough location, we could pick out the “totality” of gold on the table with:

³⁹ From Harry C. Bunt, *Mass Terms and Model Theoretic Semantics*, p. 36.

(a) $\llbracket \text{this GOLD } (t, l) \rrbracket$

But this could be true if there were also a gold toy figurine on the table. Even saying that there is no gold-ing going on at time t within the location l_4 except within locations $l_1, l_2,$ and l_3 won't exclude that.

To accept the gold ring-ing, the gold pin-ing, and the gold coin-ing as parts of what (a) refers to is, according to Alice ter Meulen, to view the gold on the table as a whole even though it is not connected.

In some respects quantities of stuff are quite like individuals. Individuals are objects in space-time, and so are all quantities of stuff. They are in this sense part of the same physical reality. . . . But quantities of substances are in many other respects to be distinguished from individuals. The first most striking difference between quantities and individuals is the fact that the quantities of any substance can be divided into smaller parts that are also quantities of the same substance. Similarly, the quantities of some substance can become part of a larger quantity of the same substance. . . . The fact that quantities can be divided into quantities of the same substance together with the fact that any number of quantities of some substance can become part of a new quantity of the same substance is a logical property characteristic of quantities only. This property of quantities, called the *property of homogeneous reference*, has widely been recognized as distinctive of the semantic interpretation of mass terms. A more precise formulation of this property is the following. Any parts of a quantity of x that are themselves quantities of x can become parts of another quantity of x .⁴⁰

But in the view of the world as process, the gold-ing at that time and place is not a whole: there is only this gold-ing and that gold-ing, some more extensive than others, all subsumed under the description "GOLD" but not part of what is described by that.

⁴⁰ G.B. Alice ter Meulen in *Substances, Quantities, and Individuals*, pp. 67–68

In contrast, Harry C. Bunt in *Mass Terms and Model Theoretic Semantics* views a homogeneous reference principle as an observation about how we talk and not about the nature of the world:

I therefore hold the view that a linguistic semantic theory should take into account that the use of a mass noun forms a way of speaking about things as if they were homogeneous masses, that is, as having some internal structure, allowing us to refer to certain parts, but without singling out any particular parts and without any commitments concerning the existence of minimal parts. I call this assumption the *homogeneous reference hypothesis*, and formulate it for convenience as follows:

Mass-nouns refer to entities as having a part-whole structure without singling out any particular parts and without making any commitments concerning the existence of minimal parts.

I believe that this hypothesis . . . expresses in what way mass nouns are semantically different from count nouns. The difference is not in the structure of the entities that mass nouns and count nouns refer to, but in the way in which they refer to these entities. p. 46

Example 6 What Kim spilled is the same coffee as Sandy wiped up.⁴¹

Analysis We can formalize this as:

$$\begin{aligned} & \exists t_1 \exists t_2 \exists l_1 \exists l_2 \\ & [((\text{KIM} + \text{SPILL}) (t_1, l_1) \text{ directed towards } (\text{COFFEE} (t_1, l_1)) \\ & \wedge ((\text{SANDY} + \text{WIPE}) (t_2, l_1) \text{ directed towards } (\text{COFFEE} (t_2, l_1)) \\ & \wedge (\llbracket \text{this COFFEE} (t_1, l_1) \rrbracket \approx \llbracket \text{this COFFEE} (t_2, l_2) \rrbracket))] \end{aligned}$$

We might replace the last conjunction with:

$$\llbracket \text{this COFFEE} (t_1, l_1) \rrbracket (t_2, l_2)$$

I'll leave to you to puzzle out which best formalizes “the same” in the example.

Example 7 Wanda used to be thin.

Analysis In thing-talk we conceive of things changing: a predicate that once applied to Wanda no longer applies to her. Taking “WANDA” as a name, we can formalize the example as:

$$\begin{aligned} & \exists t \exists l_1 \exists l_2 (\text{WANDA} + \text{THIN}) (t, l_1) \wedge (t <_{\text{time}} \text{now}) \\ & \wedge \text{WANDA} (\text{now}, l_2) \wedge \neg (\text{WANDA} + \text{THIN}) (\text{now}, l_2) \end{aligned}$$

Example 8 This mud used to be brown.

Analysis It is not only things that change. With appropriate reference for l , we can use the following to pick out the mud we are talking about:

$$\llbracket \text{this MUD} (\text{now}, l_1) \rrbracket$$

Then we can formalize the example in process-mass logic as:

$$\begin{aligned} & \exists t \exists l_1 \exists l_2 (\llbracket \text{this MUD} (\text{now}, l_1) \rrbracket + \text{BROWN}) (t, l_2) \wedge (t <_{\text{time}} \text{now}) \\ & \wedge \neg (\llbracket \text{this MUD} (\text{now}, l_1) \rrbracket + \text{BROWN}) (\text{now}, l_1) \end{aligned}$$

We need l_2 here because the mud could have been in a place in a yard and then scooped up and carried to make an adobe brick in another place in that yard. Note that we don't need in to add a conjunct “ $\llbracket \text{this MUD} (\text{now}, l_1) \rrbracket (\text{now}, l_1)$ ” because that follows from the first conjunct.

Example 9 This running used to be fast.

Analysis What we conceive of as process in our ordinary talk can change, too: Dick could have started running fast and slowed down after 20 meters . We can formalize the example in process-mass logic as:

$$\begin{aligned} & \exists t \exists l_1 \exists l_2 (\llbracket \text{this RUN} (\text{now}, l_1) \rrbracket + \text{FAST}) (t, l_2) \wedge (t <_{\text{time}} \text{now}) \\ & \wedge \neg (\llbracket \text{this RUN} (\text{now}, l_1) \rrbracket + \text{FAST}) (\text{now}, l_1) \end{aligned}$$

Or at least we can if we take “FAST” to be a mass-process word.

⁴¹ The example comes from “Mass Expressions” by F. J. Pelletier and L. K. Schubert, p. 359.

Example 10 All is change.

Analysis We can formulate talk of what we can refer to with a this-word as changing relative to a particular description, as we did in the last three examples. If we were to allow quantifications over wffs used as descriptions we could even say that whatever we can refer to at any two times changes relative to some description. But change as endemic, change as the nature of flux, is incoherent, for there is no *that* to change. Even the word “process” is misleading, for it suggests change and instability, when there is nothing to be unstable. There is only the flux and parts of it talked about under specific descriptions to which further descriptions can apply or not apply at different times and places. It would be as apt to describe the world as stuff, as some translators of ancient Greek philosophy do.⁴²

Example 11 Dick and Zoe are walking in the forest. Dick says to Zoe:

The river is very deep here. Don't step into it.

Analysis Dick is thinking of the river as a thing when he says “the river”. But rivers are changing, flowing. Zoe, getting the hang of thinking of the world as process, quotes Heraclitus:

You can't step into the same river twice.

Then Tom, who is along with them, butts in:

River? What river?

He's right from the process-mass view that a river is not a thing. But we can talk of the river with a description of a part of the flow of all:

\llbracket this RIVER (now, l) \rrbracket

With appropriate reference for l this refers to the river-ing in front of Dick and Zoe and Tom. We can even talk of stepping into that once (with appropriate references for the variables):

$(\text{ZOE} + \text{STEP})(t_1, l_1) \text{ into } \llbracket$ this RIVER (now, l) \rrbracket

or twice:

$(\text{ZOE} + \text{STEP})(t_1, l_1) \text{ into } \llbracket$ this RIVER (now, l) \rrbracket
 $\wedge (\text{ZOE} + \text{STEP})(t_2, l_2) \text{ into } \llbracket$ this RIVER (now, l) \rrbracket
 $\wedge \neg W(t_1, t_2) \wedge \neg W(t_2, t_1)$

or as many times as we wish.

Example 12 Dick had the same idea as Suzy.

Analysis Ideas need not be things for us to assert identity. We can formalize the example as:

⁴² See B.A.G. Fuller and Sterling M. McMurrin, *A History of Philosophy*.

$$\begin{aligned} & \exists t_1 \exists l_1 \exists t_2 \exists l_2 ((\text{SUZY} + \text{IDEA})(t_1, l_1) \\ & \quad \wedge (\text{DICK} + \text{IDEA})(t_2, l_2) \wedge (t_1 <_{\text{time}} \text{now}) \wedge (t_2 <_{\text{time}} \text{now}) \\ & \quad \wedge (\llbracket \text{this IDEA}(t_1, l_1) \rrbracket \approx \llbracket \text{this IDEA}(t_2, l_2) \rrbracket)) \end{aligned}$$

Example 13 Once a dog, always a dog.

Analysis In *Time and Space in Formal Logic* this example was viewed as an assertion that being a dog is an essential attribute of a thing in time. In the view of the world as process-mass there are no things and no attributes of things.

We might think to formalize the example by saying that any particular dogging—whether of one or many, dead or alive—continues to be dogging at any other time. To say that, we would have to use “ $\llbracket \text{this DOG}(t, l) \rrbracket$ ” with some references for t and l , and that already has continuity over time. What we can’t say is that what once was a dog could now be a cat, for there is no thing, no object, on which to hang the descriptions “DOG” and “CAT”.

Example 14 Dick’s mind is not the same as Dick’s body.

Analysis The idea that the mind and body are distinct entities can’t be said in our mass-process language. There is the flow of all, which in part can be described as body-ing and in part can be described as mind-ing, and a description of some of the flow perhaps might require both those terms, but not conceived as two things, as separate existences.

Can we formulate some version of the mind-body problem in the language of process-mass logic? If a mind is not a physical thing and a body is, then Cartesian dualism is certainly true. But if mind is abstract we could not reason about it in process-mass logic. But we can assert that mind-ing is not body-ing,

$$\neg (\text{MIND} \approx \text{BODY})$$

and Dick’s mind-ing is not equivalent to Dick’s body-ing:

$$\neg [(\text{DICK} + \text{MIND}) \approx (\text{DICK} + \text{BODY})]$$

This could be true even if in every context in which it would be correct to assert “DICK + MIND” it would be correct to assert “DICK + BODY” and vice-versa, for subordination cannot be reduced to truth in context.

Example 15 Richard L. Epstein wrote Predicate Logic.

Analysis In thing-talk we have difficulty being clear about what we mean by a book. Is it a particular inscription? Is it a piece of language, perhaps an ordering of words? Is it a concrete thing or something abstract?

In process-mass logic we can use “*Predicate Logic*” as a mass-process word. Then we can say of a particular time and place:

(a) *Predicate Logic* (t, l)

If our conception of the book in thing-talk is that there is one and only one such book, then it is not a physical thing. But we can still use (a): at a place and time there could be *Predicate Logic*-ing in many copies or in the mind of someone memorized completely, as we talk of the *Odyssey* when there were no copies of it. For any reference for the variables t_1, l_1, t_2, l_2 , we should have:

[[this *Predicate Logic*(t, l)]] \approx *Predicate Logic*

That's what we get by taking "*Predicate Logic*" as a name.

But what if all copies of the book were destroyed, all record of it destroyed, yet someone, without realizing it, committed it to memory and later when asked to write it down, transcribed the words and symbols in exactly the right order, as we sometimes see with someone who can write down the words of a song when asked even though she never thought she'd memorized it. It would be a stretch to say that the book existed in the unconscious memory of that person. Whether to use "*Predicate Logic*" as a name depends on how we conceive of books.

Example 16 Zeus is Jupiter.

Zeus \approx Jupiter

Analysis We can take this as true even if, as I suspect most of us believe, there is no time and place at which either word is a correct description of the flow of all.

Example 17 Pegasus is Bellerophon's horse.

Analysis This seems to be the kind of predication we can formalize, using subordination. We can point and say "horse of Bellerophon" with:

(a) HORSE of BELLEROPHON

But we can't use "PEGASUS sub (HORSE of BELLEROPHON)" because (a) is not a mass-process word. Perhaps someone will see a way to treat such a combination as one.

Example 18 Sherlock Holmes was a detective. He could have been a professor.

Analysis We can't formalize this not because "Sherlock Holmes" is, as we would say in thing-talk, a non-referring name. It's because we can't formalize this kind of predication (see Example 1 of Chapter 11).

One colleague said that if we can't formalize this in our mass-process language and logic, then we can't analyze fiction. But that is to take "fiction" to mean talk about things. Can't we have also fictional mud and fictional running? In any case, even in classical predicate logic we can't formalize the example because of the modal "would". All we can do is set up one model in which Sherlock Holmes was a detective and another in which he was a professor (see Chapter X of *The Internal*

Structure of Predicates and Names). Those who try to formalize the two sentences together in one language with one model are trying to combine the metalogic and the logic into one system, and that does not work.⁴³

Example 19 There are two patches of mud now in the patio.

$$\begin{aligned} \exists l_1 \exists l_2 [& \text{MUD}(\text{now}, l_1) \wedge \text{MUD}(\text{now}, l_2) \\ & \wedge \text{W}_{\text{location}}(l_1, \text{patio}) \wedge \text{W}_{\text{location}}(l_2, \text{patio}) \wedge \\ & \neg \exists l_3 (\text{W}_{\text{location}}(l_3, l_1) \wedge \text{W}_{\text{location}}(l_2, l_1))] \end{aligned}$$

Analysis As a consequence of this we have:

$$\neg (\llbracket \text{this MUD}(\text{now}, l_1) \rrbracket \approx \llbracket \text{this MUD}(\text{now}, l_2) \rrbracket)$$

The word “patches” is a classifier, making mud-ings into things. We don’t talk about things here. Rather, the formalization is apt for “There are two mud-ings now in the patio”. We can count mud-ings. Doesn’t that show we have a notion of thing in our language and logic? We can count because we treat times and locations as things that we can quantify over. But even that does not make two mud-ings into two things. We can talk about two dog-ings, but those could be a dead dog and a pack of dogs. That we can count does not by itself show that we have a usable notion of individual thing in our language and logic.

⁴³ See my “Reflections on Temporal and Modal Logic”.

22 Talking of Mass-Process and Things Together

Talking of things in our mass-process language and logic?

In English we use particular words or phrases to pay attention to a part of a mass as a thing: “a glass of water”, “a patch of mud”, and also “three patches of mud”, “four cups of coffee”. Such phrases are called *classifiers*. The most general, all-purpose classifier in English is “a bit of”, though that usually suggests a small portion. So we can say “a bit of water”, “a bit of chocolate”, “a bit of gold”. However, this sounds more than odd when we use it with a mass word that isn’t, from our English-speaking perspective, a substance: “a bit of justice”, “a bit of honor”. For those we use a different general classifier: “an instance of justice”, “an instance of honor”.

Chinese has classifier words. As Perry Link says in “A Magician of Chinese Poetry”:

Nouns have no number in Chinese. Weinberger notes that “a rose is a rose is all roses,” but that formulation still leaves us too far inside Western-language number habits. “All roses” in English means the summation of individual roses, whereas in Chinese *meigui*, or “rose” is more like “roseness” or “rosehood.” (If you want to talk in Chinese about one rose, you may, but then you use a “measure-word” to say “one blossom-of roseness.”)

Dorothy Lee in “Categories of the Generic and Particular in Wintu”, says that in Wintu “particularization” is done by adding a suffix to a “generic” word.

Particularizations may be used to create a new word, denoting a delimited form of something commonly regarded as generic. p. 366

But when you particularize “dog” in Wintu, that doesn’t mean “a dog”. The classifier indicates specific portions of the mass, but is neither singular nor plural. Lee says that the word *nop* means “deer” in the general mass-process sense, and *nopum* means what we would translate as “one or several deer”. This is very much like what we do with the this-operator in our mass-process language and logic. We particularize, but we do not individualize; we refer, but necessarily to an individual.

And that’s the problem with adding a general classifier to our mass-process language and logic. We could add the predicate “— is a bit of (DOG)”, but what could we put into the universe of individuals for a model that would satisfy this? A single dog? Several dogs? A pack of dogs? A portion of dog meat? We could have the predicate “— is a bit of (SNOW)”, but what bits of snow should be in the universe of a model in reasoning about clearing snow from city streets? We can’t talk about all bits of snow any more than we can talk about all things: it’s simply not clear what counts as a bit of snow. Can I identify and re-identify a fall of snow? Can I identify and re-identify a drift of snow? Is a collection of snow flakes 3 cm in diameter that is embedded in that drift a bit of snow? Is a collection of flakes that is

falling just now a bit of snow? To use this thing-in-mass language and logic, we would have to specify what bits of snow, what bits of water, what bits of mud are in the universe of a model. Since snow, water, and mud do not come naturally in bits, a general way to specify what is in the model eludes us. And that's just for mass-process words that are about "substance". What counts as a bit of justice? How can I identify and re-identify some thing that x can stand for that makes "(— is a bit of JUSTICE) (x)" true?

We can have a notion of a single thing that is "part of" a mass only if we start with that notion from our thing-talk using classifiers that we agree are meant to pick out what we can reason about as things: "a ball of snow", "a drift of snow", "a single dog", "a pack of dogs", "a portion of dog meat". We cannot find in a mass-process language a hidden or implicit notion of thing of the sort that we could use for reasoning in predicate logic. We have to import it from our thing-conception world. The best we can do is use many different classifiers.

If we do add the predicate "— is a patch of (MUD)" to a realization of our mass-process language, we need to relate it to "MUD". Perhaps we could treat it as if it were a mass-process word, too, so we could have "— is a patch of (MUD) sub MUD". But a predicate is a piece of language, and we would have to also treat it as picking out a concept for that to be right. Otherwise we should have:

"— is a patch of (MUD)" sub "MUD"

I do not see how to proceed here. We should talk with native speakers of mass-process languages who also speak English and ask them how they can use the notion of a thing that they have learned in English in their language. What tools do they use? Can we formalize those?

Talking of mass-process in predicate logic?

Perhaps we could talk about mass-process and things together by starting instead with classical predicate logic. In English we can turn the common noun "father" into a mass-process word, "fatherhood". We can turn the adjective "wise" into a mass-process word, "wisdom". We can turn the verb "run" into a mass-process word, "running". We don't have a regular procedure for making mass words. We often have to make up a word when we want to "massify" a common noun, for example "doggieness" or "doghoodity".

Some people who are committed to a thing-view of the world say that we do have a general method: just add "the property of", as in "the property of being wise" or "the property of being a dog". But that is not what "wisdom" means nor what "doggieness" is meant to convey. "Wisdom" is not meant as the property of a thing to be wise; it is a mass term. Doggieness is not the property of a thing to be a dog; it is a mass term as much as "DOG" is in our mass-process language. Even as English speakers, we think of doggieness as the essence of being a dog, or as the genus of dog, not as a property. Running, too, is not a property of a thing that is running; it is a mass term as much as "RUN" is in our mass-process language.

To incorporate mass-process talk into predicate logic, perhaps we could use a general way to massify common nouns, verbs, and (some) adjectives with a logical operator *mass*. From “— is a dog”, “— runs”, “— is white” we would get “mass (— is a dog)”, “mass (— runs)”, and “mass (— is white)”. Given any predicate P, we would have a mass term “mass (P)”. We could include in the language “sub” for the subordination relation, so that we could assert “mass ((— is a human)) sub mass ((— is an animal))”.

We would also need to include as primitive in the vocabulary some mass words such as “mud”, “water”, and “snow” that are not meant to be used as predicates. But then we have all the problems we saw in trying to put a notion of thing into our mass-process language and logic. Only here we need not look for a speaker of a mass-process language to help us. We have all the data we need because we have mass-process words in English, and we do individuate with them with classifiers.

There is no clear path to dealing with things and mass-process in a formal logic based on predicate logic, though some have tried. Nor is there a clear path to talking about things and mass-process in our logic or mass-process.

Aside: Taking mass terms as denoting collections of things

Harry C. Bunt in *Mass Terms and Model Theoretic Semantics* gives Example 4 of Chapter 21 above about ice in his criticism of the view of masses as collections of things. He says:

The choice of an appropriate “individuating standard” must depend on the circumstances; for example, “sugar” will have to be counted as “lumps of sugar” in some contexts, as “grains of sugar” in other contexts, and as “shipments of sugar” in still other contexts. This context-dependence alone makes the proposal [to use sets as the denotation of mass terms] rather unattractive; moreover, it runs into fundamental difficulties, illustrated by [that example]. [It] would be a true sentence about some ice, yet there is no individuating standard in terms of which we can express this, since the identity stated by the sentence is not an identity of any of the pieces of ice involved, but an identity of the totalities of ice made up of whatever pieces are involved.

If context-dependent individuating standards do not work satisfactorily, the next move is naturally to look for context-independent individuating standards. Such standards would then have to be artificial, since we just saw that natural standards, suggested by the language (“dollop”, “lump”, “batch”, etc.) do not work in general. It is tempting to think of Quine’s minimal parts hypothesis and treat mass nouns as denoting the sets of their minimal parts. “Water” would denote the set of H₂O molecules, “furniture” the set of chairs, tables, etc., and “sugar” the set of sugar grains. I have not seen any serious proposal for such an approach, though it would seem to encounter fewer formal difficulties than the use of context-dependent individuating standards. Presumably, this is due to the fact that such a proposal would so obviously run counter to our intuitions. Even if one were to agree with the minimal parts hypothesis, it is often impossible to actually determine a reasonable set of minimal parts. To consider H₂O molecules as the referents of “water” seems counter-intuitive; something like “drops” would seem better, but presents the problem that a drop can be split into smaller drops, so it clearly is not really a minimal part, and the same is true of any other part we can

name without making use of technical terms from physics or chemistry. Moreover, for abstract nouns like “leisure”, “damage”, or “time”, for which no minimal parts are assumed to exist, this proposal must fail. pp. 36–37

See my “Models and Theories” for a fuller explanation of why it is wrong to consider water as a collection of all H₂O molecules.

Aside: Process as Events

We try to talk about processes as things in English. An archetypal process-word in English, “running”, we treat as talking about a thing: the running of Spot at noon in Dick and Zoe’s yard. We call that an “event” and try to reason about events as things. That is a metaphysical mismatch, a way of talking that leads to many problems, as I explain in Appendix C of Volume 2.

An event is a process, like a mass. We cannot count it. But we can divide it. You might say that events aren’t like masses because there’s not one big mass called “event” that each event is part of, like there’s one big mass called “gold” that every bit of gold is part of. But that’s misleading: there isn’t one big mass called “rain” that today’s rain is part of. Masses and processes can’t be counted not because each is a single big unit persisting over all or many times and many places. They can’t be counted because they’re not things, not something we can individuate. That’s also why we can’t individuate events. There is the event which we can divide up into parts: the process of Julius Caesar, the process of being a knife, the process of Brutus, the process of stabbing, But when we try to say exactly what the event is, to individuate it, we have only expressions like “Brutus stabbed Julius Caesar with a knife”, “Julius Caesar was stabbed”, “Brutus stabbed”, “A knife went into Julius Ceasar”, None of these describes the event: they are ways of picking out some portion of the event, as we pick out some portion of water by saying “the part of the water that is flowing over the bank”. The event can’t be treated as a thing. We can quantify over the parts of it, but only by quantifying over propositions, for those are what describe parts of it.

**CONTEXTS via
BEFORE and AFTER**

23 Mass-Process Words in Time

Viewing times and locations as things is not an essential part of our conceptions of time and space. More fundamental at least for time are comparisons of before and after. “Spot barked before Dick yelled” orients us, to some extent, in the mass of time. No thing-talk is needed or implicit in such a comparison: we do not talk of events, we join propositions. In Volume 2 we saw how to formalize talk of before and after using temporal propositional connectives.

Adding the logic of temporal propositional connectives to our base logic of mass-process can give us contexts without talk of bits of time. If I say “DICK + YELL”, I can add “before DOG + BARK”, and “after CAT + MEOW”. This gives us a context in time. I have found no way to compare and to orient ourselves in space with spatial propositional connectives. So adding the logic of temporal propositional connectives to the logic of mass-process is only a partial solution to providing contexts in the manner of our earlier examples. But then, giving contexts in terms of time and space is only a partial solution, for there is always more we could take account of in describing a context.

* * * * * * * *

We begin with the language and logic of temporal propositional connectives, **TC** of *Time and Space in Formal Logic*. Each atomic proposition, such as “Spot barked”, is not of a time but if true establishes a time: when Spot barked. We focus better on that time by relating it to the time that, say, “Dick yelled” establishes as well as times that other true atomic propositions establish. The time that the proposition “Spot barked” establishes is an interval: before that interval Spot didn’t bark, after it he didn’t bark, and during the whole interval he barked. Intervals have the same status to the mass of time as some mud in my patio has to the mass-process mud.

We use the following connectives of atomic propositions for before and after relations, where I’ll abbreviate “the time that p establishes” as “the time of p”:

$p \wedge_{bb} q$ is true iff both p and q are true and the time of p begins before the beginning of the time of q.

$p \wedge_{eb} q$ is true iff both p and q are true and the time of p ends before the beginning of the time that q establishes.

$p \wedge_{be} q$ is true iff both p and q are true and the time of p begins before the ending of the time that q establishes.

$p \wedge_{ee} q$ is true iff both p and q are true and the time of p ends before the ending of the time that q establishes.

In Volume 2 we used these connectives by designating or looking for beginnings and endings of, for example, when Spot barked and of when Dick yelled in

order to compare. But talk of beginning and ending points, I suggested there, is not essential to the logic. All that is essential is that there is a before and after of intervals of times of propositions in terms of overlaps. The intervals are not things but only some of the flow of time we note, as we note this lump of snow.

A mass-process word, such as “DOG”, can be a correct description not at a time but within time. Pointing, I say “DOG + SLEEP” and then a little later I say “DOG + RUN”. Those are true: there was dog-ing together with sleeping before there was dog-ing together with running. This suggests the formalization:

$$(\text{DOG} + \text{SLEEP}) \wedge_{\text{eb}} (\text{DOG} + \text{RUN})$$

But suppose later I point and say “DOG + SLEEP” again. That looks like the same proposition I said earlier. But it’s meant to be a different one, talking of after the time that “DOG + RUN” establishes. As in Volume 2, we need to index our atomic wffs to have propositions. For example, we can write:

$$\begin{aligned} &(\text{DOG} + \text{SLEEP})_1 \wedge_{\text{eb}} (\text{DOG} + \text{RUN})_4 \\ &(\text{DOG} + \text{RUN})_4 \wedge_{\text{eb}} (\text{DOG} + \text{SLEEP})_2 \end{aligned}$$

The indices do not mark specific times. We use them only to distinguish two uses of a single sentence-type as distinct propositions.

It might seem that with these indices we’ve introduced a notion of thing, for they are numbers. But using numbers is only a convenience for us speakers of English. We could indicate difference or sameness of the use of the type “DOG” by using different fonts, as in **dog**, Dog, DOg, *dog*, **DOG**, DOG, doG, . . . , or by using different colors for the letters. Those would not introduce any thing conception. But I’ll use numbers for the sake of simplicity for us English speakers.

Allowing names as base mass-process words, as discussed at the end of Chapter 2, we can see a clearer parallel with what we did in Volume 2. There we considered:

Spot barked. Then Dick yelled. Then Spot barked.

We formalized this as:

$$((\text{Spot barked})_1 \wedge_{\text{eb}} (\text{Dick yelled})_4) \wedge ((\text{Dick yelled})_4 \wedge_{\text{ee}} (\text{Spot barked})_2)$$

In our mass-process language we can write:

$$[(\text{SPOT} + \text{BARK})_1 \wedge_{\text{eb}} (\text{DICK} + \text{YELL})_4] \wedge [(\text{DICK} + \text{YELL})_4 \wedge_{\text{ee}} (\text{SPOT} + \text{BARK})_2]$$

Now a mass-process word by itself can be a proposition, if it is indexed. For example:

$$\begin{aligned} &(\text{CAT})_{16} \\ &(\text{RUN})_{1947} \end{aligned}$$

(VIRTUE)₁₇

(EAT + MEAT)₁₁

(DOG/FAKE)₄₃₁₈

(JUSTICE + BARK)₈₂

(CAT + LOVE + HUMAN)_{9,000,001}

I can assert that there is dog-ing together with sleeping then-there, and I can formalize that with “(DOG + SLEEP)₂”. Again, I said that I’m talking of “then-there”. But that’s a crutch I’ve used to get you to have some idea of what we’re doing here. There is no talk of location, of space; we do not have a logic of spatial connectives, and that’s a big lack. We are considering only time. And we are not somehow indicating that I’m talking of now or that you are talking of yesterday. We establish, not pick out, times only with true atomic propositions.

24 Subordination in Time

If a subordination such as “JUSTICE sub VIRTUE” is true, then in every context in which it is correct to assert “JUSTICE”, it is correct to assert “VIRTUE”. Here, a context is given not to a proposition but by a proposition relative to other propositions by before and after.

So consider the following true proposition:

DOG sub MAMMAL

Suppose we assert “(DOG)₂” and it is true. Hence, it establishes a time. So in that context, that is, during all that time, it is correct to assert “MAMMAL”. But perhaps no one did assert “MAMMAL” meaning to establish a time that included the time of “(DOG)₂”. Propositions, remember, are uttered or written; they do not exist in some timeless place outside our language and world. So how can we say that it is correct to assert “MAMMAL” of the time established by “(DOG)₂”?

We can’t say there is such an assertion, for there might not be one. Nor can we say that if there is one, it is true, for to say that there is one whose time includes that of “(DOG)₂” requires the assertion of “MAMMAL” to be true. What we can say is that any true indexed version of “MAMMAL”, say “(MAMMAL)₃”, either establishes a time that is completely disjoint from that of “(DOG)₂” or else if it overlaps that of “(DOG)₂” then it includes all of the time of “(DOG)₂”. That is, “(MAMMAL)₃” can’t establish a time that covers just part of the time established by “(DOG)₂”, for directly outside the time established by “(MAMMAL)₃”, “MAMMAL” is not a correct description.

To formalize this observation, we can use two defined connectives from the logic of temporal connectives, where p and q stand for any indexed mass-process words:

$$p \wedge_x q \equiv_{\text{Def}} [(p \wedge_{bb} q) \wedge (p \wedge_{be} q)] \vee [(q \wedge_{bb} p) \wedge (q \wedge_{be} p)] \\ \vee (p \approx_{bb} q) \vee (p \approx_{ee} q) \vee (p \approx_{be} q) \vee (p \approx_{eb} q)$$

This is true iff both p and q are true and the time that p establishes intersects the time that q establishes.

$$p \wedge_w q \equiv_{\text{Def}} (p \wedge q) \wedge \neg (p \wedge_{bb} q) \wedge \neg (q \wedge_{ee} p)$$

This is true in a model iff both p and q are true, and the time that p establishes is within the time that q establishes.

Then we can formalize our observation:

$$[((\text{DOG sub MAMMAL}) \wedge ((\text{DOG})_2 \wedge_x (\text{MAMMAL})_3)) \\ \rightarrow ((\text{DOG})_2 \wedge_w (\text{MAMMAL})_3)]$$

The same hold for any indices:

$$\begin{aligned} & [((\text{DOG sub MAMMAL}) \wedge ((\text{DOG})_i \wedge_x (\text{MAMMAL})_j)) \\ & \quad \rightarrow (\text{DOG})_i \wedge_w (\text{MAMMAL})_j] \end{aligned}$$

The general principle for subordination and temporal assertions is the following.

Subordination and temporal assertions For all indices i and j ,

$$[(\text{E sub F}) \wedge ((\text{E})_i \wedge_x (\text{F})_j)] \rightarrow ((\text{E})_i \wedge_w (\text{F})_j)$$

25 A Formal Logic

We incorporate the logic of propositional temporal connectives **TC** from Volume 2 into the base logic of mass-process words and subordination, **MPSub**. As in **TC**, temporal propositional connectives can join only atomic propositions. But now atomic propositions have structure. We invoke that structure in requiring that the temporal connectives can join only indexed mass-process words, not subordination wffs.

Vocabulary

We add to the vocabulary of **MPSub**:

indices 1, 2, 3, . . .

temporal connectives \wedge_{bb} \wedge_{ee} \wedge_{be} \wedge_{eb}

Mass-process words

These are defined as for **MPSub**.

Wffs

To the definition of well-formed-formulas of **MPSub**, we add:

- If E is a mass-process word, then for every index i , $(E)_i$ is a wff. It is an *indexed atomic wff*.

- If A and B are indexed atomic wffs, then each of the following is a wff of length 2:

$$(A \wedge_{bb} B) \quad (A \wedge_{ee} B) \quad (A \wedge_{be} B) \quad (A \wedge_{eb} B)$$

Defined connectives from **TC** are now for only indexed atomic wffs. In particular, we have $p \wedge_x q$ and $p \wedge_w q$ defined when p and q are indexed mass-process words, as given on p. 119 above.

Realizations and semi-formal languages

The definition is as for **MPSub**.

Models

We take the notion of a model for **TC**, classical propositional logic with temporal connectives, as defined in Chapter 51 of Volume 2, pp. 205–206. In those models,

$$\upsilon(p \wedge_w q) = T \text{ iff } \upsilon(p) = T \text{ and } \upsilon(q) = T \text{ and } t(p) \subseteq t(q)$$

$$\upsilon(p \wedge_x q) = T \text{ iff } \upsilon(p) = T \text{ and } \upsilon(q) = T \text{ and } t(p) \text{ intersects } t(q)$$

We add the following condition.

Subordinations and temporal propositions

If $\upsilon(E \text{ sub } F) = \top$, and $\upsilon((E)_i \wedge_x (F)_j) = \top$, then $\upsilon((E)_i \wedge_w (F)_j) = \top$.

Axioms

We add to the axiom schemes of **MPSub** the temporal axioms of **TC** from Chapter 54 of Volume 2, pp. 223–224 and an additional axiom scheme for our new conditions on models.

Subordination and temporal assertions

$[(E \text{ sub } F) \wedge ((E)_i \wedge_x (F)_j)] \rightarrow ((E)_i \wedge_w (F)_j)$

We call this logic **MPSub+TC**.

26 Examples of Formalizing

As before, I have no choice but to give examples in English, either as propositions which we can try to re-interpret or as descriptions of an experience we might have that we can try to cast in the view of the world as flux.

Example 1 It's raining.

(RAIN)₃

Analysis This seems very unsatisfying. It seems that all we're doing is uttering the word "RAIN". There is no time involved.

But that's because we are looking at this proposition in isolation. Time is not picked out with it, but only established relative to many other propositions, like "(ZOE + SHOP)₁₃" and "(DICK + SLEEP)₁₀₂".

Still, there is the tense in the example. It's meant to talk about now. All our descriptions in English come with indications of past, present, or future. As in *Time and Space in Formal Logic*, we can formalize talk that uses the past-present-future conception of time by standing outside the system and designating a true indexed atomic proposition or conjunction of true indexed atomic propositions N as establishing now. Here let's take N to be a single atomic proposition. Then for any indexed atomic proposition p, we can define:

Past (p) $\equiv_{\text{Def}} p \wedge_{\text{eb}} N$

Future (p) $\equiv_{\text{Def}} N \wedge_{\text{eb}} p$

Present (p) $\equiv_{\text{Def}} (p \wedge N) \wedge \neg (p \wedge_{\text{bb}} N) \wedge \neg (N \wedge_{\text{ee}} p)$

The truth-conditions for these are:

"Past (p)" is true iff p is true and the time of p is before the time of N.

"Future (p)" is true iff p is true and the time of N is before the time of p.

"Present (p)" is true iff p is true and the time of p is within the time of N.

In using our past-present-future talk we assume that time is linear. So in formalizing examples that involve tenses, we'll work in **TCL**, which is **TC** modified to require that the times established by true atomic propositions create a linear ordering, except for those that overlap or are within one another.

So now we can formalize the example as:

P((RAIN)₃)

Example 2 Whatever is a dog is a mammal

Birta is a dog.

Therefore, *Birta is a mammal.*

DOG sub MAMMAL
 BIRTA sub DOG

 BIRTA sub MAMMAL

Analysis The informal inference is valid, and the formalization is valid by transitivity of subordination. This is to take the reading of “is” in the example as atemporal subordination.

Example 3 Birta is a dog

Analysis If by this is meant that being a dog is in the essential nature of Birta, we can use “BIRTA sub DOG” as in the last example.

If what is meant is that Birta is a dog right now, though she might have been a fish before or a human in time to come, we cannot formalize the example. That’s for the same reason we cannot formalize it in the mass-process logic of times and locations (Example 1, Chapter 11): we cannot disentangle dog-ing from all other mass-process descriptions.

Example 4 Dick yelled before Spot barked.

$$(DICK + YELL)_1 \wedge_{eb} (SPOT + BARK)_3$$

Analysis Some sentences that we understand as predications in English can be formalized in this logic, as they could in the mass-process logic of times and locations (Chapter 11).

Example 5 Dick yelled at the same time as Spot barked.

$$(Dick\ yelled)_1 \approx_T (Spot\ barked)_1$$

Analysis I take the example to be that someone is contradicting the last example, so we should use the same indices as there.

In **TCL** we defined the connective \approx_T such that $p \approx_T q$ is true iff the time interval established by p is the same as that established by q .

We can use the other defined connectives from **TCL** to formalize “while”, “during”, “within the time”, and more from Chapter 53 of Volume 2.

Example 6 Sometime after Dick stopped eating, Spot began to bark.

$$(DICK + EAT)_1 \wedge_{eb} (SPOT + BARK)_3$$

Analysis Despite the apparent quantification over times in the example, we can formalize it (compare Example 4, Chapter 53 of *Time and Space in Formal Logic*).

Example 7 Puff is running from Spot.

$$\text{Present } [(PUFF + RUN)_1 \text{ from } (SPOT + BARK)_3]$$

Analysis We can introduce categorematic propositional connectives into this logic as we did in the mass-process logic of times and locations (Chapter 13).

Example 8 *Zoe is running from something.*

Analysis We have the same problems formalizing this as in the mass-process logic of times and locations (Example 5, Chapter 14). Should we introduce a unary propositional connective “from” or use “from” as a modifier?

Example 9 *The dog that barked before is barking again now.*

Analysis If we develop a method of referring analogous to what we did in the mass-process logic of times and locations (Chapter 16), we could formalize the example as:

$$\text{Past} ((\text{DOG})_{13}) \wedge \\ \text{Past} ((\llbracket \text{this} (\text{DOG})_{13} \rrbracket + \text{BARK})_1) \wedge \text{Present} ((\llbracket \text{this} (\text{DOG})_{13} \rrbracket + \text{BARK})_2)$$

We get that the dog barked before and is barking a second time by the use of the defined operators “Past” and “Present”.

Example 10 *There is mud in the patio now.*

$$\text{Present} ((\text{MUD})_2 \text{ in } (\text{PATIO})_4)$$

Analysis This formalization requires introducing categorematic connectives. But more, it requires treating a location-name as a mass-process word. There, patio-ing. Or there, corral-ing. This is a way to deal with locations that is fully compatible with the view of the world as process. A location is mass-process, some of the mass-process of space.

We can do this only if we have a way to describe the location. How could we formalize “There is mud somewhere now”? If we assume that all our propositions are of both space and time, we could use:

$$\text{Present} ((\text{MUD})_5)$$

But that assumption would have to stand outside the formal system.

Example 10 *There are two patches of mud now in the patio.*

$$\text{Present} ((\text{MUD})_2 \text{ in } (\text{PATIO})_4) \wedge \\ \text{Present} ((\text{MUD})_3 \text{ in } (\text{PATIO})_4) \wedge \\ \neg (\llbracket \text{this} (\text{MUD})_2 \rrbracket \approx \llbracket \text{this} (\text{MUD})_3 \rrbracket)$$

Analysis This shows that we can count without treating times and locations as things we quantify over (Example 19, Chapter 21). The counting is done by using distinct referring expressions. That we distinguish between different utterances or inscriptions leads to a way that we, as thing-talkers, see as counting.

But talking generally of things and mass-process together with this logic of temporal connectives encounters the same problems we saw with talking of things and mass-process together with the logic of times and locations for mass-process (Chapter 22).

Example 11 There is no cat-ing in the patio now.

Analysis It seems that we could formalize this with:

$$\neg \text{Present} ((\text{CAT})_2 \text{ in } (\text{PATIO})_4)$$

But that and the following could both be true:

$$\text{Present} ((\text{CAT})_7 \text{ in } (\text{PATIO})_4)$$

We need to say that there is no index i such that “Present ((CAT) $_i$ in (PATIO) $_4$)” is true. We did that in *Time and Space in Formal Logic* by introducing quantification over indices, and we could do the same here, formalizing the example as :

$$\neg \exists i \text{Present} ((\text{CAT})_i \text{ in } (\text{PATIO})_4)$$

But this doesn’t actually say that there is no cat-ing now, only that no indexed version of “CAT” is true of now. That is, given the resources of our language, there is no way to say that there is cat-ing now.

This problem arises because only true atomic propositions establish times. We have no atomic proposition that is meant to describe not-cating. Perhaps we could introduce a word negation to accomplish that. We’d write “~CAT” to mean the absence of cat-ing. It would be a mass-process word. Then we could formalize the example as:

$$\text{Present} ((\sim \text{CAT})_8 \text{ in } (\text{PATIO})_4)$$

And we could assert:

$$(\text{DOG} + \text{SLEEP} + \sim \text{CAT})_1 \wedge_{\text{eb}} (\text{DOG} + \text{RUN} + \text{CAT})_4$$

To do this, we’d need to agree that “~CAT” elicits a concept: the complete absence of cat-ing. So it would figure in subordinations. For example, as a consequence of “CAT sub ANIMAL”, we’d have “~ANIMAL sub ~CAT”: the complete absence of animal-ing is included in the concept of the complete absence of cat-ing.

What non-negated mass-process concepts would “~CAT” be subordinate to? We can’t have “DOG sub ~CAT” because we can have contexts in which there is both dog-ing and cat-ing, so that the principle of subordination and truth in a context would fail. No positive mass-process description being true precludes cat-ing. There are no contrary mass-process words, as noted at the end of Chapter 11.

But surely we should have:

$$\text{BLACK} \text{ sub } \sim \text{WHITE}$$

Conceptually, the concept of black is included in that of not-white. It seems that this is a codification of a correct use of words, too. If so, in every context in which it is correct to assert “BLACK” it is correct to assert “~ WHITE”. But then there would be contexts in which it is correct to assert both “WHITE” and “~ WHITE”, for example if there is (described in thing-talk) a black dog and a white cat in the patio. Thinking in terms of times and locations, in some part of that location at that time there is white-ing, and in some part of the location at that time there is not-white-ing. But that’s not what we have with “~ WHITE”. We’re asserting the complete absence of white-ing in that time and location. It’s a some versus all issue. For the positive mass-process word to hold it has to be true of some of the location: that’s what’s codified by the principle of the outward closure of truth for locations. For the negative mass-process word to hold, there has to be complete absence, hence in all of the context the mass-process word does not apply.

The alternative is to treat “~ WHITE” as we do “DOG”: it’s true of a context iff it is true in some part of that context.

There is so much more we could do. But not by me, not now.

Appendix C On the Genesis of the Concept of Object in Children

The work of Jean Piaget in *The Construction of Reality in the Child* illustrates how the strength of the conception of the world as made up of things colors and distorts research.

On the first page of his text Piaget says:

A world composed of permanent objects constitutes not only a spatial universe but also a world obeying the principles of causality in the form of relationships between things, and regulated in time, without continuous annihilations and resurrections. Hence, it is a universe both stable and external, relatively distinct from the internal world and one in which the subject places himself as one particular term among all other terms. A universe without objects, on the other hand, is a world in which space does not constitute a solid environment but is limited to structuring the subject's very acts; it is a world of pictures each one of which can be known and analyzed but which disappear and reappear capriciously. From the point of view of causality it is a world in which the connections between things are masked by the relations between the action and its desired results; hence the subject's activity is conceived as being the primary and almost sole motive power. p. 3

Piaget presents a false dichotomy. He seems to think that if we do not parse the world as made up of things, experience is so fluid that all boundaries dissolve. But that is not obvious. He does not recognize that it is our language that forces us to conceive of the world as made up of things and that some people view the world as processes, and that "processes" are stable in the sense that mothering continues, without thinking of mother as a thing. To conceive of a process as continuous over time is not the same as to conceive of a thing. He does not see that his view of annihilations and resurrections and pictures appearing and disappearing capriciously already assumes that the world is made up of things. There need be nothing capricious in conceiving of the world as process, for we can have causal relations holding, as I discuss in Example 6 of Chapter 15.

The real question isn't how the child constructs a reality of things from his or her physical experiences. It is how we teach the child our categories, our schemes of the world, so that he or she can use our language. What we are doing when the child is very young, I suspect, is conveying to it pre-linguistically how to operate in the world in such a way that he or she has the fundamental categories we have, in particular the notion of a thing.

In the description he gives of one experiment we can see how Piaget has built objects into his view, not recognized them in the child's view:

Laurent, as early as the second day, seems to seek with his lips the breast which has escaped him [reference]. From the third day he gropes more systematically to find it [reference]. From [day 1] and [day 2] he searches in the same way for his thumb, which brushed his mouth or came out of it [reference]. Thus it seems that contact of the lips with the nipple and the thumb gives rise to a pursuit of those objects, once they have disappeared, a pursuit connected with reflex activity in the first case and with a nascent or acquired habit in the second case. p. 9

The categories of nipple and thumb are ones Piaget has in his language and mind, but there is no reason to think that his description is apt for the child's experience. Moreover, it is

2 Appendix C

bizarre to say that the child's thumb has disappeared. It can't have disappeared from the child, because it's part of him. Has it disappeared from view? But then why doesn't he say the child saw the thumb, rather than touched it with his mouth? Has it disappeared from his mouth? That is an odd way of talking.

This is very much like the anthropomorphisms we make when we interpret the actions of dogs. It is especially apparent in the following:

Laurent then watches that point when I am out of his sight and obviously expects to see me reappear. p. 9

There is less reason to believe that Laurent, in the scene described, expected to see Piaget reappear than there is reason to believe that my dog feels guilty when she has done something I disapprove of. And lately we've got even less reason to believe that about my dog.¹ We have less reason still to believe that his description of the mental life of a 4-day-old child is accurate and not just a projection he makes from his own experiences:

Then I withdraw; when she turns without finding me her expression is one of mingled disappointment and expectation. p. 11

W.V.O. Quine in *Word & Object* made equally grand pronouncements about how children learn language. He did not show how children learn the concept of thing but simply assumed that they did and set out to explain it without any experiment or analysis of psychological research. He dismisses the work of Whorf, Sapir, and others in a short paragraph:

One frequently hears it urged that deep differences of language carry with them ultimate differences in the way one thinks, or looks upon the world. I would urge that what is most generally involved is indeterminacy of correlation. There is less basis of comparison—less sense in saying what is good translation and what is bad—the farther we get away from sentences with visibly direct conditioning to non-verbal stimuli and the farther we get off home ground. pp. 77–78

He does not consider that the “home ground” of another language might be quite different from the home ground he assumes. Linguists who study languages that parse the world quite differently than Indo-European languages often do not learn the language but rely on informants only. They are aware of the limitations of their work, recognizing: one of them, Melissa Axelrod told me that their work is really only a discussion of how to translate from such a language into our languages, how best to describe the grammar of such languages using the grammatical categories of Indo-European languages. Only linguists who are fluent in languages such as Navajo or Hopi can try to convey to us a fully different parsing of the world.

This kind of criticism doesn't apply to Piaget's *The Child's Conception of Number*, for there he is examining how children learn to use a linguistic concept that we are teaching them. That is, he is doing what he should be doing in the examination of the concept of object: trying to find out how we teach the concept. Serious work on this is now being done. Some of it is well described in Michael Tomasello's “Pragmatic Contexts for Early Verb Learning”. In the same volume Alison Gopnik and Soonja Choi in “Names, Relational Words, and Cognitive Development in English and Korean Speakers: Nouns Are Not

¹ Cite research

Always Learned First” say in the conclusion to their paper:

These findings cast doubt on the propositions that children always learn object names before they learn words that encode actions and relations, that they learn nouns before verbs, and that object names necessarily predominate in early vocabularies. These propositions largely arise from the peculiarities of verbs in English rather than from the peculiarities of young children’s semantics. English verbs simply do not encode the kinds of actions and relations that young children want to discuss. In English and related languages, children use other types of words to encode concepts of actions and relations. In Korean, these concepts are encoded by verbs, and very young children learn verbs.

Appendix D Strawson on Mass Terms and Individuals

In his book *Individuals*, P. F. Strawson discusses mass terms and how to think of them in relation to our talk of individuals. He says:

I have in mind what I shall call *feature-universals* or *feature-concepts*, and what I shall call *feature-placing statements*. As examples, I suggest the following:

Now it is raining.
Snow is falling.
There is coal here.
There is gold here.
There is water here.

The universal terms introduced into these propositions do not function as characterizing universals. *Snow*, *water*, *coal* and *gold*, for example, are general kinds of stuff, not properties or characteristics of particulars; though *being made of snow* or *being made of gold* are characteristics of particulars. Nor are the universal terms introduced into these propositions sortal universals. No one of them of itself provides a principle of distinguishing, enumerating and reidentifying particulars of a sort. But each can be very easily modified so as to yield several such principles: we can distinguish count [sic] and reidentify *veins* or *grains*, *lumps* or *dumps* or coal, and *flakes*, *falls*, *drifts* or *expanses* of snow. Such phrases as ‘lump of coal’ or ‘fall of snow’ introduce sortal universals; but ‘coal’ and ‘snow’ *simpliciter* do not. These sentences, then, neither contain any part which introduces a particular, nor any expression used in such a way that its use presupposes the use of expressions to introduce particulars. Of course, when these sentences are used, the combination of the circumstances of their use with the tense of the verb and the demonstrative adverbs, if any, which they contain, yields a statement of the incidence of the universal feature they introduce. For this much at least is essential to any language in which singular empirical statements could be made at all: viz. the introduction of general concepts and the indication of their incidence. But it is an important fact that this can be done by means of statements which neither bring particulars into our discourse nor presuppose other areas of discourse in which particulars are brought in.

Languages imagined on the model of such languages as these are sometimes called ‘property-location’ languages. But this is an unfortunate name: the universal terms which figure in my examples are not properties; indeed, the idea of a property belongs to a level of complexity which we are trying to get below. This is why I have chosen to use the less philosophically committed word ‘feature’, and to speak of ‘feature-placing’ sentences. pp. 202–203

Note that Strawson does not consider beauty or justice. Are these feature-placing? As soon as we say that, we see that Strawson has introduced a major metaphysics here, for he says he is talking about “feature universals” or “feature concepts”, where in my work I talk about the words “beauty” and “justice”. We can say “Beauty here now” and “Justice there then”. We can have “an instance of beauty” and “an instance of justice”. These are different classifiers than we use with mass substance terms, for which the standard is “a bit of”, as in “a bit of water”, “a bit of snow”. Perhaps Strawson would say that “justice” and “beauty” are not “really” features, not really masses. But why? Because they have adjective forms?

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So does “snow” with “snowy”. It has to be, I think, because “justice” and “beauty” aren’t substances. But then why is it that we can assert “That is an instance of justice”? Isn’t that instance a part of the world? How is it different from objects and masses?¹

What does Strawson mean by “a statement of the incidence of the universal feature”? That is crucial: what is an “incidence”? I almost agree with him when he says:

For this much at least is essential to any language in which singular empirical statements could be made at all: viz. the introduction of general concepts and the indication of their incidence. p. 203

This sounds like the universal of concept words I discuss in Chapter XX. But I don’t know what he means by “incidence”. Perhaps that is what I call “truth in a context”.

Strawson says further:

Though feature-placing sentences do not introduce particulars into our discourse, they provide a basis for this introduction. The facts they state are presupposed, in the required sense, by the introduction of certain kinds of particular. That there should be facts statable by means of such sentences as ‘There is water here’, ‘It is snowing’, is a condition of there being propositions into which particulars are introduced by means of such expressions as ‘This pool of water;’ ‘This fall of snow’. In general, the transition from facts of the presupposed kind to the introduction of the particulars for which they supply the basis involves a conceptual complication: it involves the adoption of criteria of distinctness and, where applicable, criteria of reidentification for particulars of the kind in question, as well as the use of characterizing universals which can be tied to a particular of that kind. A *basis* for criteria of distinctness may indeed already exist at the feature-placing level. For where we can say ‘There is snow here’ or ‘There is gold here’, we can also, perhaps, say, ‘There is snow (gold) *here*—and *here*—and *here*.’ Factors which determine multiplicity of placing may become, when we introduce particulars, criteria for distinguishing one particular from another. pp. 203–204

But “It is raining” does not presuppose any particulars I can imagine.

Chapter 7 of his book is titled “Language without Particulars”. This sounds like what we’re doing in this book. But it’s unclear what he’s trying to do. He doesn’t go with a language without particulars. He focuses on times and places as possible things and with those as things he says that you can get particulars, which I show in Chapter 21 is not so. He talks about identifying a place by an object that is exactly in it: “Suppose there were a block of granite which maintained its position and its boundaries unchanged.” (p. 223) But I showed in Chapter 35 of *Time and Space in Formal Logic* that this a fantasy and not a method of identification, thinking of my dog Birta breathing having no single fixed location. Also, that identification has to be relative to a fixed position, for certainly the block of granite moved with the earth as the earth rotates and moves through space.

¹ We can’t elude this issue by invoking events; see Appendix 2, “Events in the Metaphysics of Predicate Logic” in *The Internal Structure of Predicates and Names*.

Appendix E Linguists and Philosophers on Compound Nouns and Meaning

If we look to linguists to understand “doghouse”, they’ll tell us that it means something like “house for a dog”. If we ask them how to understand “cartoon cat” they’ll tell us something like “cartoon of a cat”. There are two problems with this.

First, we want to understand the role that “dog” plays in “doghouse” and the role “cat” plays in “cartoon cat”. We don’t want a paraphrase or an equivalent phrase. Perhaps the best we can say is that “dog” acts like an adjective, and “cat” acts like an adjective. But that’s wrong. The word “dog” doesn’t act like an adjective; it is an adjective in “doghouse”, just as “cat” is in “cartoon cat”. We don’t have a good explanation of how adjectives mean, how they combine with nouns, nor how adverbs mean, how they combine with verbs. But whatever explanation we do have is exactly what we have for “dog” in “doghouse” and “cat” in “cartoon cat”. Linguists give us a list of possibilities for how to understand the link between the two nouns: it could be “for”, or “of”, or many others as you can see in the extract below. That list explains and clarifies nothing, for we need to know in advance which of the categories applies for the noun-noun combination, and we can determine that only if we understand the combination. The list does not explain our understanding but only gives us choices for describing our understanding.

The second problem is that giving a paraphrase, or a word or phrase that we can substitute for the phrase, or a definition does not give the meaning of a word. I’ve talked about this in “Language-Thought-Meaning”. Now I am reminded of a time in 1976 or 1977 when I was at the logic seminar at Victoria University of Wellington. A philosopher was talking about meaning. He was going to explain the meaning of the word “rabbit”. So he wrote on the board:

(a) “Rabbit” means rabbit.

I couldn’t understand. I thought he was going to pull a rabbit from his hat to show us, pointing to it and saying “rabbit”. I told him that (a) couldn’t be right. But, he said, it’s just like with:

(b) “Rabbit” means lapin.

(The word “lapin” is the usual translation of the word “rabbit” into French.). I still objected, and he and the others told me I just didn’t understand the subject. I was new to philosophy.

But now that I’ve thought about it more, I’m sure I was right. Both (a) and (b) involve use-mention confusions. Instead of (b), he should have written:

(c) “Rabbit” means the same as “lapin”.

And likewise (a) should be:

“Rabbit” means the same as “rabbit”.

This last gets us nowhere. At least (c) can be used to help us translate.

But we can’t carry around rabbits, and dogs, and unicorns to illustrate what we mean. So we give paraphrases, definitions, equivalent phrases to help someone understand what we’re saying. Those are aids to help us learn how to use a word or phrase—if we understand

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the paraphrase or definition. But that route is of no use at all in explaining the role of a noun used as an adjective. Here: pick which one of these linking phrases that seems most appropriate for this compound. What we need to say about the role of a noun used as an adjective is that it means there is a link, the noun used as a modifier is meant to link the concept of that noun to the referential use of the noun being modified. We can make a list of possibilities for that link, but that will always be incomplete, as linguists have found in expanding the list again and again. The idea of a link need not be revised. And it is the same with an adjective modifying a noun: it is the concept of the adjective linked to the referential use of the noun.

This is much clearer in talking and reasoning about the world as process, for we embrace rather than notice as a curious aspect of language that any meaningful word (“categorematic” we’d say in logic) is a concept word, and all concept words can play the same roles. There are no verbs, no nouns, no adjectives, no adverbs, but only concept words. Rather than make a list like “dog” (noun), “to dog” (verb), “doggy” (adjective), “doggedly” (adverb), we have the one word “DOG”. And then we can have “HOUSE / DOG” for a word that is true in a context if and only if the word “HOUSE” is true and the word “DOG” links that word to the concept of “DOG” in our understanding to apply in that context, where the exact idea of the link depends on our understanding of those two words and, perhaps, the context, an understanding we improve as we use the word more.

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Here is an extract from a paper which shows that the description I give of how linguists analyse noun compounds is not a strawman. It is from “On the Semantics of Noun Compounds” by Roxana Girju, Dan Moldovan, Marta Tatu, and Daniel Antohe.

The semantic interpretation of noun compounds (NCs) deal with the detection and semantic classification of the relations between noun constituents. The problem is complex and has been studied intensively in linguistics, psycho-linguistics, philosophy, and computational linguistics for a long time. There are several reasons that make this task difficult. (a) NCs have implicit semantic relations: for example, “*spoon handle*” encodes a PART-WHOLE relation. (b) NCs’ interpretation is knowledge intensive and can be idiosyncratic. For example, to correctly interpret “*GM car*” one has to know that GM is a car-producing company. (c) There can be more than one semantic relation encapsulated in a pair of nouns. For example, “*Texas city*” can be tagged as a PART-WHOLE relation as well as a LOCATION relation. (d) The interpretation of NCs can be highly context-dependent. For example, “*apple juice seat*” can be defined as “seat with apple juice on the table on front of it” (cf. Downing, 1977).

Although researchers (Jespersen, 1954; Downing, 1977) argued that noun compounds encode an infinite set of semantic relations, many agree (Levi, 1978; Finin, 1980) there is a limited number of relations that occur with high frequency in noun compounds. However, the number and the level of abstraction of these frequently used semantic categories are not agreed upon. They can vary from a few prepositional paraphrases (Lauer, 1995) to hundreds and even thousands more specific semantic relations (Finin, 1980). The more abstract the categories, the more noun compounds are covered, but also the more room for variation as to which category a compound should

be assigned. Lauer (Lauer, 1995), for example, considers eight prepositional paraphrases as semantic classification categories: *of, for, with, in, on, at, about, and from*. According to this classification, the noun compound “*bird sanctuary*”, for instance, can be classified both as “*sanctuary of bird*” and “*sanctuary for bird*”. The main problem with these abstract categories is that much of the meaning of individual compounds is lost, and sometimes there is no way to decide whether a form is derived from one category or another.

On the other hand, lists of very specific semantic relations are difficult to build as they usually contain a very large number of predicates, such as the list of all possible verbs that can link the noun constituents. Finin (1980), for example, ?? semantic categories such as “**dissolved in**” to build interpretations of compounds like “*salt water*” and “*sugar water*”. Although, there were several proposals of possible large sets of semantic relations, there has been no attempt to map one set to another, and, more importantly, to define the appropriate level of abstraction for the interpretation of compounds in general, or for a specific application in particular. pp. 479–480

The authors then proceed to an analysis “using two sets of semantic classification categories: a list of 8 prepositional paraphrases previously proposed by Lauer [reference] and a new set of 35 semantic relations introduced by us.”

Here are some problems with this approach beyond what I suggested above.

1. By not seeing the use of a noun in a noun compound as an adjective, it gives no guidance for how to compare, for example, “doggy smell” and “dog smell”.
2. The authors do not clarify the relation of noun compounds to noun conjunctions, for example, “dog love” and “dog and love”. Indeed, the former is ambiguous: does it mean love for dogs or love by a dog? Yet the latter is clear: there (pointing) is dog and love.
3. The authors do not see that “spoon handle” can be read as not giving a part-whole relation but saying what kind of handle: one for a spoon. That fits into the analysis of modifiers given in Volume 1, *The Internal Structure of Predicates and Names*.
4. The authors do not realize or at least do not say that their work has application to only noun compounds in English. That’s because:
 - (a) Prepositions are notoriously difficult to translate into other languages, even into Standard Average European languages much less into a language that has only one or two prepositions.
 - (b) In some mass-process languages, such as Navajo and Wintu (see the quotes by Reichard and Lee at the end of Chapter 7), all the base words can be used in compounds: there simply is no division of words into nouns, adjectives, verbs, and adverbs.