We can't hear the strikethroughs either: Sluicing without deletion
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In this talk, we examine various arguments that have been made by Merchant (2001, 2004, 2008, to appear) against the direct-interpretation theory of Sluicing and Bare Argument Ellipsis put forth by Ginzburg and Sag (2000) [GSOO] (see also Culicover and Jackendoff, 2005). We show that these arguments involve a mischaracterization of GS00 as a ‘purely inference-based approach to ellipsis’. Once we examine GS00's proposals in more detail, specifically the role of salient utterance (SAL-UTT) and the maximal question under discussion (MAX-QUD) in the preceding context, the arguments made against the direct-interpretation approach are shown to lose their force. We also examine data from a number of languages which are problematic for any deletion-based analysis of Sluicing, showing how the direct-interpretation approach avoids these difficulties. Finally, we show how GS00's analysis interacts with Ginzburg's (in press) theory of dialogue to provide an account of sprouting that answers the arguments against GS00 offered in Chung, Ladusaw, and McCloskey, to appear.

References
Culicover and Jackendoff (2005). Simpler Syntax. OUP.
Ginzburg, Jonathan. in press. The Interactive Stance: Meaning for Conversation. OUP.
Jacobson, Pauline. 2011. Sorry, I can't hear the strikethroughs. This workshop.