



Chapter 7, Sections 7.1-7.5

Binding Theory

Some Examples from Chapter 1

- *She likes herself*
- *She likes her.* [she≠her]
- *We gave presents to ourselves.*
- **We gave presents to us.*
- *We gave ourselves presents*
- **We gave us presents.*
- **Leslie told us about us.*
- *Leslie told us about ourselves.*
- **Leslie told ourselves about us.*
- **Leslie told ourselves about ourselves.*

Some Terminology

- Anaphoric: A term to describe an element (e.g. a pronoun) that derives its interpretation from some other expression in the discourse.
- Antecedent: The expression an anaphoric expression derives its interpretation from.
- Binding: The association between a pronoun and an antecedent.
- Anaphora: The relationship between an anaphoric expression and its antecedent.

The Chapter 1 Binding Theory Reformulated

- Old Formulation:
 - A reflexive pronoun must be an argument of a verb that has another preceding argument with the same reference.
 - A nonreflexive pronoun cannot appear as an argument of a verb that has a preceding coreferential argument.
- New Formulation:
 - Principle A (version I): A reflexive pronoun must be bound by a preceding argument of the same verb.
 - Principle B (version I): A nonreflexive pronoun may not be bound by a preceding argument of the same verb.

Some Challenges

- Replace notions of “bound” and “preceding argument of the same verb” by notions definable in our theory.
- Generalize the Binding Principles to get better coverage.

A Question

- What would be a natural way to formalize the notion of “bound” in our theory?
- *Answer: An expression binds another if they have the same INDEX value (“are coindexed”), and [to be continued]*