

# Composing attitudes: Why knowing people is not believing them

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## 1 Introduction

In the Hintikkan tradition, attitude verbs are standardly analysed as quantifiers over worlds: if Mary believes that Jane won, then all of Mary's belief-worlds have to be worlds in which Jane won:

- (1) a.  $[[\text{believe}]]^w = [\lambda p_{\langle st \rangle} . [\lambda x_e . \text{DOX}_x^w \subseteq p]]$ , where  
 $\text{DOX}_x^w = \{w' : w' \text{ conforms to what } x \text{ believes in } w\}$   
b.  $[[\text{Mary believes that Jane won}]]^w = 1$  iff  $\text{DOX}_m^w \subseteq \{w' : \text{Jane won in } w'\}$

*know* vs. *believe*:

- On this approach, the primary semantic difference between *know* and *believe* is the type of *accessibility relation* that determines the set of worlds quantified over (DOX/EPIST).
  - They differ additionally in that *know*, like other factives, presuppose that  $p$  is true in  $w$ .
- (2) a.  $[[\text{know}]]^w = [\lambda p_{\langle st \rangle} [\lambda x_e : \underline{p(w)=1} . \text{EPIST}_x^w \subseteq p]]$ , where:  
 $\text{EPIST}_x^w = \{w' : w' \text{ conforms to what } x \text{ knows in } w\}$   
b.  $[[\text{Mary knows that Jane won}]]^w = 1$  iff  $\text{EPIST}_m^w \subseteq \{w' : \text{Jane won in } w'\}$   
defined if Jane won in  $w$ ; otherwise #

In terms of the compositional semantics and the selectional properties of *know* vs. *believe*, this suggests that both types of verbs combine with propositions (or perhaps sets of propositions).

- Considering only cases where these verbs take declarative complements, this nicely captures the intuition that the main difference between *know* and *believe* in (3) is that with *know*, unlike with *believe*, the speaker assumes that Anna has reason to believe  $p$ , and also takes  $p$  to be true:
- (3) Sue believes/knows [ $p$  that Anna won].

This uniform picture is challenged by cases where *know* and *believe* combine with DPs, e.g.

- (4) Sue believes/knows the claim.

Previous work on *know* vs. *believe* with CONTENT DPs have analysed *know DP/CP* in terms of polysemy.

**Today:**<sup>1</sup>

- New observations about a different kind of DP, describing a Source of  $p$  (*I believe you that p*).
- Challenges for a polysemy based approach to *know*, and for a uniform analysis of *know* vs. *believe*.
- Propose that *know* and *believe* differ fundamentally at the level of argument-structure and internal composition, and thus combine with DPs via different routes:
  - Derivational relationship between *know DP* and *know CP*, s.t. both involve acquaintance;
  - Hintikkan approach to *believe*-verbs, whereby DPs are externally licensed or type-shifted.

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<sup>1</sup>The core observations of this talk are from Djärv (2019: Ch. 4).

## 2 Data

### 2.1 Source DPs

Doxastics, like *believe*, unlike epistemics like *know*, allow for a special kind of DP, describing the SOURCE of the information provided by the embedded clause (5).<sup>2</sup>

- (5) Djärv (2019: 209)
- a. I {believe, trust} **you** [<sub>P</sub> that Anna is to blame]. (doxastics)
- b. \*I {know, discovered} **you** [<sub>P</sub> that Anna is to blame]. (epistemics)

A similar contrast arises in cases when these verbs take *only* a DP complement.

- With *believe*-verbs (6-a), the DP is understood as the source of some contextually provided proposition (<sub>PC</sub>), as in (5-a).
- For *know*-verbs (6-b), there is no inference of a relation to propositional content. Here, the DP is understood to denote an ordinary individual, which the subject is acquainted or familiar with.

- (6) Djärv (2019: 210)
- a. I believe **you**. ≈ I believe that you are right about <sub>PC</sub>.
- b. I know **you**. ≈ I am familiar/acquainted with you.

This is not a lexical quirk of English *believe* – more on German below.

### 2.2 Content DPs

The contrast in the licensing of Source DPs turns out to track a previously observed contrast between verbs like *know* and *believe*; in terms of whether the verb+Content DP entails the verb+CP (e.g. Prior 1971, Pietroski 2000, Ginzburg 1995, King 2002, Moltmann 2013, Uegaki 2016, Elliott 2016) (see Djärv 2019 Ch. 4.1):

- (7) Sue {believes, trusts} [<sub>DP</sub> the rumor/claim that Anna is to blame]. ✓ DP-to-CP entailment  
 = Sue {believes, trusts} [<sub>CP</sub> that Anna is to blame].
- (8) Sue {knows, discovered} [<sub>DP</sub> the rumor/claim that Anna is to blame]. ✗ DP-to-CP entailment  
 ≠ Sue {knows, discovered} [<sub>CP</sub> that Anna is to blame].

### 2.3 Source DPs and Content DPs

In English, a Source DP cannot co-occur with a Content DP:

- (9) \*I believe you the claim that Anna is to blame.

This might lead us to think that the two DPs saturate, and thus compete for, the same (type *e*) argument slot of *believe*, and that the exact interpretation of the DP depends on pragmatic factors (e.g. plausibility).

However, German data shows us that this is not the right explanation!

In German, a Source DP *can* co-occur with a Content DP:

- (10) German (Djärv 2019: 235)
- Ich glaube ihm die Behauptung, dass Hans Maria das Buch gab.  
 I believe him.DAT the.ACC claim that Hans Maria the book gave
- I believe the claim, that he told me, that Hans gave Maria the book.* German

Note here that in German, Source DPs have Dative case, and content DPs have Accusative case. This is true also in cases where they do not co-occur:<sup>3</sup>

<sup>2</sup>Hence, this Source DP is neither the topic of the attitude, the *res*, nor the content of the belief.

<sup>3</sup>Thanks to Florian Schwarz, pc., for these observations and judgements.

- (11) German (Djärv 2019: 235)
- a. Ich glaube ihm/\*ihn, dass Hans Maria das Buch gab.  
 I believe him.DAT/\*ACC that Hans Maria the book gave  
*I believe him that Hans gave Maria the book.* Source: DAT/\*ACC
- b. Ich glaube die/#dem Behauptung, dass Hans Maria das Buch gab.  
 I believe the.ACC/#DAT claim that Hans Maria the book gave  
*I believe the claim that Hans gave Maria the book.* Vessel/container: ACC/#DAT

The contrast between (9) and (10) follows immediately from the fact that German, unlike English, has Source Applicatives, as shown in (12):<sup>4</sup>

- (12) Djärv (2019: 236); from Schäfer (2008: 76)
- a. \*John stole Mary a book. (Intended: John stole a book from Mary.) English
- b. Hans stahl Maria das Buch.  
 Hans.NOM stole Maria.DAT the book.ACC  
 ‘Hans stole the book from Maria.’ German

### What we can learn from Source DPs in German:

1. The fact that a Source DP and a Content DP cannot co-occur in English is not because they are competing for the same (type *e*) argument slot of *believe*, but follows from syntactic reasons (case).
2. The fact that the Source DP is always introduced by an external head in German (Appl<sup>o</sup>, which assigns it Dative), suggests that the Source DP is not part of the lexical meaning of *believe*.
  - Thus, if we want to maintain a uniform analysis of the semantics of *believe* in English and German, we should assume that it is not part of the lexical meaning of *believe*, also in English.

Further motivation for not treating the Source DP as part of the lexical meaning of *believe* comes from the observation that while *I believe you* implies belief of some contextually salient proposition, *I believe that p* does not imply the existence of some contextually salient source of information, as shown in (13):

- (13) a. I believe that [<sub>P</sub> Anna won].  $\rightsquigarrow$  x<sub>C</sub> is the source of p  
 b. I believe you.  $\rightsquigarrow$  you are the source of p<sub>C</sub>

Finally, while the belief inference gets cancelled under negation, the Source-of-p inference *projects*; a behaviour typical of presuppositions (as opposed to truth-conditional meaning):

- (14) I **don't** believe you that [<sub>P</sub> Anna won].  $\rightsquigarrow$  I believe that p  
 $\rightsquigarrow$  you are the source of p

### Analytical conclusions: Source vs. Content DPs:

- Source DPs:
  - The German data (10)–(12) suggests that they must be licensed by an external (potentially case-licensing) head, and are not part of the lexical meaning/argument structure of *believe*.
  - The observations in (13)–(14) suggests that they when they are licensed, they are not part of the truth-conditional/*at-issue* content of their host-sentences, but behave like presuppositions.
- Content DPs:
  - Taken together, the DP-to-CP entailment and the fact that they get Accusative case (from *believe*) suggest that these DPs *do* saturate the internal argument slot of *believe*.

➤ This suggests different derivational paths for Source and Content DPs with *believe*.

<sup>4</sup>English only has Goal applicatives, e.g. *John gave Mary a book*.

### 3 Analysis: *believe*-verbs

I treat *believe* as selecting for complements of type  $\langle st, t \rangle$ , and declaratives and interrogatives as both being of this type, following e.g. Theiler et al. (2019).<sup>5</sup>

$$(15) \quad [[\text{believe}]]^w = [\lambda P_{\langle st, t \rangle}. [\lambda x_e. \exists p \in P[\text{DOX}_x^w \subseteq p]]]$$

#### 3.1 Deriving *believe* + CP

This allows *believe* to combine straightforwardly with declaratives:

$$(16) \quad [[\text{Sue believes that Anna won}]]^w = [\lambda P_{\langle st, t \rangle}. [\lambda x_e. \text{DOX}_x^w \in P]](\{\lambda w'. \text{won}(\text{anna})(w')\})(\text{Sue}) \\ = 1 \text{ in } w \text{ iff } \exists p \in \{\lambda w'. \text{won}(\text{anna})(w')\}[\text{DOX}_{\text{sue}}^w \subseteq p]$$

#### 3.2 Deriving *believe* + DP

##### 3.2.1 *believe* + Content DP

Our analysis of Content DPs follows Uegaki (2016): to combine with Content DPs, I propose a (modified version of his) content retrieval function:

$$(17) \quad [[\text{CONT}\uparrow]]^w(x) = \{\lambda w'. w' \in \text{CONT}_w(x)\} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{defined if } \text{CONT}_w(x) = \text{CONT}_{w'}(x) \\ \# \text{ otherwise} \end{array} \right\}$$

(Assuming the Kratzer-Moulton [9, 10, 12, 13] analysis of content nominals, as individuals of type  $e$ : the intentional content of a contentful individual is derived via the  $\text{CONT}$ -function in (18-a):)

$$(18) \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{a. } \text{CONT}_w(x) = \{w': w' \text{ is compatible with the intentional content determined by } x \text{ in } w\} \\ \text{b. } [[\text{the claim that Anna won}]]^w = \iota x[\text{claim}_w(x) \ \& \ \text{CONT}_w(x) = \{w': \text{Anna won in } w'\}] \end{array}$$

This allows *believe* to combine directly with the content DP; thus accounting for the DP-to-CP entailment.

##### 3.2.2 *believe* + Source DP

In German, the Source DP is introduced by a Source  $\text{Appl}^o$  head. In English, this is not an option. We have also seen that whatever the nature of this head, it does not assign case.

To account for the interpretation of English Source DPs, I propose that they are licensed by the Assert operator  $A()$  from Farkas and Bruce (2010) (merged in the embedded CP):

$$(19) \quad A(S[D], a, K_i) = K_o \text{ such that} \quad (\text{Farkas and Bruce 2010: 92}) \\ \begin{array}{l} \text{a. } DC_{a,o} = DC_{a,i} \cup \{p\} \\ \text{b. } T_o = \text{push}(\langle S[D]; \{p\} \rangle, T_i) \\ \text{c. } ps_o = ps_i \cup \{p\} \end{array}$$

$A()$  takes as its input a declarative sentence  $S[D]$  with denotation  $\{p\}$ , an *author*  $a$ , and a context  $K_i$ , and is a function from input contexts  $K_i$  to output contexts  $K_o$  s.t.  $S[D]$  and  $\{p\}$  are at the top of the conversational Table and  $p$  is part of  $a$ 's public discourse commitments ( $DC_a$ ).

Two levels of composition:

- At the level of truth-conditional/*at-issue* meaning, *believe* combines directly with the denotation of the embedded clause:

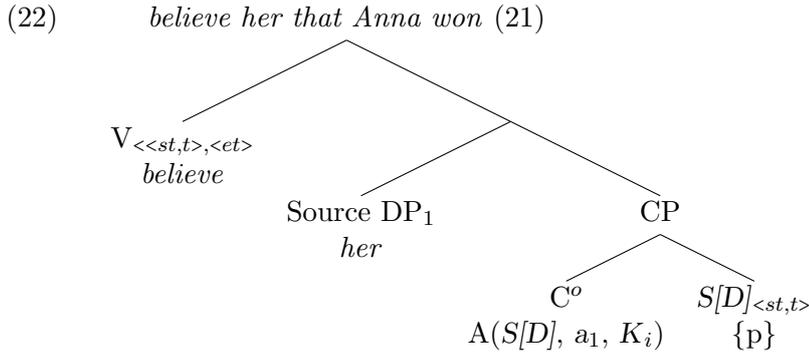
$$(20) \quad [[\text{Sue believes Mary that Anna won}]]^w = 1 \text{ in } w \text{ iff } \exists p \in \{\lambda w'. \text{won}(\text{anna})(w')\}[\text{DOX}_{\text{sue}}^w \subseteq p]$$

<sup>5</sup>Assuming that the incompatibility of *believe*-verbs with questions follows from independent properties of their meaning; see Theiler et al. (2019); not from their selectional requirements, as on Uegaki's (2016) analysis.

- At the level of non-truth-conditional/*not at-issue* meaning,  $A()$  takes the embedded clause as its  $S[D]$  argument, and the Source DP as its *author* argument:

$$(21) \quad \left[ \left[ \text{Sue believes Mary that Anna won} \right]^w = 1 \text{ in } w \text{ iff } \exists p \in \{ \lambda w'. \text{won}(\text{anna})(w') \} [ \text{DOX}_{\text{sue}}^w \subseteq p ] \right. \\ \left. \begin{cases} \text{defined if} \\ \text{a. } DC_{\text{mary},o} = DC_{\text{mary},i} \cup \{ \lambda w'. \text{won}(\text{anna})(w') \} \\ \text{b. } T_o = \text{push}(\langle \text{'Anna won'}; \{ \lambda w'. \text{won}(\text{anna})(w') \} \rangle, T_i) \\ \text{c. } ps_o = ps_i \bar{\cup} \{ \lambda w'. \text{won}(\text{anna})(w') \} \\ \# \text{ otherwise} \end{cases} \right]$$

LF to illustrate:



Thus, in English (unlike in German), the Source DP is pragmatically, but not syntactically, licensed, and is not part of the truth-conditional content of their host-sentences.

### In summary, this analysis captures:

- the interpretation of the Source DP as having claimed or proffered  $p$ ;
- the not *at-issue* status of this inference;
- the fact that English Source DPs don't get case, and thus the contrast between English (9) and German (10).

### And allows us to make new predictions!

- Given that the  $A()$  operator should only be able to anchor to one author, this correctly predicts that Source DPs should be in complementary distribution with complex speaker assertions.<sup>6</sup>

- (23) a. I believe that Anna won. / No, she didn't! CP-complement only  
 b. I believe you that Anna won. / #No, she didn't! Source DP + CP

- As shown in (22), the Source DP effectively blocks the  $A()$  operator from anchoring to the speaker.

## 4 *know*: polysemy?

At the core of the observations in Sections 2.1–2.2 is that DP-complements of *know*-verbs trigger an acquaintance reading of the verb, s.t. the DPs is interpreted as an OBJECT OF ACQUAINTANCE:

- (24) a. Sue {knows, discovered} [<sub>DP</sub> Anna].  
 b. Sue {knows, discovered} [<sub>DP</sub> the rumor that Anna is to blame].

A natural way to capture this is to say that *know*-verbs are ambiguous between a propositional verb and an acquaintance verb (e.g. King 2002, Moltmann 2013, Uegaki 2016, for the entailment contrast):<sup>7</sup>

<sup>6</sup>The argument that complex speaker assertions involve the  $A()$ -operator comes from Djärv (2020) and Woods (2016). As Djärv (2020) points out, the assumption that the  $A()$  operator operates only at the not *at-issue* level is a necessary assumption for applying the table model to complex *speaker*-assertions like (23-a) to begin with, given that these are not interpreted semantically as “I believe that I assert  $p$ ”. Thanks to Maribel Romero, p.c. for raising this point.

<sup>7</sup>As Uegaki (2016) correctly points out, this is not enough: if we assumed (i) that *know*<sub>EPIST</sub> and *believe* both select for propositional arguments (as in (1)–(2)), and (ii) that there exists a mechanism for extracting propositions from the content

- (25) Polysemy of *know* (to be rejected):
- $[[\text{know}_{EPIST}]]^w = [\lambda p_{\langle st \rangle} . [\lambda x_e . p(w)=1.EPIST_x^w \subseteq p]]$
  - $[[\text{know}_{AQ}]]^w = [\lambda y_e . [\lambda x_e . \text{acquainted}_w(x)(y)]]$

Intuitive support for this idea comes from the fact that languages like German, French, and Swedish use different forms for these two meanings:

- (26) a. Sara vet att Lisa vann.  
Sara knows that Lisa won  
*Sara knows that Lisa won.* Propositional *know* (Ger. *wissen*, Fr. *savoir*)
- b. Sara känner Lisa.  
Sara knows Lisa  
*Sarah knows Lisa.* Acquaintance-*know* (Ger. *kennen*, Fr. *connaitre*)

## 5 Problems with polysemy

1. A polysemy-based approach does not capture the strong intuition that the CP-taking and DP-taking versions of *discover*, *resent*, *like*, *fear*, *imagine*, *notice*, etc. share a semantic core. If they were truly different lexical items, there would be nothing to guarantee this. On the approach offered here (§6), the two cases involve the same lexical root; thus automatically capturing this shared semantic core.

2. While (26) seems to support the claim that the English verb *know* is polysemous between *know<sub>AQ</sub>* and *know<sub>EPIST</sub>* as in (25), the acquaintance-reading of DPs doesn't just arise with *know*, but with essentially all factives and responsiveness (e.g. *notice*, *discover*, *see*, *hear*, *like*, *resent*, *appreciate*, *mention*, *predict*, *report*, *fear*, *explain*, etc.).

- (27) a. Sara {upptäckte, märkte, hörde, nämnde} att Lisa vann.  
Sara {discovered, noticed, heard, mentioned} that Lisa won  
*Sara {discovered, noticed, heard, mentioned} that Lisa won.* Propositional V
- b. Sara {upptäckte, märkte, hörde, nämnde} Lisa.  
Sara {discovered, noticed, heard, mentioned} Lisa  
*Sarah {discovered, noticed, heard, mentioned} Lisa.* Acquaintance V

- An polysemy-based account would therefore have to posit lexical ambiguity for *all* of these verbs.
- Besides *know*, I am not aware of any language that systematically distinguishes between CP-selecting forms and DP-selecting forms of these attitude verbs.

3. At closer inspection, the Swedish *know*-data actually seems to speak against polysemy:

- In more complex predicates, *känna* (by hypothesis *know<sub>AQ</sub>*; (25-b), <e,et>) can combine with both individuals (e) and questions (<st,t>).

- (28) a. Jag **känner** till [<sub>DP</sub> Anna]/[<sub>Q</sub> vem som gjorde vad].  
I know to Anna/ who that did what  
*I'm aware of Anna/who did what.* (Implies acquaintance with Anna.)

I reject the polysemy analysis and propose instead a decompositional analysis of *know*-verbs, whereby the DP and CP-selecting forms of these verbs are derivationally related.

DPs they are embedded in, then we would predict, wrongly, that both *know* and *believe* should license the entailment. The same reasoning applies to the licensing of the Source DPs. Hence, Uegaki (2016) proposes that while *believe* selects for propositions (<st>), *know* is polysemous between *know<sub>AQ</sub>* (25-b), which selects for individuals, and *know<sub>EPIST</sub>*, which selects for questions (<st,t>). This account is thus able to capture both the entailment contrast, as well the fact that *believe* and *know* differ wrt. to their ability to combine with interrogatives and declaratives. Here, however, for reasons given in Section 5, I reject polysemy and propose instead that *know<sub>EPIST</sub>* and *know<sub>AQ</sub>* are derivationally related.

## 6 Analysis: *know*-verbs

I propose that *know CP* ( $know_{EPIST}$ ) and *know DP* ( $know_{AQ}$ ) both involve the root  $\sqrt{AQ}$  ( $\langle e, \langle et \rangle \rangle$ ):<sup>8</sup>

$$(29) \quad [[\sqrt{AQ}]^w = [\lambda y_e. [\lambda x_e. AQ_w(x)(y)]]]$$

The acquaintance reading of *know* arises if an individual saturates the internal argument slot of  $\sqrt{AQ}$ :

$$(30) \quad [[know_{AQ}]^w = [[\sqrt{AQ}]^w]$$

$$(31) \quad \begin{aligned} \text{a.} \quad & [[\text{Sue knows Anna}]^w = [[\sqrt{AQ}]^w(\text{Anna})(\text{Sue}) = 1 \text{ iff } AQ_w(\text{sue})(\text{anna}) \\ \text{b.} \quad & [[\text{Sue knows the claim that Anna won}]^w = [[\sqrt{AQ}]^w([\text{(18-b)})](\text{Sue}) = 1 \text{ iff} \\ & AQ_w(\text{sue})(\iota x[\text{claim}_w(x) \ \& \ \text{CONT}_w(x) = \{w': \text{Anna won in } w'\}])] \end{aligned}$$

(Like polysemy) this correctly predicts:

- ✓ No Source-of-p reading in (31-a).
- ✓ No DP-to-CP entailment in (31-b).

Epistemic, CP-selecting, *know*, I propose, involves an additional head, EPIST ( $\langle \langle e, \langle et \rangle \rangle, \langle \langle st, t \rangle, \langle et \rangle \rangle \rangle$ ):

$$(32) \quad \begin{aligned} \text{Minimal denotation/template for epistemic relations:}^9 \\ [[EPIST]^w = [\lambda R_{\langle e, \langle et \rangle \rangle}. [\lambda P_{\langle st, t \rangle}. [\lambda x_e. \exists s \exists p \in P[[s \text{ is a situation exemplifying } p \wedge R(s)(x)]]]]] \end{aligned}$$

$know_{EPIST}$  is derived by EPIST taking  $\sqrt{AQ}$  as its first (R) argument, as shown in (33):<sup>10</sup>

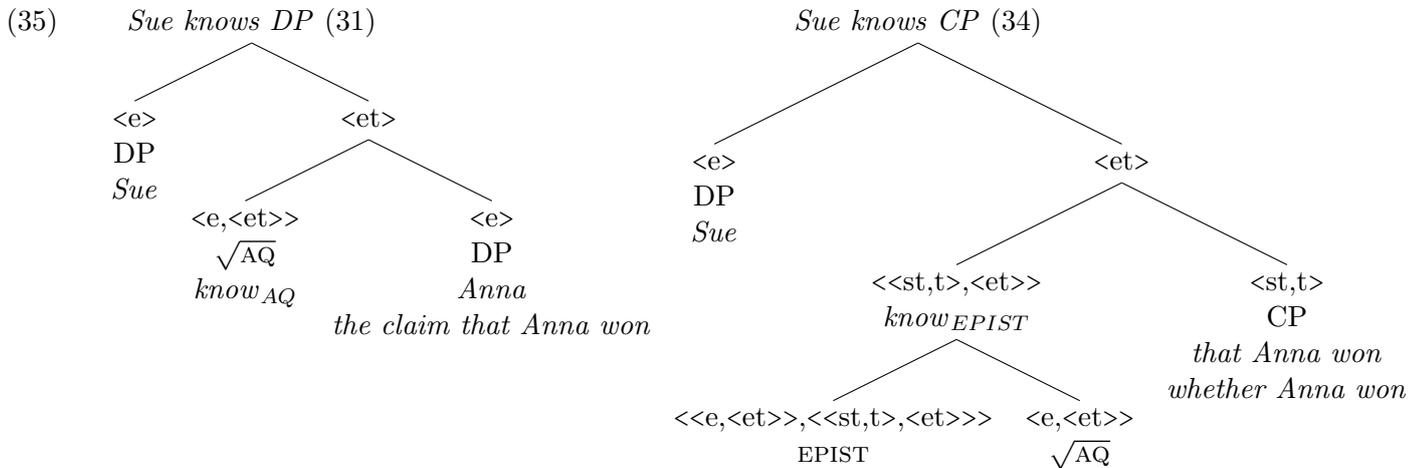
- this causes the type  $e$  argument slots of  $\sqrt{AQ}$  to be saturated with a situation pronoun  $s$ , the *res* (a particular of the more general type  $e$ ), and an individual variable  $x$ .
- the resulting predicate  $know_{EPIST}$  ( $\langle \langle st, t \rangle, \langle et \rangle \rangle$ ) (33) thus states that there exists a situation  $s$  and a proposition  $p_{\langle st, t \rangle}$  in  $P_{\langle st, t \rangle}$ , such that  $s$  exemplifies  $p$ , and  $x$  is acquainted with  $s$ .

$$(33) \quad [[know_{EPIST}]^w = [[EPIST]^w([\sqrt{AQ}]^w) = [\lambda P_{\langle st, t \rangle}. [\lambda x_e. \exists s \exists p \in P[[s \text{ is a situation exemplifying } p \wedge AQ(x)(s)]]]]]$$

The final meaning of *know CP* is given in (34), with declarative and interrogative complements:

$$(34) \quad \begin{aligned} \text{a.} \quad & [[\text{Sue knows that Anna won}]^w = 1 \text{ iff} \\ & \exists s \exists p \in \{\lambda w'. \text{won}(\text{anna})(w')\} [[s \text{ is a situation exemplifying } p \wedge AQ_w(\text{sue})(s)]] \\ \text{b.} \quad & [[\text{Sue knows whether Anna won}]^w = 1 \text{ iff} \\ & \exists s \exists p \in \{\lambda w'. \text{won}(a)(w'), \lambda w'. \neg \text{won}(a)(w')\} [[s \text{ is a situation exemplifying } p \wedge AQ_w(\text{sue})(s)]] \end{aligned}$$

LFs to illustrate:



<sup>8</sup>For other *know*-verbs like *discover*, I assume that there are different *flavours* of  $\sqrt{AQ}$ . The key aspect of the current proposal is that these verbs too are semantically complex in the same way as proposed here for *know*.

<sup>9</sup>Further conditions must be included to capture inferences about belief, exhaustivity, etc.

<sup>10</sup>In the case of  $know_{AQ}$  vs.  $know_{EPIST}$  in German and Swedish, etc., I assume contextually triggered allomorphy, such that *veta/vissen* is triggered in the context of the EPIST head, whereas *känna/kennen* is the default form of the verb.

Like polysemy-based accounts, this analysis captures the above observations about *know DP*:

- The obligatory acquaintance-reading: no entailment and no Source-of-p reading.

But we also avoid the challenges faced by polysemy accounts:

1. The fact that the DP and CP selecting forms of *know*-verbs share a semantic core. I propose that this shared core is *acquaintance*.
2. The fact that DP and CP selecting forms of *know*-verbs *in general* share the same form.
3. The fact that Sw. *känna* (by hypothesis, *know<sub>AQ</sub>*) can occur with questions in more complex forms.

We are also able to account for a separate observation about *know* vs. *believe* (Djärv 2019: 246):

- On our analysis, every state of *knowing p* (unlike a state of *believing p*) is predicated on an event of being acquainted with a situation *s* which in turn justifies/motivates knowing *p*;
- in (36), *how* is modifying the acquaintance event in *know*; in *believe*, there is no such event.

- (36) a. **How/#why** do you know that Anna won?  $\approx$  *in what manner did you come to know p?*  
 b. **Why/#how** do you believe that Anna won?  $\approx$  *what is the reason for believing p?*

**Finally, a note on related work on factivity...**

- The current approach shares with Bondarenko (2019) (on Barguzin Buryat) and Özyildiz (2017) (on Turkish) the idea from Kratzer (2002) that acquaintance with some situation, the *res*, plays a role in deriving factivity.<sup>11</sup>
- Note, however, that these authors deal with very different kind of data: alternations between factive nominalized clauses and non-factive CPs.
- The accounts are thus not straightforwardly comparable, given that what I propose here is a systematic derivational relationship between *know DP* and (factive) *know CP*, where both involve acquaintance – either with a regular individual (with DPs) or with a situation, the *res* (with CPs).
  - Note also that this account has potential to extend to non-factives like *fear*. If so, we are not *deriving factivity per se*, but rather capturing *part* of the core meaning of factive verbs.

## 7 Summary

I have (i) offered new observations about DP-complements of *know* vs. *believe*-verbs, (ii) related them to previous observations about content DPs, and (iii) argued against a polysemy-based approach to *know*.

I proposed instead that *know* and *believe* differ fundamentally at the level of argument-structure and internal composition, and thus combine with DPs via different routes:

- I proposed a derivational approach to *know*-verbs that avoids polysemy: *know*-verbs *always* combine with individuals as part of their argument structure (with both DP and CP complements);
- *believe*-verbs are fundamentally Hintikkan: they combine only with propositions. To combine with DPs, they thus require either type-shifting (for Content DPs), or an external licensing head (for Source DPs: the A() operator in English and Appl<sup>o</sup> in German).

While *believe*-verbs invariably describe relations to propositions, *know*-verbs describe complex relations, anchored in the attitude holder’s acquaintance with abstract or concrete individuals in the world.

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<sup>11</sup>According to Kratzer (2002): “S knows p if and only if S believes p de re of some fact exemplifying p.” (p. 657). The denotation assigned to *know<sub>EPIST</sub>* (33) captures part of that statement; see footnote 9.

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