

Homework for spring break:

1. Consider the sentence in (1).

(1) John is required to do the reading or the homework

- a. In class we computed the implicatures of this sentence in Sauerland's system under the assumption that disjunction has the Sauerland alternatives as its Horn-Set, and no other phrase in the sentence is a member of a Horn-Set. Redo this computation both in Sauerland's system and using the exhaustivity operator from Fox (2007).
- b. Explain why our results cannot be maintained in Fox's system if we assume that *require* and *allowed* are members of a Horn set?
- c. What distinguishes the two systems in this respect? In particular, should we modify Fox's system so that it agrees with Sauerland's in this respect? Are there considerations that go in the other direction?
- d. Is it reasonable to claim that there is no Horn-set with *allowed* and *required* as members?
- e. Is it reasonable to claim that even if *allowed* is a formal alternative of *required* (members of a Horn-set), *allowed* may be ignored in a particular context, by something akin to the general process of contextual domain restriction?
- f. Can you think of an alternative solution to the problem given the theory of alternatives proposed in Fox and Katzir's paper?

2. Discuss similar questions for the following:

(2) Few students did any of the readings.

- a. Compute implicatures (in the two systems) under the assumption that *few* has *no* in its Horn-Set, and no other phrase in the sentence is a member of a Horn-Set.
- b. Explain why the results cannot be maintained in Fox's system if we assume that *any* and *all* are members of a Horn set?
- c. Is it reasonable to claim that there is no Horn-set with *any* and *all* as members?
- d. Is it reasonable to claim that if *all* is a formal alternative of *any* (members of a Horn-set), *all* may be ignored in a particular context, by something akin to the general process of contextual domain restriction?
- e. Can you think of an alternative solution to the problem given the theory of alternatives proposed in Fox and Katzir's paper?

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