

Coordination, Polyadic Quantification, and Compositionality

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The aim of this talk is to present a semantic analysis of so-called Heterofunctional Coordination, as in the following examples:

- (1) Obiecać można [wszystko i wszystkim]. (Polish)
promise may.IMPS everything.ACC and everybody.DAT
'One may promise everything to everyone.'
- (2) Vam [nikto i ničego] ne predlagal eščë. (Russian)
you.DAT nobody.NOM and nothing.GEN NEG offered yet
'Nobody has offered you anything yet.'

What is special about this construction is that different grammatical functions are coordinated, e.g., subject and object in (2). Because of that, it is not clear what the coordinate structure as a whole – i.e., the constituent in square brackets – means in such examples.

I argue for an account in terms of polyadic quantification. Specifically, I submit that the quantifiers expressed by particular conjuncts are lifted to a cumulative polyadic quantifier. (In the talk I will explain all the technical notions in the previous sentence, including *conjunct*, *lift*, *cumulative*, *polyadic*, and even *quantifier*.)

I will sketch a formal syntactico-semantic analysis of such constructions which implements this account and discuss whether – and in what sense – the resulting analysis satisfies the Principle of Compositionality.