

Two type-theoretical approaches to privative modification

Giuseppe Primiero & Bjørn Jespersen

Centre for Logic and Philosophy of Science, Ghent University
Section of Philosophy, TU Delft



Giuseppe.Primiero@Ugent.be

B.T.F.Jespersen@tudelft.nl

November 20, 2009 - LENLS 6 – Tokyo

Outline

- 1 Procedural Semantics
- 2 Modification
- 3 Procedural Semantics for Privative Modification
- 4 Conclusions

Procedural Semantics

- **Programming languages:**
 - ▶ **Denotational semantics:** semantics is exhausted by terms denoting extensional entities like sets, individuals and truth-values; the meaning (if any) of a term is its denotation;
 - ▶ **Procedural semantics:** the meaning of a term is one or more computational steps whose product is the term's denotation;
- **Two approaches to procedural semantics:**
 - ▶ **Realism:** Tichý's Transparent Intensional Logic
 - ▶ **Idealism:** Martin-Löf's Constructive Type Theory

Property Modification

- **Property modification:**

- ▶ with M a modifier and F a property, (MF) is the result of the procedure of applying the function M to the argument F ;

- A full semantic theory of modification must be able to account for the following variants:

- ▶ **Subjective:** $(M'F)a \therefore Fa$;
- ▶ **Intersective:** $(M''F)a \therefore M^*a \wedge Fa$;
- ▶ **Modal/intensional:** $(M'''F)a \therefore Fa \vee \neg Fa$;
- ▶ **Privative:** $(M''''F)a \therefore \neg Fa$.

Subsective vs. Privative Modification

“a is a prime number”

- given a set of (natural) numbers, the modification of the property of being a number generates the subset of those numbers that have the additional property of being prime numbers;

Conjecture

Subsection exhausts modification for mathematical language.

Subjective vs. Privative Modification (II)

“b is a forged banknote”

- if a privative modifier M is applied to a property F , then the result is a function whose value is always an empty set of F 's;

Open Problem

The problem of positive characterization of privation: what do banknotes and forged banknotes have in common?

Modification and Procedural Semantics

Common features of procedural semantics:

- 1 a notion of construction;
- 2 a functional language;
- 3 type theory;
- 4 interpreted syntax.

CTT constructions

Predication: necessary and sufficient conditions for a judgement of the form $F \text{ type}$

- **Categorical predication:** $f : F$
 f is an element of the set F (or a proof f of proposition F);
- **Identity predication:** $f = f' : F$
 f and f' are equal elements in F (equivalent proofs)
- **Hypothetical predication:** $F' \text{ type}[x : F]$
 F' is a type provided there is a construction for F (functional abstraction).

TIL constructions

- **Composition:** $[X_0 X_1 \dots X_n]$

X_0 is a construction of a function, X_1, \dots, X_n constructions of its arguments and $[\]$ the procedure of functional application;

- **Closure:** $[\lambda x_1 \dots x_n Y]$

x_1, \dots, x_n construct arguments, Y constructs values of a function and $[\lambda x_1 \dots x_n Y]$ is the procedure of functional abstraction.

CTT as a functional language

- **Propositional function F' type $[x:F]$** : is the predication of a type F' depending on some predication holding for type F ;
- **Subjective modification $M(F)$** : treated by functional abstraction producing subset formation $\{x:F \mid M(x)\}$ (extensional): for every element in the set F taken as argument, it returns a function $M(x)$;

Privative Modification

$M(f)$: takes as arguments elements in F and ranges over functions from the basic type F to the empty set of F 's.

TIL as a functional language

- Ramified type hierarchy where each entity receives a type:
 - ▶ **ground types** (σ -truth values, ι -individuals, τ -reals doubling as times, ω -possible worlds),
 - ▶ **functional types** by induction over ground types
 - ▶ **constructions** of order $n + 1$ constructing constructions of order n ;

Privative Modification

(MF)a: functional application of M to a property F ; the extensionalization of (MF) is predicated of an individual a .

Privative Subset Formation Rule

Privation: Given $x:F$ as input of a function M , $M(x)$ returns the empty set of f 's as its output:

$$\frac{F \text{ set} \quad M(x)[F:El(\{\}) \text{ set}; x:El(\{\}); El(F(x))]}{\{x:F \mid M(x)\}}$$

Privative Subset Formation Rule

Privation: Given $x:F$ as input of a function M , $M(x)$ returns the empty set of f 's as its output:

$$\frac{F \text{ set} \quad M(x)[F : El(\{\}) \text{ set}; x : El(\{\}); El(F(x))]}{\{x : F \mid M(x)\}}$$

Identity: For any equivalent set taken as argument of the modifier function, the same empty set is obtained:

$$\frac{F \text{ set} \quad F = F' \text{ set} \quad M(x)[F = F' : El(\{\}) \text{ set}; x : El(\{\}); El(F = F'(x))]}{\{x : F = F' \mid M(x)\}}$$

Introduction and Elimination Rules

Introduction rule provides an appropriate construction of a set F of privatively modified individuals:

$$\frac{f:F \quad m:M(f)[F:El(\{\}) \text{ set}; f:El(\{\}); El(F(f))]}{f:\{x:F \mid M(x)\}}$$

$$\frac{f=f':F \quad m:M(f)[F:El(\{\}) \text{ set}; f:El(\{\}); El(F(f))]}{f=f':\{x:F \mid M(x)\}}$$

Introduction and Elimination Rules

Introduction rule provides an appropriate construction of a set F of privatively modified individuals:

$$\frac{f:F \quad m:M(f)[F:El(\{\}) \text{ set}; f:El(\{\}); El(F(f))]}{f:\{x:F \mid M(x)\}}$$

$$\frac{f=f':F \quad m:M(f)[F:El(\{\}) \text{ set}; f:El(\{\}); El(F(f))]}{f=f':\{x:F \mid M(x)\}}$$

Elimination rule specifies how to extract a modified individual from its corresponding set:

$$\frac{f:\{x:F \mid M(x)[\Delta]\} \quad f'(x):M'(x)[x:F, m:M(x)]}{f'(f):M'(f)}$$

Iteration of Modifiers

The construction of a (well-made (forged banknote)) is of the following form:

$$\frac{\frac{\text{banknote set} \quad \text{forged}(x)[\Delta]}{\{x : \text{banknote} \mid \text{forged}(x)\}} \quad \text{well} - \text{made}(x)[x : \text{banknote} \mid \text{forged}(x)]}{\{x : \text{banknote} \mid \text{well} - \text{made} \times \text{forged}(x)\}}$$

The construction of a ((well-made forged) banknote) is an illegitimate one:

$$\frac{\text{banknote set} \quad \text{well} - \text{made}(x)[x : \text{banknote}] \times \text{forged}(x)[\Delta]}{\{x : \text{banknote} \mid \text{well} - \text{made}(x) \wedge \text{forged}(x)[\Delta]\}}$$

TIL Constructions of Modified Properties

- Predication as application of extensionalized property to individual:

$$\lambda w \lambda t [\textit{property}_{wt} a]$$

- Composition of a modified property:

$$[\textit{modifier property}]$$

- Predication of a modified property:

$$\lambda w \lambda t [[\textit{modifier property}]_{wt} a]$$

Iteration

- Predication of a modified modified property:

$$\lambda w \lambda t \ [[modifier' \ [modifier \ property]]_{wt} \ a]$$

Examples:

- ▶ “*a* is a burned forged banknote”
- ▶ “*a* is a well-made forged banknote”.

Requisites of Privation

- The essence of the property F is the set of properties p such that p is a *requisite* of F :

$$[\textit{essence } F] = \lambda p [\textit{Req } p F]$$

- Definition of the *requisite* relation:

$$[\textit{Req } YX] = \forall w \forall t [\forall x [[\textit{True}_{wt} \lambda w \lambda t [X_{wt} x]] \rightarrow [\textit{True}_{wt} \lambda w \lambda t [Y_{wt} x]]]]$$

Requisites of Privation (cont.)

- The property *not being a banknote* is a requisite of the property *being a forged banknote*:

$$[Req \lambda w \lambda t \neg [banknote_{wt} x] [forged banknote]]$$

- This Composition is equivalent to the following Composition:

$$\forall w \forall t [\forall x [[forged banknote]_{wt} x] \rightarrow [\neg [banknote_{wt} x]]]$$

- No forged banknote is a banknote and some non-banknotes are forged banknotes:

$$\forall w \forall t [[[All [forged banknote]_{wt}] [\lambda x \neg [banknote_{wt} x]]] \wedge \\ [[Some [\lambda x \neg [banknote_{wt} x]]] \lambda x [[forged banknote]_{wt} x]]]$$

Conclusions

- 1 CTT construes privation as dependent typing under condition of a typed empty set;
- 2 TIL produces a modified property by the functional application of a modifier to a property; the resulting modified property is extensionalized for predication.