

## 2. Conjunctions

### 2.1. *And*

#### 2.1.0. Overview

In this chapter, we will study the logical properties of the English word *and*, which it shares with certain related expressions. Along the way we will encounter some general ways of approaching the study of logical properties that will serve us in later chapters, too.

For the next several chapters, will be interested in sentences that are formed from other sentences; the operations used to do this are known as **connectives**.

##### 2.1.1. A connective

We begin with **conjunction**, a connective that enables us to combine the content of a pair of sentences.

##### 2.1.2. Conjunction in English

Although conjunction is most closely associated with the word *and*, there are a number of ways of expressing it in English.

##### 2.1.3. Limits on analysis

On the other hand, even the appearance of *and* is not a sure sign that a sentence may be analyzed as a conjunction.

##### 2.1.4. Multiple conjunction

The operation of forming a sentence from sentences can be repeated. We will look at this sort of iteration in the case of conjunction.

##### 2.1.5. Some sample analyses

We will then apply these ideas to analyze the logical forms of several examples.

##### 2.1.6. Logical forms

And we will look in more general terms at the relation of logical forms to actual sentences.

##### 2.1.7. Interpretations

Finally, we will introduce some ways of talking about the relation between abstract forms and the meanings of sentences.

Glen Helman 25 Aug 2005

#### 2.1.1. A connective

We are interested in logical forms as a way of stating general laws of entailment. Let us begin by looking at cases of entailment that seem to involve the word *and*. Here is an example:

*That bear is large and edgy*  $\Rightarrow$  *That bear is large*

In attempting to understand any fact, it is useful to collect related facts. One way to search for related facts about entailment is to look for cases involving sentences similar in grammatical form to those above. If we follow this route, we run into entailments like this:

*That car is cheap and reliable*  $\Rightarrow$  *That car is cheap*

And we will eventually hit upon a general pattern like this:

*a is P and Q*  $\Rightarrow$  *a is P*.

If we look a little farther afield, we also find examples like

*It was hot and there was a storm before dark*  $\Rightarrow$  *It was hot*,

which follows the pattern

$\phi$  *and*  $\psi \Rightarrow \phi$ .

This pattern can be seen to operate also in examples of the first group if we paraphrase them, transforming

*That bear is large and edgy*,

for instance, into

*That bear is large and that bear is edgy*.

In applying a pattern by first paraphrasing, we treat a sentence as having a form that is hidden by its surface appearance. Much of our analysis of logical form will involve this sort of transition.

Assuming we are willing to apply the second pattern by way of a paraphrase, we have a fairly general law of inference in which the word *and* plays a key role. If we look at what this role entails, we see that *and* marks a particular sort of **compound** sentence formed of **component** sentences, one that we will label a **conjunction**. So the word *and* is a sign for an operation that forms conjunctions. We will call an operation that forms compound sentences out of component sentences a **connective**, and we will refer to the connective we are considering here as **conjunction**, marking it with the sign  $\wedge$  (one of whose names is

**logical and**). (The use of the term *conjunction* for both the operation of conjoining and the compound that results may seem confusing, but it follows a pattern that is used fairly often in English—as when the word *distribution* is used for both the act of distributing and its result.) It will often be convenient to employ a further related term and refer to the components of a conjunction as its **conjuncts**.

Using these ideas, we can express our **analysis** of *That bear is large and edgy* as

*That bear is large*  $\wedge$  *that bear is edgy*,

and we can express our principle of entailment as

$$\phi \wedge \psi \Rightarrow \phi.$$

This symbolic notation can save space but it is often convenient to use English to mark conjunction. When we do this, we will use the construction **both ... and ...** and write it (as done here) using a special type. So the principle above could be stated as

$$\text{both } \phi \text{ and } \psi \Rightarrow \phi.$$

(The reason for using the particle **both** in addition to **and** will be discussed later.)

At this point, we have reached a stage like that reached by a physicist who recognizes pressure, temperature, and volume as physical quantities and has formulated a law relating them but who does not know why the law holds. That is, we have a generalization about entailment that we can apply in special cases, but we cannot say why this generalization is true. What is it about conjunction that makes this sort of entailment work?

We can find an answer by again scaring up some more facts. Notice, for example, that the entailment that got us started is matched by a second.

*That bear is large and edgy*  $\Rightarrow$  *That bear is edgy*.

Moreover, we can see not only that the sentence *That bear is large and edgy* entails each of the two sentences *That bear is large* and *That bear is edgy* but also that it is entailed in turn by the two taken together. If we abbreviate the longer sentence by B and the two shorter sentences as L and N, respectively, we have collected the following facts:

$$\begin{aligned} B &\Rightarrow L \\ B &\Rightarrow N \\ L, N &\Rightarrow B \end{aligned}$$

And checking other cases of conjunction would show us that these are instances of three general laws.

$$\begin{aligned} \phi \wedge \psi &\Rightarrow \phi \\ \phi \wedge \psi &\Rightarrow \psi \\ \phi, \psi &\Rightarrow \phi \wedge \psi. \end{aligned}$$

Or, using English to express the forms,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{both } \phi \text{ and } \psi &\Rightarrow \phi \\ \text{both } \phi \text{ and } \psi &\Rightarrow \psi \\ \phi, \psi &\Rightarrow \text{both } \phi \text{ and } \psi. \end{aligned}$$

So far, all we have done is to accumulate more general laws, but it is often easier to understand a larger number of facts because a pattern can begin to emerge.

We can begin to provide a single account of these laws by recalling our definition of entailment. In positive form, it says that a set  $\Gamma$  entails a sentence  $\phi$  if and only if  $\phi$  is **T** in every possible world in which each member of  $\Gamma$  is **T**. Restating our three laws in these terms, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \phi \text{ is } \mathbf{T} &\text{ in every possible world in which } \phi \wedge \psi \text{ is } \mathbf{T} \\ \psi \text{ is } \mathbf{T} &\text{ in every possible world in which } \phi \wedge \psi \text{ is } \mathbf{T} \\ \phi \wedge \psi \text{ is } \mathbf{T} &\text{ in every possible world in which both } \phi \text{ and } \psi \text{ are } \mathbf{T} \end{aligned}$$

In short,  $\phi \wedge \psi$  is true in a possible world if and only if both  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  are true. This means that the truth value of the compound  $\phi \wedge \psi$  is determined by the truth values of the components  $\phi$  and  $\psi$ , a fact we can express in the **truth table** below.

$\phi$	$\psi$	$\phi \wedge \psi$
T	T	T
T	F	F
F	T	F
F	F	F

This table shows the contribution of conjunction to the truth conditions of compound sentences formed using it, for it tells us how to determine the truth value of a conjunction  $\phi \wedge \psi$  in any possible world once we know the truth values of the conjuncts  $\phi$  and  $\psi$ . And the table also shows what lies behind the general laws

of entailment that led us to it: it is because conjunction makes this sort of contribution to the meaning of sentences that those laws hold. A particular way of associating an output truth value with input truth values is a **truth function**, so we can say that conjunction expresses a truth function, and we can say the laws of entailment stated above reflect the character of the truth function that conjunction expresses.

It is worth pausing a moment to look at the way in which the proposition that is expressed by a conjunction is related to the propositions that are expressed by its components. Since a conjunction is false whenever either component is false, it rules out any possibility ruled out by either component; and, since the possibilities ruled out are an indication of the information a sentence contains, we can say that a conjunction contains all the information contained in its components. This means that the effect of conjunction is to add up informational content. Now, more information means fewer possibilities left open and, looking at the table in these terms, we see that a conjunction leaves open only the possibilities left open by both components. The range of possibilities it leaves open is the region in the full space of possibilities where the ranges of possibilities left open by the two components overlap.

For example, the sentence *The number shown by the die is odd and less than 4* can be analyzed as the conjunction *The number shown by the die is odd*  $\wedge$  *the number shown by the die is less than 4*. The first component rules out possibilities where the die shows 2, 4, or 6 and the second rules out possibilities where it shows 4, 5, or 6. The conjunction rules out all these possibilities—that is, any possibility where the die shows 2, 4, 5, or 6. Looking at things in terms of the possibilities left open, the first component leaves open those where the die shows 1, 3, or 5 and the second leaves open those where it shows 1, 2, or 3. The conjunction leaves open a possibility when it is left open by both components; that is, it leaves open those where the die shows 1 or 3.

This is shown pictorially in Figure 2.1.1-1 below.

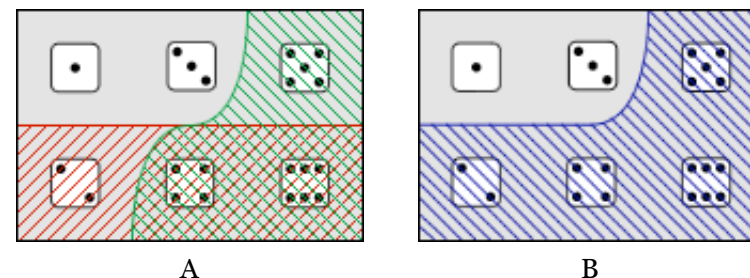


Fig. 2.1.1-1. Propositions expressed by two sentences (A) and their conjunction (B).

Here, each rectangle represents the space of all possible worlds. The die faces mark regions consisting of the possible worlds in which the die shows one or another number. In Figure 2.1.1-1A, the possibilities ruled out by the first component are at the bottom in the region hatched in red from lower left to upper right while those ruled out by the second component occupy the region at the right hatched in green from upper left to lower right. The possibilities left open by the first component then form the region at the top outside the red hatching while those left open by the second are in the region at the left outside the green hatching. Figure 2.1.1-1B shows the proposition expressed by the conjunction of these two sentences. The possibilities ruled out add up to form the region hatched in blue; those left open are in the unhatched region at the top left where the ranges of possibilities left open by the original components overlap. These diagrams can be compared to the truth table for conjunction. The sort of worlds covered by first row of the table, worlds where both components are true, appear at the top left of the 2.1.1-1A; the other rows of the table correspond to the remaining three regions of the this diagram—those at the top right, the bottom left, and the bottom right, respectively.

### 2.1.2. Conjunction in English

Conjunction is most often marked by the word *and*, but there are English sentences without this word that also may be analyzed as conjunctions. First of all, there are quite a number of expressions—such as *also*, *in addition*, and *moreover*—that serve as stylistic variants of *and*. But conjunctions also may employ another group of words that are not simple stylistic variants of *and*. The principal example is the word *but*.

This may be a surprise. Although a sharp ear might detect a slight difference in meaning between *and* and *moreover*, the difference between *and* and *but* is unmistakable. Consider, for example, the following two sentences, which differ only in the use of these two words:

*Adams spoke forcefully to the committee, and they agreed to the expenditure*

*Adams spoke forcefully to the committee, but they agreed to the expenditure.*

These sentences would be used under different circumstances, and it may seem odd to count them as logically equivalent, which is what we must do if we are to analyze both as conjunctions of the same two components.

This is the first of several points at which we must recall the distinctions between truth and appropriateness and between implication and implicature. As was noted in [1.3.3], our concern is with only the first concept in each pair and thus with only certain aspects of meaning. Specifically, we count two sentences as equivalent if they have the same truth conditions. Any differences between their meanings that have no effect on their truth and falsity are irrelevant for our purposes.

So we must look more closely at the nature of the difference in meaning between *and* and *but*. It is clear that the second sentence above carries a suggestion of contrast between the two components—perhaps Adams spoke against the expenditure or the committee usually rejected Adams's advice—and it is also clear that the suggestion of contrast is absent in the first. Now, suppose that the second sentence was used in a context where the suggested contrast is not present—perhaps the expenditure was approved

because Adams spoke for it. The assertion of the second sentence would then be inappropriate, but would it be false?

Let us use the test of a *yes-no* question. Imagine that you attended a meeting where Adams persuaded a committee to agree to a certain expenditure and that later someone who had heard rumors of the proceedings asked you the question *Is it true that Adams spoke forcefully to the committee, but they agreed to the expenditure?* How would you reply? This is something you must decide for yourself; but, for my own part, I would say something like, "Yes, but he spoke for the expenditure, not against it." That is, I would give a *yes-but* answer, reacting to the sentence whose truth was asked about as one whose assertion would be true but inappropriate. And it is for this reason that I will suggest we analyze sentences formed using *but* and other similar words—such as *however*, *though*, and *nonetheless*—as conjunctions. These words are not just signs of conjunction; but their differences from *and* lie outside their effect on truth conditions.

There are cases of other sorts where analysis by conjunction is legitimate though not obvious. Sometimes, for example, there is no word at all marking the conjunction. The operation of conjunction produces a compound sentence that commits us to the truth of both its components, and there are linguistic devices other than the use of particular words that enable us to roll two claims up into one in this way. For example, the sentence *It was a hot, windy day* is equivalent to *It was a hot and windy day* and can be analyzed as the conjunction

*It was a hot day*  $\wedge$  *it was a windy day*.

An analysis of a sentence might even separate a modifier from the expression it modifies. One common case of this is provided by adjectives used *attributively*—i.e., applied directly to the noun they modify. For example, we may treat *Sam's car is a green Chevy* as if it were *Sam's car is a Chevy, and it's green*. It is important to note that, for reasons discussed in the next section, these analyses work only because the adjectives appear in a predicate nominative employing the indefinite article—i.e., in the form represented by

*X is a ... Y*

or by a similar form with a different tense. However, this is a very

common pattern so there will be many occasions to apply this sort of analysis.

Another rather specific but important case of separating modifiers concerns relative clauses. There are really two cases here. The first is non-restrictive relative clauses—that is, ones marked off by commas. These can usually be analyzed as conjunctions. For example, *Ann, who you met yesterday, called this morning* can be understood as a conjunction of *You met Ann yesterday* and *Ann called this morning*.

The second sort of case is a restrictive relative clause—one not marked off by commas—appearing as part of a predicate nominative using the indefinite article. The grammatical pattern in this case is

*X is a Y that ...*

or a similar pattern using a different tense or another relative pronoun (such as *who* or *which*). A sentence like this can be analyzed as a conjunction of *X is a Y* and the result of putting *X* in the expression marked by ... at the point governed by the relative pronoun. For example, *Sam's car is a Chevy that's green* could be analyzed as the conjunction of *Sam's car is a Chevy* and *Sam's car is green*—i.e., analyzed in the same way as *Sam's car is a green Chevy*. But relative clauses of this sort can be used to express many sorts of modification other than the simple application of adjectives. One example is *The speaker was a writer who Sam admired*, which can be analyzed as the conjunction of *The speaker was a writer* and *Sam admired the speaker*; here the second conjunct has the subject of the original sentence as its direct object rather than its subject.

Glen Helman 25 Aug 2005

### 2.1.3. Limits on analysis

Although the presence of *and* or another word used to mark conjunction is a good sign that conjunction will be involved in a full analysis of a sentence, it does not mean that the sentence as a whole can be analyzed as a conjunction.

One thing that can interfere is the occurrence of indefinite pronouns and similar expressions. Consider the sentence *A friend of Ann lives in Singapore and works in London*. The claim it makes may well be true, but its truth would be at least mildly surprising. However, there would be no surprise at all in the truth of a sentence analyzed as *A friend of Ann lives in Singapore*  $\wedge$  *a friend of Ann works in London* since there is no longer any implication that the same person does both. Of course, we could paraphrase the original sentence (a bit awkwardly) as *A friend of Ann lives in Singapore and that person works in London*, but that is of no help in analyzing it since the second clause relies on the first clause for the reference of the phrase *that person* and thus does not function as an independent sentence. Indeed, in spite of the occurrence of the word *and*, there is no way to analyze this sentence as a conjunction in which the references to Singapore and London appear in different components; its analysis must await our treatment of expressions involving the indefinite article in chapters 7 and 8. The indefinite article is one of a group of expressions also including *some*, *every*, and *no* that we will later study as **quantifier words**. Their presence will often preclude analysis of a sentence as a compound formed by a connective even though a word that ordinarily indicates that compound is present. Analysis as a compound formed by the connective is sometimes possible in such cases, but you should be wary if you find yourself being led to repeat a quantifier word when dividing the sentence into two components (as we would do by repeating *a friend of Ann* in the example above).

Similar problems can arise in other cases where we might expect to find a conjunction, as with attributive adjectives and relative clauses. For example, *Tom forecast a hot and windy day next week* is not equivalent to *Tom forecast a hot day next week*  $\wedge$  *Tom forecast a windy day next week* since the latter does not imply that the two forecasts are for the same day. This is the reason that

2.1.2 recommended such analyses only for predicate nominatives. In such cases, the implication that two adjectives are being applied to the same thing is insured by other aspects of the sentence, but you still need to be wary of duplicating other quantifier phrases—in, for example, the subject of the sentence—when you make the analysis. And this is true even for compound predicate adjectives: *Sam's car was cheap and reliable* is equivalent to *Sam's car was cheap*  $\wedge$  *Sam's car was reliable* but *One model is cheap and reliable* is not equivalent to *One model is cheap*  $\wedge$  *one model is reliable*.

Even when quantifier words are not involved, analyses by conjunction cannot always be used to separate modifiers from the words they modify. For example, it would be wrong to analyze *Tristram is a large flea* as *Tristram is a flea*  $\wedge$  *Tristram is large* because a sentence with this analysis entails that at least one flea is to be found among the large things of the world. The problem in this case is that an adjective modifying a noun has its meaning determined in part by the noun it is applied to; *large* indicates a different range of sizes when it is applied to fleas than when it is applied to elephants. This is an example of a phenomenon discussed in 1.3.2: vague terms have their meaning determined in part by their context of use. A noun can contribute to the context in which an adjective is used when the adjective is applied to the noun directly and also when the adjective follows the noun in a stream of discourse. This means that it also would be wrong to analyze *Tristram is a flea and Tristram is large* as *Tristram is a flea*  $\wedge$  *Tristram is large*, for the adjective *large* acquires part of its meaning from the noun *flea* in the English sentence. (But the way a noun affects the meaning of a vague adjective is not simple. Although the sentence *No fleas are large* speaks about fleas, the range of sizes indicated by *large* in this sentence is different from the range indicated by its use in *Tristram is a flea and Tristram is large*.)

But why does the same thing not happen with the conjunction *Tristram is a flea*  $\wedge$  *Tristram is large*? Although the symbol  $\wedge$  is closely related to the English conjunction *and*, it is not a simple abbreviation; and we do not assume that their contribution to the meaning of a sentence is exactly the same. The symbol  $\wedge$  (and the construction *both ... and ...* that we use as an alternative notation

for it) are signs for the operation of conjunction. The conjunction of two sentences is a sentence that, in any context, has truth conditions that are related to those of its two components in the way shown by the table we considered earlier. And the stipulation that this is so *in any context* is a crucial one here; in particular, it need not be part of that context that either component has been asserted. So in the conjunction, we cannot assume that the meaning of the second component *Tristram is large* will be influenced by the meaning of the first component. In certain sorts of context, it will have the same meaning as *Tristram is large for a flea*. But it is only in such contexts that *Tristram is a flea*  $\wedge$  *Tristram is large* has the same truth conditions as *Tristram is a flea and Tristram is large*, and our analyses should not depend on equivalences that hold only for certain contexts.

This indicates a further difference between our model of the operation of language and the way things work in English. Everything that is said in English has the potential of affecting the context of what follows it and, to a more limited extent, what precedes it. But when we analyze sentences, we treat their components as independent and as each understood in the same context. Our excuse for this limitation of our model is the same as that for many others: a model that was more accurate in this respect would require significant complications—and complications that no one yet understands very well.

Of course, we can analyze *Tristram is a large flea* as a conjunction after all if we modify the second component to remove its dependence on the context established by the assertion of the first. One way of doing that was suggested in passing above: we may use the conjunction *Tristram is a flea*  $\wedge$  *Tristram is large for a flea*. Here we have modified the second component to replace the implicit effect of the context with a more explicit indication of the range of sizes in question. Though generalizations about such matters are risky, something like this device can be applied in many cases where adjectives acquire part of their meaning from the surrounding context.

There are still other factors that can prevent the separation of attributive adjectives from the nouns they modify. We could be guilty of slander if we were to analyze *Alfred is an alleged murderer* as *Alfred is a murderer*  $\wedge$  *Alfred is alleged to be a*

*murderer*. The difference between this and the example above is that the attributive adjective *alleged* modifies the meaning of a noun in a different way from an adjective like *large*. Adjectives like *large* narrow down the class of things marked out by the noun by adding a further property; in contrast, *alleged* shifts the membership of this class by adding as well as dropping members. The class of alleged murderers is not included in the class of murderers in the way the class of large fleas is included in the class of fleas. As a result, no analysis as a conjunction is possible.

While the issues of contextual dependence can also affect our ability to separate relative clauses from the nouns they modify, this latter problem does not occur for them. If we say *Alfred is a murderer who is alleged to be one* we already imply that Alfred is a murderer so analysis as a conjunction is possible. This means that one initial test for cases where we may separate an attributive adjective from the noun it modifies is to see if restatement using a relative clause changes the meaning. While *That's an unknown Rembrandt* is equivalent to *That's a Rembrandt that is unknown* and can be analyzed as a conjunction, *That's a fake Rembrandt* is not equivalent to *That's a Rembrandt that is fake* and cannot be analyzed in this way.

But, in the end, the test that an analysis must pass is that the conjunction we use to represent a sentence really has the same truth conditions. Since the truth table for conjunction is directly tied to the laws of entailment discussed in 2.1.1, one way to apply this test is to check whether the original sentence really entails both components of the analysis (when these are considered as independent sentences) and whether they, taken together, entail it. And we have used this test in the discussion of examples above; for example, because *Alfred is an alleged murderer* does not entail *Alfred is a murderer*, we cannot analyze the premise as conjunction with the conclusion as one of its conjuncts. Due to the problems associated with the contextual dependence of meaning, when applying this test, we must be careful not to fill out the meanings of terms in one of the sentences we compare by a surreptitious reference to another sentence.

Glen Helman 25 Aug 2005

#### 2.1.4. Multiple conjunction

Although conjunction can compound sentences only two at a time, the word *and* in English can be used with any series of more than two items. To analyze a **serial conjunction** like *He went to Gary, South Bend, and Fort Wayne*, we need to regard the sentence as the result of two uses of conjunction, first to join two of the components and then to tack on a third. There are two ways of doing this and, although they both have the same truth conditions, they arrive at their common meaning in different ways. We can represent this difference in our symbolic notation by using parentheses:

*He went to Gary*  $\wedge$  (*he went to South Bend*  $\wedge$  *he went to Fort Wayne*)  
 (*He went to Gary*  $\wedge$  *he went to South Bend*)  $\wedge$  *he went to Fort Wayne*.

There are a number of ways of describing the difference displayed here. We can say, first, that in each case a different one of the two uses of conjunction is the **main** connective or the one at the **top level**. The main or top-level connective is the operation that would be used last in forming the sentence, and it marks the place the sentence would be broken first when it is decomposed. In the first sentence above, it is the first use of conjunction that is the main connective or the one at top level while, in the second sentence, it is the second use.

Another way of describing the difference between the two analyses is to speak of the **scope** of a connective, the part of the whole sentence that is made up of the connective and the components it applies to. Thus the scope of the first  $\wedge$  in the first of the sentences above is the whole sentence while the scope of the second  $\wedge$  is the portion in parentheses. This situation is reversed in the second sentence; there, the scope of the first  $\wedge$  is limited by the parentheses and is included in the scope of the second  $\wedge$ .

*He went to Gary*  $\wedge$  (*he went to South Bend*  $\wedge$  *he went to Fort Wayne*)

(*He went to Gary*  $\wedge$  *he went to South Bend*)  $\wedge$  *he went to Fort Wayne*

So we say that the two examples differ in the **relative scope** of the two uses of conjunction. In one, the first use has **wider** scope; in the other, the second has wider scope.

These two ideas are depicted together in Figure 2.1.4-1. The main connective of each analysis appears quite literally at the top level, and the scope of each connective is the portion of the analysis that branches out from under it.

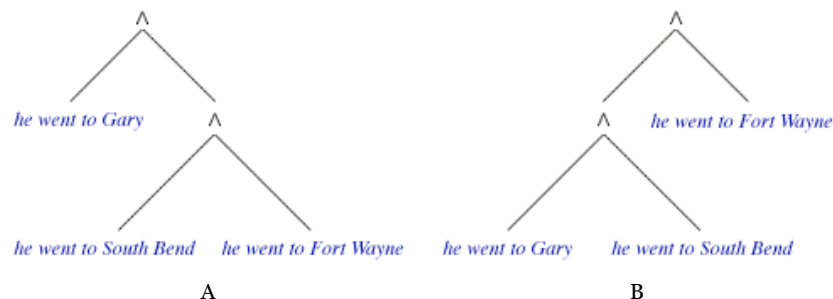


Fig. 2.1.4-1. Two analyses of a serial conjunction.

The parentheses of our symbolic notation for these analyses can be seen as a way of representing this sort of structure without resorting to two dimensions.

Although such scope distinctions make no difference in the truth conditions of English sentences, they are possible syntactically—as in

*He went to Gary and also South Bend and Fort Wayne*  
*He went to Gary and South Bend and also Fort Wayne.*

Here, *also* is used to emphasize the break made by one *and*. Use of punctuation is another way to emphasize one of the two *ands* and raise it to the top level—as in

*He went to Gary—and South Bend and Fort Wayne*  
*He went to Gary and South Bend—and Fort Wayne.*

In the absence of devices like the use of *also*, syntactic grouping, or punctuation, the normal order of reading probably would lead us to interpret the second *and* as the last one used in forming the sentence—that is, as the main operation.

Still another common way of making such distinctions is to exploit the power of *and* to conjoin words or phrases as well as complete clauses. For example, compare (in which the objects of prepositional phrases are underlined)

*He went to Gary and to South Bend and Fort Wayne*  
*He went to Gary and South Bend and to Fort Wayne*

In each case, one *and* conjoins prepositional phrases and the other conjoins nouns as the object of one of these phrases.

A final way of representing scope distinctions in English is one we have adapted to represent conjunction using the expression *both ... and ...*. All things being equal, we will interpret the second of two *ands* as having the wider scope, but this presumption can be defeated by adding the word *both* to get, for example

*He went to Gary and both South Bend and Fort Wayne.*

This sentence has the form  $\phi \wedge (\psi \wedge \chi)$ ; and, in general, the word *both* has roughly the same effect as a left parenthesis in our symbolic notation. Indeed, when we represent the forms we have been considering using English notation we get this:

*both he went to Gary and both he went to South Bend and he went to Fort Wayne*

*both both he went to Gary and he went to South Bend and he went to Fort Wayne.*

The word *both* appears here just where a left parenthesis would in a symbolic analysis if we were to add parentheses surrounding the whole sentence.

*(He went to Gary  $\wedge$  (he went to South Bend  $\wedge$  he went to Fort Wayne))*  
*((He went to Gary  $\wedge$  he went to South Bend)  $\wedge$  he went to Fort Wayne)*

Of course, our English notation uses *both* in many cases where *both* would not appear in ordinary English and even where a left parenthesis would not ordinarily appear in our symbolic notation. This is because the English notation is designed to make the scope of connectives unambiguous in cases where ordinary English is ambiguous. And without anything to serve as a corresponding right parenthesis, the word *both* may be needed in some places where a left parenthesis is not. For example, suppose we attempt to express the form  $(\phi \wedge \psi) \wedge \chi$ , using *and* in place of  $\wedge$  and *both* in place of the left parenthesis. We would get

*both  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  and  $\chi$ .*

If we take *both* to mark the left end of the scope of the first conjunction (as the left

parenthesis does in the symbolic expression), we are still left with no indication of the right end of its scope: is the second component only  $\psi$  or the whole of  $\psi$  and  $\chi$ ? If we supply a *both* for every *and*, we can write  $(\phi \wedge \psi) \wedge \chi$  as

*both both  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  and  $\chi$ .*

This is hardly elegant prose, but it does make the grouping definite; finding a second *both* immediately following the first, we know the first component of the main conjunction is itself a conjunction. It is also possible, and sometimes useful, to mix symbolic and English notation, using the word *and* with grouping marked by parentheses.

Although scope distinctions can be made in English in these ways, the English *and* is often applied to a series of items that are all on the same level. It would be possible to treat conjunction as an operation that was similar to the English *and* in this respect, but it would cost us the trouble of more complex accounts of the properties of conjunction without yielding much greater insight. We can (and often will) mimic the way addition and multiplication are usually treated in algebra and drop parentheses when they make no difference in the value of an expression. This introduces no real complications but it has limitations. Since our principles concerning conjunction will be stated only for 2-component conjunctions, we can apply them to a **run-on conjunction** like  $\phi \wedge \psi \wedge \chi$ —or, in English notation,  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  and  $\chi$ —only after we have chosen one of the two conjunction symbols as marking the main operation. And, although we could regard either the first or last of the three components as a component of the top-level conjunction, the middle one  $\psi$  always ends up as a component of the lower level conjunction, so we really have not put the three components on the same level.

Glen Helman | 25 Aug 2005



### 2.1.5. Some sample analyses

Here are a few example analyses written out in full as models for the exercises to this section. In each case a few comments follow the actual analysis.

*Roses are red and violets are blue*

*Roses are red*  $\wedge$  *violets are blue*

R  $\wedge$  B

both R and B

[R: *roses are red*; B: *violets are blue*]

As a last step here, we have abbreviated unanalyzed components with capital letters in order to highlight logical forms. The final form is stated both symbolically and using our English expression for conjunction, something that will be done also in the examples to follow.

*It's cool even though it's bright and sunny*

*It's cool*  $\wedge$  *it's bright and sunny*

*It's cool*  $\wedge$  (*it's bright*  $\wedge$  *it's sunny*)

C  $\wedge$  (B  $\wedge$  S)

both C and both B and S

[C: *it's cool*; B: *it's bright*; S: *it's sunny*]

This example was worked out in two steps, first analyzing the whole sentence as a conjunction and then analyzing one of its components. The parentheses in the final result correspond to the grouping of *bright* and *sunny* together in the predicate of the second clause of the original sentence.

*He was cool, calm, and collected*

*He was cool*  $\wedge$  *he was calm*  $\wedge$  *he was collected*

C  $\wedge$  M  $\wedge$  T

C and M and T

[C: *he was cool*; M: *he was calm*; T: *he was collected*]

Here parentheses would be an artifact of our analysis and correspond to nothing in the English. Accordingly we have used run-on conjunction in the symbolic version, and use of **both** is similarly suppressed in the English statement of the form. There would be nothing wrong with an analysis that specified the relative scope of the two conjunctions but, in this case, nothing is lost by

not doing so.

*It is a two-story brick building with a slate roof*

*It is a two-story brick building*  $\wedge$  *it has a slate roof*

(*it is a building*  $\wedge$  *it is made of brick*  $\wedge$  *it has two stories*)  $\wedge$  *it has a slate roof*

(B  $\wedge$  R  $\wedge$  T)  $\wedge$  S

(B and R and T) and S

[B: *it is a building*; R: *it is made of brick*; S: *it has a slate roof*;  
T: *it has two stories*]

No grouping is used within the first three components because it is not obvious that any is imposed by the phrase *two-story brick building*. The English statement employs parentheses because there is no good way of indicating the combination of run-on conjunction with ordinary conjunction using **both**. Again, there would be nothing wrong with imposing a grouping. If we were to group the first three components to the left, for example, we would end up with the following in symbols and English:

((B  $\wedge$  R)  $\wedge$  T)  $\wedge$  S

both both both B and R and T and S

In the English notation, the first **both** tells us that the whole sentence is a conjunction, the second that the first component is, and the third that the first component of the first component is a conjunction; and this settles the scope of the **ands** that follow. The value of English notation does not lie in such calculations but in our ability to understand the significance **both** automatically; however, that ability to fairly simple forms, and a row of three **boths** is hard to follow without reflection.

Glen Helman 25 Aug 2005

## 2.1.6. Logical forms

We will conclude this first look at analysis by considering its results in more general terms. The aim of analysis is to uncover logical form. While it is natural to speak of the result of an analysis as *the* logical form of the sentence that was analyzed, a sentence will usually have many logical forms of differing complexity. Many of these may be displayed as we carry out an analysis step by step. Consider, for example, the following analysis of a fairly complex sentence:

*He went to Gary, South Bend, and Fort Wayne, leaving at dawn and returning after dark*

*He went to Gary, South Bend, and Fort Wayne*  $\wedge$  *he left at dawn and returned after dark*

*(he went to Gary and South Bend*  $\wedge$  *he went to Fort Wayne)*  $\wedge$  *he left at dawn and returned after dark*

*((he went to Gary*  $\wedge$  *he went to South Bend)*  $\wedge$  *he went to Fort Wayne)*  $\wedge$  *he left at dawn and returned after dark*

*((he went to Gary*  $\wedge$  *he went to South Bend)*  $\wedge$  *he went to Fort Wayne)*  $\wedge$  *(he left at dawn*  $\wedge$  *he returned after dark)*

$((G \wedge S) \wedge F) \wedge (L \wedge R)$

both both both G and S and F and both L and R

[F: *he went to Fort Wayne*; G: *he went to Gary*; L: *he left at dawn*; R: *he returned after dark*; S: *he went to South Bend*]

The first line exhibits the sentence without further analysis, the second shows it as a conjunction, the third as a conjunction whose first component is a conjunction, and so on. Each line ascribes a form to the sentence, and if we ignore the identity of unanalyzed components, this is a form that the sentence shares with many other sentences. These abstract forms are indicated below (in the order in which they appear in the analysis) with symbolic notation on the left and a description of the form on the right:

$\varphi$	sentence
$\psi \wedge \chi$	conjunction
$(\zeta \wedge \xi) \wedge \chi$	conjunction of (i) a conjunction and (ii) a sentence
$((\mu \wedge \nu) \wedge \xi) \wedge \chi$	conjunction of (i) a conjunction whose first component is a conjunction and (ii) a sentence

$((\mu \wedge \nu) \wedge \xi) \wedge (\theta \wedge \upsilon)$  conjunction of (i) a conjunction whose first component is a conjunction and (ii) a conjunction

The sentence has still further forms that might have appeared in the course of our analysis if we had reached the final result in a different way. One example is  $\psi \wedge (\theta \wedge \upsilon)$ , a conjunction of (i) a sentence and (ii) a conjunction.

It is important to recognize all the different forms a sentence has, even those that correspond to very partial analyses of it. Each represents a class of sentences that may share important logical properties with the sentence we are focusing on. For example, the sentence above will share some of its logical properties with all sentences, others with all conjunctions, still others with conjunctions whose first components are conjunctions, and so on.

We will apply the term **component** to any sentence that appears on any level of analysis of a given sentence. In particular, a sentence is a component of itself. We will distinguish the components of a compound to which its main connective applies as its **immediate** components, and we will refer to those that appear unanalyzed at the last stage of an analysis as its **ultimate** components (on that analysis). We will often refer to the ultimate components of a sentence also as **unanalyzed**. In the example above, the immediate components of the initial sentence are the two sentences separated at the second line of the analysis; the ultimate components are those abbreviated with capitals at the end. Although, in principle, both roman capital letters and the lower case Greek letters may stand for any sentences, in practice, we will reserve capital letters for sentences we do not analyze further. Such sentences are ultimate components of themselves and of any larger compounds in which they appear.

### 2.1.7. Interpretations

In passing from a sentence to any of its forms, we abstract from the specific sentences that we replace by variables. In general, we also abstract from the proposition expressed by the sentence and from its truth value. Except in special cases, such as forms that are shared only by tautologies, a logical form does not express a proposition or have a truth value, but we may introduce such semantic features by *interpreting* the form.

We will consider two sorts of interpretation, an *extensional interpretation*, that provides a truth value only, and an *intensional interpretation*, which provides the proposition expressed and thus a truth value not only for the actual world but for every possible world. These two sorts of interpretation will be used for different purposes, so it will usually be clear from the context which sort is relevant; and, when this is clear, we will use the term *interpretation* without qualification.

The term *intensional* (spelled with an *s*) and the term *extensional* derive from a traditional distinction between, on the one hand, the means by which a term picks out a class of objects and, on the other, the class of objects it picks out. Terms that pick out the same class of objects in different ways have the same *extension* but different *intensions*. For example, if the population of Crawfordsville is 14287, the terms *city with a population greater than 14287* and *city more populous than Crawfordsville* have the same extension but different intensions. One way to see that the two terms have different intensions is to notice that they would pick out different classes of cities if the population of Crawfordsville were not 14287.

During the past century, the concepts of intension and extension have been extended to terms that pick out single objects rather than classes of objects, so we can say that the definite descriptions *the author of Poor Richard's Almanack* and *the inventor of the lightning rod* both have Benjamin Franklin as their extension though they differ in their intensions. The distinction between the object a term refers to and the way it refers to it is sufficiently analogous to the distinction between the truth value of a sentence and the proposition it expresses that the concepts of intension and extension are now also applied to sentences. So *Indianapolis is the*

*capital of Indiana* and *Springfield is the capital of Illinois* could be said to have the same extension (i.e., the value **T**) but different intensions. In general, the extension of sentence is its truth value while its intension is the proposition it expresses.

Since the only general way we have to specify propositions is by using sentences that express them, intensional interpretations will be specified by assigning sentences to variables. (This assumes we are working with a fixed context of use, so sentences express propositions.) This assignment is the exact inverse of the process of abbreviating ultimate components by capitals, and we will use the same notation for the association of letters and sentences that results. For example, we can give an intensional interpretation of the form  $(A \wedge B) \wedge C$  by making the following assignment of sentences to the variables that mark its ultimate components.

A: *I got it apart;*

B: *I don't know how I got it apart;*

C: *I couldn't get it together again*

Since the sentences assigned to variables serve only to specify propositions, we will not be concerned about their logical forms; they may be as simple or complex as we wish.

Especially in later chapters, the proposition assigned to a compound sentence by an intensional interpretation may not be apparent until we find an idiomatic English sentence that expresses the same proposition. This can be done by a step-by-step process of *synthesizing* English that reverses the process of analysis. For the example above, this might proceed as follows:

*(I got it apart  $\wedge$  I don't know how I got it apart)  $\wedge$  I couldn't get it together again*

*I got it apart but I don't know how  $\wedge$  I couldn't get it together again*

*I got it apart but I don't know how, and I couldn't get it together again*

Of course, other wording is possible here, and the process of synthesizing English will rarely have a unique correct result.

Extensional interpretations are easier to manage and will often provide all the information we need. The following illustrates a convenient notation for an assignment of truth values to variables:

A	B	C
T	F	T

We adapt the tabular notation used for truth tables, writing the variables left to right and the assigned value under each. The values of the larger components may be calculated by using the truth table for conjunction just as a multiplication table may be used to calculate the numerical value of a product: we find the values of the smallest components first and use these to calculate the values of larger components. The notation shown above can be extended for this purpose in the following way:

A	B	C	(A ∧ C)	∧	(B ∧ C)
T	F	T	T	⊗	F

The whole form we are interested in is displayed to the right of its ultimate components, and the truth value calculated for each compound component is displayed below the main connective of that component. The value for the sentence as a whole is shown circled. Our interest will generally be only in this final value, but examples in this text will usually show how it was reached by also displaying the intermediate values.

Glen Helman 25 Aug 2005

### 2.1.s. Summary

The prime role of the logical word *and* is to mark the use of a **connective**, called **conjunction**, that serves to form a **compound** sentence (also called a conjunction) from **component** sentences that may be referred to as its **conjuncts**. The process of interpreting a sentence as a conjunction is **analysis**. We use the sign  $\wedge$  (**logical and**) as symbolic notation for the operation of conjunction, marking the scope of a conjunction by parentheses. Alternatively, we can write a conjunction  $\phi \wedge \psi$  as **both**  $\phi$  **and**  $\psi$ , where **both** plays the role of a left parenthesis. The two forms can be mixed using **and** to mark conjunction and parentheses to mark scope. We will use capital letters to stand for unanalyzed components as we use lower case Greek to stand for any sentences, analyzed or not.

The effect of conjunction on the truth conditions of the compounds formed using it may be described in a **truth table** showing the compound to be true if and only if both components are true. The truth table specifies a **truth function**, so conjunction can be said to have a truth function as its meaning.

$\phi$	$\psi$	$\phi \wedge \psi$
T	T	T
T	F	F
F	T	F
F	F	F

Conjunction is marked in English by stylistic variants of *and* as well as by *but* and similar words. Conjunction also can appear without explicit indication, particularly through the use of modifiers like **attributive adjectives**—though **care is needed** to be sure that such modifications can be captured by conjunction and to identify components that make **independent** contributions to the compound. The presence of **quantifier words** can preclude analysis as a conjunction even when the word *and* is present.

Since conjunction is used to combine only two components, uses of conjunction to combine more than two in a **multiple conjunction** will involve two or more connectives of differing **scope**, the one with **widest scope** counting as the **main connective** of the sentence. Such differences in scope can be marked in several ways in English but such markings may be absent in a **serial conjunction**. Some of the effect of serial conjunction without scope distinctions can be achieved by **run-on** conjunctions, such as  $\phi \wedge \psi \wedge \chi$ , which suppress parentheses.

The analysis of the logical form of a sentence can occur in stages

in which we identify the **immediate components** of a compound, any immediate components of these, and so on. The last components arrived at are the **ultimate components** of the analysis; the full class of **components** includes them as well as all other sentences that could appear in the course of analysis (including the analyzed sentence itself). A sentence will usually have **many logical forms** representing different partial analyses of it.

We can specify a proposition or a truth value for a logical form by means of an **intensional** or **extensional interpretation**, assigning truth values or sentences, respectively, to its ultimate components. A sentence expressing the proposition provided by an intensional interpretation can be found by carrying out a process of **synthesis** that reverses the process of analysis. The truth value provided by an extensional interpretation can be found by calculation using the truth table for conjunction. The **tabular notation** used to write the truth table of conjunction may be used also to describe extensional interpretations and the values that they give to compound forms.

Glen Helman 25 Aug 2005

## 2.1.x. Exercises

1. Analyze each of the following sentences in as much detail as possible.
  - a. *Mike visited both London and Paris.*
  - b. *Ann wanted white wine but Bill and Carol wanted red.*
  - c. *It will rain and clear off, but it will rain.*
  - d. *That is a new but growing market.*
  - e. *Confucius is affable but dignified, austere but not harsh, polite but completely at ease. (Analects 7:37)*
  - f. *Although Tim lost his glasses and his wallet, each was returned.*
  - g. *Tim lost his glasses and his wallet, and one person found both.*
2. Restate each of the following forms, putting English notation into symbols and vice versa (e.g., **both A and B** becomes  $A \wedge B$ , and  $A \wedge B$  becomes **both A and B**). Indicate the scope of connectives in the result by underlining.
  - a. **both A and both B and C**
  - b. **both both A and B and C**
  - c.  $(A \wedge B) \wedge (C \wedge D)$
  - d.  $A \wedge ((B \wedge C) \wedge D)$
  - e.  $(A \wedge (B \wedge C)) \wedge D$
  - f. **both both both A and B and C and D**
3. The logical forms below are followed by intensional interpretations of their unanalyzed components. In each case, synthesize an idiomatic English sentence that expresses the corresponding interpretation of whole form. Remember that there may be more than one correct answer.
  - a.  $(V \wedge F) \wedge R$   
[F: *Fred visited Florence*; R: *Fred spent a week in Rome*; V: *Fred visited Venice*]
  - b.  $(J \wedge (S \wedge F)) \wedge K$   
[F: *he was fair*; J: *he was a judge*; K: *he had an excellent knowledge of the law*; S: *he was stern*]
  - c.  $(C \wedge T \wedge H) \wedge (W \wedge F \wedge S)$   
[C: *we arrived cold*; F: *we left stuffed*; H: *we arrived hungry*; S: *we left sleepy*; T: *we arrived tired*; W: *we left warm*]

d.  $O \wedge O$

[O: *Old King Cole was a merry old soul*]

4. Calculate truth values for all compound components of the forms below using the extensional interpretation provided in each case.

a. 

A	B	C	$A \wedge (B \wedge C)$
T	T	F	

b. 

A	B	C	D	$((A \wedge D) \wedge C) \wedge (B \wedge A)$
T	T	F	T	

Glen Helman 25 Aug 2005

## 2.1.xa. Exercise answers

1. a. *Mike visited London*  $\wedge$  *Mike visited Paris*

$L \wedge P$

both L and P

[L: *Mike visited London*; P: *Mike visited Paris*]

- b. *Ann wanted white wine*  $\wedge$  *Bill and Carol wanted red wine*  
*Ann wanted white wine*  $\wedge$  (*Bill wanted red wine*  $\wedge$  *Carol wanted red wine*)

$A \wedge (B \wedge C)$

both A and both B and C

[A: *Ann wanted white wine*; B: *Bill wanted red wine*;  
C: *Carol wanted red wine*]

- c. *It will rain and clear off*  $\wedge$  *it will rain*  
(*it will rain*  $\wedge$  *it will clear off*)  $\wedge$  *it will rain*

$(R \wedge C) \wedge R$

both both R and C and R

[C: *it will clear off*; R: *it will rain*]

- d. *That is a market*  $\wedge$  *that is new relative to other markets but growing*  
*That is a market*  $\wedge$  (*that is new relative to other markets*  $\wedge$  *that is growing*)

$M \wedge (N \wedge G)$

both M and both N and G

[G: *that is growing*; M: *that is a market*; N: *that is new relative to other markets*]

- e. *Confucius is affable but dignified*  $\wedge$  *Confucius is austere but not harsh*  $\wedge$  *Confucius is polite but completely at ease*  
(*Confucius is affable*  $\wedge$  *Confucius is dignified*)  $\wedge$   
(*Confucius is austere*  $\wedge$  *Confucius is not harsh*)  $\wedge$   
(*Confucius is polite*  $\wedge$  *Confucius is completely at ease*)

$(A \wedge D) \wedge (S \wedge H) \wedge (P \wedge E)$

(both A and D) and (both S and H) and (both P and E)

[A: *Confucius is affable*; D: *Confucius is dignified*;  
E: *Confucius is completely at ease*; H: *Confucius is not harsh*; P: *Confucius is polite*; S: *Confucius is austere*]

- f. *Tim lost his glasses and his wallet*  $\wedge$  *Tim's glasses and wallet were each returned*  
(*Tim lost his glasses*  $\wedge$  *Tim lost his wallet*)  $\wedge$  (*Tim's*

*glasses were returned*  $\wedge$  *Tim's wallet was returned*)

$(G \wedge W) \wedge (R \wedge T)$

both both G and W and both R and T

[G: *Tim lost his glasses*; R: *Tim's glasses were returned*;

T: *Tim's wallet was returned*; W: *Tim lost his wallet*]

- g. *Tim lost his glasses and his wallet*  $\wedge$  *one person found both Tim's glasses and his wallet*

*(Tim lost his glasses*  $\wedge$  *Tim lost his wallet)*  $\wedge$  *one person found both Tim's glasses and his wallet*

$(G \wedge W) \wedge O$

both both G and W and O

[G: *Tim lost his glasses*; O: *one person found both Tim's glasses and his wallet*; W: *Tim lost his wallet*]

*Note: One person found both Tim's glasses and his wallet cannot be analyzed further because One person found Tim's glasses*  $\wedge$  *one person found Tim's wallet* does not imply that the same person found both.

2. a.  $A \wedge (B \wedge C)$

- b.  $(A \wedge B) \wedge C$

- c. both both A and B and both C and D

- d. both A and both both B and C and D

- e. both both A and both B and C and D

- f.  $((A \wedge B) \wedge C) \wedge D$

3. a. *(Fred visited Venice*  $\wedge$  *Fred visited Florence)*  $\wedge$  *Fred spent a week in Rome*  
*Fred visited Venice and Florence*  $\wedge$  *Fred spent a week in Rome*

*Fred visited Venice and Florence, and he spent a week in Rome*

- b. *(he was a judge*  $\wedge$  *(he was stern*  $\wedge$  *he was fair))*  $\wedge$  *he had an excellent knowledge of the law*  
*(he was a judge*  $\wedge$  *he was stern but fair)*  $\wedge$  *he had an excellent knowledge of the law*  
*He was a stern but fair judge who had an excellent knowledge of the law*

c.  $(we\ arrived\ cold \wedge we\ arrived\ tired \wedge we\ arrived\ hungry)$   
 $\wedge (we\ left\ warm \wedge we\ left\ stuffed \wedge we\ left\ sleepy)$   
*We arrived cold, tired, and hungry  $\wedge$  we left warm, stuffed, and sleepy*  
*We arrived cold, tired, and hungry; and we left warm, stuffed, and sleepy*

d.  $Old\ King\ Cole\ was\ a\ merry\ old\ soul \wedge Old\ King\ Cole\ was\ a\ merry\ old\ soul$   
*Old King Cole was a merry old soul, and a merry old soul was he*

4. Numbers below the tables indicate the order in which values were computed

a. 

A	B	C	$A \wedge (B \wedge C)$
T	T	F	Ⓣ    F

b. 

A	B	C	D	$((A \wedge D) \wedge C) \wedge (B \wedge A)$
T	T	F	T	T    F    Ⓣ    T
				1    2    3    1