Towards a uniform super-linguistic theory of projection

lightning talk

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How is meaning encoded in **"secondary" modalities**, e.g., via gestures, facial expressions, intonation?

Recent literature focused on projection of **non-conventionalized gestures** (Ebert & Ebert 2014; Hunter 2018; Schlenker 2018a, a.o.):

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   $\rightarrow$ Lea's dog is large.

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Schlenker 2018b: predict if/how "iconic enrichments" project from:
- whether they are "internal" or "external" ("eliminable" or not)
- whether they co-occur w/something in a more primary modality

E.g., gestures in (1) are "external" and co-speech $\rightarrow$ "cosuppositions"

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- but to see this, we need to:
    - treat secondary modality expressions as first class citizens at all levels of representation
    - expand our empirical scope by looking at a wider range of meanings expressed in secondary modalities

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- non-subsective modifiers (truth-conditionally non-vacuous):

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- supplements (project conventionally):

(4) If a friend of mine wins$_{\text{FINGERS-CROSSED}}$, I'll be happy.

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- facial expressions as degree modifiers:

(7) The movie was $\overline{\text{THUMBS-UP}}^{\text{OO}}$.

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—and to see more silly pictures of me.

Ebert, Cornelia & Christian Ebert. 2014. Gestures, demonstratives, and the attributive/referential distinction. Talk given at *Semantics and Philosophy in Europe (SPE 7)*, Berlin.

Esipova, Maria. 2019. *Composition and projection in speech and gesture*: New York University dissertation. `https://ling.auf.net/lingbuzz/004676`.

Hunter, Julie. 2018. Relating gesture to speech: reflections on the role of conditional presuppositions. *Linguistics and Philosophy* 1–16. doi:10.1007/s10988-018-9244-0.

Schlenker, Philippe. 2018a. Gesture projection and cosuppositions. *Linguistics and Philosophy* 41(3). 295–365. doi:10.1007/s10988-017-9225-8.

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