Composition and projection of co-speech gestures
lightning talk

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Posing the question

What determines if and how a given piece of content projects from under semantic operators?
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My poster brings the two together: how do content-bearing hand gestures project?
(1) **Context:** We are going on a group tour and want to rent a van. I just learned that Stephanie might bring along her only dog. If Stephanie is bringing...

a. her **large** dog

b. her dog, **a large animal**

c. **her dog**

..., we should get a bigger van.

*doesn’t project* $\not\rightarrow$ Stephanie is bringing her dog.

*projects* $\rightarrow$ Stephanie’s dog is large.
Recent literature on gesture projection (Ebert & Ebert 2014; Schlenker 2018; Tieu et al. 2017, 2018) assumes there is a single uniform way in which co-speech gestures project.
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The gesture in (1c) can thus compose either like the adjective in (1a) or the appositive in (1b), which will determine its projection behavior.
Why come to my poster

- Background on composition and projection of modifiers (adjective-like content) vs. supplements (appositive-like content).

Experimental data on how co-nominal gestures can and cannot be interpreted as compared to spoken adjectives and appositives.

How we can fit gestures into the modifier vs. supplement distinction based on those data.
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