

# Composition and projection of co-speech gestures

lightning talk

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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.*

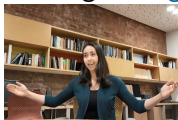
If Stephanie is bringing...

a. her **large** dog

adjective

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

appositive



c. her dog**LARGE**

co-nominal gesture

..., we should get a bigger van.

**doesn't project** ↗ Stephanie is bringing her dog.

**projects** → Stephanie's dog is large.

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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.



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- 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.

- Ebert, Cornelia & Christian Ebert. 2014. Gestures, demonstratives, and the attributive/referential distinction. Talk given at *Semantics and Philosophy in Europe (SPE 7)*, Berlin, June.
- Schlenker, Philippe. 2018. Gesture projection and cosuppositions. *Linguistics and Philosophy* 41(3). 295–365. doi:10.1007/s10988-017-9225-8.
- Tieu, Lyn, Robert Pasternak, Philippe Schlenker & Emmanuel Chemla. 2017. Co-speech gesture projection: Evidence from truth-value judgment and picture selection tasks. *Glossa: A Journal of General Linguistics* 2(1). 102. doi:10.5334/gjgl.334.
- Tieu, Lyn, Robert Pasternak, Philippe Schlenker & Emmanuel Chemla. 2018. Co-speech gesture projection: Evidence from inferential judgments. *Glossa: A Journal of General Linguistics* 3(1). 109. doi:10.5334/gjgl.580.