

# Disjunctive Mention-all Answers<sup>1</sup>

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## 1. Introduction

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- $\diamond$ -questions admit both mention-some (MS) and mention-all (MA) answers (Groenendijk & Stokhof 1984). In particular, the MA answer can take either a conjunctive form or a disjunctive form.

- (1) Where can we get gas?  
(*w*: *there are only two accessible stations, A and B.*)
- |                             |                |
|-----------------------------|----------------|
| a. Station A.               | MS             |
| b. Station A and Station B. | Conjunctive MA |
| c. Station A or Station B.  | Disjunctive MA |

In absence of *can*, or if the *wh*-complement is singular, a disjunctive answer can only be a partial answer.

- (2) At which station can we get gas?  
Station A or station B. (I don't know which one exactly) Partial only
- (3) Where did John get gas?  
Station A or station B. (I don't know which one exactly) Partial only

- **Goal:** to derive disjunctive MA answers in  $\diamond$ -questions via a novel exhaustifier  $O_{\text{DOU}}$ , a covert counterpart of the Mandarin particle *dou*.

- Key data of *dou*:

- Presence of *dou* above the weak modal blocks MS.
- *Dou*+ $\diamond$  licenses the  $\forall$ -FC uses of pre-verbal disjunctions.

- (4) Wo **dou** keyi zai nali mai kafei?  
I DOU can at where buy coffee  
'Where can I buy coffee? (<sup>OK</sup>MA, # MS)'
- (5) [Yuehan huozhe Mali] **dou** keyi jiao hanyu.  
John or Mary DOU can teach Chinese  
Intended: 'Both John and Mary can teach Chinese.'

### Roadmap:

- Basics of MS/MA ambiguity
- Disjunctive answers
- Mandarin particle *dou*: an exhaustifier on pre-exhaustified sub-alternatives
- Deriving disjunctive MA answers via a covert *dou*

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## 2. Basics of MS/MA ambiguity

### 2.1. Fox (2013)

- Earlier works treat MS/MA ambiguity as a pragmatic phenomenon.
- Fox (2013) proposes a semantic approach to capture the MS/MA ambiguity of  $\diamond$ -questions:  
 $\text{Ans}(Q)(w)$  returns the set of *maximally informative* (MaxI) true answers of  $Q$  in  $w$ , each of which is a good answer. A true answer is MaxI iff it is not asymmetrically entailed by any true answers. A question admits MS iff it can have multiple MaxI true answers (i.e. the answer space is not closed under conjunction)

$$(6) \quad \text{Ans}(Q)(w) = \{p : w \in p \in Q \wedge \forall q [w \in q \in Q \rightarrow q \not\subseteq p]\}$$

- In German, presence of *alles* above the weak modal blocks MS. (Manuel Križ and Martin Hackl p.c. to Fox 2015)

$$(7) \quad \text{MS possible} \quad (\diamond > \text{alles})$$

Was kann ich **alles** mit 3 Euros kaufen?  
 What can I all with 3 Euros buy

$$(8) \quad \text{MA only} \quad (\text{alles} > \diamond)$$

Was **alles** kann ich mit 3 Euros kaufen?  
 What alles can I with 3 Euros buy

The *wh*-trace  $X$  has a covert distributor EACH as a phrase-mate. A  $\diamond$ -question can have multiple MaxI true answers (i.e. not closed under disjunction) when  $\diamond > [X \text{ EACH}]$ .

(9) Who can chair the committee?

( $w$ : *only John and Mary can chair the committee; one chair only.*)

a. i.  $Q = \{\diamond \text{EACH}(X)(\lambda x. \text{chair}'(x)) : X \in *person'\}$

ii.  $Q_w = \{\diamond \text{chair}'(j), \diamond \text{chair}'(m)\}$

iii.  $\text{Ans}(Q)(w) = \{\diamond \text{chair}'(j), \diamond \text{chair}'(m)\}$

MS

b. i.  $Q = \{\text{EACH}(X)(\lambda x. \diamond \text{chair}'(x)) : X \in *person'\}$

ii.  $Q_w = \{\diamond \text{chair}'(j), \diamond \text{chair}'(m), \diamond \text{chair}'(j) \wedge \diamond \text{chair}'(m)\}$

iii.  $\text{Ans}(Q)(w) = \{\diamond \text{chair}'(j) \wedge \diamond \text{chair}'(m)\}$

MA

- But, there should be other ways to capture MS/MA ambiguity: first, (7) can still take MA; second, this analysis cannot derive disjunctive MA answers grammatically.

### 2.2. Local exhaustification

- **Puzzle:** (10b), which is intuitively a good MS answer (cf. 10a), is asymmetrically entailed by (10c).

(10) Who can serve on the committee?

( $w$ : *the committee can be made up of either Gennaro+Danny or Gennaro+Danny+Jim*)

a. # Gennaro.

$\diamond[\text{serve}'(g)]$

b.  $\surd$  Gennaro and Danny.

$\diamond[\text{serve}'(g \oplus d)]$

c.  $\surd$  Gennaro, Danny, and Jim.

$\diamond[\text{serve}'(g \oplus d \oplus j)]$

I assume (i) that the question goal restricts the teleological modal base as (11), and (ii) the weak modal *can* embeds an exhaustivity operator  $O$  associated with the *wh*-trace.

(11)  $M = \{w : \text{there is a group of individuals } X \text{ s.t. } X \text{ form the committee in } w\}$

(12)  $O(p, Q) = p \wedge \forall q \in \text{NW}(p, Q)[\neg q]$ , where  $\text{NW}(p, Q) = \{q : q \in Q \wedge p \not\subseteq q\}$

– (10a) is false.  $\diamond_{w, M} O[\text{serve}'(g)]$  means “among the accessible world to  $w$  where some  $X$  forms the committee, there is a world  $w'$  s.t. only Gennaro serves on the committee in  $w'$ .”

–  $O$  creates a non-monotonic environment w.r.t. the *wh*-trace; thus both (10b-c) are MaxI true answers.

$\diamond_M O[\text{serve}'(g \oplus d \oplus j)] \not\Rightarrow \diamond_M O[\text{serve}'(g \oplus d)]$

### 3. Disjunctive answers

- $\square$ -questions admit elided disjunctive answers as complete answers. (Spector 2007, 2008)

(13) “What does John have to read?”

“*Semantics or Pragmatics.*”

(<sup>OK</sup>or > have to; <sup>OK</sup> have to > or)

- John either has to read *S* or has to read *P*.
- John can read *S* or *P*, and he has to read one of them.

But in a singular  $\square$ -question, a disjunctive answer can only take an ignorance reading. (Fox 2013)

(14) “Which book does John have to read?”

“*Semantics or Pragmatics.*”

(<sup>OK</sup>or > have to; # have to > or)

⇒ Bare *wh*-words like *what* (and plural *wh*-phrases like *which books*) also quantify over generalized quantifiers like  $s \vee p$ , yielding higher-order disjunctive answers; while singular *wh*-phrases like *which book* only quantify over atomics.

(15)  $s \vee p = \lambda f_{est}.\lambda w.f_w(s) \vee f_w(p)$

$\square f(s \vee p) = \square[f(s) \vee f(p)]$

- Fox (2013): an answer  $p$  can be a complete answer of  $Q$  iff it is possible that  $p$  is true while no answer stronger than  $p$  is true:  $\exists w[p(w) \wedge \neg \exists q \in Q[q \subset p \wedge q(w)]]$

In Fig. 1, the disjunctive answer being true  $\Rightarrow$  one of the individual answers being true;

In Fig. 2, the disjunctive answer being true  $\not\Rightarrow$  one of the individual answers being true;

∴ a disjunctive answer can be a complete answer to a  $\square$ -question but not to a non-modalized question.

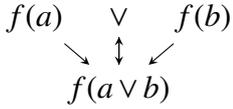


Fig. 1

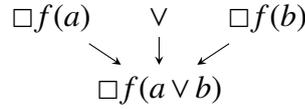


Fig. 2

- Spector (2007): an answer  $p$  can be a complete answer of  $Q$  iff  $O_Q(p)$  isn't contradictory.

(16) a.  $O f(a \vee b) = f(a \vee b) \wedge \neg f(b) \wedge \neg f(a) \wedge \dots = \perp$

b.  $O \square f(a \vee b) = \square f(a \vee b) \wedge \neg \square f(b) \wedge \neg \square f(a) \wedge \dots \neq \perp$

- **Puzzle:** Why is that a disjunctive answer can be a complete answer of a  $\diamond$ -question?

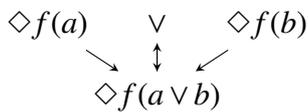


Fig. 3

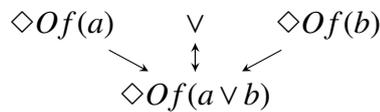


Fig. 4

In Fig. 3-4, the disjunctive answer being true  $\Rightarrow$  one of the individual answers being true.

(17)  $\diamond O[f(a) \vee f(b)]$   
 $= \diamond[[f(a) \vee f(b)] \wedge \neg[f(a) \wedge f(b)] \wedge \neg f(c)]$   
 $= \diamond[[f(a) \wedge \neg f(b) \wedge \neg f(c)] \vee [f(b) \wedge \neg f(a) \wedge \neg f(c)]]$   
 $= \diamond[Of(a) \vee Of(b)]$   
 $= \diamond Of(a) \vee \diamond Of(b)$

## 4. Mandarin particle *dou*

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### 4.1. Mandarin *dou* in *wh*-questions

- In *wh*-questions, *dou* forces MA. Like *alles*, presence of *dou* above the weak modal blocks MS. Under this use, *dou* must c-command the *wh*-item; but it appears after the subject if the subject isn't interrogative.

(18) (# **Dou**) [shui] lai -le? Ju ji-ge lizi jiu xing.  
DOU who come -ASP? show some-CL example just enough.  
'(#All) who came? Showing (me) some examples is enough.'

(19) Wo **dou** keyi zai [nali] mai kafei?  
I DOU can at where buy coffee  
'Where all can I buy coffee?' (<sup>o</sup>KMA; # MS)

- *Dou* cannot be used in a singular question.

(20) Dou [na -xie/\*-ge ren] lai -le?  
DOU what -CL<sub>pl</sub>/-CL<sub>sg</sub> person come -ASP  
'Who all came?'/ '\*Which person all came?'

- I argue that the meaning of *dou* is very different from that of *alles*, and that *dou* is the source of disjunctive MA answers in  $\diamond$ -questions.

### 4.2. Mandarin *dou* in declaratives

- The Mandarin particle *dou* has various uses:  $\forall$ -quantifier & distributor, scalar indicator,  $\forall$ -FCI licenser, minimizer-licenser; but German *alles* and Southern English *all* only have the quantifier & distributor use.

#### – $\forall$ -quantifier & distributor

(21) a. [Tamen] **dou** mai -le fangzi.  
they DOU buy -ASP houses  
'They **dou** bought houses.' (# collective)

b. [ABC/\*AB] **dou** shi pengyou.  
ABC/AB DOU be friend  
'ABC/\*AB are all friends.'

#### – Scalar marker

(22) a. Ta **dou** lai -guo [SAN] -ci -le.  
he DOU come -EXP three time -ASP.  
'He has been (here) three times.'  
 $\rightsquigarrow$  Being here three times is a lot.

b. **Dou** [WU] dian -le.  
DOU five o'clock -ASP  
'It is five o'clock.'  
 $\rightsquigarrow$  Being five o'clock is a bit late.

#### – $\forall$ -FCI licenser

(23) a. [Yuehan huozhe Mali] **dou** \*(keyi) jiao hanyu.  
John or Mary DOU can teach Chinese  
'Both John and Mary can teach Chinese.'  
 $\neq$  Only John and Mary can teach Chinese.  
 $\neq$  It is not allowed to let John and Mary both teach Chinese.

b. Ni zai [xingbake huozhe maidaogla] **dou** \*(keyi) mai-dao kafei.  
you at Starbucks or McDonalds DOU can buy-ASP coffee.  
'From both Starbucks and McDonalds, you can get coffee.'

### 4.3. Defining *dou* as a pre-exhaustification exhaustifier

- Xiang (2015b) defines *dou* as a presuppositional exhaustifier that (i) operates on sub-alternatives and (ii) has a pre-exhaustification effect.

- (24)
- [[**dou** [J and M came]]] = J and M came, not only J came, not only M came.
  - [[**dou** [ABC are friends]]] = ABC are friends, not only AB are friends, not only BC ...
  - [[**dou** [it's five o'clock]]] = it is five o'clock, not just four, not just three, ...
  - [[**dou** [J or M can teach]]] = J or M can teach, not only J can teach, and not only M can teach.

- **Quantifier & Distributor:**

- (25)
- dou**( $p, Q$ ) =  $\exists q \in \text{Sub}(p, Q). p \wedge \forall q \in \text{Sub}(p, Q)[\neg O(q)]$ 
    - Presupposition:  $p$  has at least one sub-alternative.
    - Assertion:  $p$  is true, the exhaustification of each  $p$ 's sub-alternative is false.
  - $\text{Sub}(p, Q) = \{q : q \in Q \wedge p \subseteq q\}$  (the set of weaker alternatives) (To be revised)

The presupposition of *dou* captures the distributivity effect (cf. Lin 1996): to generate sub-alternatives, the prejacent of *dou* must be monotonic wrt the position associated with *dou*.

(21a') '*abc dou bought houses.*'

- $\times$  *abc* together bought houses.  $\not\Rightarrow$  *ab* together bought houses.  
 $\text{Sub}(abc \text{ together bought houses}) = \emptyset$
- $\surd$   $\text{Cov}(abc)$  each bought houses.  $\Rightarrow D$  each bought houses, where  $D \subset \text{Cov}(abc)$   
 $\text{Sub}(\text{Cov}(abc) \text{ each bought houses}) = \{D \text{ each bought-houses} : D \subset \text{Cov}(abc)\}$

(21b') '*abc/\*ab dou are friends.*'

- [[are friends]] =  $\lambda x.\text{singular}(x) = 0.be\text{-friends}(x)$
- $\text{Sub}(abc \text{ are friends}) = \{ab \text{ are friends}, bc \text{ are friends}, ac \text{ are friends}\}$
- $\text{Sub}(ab \text{ are friends}) = \emptyset$

- **$\forall$ -FCI licenser:** Applying *dou* to a disjunction negates the pre-exhaustified domain (D)-alternatives, yielding a  $\forall$ -FC inference.

(26) [John or Mary] **dou** can teach Chinese.

- $\text{Sub}(\diamond f(j) \vee \diamond f(m)) = \{\diamond f(j), \diamond f(m)\}$
- [[**dou** [ $\diamond f(j) \vee \diamond f(m)$ ]]] =  $[\diamond f(j) \vee \diamond f(m)] \wedge \neg O \diamond f(j) \wedge \neg O \diamond f(m)$   
=  $[\diamond f(j) \vee \diamond f(m)] \wedge [\diamond f(j) \rightarrow \diamond f(m)] \wedge [\diamond f(m) \rightarrow \diamond f(j)]$   
=  $[\diamond f(j) \vee \diamond f(m)] \wedge [\diamond f(j) \leftrightarrow \diamond f(m)]$   
=  $\diamond f(j) \wedge \diamond f(m)$

**Problem:** But the D-alternatives are stronger than the disjunction, how could they be sub-alternatives?

(27) **Innocently (I)-excludable alternatives** (Fox 2007)

$$\text{IExcl}(p, Q) = \{q : q \in Q \wedge \neg \exists q' \in \text{NW}(p, Q)[p \wedge \neg q \rightarrow q']\}$$

( $\{q : \text{affirming } p \text{ and negating } q \text{ doesn't entail any non-weaker alternative of } p\}$ )

E.g. The D-alternatives are not I-excludable to the disjunction:  $[\diamond f(j) \vee \diamond f(m)] \wedge \neg \diamond f(j) \rightarrow \diamond f(m)$

(28) **Sub-alternatives** (final version)

$$\text{Sub}(p, Q) = Q - \text{IExcl}(p, Q) - \{p\}$$

(the set of alternatives excluding innocently excludable alternatives and the prejacent)

## 5. Deriving disjunctive MA via covert *dou*

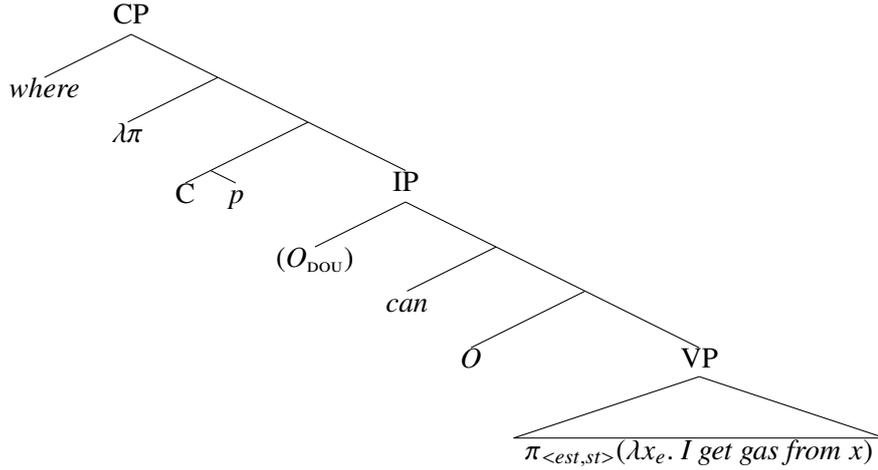
### 5.1. Disjunctives in $\diamond$ -questions

- I propose that the MS/MA ambiguity is attributed to the absence/presence of a covert *dou*:

$$(29) \quad O_{\text{DOU}}(p, Q) = p \wedge \forall q \in \text{Sub}(p, Q)[\neg O(q)]$$

(30) Where can I get gas?

- From station A. MS/Partial
- From station A or station B. Partial/MA



(w: there are only two accessible gas stations: A and B; both of them have enough gas for me)

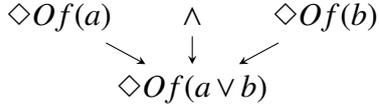


Fig. 5: MS (without  $O_{\text{DOU}}$ )

$\Rightarrow$

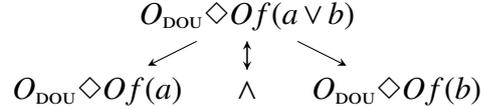


Fig. 6: MA (with  $O_{\text{DOU}}$ )

- Without  $O_{\text{DOU}}$ ,
  - MS is available: the answer space is not closed under conjunction;
  - the disjunctive answer is partial: it is asymmetrically entailed by the individual ones.
- With  $O_{\text{DOU}}$ , the disjunctive answer equals to the conjunction of the individual answers, as in (31).
  - MS is unavailable: the answer space closed under conjunction;
  - the individual answers are partial: they are asymmetrically entailed by the disjunctive answer.

(31) a. The embedded  $O$  uses up the scalar alternative and the focus alternatives.

$$\begin{aligned} \diamond O[f(a) \vee f(b)] &= \diamond [[f(a) \vee f(b)] \wedge \neg[f(a) \wedge f(b)] \wedge \neg f(c)] \\ &= \diamond [[f(a) \wedge \neg f(b) \wedge \neg f(c)] \vee [f(b) \wedge \neg f(a) \wedge \neg f(c)]] \\ &= \diamond [Of(a) \vee Of(b)] \end{aligned}$$

b. Applying  $O_{\text{DOU}}$  uses up the D/sub-alternatives, yields an FC inference:

$$\begin{aligned} O_{\text{DOU}} \diamond O[f(a) \vee f(b)] &= \diamond [Of(a) \vee Of(b)] \wedge \neg O \diamond Of(a) \wedge \neg O \diamond Of(b) \\ &= \diamond [Of(a) \vee Of(b)] \wedge [\diamond Of(a) \rightarrow \diamond Of(b)] \wedge [\diamond Of(b) \rightarrow \diamond Of(a)] \\ &= \diamond [Of(a) \vee Of(b)] \wedge [\diamond Of(a) \leftrightarrow \diamond Of(b)] \\ &= \diamond Of(a) \wedge \diamond Of(b) \end{aligned}$$

- **Puzzle:** why is that disjunctives cannot be complete answers of non-modalized questions?

(32) “Where did John get gas?”  
 “Station A or station B.”

Partial only

$$(33) \quad O_{\text{DOU}}f(a \vee b) = [f(a) \vee f(b)] \wedge \neg Of(a) \wedge \neg Of(b) = f(a) \wedge f(b)$$

- For any possible answer  $p$ , there are two conditions for  $p$  being a complete answer:

(i) “ $p$  is true”  $\not\Rightarrow$  “ $\exists q \subset p$  [ $q$  is true]” (Fox 2013)

(ii)  $O(p) \neq \perp$  (Spector 2007)

(33) does not pass condition (ii): the scalar alternative hasn’t been used; exhaustifying (33) affirms the FC inference and negates the scalar alternative, yielding a contradiction.

$$(34) \quad \begin{aligned} O[O_{\text{DOU}}f(a \vee b)] &= O_{\text{DOU}}(f(a) \vee f(b)) \wedge \neg[f(a) \wedge f(b)] \wedge \neg f(c) \\ &= [f(a) \wedge f(b)] \wedge \neg[f(a) \wedge f(b)] \wedge \neg f(c) \\ &= \perp \end{aligned}$$

## 5.2. Other questions

- **In singular questions:**  $O_{\text{DOU}}$  is vacuous; *dou* is undefined.

A singular *wh*-phrase lives on a set consisting of only atomic elements (Fox 2013). Singular answers have no sub-alternatives, thus  $O_{\text{DOU}}$  is vacuous.

$$(35) \quad \begin{aligned} \text{a. } \text{Sub}(f(a)) &= \emptyset \\ \text{b. } O_{\text{DOU}}(f(a)) &= f(a) \end{aligned}$$

The overt *dou* cannot be used in a singular question because of the presupposition failure.

(36) Dou [na -xie/\*-ge ren] lai -le?  
 DOU what -CL<sub>pl</sub>/-CL<sub>sg</sub> person come -ASP  
 ‘Who all came?’/\*‘Which person all came?’

- **In basic  $\square$ -questions:**  $O_{\text{DOU}}$  is vacuous; *dou* is defined but vacuous

The D-alternatives of a  $\square$ -disjunction are innocently excludable and thus are not used by  $O_{\text{DOU}}$ .

$$(37) \quad \square(p \vee q) \wedge \neg \square p \not\rightarrow \square q$$

$$(38) \quad \begin{aligned} \text{a. } \text{Sub}(\square[p \vee q]) &= \emptyset \\ \text{b. } O_{\text{DOU}}[\square(p \vee q)] &= \square[p \vee q] \end{aligned}$$

Unlike singular answers, conjunctive and plural answers have sub-alternatives, which support the presupposition of *dou*. Therefore *dou* can be used in non-singular  $\square$ -questions.

$$(39) \quad \begin{aligned} \text{a. } \text{Sub}(\square[f(a) \wedge f(b)]) &= \{\square f(a), \square f(b)\} \\ \text{b. } O_{\text{DOU}}\square[f(a) \wedge f(b)] &= \square[f(a) \wedge f(b)] \wedge \neg O\square f(a) \wedge \neg O\square f(b) = \square[f(a) \wedge f(b)] \end{aligned}$$

## 6. Conclusions

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- MS/MA ambiguity of  $\diamond$ -questions can be attributed to the absence/presence of  $O_{\text{DOU}}$ .
  - $dou/O_{\text{DOU}}$  is an exhaustifier operating on pre-exhaustified sub-alternatives.
    - (40) a.  $\mathbf{dou}(p, Q) = \exists q \in \text{Sub}(p, Q). p \wedge \forall q \in \text{Sub}(p, Q)[\neg O(q)]$
    - b.  $O_{\text{DOU}}(p, Q) = p \wedge \forall q \in \text{Sub}(p, Q)[\neg O(q)]$
    - c.  $\text{Sub}(p, Q) = Q - \text{IExcl}(p, Q) - \{p\}$
  - The answer space of a basic *wh*-question includes higher-order disjunctives (Spector 2007, 2008).
  - In a  $\diamond$ -question,  $O_{\text{DOU}}/dou$  strengthens disjunctives into FC statements, making the answer space closed under conjunction and therefore blocking MS.
    - (41)  $O_{\text{DOU}}\diamond Of(a \vee b) = \diamond Of(a) \wedge \diamond O(b)$
- $p$  can be a complete answer of  $Q$  iff (i)  $p$  can be an MaxI true answer of  $Q$  and (ii)  $O(p)$  isn't contradictory.  $\square$ -disjunctives and strengthened  $\diamond$ -disjunctives satisfy both conditions, while strengthened non-modalized disjunctions do not satisfy (ii).

## Appendix I: Cf. extending Fox (2007)

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- One may suggest to analyze *dou* as Fox's (2007) recursive exhaustification operator  $O_R$ : (i) exhaustification negates only *innocently excludable* alternatives; (ii) exhaustification applies recursively.
 

In (42), 1st exhaustification negates scalar alternatives and focus (F)-alternatives; domain (D)-alternatives are not innocently excludable. 2nd exhaustification negates the pre-exhaustified D-alternatives.

  - (42)  $O_R\diamond[f(a) \vee f(b)]$ 
    - a. First exhaustification:  
 $O\diamond[f(a) \vee f(b)] = \diamond[f(a) \vee f(b)] \wedge \neg\diamond[f(a) \wedge f(b)] \wedge \neg\diamond f(c) \wedge \neg\diamond f(a) \wedge \neg\diamond f(b)$
    - b. Second exhaustification:  
 $O'O\diamond[f(a) \vee f(b)] = O\diamond[f(a) \vee f(b)] \wedge \neg O\diamond f(a) \wedge \neg O\diamond f(b)$   
 $= O\diamond[f(a) \vee f(b)] \wedge [\diamond f(a) \rightarrow \diamond f(b)] \wedge [\diamond f(b) \rightarrow \diamond f(a)]$   
 $= O\diamond[f(a) \vee f(b)] \wedge [\diamond f(a) \leftrightarrow \diamond f(b)]$   
 $= \diamond f(a) \wedge \diamond f(b) \wedge \neg\diamond[f(a) \wedge f(b)] \wedge \neg\diamond f(c)$
- $O_R$  makes the answers mutually exclusive. Thus  $O_R\diamond[f(a) \vee f(b)]$  can be a complete answer.
  - (43) “What is John allowed to read?” “Book A or Book B.”
    - a.  $Q = \{O_R\diamond\pi(\lambda x.\text{read}'(x)) : x \in \text{*thing}'\}$   $O_R\diamond f(a) \quad \vee \quad O_R\diamond f(b)$
    - b.  $Q_w = \{O_R\diamond f(a \vee b)\}$   $O_R\diamond f(a \vee b)$
    - c.  $\text{Ans}_F(Q)(w) = \{O_R\diamond f(a \vee b)\}$
- But, exhaustifying with  $O_R$  yields a strongly exhaustive reading, which is too strong. A more common MA reading is the intermediately exhaustive reading (Klinedinst & Rothschild 2011; Cremers & Chemla 2014; Uegaki 2014; Xiang 2015a)<sup>2</sup>

E.g. “John predicated who came.”

*Strongly exhaustive:*  $\forall x [x \text{ came} \rightarrow \text{J pred } x \text{ came}] \wedge \forall x [x \text{ didn't come} \rightarrow \mathbf{not} [\text{J pred } x \text{ came}]]$

*Intermediately exhaustive:*  $\forall x [x \text{ came} \rightarrow \text{J pred } x \text{ came}] \wedge \forall x [x \text{ didn't come} \rightarrow \text{J pred } x \text{ didn't come}]$

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<sup>2</sup>One might suggest to insert an  $O$  below the weak modal so as to use up the F-alternatives locally:  $O_R\diamond Of(a \vee b)$ . But local exhaustification is not available in a non-modalized question.

## Appendix II: Spector’s (2007) puzzle

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- Given the contrast in (44a-b), Spector (2007) claims that  $\diamond$ -questions cannot take disjunctions as complete answers: for (44b) being true, there must be some  $X > 3$  s.t.  $t$  “ $\diamond$ [Jack read  $X$  many books]” is true, which is stronger than (44b).

- (44) a. i. What novels is Jack required to read?  
 ii. Jack is required to read [more than three novels by Balzac]<sub>F</sub>. Complete or Partial
- b. i. What novels is Jack allowed to read?  
 ii. Jack is allowed to read [more than three novels by Balzac]<sub>F</sub>. Partial only

- In the present analysis, for any  $X > 3$ , “ $\diamond$ (J read  $X$  books)” is a sub-alternative of “ $\diamond$ (J read  $> 3$  books)”.

$$\begin{aligned}
 (45) \quad O_{\text{DOU}}[\diamond f(> 3)] &= \diamond f(> 3) \wedge \forall X > 3[\neg O \diamond f(X)] \\
 &= \diamond f(> 3) \wedge \forall X > 3[\diamond f(X) \rightarrow \diamond f(X+1)] \\
 &= \diamond f(> 3) \wedge \forall X > 3[\diamond f(X) \rightarrow \diamond f(X+1)] \wedge \exists X > 3[\diamond f(X)] \\
 &= \diamond f(\infty)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$(46) \quad O_{\text{DOU}}[\diamond f(> 4)] = \diamond f(\infty)$$

(45) is bad because of replacing “3” with any number doesn’t change the output meaning  $\diamond f(\infty)$ , yielding a grammatical (G)-triviality (Gajewski 2002): “ $O_{\text{DOU}} \diamond f(> n)$ ” receives the same value regardless of how the lexical terminal  $n$  is replaced in the structure.

## Appendix III: Modal obviation of $\forall$ -FCI licensing

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- The English polarity item *any* is licensed as a  $\forall$ -FCI when appearing over a weak modal, but not when it appears in an episodic statement or over a strong modal.

- (47) a. \*Anyone came in.  
 b. Anyone can/\*must come in.

Likewise in Mandarin:

- (48) [A huozhe B] dou \*(keyi)/\*bixu jiao jichu hanyu.  
 A or B DOU \*(can)/\*must teach introductory Chinese

- Explanation:**

- The  $\forall$ -FC implicature evoked by *dou* contradicts the scalar implicature of the disjunction.

$$\forall\text{-FC: } f(a) \wedge f(b) \qquad \text{SI: } \neg[f(a) \wedge f(b)]$$

- But in a *dou*+ $\diamond$ -sentence, there is a salvaging way to avoid this contradiction, i.e. assessing SI within the modal base: *only the worlds that satisfies the SI are accessible*.

- (49) [A or B] **dou** can teach Chinese.  
 $\rightsquigarrow$  We are only considered with cases where only one person will teach Chinese.  
 $\not\rightarrow$  Not that both John and Mary will teach Chinese.
- a. SI pre-restricts the modal base  $M$ :  
 If  $f = \{ \langle w1, \{a\} \rangle, \langle w2, \{b\} \rangle, \langle w3, \{a, b\} \rangle \}$ , then  $M = \{w1, w2\}$
- b. Prejacent of *dou*:  $\diamond f(a) \vee \diamond f(b)$
- c. Applying *dou* yields a  $\forall$ -FC implicature:  $\diamond f(a) \wedge \diamond f(b)$  (True under  $M$ )

- This option doesn’t work for *dou*+ $\square$ -sentences: the  $\forall$ -FC implicature  $\square f(a) \wedge \square f(b)$  is false under  $M$ .

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