Semantic Theory 2017: Exercise sheet 4

Exercise 1

Give the truth conditions for the following sentences, interpreting the (complex) determiner as a relation between sets. You can interpret each VP as a property (i.e., a set of entities). Illustrate your answer with a graphical representation of a model in which the sentence is true.

- a. Some but not all Muggles are afraid of magic.
- b. Every wizard but Harry fears Voldemort.
- c. At most five girls play Quidditch.
- d. Few Gryffindors are lazy.

Exercise 2

Determine the monotonicity properties (left and right) of the following determiners. Show how you derived these monotonicity properties.

- a. at least five
- b. at most five
- c. exactly five
- d. some but not all

Exercise 3

Prove that the following statement holds:

• The external negation of an upward monotonic quantifier is a downward monotonic quantifier.