

# Manners as particulars vs. manners as kinds

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# The manners-as-particulars approach: examples I

- ▶ The following sentences contain examples of **manner adverbs**:

- (1)
- Rebeka ran quickly.
  - Noemi spoke softly.
  - Thomas wrote illegibly.
  - Rebeka danced beautifully.
  - Noemi carefully spoke softly.

- ▶ Sentences with manner adverbs typically allow for paraphrases with the noun *way* in a PP (though these are often stylistically awkward). Consider the following such paraphrases of the sentences in (1):

## The manners-as-particulars approach: examples II

- (2)
  - a. Rebeka ran in a quick way.
  - b. Noemi spoke in a soft way.
  - c. Thomas wrote in an illegible way.
  - d. Rebeka danced in a beautiful way.
  - e. Noemi carefully spoke in a soft way.  
Noemi spoke softly in a careful way.  
Noemi spoke in a soft way in a careful way.
  
- ▶ A similar kind of paraphrase consists in forming a relative clause headed by *way* (which we may call “relativizing the manner”):

## The manners-as-particulars approach: examples III

- (3)
- a. The way Rebeka ran was quick.
  - b. The way Noemi spoke was soft.
  - c. The way Thomas wrote was illegible.
  - d. The way Rebeka danced was beautiful.
  - e. The way Noemi spoke was carefully soft.  
The way Noemi spoke softly was careful.  
?The way (.) the way Noemi spoke was soft (.) was careful.
- The next question is how to treat manner adverbs in the manners-as-particulars approach.

# The manners-as-particulars approach: first analyses I

- ▶ Consider the proposed treatment of (1a), ignoring tense:

$$(4) \text{ Rebeka ran quickly } \rightsquigarrow \\ \exists e(\text{running}(e) \wedge \text{agent}(e) = \text{rebeka} \wedge \text{quick}(\text{speed}(e)))$$

- ▶ *speed* in (4) is a partial function that applies to an event  $e$  and – if defined – yields the speed of  $e$ . The speed of  $e$  is a **manner particular** of  $e$ ; *speed* is a **manner function**.
- ▶ By the way, notice that *agent* in (4) is also a partial function.
- ▶ *speed* is defined for events of physical or mental motion (cf. *Rebeka thought quickly*).

## The manners-as-particulars approach: first analyses II

- ▶ If **speed** is not defined for a given event, the corresponding sentence with *quickly* is anomalous (cf. #*Rebeka slept quickly*).
- ▶ The treatment of (1b) is analogous, but now the manner is the intensity of the event:

(5) Noemi spoke softly  $\rightsquigarrow$   
 $\exists e(\text{speaking}(e) \wedge \text{agent}(e) = \text{noemi} \wedge \text{soft}(\text{intensity}(e)))$

- ▶ Since the values of **speed** and **intensity** are manner particulars, they are perceivable: speeds can be seen, intensities can be heard (though always in conjunction with the events of which they are manners). Consider:

## The manners-as-particulars approach: first analyses III

- (6) a. I saw how Rebeka ran. (*How?* Quickly!)  
b. I heard how Noemi spoke. (*How?* Softly!)

- If the noun *way* is used, as in (2) and (3), then variables for manners are explicitly introduced:

- (7) a. Rebeka ran in a quick way  $\rightsquigarrow$   
 $\exists e(\text{running}(e) \wedge \text{agent}(e) = \text{rebeka} \wedge$   
 $\exists m(m = \text{speed}(e) \wedge \text{quick}(m)))$
- b. The way Rebeka ran was quick  $\rightsquigarrow$   
 $\text{quick}(\iota m(\text{running}(e) \wedge \text{agent}(e) = \text{rebeka} \wedge$   
 $m = \text{speed}(e)))$ , for a given event  $e$

- The interpretations given for (1a) (see (4)) and (2a) (see (7a)) are equivalent and are both entailed by the interpretation given for (3a) (see (7b)).

# The manners-as-particulars approach: virtual manners I

- ▶ A **virtual manner** is a “manner” that is reduced to a particular aspect of an ordinary individual. This is arguably the case with *illegibly*:

- (8) a. Thomas wrote illegibly  $\rightsquigarrow$   
 $\exists e(\text{writing-by-hand}(e) \wedge \text{agent}(e) = \text{thomas} \wedge$   
 $\text{illegible}(\text{orthographic-form}'(e)))$
- b.  $\text{orthographic-form}'(e) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \iota a(\text{writing-by-hand}(e) \wedge \exists x(x = \text{incr-theme}(e) \wedge$   
 $a = \text{orthographic-form}(x))$

- ▶ The representation in (8a) says that the value of  $\text{orthographic-form}'$  applied to  $e$  is illegible.



# The manners-as-particulars approach: virtual manners

## II

- ▶ In (8b), the value of *orthographic-form'* applied to an event  $e$  is defined as the value ( $= a$ ) of *orthographic-form* applied to the incremental theme  $x$  of  $e$ , where  $e$  is a writing by hand. In other words, this “manner” (= the “orthographic form prime”) of the event  $e$  is reduced to an aspect (= the orthographic form) of the incremental theme of  $e$ , where  $e$  is a writing by hand.
- ▶ On this view, then, the “orthographic form prime” of an event  $e$  is a virtual manner, because it is reduced to the orthographic form of the incremental theme of  $e$ . If correct, there is no real manner ‘illegible’ for events.

# The manners-as-particulars approach: dancing beautifully I

- ▶ “Beautiful dance looks like flying, not like moving furniture.”  
(From <https://fr-fr.facebook.com/notes/veronica-toumanova/why-your-dance-does-not-look-good-despite-all-the-practicing/10153203091317499>)
- ▶ As an evaluative, *beautifully*, just like *beautiful*, imports a host of difficulties associated with evaluation.
- ▶ Not pretending to address these difficulties, we can nonetheless venture to say that a dancing is beautiful if its **movement form** is beautiful:

## The manners-as-particulars approach: dancing beautifully II

- (9) Rebeka danced beautifully  $\rightsquigarrow$   
 $\exists e(\text{dancing}(e) \wedge \text{agent}(e) = \text{rebeka} \wedge$   
 $\text{beautiful}(\text{movement-form}(e)))$

- ▶ According to the source quoted above, *embodiment*, *movement quality*, and *presence* all play a role in whether we judge an event of dancing as beautiful. We may think of these elements as constituting the movement form of an event of dancing.

# The manners-as-particulars approach: carefully speaking softly I

- ▶ The treatment of *carefully* makes use of a manner function *effort* that has three arguments: an event, the agent of the event, and an event predicate. Consider the analysis of (1e):

$$(10) \text{ Noemi carefully spoke softly } \rightsquigarrow \\ \exists e(\text{speaking}(e) \wedge \text{agent}(e) = \text{noemi} \wedge \text{soft}(\underbrace{\text{intensity}(e)}) \wedge \\ \text{careful}( \\ \text{effort}(e, \text{noemi}, \lambda e'.\text{speaking}(e') \wedge \text{soft}(\underbrace{\text{intensity}(e')}))))) \\ \text{-----}$$

## The manners-as-particulars approach: carefully speaking softly II

- ▶ The intuition behind **effort** is that the notion of effort depends on an agent  $x$  in an event  $e$  doing something, where “doing something” is represented by an event predicate.
- ▶ As a three-place (partial) function, **effort** is more complex than **speed** or **intensity**.
- ▶ The analysis in (10) correctly predicts that the truth of *Noemi carefully spoke softly* entails the truth of *Noemi spoke softly* but **not** the truth of *Noemi carefully spoke*.
- ▶ This analysis does not require an appeal to “big events,” in contrast to an analysis proposed by [Schäfer, 2008].

## The manners-as-particulars approach: three benefits

- ▶ The **syntactic asymmetry** of manner adverbs (adverbs modify verbs; verbs do not modify adverbs) is mirrored by a corresponding **semantic asymmetry**: manners are the values of manner functions applied to events (ontologically, manners depend on events).
- ▶ Manner functions fit naturally into a **typology** of event-related functions:
  - ▶ Participant functions: **agent**, **incr-theme**, etc.
  - ▶ Location functions:  $\tau$  (temporal trace),  $\sigma$  (spatial trace)
  - ▶ Manner functions: **speed**, **intensity**, **movement-form**, **effort**, etc.
- ▶ The use of *way* (sometimes: *manner*) and *how* in **manner-related paraphrases** can readily be accounted for.

## The manners-as-particulars approach: is there an allowance for “manner kinds”? I

- ▶ In addition to manner particulars, the manners-as-particulars approach already has a notion of manner kind, which is simply any one of the individual manner functions:

(11) Manner functions: speed, intensity, movement-form, effort, etc.

- ▶ For example, the individual manner function **speed** may be considered a manner kind, as illustrated in (12).

- (12) a. Speed is a (kind of) manner.  
b. Speed is a (kind of) manner  $\leadsto$  Manner(speed)

## The manners-as-particulars approach: is there an allowance for “manner kinds”? II

- ▶ Manner in (12) is a second-order predicate, applying to manner functions.
- ▶ Strictly speaking, since manner functions may be of different logical types (cf. *speed* vs. *effort*), Manner in (12) is one of several (manner) predicates that apply to manner functions of different logical types.
- ▶ Aside from manner functions, the manners-as-particulars approach does not allow for any other notion of manner kind.
- ▶ In particular, there is **no** notion of manner kind as an abstract individual that has concrete realizations (i.e., kinds à la Carlson).



# Manners as kinds? A first challenge I

- ▶ Do the following examples provide an argument for manners as kinds?

- (13) a. Rebeka ran quickly. Thomas also ran like that. (*Like what? Quickly!*) (anaphoric)  
b. Thomas ran like that[☞]. (deictic)

- ▶ If we allow for a **similarity** relation, such examples do not provide an argument for manners as kinds:

- (14) Thomas ran like that<sub>*i*</sub>  $\rightsquigarrow$   
 $\exists e(\text{running}(e) \wedge \text{agent}(e) = \text{thomas} \wedge \text{sim}(\underbrace{\text{speed}(e)}_{\text{manner}}, \underline{\underline{m_i}}))$

## Manners as kinds? A first challenge II

- ▶ In (14), “ $\text{sim}(\text{speed}(e), m_i)$ ” means that the speed of  $e$  (= a running event by Thomas) is similar to the speed  $m_i$  (= a particular speed manner) anaphorically or deictically referred to.
- ▶ See [Umbach and Gust, 2014] for an extensive discussion of the similarity relation – the application of similarity in (14) is simple-minded.
- ▶ Compare the analysis in (14) with the analyses that [Landman and Morzycki, 2003] and [Anderson and Morzycki, 2015] would propose, which appeal to an event kind  $k$ :

## Manners as kinds? A first challenge III

- (15) (Thomas) ran like that<sub>i</sub>  $\rightsquigarrow$
- a.  $\lambda e.e$  is a running  $\wedge e$  realizes  $k_i$   
[Landman and Morzycki, 2003]
  - b.  $\lambda e : \mathbf{dist}(e, \cup k).\mathbf{ran}(e, \mathbf{Thomas}) \wedge \cup k(e)$   
[Anderson and Morzycki, 2015]

- ▶ A worry about the analyses in (15) that deictic reference (recall (13b)) to an event kind  $k$  should not be possible, precisely because kinds (also event kinds) are abstract individuals.
- ▶ Notice also that since the event kind  $k$  in (15) is “lowered” (via the application of a cup operator) to an event predicate, there seems to be no crucial reference to event kinds here – an event predicate could also do the job.

## Manners as kinds? A first challenge IV

- ▶ The presupposition given in (15b), “**dist**( $e, \cup k$ ),” means that  $\cup k$  (an event predicate) is a “distinguished property” of  $e$ , which [Anderson and Morzycki, 2015] hope will help constrain the possible values of  $k$ , which is a free variable. (But this does not affect the previous two points.)
- ▶ In sum, the examples in (13) do not provide an argument for manners as kinds (nor for events as kinds, for that matter).

## Manners as kinds? A second challenge I

- ▶ [Moltmann, 2015, p. 833], in a paper commenting on [Anderson and Morzycki, 2015], agrees with the latter that manners act as kinds: “Manners do in fact act as kinds, [...]”
- ▶ [Moltmann, 2015] offers the following type of example in support of her claim (the particular example is mine):

(16) The way Rebeka danced is widespread.

- ▶ At first glance, (16) seems to be an argument for manners as kinds, because a manner particular could not be widespread.

## Manners as kinds? A second challenge II

- ▶ Recall, though, that since manner functions can play the role of manner kinds, a manner function can be used (together with the similarity relation) to yield an appropriate argument to *widespread*:

(17) The way Rebeka danced is widespread  $\rightsquigarrow$

$\text{widespread}(\lambda m'.$

$\exists e'(\underbrace{\text{movement-form}(e')} = m') \wedge$

$\text{sim}(\iota m(m = \text{movement-form}(e) \wedge \text{dancing}(e) \wedge$

$\text{agent}(e) = \text{rebeka}), m'))$ , for a given event  $e$

## Manners as kinds? A second challenge III




- ▶ In (17), **widespread** (which is a second-order predicate) applies to the set of manner particulars  $m'$  such that  $m'$  is the movement form of some event  $e'$  and the movement form  $m$  of a given dancing event  $e$  by Rebeka is similar to  $m'$ .
- ▶ If the meaning of **widespread** were further analyzed, it would distribute the set of manner particulars  $m'$  spatially.
- ▶ It seems, then, that examples like (16) do not provide a strong argument for manners as kinds.

# Conclusion

- ▶ Manners as particulars may be unavoidable; manners as kinds may be avoidable.
- ▶ *Slides updated on 11 Dec. 2016.* Thanks to the audience at *Event Semantics 2016* for their questions and comments, in particular to Willi Geuder and Zsófia Gyarmathy.



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