Sense Relations: A dynamic construal approach

Hyponymy / Hyperonymy
Sense relations

- ... incompatibility, hyponymy, antonymy, etc.
- Lexical semantics and structuralism
  - Stable properties of individual lexical items
- Context dependence?
- Cognitive linguistics?
  - Examples Hyponymy / Hyperonymy
Hyponymy / Hyperonymy

- Involving nouns (X is hyponymous to Y):
  - Xs are Ys (*Koalas are marsupials*)
  - Xs and other Ys (*Koalas and other marsupials*)
  - Of all Ys, I prefer Xs (*Of all fruit I prefer mangoes*)
  - Is it a Y? Yes, it is an X (*Is it a drum? Yes, it’s a djembe*)
Hyponymy / Hyperonymy

Other parts of speech:
- *Did she* hit him?
  Yes, she punched him in the stomach.
- *Is your new skirt* red?
  Yes, it’s a maroon velvet.

Hyponymy can be seen as an instance of a *container-schema* (class inclusion)

One way for testing for meaning inclusion: *entailment* relations (e.g., transitive relations)
Hyponymy/Hyperonymy: difficulties

- Speakers classify *dog:pet* as hyponymous
  - But *it’s a dog* doesn’t entail *it’s a pet*

Problems?
- Structural lexical semantics: Yes
  - Sense relations hold between *words*
- Cognitive linguistics: No
  - Sense relations hold between *specific construals* of words
- Context(culture?)-dependence: Central feature!