Markus Egg - Scope below the word level

Topic of the presentation are semantic scope relations below the word level. Due to these relations, the semantic and the syntactic structure of linguistic expressions can differ considerably, which makes them a challenge for the syntax-semantics interface, for the theoretical question of how to define the relation between syntactic and semantic structure as well as for semantic construction as a practical task in an NLP system.

To cite a simple example for such an expression, consider modified indefinite pronouns like "everyone in this room"; intuitively, the PP takes scope between "every-" and "-one", which incompatible with the syntactic (surface) structure.

I will compare several interface strategies that are proposed in the literature for their way of handling these scope relations below the word level. The strategies are cast in Generative Grammar, underspecification formalisms, LFG, and LTAG.