Knowing and believing things:

what DP-complementation can tell us about the argument structure and semantic composition of (factive) attitude verbs

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1 Introduction

In the Hintikkan tradition, attitude verbs are standardly analysed as quantifiers over worlds: if Mary believes that Jane won, then all of Mary's belief-worlds have to be worlds in which Jane won:

(1) $[believe]^w = \lambda p_{\langle st \rangle} [\lambda x_e.DOX_x^w \subseteq p]$ where $DOX_x^w = \{w': w' \text{ conforms to what } x \text{ believes in } w\}$

know vs. believe:

- On this approach, the primary semantic difference between *know* and *believe* is in terms of the type of *accessibility* relation that determines the set of worlds quantified over (DOX/EPIST).
- \bullet They differ additionally in that know, like other factives, presuppose that p is true in w.
- $(2) \qquad [\![\text{know}]\!]^w = \lambda \mathbf{p}_{< st>} [\lambda \mathbf{x}_e : \mathbf{p}(\mathbf{w}) = 1. \\ \text{EPIST}_x^w \subseteq \mathbf{p}] \qquad \qquad where \ \ \text{EPIST}_x^w = \{ \mathbf{w}' : \ \mathbf{w}' \ \text{conforms to what x knows in w} \}$

This uniform picture of know and believe is challenged by cases where these verbs combine with DPs.

2 Challenges from DP-complementation

First, as has been previously observed, verbs like know and believe differ in terms of whether the verb + a Content DP entails the corresponding verb + CP sentence (e.g. Prior 1971; Pietroski 2000; Ginzburg 1995; King 2002; Moltmann 2013; Uegaki 2016; Elliott 2016):

- (3) Generalization 1: Entailment contrast
 - a. Mary believes the rumour that Lisa won.

→ Mary believes p & p is a rumour

b. Mary knows the rumour that Lisa won.

→ Mary is acquainted with the rumour that p

Secondly, as Djärv (2019) observes, the entailment contrast tracks a separate contrast in the interpretation and distribution of regular individuals, like Anna:

- (4) Generalization 2: Source contrast (Djärv, 2019, 210)
 - a. Mary believes Anna (that Lisa won).

→ Mary believes p & Anna is the source of the p-info

b. Mary knows Anna (*that Lisa won).

→ Mary is acquainted with Anna

believe: individuals like Anna can co-occur with CPs; the doxastic meaning is preserved and the DP is interpreted as the source of the p-information.

know: individuals like *Anna* cannot co-occur with CPs. Without the clause, the peistemic meaning disappears and the DP is interpreted as an object of acquaintance.

NB: these contrasts are not due to some lexical quirk of *believe* vs. *know*, but represents a more general split between two classes of verbs:

- (5) Generalization 1 across verbs (based on Uegaki 2016; Elliott 2016; Djärv 2019)
 - a. Mary {believes, trusts, doubted} the rumor that Lisa won.
 - ⊨ Mary {believes, trusts, doubted} that Lisa won.
 - b. Mary {knows, discovered, noticed, resents, is surprised by} the rumor that Lisa won.

 ⊭ Mary {knows, discovered, noticed, resents, is surprised} that Lisa won.
- (6) Generalization 2 across verbs (based on Djärv 2019, 208–211)
 - a. I trust him (that he will do the best for me).²
 - b. Do you have any reason to doubt him (that it was on that night that that conversation happened)?³
 - c. Mary {knows, discovered, noticed, resents, is surprised (by)} (*you) that Lisa won.

DP-complementation with know vs. believe-verbs presents a set of analytical challenges:

- 1. Why are *know DP* sentences interpreted as descriptions of acquaintance relations, with both abstract Content DPs like *the rumour* and 'regular' individuals like *Anna*?
- 2. Why does the interpretation of DPs with believe vary depending on the type of DP?
- 3. Why do believe DP always entail the belief of some (contextually or explicitly provided) p-content?

Goal of this talk: answer these questions

3 know CP/DP

$3.1 \quad know \ CP \text{ vs. } know \ DP \text{ as polysemy?}$

Previous work on *know* in the context of Content DPs have analysed *know DP* vs. *know CP* in terms of polysemy (see for instance King 2002; Moltmann 2013; Uegaki 2016).

(7) Polysemy of know (to be rejected):

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a. [\ker W_{EPIST}]^w = [\lambda p_{\langle st \rangle}.[\lambda x_e: p(w)=1.EPIST_x^w \subseteq p]] Hintikkan attitude: know\ CP
b. [\ker W_{AO}]^w = [\lambda y_e.[\lambda x_e.AQ_w(x)(y)]] Acquaintance verb: know\ DP
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Intuitive support for this claim comes from the fact that languages like German, French, and Swedish use different forms for these two meanings:

(8) a. Maria **vet** att Lisa vann. Maria knows that Lisa won Maria knows that Lisa won.

Propositional know (Ger. wissen, Fr. savoir)

Maria känner Lisa.
 Maria knows Lisa
 Maria knows Lisa.

Aquaintance-know (Ger. kennen, Fr. connaitre)

However, there are several problems with this view:

First, as we saw in (5), the interpretation of DPs as individuals isn't just a lexical quirk of *know*, but is representative of a larger class of verbs including *notice*, *discover*, *hear*, *see*, and so on.

- Thus, to generalize, a polysemy-based account would have to posit systematic polysemy for all of these verbs.
- Besides *know*, I am not aware of any language that systematically distinguishes between DP- and CP-selecting *forms* of these verbs; thus undermining the argument from the formal distinction in (8).

Secondly, by appealing to polysemy, we fail to capture the strong intuition that the DP- and DP-taking versions of know, discover, notice, etc. all share a semantic core.

• On the polysemy analysis of CP and DP-selecting know, it is not clear what derives this intuition.⁴

Finally, Swedish data actually speaks against polysemy: in complex forms, $k\ddot{a}nna$ (by hypothesis $know_{AQ}$) can also combine with questions:

(9) a. Jag **känner** till [DP Anna] I know to Anna I'm aware of Anna.

b. Jag **känner** till [Q vem som gjorde vad]. I know to who that did what

I'm aware of who did what.

I therefore reject polysemy, and propose instead a derivational approach, whereby the DP- and CP-taking versions of verbs like know are derivationally related (cf. Chierchia 2006 on NPIs/FCs).

3.2 Analysis: know CP vs. know DP

I propose that $know\ CP\ (know_{EPIST})$ and $know\ DP\ (know_{AQ})$ both involve the root $\sqrt{AQ}\ (<e,<et>>)$, which I take to include both direct and indirect acquaintance (e.g. Lewis 1979):⁵

(10)
$$[\![\sqrt{AQ}]\!]^w = [\lambda y_e.[\lambda x_e.AQ_w(x)(y)]\!]$$

The acquaintance reading of *know* arises if an individual saturates the internal argument slot of \sqrt{AQ} , as shown in (13) ((13-b) assumes the analysis of Content DPs from Moulton 2009):

$$[know_{AO}]^w = [\sqrt{AQ}]^w$$
 (type)

(12) a.
$$[Anna]^w = anna$$
 (type e)

$$\text{f. [the claim that p]}^w = \iota x. \text{claim}_w(x) \& \text{CONT}_w(x) = p$$
(type e)

- (13) a. $[Mary knows Anna]^w = 1 in w iff <math>AQ_w(mary)(anna)$
 - b. $[Mary knows the claim that p]^w = 1 in w iff <math>AQ_w(mary)(\iota x.claim_w(x) \& CONT_w(x) = p)$

Epistemic, CP-selecting, know-verbs, I propose, involves an additional head, SITU (<<e,<et>>,<<st,t>,<et>>>):

(14) Minimal denotation for epistemic relations:⁶ $[[SITU]]^w = [\lambda R_{\langle e,et \rangle}, [\lambda P_{\langle st,t \rangle}, [\lambda x_e, \exists s \exists p \in P[s \text{ is a situation exemplifying } p \land R(s)(x)]]]]$

 $know_{EPIST}$ is derived by SITU taking \sqrt{AQ} as its first (R) argument, as shown in (15):⁷

- this causes the type e argument slots of \sqrt{AQ} to be saturated with a situation pronoun s, the res (a particular of the more general type e), and an individual variable x.
- the resulting predicate $know_{EPIST}$ (a question-embedding predicate <<st,t>,<et>>) thus states that there exists a situation s and a proposition $p_{<st>}$ in $P_{<st,t>}$, such that s exemplifies p, and x is acquainted with s:

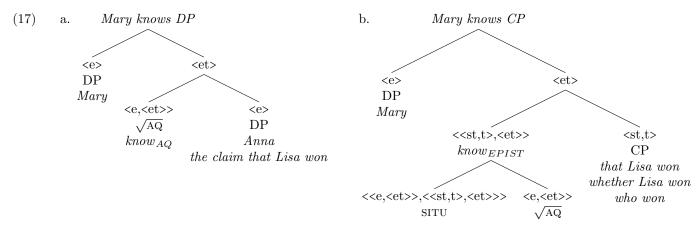
(15)
$$\begin{aligned} & [know_{EPIST}]^w = [situ]^w ([\sqrt{AQ}]^w) \\ & = [\lambda P_{\langle st,t \rangle}, [\lambda x_e. \exists s \exists p \in P[s \text{ is a situation exemplifying } p \land AQ_w(x)(s)]]] \end{aligned}$$
 (type $\langle st,t \rangle, \langle et \rangle$)

The meaning of know CP sentences is given in (16), with declarative and interrogative complements:

- (16) a. $[Mary knows that Lisa won]^w = 1 in w iff$ $\exists s \exists p \in {\lambda w'.won(lisa)(w')}[s is a situation exemplifying <math>p \land AQ_w(mary)(s)]$
 - b. [Mary knows whether Lisa won] $^w = 1$ in w iff $\exists s \exists p \in \{\lambda w'.won(lisa)(w'), \lambda w'.\neg won(lisa)(w')\}[s \text{ is a situation exemplifying } p \land AQ_w(mary)(s)]$
 - c. [Mary knows who won] $^w = 1$ in w iff $\exists s \exists p \in \{\lambda w'.won(lisa)(w'), \lambda w'.won(jane)(w')\}[s \text{ is a situation exemplifying } p \land AQ_w(mary)(s)]$
 - Thus, a *minimal* condition on a *know CP* sentences is that there exists a situation s and a proposition p, such that s exemplifies p, and the attitude holder is acquainted with s.⁸

The derivational and argument-structural difference between know DP and know CP, is given in (17).9

• Because DPs saturate the object-of-acquaintance slot of \sqrt{AQ} , it effectively blocks the derivation of the epistemic meaning (know CP; 17b), which is built on-top of \sqrt{AQ} in a morpho-semantically more complex structure:



Like polysemy approaches, this results in the correct predictions for know DP sentences:

- ✓ No Source reading of the DP in I know Anna (13-a).
- ✓ No propositional entailment in I know the claim that p (13-b).

But because of this derivational relation, we also avoid the challenges faced by polysemy accounts!

4 believe CP/DP

4.1 More on Source (vs. Content) DPs

In this section, I will make three empirical claims about the structure and meaning of Source DP sentences:

Claim 1: syntactically/argument structurally, believe is like optionally ditransitive verbs like bake.

(18) a. Mary baked a cake.

Subj
Mary v DO
baked a cake

b. Mary baked Anna a cake. (E.g. Pylkkänen 2008)

Subj
Mary

baked
IO
Anna Applo DO

a cake

(19)a. Mary believes (the claim) that Lisa won. b. Mary believes Anna that Lisa won. (proposal) Subj Subj MaryMaryĎΟ believe(the claim) believeΙÓ that Lisa won \boldsymbol{Anna} \mathbf{Asst}^o DO that Lisa won

> Source DPs are indirect objects of believe & Content DPs and CPs are direct objects.

Diagnostics: (in Appendix A.1)

- 1. In languages like German and Spanish, which distinguish Dative and Accusative case, we get DAT on Source DPs and ACC on Content DPs; just like in other applicatives (e.g. with bake, steal).
- 2. Extraction possibilities in passives are the same as with verbs like bake, steal (data from English and German).
- ➤ **Next:** What is the nature of the source-inference?

Claim 2: Semantically, Source DP sentences describe an assertion event.

Diagnostics: (based on Anand and Hacquard 2009)

- 1. Restrictions on inanimate DPs.
- 2. Interpretation of epistemic modals (Appendix A.2).
- 1. Restrictions on inanimate DPs.

A&H observe that doxastic attitudes and assertion reports differ wrt. so-called Repository-of-Information subjects:

- (20) Anand and Hacquard (2009, ex. (21))
 - a. The book {argues, implies} that the Earth might be flat.

Assertives

b. #The book {believes, thinks} that the Earth might be flat.

Doxastics

Crucially, A&H note a split among speech act verbs wrt. so-called 'non-discourse participants' like the timing:

- (21) Anand and Hacquard (2009, ex. (24))
 - a. The time of death implies that the butler is the murderer.
 - b. #The time of death argues that the butler is the murderer.

A&H suggest that sentences like (21-a) are not in fact interpreted assertively, but rather as involving a causative doxastic meaning with an implicit generically quantified over experiencer: 10

(22) Based on Anand and Hacquard (2009, ex. (26))

The time of death implies that the butler is the murderer.

 \approx GEN_x time of death causes x to believe that the butler is the murderer

 \approx Hypothesis 1

Thus, we can tease apart two hypotheses for the meaning of x believes y that p:

(23) a. **Hypothesis 1:** y caused x to believe p.

(to be rejected)

- b. Hypothesis 2: there was an assertion event s.t. x proposed to make p common ground
- If Source DP sentences are interpreted as causatives (as on hypothesis 1) (23-a), then we'd expect that inanimate DPs like the timing/the time of death should be available as Source DPs.
- If Source DP sentences are interpreted on par with reported assertions (as on hypothesis 2) (23-b), then we'd expect that inanimate DPs like the timing/the time of death should not be available as Source DPs.

As shown in (24)–(25), Source DPs are subject to the same restrictions on inanimate DPs as assertion-predicates: 11

- (24) a. I (definitely) believe this article (that Voice and v are different heads).
 - b. #I (definitely) believe the time of the death (that the butler did it).
- (25) German
 - a. Ich glaube dem Bericht (schon), dass der Butler der Mörder ist.
 - I believe the DAT report PART, that the butler the killer is I believe the report that the butler is the killer.
 - b. #Ich glaube dem Timing/Zeitpunkt (schon), dass der Butler der Mörder ist.
 - I believe the DAT timing/point-in-time PART, that the butler the killer is I believe the timing that the butler is the killer.
- ➤ **Next:** What is the status of the source-inference?

Claim 3: Pragmatically, the source-inference is not at-issue.

Diagnostics:

- 1. Projection
- 2. Hey, wait a minute (Appendix A.3)
- 3. Presupposition filtering (Appendix A.3)
- 4. Context update potential (Appendix A.3)
- 1. Projection from entailment cancelling operators.

Source DP sentences imply both that the attitude holder believes p and that the Source DP has asserted p:

(26) Mary believes Anna (that Lisa won).

- → Mary believes p & Anna has asserted p
- > Looking at negated sentences and questions, we find that the source-inference, unlike the belief-inference, projects:
- (27) Source DP sentence
 - a. Lisa believes her doctor that apples cure hiccups.
- → L believes p, → L's doctor has asserted p
- b. Lisa doesn't believe her doctor that apples cure hiccups.
- \rightsquigarrow L believes p, \rightsquigarrow L's doctor has asserted p
- c. Does Lisa believe her doctor that apples cure hiccups?
- → L believes p, → L's doctor has asserted p

Conclusions:

- 1. **Syntax/argument-structure**: Source DPs behave like (externally licensed) indirect objects of *believe*; Content DPs and CPs behave like direct objects:
- (28) a. Mary believes [IO] Anna[IO] that Lisa won].
 - b. Mary believes [DO] the claim that Lisa won].
 - 2. Semantics and pragmatics: Source DP sentences involve two core components of meaning:
- (29) Mary believes Anna that Lisa won.
 - a. Truth-condition: Mary believes that Lisa won.
 - b. Presupposition: there was an assertion event s.t. Anna proposed to make Lisa won common ground.

4.2 Proposal: Source DPs

For the meaning of believe, I assume a standard (Hintikkan) relation between individuals and propositions:

(30)
$$[believe]^w = [\lambda p_{\langle st \rangle}, [\lambda x_e, DOX_x^w \subseteq p]]$$
 (type $\langle st, et \rangle$)

With a CP-complement (type <st>), this gives us the meaning in (31).

(31) $[believe that Lisa won]^w = [\lambda x_e.DOX_x^w \subseteq \{w':won(lisa)(w')\}]$

To capture the structure and meaning of Source DPs (28)-(29), I propose that they are licensed by the head Asst^o:

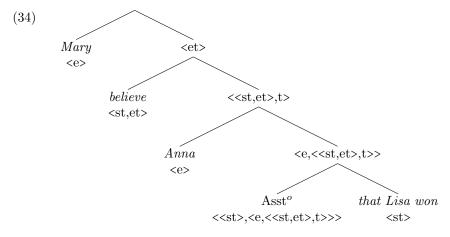
$$[\text{Asst}^o]^w = [\lambda p_{\langle st \rangle}.[\lambda x_e.[\lambda f_{\langle st,et \rangle}.f(p)]]] \qquad \begin{cases} \text{defined if } \exists e[\text{assert}(e) \& \text{agent}(e)(x) \& \text{goal}(e) = p \cap c] \\ \# \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- > This gives us the same truth-conditions as for Source DP sentences (33) as for believe CP (31);
- ➤ Additionally, Asst^o introduces a presupposition that there exists an assertion event in the context; the agent of which is the Source DP and the goal of which is to make p common ground:

(33) [Mary believes Anna that Lisa won]
$$^w = 1$$
 in w iff $DOX_{mary}^w \subseteq \{w': won(lisa)(w')\}$
 $\begin{cases} defined \ if \ \exists e[assert(e) \ \& \ agent(e)(anna) \ \& \ goal(e) = \{w': won(lisa)(w')\} \cap c] \\ \# \ otherwise \end{cases}$

- The goal of an assertion event is identified in terms of a 'projected common ground'; a future conversational state in which p is common ground (e.g. Anand and Hacquard 2009; Farkas and Bruce 2010);
- this is captured by the condition [goal(e) = $p \cap c$], where c is the *context set*, the set of world which is the intersection of all of the propositions in the common ground.

The LF and composition of Source DP sentences is illustrated in (34).



Like regular applicatives, Asst^o preserves the relation between the verb (*believe*) and the direct object (the proposition), and further introduces the assertion-relation between the indirect object (the Source DP) and the direct object.

- > Thus, I believe Anna that p will entail that I believe p, just like I baked Anna a cake entails that I baked a cake.
- > It also explains the interpretation of the Source DP, and why it behaves like a non-core argument of believe.

Since Asst^o requires a proposition as part of its argument structure, it follows that a sentence like (36), with a contextually recoverable proposition (p_C) and a non-content DP, will be interpreted in the same way as (35).

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[36] [believe Anna] w Entails believe p \, \mathcal{B} gives rise to source-reading = [Asst^o]^w(p_C)([Anna]^w)([believe]^w) = [\lambda p_{\langle st \rangle}.[\lambda x_e.[\lambda f_{\langle st,et \rangle}.f(p)]]](p_C)(anna)(\lambda p_{\langle st \rangle}.[\lambda x_e.DOX_x^w \subseteq p]) ... = [\lambda p_{\langle st \rangle}.[\lambda x_e.DOX_x^w \subseteq p]](p_C) = [\lambda x_e.DOX_x^w \subseteq p_C] \begin{cases} defined \ if \ \exists e[assert(e) \& agent(e)(anna) \& goal(e) = p_C \cap c] \\ \# \ otherwise \end{cases}
```

5 know DP vs. believe DP & the link to question-embedding

Question: why do know and believe-verbs differ with respect to DP-complements (Generalizations 1 and 2)?

- (37) Generalization 1: Entailment contrast
 - a. Mary believes the rumour that Lisa won.
- → Mary believes p & p is a rumour → Mary is acquainted with the rumour that p
- b. Mary knows the rumour that Lisa won.
- Generalization 2: Source contrast

(38)

- a. Mary believes Anna (that Lisa won).
- b. Mary knows Anna (*that Lisa won).

- \leadsto Mary believes p & Anna has asserted p
 - → Mary is acquainted with Anna

Above, I defined believe-verbs as selecting for propositions and CP-taking know-verbs as selecting for questions.

Two arguments for a selectional difference between know and believe-verbs (from Uegaki 2016):

- 1. **Empirical argument:** The contrast with respect to DPs tracks a contrast in terms of question-embedding (Karttunen 1977, et seq):
- (39) a. Mary believes {that Lisa came / *who came} to the party.
 - b. Mary knows {that Lisa came / who came} to the party.

(Uegaki argues for p-to-Q type-shifting for know that p; see Appendix B)

- 2. Conceptual argument: If we assume
 - (a) that the entailment with believe DP is compositionally derived;
 - (b) that *know* and *believe*-verbs are of the same semantic type (in line with the standard Hintikkan view), then we **wrongly predict** that the entailment should also be available with *know*-verbs.
- > This, then, supports a non-uniform view of the selectional properties of know and believe-verbs.

Answer: given that $Asst^o$ (32) is defined for proposition-taking predicates (<<st>,<et>>), we predict that know-verbs should not be semantically compatible with Source DPs:

 \succ With both $know_{EPIST}$ (<<st,t>,<et>>) and $know_{AO}$ (<e,et>), Asst^o results in a type-mismatch (see box on p. 8).

This is similar to Uegaki's (2016) proposal for Generalization 1, the entailment contrast (see box on p. 8).

Step-wise derivation showing why know-verbs are incompatible with Source DPs:

CP-selecting epistemic know cannot combine with Asst^o (see Section 3.2 for the analysis of know-verbs):

DP-selecting acquaintance know can also not combine with Assto:

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(41)  \begin{aligned} & [[\operatorname{know}_{AQ} \operatorname{Anna that Lisa won}]^{w} \\ &= [[\operatorname{Asst}^{o}]]^{w} ([[\operatorname{that Lisa won}]^{w}) ([[\operatorname{know}_{AQ}]]^{w}) \\ &= [\lambda p_{<st>} \cdot [\lambda x_{e} \cdot [\lambda f_{<st,et>} \cdot f(p)]]] (\lambda w' \cdot \operatorname{won}(\operatorname{lisa})(w')) (\operatorname{anna}) (\lambda y_{e} \cdot [\lambda x_{e} \cdot \operatorname{AQ}_{w}(x)(y)]) \\ & \cdots \\ &= [\lambda f_{<st,et>} \cdot f(\lambda w' \cdot \operatorname{won}(\operatorname{lisa})(w'))] (\lambda y_{e} \cdot [\lambda x_{e} \cdot \operatorname{AQ}_{w}(x)(y)]) = \# \end{aligned}
```

The only way to derive a know DP sentence is via the \sqrt{AQ} root.¹² As we saw in Section 3.2, this only triggers an acquaintance reading, which neither entails knowing p, nor that the DP is the source of the p-information:

```
(42)  [[know_{AQ} Anna]]^w = [\lambda x_e.AQ_w(x)(anna)] 
 AQ-reading
```

Uegaki's (2016) analysis of Content DPs:

know-verbs are question-embedding and believe-verbs are proposition-embedding:

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(43) \quad \text{a.} \quad \text{[[believe]]}^w = [\lambda \mathbf{p}_{\langle \mathbf{st} \rangle}.[\lambda \mathbf{x}_e.DOX_x^w \subseteq \mathbf{p}]]
\text{b.} \quad \text{[[know}_{EPIST]}]^w = [\lambda \mathbf{Q}_{\langle \mathbf{st}, \mathbf{t} \rangle}.[\lambda \mathbf{x}_e.\exists \mathbf{p} \in \mathbf{Q}[\mathbf{p}(\mathbf{w})=1 \land DOX_x^w \subseteq \mathbf{p}]]
(Uegaki, 2016, 631-633)
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There exists a content-retrieval type-shifter (based on the content-function from Kratzer 2006 and Moulton 2009), which extracts the intentional content, a proposition, from Content DPs like the rumour or the claim:

This allows believe-verbs (43-a) to combine with Content DPs (44) by saturation, giving us the entailment:

```
(45) [Mary believes the claim that Lisa won] w = 1 in w iff DOX_m^w \subseteq \{w': won(lisa)(w')\} \checkmark Entailment \{defined\ if\ DOX_{mary}^w \subseteq \{w'|\lambda w''. won(lisa)(w'') = CONT(w')([the\ claim\ that\ Lisa\ won]])\} \{defined\ if\ DOX_{mary}^w \subseteq \{w'|\lambda w''. won(lisa)(w'') = CONT(w')([the\ claim\ that\ Lisa\ won]])\}
```

Truth-conditionally, (45) is equivalent to believe CP sentences (31) and Source DP sentences (33).

For know-verb (43-b), combination with (44) results in a type-mismatch:

```
(46) [Mary knows_{EPIST} the claim that Lisa won]^w = #

Type-mismatch
```

As in (42), $know\ DP$ sentences are possible can only be interpreted as describing acquaintance relations; also with Content DPs.

(47) $[Mary knows_{AQ} \text{ the claim that Lisa won}]^w = 1 \text{ in w iff } AQ_w(m)([the claim that Lisa won]])$ AQ-reading

Here, I have deviated from Uegaki in arguing that $know\ CP$ and $know\ DP$ are derivationally related, rather than involving polysemy; however, the current proposal for know-verbs is straightforwardly applicable to Uegaki's proposal for Content DPs.

• The key insight is that operations that allow *believe*-verbs to combine with DPs are defined for proposition-selecting verbs, and not compatible with question-selecting verbs.

6 Discussion

I have argued that the reason why *know* and *believe*-verbs differ in terms of the interpretation and availability of DP-complements is because of a difference in their argument-structure, internal composition, and selectional properties.

Implications for factivity

- The current analysis captures the shared semantic core of DP and CP-selecting *know*-verbs in terms of *acquaintance*; with a regular individual (with DPs) or a situation, the *res* (with CPs).
- It thus provides a concrete morpho-semantic implementation of the idea that knowledge, and factivity more broadly, is tied to acquaintance with a fact or a situation (e.g. Goldman 1967; Lewis 1979; Kratzer 2002, and more recently also Özyildiz 2017; Djärv 2019; Bondarenko 2020b).
- Is a treatment along these lines motivated also for non-factive verbs like *fear* and *explain*? These verbs have been observed to pattern in a similar way to *know* with respect to Generalization 1 (e.g. Pietroski 2000; Elliott 2016; Bondarenko 2020a). See forthcoming SALT talk + paper for discussion.

Implications for question-embedding

- Previous work has observed a connection between factivity/veridicality and question-embedding (e.g. Egré 2008; Spector and Egré 2015; Uegaki 2015, 2016; Uegaki and Sudo 2017; Theiler et al. 2018; Steinert-Threlkeld 2019).
- Uegaki (2016) further links the contrast in question-embedding to the interpretation of Content DP.
- The current proposal adds to the empirical and analytical picture by providing a compositional relation between the acquaintance-interpretation with DPs and factivity with CPs.

Implications for theories of believe-verbs

- I have argued that *believe*-verbs describe standard (Hintikkan) relations to propositions; to combine with DPs, they require type-shifting (Content DPs; Uegaki 2016) or an external licensing head (Source DPs).
- The morphosyntax of Source DP sentences is evidence against a uniform approach to Content and Source DPs, such as that of Roberts (2020), whereby both types of DPs saturate an x_c argument slot of believe-verbs.
- Rather, propositional objects (CPs and Content DPs) combine with *believe*-verbs as direct objects (in line with Uegaki 2016). This is unlike Source DPs, which combine with *believe* as externally licensed indirect objects.

Thank you for listening!

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Notes

¹This work builds on and supersedes Chapter 4 of my dissertation Djärv (2019), available here: https://repository.upenn.edu/edissertations/3645/. For discussion and an evidence/acquaintance based proposal of factivity, see Ch. 5, and in particular, Sec. 5.6.

²Original example from Free Children's Ministry Resources; equipu.kids4truth.com

³Original example from Independent Counsel Solomon L. Wisenberg in a transcript of the Clinton Grand Jury Testimony, in Kuntz, Phil (ed). The Evidence: The Starr Report, p. 375

⁴On the polysemy analysis, we might expect (48) to behave more like (49), which can only be used as word-play.

- (48) a. I love many things: I love my family and I love that I have so many great friends.
 - b. Today I noticed two disturbing things: I noticed an ominous sign on the wall and I noticed that my neighbour's car had been broken into.
- (49) a. #I can tell you two things about pupils: they dilate in bright light and they are never able to sit still.
 - b. #Today I did a lot of firing: I fired a hunting rifle and I fired my manager.

⁵For other know-verbs like discover, I assume that there are different flavours of \sqrt{AQ} .

 6 Further conditions must be included to capture inferences about belief, exhaustivity, etc.

⁷In the case of $know_{AQ}$ vs. $know_{EPIST}$ in German and Swedish, etc., I assume contextually triggered allomorphy, such that veta/vissen is triggered in the context of the EPIST head, whereas $k\ddot{a}nna/kennen$ is the default form of the verb.

⁸Of course, we still need to enrich the minimal bare-bones meaning for *know*-verbs outlined here, in order to capture inferences pertaining to *belief, exhaustivity*, as well as lexically specific inferences, e.g. the manner of acquiring/losing knowledge (e.g. *notice, remember, forget*), the emotive attitude towards the individual or situation in question (*surprise, love, resentment*).

⁹In terms of the formal difference between $know_{AQ}$ and $know_{EPIST}$ in German etc. (e.g. kennen/wissen), I assume that this involves contextually triggered allomorphy, s.t. wissen is triggered in the context of SITU, whereas kennen is the default form of the verb.

¹⁰Anand and Hacquard suggests that predicates like *imply* and *suggest* are ambiguous between a doxastic predicate with an implicit attitude holder and an assertive predicate, and that non-discourse participant subjects like *the timing* bring out or activate the doxastic meaning. Independent evidence:

- With the book, the verbs behave like assertives wrt. the Epistemic Containment Principle (50-a).
- With the timing, the verbs behave like doxastics (22) wrt. the Epistemic Containment Principle (50-b).
- (50) Anand and Hacquard (2009, ex. (25))
 - a. The book {implies, suggests} that everyone might be the murderer.
 - b. #The time of death {implies, suggests} that everyone might be the murderer.

¹¹Note that nouns like 'article' don't function as Content DPs, thus allowing us to rule out a non-Source reading:

- (51) a. The claim/*article that the butler did it is true.
 - The claim/*article is that the butler did it.

In German, Dative case on the DP ensures a source-reading.

 12 Barring Concealed Questions, which I take to be of type <st,t>. Uegaki (2016) argues that a type-shifter is available to allow epistemic know to combined with DPs as concealed questions, which are of type <st,t>. This, however, as illustrated in (52), is a different reading from what we saw in Section 1 with know DP and believe DP.

(52) Mary knows the price of milk. \rightarrow Mary knows what the price of milk is.

Thus, DPs that denote concealed questions must combine with $know_{EPIST}$ and not with $know_{AQ}$. For concreteness sake, I assume the analysis from Uegaki (2016) (based on Aloni 2008), whereby the CQ reading of the DP is derived via a CQ type shifter (type <e,<st,t>>). For discussion, see Uegaki (2016, p. 638) and Aloni and Roelofsen (2011) for details, discussion, and further references.

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Appendices

A More diagnostics for the nature of Source DPs

A.1 Syntax/Argument-structure: Source DP sentences are like Applicatives

Claim: syntactically/argument structurally, believe-verbs behave like optionally transitive verbs like bake (53).

- Source DPs are indirect objects of believe;
- Content DPs and clauses are direct objects of believe.

Optionally intransitive verb bake:

(53) a. Mary baked a cake.

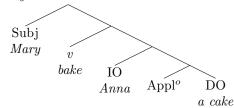
Subj

Mary v DO

baked a cake

b. Mary baked Anna a cake.

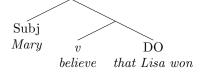
(Applicative, after Pylkkänen 2008, a.o.)



believe CP/DP:

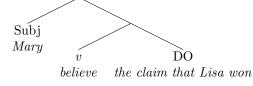
(54) a. Mary believes that Lisa won.

(Proposal: believe CP)



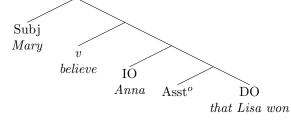
b. Mary believes the claim that Lisa won.

(Proposal: believe Content DP)



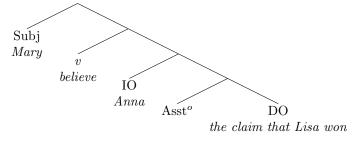
c. Mary believes Anna that Lisa won.

(Proposal: believe Source DP)



In German (and other languages with Source Datives, like Spanish), the two types of DPs can co-occur (see below):

(55) Mary believes Anna the claim that Lisa won.



NB: Some speakers report finding heavier NPs clunky in Source-positions. However, most speakers I've consulted allow for both names and common nouns, given appropriate context.

(56) Sometimes the patient doesn't believe the doctor that he's sick, until the doctor gives it a name. (COCA¹³)

Evidence:

- 1. Case on Source vs. Content DPs in languages like German, which distinguishes DAT and ACC;
- 2. Extraction possibilities in passives;
- 3. (Non-)obligatoriness of the Source vs. the believe p inference.

1. Case on Source vs. Content DPs in languages like German, which distinguish DAT and ACC.

In German (etc), indirect objects are marked with DAT case, and direct objects with ACC case:

(57) Sie gab/stahl **ihm den** Schlüssel. she gave/stole him.DAT the.ACC key

She gave the key to him./She stole the key from him.

Source & Goal Applicatives

As Djärv (2019) notes, the same pattern is found in Source DP sentences in German:

- (58) Djärv (2019, p. 235)
 - a. Ich glaube ihm, dass Maria ein Genie war.
 - I believe him.DAT that Maria a genius was

I believe him that Maria was a genius.

Source DP: DAT

b. Ich glaube **die** Behauptung, dass Maria ein Genie war.

I believe the ACC claim that Maria a genius was

I believe the claim that Maria was a genius.

Content DP: ACC

The two DPs can also co-occur in German, unlike in English:

(59) Djärv (2019, p. 235)

Ich glaube **ihm die** Behauptung, dass Maria ein Genie war. I believe him.DAT the.ACC claim that Maria a genius was

On the current account, the derivation of such sentences involves both Uegaki's (2016) CONT type-shifter, and the Asstonian proposed in Section 4.2 (using our –technically ungrammatical– running example from English for exposition):

```
[60] [believe Anna the claim that Lisa won] [w] Entails believe p \ \mathcal{E} gives rise to source-reading = [[Asst^o]]^w([[CONT]]^w([[the claim that Lisa won]]^w))([[Anna]]^w)([[believe]]^w)
= [\lambda p_{<st>}.[\lambda x_e.[\lambda f_{<st,et>}.f(p)]]](\lambda w'.won(lisa)(w'))(anna)(\lambda p_{<st>}.[\lambda x_e.DOX_x^w \subseteq p])
= [\lambda p_{<st>}.[\lambda x_e.DOX_x^w \subseteq p]](\lambda w'.won(lisa)(w'))
= [\lambda x_e.DOX_x^w \subseteq \{w':won(lisa)(w')\}]
= [\lambda x_e.DOX_x^w \subseteq \{w':won(lisa)(w')\}
= [\lambda x_e.DOX_x^w \subseteq \{w':won(lisa)(w')\}]
= [\lambda x_e.DOX_x^w \subseteq \{w':won(lisa)(w')\}
= [\lambda x_e.DOX_x^w \subseteq \{w':won(lisa)(w')\}
= [\lambda x_e.DOX_x^w \subseteq \{w':won(lisa)(w')\}
= [\lambda x_e.DOX_x^
```

Why do German and English differ in terms of the two DPs being able to co-occur?

- Based on preliminary cross-linguistic data, the ability of Source and Content DPs to co-occur appears to be linked to a general presence of Source Applicative in the language; where the indirect (Dative) object denotes the source of the verbal event (here, steal).
- (61) English
 - a. She gave/*stole him the key.

✗Source Applicative

b. I believe you (*the claim) that Mary is a genius.

XSource+Content DP

- (62) Dutch
 - a. Zij heeft hem het boek gegeven/*gestolen.

she has him the book given/stolen

She gave the book to him./She stole the book from him.

XSource Applicative

b. Ik geloof je (*de bewering) dat Mary een genie is.

I believe you (*the claim) that Mary is a genius.

I believe you (the claim) that Mary a genius is

XSource+Content DP

- (63) Swedish
 - a. Hon gav/*stal honom boken.

she gave/stole him book.DEF

She gave the book to him./She stole the book from him.

XSource Applicative

b. Jag tror dig (*påståendet/*ditt påstående) att Maria är ett geni.

believe you (claim.DEF/your claim) that Mary is a genius

I believe you (*the claim) that Mary is a genius.

✗Source+Content DP

^{*}I believe him the claim that Maria was a genius.

(64) German

a. Sie stahl **ihm den** Schlüssel.

she stole him.DAT the.ACC key

She stole the key from him.

✓ Source Applicative

b. Ich glaube **ihm die** Behauptung, dass Maria ein Genie war.

I believe him.DAT the.ACC claim that Maria a genius was

*I believe him the claim that Maria was a genius.

Source+Content DP

(65) Spanish

a. Le di/robé el libro.

her.DAT gave.1sG/stole.1sG the book

I gave the book to her./I stole the book from her.

✓Source Applicative

b. Le creo (la afirmación) que Maria es un genio.

her.DAT believe.1sg (the claim) that Maria is a genius

I believe you (the claim) that Mary is a genius.

✓Source+Content DP

• Such a parametric difference can can be naturally thought about in terms of learnability (thanks to Luke Adamson, p.c. for this comment).

2. Extraction possibilities in passives.

Source DPs behave like indirect objects and Content DPs like direct objects. I German, it is only possible to promote the direct object in a passive, but not the indirect object:

(66) a. Der Schlüssel wurde ihm gestohlen

the.NOM key was him.DAT stolen

The key was stolen from him.
*Er wurde den Schlüssel gestohlen.

he.NOM was the.ACC key stolen

ne.vow was the.Ace key store

✓Promote direct object

He had the key stolen from him.

(67) a. Die Behauptung, dass Maria ein Genie war, wurde ihm geglaubt.

The NOM claim, that Maria a genius was, was him believed

The claim that he made, that Maria was a genius, was believed. ✓ Promote Content DP

b. *Er wurde geglaubt (die Behauptung), dass Maria ein Genie war. he.NOM was believed (the claim), that Maria a genius was

He was believed when he claimed that Maria was a genius.

XPromote Source DP

Many varieties of English show the opposite pattern, such that the indirect, but not the direct object can be promoted:

In believe DP sentences, Content DP pattern with direct objects, whereas Source DPs pattern with indirect objects.

(68) a. I baked him a cake.

b. He was baked a cake.

✓ Promote indirect object

c. *A cake was baked him.

XPromote direct object

In a sentence with a Source DP + CP, the clause cannot be promoted, like indirect objects. The Source DP, however, can be promoted, like indirect objects.

(69) a. He was generally believed that Maria was a genius.

✓Promote Source DP

b. *That Maria is a genius was (generally/widely) believed him.

✗Promote CP

Without a Source DP, it is possible to promote a CP or a Content DP:

(70) a. That Maria is a genius was (generally/widely) believed.

✓Promote CP

b. The claim that Maria is a genius was (generally/widely) believed.

✓ Promote Content DP

The same is true for direct objects of verbs like bake, if there is no indirect object present:

(71) A cake was baked.

✓Promote direct object

3. (Non-)obligatoriness of the Source vs. the believe p inference.

Further evidence for the claim that Source DPs are not part of the lexical meaning of believe comes from the fact that while I believe you implies belief of some contextually salient proposition, I believe that p should not imply the existence of some contextually available source of information, as shown in (72)–(73):

(72) Djärv (2019, p. 243)

a. I believe Anna.

b. I believe that [P] it's raining.

 $\Rightarrow \exists p_C$ s.t. Anna is the source of p_C $\Rightarrow \exists x_C$ s.t. x_C is the source of p

(73) a. Ich glaube Anna.

I believe Anna

I believe Anna.

 $\rightarrow \exists p_C$ s.t. Anna is the source of p_C

b. Ich glaube, dass Lisa gewonnen hat.

I believe, that Lisa won has

I believe that Lisa won.

 \Rightarrow \exists \mathbf{x}_C s.t. \mathbf{x}_C is the source of \mathbf{p}

A.2 Semantically: Source DP sentences describe an assertion event

2. Interpretation of epistemic modals.

Anand and Hacquard (2009) observe a contrast between doxastic attitudes and assertion-reports with respect to the interpretation of epistemic modals:

(74) Based on Anand and Hacquard (2009, ex. (17))

a. #Holmes believed that every guest might be the murderer.

 ${\rm might} > {\rm every} \ / \ *{\rm every} > {\rm might}$

b. Holmes claimed that every guest might be the murderer.

 ${\rm might} > {\rm every} \ / \ {\rm every} > {\rm might}$

A&H explain this in terms of the so-called *Epistemic Containment Principle* (von Fintel and Iatridou, 2003; Tancredi, 2007), which states that quantifiers cannot bind their traces across a *subjectively interpreted* epistemic modal:

- With doxastic attitudes, p is evaluated with respect to the attitude holder's private, subjective belief state;
- With assertion reports, p is evaluated with respect to a projected common ground, where p is part of the general consensus, thus yielding an *objective* stance and obviating the Epistemic Containment Principle.

Interestingly, Runner and Moulton (2017, 15) observe that Source DPs sentences, like assertion reports, obviate the Epistemic Containment Principle.

(75) They believed Holmes that every guest might be the murderer. (Runner and Moulton, 2017, 15)

a. #believed H's' claim that it is possible that all guests are the murderer.

might > every

b. believed H's claim that for each guest x, it is possible that x is the murderer.

every > might

I take this to follow from the fact that Source DP sentences, in addition to making a statement about the attitude holder's private subjective beliefs, additionally presuppose that there was an assertion event such that the Source DP proposed to make p common ground (Hypothesis 2, similar to A&H's semantics for assertion reports);

- Thus, in terms of the presupposition, p is evaluated with respect to a projected common ground; the conversational goal of the assertion-event;
- This yields the objective stance that enables the every > might reading.

A.3 Pragmatically: Source DPs are not-at issue

For each test, I also illustrate the test with a possessive DP, which triggers an existential presupposition.

2. Hey, wait a minute test.

> Since presuppositions are not part of the *at-issue* content of their host sentences, they need explicit 'flags' in order to be targeted in a response to a sentence with a presupposition (e.g. Shanon 1976; von Fintel 2004).

(76) Possessive

A: Lisa's cat is fluffy.

→ Lisa has a cat

B. Yes, that's true.

→ Lisa has a cat→ Lisa has a cat

B' No, that's not true.

→ Lisa has a cat

B": Hey, wait a minute – Lisa doesn't have a cat!

- (77) Source DP sentence
 - A: Lisa believes her doctor that apples cure hiccups.
 - B: Yes, that's true.
 - B'. No, that's not true.
 - B": Hey, wait a minute Lisa's doctor would never say that!

- → L's doctor has asserted p
- → L's doctor has asserted p
- \leadsto L's doctor has asserted p
- ⋄ L's doctor has asserted p

- 2. Presupposition filtering
- ➤ As observed by Karttunen (1973), presuppositions can be effectively filtered out if the trigger's local context entails the presupposition of the trigger (see also Mandelkern et al. 2020 for recent discussion of filtering).
- (78) If Lisa has a cat, then **her cat** must be a Sphynx (since Lisa is allergic).

 Lisa has a cat
- (79) If Lisa's doctor says that blueberries cure hiccups, then Lisa will definitely believe her (given that Lisa is very gullible). L's doctor has asserted p
- 3. Context update potential
- > Since presuppositions are not *at-issue*, they resist being part of the asserted content of the sentence. (The 'guess what' test is from Caplan and Djärv 2019.)
- (80) Guess what! Lisa's cat is a really cute.

#Asserting Lisa has a cat

(81) Guess what! Lisa believes her doctor that blueberries cure hiccups. #Asserting Lisa's doctor has asserted p

B Declarative and question-embedding

To account for the contrast between *know* and *believe*-verbs in terms of combining with questions/declaratives (82), Uegaki (2016) proposes that it is possible to shift propositions p into the singleton sets that contain them, {p}; i.e. to questions with only one alternative. This is achieved by the type-shifter ID in (83).

- (82) a. Mary believes {that Lisa came / *who came} to the party.
 - b. Mary knows {that Lisa came / who came} to the party.

(p-to-Q type-shifting for know that p)

(83) p-to-Q type shifter (Uegaki, 2016, 632) $[ID]^w = [\lambda p_{\langle st \rangle}.[\lambda q_{\langle st \rangle}.q=p]]$

This allows know-verbs to combine with declaratives as singleton proposition sets, but leaves believe-verbs without a way to combine with questions, thus straightforwardly deriving Generalization 3, as shown in (84)–(85).

- (84) Uegaki's (2016) solution to Generalization 3: Declarative CPs
 - a. $[Mary believes that Lisa won]^w = 1 in w iff <math>DOX_m^w \subseteq \{w': won(\mathit{lisa})(w')\}$
 - b. $[Mary knows that Lisa won]^w = 1 in w iff <math>\exists p \in \{\lambda w'.won(lisa)(w')\}[EPIST_m^w \subseteq p]]$
- (85) Uegaki's (2016) solution to Generalization 3: Interrogative CPs
 - a. $[M. believes whether Lisa won]^w = #$

Type-mismatch

b. M. knows whether L. won w=1 in w iff $\exists p \in \{\lambda w'. won(l)(w'), \lambda w'. \neg won(l)(w')\}$ [EPIST $w \subseteq p$]

(See Uegaki 2016, Sec. 3.2.3 for discussion of why nesting ID and CONT is not an option.)

The current proposal for know-verbs derives the same results:

As shown in (86)–(87), know-verbs are able to combine with declaratives as singleton sets and with questions as multi-member sets (for other types of questions, see (16) above).

- (86) $[\![know that Lisa won]\!]^w$
 - $= [\![know_{EPIST}]\!]^w ([\![ID]\!]^w ([\![that Lisa won]\!]^w))$
 - $= [\lambda P_{\langle st,t\rangle}.[\lambda x_e.\exists s\exists p \in P[s \text{ is a situation exemplifying } p \land AQ_w(x)(s)]]](\{\lambda w'.won(\mathit{lisa})(w')\})$
 - = $[\lambda x_e . \exists s \exists p \in {\lambda w'.won(lisa)(w')}][s \text{ is a situation exemplifying } p \land AQ_w(x)(s)]]$
- (87) $[know whether Lisa won]^w$
 - $= [\![\mathsf{know}_{EPIST}]\!]^w ([\![\mathsf{whether\ Lisa\ won}]\!]^w)$
 - $= [\lambda P_{\langle st,t\rangle}, [\lambda x_e. \exists s \exists p \in P[s \text{ is a situ. exemplifying } p \land AQ_w(x)(s)]]](\{\lambda w'. won(l)(w'), \lambda w'. \neg won(l)(w')\}) = [\lambda x_e. \exists s \exists p \in \{\lambda w'. won(l)(w'), \lambda w'. \neg won(l)(w')\}[s \text{ is a situation exemplifying } p \land AQ_w(x)(s)]]$

As shown in (88)–(89), believe-verbs, on the other hand, have no way of combining with questions. This, as proposed by Uegaki (2016), thus captures (82).

[88] [believe that Lisa won]^w $= [believe]^{w}([that Lisa won]^{w})$ $= [\lambda p_{<st>}.[\lambda x_{e}.DOX_{x}^{w} \subseteq p]](\lambda w'.won(lisa)(w'))$ $= [\lambda x_{e}.DOX_{x}^{w} \subseteq \{w':won(lisa)(w')\}]$ [89] [believe whether Lisa won]^w $= [believe]^{w}([whether Lisa won]^{w})$ $= [\lambda p_{<st>}.[\lambda x_{e}.DOX_{x}^{w} \subseteq p]](\{\lambda w'.won(lisa)(w'),\lambda w'.\neg won(lisa)(w')\}) = \#$

C More consequences of the current analysis for know vs. believe

The current analysis of *know* and *believe* allows us to account for a separate observation about the modification possibilities of *know* vs. *believe*-verbs:

- On our analysis, every state of knowing p (unlike a state of believing p) is predicated on an event of being acquainted with a situation s which in turn justifies/motivates knowing p;
- in (90), how is modifying the acquaintance event in know; in believe, there is no such event.
- (90) Djärv (2019, 246)
 - a. **How**/#why do you know that Lisa won? \approx in what manner did you come to know p? Also: realize, notice, discover, hear...
 - b. Why/#how do you believe that Lisa won? ≈ what is the reason for believing p?
 Also: trust, doubt...

Moreover, on the analysis proposed here,

- know-verbs are (i) factive and (ii) responsive (i.e. allow for both questions and declaratives);
- believe-verbs are (i) non-factive, (ii) anti-rogative (i.e. allow only declaratives), and (iii) are able to license DPs.

Together, this might explain why a verb like *think*, which is similar to *believe* both in terms of its meaning and selectional properties nevertheless reject Source DPs:

(91) I {believe, *think} Anna that Lisa is the winner.

As shown in (92), while *think*, like *believe*, is anti-rogative, it is different from *believe*, in that it neither permits ECM complements, nor Content DPs:

- (92) a. *Do you {believe, think} whether Lisa won?
 - b. I {believe, *think} Lisa to be the winner. / the claim that Lisa is the winner.