Quantifiers in TIME and SPACE: computational complexity of generalized quantifiers in natural language
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It was quite a long climb. It would have never happened without the support and inspiration from many people. If I had given a full account of everyone’s help I would have never succeed in finishing on time. Therefore, some of you will have to forgive me for the following, only partial notes.

First of all, my parents have been a continuous source of motivation. They were always interested in my research and helped so much in building my confidence, optimism and energy. I am also very grateful to the rest of my family for providing me with many expressions of support.

I got for the first time interested in language, logic and cognition over 10 years ago thanks to Anna Wojdanowicz. She was the first to teach me philosophy and to encourage my independent thinking. She was also the very first critic of my very first essay on language and cognition which I wrote for the Philosophical Olympiad. This dissertation would not come to existence without her and I would be probably doing something completely different, presumably less fun.

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In the second year of my studies I met the person who had the biggest impact on this thesis and my research in general. Marcin Mostowski not only taught me logic and suggested research topic, which first led me to MA thesis and then directly culminated in this dissertation, but it was also thanks to him that I started to be surrounded by logicians. I was lucky to learn from, study, and discuss logic with: Zofia Adamowicz, Mikołaj Bojańczyk, Cezary Cieśliński, Marek Czarnecki, Nina, Joanna Golinska-Pilarek (she was the first to show me Hintikka’s sentence), Witek, Leszek Aleksander Kołodziejczyk, Eryk Kopczyński, Henryk Kotłarski, Michał Krynicki, Filip Murlak, Damian Niwiński, Paula Quinon, Jerzy Tyszkiewicz, Dominika Wojtyniak, Łukasz Wojtyniak, and Konrad Zdanowski. Especially, Leszek and Konrad explained to me uncountably many things about logic and inspired me with their attitude to work. I think that it is very likely that I would have never become a scientist (although I could have easily become a parody of a scientist) if I had not met Marcin Mostowski and his group.

Then, at the beginning of 2006, I took a great decision and came to Amsterdam to join ILLC as a PhD student in the GloRiClass project. I was brave enough to jump in, partially because I had met some ILLC members before at Szklarska Poręba Workshop on the Roots of Pragmasemantics. In connection to this I want to thank Reinhard Blutner and Henk Zeevat for organizing the conference and giving us a chance to meet on the top of Szrenica every year. I had very soft landing in Amsterdam thanks to many people. First of all, the ILLC staff deserve many thanks for their support and incredible ability of solving all problems without letting me feel importunate: Marjan Veldhuisen, Ingrid van Loon, Tanja Kassenaar, Jessica Pogorzelski, Peter van Ormondt and Karin Gigenack. GloRiClass coordinators: Krzysztof Apt, Paul Dekker, Benedikt Löwe, Ulle Endriss and my friends from the first GloRiClass generation: Andreas Witzel and Daisuke Ikegami created extremely friendly atmosphere from the beginning, even though we were struggling with some problems in the project at that time. Moreover, I was introduced to ILLC and Amsterdam by many colleagues, among others: Tikitu de Jager (he took me on my first tour around Amsterdam and borrowed a map which I have lost, sorry for that!), and Merlijn Sevenster (we had discussed branching quantifiers long before I arrived to Amsterdam), Rent Tzarfati, and Jelle Zuidema who were “forcing” me to have lunches (although it was usually just after I had breakfast) with other ILLC members integrating me with the Institute. Soon Amsterdam became my home when Nina, against some difficulties, decided to move to the Netherlands.

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lot from the ways they complemented each other.

Johan has been a great source of vision and inspiration. He suggested to me plenty of problems and turned around my perspective on logic, language and computation. I am sure that his ideas will inspire my research long after graduation and maybe one day I will be able to answer some of the questions he suggested during our conversations in his office. I have been very much motivated by Johan’s never-ceasing energy for taking new research directions and creating fruitful academic life.

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