

Actant semantics: Subject Semantics (SUS), Actant 1 Semantics (A1S), and Actant 2 Semantics (A2S)

Subject Semantics (SUS), **Actant 1 Semantics (A1S)**, and **Actant 2 Semantics (A2S)** are Relations each of which connects an Action to one or more Concepts **describing semantically the role of the holder of the actant slot**. E.g., A "to speak (to sb - about st/sb)" would have the SUS: C "speaker", A1S: C "participant in a conversation", and A2S: C "speech content".

These Relations describing actant semantics then allow to **study the roles of entities holding that actant slot**. E.g., we can inspect all women who have either the in-statement CLA C "preacher", or who are known to have A "preached", because A "preach" would have exactly the SUS: C "preacher". Therefore, the actant semantics enrich actant role holders with the respective roles implied by the Action.

These relations also allow to properly understand the **direction of action**: e.g., a text can say that `P Lucy - A listened - (to) P Mary`, or that `P Mary - A spoke - (to) P Lucy`. The relevant actant semantics will allow to identify, in both wordings, Mary as the speaker and Lucy as the listener. Thus, for research purposes, we can for instance safely produce a directed conversation tie going from Mary to Lucy rather than the other way round from any of the two wordings, and also harbour the **passive and active voice** correctly under the same roof.

Actant semantics are the CASTEMO way of ensuring **semantic role labelling**: it is done by properly defining any Action type's semantic valency, rather than losing time with labelling semantic roles in specific Statements.

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