# The independence of instance and subkind countability

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#### Introduction

- Language has two sorts of countability: Instance and subkind.
- The two most popular dogs are
  - 1. Toto and Lassie. *instances of the dog species (dog specimens)*
  - 2. Labradors and bulldogs. *subkinds of the dog species (dog breeds)*
- Sutton & Filip (2016, 2018): Both sorts of countability are licensed by disjointedness between entities that can count as one.
- Appealing to disjointedness is challenged by cases where the two sorts of countability do not pattern together.

#### Introduction

- Claim: Subkind-countability is not licensed by disjointedness.
- 1. sl.<u>4</u>-<u>13</u>: Challenges to disjointedness.
- 2. sl.<u>14</u>-<u>38</u>: Formalize and modify the analyses of Carlson (1980:§6.1) and Grimm & Levin (2017).
- 3. sl.<u>39-47</u>: Certain differences between Hungarian and English are correlated with the former having general number.
  - In the sense of Corbett (2000), Paul (2012).
- 4. sl.<u>48</u>-<u>56</u>: Subkind-countability is licensed by conceptual well-foundedness.

#### Background: Object mass nouns

- In English, object mass nouns (*ammunition*) cannot count instances or subkinds unless combined with classifiers (*unit, kind*).
  - (Cowper & Hall 2012:§3.2.2, Rothstein 2017:§4.6,

Grimm & Levin 2017, Sutton & Filip 2018)

- What fell on the floor was two {bullets, #ammunitions, units of ammunition}. *instances*
- 2. Hollow-point and soft-point bullets are our two best-selling {bullets, #ammunitions, kinds of ammunition}. *subkinds*

- Sutton & Filip: Object mass nouns (in English) lack both sorts of countability due to being unable to resolve overlap.
- 1. *Kitchenware* cannot count instances due to being unable to resolve overlap between instances that can count as one.
  - e.g. a mortar and pestle and the mortar (2016).

- In context c<sub>2</sub>, the mortar and pestle count as one unit of kitchenware.
- In c<sub>1</sub>, the mortar counts as one unit of kitchenware.
- These two instances of kitchenware overlap and count as one in different contexts.



(Sutton & Filip 2016:fig.1)

- Sutton & Filip: Object mass nouns (in English) lack both sorts of countability due to being unable to resolve overlap.
- 1. *Kitchenware* cannot count instances due to being unable to resolve overlap between instances that can count as one.
  - e.g. a mortar and pestle and the mortar (2016).
- 2. *Furniture* cannot count subkinds due to being unable to resolve overlap between kinds (in a level of categorization) that can count as one.
  - e.g. vanities and chairs (2018).

- Some chairs are parts of vanities.
- Such chairs cause overlap between chairs and vanities as kinds.





### Challenge to disjointedness

- Sutton & Filip: Object mass nouns (in English) lack both sorts of countability due to being unable to resolve overlap.
- Appealing to disjointedness is challenged by two cases where the two sorts of countability do not pattern together.

		instances	subkinds	
1.	student	yes	no	(Kwak 2012)
2.	<i>lőszer</i> 'ammunition'	no	yes	

#### Challenge to disjointedness: Student

- 1. Two students are popular, namely
  - a. Jack and Jade. *instances*
  - b. # juniors and seniors. *subkinds* (cf. Kwak 2012)
- 2. (Two kinds of students are popular, namely juniors and seniors.)
- *Student* is count, so Sutton & Filip (2018) would say that
- It is interpreted relative to contexts that resolve overlap between kinds of students.
- Overlap should not prevent the subkind-countability of *student*, so
- Appealing to disjointedness does not explain the infelicity of (1b).

#### Challenge to disjointedness: Lőszer

- Lőszer 'ammunition' can count subkinds but not instances.
- # Két lőszert számoltam. (Erbach 2019:ex.6.32) two ammunition<sub>acc</sub> count<sub>1.sg.pst</sub> × 'I counted two pieces of ammunition.'
- 2. (Két darab lőszert számoltam.) darab 'piece' (ibid.)
- Két lőszert nem árulok: üreges golyókat es lágypontos golyókat. two ammo<sub>acc</sub> no sell<sub>1.sg</sub>: hollow.point bullet<sub>pl.acc</sub> and soft.point... √ 'I do not sell two (kinds of) ammunition: hollow-point bullets...'

#### Challenge to disjointedness: Hungarian

- Lőszer 'ammunition' can count subkinds but not instances.
- The same goes for *üvegáru* 'glassware' and *ruházat* 'apparel'.
- An appeal to disjointedness might posit that
- Object mass nouns in Hungarian, not English, are interpreted relative to contexts that resolve overlap between subkinds.
  - (In a given level of categorization.)
- But this does not predict which languages should pattern with Hungarian or English.

#### Challenge to disjointedness: Full picture

		instances	subkinds	
1.	student	yes	no	(sl. <u>10</u> )
2.	<i>lőszer</i> 'ammunition' <i>üvegáru</i> 'glassware' <i>ruházat</i> 'apparel'	no	yes	(sl. <u>11</u> )
3.	ammunition	no	no	(sl. <mark>4</mark> )

- The subkind-countability in (1-2) is unexplained by Sutton & Filip's (2018) appeal to disjointedness.
- It is explained by our analysis of subkind-countability, which builds on the analyses of Carlson (1980) and Grimm & Levin (2017).

#### Previous analyses: Carlson (1980)

- A noun can count subkinds only if
- 1. Carlson (1980): The speaker knows nouns that name subkinds.
- Many {virtues, #courages} (§7, ex.109)
- Predicted for speakers who know nouns for kinds of virtue (e.g. *honesty*) but not of courage.

- A noun can count subkinds only if
- 1. Carlson (1980): The speaker knows nouns that name subkinds.
- 2. Grimm & Levin (2017): It heads a taxonomy. (in the sense of Murphy 2002)
  - 1. vehicles V 'kinds of vehicles'



- 1. The sub-element relation is transitive.
  - 1. Every limo is a car.
  - 2. Every car is a vehicle.



- A noun can count subkinds only if
- 1. Carlson (1980): The speaker knows nouns that name subkinds.
- 2. Grimm & Levin (2017): It heads a taxonomy.
  - 1. vehicles V 'kinds of vehicles'
  - 2. # mails × 'kinds of mail'



- 1. The sub-element relation is transitive.
  - 1. Every limo is a car.
  - 2. Every car is a vehicle.
- 2. The sub-element relation is not transitive.
  - Not every magazine is mail.
  - A magazine that is not being delivered is not mail.





#### Previous analyses: Criticism

- A noun can count subkinds only if
- 1. Carlson (1980): The speaker knows nouns that name subkinds.
- 2. Grimm & Levin (2017): It heads a taxonomy.
- (1) has a limitation, (2) an incorrect prediction.
- a. (1) does not account for *furniture* being unable to count subkind for speakers who know nouns for kinds of furniture (e.g. *chair*).
  - # If there's one furniture I can't stand, it's chairs.
     (cf. Cowper & Hall 2012:ex.8c, e)
- b. (2) incorrectly predicts *pet, sport* to lack subkind-countability.

#### Previous analyses: Criticism

- G&L (2017): A noun can count subkinds only if it heads a taxonomy.
- Incorrectly predicts *pet, sport* to lack subkind-countability.
  - # mails × 'kinds of mail'
  - 2. The next two pets [...] are birds [...] and rabbits (Refinetti 2016:618)
  - 3. Karate and swimming? [...] which **two sports** you would put together [ $\gamma$ ]
    - Karate used for violence is not sport.



#### Previous analyses: Criticism

- A noun is subkind-countable only if
- 1. Carlson (1980): The speaker knows nouns that name subkinds.
- 2. Grimm & Levin (2017): It heads a taxonomy.
- (1) has a limitation, (2) an incorrect prediction.
- These are remedied by formalizing and modifying an integrated analysis.

- N is a noun in language L whose intension under the instance reading is [[inst N]]. N can count subkinds iff
  - 1.  $\llbracket_{inst} N \rrbracket$  is partitioned by a (non-singleton) set of properties  $\mathcal{R}$  s.t.
  - 2. every  $Q \in \mathcal{R}$  is denoted by a noun in L
- a. Vehicle can count subkinds because English has enough nouns to denote properties in a set that partitions [[<sub>inst</sub> vehicle]]. (sl.<u>15</u>)
  - e.g. *car*, *boat* (sl.<u>15</u>)

- N is a noun in language L whose intension under the instance reading is [[inst N]]. N can count subkinds iff
  - 1.  $\llbracket_{inst} N \rrbracket$  is partitioned by a (non-singleton) set of properties  $\mathcal{R}$  s.t.
  - 2. every  $Q \in \mathcal{R}$  is denoted by a noun in L
- a. *Vehicle* can count subkinds because English has enough nouns to denote properties in a set that partitions [[<sub>inst</sub> vehicle]]. (sl.<u>15</u>)
- b. *Mail* cannot count subkinds because English lacks enough nouns to denote properties in a set that partitions [[<sub>inst</sub> mail]]. (sl.<u>17</u>)
  - $\llbracket_{inst}$  magazine $\rrbracket$  cannot be in  $\mathcal{R}$  because not every magazine is mail. (sl.<u>18</u>)

- N is a noun in language L whose intension under the instance reading is [[inst N]]. N can count subkinds iff
  - 1.  $\llbracket_{inst} N \rrbracket$  is partitioned by a (non-singleton) set of properties  $\mathcal{R}$  s.t.
  - 2. every  $Q \in \mathcal{R}$  is denoted by a noun in L
- a. *Vehicle* can count subkinds because English has enough nouns to denote properties in a set that partitions [[<sub>inst</sub> vehicle]]. (sl.<u>15</u>)
- b. *Mail* cannot count subkinds because English lacks enough nouns to denote properties in a set that partitions [[<sub>inst</sub> mail]]. (sl.<u>17</u>)
- c. *Courage* is predicted to not be able to count subkinds for speakers who do not know nouns for kinds of courage. (sl.<u>14</u>)

- N is a noun in language L whose intension under the instance reading is [[inst N]]. N can count subkinds iff
  - 1.  $\llbracket_{inst} N \rrbracket$  is partitioned by a (non-singleton) set of properties  $\mathcal{R}$  s.t.
  - 2. every  $Q \in \mathcal{R}$  is denoted by a noun in L
- This integrated analysis is greater than the sum of its inspirations; it predicts *student* to lack subkind-countability. (sl.<u>10</u>)
- Student cannot count subkinds because English lacks enough nouns to denote properties in a set that partitions [[inst student]].
- English has nouns like *junior* and *senior*, but no noun counterparts of 1<sup>st</sup> grader or BA student.

- N is a noun in language L whose intension under the instance reading is [[inst N]]. N can count subkinds iff
  - 1.  $\llbracket_{inst} N \rrbracket$  is partitioned by a (non-singleton) set of properties  $\mathcal{R}$  s.t.
  - 2. every  $Q \in \mathcal{R}$  is denoted by a noun in L
- 1. Inherits the incorrect prediction of Grimm & Levin (2017). (sl.20)
- 2. Incorrectly predicts nouns like *meat* to lack subkind-countability.
- Remedying these results in our alternative analysis of subkindcountability.

#### Analysis: Meat

- N is a noun in language L whose intension under the instance reading is [[inst N]]. N can count subkinds iff
  - 1.  $\llbracket_{inst} N \rrbracket$  is partitioned by a (non-singleton) set of properties  $\mathcal{R}$  s.t.
  - 2. every  $Q \in \mathcal{R}$  is denoted by a noun in L
- *Meat* can count subkinds: Two meats, namely beef and pork.
- *Meat* fails the condition: It ranges over sums of beef and pork, but no noun that names a kind of meat ranges over such sums.
- Thus, [[<sub>inst</sub> meat]] is not partitioned by a set of properties that are named by English nouns.

#### Analysis: Meat

- 1.  $\llbracket_{inst} beef \rrbracket = [w_1 \rightarrow \{\textcircled{}\}]$
- 2.  $\llbracket_{inst} pork \rrbracket = \llbracket w_1 \rightarrow \{ \Im_1, \Im_2, \Im_1 \lor \Im_2 \} \rrbracket$
- [[inst pork]]<sub>w1</sub> is cumulative, following the standard analysis of mass nouns having cumulative extensions.
  - (Quine 1960:§19, Link 1983, Krifka 1989, 2007)

#### Analysis: Meat

1. 
$$\llbracket_{inst} beef \rrbracket = \llbracket w_1 \rightarrow \{ \textcircled{o} \} \rrbracket$$
  
2.  $\llbracket_{inst} pork \rrbracket = \llbracket w_1 \rightarrow \{ \textcircled{o}_1, \textcircled{o}_2, \textcircled{o}_1 \lor \textcircled{o}_2 \} \rrbracket$   
3.  $\llbracket_{inst} meat \rrbracket = \llbracket w_1 \rightarrow \{ \textcircled{o}_1, \textcircled{o}_2, \textcircled{o}_1 \lor \textcircled{o}_2 \\ \textcircled{o}_1 \lor \textcircled{o}_2, \textcircled{o}_1 \lor \textcircled{o}_2 \\ \textcircled{o}_1 \lor \textcircled{o}_2, \textcircled{o}_1 \lor \textcircled{o}_2 \\ \textcircled{o}_1 \lor \textcircled{o}_2 \\ \textcircled{o}_2, \textcircled{o}_1 \lor \textcircled{o}_2 \\ \end{matrix}$ 

- $\mathcal{R}$  partitions P only if every instance of P instantiates some  $Q \in \mathcal{R}$

#### Analysis: Classified sub-property

- To capture the subkind-countability of *meat*, we require *R* to partition not [[<sub>inst</sub> N]] but the classified sub-property [[<sub>inst</sub> N]]<sub>CLS</sub>.
- $[[_{inst} N]]_{CLS}$  consists of sums of a single kind.

3. 
$$\llbracket_{inst} meat \rrbracket = \begin{bmatrix} w_1 \rightarrow \begin{cases} w_1 \rightarrow \begin{cases} w_1 \rightarrow v & w_1 & w_2 \end{pmatrix} \\ w_1 \rightarrow v & w_2 & w_1 \end{pmatrix} \\ w_1 \rightarrow v & w_2 & w_1 \end{pmatrix} \end{bmatrix}$$
  
4.  $\llbracket_{inst} meat \rrbracket_{CLS} = \begin{bmatrix} w_1 \rightarrow \begin{cases} w_1 \rightarrow v & w_2 \end{pmatrix} \\ w_1 \rightarrow v & w_2 \end{pmatrix} \end{bmatrix}$ 

#### Analysis: Classified sub-property

1. 
$$\llbracket_{inst}$$
 beef $\rrbracket$  =  $\llbracket w_1 \rightarrow \{\textcircled{O}\}$ ]  
2.  $\llbracket_{inst}$  pork $\rrbracket$  =  $\llbracket w_1 \rightarrow \{\textcircled{O}_1 & \textcircled{O}_2 & \textcircled{O}_1 \lor & \textcircled{O}_2\}$ ]  
4.  $\llbracket_{inst}$  meat $\rrbracket_{CLS}$  =  $\llbracket w_1 \rightarrow \{\textcircled{O}_1 & \textcircled{O}_2 & \textcircled{O}_1 \lor & \textcircled{O}_2\}$ ]

- $\mathcal{R}$  partitions P only if every instance of P instantiates some  $Q \in \mathcal{R}$
- A set consisting of (1-2) meets this condition for (4).
- Appealing to the classified sub-property results in the following condition of subkind-countability.

### Analysis: Classified sub-property

- N is a noun in language L whose intension under the instance reading is [[inst N]]. N can count subkinds iff
  - 1.  $\llbracket_{inst} N \rrbracket_{CLS}$  is partitioned by a (non-singleton) set of properties  $\mathcal{R}$  s.t.
  - 2. every  $Q \in \mathcal{R}$  is denoted by a noun in L
- Meat can count subkinds because English has enough nouns to denote properties in a set that partitions [[inst meat]]<sub>CLS</sub>.
  - e.g. *beef*, *pork* (sl.<u>31</u>)
- This condition accounts for the previous data (sl.<u>24</u>-<u>25</u>).
- Next, we attend to the subking-countability of *pet* and *sport* (sl.<u>20</u>).

- Reflecting that *pet* and *sport* can count subkinds is achieved by appealing to spreading over instead partition (aka disjoint cover).
- P is a property,  $\mathcal{R}$  is a set of properties Everything that P instantiates is instantiated by some  $Q \in \mathcal{R}$
- 1.  $\mathcal{R}$  covers P iff for every  $Q \in \mathcal{R}, Q \subset P$ Q is a strict sub-property of P
- 2.  $\mathcal{R}$  spreads over P iff for every  $Q \in \mathcal{R}, Q \cap P \neq \lambda w. \emptyset$ Q overlaps with P

- 1.  $\llbracket_{inst} bird \rrbracket = [w_1 \rightarrow \{ \underset{pet}{\overset{\frown}{\Longrightarrow}}_{pet}, \underset{wild}{\overset{\frown}{\boxtimes}}_{wild} \} ]$
- 2.  $\llbracket$  rabbit $\rrbracket$  =  $[w_1 \rightarrow \{ \mathcal{G}_{pet}, \mathcal{G}_{wild} \}]$
- 3.  $\llbracket \text{inst pet} \rrbracket = \llbracket w_1 \rightarrow \{ \textcircled{s}_{pet}, \textcircled{s}_{pet} \} \rrbracket$
- (1) is not a strict sub-property of (3) due to strict, so a set consisting of (1-2) does not cover (3). (sl.<u>33</u>)
- (1) overlaps with (3) due to \$\overlaps\_{pet}\$, and
   (2) overlaps with (3) due to \$\overlaps\_{pet}\$, so
   a set consisting of (1-2) spreads over (3). (sl.33)

- Reflecting that *pet* and *sport* can count subkinds is achieved by appealing to spreading over instead partition (aka disjoint cover).
- P is a property,  $\mathcal{R}$  is a set of properties Everything that P instantiates is instantiated by some  $Q \in \mathcal{R}$
- 1.  $\mathcal{R}$  covers P iff for every  $Q \in \mathcal{R}, Q \subset P$ Q is a strict sub-property of P
- 2.  $\mathcal{R}$  spreads over P iff for every  $Q \in \mathcal{R}, Q \cap P \neq \lambda w. \emptyset$ Q and P overlap
- Appealing to spreading over results in our analysis of subkindcountability.

- N is a noun in language L whose intension under the instance reading is [[inst N]]. N can count subkinds iff
  - 1.  $\llbracket_{inst} N \rrbracket_{CLS}$  is spread over by a (non-singleton) set of properties  $\mathcal{R}$  s.t.
  - 2. every  $Q \in \mathcal{R}$  is denoted by a noun in L
- a. *Pet* can count subkinds because English has enough nouns to denote properties in a set that spreads over  $\llbracket_{inst}$  pet $\rrbracket_{CLS}$ .
  - e.g. bird, rabbit (sl.20)
- b. *Sport* can count subkinds because English has enough nouns to denote properties in a set that spreads over  $\llbracket_{inst}$  sport $\rrbracket_{CLS}$ .
  - e.g. karate, swimming (sl.20)

#### Analysis: Object mass nouns

- 1. two ammunition(s) × 'two units' × 'two kinds' (sl.4)
- 2. két lőszer × 'two units' √ 'two kinds' (sl.<u>11</u>)
  - Also *üvegáru* 'glassware', *ruházat* 'apparel'.
- Our analysis of subkind-countability correlates this with Hungarian but not English having general number. (Corbett 2000, Paul 2012)

#### Analysis: General number

- Assume: The set-denotation of nouns is revealed by predicative uses.
- Ez a két golyó golyó.
   this the two bullet bullet
   'These two bullets are bullets.'
- 2. These two bullets are #(a) bullet. **D** *false*
- Conclusion: The basic set-denotation of (notionally) count nouns (e.g. *golyó* and *bullet*) is
  - 1. Cumulative in Hungarian. (cf. Rullmann & You 2006:ex.19)
  - 2. Not cumulative in English. (quantized or disjoint, analysis-dependent)

#### Analysis: General number

- Conclusion: The basic set-denotation of (notionally) count nouns is
  - 1. Cumulative in Hungarian. (cf. Rullmann & You 2006:ex.19)
  - 2. Not cumulative in English. (Quantized or disjoint, analysis-dependent.)
- The bullets in w<sub>1</sub> are 
   , 
   and
- 1. [[bullet]]<sub>w1</sub> = {▶, ▶, ▶}

non-cumulative

cumulative (cf. Rullmann & You 2006:ex.19)

• This difference makes it harder for object mass nouns in English to meet the condition of subkind-countability (sl.<u>36</u>).

- 1.  $\llbracket_{inst}$  hollow-point bullet  $\rrbracket = \llbracket w_1 \rightarrow \{ \mathbb{P} \} \rrbracket$
- 2.  $\llbracket_{inst} \text{ soft-point bullet} \rrbracket = [w_1 \rightarrow \{v_1, v_2\}]$
- [[inst soft-point bullet]]<sub>w1</sub> is non-cumulative, i.e. it precludes p<sub>1</sub>Vp<sub>2</sub>, following English lacking general number (sl.<u>39</u>).

- 1.  $\llbracket_{inst}$  hollow-point bullet $\rrbracket = \llbracket w_1 \rightarrow \{ {\tt P} \}$ ] 2.  $\llbracket_{inst}$  soft-point bullet $\rrbracket = \llbracket w_1 \rightarrow \{ {\tt P}_1, {\tt P}_2 \}$ ]
- $= \begin{bmatrix} w_1 \rightarrow \begin{cases} v_1 & v_2 \\ v_1 & v_2 & v_2 \\ v_1 & v_2 & v_2 \\ v_1 & v_2 & v_2 \end{bmatrix}$ 3. [[<sub>inst</sub> ammunition]]
- [[inst ammunition]]<sub>w1</sub> is cumulative, following the standard analysis of mass nouns having cumulative extensions. (sl.28)
  - (Quine 1960:§19, Link 1983, Krifka 1989, 2007)

- 1.  $\llbracket_{inst}$  hollow-point bullet  $\rrbracket = [w_1 \rightarrow \{P\}]$
- 2.  $\llbracket_{inst} \text{ soft-point bullet} \rrbracket = [w_1 \rightarrow \{v_1, v_2\}]$
- 4.  $\llbracket_{\text{inst}} \text{ ammunition} \rrbracket_{\text{CLS}} = \begin{bmatrix} w_1 \rightarrow \left\{ \begin{smallmatrix} & \mathbf{D}_1 \vee \mathbf{D}_2 \\ & \mathbf{D}_1 & \mathbf{D}_2 \end{smallmatrix} \right\} \end{bmatrix}$
- *R* spreads over P only if every instance of P instantiates some Q ∈ *R*(sl.<u>33</u>)
- A set consisting of (1-2) does not spread over (4) due to 1/2

- N is a noun in language L whose intension under the instance reading is [[inst N]]. N can count subkinds iff
  - 1.  $\llbracket_{inst} N \rrbracket_{CLS}$  is spread over by a (non-singleton) set of properties  $\mathcal{R}$  s.t.
  - 2. every  $Q \in \mathcal{R}$  is denoted by a noun in L
- Object mass nouns in English cannot count subkinds because
- They have cumulative reference, so their classified sub-property instantiates plural sums of a single kind (e.g. p1Vp2).
- 2. Too many subkinds are named by count nouns, which in English do not range over such sums (sl.<u>39</u>).
  - e.g. [[<sub>inst</sub> soft-point bullet]] does instantiate D<sub>1</sub>VD<sub>2</sub> (sl.<u>41</u>).

#### Analysis: Object mass nouns, Hungarian

- N is a noun in language L whose intension under the instance reading is [[inst N]]. N can count subkinds iff
  - 1.  $\llbracket_{inst} N \rrbracket_{CLS}$  is spread over by a (non-singleton) set of properties  $\mathcal{R}$  s.t.
  - 2. every  $Q \in \mathcal{R}$  is denoted by a noun in L
- (Notionally) count nouns in Hungarian have cumulative reference. (sl.<u>38</u>)
- Subkinds being named by such nouns does not prevent object mass nouns from satisfying the condition.

#### Analysis: Object mass nouns

- N is a noun in language L whose intension under the instance reading is [[inst N]]. N can count subkinds iff
  - 1.  $\llbracket_{inst} N \rrbracket_{CLS}$  is spread over by a (non-singleton) set of properties  $\mathcal{R}$  s.t.
  - 2. every  $Q \in \mathcal{R}$  is denoted by a noun in L
- a. *Lőszer* can count subkinds because Hungarian has enough nouns to denote properties in a set that spreads over  $\llbracket_{inst}$  lőszer $\rrbracket_{CLS}$ .
- b. Ammunition cannot count subkinds; English lacks enough nouns to denote properties in a set that spreads over [[<sub>inst</sub> ammunition]]<sub>CLS</sub>.
  - English lacks enough nouns which name kinds of ammunition and range over plural sums of a single kind (e.g. 1

#### Analysis: Further issues

- The next slides address the following questions.
- 1. What is the source of the condition of subkind-countability?
- 2. What is its purpose?
- 3. Why does it appeal to nouns?
- 4. What are its cross-linguistic predictions?

#### Analysis: Source

- Proposal: The condition of subkind-countability is
- a definedness-condition on the output of a covert element roughlysynonymous with *kind*, notated SUBK.
- The same condition holds in Hungarian and English, but the difference in general number makes it so that
- 1. SUBK([[<sub>inst</sub> ammunition]]) is undefined
- 2. SUBK( [[inst *lőszer*]])

is defined

#### Analysis: Purpose

- Proposal: The purpose of the condition of subkind-countability is
- Preventing the output of SUBK from being the empty set.
- If a language has enough nouns to denote properties in a set that spreads over [[inst N]]<sub>CLS</sub>, then
- SUBK([[<sub>inst</sub> N]]) is guaranteed to be non-empty.
- A defined output of SUBK can include kinds that are not named by nouns. (contra Carlson 1980:§6.1-2)
  - 1. <u>Caged birds</u> are a popular **pet** in Afghanistan.  $[\underline{\gamma}]$
  - 2. <u>Filled pastries</u> are a common **snack** in Mexico. (enTenTen13)

#### Analysis: Appeal to nouns

- Proposal: The condition appeals to nouns to prevent triviality.
- (1-2) are denoted by nouns, (3) is not.
  - 1.  $\llbracket_{inst}$  hollow-point bullet $\rrbracket = \llbracket w_1 \rightarrow \{ \mathbb{P} \} \rrbracket$  (sl.45) 2.  $\llbracket_{inst}$  soft-point bullet $\rrbracket = \llbracket w_1 \rightarrow \{ \mathbb{P}_1, \mathbb{P}_2 \} \rrbracket$  (sl.45) 3.  $\llbracket w_1 \rightarrow \{ \mathbb{P}_1 \lor \mathbb{P}_2 \} \rrbracket$ 4.  $\llbracket_{inst}$  ammunition $\rrbracket_{CLS}$   $= \llbracket w_1 \rightarrow \{ \mathbb{P}_1 \lor \mathbb{P}_2 \} \rrbracket$  (sl.45)
- (4) is spread over by a set consisting of (1-3).
- Appealing to nouns constrains an otherwise trivial condition.

#### Analysis: Appeal to nouns

- Under the hypothesis that nouns but not NPs correspond to concepts,
  (Carlson 2010:§4, McNally 2017)
- The condition of subkind-countability checks whether the conceptcorrelate of the noun has enough sub-concepts in the language.
- In other words, it checks whether the concept-correlate of the noun is conceptually well-founded in the language.
- Thus, we say that subkind-countability is licensed by conceptual well-foundedness rather than disjointedness.
  - Contra Sutton & Filip (2018).

#### Analysis: Prediction

- The prediction concerns languages with (near-)synonyms that differ in instance-countability, e.g. Hungarian and English.
- 1. If the language has general number (e.g. Hungarian), then in each pair, members should have identical subkind-countability.
  - Either both can count subkinds or neither can.
- Borne out in that both members of each pair can count subkinds.

#### cannot count instances can count instances

- golyó 'bullet' a. lőszer 'ammunition' poharat (drinking) glass
- b. üvegáru 'glassware'
- c. ruházat 'apparel' ruha 'garment'

#### Analysis: Prediction

- The prediction concerns languages with (near-)synonyms that differ in instance-countability, e.g. Hungarian and English.
- 1. If the language has general number (e.g. Hungarian), then in each pair, members should have identical subkind-countability.
- 2. If the language lacks general number (e.g. English), then in some pairs, the two sorts of countability should pattern together.
- Borne out in pairs like *bullet* and *ammunition*, where
  - 1. *Bullet* can count instances and subkinds. (sl.<u>4</u>)
  - 2. Ammunition lacks both sorts of countability. (sl.4)

#### Analysis: Prediction

- The prediction concerns languages with (near-)synonyms that differ in instance-countability, e.g. Hungarian and English.
- 1. If the language has general number (e.g. Hungarian), then in each pair, members should have identical subkind-countability.
- 2. If the language lacks general number (e.g. English), then in some pairs, the two sorts of countability should pattern together.
- Thus far, the analysis has made correct predictions for Dutch (De Belder 2013), Hebrew, Japanese and Brazilian Portuguese (in prep).

#### Conclusion

- Subkind-countability is licensed by conceptual well-foundedness, not disjointedness. <sub>contra Sutton & Filip (2018)</sub>
- Two seemingly unrelated facts about Hungarian are correlated.
- 1. Bare (notionally) count nouns range over singularities and pluralities. (Farkas & de Swart 2003)
- 2. At least three object mass nouns can count subkinds, unlike their English counterparts.
  - *lőszer* 'ammunition', *üvegáru* 'glassware', *ruházat* 'apparel'

### Thank you!

The independence of instance and subkind countability Aviv Schoenfeld Kurt Erbach Tel Aviv University Universität Bonn 15<sup>th</sup> International Conference on the Structure of Hungarian August 26<sup>th</sup> 2021, 9:40-10:20, University of Pécs

#### Data: Hungarian

- Elicitation sessions with four native speaking Hungarian adult consultants (born and raised in Hungary in Hungarian speaking households; three from Budapest, one from Pécs).
- English was used as the meta-language. (Matthewson 2004)
- Consultants were asked to provide felicity judgments on a seven-point Likert scale from 1 (`very unnatural') to 7 (`very natural').
- They were invited to provide any thoughts that they had about the context and target item.

#### Data: Hungarian

- Lőszer 'ammunition' can count subkinds but not instances (sl.11).
- The same goes for *üvegáru* 'glassware' and *ruházat* 'apparel'.
- That these nouns cannot count instances is not due to their dictionary meaning; they have (near-)synonyms that can.
  - (cf. Wisniewski et al. 1996, Casey 1997)

	cannot count instances		can coun	t instances
1.	lőszer	'ammunition'	golyó	'bullet'
2.	üvegáru	'glassware'	poharat	'(drinking) glass
3.	ruházat	'apparel'	ruha	'garment'

#### Data: Hungarian

- *Lőszer* 'ammunition' can count subkinds but not instances (sl.11).
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- That these nouns cannot count instances is not due to their dictionary meaning; they have (near-)synonyms that can.
  - (cf. Wisniewski et al. 1996, Casey 1997)
- These (near-)synonyms can both count subkinds.
- 1. két golyó V 'two bullet units' V 'two kinds of bullets'
- 2. két lőszer  $\times$  'two units of ammo'  $\sqrt{100}$  (two kinds of ammo'

### Grimm & Levin (2017)



- $\mathcal{R}_1$  covers <sub>(and partitions)</sub> [[<sub>inst</sub> pet]], but its members are not denoted by *bird* or *rabbit* if w<sub>1</sub> has wild birds and wild rabbits.
- 1. Not every  $Q \in \mathcal{R}_2$ ,  $Q \subset \llbracket_{inst} pet \rrbracket$   $\mathcal{R}$
- 2. Every  $Q \in \mathcal{R}_2$ ,  $Q \cap \llbracket_{inst} pet \rrbracket \neq \lambda w. \emptyset$   $\mathcal{R}_2$  spreads over  $\llbracket_{inst} pet \rrbracket$

 $\begin{array}{l} \mathcal{R}_2 \text{ does not cover } \llbracket_{\text{inst}} \text{ pet} \rrbracket \\ \mathcal{R}_2 \text{ spreads over } \llbracket_{\text{inst}} \text{ pet} \rrbracket \end{array}$ 

$$\mathcal{R}_{1} = \{ [w_{1} \rightarrow \{ \underbrace{\mathbb{S}}_{pet} \} ], \qquad [w_{1} \rightarrow \{ \underbrace{\mathbb{S}}_{pet} \} ] \}$$

$$[ [w_{1} \rightarrow \{ \underbrace{\mathbb{S}}_{pet}, \underbrace{\mathbb{S}}_{pet} \} ]$$

$$\mathcal{R}_{2} = \{ [w_{1} \rightarrow \{ \underbrace{\mathbb{S}}_{pet}, \underbrace{\mathbb{S}}_{wild} \} ], \qquad [w_{1} \rightarrow \{ \underbrace{\mathbb{S}}_{pet}, \underbrace{\mathbb{S}}_{wild} \} ] \}$$

- N is a noun in language L whose intension under the instance reading is [[inst N]]. N can count subkinds iff
  - 1.  $\llbracket_{inst} N \rrbracket_{CLS}$  is spread over by a (non-singleton) set of properties  $\mathcal{R}$  s.t.
  - 2. every  $Q \in \mathcal{R}$  is denoted by a noun in L
- Pet can count subkinds because English has enough nouns to denote properties in a set that spreads over [[inst pet]]<sub>CLS</sub>.
  - e.g. bird, rabbit (sl.20)
- CLS plays no role with *pet*, but it does with *sport*.

#### Analysis: Spreading over, sport

- N is a noun in language L whose intension under the instance reading is [[inst N]]. N can count subkinds iff
  - 1.  $\llbracket_{inst} N \rrbracket_{CLS}$  is spread over by a (non-singleton) set of properties  $\mathcal{R}$  s.t.
  - 2. every  $Q \in \mathcal{R}$  is denoted by a noun in L
- [[inst sport]] instantiates sums of karate and swimming, but no noun that names a kind of sport ranges over such sums.
- Thus, [[inst sport]] is not spread over by a set of properties that are named by English nouns. (cf. sl.27)

#### Analysis: Spreading over, sport

- N is a noun in language L whose intension under the instance reading is [[inst N]]. N can count subkinds iff
  - 1.  $\llbracket_{inst} N \rrbracket_{CLS}$  is spread over by a (non-singleton) set of properties  $\mathcal{R}$  s.t.
  - 2. every  $Q \in \mathcal{R}$  is denoted by a noun in L
- [[inst sport]] instantiates sums of karate and swimming, but no noun that names a kind of sport ranges over such sums.
- Such sums are precluded from  $\llbracket_{inst}$  sport $\rrbracket_{CLS}$ . (cf. sl.27)
- Sport can count subkinds because English has enough nouns to denote properties in a set that spreads over [[inst sport]]<sub>CLS</sub>.
  - e.g. karate, swimming (sl.20)

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