

script

The Eyre Affair revisited

Modelling Identity statements in
fictional contexts



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Background: Diffuse identities in Evidentiary reasoning



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Police officer: When I heard that scream, I ran up the stairs to the room where the victim was. There I found the accused, with a bloodied knife in his hand

Defence solicitor: Is it not true that it took you more than three minutes to find the right room? In this time, the real murderer could have escaped through the window, couldn't he? So that when my client arrived at the scene shortly before you, he found the body of his wife lying there, and took the knife in an attempt to guard himself against whoever killed her?

Prosecution: According to your description of the scene of crime, is it not true that this "mysterious Mister X" would have had to jump down from the third floor, and then run across a busy street with blood all over his clothes?



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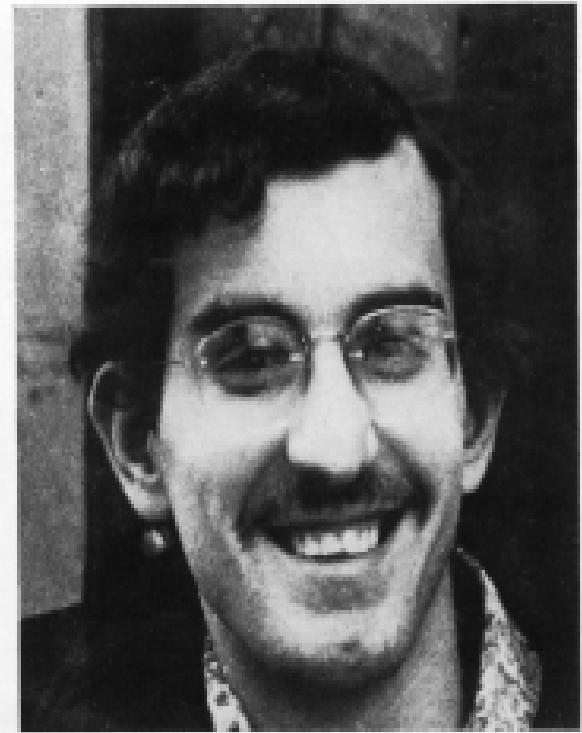
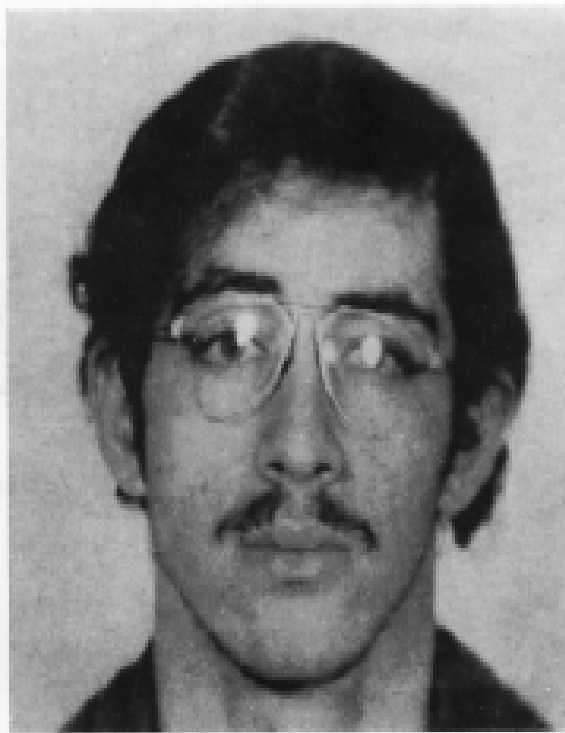
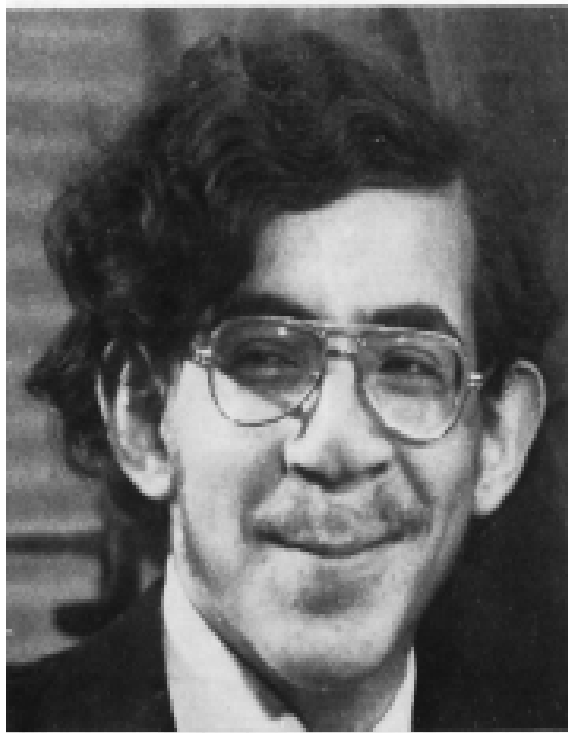
- Witness 1: Yeah, he was a black guy, with a red cap, running to his car. It was a Volvo
- Witness 2 (wife of 1): It was not a man, it was a girl, and she wasn't wearing a red cap but a red scarf. Also she wasn't really black, more tanned. Oh, and it was a Vectra



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Identical?



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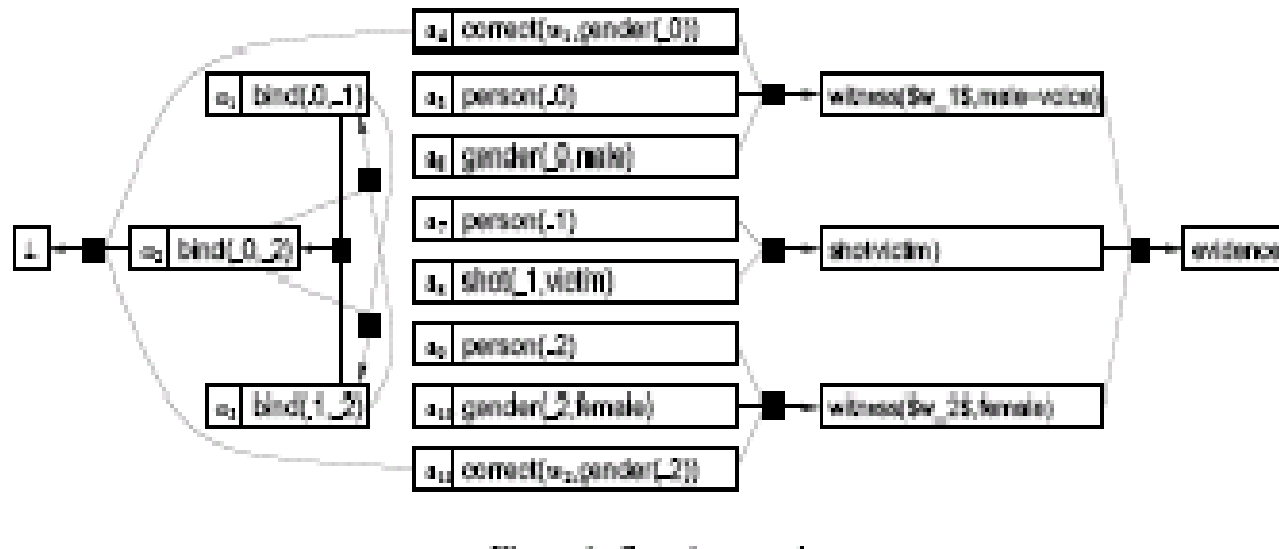
- **The most common cause of wrongful convictions in our judicial system is mistaken identification.**
--U.S. Dept. of Justice Study



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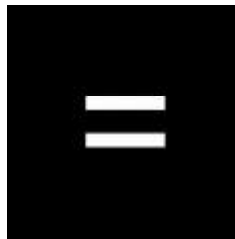
Pegs and Alecs



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The Question:



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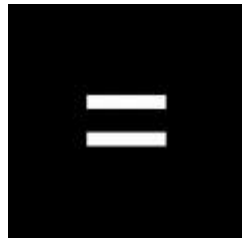
First Oder Logic

$$X = X$$



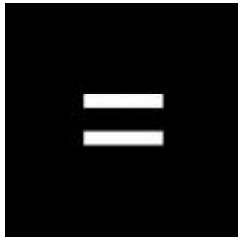
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Christmas Bunny

When Santa does the Easter bunny up the butt.



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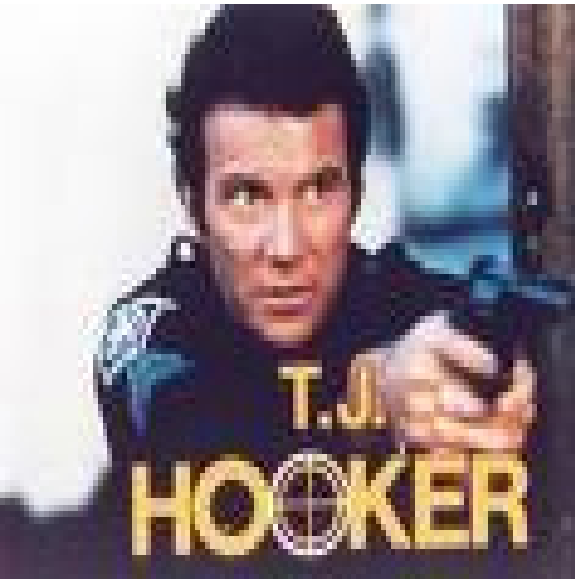
Second Order Logic Leibniz Identity

$$\forall x \forall y [x = y \rightarrow \forall P (Px \leftrightarrow Py)]$$



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Possible world semantics

- “I believe Kirk and Spock are Having an affair”
- =
- There is a possible world p that is compatible with everything I believe in the actual world a such that $L_p (P, K)$



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- Possibly, pigs fly iff according to the fiction of possible worlds (or according to PW), at some possible world, pigs fly.
- Therefore, if there is no possible world in which pigs fly, no flying animal is a pig



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- Kirk could possibly have an affair with Spock
- Kirk could not possibly be a 11 year old Wizard going to school at Hogwarts



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But

- Is this *really* a pig



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A rose by ANY other name?



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Some theories of cross world identity

- Genetic essentialism (Lewis)
- Rigid designation conventionalism (Kripke)
- Original Baptism (Rosenberg)

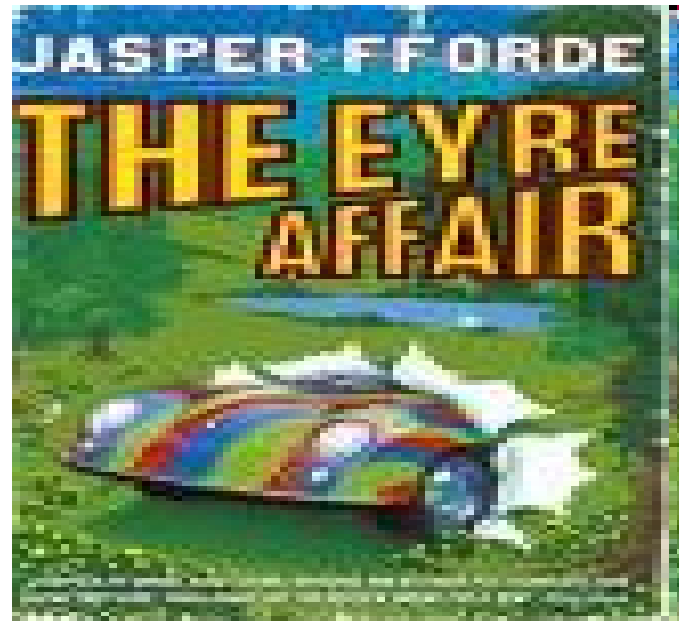


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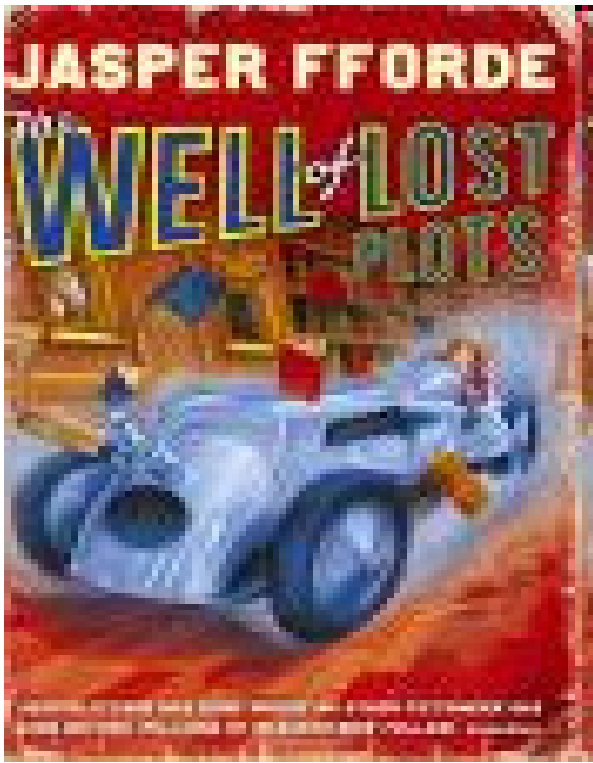
Jasper Fforde

- Would Jane Eyre Still be Jane Eyre if she never married Rochester



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- Raw text and the building blocks of fiction
- Role of the reader in creating fiction
- Essential Incompleteness of fictional actors
- Lack of self determination
- Generics as extreme case
- Jurisfiction: enforces naming convention



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Pickwick



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