From Discourse to Logic
Errata

John C. Kirk

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Overview

Book: From Discourse to Logic, Student Edition, first printing (paperback)
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Official book website:

(no errata page at present)

Status: I emailed Hans Kamp with a copy of this errata list on 2003-09-11, but to date I have not received any reply.

Errata

Page 69:

In (1.20), it should say "Gen = male" rather than "Gen = -hum"

Page 93:

Footnote 8 refers to [Lewis 1986], but that entry doesn't appear in the bibliography.

Page 95:

M_3 doesn't actually extend M_2 (as claimed on p96), because $owns_{M_3}$ doesn't include the tuple $<$c,f$>$. $fascinates_{M_3}$ is a superset of $fascinates_{M_2}$, but this would be clearer if $<$d,a$>$ appeared between $<$c,a$>$ and $<$c,b$>$, i.e. if all the elements of $fascinates_{M_2}$ came first followed by the new elements. N.B. This doesn't affect the truth of the DRSs in the models.

Page 96:

Does it actually make sense to say "$Pred_{M'}(Q) \cap U_M$"? This seems ok for unary predicates, but I would think that it has problems for n-ary predicates

when $n \geq 2$. For instance, if you take the intersection of $owns_{M_2}$ and U_{M_1}, you are comparing pairs (e.g. $<a,d>$) to individual elements (e.g. a), so I would expect the result to be either unspecified or an empty set. I would phrase the definition differently - something like: $Pred_M(Q) = \{< x_1, x_2, ..., x_n > \mid < x_1, x_2, ..., x_n >\in Pred_{M'}(Q) \wedge x_1 \in U_M \wedge x_2 \in U_M \wedge ... \wedge x_n \in U_M\}$

Page 132:

Minor typo: in the final paragraph, "DRS-conditons" should be "DRS-conditions".

p163:

In question 4, "him to Bill" should say "he to Bill".

Page 202:

It seems that the specialised variant of the construction rule "CR.OR" for NP is unnecessary, since the standard rule will do the job perfectly well.

In case (i), they are equivalent. You can verify this by using example (2.129): "Smith or Jones loves Lady Hermione".
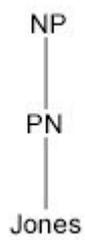
I also think that part (ii) of the NP variant is incorrect. Consider the sentence "Lady Hermione loves Smith or Jones", which we would like to split up into "Lady Hermione loves Smith or Lady Hermione loves Jones". The initial tree would be:
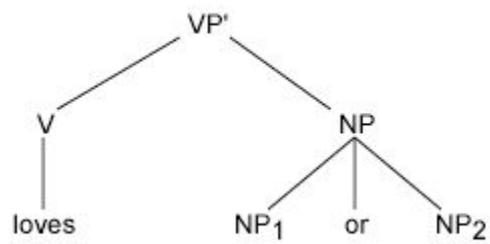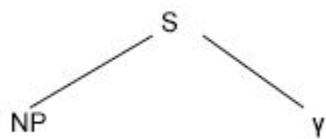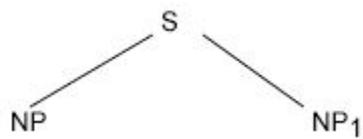

So, $NP_1 =$

NP
|
PN
|
Smith

and $NP_2 =$

NP
|
PN
|
Jones
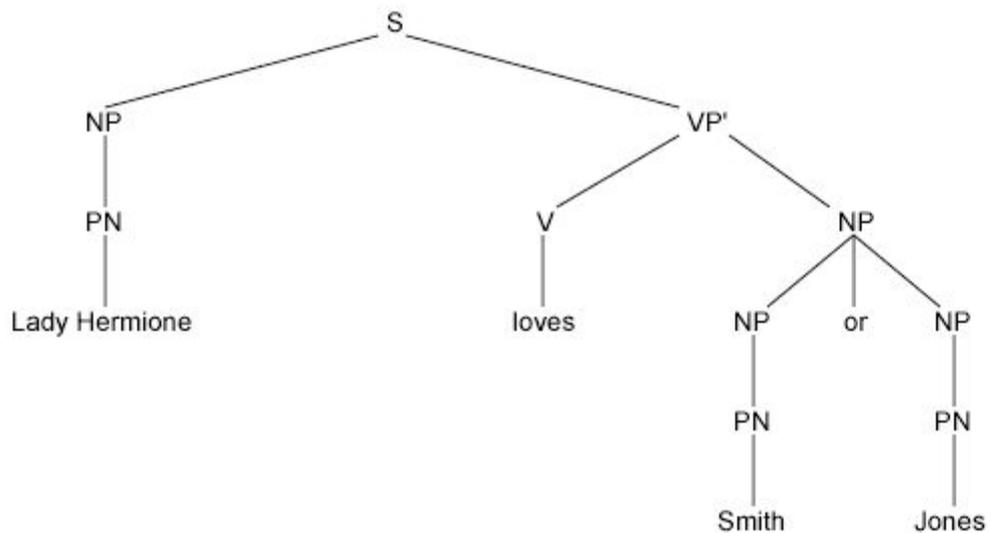
This would match condition (ii) of CR.OR(NP), where $\gamma =$

VP'
├── V
│   └── loves
└── NP
     ├── NP_1
     ├── or
     └── NP_2

and $\overline{\gamma} =$

S
├── NP
└── γ

So, following the bottom line of the construction rule, we would replace $\overline{\gamma}$ by:

S
├── NP
└── NP_1

or

$$S$$
$$NP \qquad NP_2$$
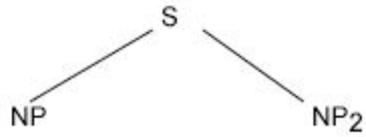
In other words, we would get "Lady Hermione Smith or Lady Hermione Jones", which isn't what we want.

As mentioned above, the original version of CR.OR (on p197) would be correct here, since it would substitute in NP_1 and NP_2 for the second NP in the original sentence.

Page 203:

Since CR.OR(NP) is redundant (as explained above), that means that CR.OR ($\neq NP$) is also redundant, as it is identical to the original CR.OR construction rule on page 197 (aside from the $X \neq NP$ line).

"(2.130)" should say "(2.131)"