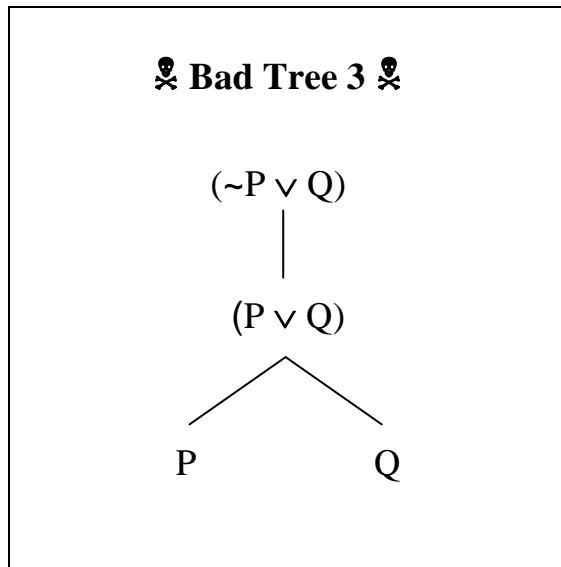


Chapter Three Construction Problems: Bad Trees #3, #4

Discussion

Problem: For each of the following **bad construction trees**, explain what **mistake** has been made in building that tree.

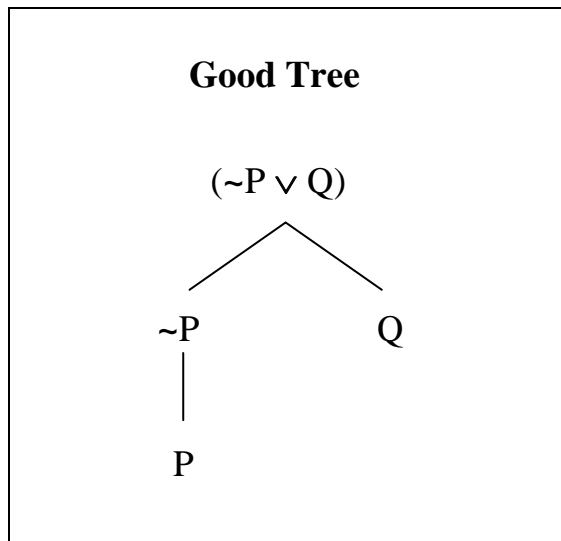
Discussion: Bad Tree #3 reads as follows.



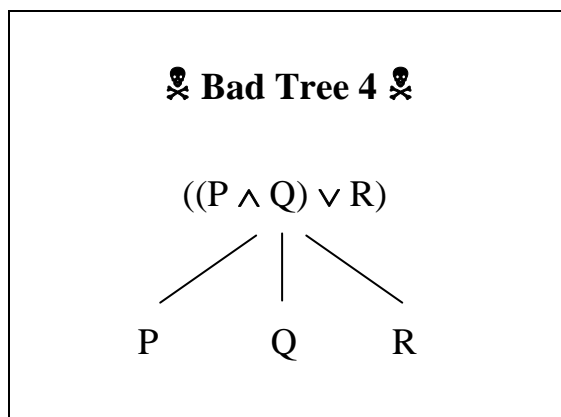
Though this sentence has both a vel and a tilde, the leftmost symbol of the sentence – a left parenthesis – makes clear that the sentence as a whole is a disjunction. For if it were a negation, the leftmost symbol would be a tilde.

Since the sentence is disjunction, it is unbuilt using Construction Rule 4 in reverse: remove the vel and its parentheses. But in this bad tree, the first step is instead to remove the tilde – in effect, applying Construction Rule 2 in reverse.

The proper tree for this sentence should instead go as follows.



Bad Tree #4 reads as follows.



Here a wedge, vel, and two pairs of parentheses are removed all in the same move. But that's madness: no construction rule adds a wedge, vel, and parentheses at once, so no rule in reverse will remove those at once.

The proper tree for this sentence is as follows

