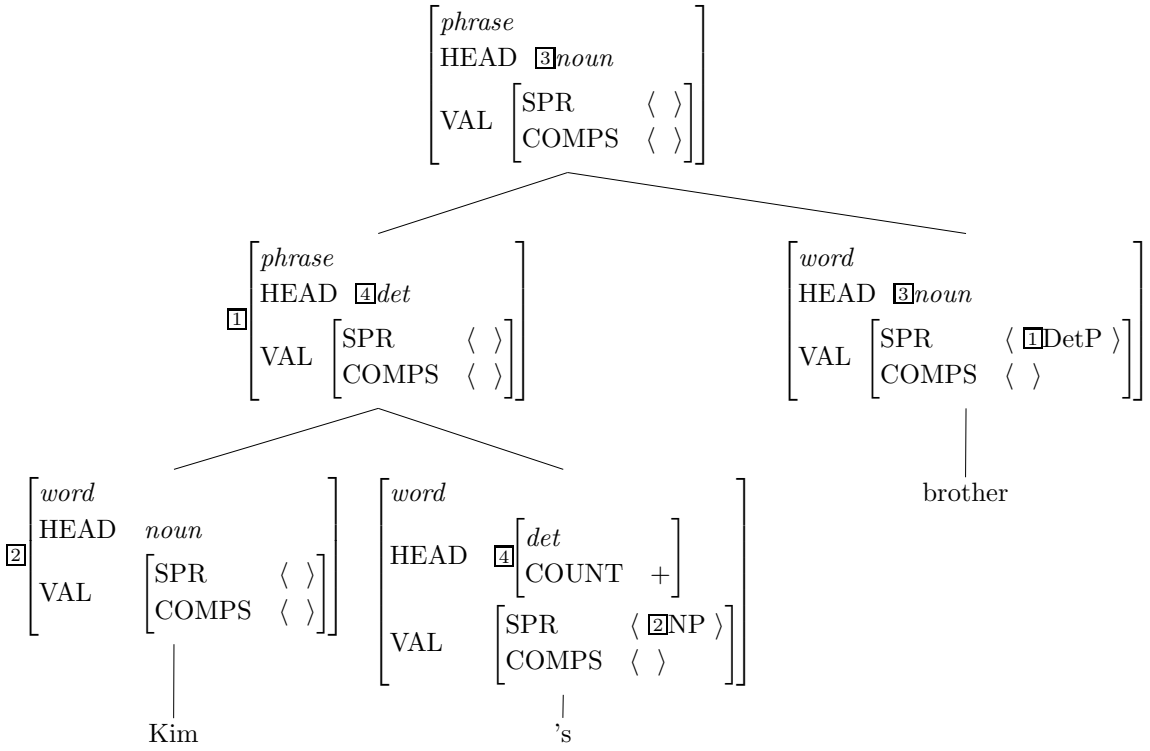
**Chapter 6, Problem 4: English Possessives II**

A.

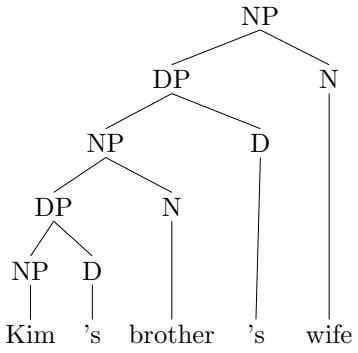
$$\left\langle \text{'s} , \begin{bmatrix} \textit{word} \\ \text{SYN} & \begin{bmatrix} \text{HEAD} & \textit{det} \\ \text{VAL} & \begin{bmatrix} \text{SPR} & \langle\ \text{NP}\ \rangle \\ \text{COMPS} & \langle\ \rangle \end{bmatrix} \end{bmatrix} \\ \text{SEM} & \begin{bmatrix} \dots \end{bmatrix} \end{bmatrix} \right\rangle$$

The following tree shows the essential elements we were looking for.




B. On this analysis, the lexical determiner *'s* takes an NP specifier (which precedes it, since English specifiers precede their heads). The phrase *the Queen of England* is an NP, so it can be the specifier for *'s*, forming the DP (determiner phrase), *the Queen of England's*, which can serve as the specifier for *crown*. *The Queen's* is a perfectly good DP, but in **the Queen's of England crown*, it is not followed by a head that takes a DP specifier.

C. This analysis can handle recursion in possessives due to the recursive nature of the NP and DP: Ds can take NPs as specifiers and Ns can take DPs as specifiers.




©2003 CSLI Publications