

Spurious Coordination? Multiple Wh-Questions in Slavic

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Multiple wh-questions (MWh's) and coordinated multiple wh-questions (CMWh's) have been claimed to systematically differ in interpretation in Slavic languages. (1) has a multiple-pair (MP) reading, (2) a single-pair (SP) reading. On some accounts (Kazenin 2002, Gribanova 2009) CMWh's are derived in exactly the same way as MWh's except for the coordinator "and" inserted in the course of derivation with the sole purpose of serving as a structural blocker for quantifier absorption resulting in MP (Gribanova 2009). The "source" of the coordinator is left unexplained, and no reason is given as to why the blocker has to take the form of "and" but not e.g. "or". I will discuss important interpretive facts against a monoclausal analysis of CMWh's and in favor of an analysis involving ellipsis.

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|-----|-------------------------------------|-----|---------------------------|-------|
| (1) | Kto i kakoj gorod zaxvatil? | (2) | Kto kakoj gorod zaxvatil? | (Rus) |
| | who and which city conquered | | who which city conquered | |
| | Who conquered which city? | | Who conquered which city? | |

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