Headedness of Compound Words in Minimalist Framework  
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Structures of compound words have been analyzed in many different ways in both the Principal and Parameter approach and the Minimalist Program framework. In this paper, the author criticizes the theory of productive recursive compound words proposed by Roeper, Snyder and Hiramatsu (2002). They propose a Root Compounding Parameter, according to which some languages permit set-merger (Chomsky 1998, 2000) of two lexical items a and b where a, by definition, takes b as complement, so a is the head. Then b moves and adjoins (by pair-merger) to the root of the compound. This is the derivation of a two-member compound. To form a three-member compound headed by a, a new lexical item c is inserted in the position of the trace of b, after deleting the trace.

In this paper, the author first claims that derivation of different types of productive recursive compound words in Japanese, English and Swedish can be analyzed in this theory. Then, this theory is criticized in the following ways. Firstly, there is no functional category to allow movement. For example, it is not possible to derive a compound word, such as [restauranti [the coffeej cup ti,j AP]] (see (1) in the next page). Thus, the theory is not economical. Another criticism is that this theory does not adhere to the Minimalist Program of phrase structure building, as it violates the Extension Condition (Chomsky 1993, 1995). This condition prohibits using the clitic position to introduce another modifier to derive a compound. Finally, it is not possible to limit the occurrence of regular plural marker between the two lexical items of compound words (*Christmas-es cookie). If their analysis is correct, it is necessary to assume that the lexical item in the clitic position is only a root, not a stem with an inflection marker.

At the end of this paper, an alternative analysis for compound words in the languages in question is proposed within the Minimalist Program. All the problems in the Roeper’s theory can be solved in the following ways. Firstly, there is no movement to derive a compound word, but simply the operation merge is involved in the derivation. Secondly, the Extension Condition is not violated, since another modifier is numerated from the lexicon and merged at root with the other two merged items. Most importantly, the question of headedness is accounted for without movement. The requirement asymmetry is provided by a linking element with abstract Case features which are percolated to the higher node. This linking element is phonetically empty in English and Japanese productive compound words whereas it exists in some Scandinavian languages and genitive compound words in English and Japanese. Another advantage is that it is possible to limit the occurrence of regular plural marker between the two lexical items of compound words. The items numerated in the derivation are a morpheme without word class features, including semantic, morphological and syntactic features. Thus, the impossibility of the compound word, such as Christmas-es cookie is already predicted before the derivation takes place. Moreover, the present analysis can be used not only for productive compound words, but also for lexicalised compound words. Lexicalised compound words are derived in the same ways as productive ones. This is based on the assumption that there is a triune lexicon which includes List of Morphemes, the derivation, LF-lexicon and PF-lexicon (Platzack 1993). The existence of this lexicon is necessary to show the connection between meaning, sound and the derivation in non-redundant fashion.
(1) Impossible derivation of restaurant-the-coffee-cup in Roeper’s analysis

```
  N
   / \
  N   N
 restaurant the
   / \    N
  N   N
   coffee cup   ACP
                trace
                (coffee)
                (the)
                (restaurant)
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(2) An alternative analysis in this paper

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  N^0[CASE]
   /   \
  stem N^0[CASE]
      /   \
   stem N^0[CASE]
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References