Macro-Micro Type Multiple Accusative Constructions Without Movement or Deletion*

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Youngju Choi. 2011. Macro-Micro Type Multiple Accusative Constructions Without Movement or Deletion. Studies in Modern Grammar 66, 243-271. This paper argues against micro-parametric approaches to Korean macro-micro type multiple accusative constructions. It has been argued that macro-micro type multiple accusative constructions are derived through movement and deletion or through late merge of the second accusative marked nominal. However, the approaches cannot explain case alternation facts when the target construction is combined with -ko siphta. The paper claims that if the construction is explained under the assumption that dependent marking languages like Korean and Japanese use a different mode of syntactic combination from English, the case alternation facts in the ko-siphta construction are readily explained. Dependent marking languages use dependent markers (i.e., case markers) in deriving syntactic derivation and using accusative marked nominals consecutively without having intervening predicates in a sentence is interpreted as a very convenient device for squeezing ideas into one clause without explicitly expressing the relationship between the nominals.

Key words: macro–micro type multiple accusative constructions, movement, deletion, dependent marking parameter

0. Introduction

Korean allows various types of multiple accusative constructions as shown in (1).

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(1) a. Cheli-ka Yenghi-lul phal-ul cap-ass-ta  
   C-Nom Y-Acc arm-Acc catch-Pst-Dcl  
   'Cheli caught Yenghi’s arm'            (Possession type)

b. Cheli-ka kkoch-ul cangmi-lul sa-ss-ta  
   C-Nom flower-Acc rose-Acc buy-Pst-Del  
   'Cheli bought a flower, that is, rose'    (Macro-micro type)

c. Cheli-ka yenge-lul kongpuw-lul hay-ss-ta  
   C-Nom English-Acc study-Acc do-Pst-Del  
   'Cheli studied English'            (Predicate Nominal type)

Among them, the possession type has attracted researchers’ interest the most  
the construction is formed from possessor raising or not. Recently,  
macro-micro type (M-M type) multiple accusative constructions have also  
been discussed regarding how the construction is derived syntactically  
ideas from minimalism such as late-merge, copy and deletion, and deletion  
after movement seem to  be used to derive them. The first idea is to regard  
the second accusative marked nominal (Acc-nominal) as an adjunct which  
is introduced late in the computation (Y. Jang 2005). The most challenging  
fact against the claim is found where the second Acc-nominal should be  
regarded as an argument. When a multiple accusative construction is  
negated, the negation applies only to the second Acc-nominal, rather than  
to the first Acc-nominal, which is problematic in the late-merge approach.  
An alternative idea is to assume that the construction involves deletion  
second Acc-nominal is copied and elements in the first and second  
Acc-nominals are partially deleted, leaving what is seen in the surface  
structure. Y. Kim (2006, 2010), presenting another version of the deletion