Types of Compounds: esp. Types of Copulative Compounds

1 Types of Compounds

1.1 Determinative Compounds

First constituent (X) restricts the denotation of the second (Y).

- coffee cup, flash light, desktop publishing \( X + Y \)
- Kaffeetasse, Taschenlampe, Computergrafik \( X|Y \)

1.2 Copulative Compounds

Representation of a coordinative relationship between the two concepts (X Y), that are both attributed simultaneously to one individual.

- poet-doctor, diplomat-playboy, songwriter-producer-arranger \( X - Y \)
- Dichter-Fürst, Dichter-Schauspieler, Autor-Regisseur \( X - Y \)

1.3 Possessive Compounds

An entity characterized by the property named; An XY is something that has a X Y.

- greybeard, skinhead, bigfoot \( XY \)
- Krauskopf, Humpelbein, Plattfuß \( XY \)
2 Copulative Compounds in Sanskrit

In Sanskrit copulative compounds do not refer to a single individual, but to several individuals or an amount of individuals.

- \textit{hastyacvau} = elephant (hastin) + horse (acva) + dual: the elephant AND the horse
- \textit{hastyacvas} = elephant + horse + plural: three or more elephants AND horses

Only copulative compounds can contain more than two constituents. (\(\Rightarrow\) simple, flat structure?)

Dual inflection came to marking the final constituent, which had also primary accent and determined gender and inflectional class.

- \textit{simhavyaghrau} = lion (simha) + leopard (vyaghra) + dual: the lion AND the leopard \(\Rightarrow\) group of two animals
  vs. \textit{lion-leopard} \(\Rightarrow\) a leopard with features of a lion or a hermaphrodite?
  vs. \textit{Löwenleopard} \(\Rightarrow\) Leopard mit Löwen-Eigenschaften o. Zwirrtier?
  lionleopards/Löwenleoparde = two or more similar animals

\(\Rightarrow\) in English and German an XY is something that has X and Y as parts
- \textit{Time-Warner, Rank-Xerox, Sony CBS, Chrysler-Daimler}
- \textit{Baden-Württemberg, Raiffaisen-Volksbank, Shell-BP}
2.1 A Matter of Morphology

The morphological system of Sanskrit leads to the meaning of the copulative compounds (Fanselow). A morpheme makes always clear whether the compound refers to two individuals (dual-morpheme) or more than two (plural-morpheme) $[\mu]: X + Y + \mu$

In German and English it is impossible to combine names, as it would be possible in Sanskrit.

- *Schröder-Fischer, Bush-Powell
- *Elbe-Elster-Oder, Mississipi-Missouri

But names can occur in plural.

- *the Clintons = set of individuals (Bill, Hillary and Chelsea Clinton)
- *die Borers = das Ehepaar Borer (Thomas und Shawne Fielding-B.)

but:

- *Bill-Hillary
- *Thomas-Shawne

In German front constituent has never plural meaning, only „Fugenmorpheme“ $[\ell]$ (historically Genetiv Singular) can occur.

- *Professorensohn, Freundeskreis, Kindergeburtstage

2.2 Copulative Compounds of Adjectives in Sanskrit

Copulative compounds of adjectives (composed the same way as nouns) are rare. The relation can be AND, OR, THOUGH and BUT.

- *cuklakrsna = light AND dark
- *jayaparajaya = victory OR defeat
- *priyasatya = agreeable THOUGH true
- *prarthitadurlabha = sought after BUT hard to obtain
3 Copulative Compounds in Romance

General difference: left-headedness and both constituents are stressed (indication of syntactic conjunction)

Two types of compounds:
left-headed determinative and copulative compounds

• ciudad dormitorio = bedroom community
• cantante-actor = singer-actor

right-headed compounds are rare (generally borrowed from Germanic)

• autoescuela = car school

copulative compounds are dually headed, evidently in plural forms

• poeta-pintor – poetas-pintores = poet-painter(s)
• actor-bailarin – actores-bailarines = actor-dancer(s)
• amigo-enemigo – amigos-enemigos = friend-enemy(s)
• panaderia-pasteleria – panaderias-pastelerias = bakery-confectionary(s)
when meaning not `X and Y´, but `X serving as Y´ or `X like Y´, double plural is possible, but trend is towards plural of first constituent

- `coche-casa – coches-casa – coches-casas` = camper (lit. car-house)
- `hombre-rana – hombres rana` = diver (lit. man-frog)

left-headed compounds in Spanish (not copulative) are pluralized on left constituent only, where the gender is also determined in case of gender-conflict:

- `ano luz – anos luz` = light year(s)
- `pez espada – peces espada` = sword fish

- `un cantante-actor` = a-masc. singer + actor-masc.
- `una cantante-actriz` = a-fem. singer + actor-fem.
- `un coche-casa` = a-masc. car-masc. + house-fem.

Italian:
- `cassapancha – cassepanche` = box-seat(s)

Portuguese:
- `actor-encenador – actores-encenadores` = actor-producer(s)

French:
- `guide-interprete – guides-interpretes` = guide-interpretator(s)

In Romanic languages compounds are close to syntactic structures, and are not as freely formable as in Germanic languages => `syntactic words´ or `fixed phrases´.

low degree of productivity ./. high degree of lexicalization
4 A Kind of Conclusion

- a language with determinative compounds will also have copulative compounds (like Germanic)
- but not vice versa (Romance)
- a language with productive possessive compounds will also have determinative compounds (like Sanskrit)

poss. comp. => det. comp. => cop. comp.

It seems as if Romance does not have any clear type of compounding at all.

Romance endocentric => difficult to reanalyze (the grammar is realized within the word) $X + \mu + Y$

Germanic exocentric => easy to analyze (when the lexical concept is over the grammatic concept is realized) $X + Y + \mu$

A morphological copulative stem can never:
- denote a disjunction of qualities (like or/but/though/and in Sanskrit)
- refer to a group of distinct indivuals
5 Copulative Compounds in English and German

5.1 Marking of Categories

Plural, gender and cases are determined by the second constituent.

- *der Linguist-Psychologe, die Linguist-Psychologin / die Linguistin-Psychologin*
- *der Opfer-Zeuge, die Opfer-Zeugin*
- *der Schauspieler-Regisseur, die Schauspieler-Regisseure*
- *der Ingenieur-Student, die Ingenieur-Studenten*
- *des/dem Ingenieur-Studenten, den Ingenieur-Studenten*

- *the writer-director Woody Allen*
- *the writer-directors John Musker and Ron Clements*
- *the writer-director-actors Paul Mazursky, Harold Ramis*

5.2 Structure

are such copulatives flat structured?

- *songwriter-producer-arranger-friend*
  [[[songwriter] producer] arranger] friend]*
- *brain size-body size proportions*
  [[[brain size] [body size]] proportions]*
5.3 Determinative ./ Copulative

Is it rather a determinative meaning than a copulative?

- *Arztbruder* = Arzt und Bruder ./ Bruder eines Arztes
- *Spieler-Trainer, Kinder-Gangster*
- Is an office-tent a tent-office? Is a comedy-drama a drama-comedy?

Ordering by relevance:

- *actor-environmentalist* (e.g. Robert Redford’s new initiative)
- *actor-director* (e.g. Rob Reiner, who acts rarely)
- *director-actor* (e.g. Robert de Niro, who directed just a few films)
- what about Woody Allen (number of films directed \( \approx \) films acted in) – must I stress his directing or acting – is there a neutral way?

Ordering by time- or cause-relations:

- *murder-suicide, kidnapper-killer*

**Problem**: no clear formal distinction between determinative and copulative compounds

5.4 Complexity = Limit

Jürgen Mlynek, the president of Humboldt-University / the Humboldt-University president, a Physics-professor and a father

=> *Humboldt-University president-Physics professor-father* Mlynek

Kennerly was co-writer and co-executive producer

=> *co-writer-co-executive producer* Kennerly

Complexity = limit of copulatives?

suffixes (-er [singer, producer etc.], -ian [comedian, technician etc], -ist [novelist, humanist etc]) are normal in copulatives

prefixes are rather unusual
6 Types of Copulatives

6.1 Profession + Characteristic Activity
• actor-environmentalist, director-pilot, screenwriter-hermit
• Schauspieler-Umweltschützer, Regisseur-Pilot, Autor-Eremit

6.2 Profession + Property
• gangster-prophet, poet-drunkard, manager-friend
• Wissenschaftler-Säufer, Manager-Freund, Tischler-Humanist

6.3 Characteristic Properties
• nerd-genius, owner-driver, lion-human
• Besitzer-Fahrer, Löwenmensch

6.4 Profession + Kinship
• lawyer-son, steelworker-father, actress-wife
• Anwaltsohn / Anwalt-Sohn, Stahlarbeitervater / Stahlarbeiter-Vater, Schauspieleringattin / Schauspielerin-Gattin

6.5 X - Y + Z
Z denotes a relation between X and Y
• man-wife team, Ohio-Idaho game, German-French dispute, cost-benefit analysis, USA-Canada border, Schröder-Fischer policy etc.
• Mann-Frau-Team, Deutschland-England-Wettstreit, Kosten-Nutzen-Analyse, Polar-Subpolar-Grenze, Schröder-Fischer-Politik