A Note on NP/DP Parameter: Left Branch Extraction in Korean

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Kim, Sun-Woong. 2011. A Note on NP/DP Parameter: Left Branch Extraction in Korean. Linguistic Research 28(2), 257-269. According to Bošković’s (2008, 2010a, 2010b) NP/DP parameter, DP languages obey the Left Branch Condition (LBC) whereas NP languages do not. English, for example, obeys LBC but Serbo-Croatian (SC) and Russian, which are NP languages, allow left branch extraction (LBE). Korean, which is also allegedly an NP language, however, does not allow LBE. This is unexpected to Bošković (2008, 2010a, 2010b) since his theory predicts that Korean, as an NP language, would rule in LBE examples for Korean has no LBC in effect. Faced with this problem, this paper pursues the possibility that Korean would still belong to the NP language type but the seeming violation of LBC is due to a failure to satisfy the morphological requirement that Korean adnominals need a host for morphological completion. This analysis is confirmed by the repair by deletion facts of Korean and is further expanded to explain the apparent violations of the Korean morphological requirement, which are reported in Korean right dislocation and left node raising examples. (Kwangwoon University)

Key Words NP/DP parameter, NP language, DP language, left branch extraction, left branch condition, right dislocation, left node raising