Abstract

The aim of this dissertation is to provide the base-generation approach to the long-distance scrambling as well as clause-internal scrambling in Korean. The term “scrambling” refers to free word order variation in languages like Dutch, Japanese and Korean, which allow an adjunct to interrupt the adjacency complement-verb.

Since Ross (1967) considered scrambling to be a stylistic PF phenomenon, over the last decades, many linguists have handled scrambling as a syntactic phenomenon (Saito 1985, and among others). There have been three different analyses to scrambling in Korean. The first analysis assumes that scrambling involves A-movement. According to Miyagawa (1997, 2003)’s view, scrambling is a movement to [Spec, TP] for case checking and scrambled elements can bind anaphors in their c-command position. The second analysis considers scrambling as A’-movement. A’-movement is a movement higher than [Spec, TP] for focus. It has also reconstruction (Miyagawa 1997, 2003). In addition, Mahajan(1990) proposes that scrambling in Hindi has both A and A’ properties, which correspond respectively to the different landing sites.
The third analysis considers scrambling as base-generated structures. In line with Chomsky’s minimalist framework (1995), movement analyses violate Last Resort principle, which means syntactic operations apply only when necessary. Bőskovic and Takahashi (1998) point out that there is no driving force of the movement. For them, scrambling elements are base-generated in the surface non-Θ position and then undergo LF lowering to the Θ-position to check Θ-role. Apart from Bőskovic and Takahashi’s view, Neeleman and Hans van de Koot (2005) propose that not only are scrambling elements base-generated in the surface position but also they do not need LF lowering. Instead, Θ-marking is satisfied by the selectional requirement, conditioned by c-command.

Overall, two types of scrambling such as A-scrambling vs. A’-scrambling have been widely discussed in the literature. A-scrambling has A-properties via A-movement, while it can also have A-properties via base-generation (Neeleman and Hans van de Koot 2005). Even though the base-generation analysis of A-scrambling has been quite controversial, we support the base-generation in clause-internal construction by virtue of scope reconstruction. On the other hand, A’-scrambling can be analyzed focus movement through A’-movement. Moreover, A’-scrambling has reconstruction effects for binding by virtue of anaphor.

In this dissertation, following Neeleman and Hans van de Koot (2005), we support that a scrambled element is base-generated and that scrambling is a base-generation structure. We also suggest that the possibility of base-generation with pro in LD construction in Korean. In short, we argue that scrambling in Korean cannot be explained by the mechanism
of movement in terms of scope reconstruction. In addition, we propose that LD construction has not a trace but a covert resumptive pronoun, a pro that involves a base-generated structure.