



NOMINAL LEXEMES IN DERIVATIONAL REDUPLICATION OF MANDARIN

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ABSTRACT

Reduplication is a one of the creative ways in Mandarin. People usually reduplicate to express more deep lexical meaning or semantic meaning vividly. Reduplication is a process of forming new words by repeating an entire free morpheme (total reduplication) or part of it (partial reduplication). Morphologically, functions of Chinese reduplication may place categorically within the derivational domain of lexemes. In fact, whereas derivation typically forms new lexemes and can be category changing, reduplication often conveys values typically found in the inflectional domain. With using test of categorical word and test of lexical decomposition, this research achieves shed new light on the reduplicative processes. As result, in nominal domain, reduplication gives as a result plural noun. In derivational domain, nominal lexeme in reduplication has flexible distribution of lexical items.

Keywords: nominal lexemes, derivational, Mandarin, reduplication

INTRODUCTION

Mandarin is spoken around Beijing and forms the basis of the country's national language. (Kridalaksana, 2008: 205). Reduplication is one of the most productive word formation phenomena in Mandarin, as we will see throughout this research. Reduplication in Mandarin is a creative phenomenon,

virtually affecting all major lexical categories (nouns, verbs, adjectives). This research will investigate one of lexeme in these lexical categories, nominal lexeme.

Typologically, Rubino (2005:13) liststwo types of reduplication are distinguished based on the size of the Chinese reduplicant: full reduplication and partial re-



duplication. Full reduplication involves a reduplication of the entire word. Full word lexical reduplication: 年 *nián* 'year' > 年年 *nián nián* 'every year'. Reduplicated monosyllabic nouns like 年年 *nián nián* are abbreviated as AA pattern. Partial reduplication involves a reduplication of only part of the word. For example, 毛雨 *máo yǔ* 'drizzle (dialect language, informal)' > 毛毛雨 *máo máo yǔ* 'drizzle (formal)'. Reduplicated monosyllabic nouns like 毛毛雨 *máo máo yǔ* are abbreviated as AAB pattern.

Chinese reduplication syllables are usually facilitated as symbols A and symbol B, symbol A is used for the first syllable in reduplication, symbol 'B' is used to express the second syllable consisting of two syllables. Research on reduplication pattern (except semantic reduplication patterns) in Chinese is determined by Chinese scholars: AA pattern, AAB pattern, ABB pattern, BBA pattern, AABB pattern, A li AB pattern, and ABAB pattern. Based on the data examined, patterns relate to reduplication of nouns are AA pattern, AAB pattern and AABB pattern. E.g.

(a) AA pattern: 年 *nián* 'year' > 年年 *nián nián* 'every year';

杠 *gàng* 'underline' > 杠杠 *gàng gàng* 'underlines'.

(b) Pola AAB: 毛雨 *máo yǔ* drizzle (informal) > 毛毛雨 *máo máo yǔ* 'drizzle';

窝头 *wō tóu* 'local bread (informal)' > 窝窝头 *wō wō tóu* 'steamed corn bread'.

(c) Pola AABB: 坑洼 *kēng wā* 'hole' > 坑坑洼洼 *kēng kēng wā wā* 'holes';

里外 *lǐ wài* 'outside and inside' > 里里外外 *lǐ lǐ wài wài* 'from inside to outside'.

From cases above, some problems are caused by the reduplication process. In the case (c) above, lexeme 里外 *lǐ wài* and 坑洼 *kēng wā* are both nominal domain, and equally duplicated with the AABB pattern, the reduplicative meanings which are resulted from these two words are totally different. As for disyllabic reduplicated nouns 坑坑洼洼 *kēng kēng wā wā*, the disyllabicity of the base 坑洼 *kēng wā* point to uncontroversially nominal bases. But category 里外 *lǐ wài* is changed by AABB pattern. Reduplication of 里外 *lǐ wài* 'outside and inside' is 里里外外 *lǐ lǐ wài wài* 'from inside to outside', which manifests property of lexeme



formation and, formally, approaches derivational phenomena of reduplication.

Actually, while derivation typically forms new lexemes can change category and lexical meaning (Verhaar, 1983:152—153), reduplication often conveys values typically found in the inflectional domain. Functions of reduplication are difficult to place categorically within the derivational domain of lexemes. But reduplication changes category like the examples in (a) and (c). For investigate these derivational phenomena in Mandarin, this research will focus to find what meaning can be associated various forms of reduplication which is formed by nominal lexeme, and after observing the change of category and lexical meaning we will address the issue of whether reduplicative process applies to derivational process or inflectional process.

THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

Reduplication in Mandarin called 叠词 *dié cí*. According to 新华字典 *xīn huá zì diǎn* (Mandarin Dictionary) (2012: 325) defined as 'Reduplication is the process of repeating words or elements'.

To analyze reduplication in Mandarin, the concepts and theories need to be explained here. Chū Zéxiáng, (2018:173--183) *The Principle of Complementary Distribution of Chinese Morphological Reduplication and Syntactic Reduplication* defined reduplication in Mandarin as (1) repetition; (2) reduplication; (3) and repetitive clause. phonological reduplication or repetition has no basis. Meaning does not have a basic word, some examples are given by Zéxiáng, 孜孜 *zī zī* means 'diligently' in the Mandarin language, but 孜 *zī* is not a meaningful morpheme. A repetitive clause is a phrase or clause repeated in a sentence, for example '没有,没有。' *méi yǒu méi yǒu* means 'no, no.' The repeated element is a clause.

Lǐ yàn (2010:55-57) lists that nouns, verbs, and adjectives are often developed with certain additional restrictions. At the level of syntax, words and their development can be called phrases in Mandarin. Because of this, noun reduplication analysis needs to be distinguished from phrases through their forms, for example 棒棒糖 *bàng bàng táng* 'lollipop' consists of the adjective 棒棒 *bàng bàng* 'with a stick / stem' + 糖 *táng* 'candy / sugar' > 棒棒糖 *bàng bàng táng*



táng 'candy stick' is a compound phrase or word that looks like an AAB pattern.

METHOD OF RESEARCH

This research investigates the derivational reduplication in Mandarin. The derivation sometimes changes the categorical base word. Therefore, it's necessary to check if the reduplication of nouns is derivational and inflectional. Two tests will be used as proposed by Verhaar (1983:152—153), (1) test of categorical word; (2) test of lexical decomposition;

Test (1) can be used to determine whether reduplication is derivational or paradigmatic/inflectional, using observational techniques to observe the property of the relevant base word. Derivation typically forms new reduplication and can be category or lexical meaning changing. If reduplication doesn't make a change in the categorical base word, the resulting categorical reduplication is the same as the categorical base word base word, test (1) can't be used and test (2). And if duplicated noun dose not display changing property, which means that is inflectional reduplication.

NOMINAL BASES + AA PATTERN

Monosyllabic bases can reduplicate as A > AA. Nouns can reduplicate in Mandarin, delivering an entire increasing function, although these AA reduplications no longer seem to be creative.

4.1.1 'Every or each': Noun Quantifier + AA Pattern

AA pattern are productive with nominal bases. However, whether or not the AA pattern seems to depend on the meaning and the semantic characteristics of the bases. Only nominal bases that have a noun quantifier (noun hasquantificational meaning) can contain AA pattern with the meaning 'every or each'. (Wú yín, 2001:13-15).

- (a) 年 *nián* 'year' > 年年 *nián nián* 'every year';
- (b) 家 *jiā* 'family' > 家家 *jiā jiā* 'every family';
- (c) 天 *tiān* 'day' > 天天 *tiān tiān* 'every day';
- (d) 月 *yuè* 'month' > 月月 *yuè yuè* 'month';
- (e) 岁 *sù* 'year (old)' > 岁岁 *sù sù* 'every year '.



as shown by the cases above (a) -- (e), where each of reduplication contains the quantifier 每 *měi* 'every or each'. Going back to research topic, reduplication of monosyllabic nouns properly expresses a 'every or each' meaning, which manifests property of lexeme, and some of categorical bases have been changed. As Verhaar's (1983:152—153) test of lexical decomposition said, derivation typically forms new lexeme can change lexical meaning of bases. Reduplicative process noun quantifier + AA pattern is a derivational process.

4.1.2 'Plural' on AA Pattern

Reduplication is attested with a variety of meanings; this phenomenon is associated with its prototypical function of intensification. In its, In the nominal, reduplication gives as a result plural noun, this may show one of the reduplicative values in Mandarin:

- (a) 星 *xīng* 'star' > 星星 *xīng xīng* 'stars';
- (b) 杠 *gàng* 'line' > 杠杠 *gàng gàng* 'lines'.

The data above show that duplicated noun does not display changing property, reduplication 星星 *xīng xīng* 'stars' and relevant base 星 *xīng* 'star' has the same category status.

NOMINAL LEXEME + AABB PATTERN

Disyllabic bases can reduplicate as AB > AABB. As we have seen, reduplicated monosyllabic nouns have 'every/each' or 'plural' meaning. In fact, Disyllabic nouns have 'plural' meaning too, and 'every/each' meaning more varied at AABB pattern. Reduplicated monosyllabic nouns are known as have a distributive meaning (Wú yín, 2001:13-15; S Ikeda, 2015:292-295, Zhāng fīshēng, 1999:59-60).

4.2.1 'Distributive' on AABB Pattern

As for disyllabic reduplicated nominal lexeme, the disyllabicity of the base point to uncontroversially nature nominal bases.

- (1) 年岁 *nián suì* 'year' > 年年岁岁 *nián nián suì suì* 'every year';
- (2) 分秒 *fēn miǎo* 'minute' > 分分秒秒 *fēn fēn miǎo miǎo* 'every minute';
- (3) 村寨 *cūn zhài* 'village' > 村村寨寨 *cūn cūn zhài zhài* 'every village';
- (4) 里外 *lǐ wài* 'inside outside' > 里里外外 *lǐ lǐ wài wài* 'from inside to outside';



- (5) 上下 *shàng xià* ‘top bottom’ > 上上下下
 下 *shàng shàng xià xià* ‘from top to bottom’;
- (6) 风雨 *fēng yǔ* ‘problem (metaphor)’ >
 风风雨雨 *fēng fēng yǔ yǔ* ‘problems’;
- (7) 瓶罐 *píng guàn* ‘bottle’ > 瓶瓶罐罐
píng píng guàn guàn ‘bottles’;
- (8) 坑洼 *kēng wā* ‘hole’ > 坑坑洼洼 *kēng
 kēng wā wā* ‘holes’.

As we have seen in above cases, some very flexible lexical items seem to indicate distributive meaning. These reduplications can function either as an argument or as an adverbial. As we have seen in example (1), (2) and (3), reduplication of disyllabic units does not have distributive meaning, while the second contains the quantifier 每 *měi* ‘every or each’. Providing a detailed distributive meaning expressed by reduplicated classifiers is beyond the scope of this research. So, what we want to explain is that it is not easy to draw a clear meaning.

Going back to research topic, categorical bases have been changed by reduplicative process in cases (1)–(5). Reduplicative process noun + AABB pattern is a derivational process.

4.2.2 ‘Plural’ on AABB Pattern

As shown in (6)–(8), above show that duplicated noun does not display changing property, reduplication 风风雨雨 *fēng fēng yǔ yǔ* and relevant base 风雨 *fēng yǔ* has the same category status. Reduplicated monosyllabic nouns can be said that there are no all reduplicative processes noun + AABB pattern are derivational process. A ‘plural-collective meaning’ (Paris 2007) means reduplicative processes noun + AABB pattern may has an inflectional marking.

In addition, there are some idiomatic reduplications are formed by AABB pattern, the possible bases for AABB reduplication are either lexicalized, non-transparent bases (a), or adjectives constructed by two morphemes with a similar meaning in cognitive level (b):

- (a) 风火 *fēng huǒ* the literal meaning is wind and fire;
- (b) 风风火火 *fēng fēng huǒ huǒ* used for metaphorically in a hurry and reckless, etc.

A similar meaning or a logical coordination like case (a) and (b) is not easy to translate. As Kridalaksana said (2008: 208),



idiomatic reduplication cannot be translated from repeated forms.

4.3 Function 'Formalize' on AAB Pattern

disyllabic bases can reduplicate as AB > AAB. Nouns can reduplicate in Mandarin, delivering an entire increasing function, although these a very low number of AAB reduplications, and that no longer seem to be creative:

- (a) 翘板 *qiào bǎn* 'see saw (dialect Shuzhou)' > 跷跷板 *qiào qiào bǎn* 'see saw';
- (b) 毛雨 *máo yǔ* 'drizzle (dialect Yangzhou)' > 毛毛雨 *máo máo yǔ* 'drizzle';
- (c) 窝头 *wō tóu* 'steamed corn bread (dialect Peking)' > 窝窝头 *wō wō tóu* 'steamed corn bread'.

The basic words and the resulting reduplications are categorical nouns, reduplicative process does not make a categorical change, and it does not even change the lexical meaning even though its form has changed.

According to Goldberg (2003:221) *Different surface forms are typically associated with slightly different semantic or discourse func-*

tions. From the example above, the function that can be caused by the ABB pattern is 'formalizing', for example 跷跷板 *qiào qiào bǎn* compared to 翘板 *qiào bǎn*, 跷跷板 *qiào qiào bǎn* will be more formal than 翘板 *qiào bǎn*, and 跷跷板 *qiào qiào bǎn* can be viewed in the dictionary. Here presumably the dialect language works side by side to influence the development of Mandarin reduplication, that is a kind of variation or disystem in Mandarin.

CONCLUSIONS

This research has given the extreme variety of forms, meanings and functions.

bases nouns meanings and types of reduplicative noun in Mandarin This research would have explained the reduplicative process of forming AA pattern, AAB pattern, and AABB pattern.

Based on the data examined, in addition to isolating meanings and figurative meanings. as we have shown with the reduplicative processes of Mandarin as we have shown with the reduplicative processes of Mandarin, nouns as basic words, the meanings and functions increased by reduplication of AA patterns, AAB patterns and AABB patterns in Mandarin are as follows:



(1) To reduplicate nouns AA nouns, AABB patterns can result in the meaning of 每 *měi* 'every or each'. Meanwhile, the basic words are the same as having quantification characteristics:

- a. 年 *nián* 'year' > 年年 *nián nián* 'every year';
- b. 天 *tiān* 'day' > 天天 *tiān tiān* 'every day';
- c. 村寨 *cūn zhài* 'village' > 村村寨寨 *cūn cūn zhài zhài* 'each of village'.

(2) Kata dasar kata benda setelah mengalami pola AABB dapat berhubungan dengan arti 'dari A sampai B', dan kata dasarnya sama sama berciri arah. Misalnya

- a. 里外 *lǐ wài* 'inside and outside'
> 里里外外 *lǐ lǐ wài wài* 'from inside to outside';
- b. 上下 *shàng xià* 'top and bottom'.
> 上上下下 *shàng shàng xià xià* 'from top to bottom';
- c. 前后 *qián hòu* 'front and back'
> 前前后后 *qián qián hòu hòu* 'from front to back'.

(3) Kata dasar yang tidak mengandung arah dan *kuantifikasi* berpotensi juga mengalami pola AA dan pola AABB. Arti yang diakibatkan adalah 'jamak'.

- a. 杠 *gàng* 'underline' > 杠杠 *gànggàng* 'underlines'
- b. 坑洼 *kēng wā* 'lubang' > 坑坑洼洼 *kēng kēng wā wā* 'lubang-lubang'

(4) Salah satu fungsi reduplikasi pola AAB bagi kata dasar kata benda adalah 'memformalkan kata dasar', misalnya 翘板 *qiào bǎn* 'jungkat-jungkit (dialek Shuzhou)' > 跷跷板 *qiào qiào bǎn* 'jungkat-jungkit'. 跷跷板 *qiào qiào bǎn* dibandingkan dengan 翘板 *qiào bǎn*, 跷跷板 *qiào qiào bǎn* akan lebih formal daripada 翘板 *qiào bǎn*.

If the concept of lexeme arises empirically motivated in agglutinating languages whereby inflection markers modify the word form conveying relevant aspect in the syntactic contexts, its motivation is less grounded in isolating languages, where words occur with a very small number of inflection markers

Now this research focus on the categorical status between the reduplication and relevant base address the issue of whether re-



Reduplicative processes apply to derivational processes or inflectional processes.

Tabel 1

Proses Reduplikasi Morfemis Derivasional dan Infleksional (Kata Dasar Kata Benda)

Reduplikasi		<i>Input</i>			<i>Output</i>			Proses
Pola	mengakibatkan Arti	Kata Dasar	Arti leksikal	Kategori leksikal	Reduplikasi	Arti leksikal	Kategori leksikal	Morfemis
AA	'jamak'	杠	garis bawah	Kata benda	杠杠 <i>gàng gàng</i>	garis-garis bawah	Kata benda	infleksi
AA	'setiap'	天	hari	Kata benda	天天 <i>tiān tiān</i>	setiap hari	Kata keterangan	derivasi
AABB	'setiap'	村寨	desa	Kata benda	村村寨寨 <i>cūn cūn zhài zhài</i>	setiap desa	Kata keterangan	derivasi
AABB	'jamak'	坑洼	lubang	Kata benda	坑坑洼洼 <i>kēng kēng wā wā</i>	lubang-lubang	Kata benda	infleksi
AABB	'dari A sampai B'	里外	dalam dan luar	Kata benda	里里外外 <i>lǐ lǐ wài wài</i>	dari dalam sampai luar	Kata keterangan	derivasi

Reduplication in Mandarin conveys values typically found in the inflectional domain.

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