



JUAN ZHONG JANUARY 10 2025

NOMINAL COMPOUNDING

A comparative analysis of South Bolivian Quechua and Tarma Quechua

ABOUT ME

JUAN ZHONG

[tʃyɛn⁵⁵tʃʊŋ⁵⁵]

钟娟

- Born and raised in China
- Hakka, Mandarin, English
- BA, Beijing Foreign Studies University
- MA, Columbia University
- A second-year PhD student at University at Buffalo
- <https://juan-zhong.github.io/me/>
- Current projects
 - Morphosyntax
 - Discourse pragmatics
 - Language documentation
 - Fieldwork: Balti, Anyuan Hakka.

ROADMAP

1. Introduction

2. Comparative analysis

2.1. Possible combinations

2.2. Binary and recursive structure

2.3. Headedness: Endocentric vs ecocentric

2.4. Interaction with inflection and derivation

3. Summary

1. INTRODUCTION

1. INTRODUCTION

- Compounding (Haspelmath, M., & Sims, A. D., 2013)
 - the process where two or more words are combined to create new words
 - word + word → word or phrase?
 - e.g., English: *blackboard*, *apple tree*.
- Synthetic languages
 - word or phrase (or sentence)?

t'akarikamushallanñataq

t'akay	'to fall'
-ri	'Softly'
-sha	'progressive'
-n	'3 rd person, rain'
-taq	'again'

(SBQ example from Gladys Camacho-Rios)

1. INTRODUCTION (CONT')

- Compounding in Quechua languages
 - South Bolivian Quechua (SBQ) (Camacho-Rios, 2024)
 - Mainly spoken in Cochabamba, Oruro, Potosí, Chuquisaca, and Potosí
 - Data provided by Dr. Gladys Camacho-Rios
 - Tarma Quechua (TQ) (Adelaar, 1977)
 - Mainly spoken in the central highlands of Peru, specifically in the Tarma province of the Junín region
 - Belongs to the Yaru group of Quechua languages
 - Data: the dictionary section in Adelaar (1977)
 - Compounding is productive in forming names of plants, places, food/drinks, etc.

TARMA QUECHUA (TQ) SOUTH BOLIVIAN QUECHUA (SBO)

Google Maps

Tarma



Imagery ©2024 NASA, TerraMetrics, Map data ©2024 Google 200 mi

2. COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

2.1. POSSIBLE COMBINATIONS

- In both SBQ and TQ, compound nouns can consist of two nouns.

(1) [NN]N

- a. imilla papa (*imilla* ‘girl’ + *papa* ‘potato’ = a variety of potato) [SBQ]
- b. waxlaš akšu (*waxlaš* ‘horn’ + *akšu* ‘potato’ = a variety of potato) [TQ]

2.1. POSSIBLE COMBINATIONS (CONT')

- an adjective and a noun

(2) [AN]_N

- a. machu papa (*machu* ‘old’ + *papa* ‘potato’ = a variety of potato) [SBQ]
- b. puga akšu (*puga* ‘red’ + *akšu* ‘potato’ = a variety of potato) [TQ]

(3) [NA]_N

- a. molle pampa (*molle* ‘a type of tree’ + *pampa* ‘flat’ = a place name) [SBQ]
- b. xara wanaku (*xara* ‘corn’ + *wanaku* ‘shy, timorous’ = a bird name) [TQ]

2.1. POSSIBLE COMBINATIONS (CONT')

- a verb and a noun. For the verb element, TQ allows both its root form (4c) and its infinitive form with the infinitive suffix -y (4b)

(4) [NV]_N

- a. **papa wayk'u** (*papa* ‘potato’ + *wayk'u* ‘cook’ = a variety of potato) [SBQ]
- b. **akšu yanuy** (*akšu* ‘potato’ + *yanuy* ‘to cook’ = a variety of potato) [TQ]
- c. **akšu lapči** (*akšu* ‘potato’ + *lapči* ‘press out’ = ‘mashed potato’) [TQ]

(5) [VN]_N

- a. **wayk'u papa** (*wayk'u* ‘cook’ + *papa* ‘potato’= a variety of potato) [SBQ]
- b. ***yanuy akšu** (*yanuy* ‘to cook’ + *akšu* ‘potato’ = a variety of potato) [TQ]

- For the order, TQ doesn't allow VN order.

2.1. POSSIBLE COMBINATIONS (CONT')

- Combination of two adjectives in SBQ not in TQ

(6) [AA]_N

- a. juch'uy jatun (*juch'uy* 'small' + *jatun* 'big' = 'size') [SBQ]
- b. puka pampa (*puka* 'red' + *pampa* 'flat' = a place name) [SBQ]

2.1. POSSIBLE COMBINATIONS (CONT')

- complex compounds consisting of more than two elements

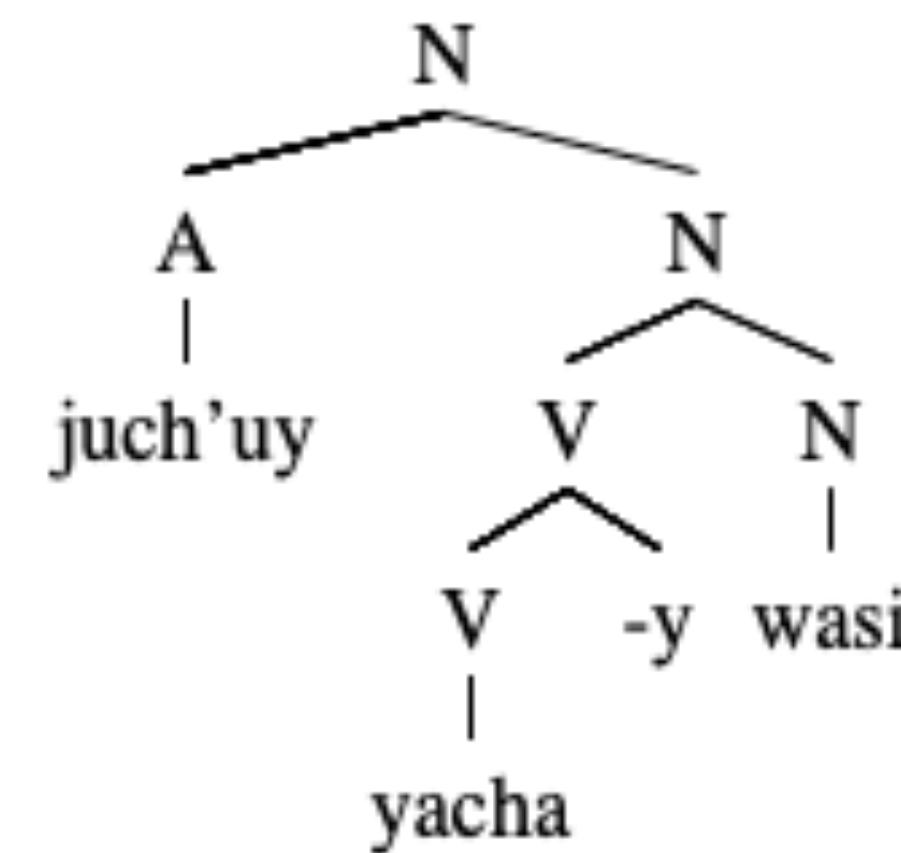
- (7) a. **juch'uy-yacha-y-wasi**
small-know-INF-house
A-V-N
'primary school' [SBQ]
- b. **jatun-yachay-wasi**
big-know-INF-house
A-V-N
'university' [SBQ]

- (8) varieties of potatoes [TQ]
- a. **alxa-wačuku-akšu**
striped-belt-potato
A-N-N
 - b. **yana-wańku-y-akšu**
black-wrap-INF-potato
A-V-N
 - c. **yagu-saba-yurax-akšu**
water-POSS-white-potato
N-A-N

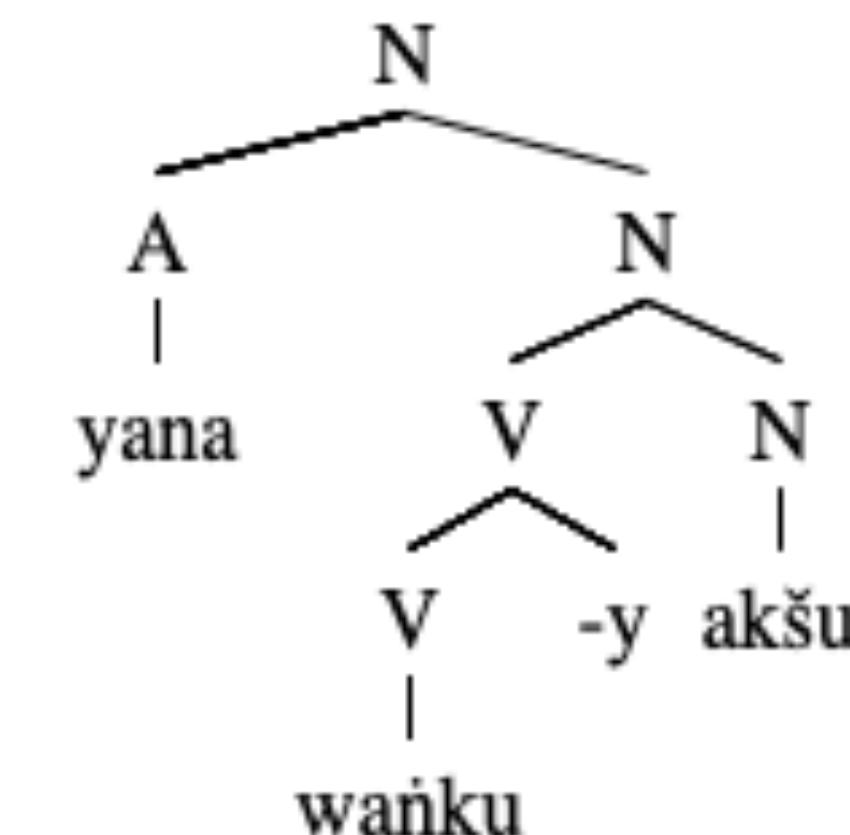
2.2. BINARY AND RECURSIVE STRUCTURE

- The internal structure of complex compounds seem to be both binary and recursive.

Figure 1: Tree diagrams for SBQ (7a) and TQ (8b)



- (7) a. **juch'uy-yacha-y-wasi**
small-know-INF-house
A-V-N
'primary school' [SBQ]

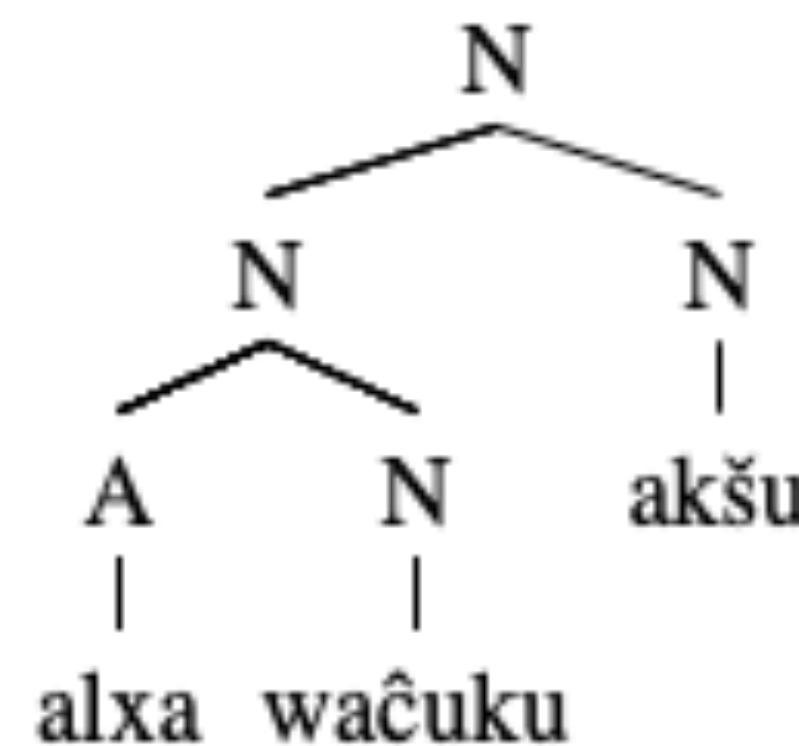


- (8) b. **yana-wańku-y-akšu**
black-wrap-INF-potato
A-V-N
'a variety of potato'[TQ]

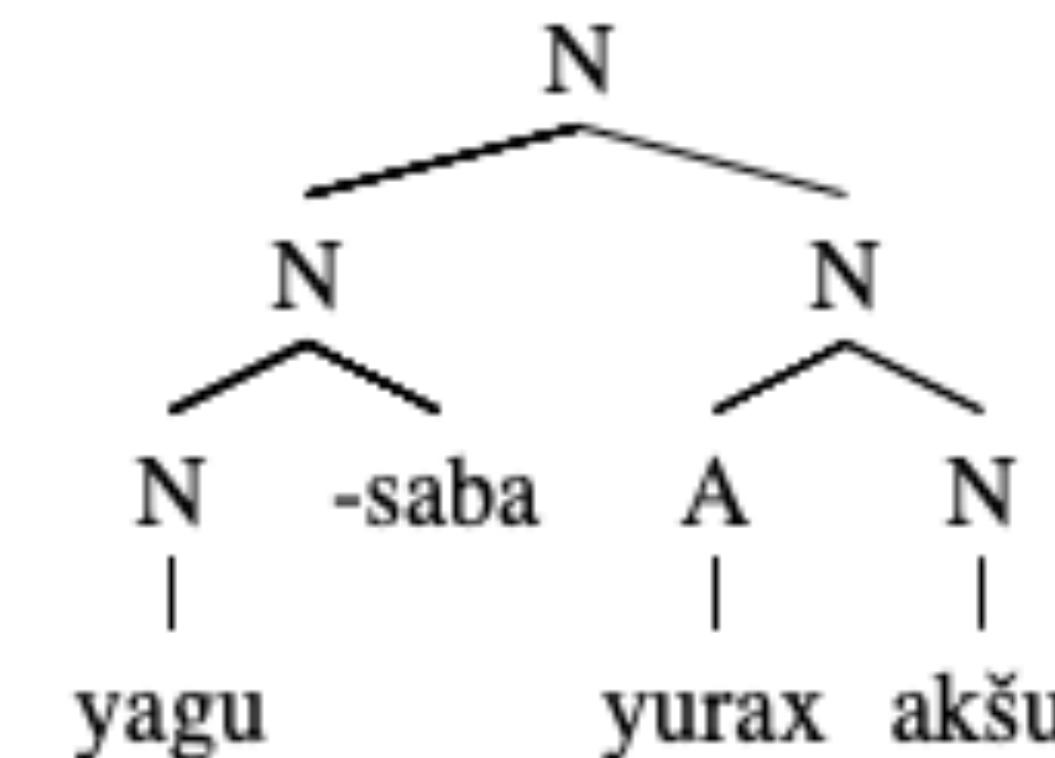
2.2. BINARY AND RECURSIVE STRUCTURE (CONT')

- binary structure of TQ nominal compounds

Figure 2: Tree diagrams for TQ (8a) (8c)



- (8) a. alxa-wačuku-akšu
 striped-belt-potato
 A-N-N
 ‘a variety of potato’[TQ]



- (8) c. yagu-saba-yurax-akšu
 water-POSS-white-potato
 N-A-N
 ‘a variety of potato’[TQ]

2.3. HEADEDNESS

- **The head element of a compound**
 - it has the same lexical category as the compound.
 - it is often a hypernym of the compound.
- **Depending on whether there is a head element inside, compounds are classified into two types: **endocentric** and **exocentric**.**
 - **Endocentric**
 - the head element is inside the compounds
 - e.g., English: *board* in *blackboard*
 - **Exocentric**
 - No head inside, non-compositional meaning
 - e.g., English: *forget-me-not*, *redhead*

ENDOCENTRIC COMPOUNDS

- Most plant names in SBQ and TQ are endocentric compounds (see 1, 2, 4, 5, 8)
- SBQ and TQ shows both right-headed and left-headed patterns (2 vs 3, 4 vs 5)
- Right-headed compounds are more frequent than left-headed ones.

EXOCENTRIC COMPOUNDS

- the SBQ place name *molle pampa* is not a kind of tree,
- the TQ bird name *xara wanaku* is not a kind of corn.

(3) [NA]_N

- a. molle pampa (molle ‘a type of tree’ + pampa ‘flat’ = a place name) [SBQ]
- b. xara wanaku (xara ‘corn’ + wanaku ‘shy, timorous’ = a bird name) [TQ]

- No head inside and meaning non-compositional

(6) [AA]_N

- a. juch’uy jatun (juch’uy ‘small’ + jatun ‘big’ = ‘size’) [SBQ]
- b. puka pampa (puka ‘red’ + pampa ‘flat’ = a place name) [SBQ]

EXOCENTRIC COMPOUNDS (CONT')

— More exocentric compounds

(9) SBQ

- a. kala purka (kala ‘rock’ + purka ‘burning’ = a kind of soup)
- b. yaku q’uñi (yaku ‘water’ + q’uñi ‘warm’ = ‘breakfast’)

(10) TQ

- a. xara šuxla (xara ‘corn’ + šuxla ‘wild grass’ = ‘oat’)
- b. xara kulu (xara ‘corn’ + kulu ‘balk, log, tree-trunk’ = a dance name)
- c. xa:yax sigi (xa:yax ‘cold’ + sigi ‘button’ = a plant name)

2.4. INTERACTION WITH INFLECTION AND DERIVATION

- pluralization:
 - In SBQ, when a compound noun goes through pluralization, the plural suffix is attached to the whole compound, not the head element inside.

- (11) a. **papa-wayk'u-s**
[papa-wayk'u]-PL
- b. ***papa-s-wayk'u**
[papa-PL]-wayk'u]
'cooked potatoes' [SBQ]

2.4. INTERACTION WITH INFLECTION AND DERIVATION

- Possession:
 - In TQ, noun element inside a compound may take possessive suffix *-saba*.

- (11) a. **papa-wayk'u-s**
[papa-wayk'u]-PL
- b. ***papa-s-wayk'u**
[papa-PL]-wayk'u]
'cooked potatoes' [SBQ]
- (8) c. **yagu-saba-yurax-akšu**
water-POSS-white-potato
N-A-N
'a variety of potato' [TQ]

3. SUMMARY

MAIN TAKE-AWAYS

- both SBQ and TQ allow a variety of different combinations of lexical categories in forming compound nouns, combining nouns and adjectives or verbs.
 - SBQ even allows two adjectives to form a compound noun.
- both SBQ and TQ allow complex compounds consisting of three elements
 - but this is only for neologism in SBQ.
 - The complex ones still follows a binary structure.
- Both endocentric and exocentric compound nouns are attested in the two languages.
 - For endocentric ones, SBQ and TQ can be either left headed or right headed.
 - inflection could occur inside compounds in both languages. While pluralization occurs outside the compound in SBQ.

LIMITATION & FUTURE DIRECTIONS

- the semantic domain is restricted to mainly plant names, compounds in other domains such as toponyms, numerals, person names, dish names would also be interesting to investigate.
- This paper focuses on compound nouns, while other types of compounds such as compound adjectives and compound verbs also exist in these languages and should be further explored.

REFERENCES

- Adelaar, W. F. H. (2004). *The Languages of the Andes*. Cambridge University Press. <https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.gate.lib.buffalo.edu/lib/buffalo/reader.action?docID=266501&ppg=7>
- Adelaar, W. F. H. (1977). *Tarma Quechua: Grammar, texts, dictionary*. Peter de Ridder Press. https://search.lib.buffalo.edu/permalink/01SUNY_BUF/oov17q/alma990001463640204803
- Adelaar, W. F. H. (2020, March 31). Morphology in Quechuan Languages. *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Linguistics*. Retrieved 10 Dec. 2024, from <https://oxfordre.com/linguistics/view/10.1093/acrefore/9780199384655.001.0001/acrefore-9780199384655-e-533>
- Bauer, L. (2017). *Compounds and Compounding*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Cook, O. F. (1916). Quichua names of sweet potatoes. *Journal of the Washington Academy of Sciences*. 6 (4):86–90.
- Hacken, P. (2017, March 29). Compounding in Morphology. *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Linguistics*. Retrieved 18 Nov. 2024, from <https://oxfordre.com/linguistics/view/10.1093/acrefore/9780199384655.001.0001/acrefore-9780199384655-e-251>.
- Haspelmath, M., & Sims, A. D. (2013). *Understanding Morphology*. Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group.

THANK YOU!

