

AUSTRONESIAN NUMERALS: OMISSION OF OPERANDS
AND GENERAL TENDENCIES OF OMISSION

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1. In any real language there are two types of numerals: root-numerals and derivatives in the broad sense (including compound). Components of structurally compound numerals are united by means of arithmetical operations. These operations can be expressed by specific root-morphemes, relating morphemes of case, etc., by stress, affixes, line order of the elements, etc.

In the denomination of numbers expressed by means of arithmetical operations omission* of operands (for example, minuend, item, multiplicand, etc.) is possible. Thus, in Papuan Buin in the denomination of several numbers expressed by means of subtraction the denomination of minuend is not designated: kütako tuo "8" (lit. "without two, minus two"; minuend "10" is not designated), kükoko tuo "80" (lit. "without twenty"; minuend "100" is omitted) [Laycock 1975, 226]. In Nymylan omission of item takes place: ønnen pajol "11" (lit. "with one-superfluous"), η itaq pajol "12" (lit. "with two-superfluous") [Prokofjev 1939, 21]. Omission of item is found in Naukani Eskimos, too [Menovshikov 1962, 143].

2.1. In the Austronesian languages (here and further AN) by means of omission of operands usually

* For this purpose J. Greenberg uses the term "deletion" [1978, 259].

some of coefficients and some numerals of other classes are expressed.

Some of coefficients contain semantics of operation of subtraction. In the denomination of these coefficients omission of minuend takes place. Thus, in Tokelau the numerals "7" and "8" are correspondingly expressed as "minus 3" and "minus 2": *talaka tul* "7" (*talaka* "minus", *tul* "3"), *talaka rua* "8" (*rua* "2") [Codrington 1974, 571], that is "[10]-3" and "[10]-2". The minuend "10", which is subjected to omission, is implied from the semantics of these numerals.

In Ngada and Lio in the denomination of number "9" expressed by means of subtraction omission of "10" takes place, too [Capell 1976, 541].

Thus, in the AN languages omission of minuend in the denomination of compound coefficients is possible only in cases when the minuend designates number "10".

As regards subtrahend then it is never expressed by means of omission.

2.2. Speaking about the numerals in Tsou, N.A. Nevsky notes that the element veiyau "plus" in Tsou is related to Malayan -bēlas, and then he puts down to -bēlas the same meaning as veiyau [Nevsky 1981, 51].

In such a case we can assert that in Malayan and some other related languages omission of item "10" takes place, that is in Malayan sēbēlas "11" (lit. "one more"), dua bēlas "12" (two-more), etc. the item "10" is omitted.

On the other hand, according to numerical principle to the morpheme -bēlas we can put down the meaning "plus ten". In this case the question of omission of item is withdrawn.

In Tagalog in segment 11-19 item "10" is omitted: labing isa "11" (lit. "surplus one"; labi "surplus", ng - conjunction, isa "1"), labin siyam "19" (lit. "surplus nine"; siyam "9") [Rachkov 1981, 93].

We didn't find other cases of omission of item in the AN languages. As regards the item designating coefficient, then in the AN languages it is never expressed by means of omission.

2.3. Omission of multiplier or multiplicand is not typical for the AN languages. In some of them omission of item "1" is found (at great length see farther ahead).

In Traditional Malayan we found the expression sěkěti lima "150 000" (instead of *sěkěti lima laksa) [SM 1958, 84 and 330] in which multiplier -laksa "ten thousands" is omitted.

Omission of multiplicand-category exists too. In colloquial Indonesian the expression dua lima (lit. "two-five") stands for "250". As it is seen, here the multiplicands "100" and "10" are omitted (cf. dua ratus lima puluh "250" in literary Indonesian).

Thus, multiplier can be omitted only in case if it stands for "1". But multiplicand is omitted only in spoken language.

2.4. In numerals expressed by means of the operation of division, divisor (in the AN languages it is a morpheme meaning "half") is never omitted.

Omission of dividend found in some of the West-AN languages is a marginal exception. So in Javanese tělubělah "250" (lit. "three [i.e. the third] broken to two"), the semantics of which can be designated as $3[x\ 100] [-100] : 2$, not only dividend reconstructed

by us in the structure of "[100]:2", but also multiplicand in the structure of "3[x100]" are subjected to omission [see also: Uhlenbeck 1953, 367]. About Balinese karobĕlah "150" (lit. "the second half"), in which also multiplicand "100" is omitted, see: [Kersten 1970].

3. Languages are divided into classes depending on whether the multiplier "1" is omitted and in what positions it is possible, if it is attached to category (10, 10^2 , 10^3 , etc.). In Chinese multiplier "1" is omitted in the presence of the category "10", if in the structure of the numeral there is not any other category [Zadoenko, Khuan Shu-in 1973, 287]. In Russian this omission is valuable for all categories, but in the presence of the category " 10^3 " and more high categories it is optional, cf. sto " 10^2 " and (odna) tysjacha dvesti "1200" (odna "1", tysjacha " 10^3 ", dvesti "200"). In Azerbaijani, which is the mother tongue of the author, multiplier "1" is omitted in the presence of the categories "10" and " 10^2 ", but in the presence of the category " 10^3 " it is optional, and in the presence of more high categories it is compulsory: on "10", jüz " 10^2 ", (bir) min besh jüz "1500" (bir "1", min " 10^3 ", besh jüz "500"), bir milyon " 10^6 " (milyon " 10^6 ").

In the AN languages omission of multiplier "1" is typical not for all of them. For example, in Samoan in the presence of categories "10" and " 10^2 " multiplier "1" is compulsory, whereas in the presence of the category " 10^3 " it is omitted, cf. e sefulu "10" ("1x10"), e selau "100" ("1x 10^2 ") (the morpheme se-, appeared here in the role of multiplier, is used homosemically to the morpheme tasi "1") and afe "1000" [Heider 1927, 267]. In Tahitian this omission is available for categories

"10" (ahuru) and "10³" (tauatini), but in the presence of categories "10²" and "10⁶" multiplier "1" is optional: (hoê) hanere "100" (hoê "1"; lit. "(one) hundred"), (hoê) milioni "1 000 000" (lit. "(one) million") [Arakin 1981, 36-37]. In Hawaii multiplier "1" is omitted in the presence of all categories: 'umi "10", haneli "10²", kaukani "10³" [Krupa 1979, 43]. The same is observed in some Melanesian languages [Codrington 1974].

In Malayan and in other languages of Malayo-Javanic group this omission is not found in general. Cf. sěpuluh "10" ("1x10"), sěratas "100" ("1x100"), sěribu "1000" ("1x1000"), etc. in Modern Indonesian.

This feature has a distributive importance. The designation of category without multiplier "1" becomes a phrase-word and can appear on a level with the coefficient in the role of addend, as, for example, in Hawaii.

Thus, omission of operands has a typological importance, and on that ground this feature can be included in the inventory of classificational features which are of great significance in classifying languages of the world generally, and of the AN languages particularly.

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