

Deriving sluicing-like constructions in Isbukun Bunun

Hsiao-hung Iris Wu
National Taiwan Normal University

This paper investigates the sluicing-like constructions (SLCs) in Isbukun Bunun, a language which always places its *wh*-words at the left-peripheral position, and it is argued that genuine sluicing is not available in this language. The evidence in favor of the pseudo-sluicing analysis draws on the behavior of *how*-phrases, the failure of implicit discourse anaphoric arguments and the absence of sloppy identity reading in Isbukun SLCs. These properties are otherwise hard to accommodate in a movement and deletion approach but rather follow from the view that SLCs in Isbukun Bunun are derived from independent syntactic operations including *pro*-drop.

Keywords: sluicing, pseudo-sluicing, *wh*-formation, *pro*-drop, Isbukun Bunun