

**Spell Out before You Merge:
Parse Right and Merge Left Is No Paradox**

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A paradox in the interface between syntax and PF is how computation merges words or constituents from right to left while a parser parses the sentence from left to right (cf. Chomsky 1995, Phillips 2003). The aim of this paper is to show that the paradox is not a real contradiction if words are Spelled Out before they are Merged. I will argue that lexical items and silent demibeats (cf. Selkirk 1984) are introduced to the working space from left to right, and that an extra silent demibeat triggers Merge, which proceeds from right to left. This model gives us a new view of phonology-syntax interface and the architecture of grammar.