A Tripartite Structure for Demonstrative Pronouns

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Demonstrative/indefinite pronouns are often bimorphemic; English this, that, and Japanese so-ko ‘there’ and do-ko ‘where’. But the patterns of the combination of the two morphemes are diverse and inconsistent even within a language. Against this background, a tripartite structure for demonstrative pronouns is proposed: Determiner-Deixis-Noun. With the assumption that the two overt morphemes are realizations of the two of the three segments in the template, a consistent analysis of the morpheme combination is obtained. As a consequence, despite their appearances, this and that do not have parallel structures, nor do so-ko and do-ko. The paper also speculates on the relation between demonstrative pronouns and adnominal demonstratives.