

Number Features and Numerals

Akira Watanabe
University of Tokyo

1. Introduction

- traditional wisdom: **natural classes** defined by features in phonology and morphology
- roles of features in syntax?
operations in narrow syntax: Merge, Agree

MAJOR CLAIM OF THIS TALK

Natural classes of structural configurations in syntax are defined through selection/licensing by features: numerals licensed/selected by [+/-augmented]

2. Basic Arguments

(1) Number features (Noyer 1997, Harbour 2007, Nevins 2011, Watanabe 2015)

- Singular: [+singular, -augmented]
- Dual: [-singular, -augmented]
- Plural: [-singular, +augmented]

(2) Feature definitions

- [+singular] = $\lambda x[\text{atom}(x)]$
- [+augmented] = $\lambda P. \lambda x: P(x). \exists y[P(y) \wedge y \subset x]$

— 1-deletion (Watanabe 2010, 2014): restricted distribution of number features due to the omission of the predictable [-augmented] from the full specification of singular

- Singular: [+singular]
- Dual/Plural: [+augmented]

- ty: [+augmented]
- ten: elsewhere

(5) Numerals are licensed by [+/-augmented].

(6) *one ten, *one-ty vs. six-ty, cf. six hundred(*s)

- Singular: [-augmented] ☞ 1-deletion disallowed
- Dual/Plural: [+augmented]

— classifiers vs. numerical bases/measure nouns in Japanese (Watanabe 2010, 2014)

- (8) a. hito-**ri** (-no gakusei)
 1-cl -link student
 b. futa-**ri**
 2-cl
 c. san-**nin**, yo-**nin**, go-**nin**, etc.
 3-cl 4-cl 5-cl
- (9) a. (*iti-)zyuu, ni-zyuu, san-zyuu, etc.
 1-10 2-10, 3-10
 ‘ten’ ‘twenty’ ‘thirty’
 b. iti-meetoru, ni-meetoru, san-meetoru, etc.
 1-meter 2-meter 3-meter

=> no classifier after a single digit numeral in multiplicative numerals and measure phrases

- (10) a. A numeral classifier appears in Japanese only when both [+/-singular] and [+/-augmented] are specified.
 b. Numerical bases and measure nouns in Japanese are featurally defective.
 c. [+/-augmented] always selects a numeral in Japanese.

=> 1-deletion impossible for classifiers

3. Measure Nouns and 1-Deletion in Japanese

3.1. Liters

- (11) a. **rittaa**/***rittoru** hyaku-go-zyuu-en-no gasorin [+singular]
 liter/liter hundred-five-ten-yen-link gasoline
 b. iti-**rittoru** hyaku-go-zyuu-en-no gasorin [-augmented]
 one-liter hundred-five-ten-yen-link gasoline
 ‘gasoline that costs a hundred fifty yen per liter’

3.2. Days

- (12) a. iti-**niti**
 1-day
 b. futu-**ka**, ..., too-**ka**
 2-day 10-day
 c. zyuu-iti-**niti**, zyuu-ni-**niti**, ...
 10-1-day 10-2-day
 ‘eleven days’ ‘twelve days’

- (13) **hi-ni/iti-niti-ni** san-kai-no tooyaku
 day-per/1-day-per three-time-link medication
 ‘three medications per day’
- (14) a. Singular: [-augmented] or [+singular]
 b. Dual/Plural: [+augmented]
- (15) a. *-ka*: [+augmented] with a simplex numeral for $n \leq 10$ (or with a complex numeral ending with the digit numeral for 4, or the special numeral for 20)
 b. *hi*: [+singular]
 c. *-niti*: elsewhere
- (16) go-roku-**niti**
 5-6-day
 ‘five or six days’

3.3. Weeks and months: Separate placement of [\pm augmented]

- (17) **syuu-ni/is-syuukan-ni** san-kai-no kaigi
 week-per/1-week-per 3-time-link meeting
 ‘three meetings per week’
- (18) a. san-**syuukan** (combination of Sino-Japanese morphemes)
 3-week
 b. kon-**syuu** (combination of Sino-Japanese morphemes)
 this-week

=> *-kan* as the carrier of [\pm augmented] for “week”

- (19) a. (hito-)**tuki-ni** san-kai-no kaigi
 1-month-per 3-time-link meeting
 b. ik-**kagetu-ni** san-kai-no kaigi
 1-month-per 3-time-link meeting
 ‘three meetings per month’
- (20) a. mi-**tuki** (combination of native morphemes, limited to paucals)
 3-month
 b. san-**kagetu** (combination of Sino-Japanese morphemes, fully productive)
 3-month
 c. kon-**getu** (combination of Sino-Japanese morphemes)
 this-month

=> *ka-* as the carrier of [\pm augmented] for the Sino-Japanese morpheme expressing “month”

3.4. Years

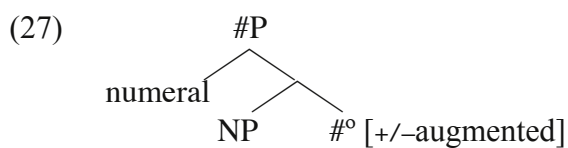
- (21) (iti-)**nen**-ni san-kai-no kaigi
 1-year-per 3-time-link meeting
 ‘three meetings per year’
- (22) a. san-**nen** (combination of Sino-Japanese morphemes)
 3-year
 b. ko-**tosi** (combination of native morphemes)
 this-year

4. Quasi-Numerals

- | | |
|---|---|
| (23) a. nan- nin (-no gakusei)
what-cl -link student
‘how many (students)’ | b. suu- nin (-no gakusei)
number-cl -link student
‘several (students)’ |
| (24) a. nan-shuukan
what-week
‘how many weeks’ | b. suu-shuukan
number-week
‘several weeks’ |
| (25) a. nan- kagetu
what-month
‘how many months’ | b. suu- kagetu
number-month
‘several months’ |
| (26) a. nan- nen
what-year
‘how many years’ | b. suu- nen
number-year
‘several years’ |

=> *nan*- and *suu*- classified as numerals

=> [+/-augmented] defining a structural configuration



5. Morpheme Class Effects on “Days”

5.1. Combination of a quasi-numeral and the expression for “day”

- (28) a. nan-**niti**
 what-day
 ‘how many days’

b. *suu-zitu* <= !!

number-day
‘several days’

c. **suu-ka* / **suu-niti*

(15) a. *-ka*: [+augmented] with a simplex numeral for $n \leq 10$ (or with a complex numeral ending with the digit numeral for 4, or the special numeral for 20)

b. *hi*: [+singular]

c. *-niti*: elsewhere

(29) a. *yoku-zitu*, *syuku-zitu*, *sai-zitu*, *hei-zitu*, etc.
‘next day’ ‘holiday’ ‘holiday’ ‘weekday’

b. *syo-niti*, *kon-niti*

‘first day’ ‘period including the day of speech time’

(30) a. *-zitu_{SJ}*: with *suu-*, *yoku-*, *syuku-*, *sai-*, *hei-*, etc. (list given priority for realization)

b. *-ka_N*: [+augmented] with a simplex numeral for $n \leq 10$ (or with a complex numeral ending with the digit numeral for 4, or the special numeral for 20)

c. *hi_N*: [+singular]

d. *-niti_{SJ}*: elsewhere

CLAIM

The ban on combining native and non-native morphemes in the domain involving numerals, measure nouns, and classifiers (cf. Downing 1996) acts as a filter *minimal numeral _{α} -MN _{α} /CL _{α} , where α is [+/-native], after morphological realization.

(31) phonological processes sensitive to the native/non-native distinction (Ito and Mester 2003)

a. sequential voicing (or *rendaku*)

b. post-nasal voicing

5.2. Allomorphy driven by morpheme class combinatorics

— two series of cardinal numerals in Japanese

(32) Native series

a. ——— futu-ka, mik-ka, yok-ka, itu-ka, mui-ka, nano-ka, yoo-ka, kokono-ka
2-day 3-day 4-day 5-day 6-day 7-day 8-day 9-day

b. hito-tu, futa-tu, mit-tu, yot-tu, itu-tu, mut-tu, nana-tu, yat-tu, kokono-tu
1-cl 2-cl 3-cl 4-cl 5-cl 6-cl 7-cl 8-cl 9-cl

c. hito-ri, futa-ri (classifiers for human beings, also in (33a))
1-cl 2-cl

(33) Sino-Japanese series

- | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----------|---------|----------|----------|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| a. | —— | —— | san-nin, | yo-nin, | go-nin, | roku-nin, | nana-nin, | hati-nin, | kyuu-nin |
| | | | 3-cl | 4-cl | 5-cl | 6-cl | 7-cl | 8-cl | 9-cl |
| b. | iti-dai, | ni-dai, | san-dai, | yon-dai, | go-dai, | roku-dai, | nana-dai, | hati-dai, | kyuu-dai |
| | 1-cl | 2-cl | 3-cl | 4-cl | 5-cl | 6-cl | 7-cl | 8-cl | 9-cl |

— the ban on combining native and non-native morphemes for phrases with a numeral

- | | | | | |
|------|---------------|-----------------------|---|-----------|
| (34) | a. *iti-ri, | *ni-ri | SJ + native | cf. (32c) |
| | b. *hito-dai, | *futa-dai | native + SJ | cf. (33b) |
| (35) | a. *suu-tu | | SJ + native | cf. (32b) |
| | b. *nan-tu | | SJ + native | |
| | cf. c. iku-tu | ‘how many’ | native + native | |
| (36) | iku-ka | ‘how many days’ | native + native in Old Japanese (Yasuda 2015) | |
| (37) | a. zyuu-bako | ‘layered serving box’ | SJ + native | |
| | b. ba-syo | ‘place’ | native + SJ | |

— only the last digit numeral relevant

- | | | |
|------|----------------------|--|
| (38) | a. san yok-ka | |
| | 3 4-day | |
| | ‘three or four days’ | |
| | b. zyuu yok-ka | |
| | 10 4-day | |
| | ‘fourteen days’ | |

— Sino-Japanese numerals recruited from the native vocabulary with phonological modification

- | | | | |
|------|-------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| (39) | a. yon = yo | ‘four’ (19 th century?) | (Komatsu 1981, Yasuda 2015) |
| | b. nan | ‘how many’ = nani | ‘what’ (Yasuda 2015) |

— phonological shape of Sino-Japanese morphemes (Ito and Mester 1996, 2015; Kurisu 2000)

- | | | |
|------|-------------|--|
| (40) | disyllables | |
| | a. (C)Vtu: | atu 圧 ‘press’, situ 室 ‘room’ |
| | b. (C)Vku: | hoku 北 ‘north’, iku 育 ‘raise, educate’ |
| | c. (C)Vki: | eki 益 ‘benefit’, riki 力 ‘power’ |

- | | | |
|------|--|--|
| (41) | exceptional disyllables | |
| | iti ‘one’, siti ‘seven’, hati ‘eight’, niti ‘day, sun’, kiti ‘good luck’ | |

- => special status of numerals and (temporal) measure nouns
=> recruitment of *nana* 'seven' for the Sino-Japanese series (18th century?: Yasuda 2015)
problematic phonologically
=> the elsewhere status of *-niti_{SJ}* as a reflection of the tendency to avoid excessive markedness?

(42) monosyllables

- a. (C)V: gu 具 'material', i 胃 'stomach'
b. (C)VV: sui 水 'water', bee 米 'rice'
c. (C)VN: kon 今 'this', en 遠 'distant'

5.3. Independent nouns

- (43) a. hito-/is- siai, futa-/ni- siai, san-siai, ... (si_{SJ} + ai_{native})
1- game
b. hito-kire, futa-kire, mi-/san- kire, yon-kire, ... (native) => paucal / [+augmented]??
1 slice
c. hito-tubo, futa-tubo, san-tubo, ... (native, obsolete)
1-MN

- => combination of an independent noun and a numeral
=> the ban on mixing different classes of morphemes sensitive to morphological tightness

6. Conclusion

- structures with a numeral defined as forming a natural class by [+/-augmented]
- the ban on mixing native and non-native morphemes in the structure consisting of a numeral and a genuine classifier or measure noun as a filter
- binary opposition of morpheme classes (native vs. Sino-Japanese and Western)
- an itemized list more specific than an abstract statement for morphological realization
- morpheme class status not exclusively determined by origin (cf. *iti-wa* 一羽)
- the classifier for humans displaying the suppletive pattern SG/DU vs. PL of lexical nouns (Moskal et al. 15)

Appendix. Phonological Evidence for the Phrasal Status of Complex Numerals

- (A1) a. sen | ni-hyaku | hati-zyuu nana
thousand two hundred eight-ten seven
'1,287' (Vance 2013)
- b. sen | ni-hyaku | hati-zyuu nana-niti
thousand two hundred eight-ten seven-day

References

- Downing, Pamela. 1996. *Numeral classifier systems: The case of Japanese*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.
- Harbour, Daniel. 2007. *Morphosemantic number*. Dordrecht: Springer.
- Ito, Junko, and Armin Mester. 1996. Stem and word in Sino-Japanese. In *Phonological structure and language processing: Cross-linguistic studies*, ed. by Takashi Otake and Anne Cutler, 13–44. Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter.
- Ito, Junko, and Armin Mester. 2003. *Japanese morphophonemics: Markedness and word structure*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.
- Ito, Junko, and Armin Mester. 2015. Sino-Japanese phonology. In *Handbook of Japanese phonetics and phonology*, ed. by Haruo Kubozono, 289–312. Berlin: De Gruyter Mouton.
- Komatsu, Hideo. 1981. *Nihongo-no on'in* [Japanese phonology]. Tokyo: Chuuoookooronsha.
- Kurusu, Kazutaka. 2000. Richness of the base and root fusion in Sino-Japanese. *Journal of East Asian Linguistics* 9: 147–185.
- Moskal, Beata, Peter W. Smith, Ting Xu, Jungmin Kang, and Jonathan Bobaljik. 2015. A number of cases of pronominal suppletion. *GLOW Newsletter* 74: 81–82.
- Nevins, Andrew. 2011. Marked targets versus marked triggers and impoverishment of the dual. *Linguistic Inquiry* 42: 413–444.
- Noyer, Rolf. 1997. *Features, positions, and affixes in autonomous morphological structure*. New York: Garland.
- Vance, Timothy J. 2013. Review of *The phonology of Japanese*, by Laurence Labrune. *Lingua* 123: 168–174.
- Watanabe, Akira. 2010. Vague quantity, numerals, and natural numbers. *Syntax* 13: 37–77.
- Watanabe, Akira. 2012. Measure words as nouns: A perspective from silent years. *Studia Linguistica* 66: 181–205.
- Watanabe, Akira. 2014. 1-deletion: Measure nouns vs. classifiers. *Proceedings of Japanese/Korean Linguistics* 22: 245–260.
- Watanabe, Akira. 2015. Valuation as deletion: Inverse in Jemez and Kiowa. *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory* 33, 1387–1420
- Yasuda, Naomichi. 2015. *Nihongo sūshi no rekishiteki kenkyū* [A historical study of Japanese numerals]. Tokyo: Musashino Shoin.