

# Japanese tone database

 <https://doi.org/10.1075/cilt.365.app1>

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Pages 126–127 of

**Using Tonal Data to Recover Japanese Language History**

**Elisabeth M. de Boer**

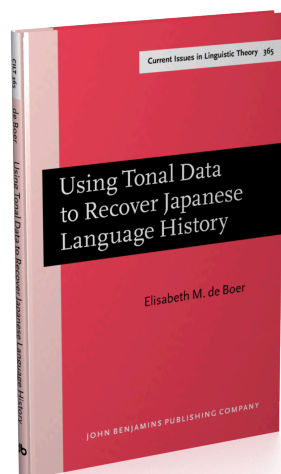
[*Current Issues in Linguistic Theory*, 365]

2024. viii, 130 pp.

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## APPENDIX

# Japanese tone database

Elisabeth M. de Boer's monograph on the suprasegmental phonology of Japanese (2010) broke new ground in many ways. It showed that Japanese is better described as a restricted tone language than as a pitch-accent language; demonstrated the superiority of S. Robert Ramsey's interpretation of Middle Japanese tone-dot materials (such as Ruiju myōgishō) and the inconsistencies of the usual Japanese interpretation (teisetsu); established a clear tree-structure of dialect divergence from proto-Japanese to present-day dialects on the basis of the tone classes of nouns and verbs; and accounted for the occurrence of dialects with Tōkyō-type tone classes and rules in geographically disjoint parts of Japan.

Sadly, de Boer died in August 2023 at the age of 57, cutting short a promising career as a researcher and author. The Excel file presented here is the last version of her extensive fieldwork on the tones of Japanese nouns, verbs, and their compounds in a wide range of dialects.

The file contains four spreadsheets:

Main Markings

Martin corrected

H+O big list

H+O wide list

“Martin” is a listing of all the data in Martin 1987; “H+O” (formatted two ways) refers to the data in Hiroto & Takamichi 1953. “Main markings” includes data collected during the project funded by the European Research Council on which de Boer was working when she entered hospice care.

## References

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## Database

<https://doi.org/10.1075/cilt.365.additional>