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Is discourse made up of sentences? Focusing on dependent grafted speech in modern standard Japanese

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Abstract: The idea that discourse is made up of sentences has been widespread among linguists. Does this traditional discourse perspective (“sententialism”) apply to casual language in daily communication? This paper examines the validity of sententialism by focusing on a type of speech called “dependent grafted speech” in Japanese conversation. Close examinations of various words, phrases, and sentences reveal that dependent grafted speech is different from sentences on two points: (i) Generally, the lexical accent of the copula at the beginning of dependent grafted speech is a high tone; and (ii) the interaction particle at the end of dependent grafted speech is not uttered with a falling intonation unless it is proceeded by a very abrupt rising intonation (“leaping” intonation). These findings cast doubt on the status of dependent grafted speech as a sentence. Moreover, they demonstrate a new conception of discourse as a mixture of diverse constituents, including sentences, dependent grafted speech, and other utterance types.

Keywords: dependent grafted speech; Japanese; sentence boundary; sententialism

1 Introduction

It has traditionally been thought that discourse is made up of sentences (e.g., Nitta 2016; Ōiwa 1949; Smith 2003). Although this view of discourse (“sententialism” hereafter) might appear valid for well-prepared formal Japanese language, does it also apply to casual Japanese in daily communication?

It should be noted that there is a disagreement about the treatment of Japanese speech consisting of just one noun. While considerable research, based on sententialism, views one-noun utterances as a special sentence (*itigobun* in Japanese),

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Oki (2006) argues that while one-noun speech is a case of one-word speech, it still does not constitute one sentence. Regrettably, however, neither of these arguments for and against one-noun speech being a sentence are supported by sufficient evidence, as both are highly abstract.

Sententialism also has an impact on utterances that would appear at first glance to be incomplete. Nitta (2016) argues that the utterance *rasii desu ne* (“apparently so”) in Example (1) below would be judged by him as well as Japanese researchers, in general, to be a sentence.

- (1) “*ohukuro -san =mo, sō =da -tta -no =ka?*” *hirosi=ga i-tta.*
 mother -HON =SIM same =COP -PST -NMLZ =Q Hiroshi=NOM say-PST
 “Did your mother also think the same thing?” said Hiroshi.
 “*rasii =desu=ne.*”¹
 apparently =COP =IP
 “Apparently.”²

(Tosio Kamata, *Kin'yōbi no tumatati e*)
 [Nitta 2016: 13]

Based on the observation of two prosodic points, it will be argued that these utterances (“dependent grafted speech” hereafter) do not resemble sentence speech. Below I will introduce the concept of dependent grafted speech (Section 2), discuss observations of each of the two prosodic points (Sections 3 and 4), and summarize the argument (Section 5).

2 What is dependent grafter speech?

In horticulture, a graft is well known as a tree grafted onto the base stock of a tree (Figure 1).

While the stock stands on its own power, the graft is not independent. It grows from where it is inserted into the stock. Continuing from a prior study that discussed the semantic and pragmatic aspects of grafted speech (Sadanobu 2020b), this paper will employ the word “graft” metaphorically to describe a type of utterance in modern standard Japanese as grafted speech. Grafted speech refers to

¹ Abbreviations used are as follows: ABL (Ablative), ACC (Accusative), ACCM (Accumulative), ALL (Allative), COM (Comitative), COMP (Comparative), COND (Conditional), CONJ (Conjunction), CONJP (Conjunctive Particle), CONS (Conjunctive Suffix), COP (Copula), G (Goal), GEN (Genitive), HON (Honorific), INS (Instrumental), IP (Interactional Particle), LOC (Locative), NEG (Negative), NMLZ (Nominalizer), NOM (Nominative), PST (Past), Q (Question), QUO (Quotation), RES (Restrictive), SEL (Selective), SIM (Similarity), VOC (Vocative), and TOP (Topic).

² English translations of examples and quotes from Japanese sources are provided by the author.

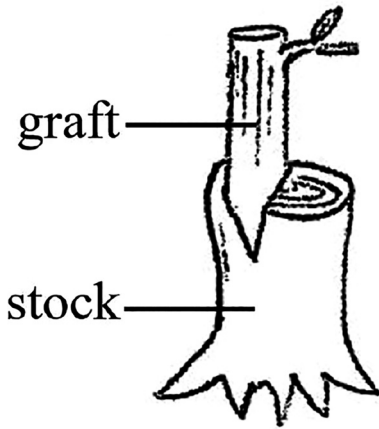


Figure 1: Illustration of grafting.

utterances that lack independence at their starting points and thus involve a conspicuous dependence on the preceding context.

Some examples of grafted speech appearing in communication in modern standard Japanese are illustrated in examples (2) and (3).

- (2) A: *asita, ame =ka =na?*
 tomorrow rain =Q =IP
 ‘I wonder if it’ll rain tomorrow.’
 B: *=to omou =kedo =na.*
 =QUO think =CONJP =IP
 ‘I think so.’
- (3) A: *asita, ame =ka =na?*
 tomorrow rain =Q =IP
 ‘I wonder if it’ll rain tomorrow.’
 B: *=da =naa.*
 =COP =IP
 ‘Probably.’

In Example (2), Speaker B replies to A’s utterance, asking about the following days’ weather, *=to omou=kedo=na* (‘I think so’). The *=to* at the beginning of this response is not a free word but an enclitic indicating quotation. In this way, it is apparent that the utterance *=to omou=kedo=na* is dependent on the preceding utterance *asita, ame=ka=na?* (‘I wonder if it’ll rain tomorrow’), which is what could be called the stock utterance. Similarly, the *=da* at the start of Speaker B’s reply in Example

(3), *=da=naa* (“probably”) is not a free word but an enclitic (a copula),³ and thus the dependence of *=da=naa* on the preceding utterance *asita, ame=ka=na?* is overt. Of the two grafted speech utterances *=to omou=kedo=na* and *=da=naa* above, the free word *omou* (‘think’) appears in the former, while the latter is completely lacking in independence, as both the starting *=da* and the following postpositional particle *=naa* are dependent.

Using the term “grafted” instead of another term such as “accompanying” avoids misunderstandings from possible nuances such as conformity or expectedness. For example, grafted speech also includes utterances that reveal, to some degree, an attitude of incredulity or denial, such as that in Example (4).⁴

- (4) C: *de, uti =wa urokoino -tte,*
 CONJP my house =TOP green-cheeked parakeet-QUO
 ‘Our parakeet is green-cheeked parakeet,’
tyotto hitomawari okki -ku -tte
 a little one size big -CONS -CONJP
 ‘It is about one size bigger (than the budgerigar that E keeps), and’
 D: *huun, urokoino -tte iu =no.*
 hmm green-cheeked parakeet -QUO say =Q
 ‘Hmm, a green-cheeked parakeet, huh?’
 E: *hutamawari =kurai okki -ku -na -katta?*
 two sizes =about big -CONS -NEG -PST
 ‘Isn’t it about two sizes bigger?’
 →C: *=ka =naa. de, ma, sōziki ...*
 =Q -IP CONJ anyway vacuum cleaner
 ‘I am not sure. But, anyway, the vacuum cleaner ...’
 [http://www.speech-data.jp/chotto/2012/2012025.html]

Here, Speaker C is describing to Listeners D and E the physical traits of her parakeet as a preamble to telling them about an incident involving the parakeet. When she describes the parakeet as one size larger (than a shell parakeet), Listener D, who has seen the parakeet, asks if it was about two sizes larger. In response, C inclines her head to the side (Photo 1) as if she were thinking about the question and says, *=ka=naa* (‘I am not sure’; underlined passage in (4)). This utterance *=ka=naa* is an example of grafted speech that starts with the dependent word (postpositional

³ Note that the term “copula” is just tentative. There is room to study whether “copula” is suitable for words such as *da*. While some prior studies have attempted to see *da* as a free word (Liu 2010), this paper does not hold that view. See Sadanobu (2020b) for details, including the reasons why.

⁴ The transcription of this conversation is simplified to the extent that it does not interfere with the observation.



Photo 1: Speaker C inclines her head slightly while replying =ka=naa to Listener E's utterance. Video published at: <http://www.speech-data.jp/chotto/2012/2012025.html>.

particle) =ka. As this utterance, at the very least, does not indicate ready agreement with D's preceding utterance, it does not express conformity, and thus it would not be described as “accompanying” its preceding utterance. Incidentally, the =naa that follows =ka here is also dependent, and thus the entire grafted speech utterance lacks independence.

This paper will observe in particular the prosody of dependent grafted speech, that is, grafted speech that includes no free words, not only at the beginning but through to the end of the utterance (as seen in =da=naa in Example (3) and =ka=naa in Example (4)).

3 The lexical accent at the start of dependent grafted speech

In Section 3, we will observe the lexical accent at the start of dependent grafted speech. Figure 2 reproduces the overall structure of the argument in the somewhat complex form of layering observations on top of observations.

In Figure 2, the basic assumption of the argument is illustrated at the bottom. The arrow indicates the order in which the argument will proceed.

More specifically, we will begin by introducing the principle of lexical determinacy (by which lexical accents lack regularity and vary from word to word), which is well known as a distinguishing feature of lexical accents of simple words in modern standard Japanese ([1]). Then, we will identify an exceptional tendency

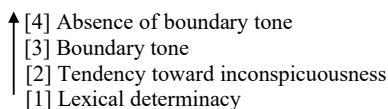


Figure 2: Structure of Section 3.

that does not conform to this principle (referred to tentatively as the tendency toward inconspicuousness). This is the tendency for simplex words that are not conspicuous in syntactic, semantic, and phonological terms to have regular, rather than varied, lexical accents (specifically, to conform to the surrounding environment without standing out) ([2]). The inconspicuous words that tend to conform to the surroundings act as a sort of litmus test paper by which we can assess the surrounding environment. Observing these allows us to elucidate the lexical accent required of words positioned on the boundaries of utterances (lexical accent as a boundary tone) ([3]), after which we consider the boundaries of utterances to identify whether boundary tones are present or not. Sections 3.1–3.4 describe each stage of the structure [1]–[4], outlined in Figure 2, in that order.

3.1 Lexical determinacy

Languages such as English and Russian are considered to constitute a group in which the lexical accent is not determined by matters such as the phoneme structure of words and grammatical qualities (Lyons 1968), and modern standard Japanese can also be included in this group. The lexical accent of modern standard Japanese is not predetermined but varies among individual words (Beckman and Pierrehumbert 1986: 256), as seen in the examples of *saru* ('monkey'), which has a word-initial accent pattern (a high accent on the first syllable); *inu* ('dog'), which has a word-final accent pattern; and *kizi* ('pheasant'), which has a flat accentless pattern.⁵

3.2 Tendency toward inconspicuousness

These observations concern the lexical accents of simplex words, while the lexical accents of complex words in modern standard Japanese are known to exhibit a considerable degree of regularity (e.g., McCawley 1968). Furthermore, various tendencies can be observed even among complex words that deviate from this regularity. Here we will propose, as one such tendency, the tendency toward inconspicuousness described under (5) below.

- (5) Tendency toward inconspicuousness:
Inconspicuous words—that is, words that are not conspicuous syntactically, are light in semantic content, and are short in phonological form—will tend

⁵ Although it is not the case that regularity is completely lacking (e.g., Sadanobu 2015), this subject will not be discussed in this paper.

to be inconspicuous in terms of lexical accent as well and, as a result, conform to their surrounding environments.

This tendency demonstrates that one reason why lexical accents of complex words deviate from general regularity is because it is difficult to recognize words that are syntactically, semantically, and phonologically inconspicuous as words in their own right. See Examples (6)–(10) (the capitals in the examples are used for moras with high pitch except for term abbreviations.⁶ The same applies hereafter).

- (6) a. *KAi* + *geNSHŌ* → *kaIGEnshō* ‘strange phenomenon’
 ‘strange’ ‘phenomenon’
 b. *kyuU* + *haSSHIN* → *kyuUHAssin* ‘sudden start’
 ‘sudden’
 c. *HI* ‘non-’ + *zyoOSIKI* ‘common sense’ → *hiZYOosiki* ‘insane’
 d. *huKU* + *gaKUTYŌ* → *huKUGAkutyō* ‘vice president’
 ‘vice’ ‘president’
 e. *SI* ‘private’ + *seIKATU* ‘life’ → *siSEikatu* ‘private life’
- (7) a. *O* (HON) + *deN’WA* ‘telephone’ → *oDeN’wa* ‘telephone’
 b. *O* (HON) + *kaGEN* ‘condition’ → *oKAgen* ‘moderation’
 c. *O* (HON) + *seNTAKU* ‘washing’ → *oSEntaku* ‘washing’
 d. *O* (HON) + *soOZI* ‘cleaning’ → *oSOozi* ‘cleaning’
 e. *O* (HON) + *ziKAN* ‘time’ → *oZikan* ‘time’
- (8) a. *O* (HON) + *beNKYŌ* ‘study’ → *oBENKYŌ* ‘study’
 b. *O* (HON) + *gyoOGO* ‘deportment’ → *oGYŌGI* ‘deportment’
 c. *O* (HON) + *saiHŌ* ‘sewing’ → *oSAIHŌ* ‘sewing’
 d. *O* (HON) + *saiHU* ‘purse’ → *oSAIHU* ‘purse’
 e. *O* (HON) + *zyaMA* ‘obstacle’ → *oZYAMA* ‘obstacle’
- (9) *GO* (HON) + *siDŌ* ‘guidance’ → *goSIDō* ‘guidance’
- (10) a. *GO* + *byoOKI* ‘disease’ → *goBYŌKI* ‘disease’
 (HON)
 b. *GO* + *kaNKEI* → *goKANKEI*
 (HON) ‘relationship’ ‘relationship’

⁶ Chinese-derived dependent morphemes such as *sai* in (6a) take a word-initial accent pattern (e.g., *kai=wa wakarū* (As for the letter of *kai*, I know it); Sadanobu 2017).

- c. *GO* + *keIKEN* ‘experience’ -> *goKEIKEN* ‘experience’
(HON)
- d. *GO* + *keKKON* ‘marriage’ -> *goKEKKON* ‘marriage’
(HON)
- e. *GO* + *seNMON* ‘specialty’ -> *goSENMON* ‘specialty’
(HON)

The words in Example (6) are complex words in which the latter elements (in the first example (a), *genshō*, ‘phenomenon’) consist of two feet of Chinese-derived words (that is, two characters). Incidentally, the latter elements of the complex words in Examples (6)–(10) are words spoken with an accentless pattern. These were chosen as examples that would make it easy to judge whether or not the accents were compounded.

Generally, the accent on a complex word with a two-foot latter element is, as in Example (6), one in which the accent nucleus (the ending point of the high accent) is positioned in the first mora of the latter element. For example, the word *kai-genshō* (‘strange phenomenon’) in (6a) has the accent nucleus positioned in the first mora *ge* of the latter element *genshō* (*ka*: low; *i*: high; *ge*: high; *n*: low; *sho*: low; *o*: low, LHHLL hereafter).⁷

However, when the former element of a complex word is the honorific *o* or *go*—that is, in the case of a prefix, with a light semantic content (which probably could

⁷ An exception to this general regularity is discussed immediately following this passage. However, there are two other exceptions to this principle, even if we limit the scope of discussion to complex nouns. One is the fact that the accent on complex words containing a very small number of specific latter elements (e.g., *gimi* (‘kind of’); *basya* (‘carriage’) such as *kazegimi* (‘slight cold’), *syokusyougimi* (‘surfeited’), *taikutugimi* (‘a little weary’), *akiregimi* (‘a little disappointed’), *ekibasya* (‘stagecoach’), *horobasya* (‘covered carriage’), *nibasya* (‘wagon’), *tuzibasya* (‘fiacre carriage’); and with exceptions such as *noriaibasya* (‘stagecoach’)) tends to be on the accentless pattern (e.g., *kazegimi* LHHH). The other exception is, more strictly speaking, an exception to a more fundamental principle, which holds that the lexical accent of a complex word is unrelated to the former element. For example, it would be hard to accept an accentless pattern for the complex word *yousikikentiku* (‘Western-style construction’), in which the former element consists of two feet (i.e., it would not sound very natural to pronounce it as LHHHHLLL). However, in the case of the complex word *seiyousikikentiku* (‘Western-style construction’), which resembles this one in both meaning and form but has a three-foot former element, an accentless pattern (i.e., LHHHHHHHHH) is easier to accept. In this way, the lexical accent of a complex word may, in fact, be related to its former element (Sadanobu 1999: 166–168, 2000: 177–178). However, the presence of these exceptions is not addressed in this paper because it deviates from the present topic (i.e., tendencies in lexical accent of words that lack independence). Representing the length of the former element in the complex words in Example (6) as a one-foot Chinese-derived word is a measure that recognizes, for the sake of convenience, the principle that the lexical accent of a complex word is unrelated to the former element.

be described as merely one of politeness), and only one syllable in length, this general regularity does not necessarily apply. While some complex words have this general regularity (such as *o-den'wa* LHLL ‘telephone’ and *go-sidō* LHLL ‘guidance’ in Examples (7) and (9)), others deviate from it and exhibit a tendency toward inconspicuousness (such as *o-benkyō* LHHHH ‘study’ and *go-byōki* LHHH ‘disease’ in Examples (8) and (10)). The latter complex words are accentless from the accent pattern of their latter elements. That is, in Examples (8) and (10), the prefixes *o* and *go* are ignored with regard to accent, and the lexical accent information of the latter elements (i.e., no accent nucleus) is succeeded by the entire complex word without change. This is what is referred to by the tendency toward inconspicuousness (5): “Inconspicuous words ... will tend to be inconspicuous in terms of ... lexical accent as well, ... conforming to their surrounding environments.”

As with prefixes, a tendency toward inconspicuousness can also be observed in suffixes. Examples (11)–(13) illustrate complex words in which the latter element consists of one foot of a Chinese-derived word (that is, one character).⁸

- | | | | | | | |
|------|----|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------|----|---|
| (11) | a. | <i>HYOoga</i> ‘ice’ | + | <i>KI</i> ‘period’ | -> | <i>hyoOGAki</i> ‘ice age’ |
| | b. | <i>koONETSU</i> ‘light
and heat’ | + | <i>HI</i> ‘cost’ | -> | <i>koONETUhi</i> ‘utility
cost’ |
| | c. | <i>siKŌ</i> ‘thinking’ | + | <i>RYOku</i>
‘power’ | -> | <i>siKOoryoku</i> ‘thinking
power’ |
| | d. | <i>SYOkI</i> ‘initial period’ | + | <i>TI</i> ‘value’ | -> | <i>syOKIti</i> ‘initial value’ |
| | e. | <i>Taiho</i> ‘arrest’ | + | <i>SYA</i>
‘person’ | -> | <i>talHOSya</i> ‘arrestee’ |
| (12) | a. | <i>gaIRAI</i>
‘imported’ | + | <i>GO</i> ‘word’ | -> | <i>gaIRAIGO</i> ‘foreign-derived
word’ |
| | b. | <i>kiKAKU</i>
‘project’ | + | <i>SYO</i>
‘paper’ | -> | <i>kiKAKUSHO</i> ‘proposal’ |
| | c. | <i>KOzin</i>
‘individual’ | + | <i>YOO</i> ‘use’ | -> | <i>koZIN’YŌ</i> ‘private use’ |
| | d. | <i>TYOosa</i>
‘survey’ | + | <i>TAi</i> ‘team’ | -> | <i>tyoOSATAI</i> ‘survey team’ |
| | e. | <i>ZIka</i> ‘home’ | + | <i>SEi</i>
‘-made’ | -> | <i>ziKASEI</i> ‘homemade’ |

⁸ Here too, the length of the former element is represented as a two-foot Chinese-derived word based on the assumption that the lexical accent of a complex word is unrelated to the former element, as discussed under Note 7. Words with lengths of two feet are treated as separate from complex words in a prior study, and they are not addressed in this paper either.

- | | | | | | | |
|------|----|------------------------------------|---|------------------|----|-------------------------------|
| (13) | a. | <i>KAtō</i> ‘Katō (personal name)’ | + | <i>KUn</i> (HON) | -> | <i>KAtō-kun</i> ‘dear Katō’ |
| | b. | <i>oKUtō</i> ‘Okutō (p.n.)’ | + | <i>KUn</i> (HON) | -> | <i>oKUtō-kun</i> ‘dear Okutō’ |
| | c. | <i>saITō</i> ‘Saitō (p.n.)’ | + | <i>KUn</i> (HON) | -> | <i>saITō-KUN</i> ‘dear Saitō’ |

Of these, Example (11) lists complex words that conform to general regularity, while Example (13) lists complex words that exhibit the tendency toward inconspicuousness as they include the latter element *-kun*.

Let us first consider Example (11). While in a complex word with a one-foot latter element the accent nucleus is placed on the final foot of the former element (e.g., *ki* in *hyōga=ki* LHL ‘ice age’),⁹ for certain latter elements, the accent follows the accentless pattern (e.g., *go* ‘word,’ *gairaigo* LHHHH; ‘foreign-derived word,’ *Nihongo* LHHH ‘Japanese language,’ and *Tyūgokugo* LHHHH ‘Chinese language’), as in Example (12).¹⁰

However, this does not apply in the case of complex words with *-kun*, in which the latter element is a suffix, lighter in semantic content (it could probably be described as a way of referring to somebody), and only one syllable in length, as seen in Example (13). Specifically, this includes (a) complex words, in which *-kun* is attached to a former element that originally has a word-initial accent (e.g., *Satō* HLL), take a word-initial accent (HLLLL); (b) complex words, in which *-kun* is attached to a former element that originally has a word-internal or word-final accent (e.g., *Okutō* LHLL), take a word-internal or word-final accent (LHLLLL); and (c) complex words, in which *-kun* is attached to a former element that originally has no accent nucleus (e.g., *Naitō* LHHH), take an accentless pattern (LHHHHH). In these ways, whether there is an accent nucleus and its position are unchanged by attaching *-kun*. The same can also be observed in the cases of the other personal suffixes *-san* and *-chan*.

Conformity to this tendency toward inconspicuousness can also be observed in many cases among postpositional particles and copulas used to form phrases connected to nouns. Example (14) concerns postpositional particles and Example (15) copulas. Here, the noun *saru* ‘monkey’ is used as representative of the word-initial accent pattern noun *inu* ‘dog’ with word-internal/final and *kizi* ‘pheasant’ with an accentless pattern (See the end of Section 3.1.).

⁹ While in cases such as the Example (11c), *sikōryoku*, the final foot *kō* of the former element (*sikō* ‘thinking’) has two mora (*ko*, *o*), the issue arises about which mora the accent nuclear should be placed on. However, this is not addressed in this paper because it differs from the subject at hand.

¹⁰ A small number of exceptions, such as *Kinkakuji* ‘Kinkakuji Temple’ and *Fuzisan* ‘Mt. Fuzi’, which take a word-initial accent, are omitted here.

- (14)
- | | | | | |
|----|------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------------|
| a. | <i>SAru=dake</i> | <i>iNU=dake</i> | <i>kiZI=DAKE</i> | (= <i>dake</i> : RES) |
| b. | <i>SAru=de</i> | <i>iNU=de</i> | <i>kiZI=DE</i> | (= <i>de</i> : INS) |
| c. | <i>SAru=e</i> | <i>iNU=e</i> | <i>kiZI=E</i> | (= <i>e</i> : ALL) |
| d. | <i>SAru=ga</i> | <i>iNU=ga</i> | <i>kiZI=GA</i> | (= <i>ga</i> : NOM) |
| e. | <i>SAru=hodo</i> | <i>iNU=hodo</i> | <i>kiZI=HODO</i> | (= <i>hodo</i> : COMP) |
| f. | <i>SAru=ka</i> | <i>iNU=ka</i> | <i>kiZI=KA</i> | (= <i>ka</i> : SEL) |
| g. | <i>SAru=kara</i> | <i>iNU=kara</i> | <i>kiZI=KARA</i> | (= <i>kara</i> : ABL) |
| h. | <i>SAru=mo</i> | <i>iNU=mo</i> | <i>kiZI=MO</i> | (= <i>mo</i> : SIM) |
| i. | <i>SAru=ni</i> | <i>iNU=ni</i> | <i>kiZI=NI</i> | (= <i>ni</i> : LOC) |
| j. | <i>SAru=o</i> | <i>iNU=o</i> | <i>kiZI=O</i> | (= <i>o</i> : ACC) |
| k. | <i>SAru=to</i> | <i>iNU=to</i> | <i>kiZI=TO</i> | (= <i>to</i> : COM) |
| l. | <i>SAru=tte</i> | <i>iNU=tte</i> | <i>kiZI=TTE</i> | (= <i>tte</i> : QUO) |
| m. | <i>SAru=wa</i> | <i>iNU=wa</i> | <i>kiZI=WA</i> | (= <i>wa</i> : TOP) |
| n. | <i>SAru=ya</i> | <i>iNU=ya</i> | <i>kiZI=YA</i> | (= <i>ya</i> : ACCM) |
| o. | <i>SAru=yo</i> | <i>iNU=yo</i> | <i>kiZI=YO</i> | (= <i>yo</i> : VOC) |
- (15)
- | | | | | |
|----|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| a. | <i>SAru=da</i> | <i>iNU=da</i> | <i>kiZI=DA</i> | (= <i>da</i> : COP) |
| b. | <i>SAru=zya</i> | <i>iNU=zya</i> | <i>kiZI=ZYA</i> | (= <i>zya</i> : COP ¹¹) |

Here, the word-initial accent of the host word (*saru* ‘monkey,’ *inu* ‘dog,’ and *kizi* ‘pheasant’) is maintained even in a phrase that includes an enclitic (e.g., (14a) *saru=ga* HLL, *inu=ga* LHL, *kizi=ga* LHH). When the enclitic has a length of one mora, for the most part, the only exception is the genitive enclitic *no*. When *no* is attached to a word-final-accented word (e.g., *inu*), the word-final accent is not maintained and is removed (*inu=no* LHH).¹²

Even when the enclitic has a length of two mora or longer, it can be observed that the first mora of the enclitic within the phrase often conforms to the “tendency toward inconspicuousness” (with the second and later morae taking a low accent). Example (16) illustrates this in the case of a postpositional particle and Example (17) in the case of a copula.¹³

¹¹ For clarity, it should be noted here that *zya* in (15b) is not a dialect. It is cited as a word uttered by an elderly or rural person type (“*kyara*”) of speaker in contemporary standard Japanese society. For “*kyara*,” See Sadanobu (2020a).

¹² However, it is not the case that the pattern of word-final accent is never retained (e.g., *ichi=no* LHL “one’s”). For details, see Shioda (2016: 204).

¹³ A note similar to Note 9 is added here for clarity’s sake. The postpositional particle *yori* in (16j) is an ablative case marker that sounds somewhat archaic. Likewise, the accusative case particle *oba* in (16f) is an ancient samurai or ninja “*kyara*” word. The copula *nari* in (17b) is again a samurai or ninzya “*kyara*” word in contemporary standard Japanese society, and the copula *zamasu* in (17c) is a milady-like “*kyara*.”

- (16)
- | | | | | |
|----|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| a. | <i>SAru=demo</i> | <i>iNU=demo</i> | <i>kiZI=DEmo</i> | (= <i>demo</i> : ‘even’) |
| b. | <i>SAru=made</i> | <i>iNU=made</i> | <i>kiZI=MAde</i> | (= <i>made</i> : ‘even’) |
| c. | <i>SAru=nado</i> | <i>iNU=nado</i> | <i>kiZI=NAdo</i> | (= <i>nado</i> : ‘and so on’) |
| d. | <i>SAru=nara</i> | <i>iNU=nara</i> | <i>kiZI=NAra</i> | (= <i>nara</i> : COND) |
| e. | <i>SAru=nanka</i> | <i>iNU=nanka</i> | <i>kiZI=NAAnka</i> | (= <i>nanka</i> : ‘such as’) |
| f. | <i>SAru=oba</i> | <i>iNU=oba</i> | <i>kiZI=Oba</i> | (= <i>oba</i> : ACC (archaic)) |
| g. | <i>SAru=sae</i> | <i>iNU=sae</i> | <i>kiZI=SAe</i> | (= <i>sae</i> : ‘even’) |
| h. | <i>SAru=sura</i> | <i>iNU=sura</i> | <i>kiZI=SUra</i> | (= <i>sura</i> : ‘even’) |
| i. | <i>SAru=toka</i> | <i>iNU=toka</i> | <i>kiZI=TOka</i> | (= <i>toka</i> : ‘such as’) |
| j. | <i>SAru=yori</i> | <i>iNU=yori</i> | <i>kiZI=YOri</i> | (= <i>yori</i> : ABL (archaic)) |
- (17)
- | | | | | |
|----|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| a. | <i>SAru=desu</i> | <i>iNU=desu</i> | <i>kiZI=DEsu</i> | (= <i>desu</i> : COP) |
| b. | <i>SAru=nari</i> | <i>iNU=nari</i> | <i>kiZI=NAri</i> | (= <i>nari</i> : COP) |
| c. | <i>SAru=zamasu</i> | <i>iNU=zamasu</i> | <i>kiZI=ZAMasu</i> | (= <i>zamasu</i> : COP) |

For example, while *de* in the postposition *demo* (“to”) of Example (16a) and *de* in the copula *desu* of Example (17a) have low accents when they immediately follow the word-initial-accented word *saru* or the word-final-accented word *inu* and high accents when they immediately follow the accentless word *kizi*, the *mo* in *demo* and the *su* in *desu* consistently take low accents.

3.3 Lexical accent as a boundary tone

Next, we will observe the lexical accent required of words positioned on the boundaries of utterances—that is, lexical accent as a boundary tone—by using these “inconspicuous” words that conform to the “tendency toward inconspicuousness” as a litmus test paper to assess the surrounding environment.

As seen in Section 3.2, the lexical accent on a one-mora long case particle that is ignored and conforms to its surrounding environment should be high when it immediately follows an accentless word. However, exceptional cases exist, such as when some kind of boundary is recognized between the accentless word and the case particle (Sadanobu 2017, 2019). Examples are presented under (18). Hereinafter, a boundary is indicated by a slash [/].

- (18)
- | | | | |
|----|----------------------|------------|--------------------|
| a. | <i>aTARU/</i> | <i>=o</i> | <i>saIWAI, ...</i> |
| | hit | =ACC | fortune |
| | ‘By chance ...’ | | |
| b. | <i>iKU/</i> | <i>=ga</i> | <i>YOi.</i> |
| | go | =NOM | good |
| | ‘You had better go.’ | | |

- c. *iKU/* =*ni* *koSI-TA* *KOTO* =*wa* *NAi*.
 go =*COMP* *exceed-PAST* *thing* =*TOP* *inexistent*
 ‘It’s a good idea to go.’
- d. *iU/* =*ni* *koTOkai-te*
 say =*for* *lack-gerund*
 ‘That’s not a nice thing to say ...’
- e. *koNO* *koKUGOJiten* =*no* *DAi-SAn-kan*=*wa*
 this *Japanese dictionary*=*GEN* *No. -three-volume*=*TOP*
 ‘*noRU/*’ =*kara* ‘*maKU/*’ =*made* =*da*.
 ride =*ABL* *wind* =*G* =*COP*
 ‘Volume three of this Japanese dictionary includes the words from *noru*
 through *ma ku*.’

In the environment of directly following an accentless word (such as *ataru* ‘hit’ in Example (18a)), a high accent would be expected (as in the way *ta* and *te* in *atatta* ‘hit (past tense)’ and *atatte* ‘hit and’ take a high accent). Nevertheless, the accusative particle that immediately follows *o* has a low accent. This is because a boundary is recognized in terms of parts of speech between the accentless word and the particle. Such a boundary in terms of parts of speech is explained below.

One might say *ryokō=ga suki=desu* (‘I love travel’) or *ryokōsuru=no=ga suki=desu* (‘I love to travel’) but would not say **ryokō=suru=ga suki=desu*. In general, a verb will not be connected directly to a case particle in that order. These examples demonstrate that even when connecting such words together directly on an exceptional basis, a prominent boundary remains at the point of connection as this connection itself is not very strong. The examples illustrated under (18) are truly exceptional cases. They include two types of exceptions: idiomatic phrases (specifically, *ataru=o saiwai* [‘By chance ...’] in (a), ... *suru=ga yoi* [‘You had better ...’] in (b), ... *suru=ni kosita koto=wa nai* [‘It’s a good idea to ...’] in (c), and *iu=ni kotokaite* ... [‘be so stupid to (say ...)’] in (d)), and cases in which verbs are quoted ((e)). In both of these cases, a verb is connected directly to a particle in that order.¹⁴

¹⁴ For example, in a case such as when the author of a manuscript for a new Japanese dictionary states, “*iku*=*ga mada dekite inai* (‘I haven’t finished “*iku*” yet.)’ in the sense that the entry for the word *iku* (“to go”) is not yet complete, depending on the speaker it would not be unnatural to utter the particle *ga* with a high accent. This can be considered a case in which the part of speech *iku* has been transformed from a verb to a noun through the pragmatic act of metonymy. While this is distinct from the subject of accent, other acts that have the effect of nominalization include forming sets (e.g., *Nanisiro asoko=wa samui*, *mazusii*, *kurai=no tihō=da* [‘Anyway, that’s a cold, impoverished, dark region.’], *kaku=o motsu*, *tsukuru*, *mochikomaseru=no daibōgyaku* [‘the great atrocity of having, building, or introducing nuclear weapons’]). It sounds natural to connect these to the particle *no* because of this nominalization effect (Sadanobu 2012).

From a cross-linguistic perspective, the phenomenon of spoken utterances taking a special form before and after boundaries is not unusual, both in terms of rhythm (e.g., Hyman and Leben 2000: 592) and phonation/voice quality (e.g., Chafe 2001: 674; Gordon and Ladefoged 2001: 391–392). Recognizing the tendency toward boundary tones (19) in modern standard Japanese, we can consider this to be the lexical accent version of that tendency (20).

- (19) In modern standard Japanese, tone tends to be lower before and after a boundary.
- (20) In modern standard Japanese, lexical accent tends to be lower before and after a boundary.

In this way, with regard to lexical accent, we can understand the tendency of a particle, which tends to be ignored and conform to its surrounding environment, to take a low accent in the environment immediately following a verb even if it is accentless due to conformity with the tendency described under (20).

The tendency “to be lower before and after a boundary” under (20) includes cases in which an inconspicuous word is positioned before a boundary. Example (21) illustrates examples of inconspicuous words traditionally positioned immediately before clause boundaries, as conjunctive particles, and most of these can be understood in accordance with the tendency in (20).

- (21) a. *waTASI* =GA *iKE* =ba/, ...
 I =NOM go =CONJP (conditional)
 ‘if I go, ...’
- b. *waTASI* =GA *iKU* =ga/, ...
 I =NOM go =CONJP (adversative)
 ‘I will go, but ...’
- c. *waTASI* =GA *iKU* =kara/, ...
 I =NOM go =CONJP (‘because’)
 ‘because I will go, ...’
- d. *waTASI* =GA *iKU* =kedo/, ...
 I =NOM go =CONJP (adversative)
 ‘I will go, but ...’
- e. *waTASI* =GA *iKU* =nara/, ...
 I =NOM go =CONJP (conditional)
 ‘If I go, ...’
- f. *waTASI* =GA *iKU* =node/, ...
 I =NOM go =CONJP (‘since’)
 ‘as I will go, ...’

- g. *waTASI* =GA *iKU* =noni/, ...
 I =NOM go =CONJP (adversative)
 ‘although I go, ...’
- h. *waTASI* =GA *iKU* =si/, ...
 I =NOM go =CONJP (copulative)
 ‘I will go, and ...’
- i. *waTASI* =GA *iKU* =TO
 I =NOM go =CONJP (conditional)
 ‘if I go, ...’
- j. *waTASI* =GA *i* =TTAra/, ...
 I =NOM go =CONJP (conditional)
 ‘if I go, ...’
- k. *waTASI* =GA *i* =TTAri/, ...
 I =NOM go =CONJP (copulative)
 ‘I go, and ...’
- m. *waTASI* =GA *i* =TTE/
 I =NOM go =CONJP (gerund)
 ‘I go, and ...’
- n. *waTASI* =GA *i* =TTEmo/
 I =NOM go =CONJP (concessive)
 ‘even if I go, ...’

These are examples of main conjunctive particles connected directly to the accentless verb *iku* (‘go’). Of these, *ba*, *ga*, *kara*, *kedo*, *nara*, *node*, *noni*, and *si* take low accents ((a)–(h)), and *tara*, *tari*, and *temo*, which include *ta* and *te*, conform to the surroundings in the first mora *ta* and *te*, while their second morae *ra*, *ri*, and *mo*, the last morae directly before the boundaries, take a low accent ((j)–(n)). Only the *te* and *to* take high accents ((i), (m)).¹⁵ Each of these conjunctive particles is a clitic that is light in semantic content (which probably serve only as connectors), short in length with only one or two morae, and inconspicuous, and each conforms to the “tendency toward inconspicuousness” in terms of accent, by conforming to its surrounding environment. However, the surroundings to which it conforms is not only the immediately preceding accentless word but also the immediately following clause boundary; whether it takes a high accent under the influence of the accentless word or a low accent in accordance with the tendency of boundary tone (20) varies by word.

15 Some speakers, however, appear to consider that a low accent on *to* sounds natural.

The same can be said of the particles *wa* and *mo*, which should not be connected directly to elements other than nouns, as could be said of ordinary particles. See Example (22).

- (22) a. *iU/ =wa yaSU-ku, oKONAU/ =wa kaTAsi.*
 say =TOP easy-and do =TOP hard
 ‘Things are easy to say but hard to do.’ (proverb)
- b. *kiKU/ =wa iTTOki =no haZI.*
 ask =TOP a moment =GEN shame
 ‘Asking is a shame for a moment.’ (proverb)
- c. *siRA-NU/ =wa HOnnin hiTORI =DAKE*
 know-NEG =TOP the person himself one person =only
 ‘The person himself is the only one who doesn’t know.’
- d. *kaTARU/ =mo NAMida, kiKU/ =mo NAMida =no monogatari*
 talk =also tear listen to =also tear =GIN story
 ‘It is a story that brings tears to the eyes of both the teller and the listener.’
- e. *iKU/ =mo iKA -NU/ =mo soNATA-SIdai.*
 go =also go -NEG =also you -up to
 ‘It’s up to you whether to go or not.’
- f. *‘noRU/ =mo ‘maKU/ =mo DAi SAN -kan =da.*
 ride =also wind =also No. three -volume =COP
 ‘Both of *noru* and *ma ku* are in volume three.’

These are examples of exceptional combinations of accentless verbs ((a)(b)(d)(e)(f)) or negative ending ((c)) plus particles *wa* and *mo*. Such combinations are possible in idiomatic phrases including proverbs ((a)–(e)) and quotation ((f)). In these various environments, *wa* and *mo* consistently take low accents.¹⁶

An observation similar to that above can be made in the case of exceptionally connecting an element other than a noun to another copula. See Example (23) below.

- (23) a. *iKU/ =da*
 go =COP
 ‘(Someone) goes.’
- b. *iKU/ =detyu*
 go =COP
 ‘(Someone) goes.’

¹⁶ However, depending on the speaker, idiomatic phrases might be seen as set phrases that do not have the internal structure of “verb + *wa/mo*.”

- c. *iKU/* =*zamasu*
go =COP
'(Someone) goes.'
- d. "*hiTOri* =*de* *iKU* =*no* =*ka?*"
one person =by go =NMLZ =Q
"*iYA.* *syaTYŌ* =*TO/* =*da.*"
no boss =COM =COP
"Will you go by yourself?" "No, with my boss."
- e. *soREMO,* *koOREI=NO* *OYA=o* *oI-TE/* =*da.*
what's more high age=GEN parent=ACC leave-gerund =COP
'What's more, they left an elder parent alone.'
- f. *taBE* -*NAGARA/* =*da.*
eat -while =COP
'It is while eating.'
- g. *SUGu* *iKU/* =*da* *nante,* *Uso* =*baKKari.*
right away go =COP such as lie =all
'You said "you'd go right away," you liar.'
- h. '*AkkanBEEEE/* =*da.*'
(children's despising behavior) =COP
'Buzz off!'
'*IIII/* =*da.*'
(children's despising behavior) =COP
'Buzz off!'
- i. '*soREDE, GUNYOOOO/* =*tte.*'
then (ideophone) =Q
'It's warped.'
'*soRE* =*WA* *TAsikani, GUNYOOOO/* =*da* =*ne*'
it =TOP surely (ideophone) =COP =IP
'You're right, it is warped.'
- j. *koNO kuURAN* =*NI* *uMARU doOSI* =*WA* '*iKU/* =*da* =*na.*'
this blank =LOC fill verb =TOP go COP =IP
'The verb that fills in this blank should be "go."'

While, in general, a copula follows a noun, in exceptional cases, a copula may follow a word other than a noun. For example, it may follow a verb in the case of utterances by speakers of rural, small children, or milady-like person types ("kyara," cf. Sadanobu 2020a), as in Example (a–c). Example (d) classically would be analyzed to involve the omission of *iku=no* ('go' + Genitive) between *syatyoo=to* ("with president") and *da* (copula), leading to the sense of some kind of gap, or boundary, between the two. The same is true of Examples (e) and (f), which

classically would be analyzed to involve the omission of *=no koto* (Genitive + ‘event’) immediately before *da*. Additionally, Examples (g–j) are cases of *da* appearing immediately following quotations or utterances resembling quotations (of *sugu iku* ‘go right away’ in (g), *akkanbeee* and *iii* ‘nyah nyah nyah’) in (h), ideophone *gunyooo* in (i), and *iku* ‘go’ in (j), and here too one senses a boundary between these utterances and the copula *da*. These utterances include not only accentless words (*iku*) but also ones for which the accent pattern is unclear to begin with (*akkanbeee*, *iii*, *gunyooo*); they all are followed by *da* with a low accent, and thus, they also can be considered to be exceptional cases due to the boundaries.

The same applies to disfluent utterances. See Examples (24), (25), and (26) below.

- (24) a. *wa, hiTO =GA iPPAI =DA =NAa.*
 INTJ person=NOM crowded =COP IP
 ‘Wow, it’s so crowded.’
 b. *hiTO =GA/ =da =NAa, iPPAI/ =da =NAa, haI-tte/=da=NAa, ...*
 person =NOM =COP =IP crowded COP =IP enter-gerund=COP=IP
 ‘There are so many, ... people, ... there, and ...’
- (25) a. *soNNA KOTO =wa guUZEN =ZYA.*
 such a thing =TOP coincidence =COP
 ‘That’s a coincidence, isn’t it?’
 b. *uCHI =NI/ =zya =NOo, guuzen/ =zya =NOo, i-TE/ =zya =Noo, ...*
 home =LOC =COP =IP coincidence =COP =IP exist-gerund =COP=IP
 ‘They just happened to be at home, and ...’
- (26) a. *SYUkun =no meIREI=WA zeTTAI =DEsu.*
 one’s load =GEN order=TOP absolute =COP
 ‘The order of one’s lord is absolute.’
 b. *huSEI =WA/ =desu=ne, zeTTAI/ =desu =ne,*
 improprieties =TOP =COP=IP absolutely =COP =IP
yuRUS-Anai=toiu siSEI =GA/ =desu=ne, ...
 allow-NEG=Q attitude =NOM =COM=IP
 ‘As a rule, improprieties are, absolutely, unacceptable, and ...’

Here, a phrase consisting of an accentless noun plus a copula (*ippai=da* in (24), *guuzen=zya* in (25), and *zettai=desu* in (26)) appears (a) at the end of the sentence and (b) in the middle of the sentence spoken disfluently. As generally there is no problem connecting a noun to a copula, the copula following an accentless noun should take a high accent. However, this is the case only in the (a) examples above, with the copula in the (b) example taking a low accent. This is because, in the

(b) examples, the utterances (*hito=ga ippai haitte* ... in (24), *uchi=ni guuzen ite* ... in (25), and *husei=wa zettai yurusanai=to=iu sisei=ga* ... in (26)) are not spoken in a single breath but instead in a disfluent manner with small breaks. This way of speaking has a structure like that of a quotation, in which what the speaker wants to say is cited as “*hito=ga*,” “*ippai*,” and “*haitte*,” and as such, the copulas take low accents because of the boundaries between the phrases and the copula.

3.4 Cases in which no boundary tone is apparent

However, conjunctions positioned on sentence boundaries, which are the largest of all boundaries, exhibit surprising behaviors. See Example (27) below.

- (27) a. *aRUiwa* (‘or’), *iPPOo* (‘on the other hand’), *keKKYOKU* (‘after all’), *maTA* (‘also’), *moTTOmo* (‘but’), *siKAsi* (‘but’), *siTAGATTE* (‘consequently’), *soKODE* (‘therefore’), *soNOTAME* (‘for that reason’), *soNOUE* (‘moreover’), *soREDE* (‘so’), *soREDEmo* (‘still’), *soREDEwa* (‘then’), *soREKARA* (‘and then’), *soRENAnoni* (‘in spite of that’), *soRENARA* (‘then’), *soRENI* (‘in addition’), *soRENISITEMo* (‘anyway’), *soREYUE* (‘therefore’), *soSITE* (‘and’), *soOSITE* (‘and’), *suNAwati* (‘namely’), *suRUTO* (‘and then’), *taHOo* (‘on the other hand’), *taTOeba* (‘for example’), *tiNAMINI* (‘by the way’), *toKORode* (‘by the way’), *toKOROGa* (‘however’), *yoOSUruni* (‘in short’), *yuEni* (‘therefore’)
- b. *DAga* (‘but’), *DAkara* (‘so’), *DAkedo* (‘but’), *DAnoni* (‘but’), *DAtosiTEmo* (‘even if’), *DAtoyūnoni* (‘even though’), *DAttara* (‘if so’), *DAtte* (‘because’), *DEmo* (‘but’), *DEsitara* (‘if so’), *DESuga* (‘but’), *DEsukara* (‘so’), *DESukedo* (‘but’), *DESunode* (‘so’), *DEwa* (‘then’), *KEdo* (‘but’), *NAnode* (‘so’), *NAnoni* (‘nevertheless’), *NAo* (‘additionally’), *NARA* (‘then’), *NAraba* (‘then’), *NAzenara* (‘as’), *NlimokaKAwarazu* (‘notwithstanding’) *SArani* (‘in addition’), *SOMosomo* (‘in the first place’), *TAda* (‘however’), *TAdasi* (‘however’), *TOMoare* (‘anyway’), *TUuari* (‘in other words’), *ZYAa* (‘then’)

These examples list 60 words that can be considered typical conjunctions. Of these, those listed under (a) have lexical accents that start low (for example, in the first of these conjunctions, *aruiwa*, the accent on the first mora *a* is low), while for those under (b), the lexical accent starts high. There is no major difference in the numbers of words in these two groups, with 30 words listed under (a) and 30 under (b). However, when we look solely at conjunctions that begin with copulas, we see that all of these are listed under (b). For these conjunctions, the lexical accent starts high. The five words with dashed underlines are ones for which the naturalness is

in doubt (*danoni* “but”)¹⁷ or for which it is unclear whether or not they can be said to start with a copula (*nanode* ‘so,’ *nanoni* ‘nevertheless,’ *nara* ‘then,’ *naraba* ‘then’), and thus perhaps they should not be included here. Still, that leaves 15 words with solid underlines. On the other hand, not one word fits in category (a) of those for which the lexical accent starts low.

This tendency of conjunctions, which should appear at the boundaries of sentences, to start with a high accent in all cases, instead of starting with a low accent when starting with a copula, and which should be sensitive to its environment, is most likely to be explained by the fact that the speaker is (hyperbolically speaking) “intentionally” connecting them to the preceding utterances through conjunctions.

The same can be said of utterances that begin with particles, as in the underlined passages of Examples (28) and (29). As these particles are bound, these passages can be said to be grafted speech.

(28) A1: *roKUzi HAn* =*yat-ta* -*yan-naa*
 six-thirty =COP-PST -IP-IP
 ‘(It) was six-thirty, wasn’t (it)?’

B1: *Un*
 INTJ
 ‘Yeah’

A2: *NII taDORITUi-te -Naka-ttaRAa*
 LOC arrive-gerund-NEG-if
 ‘(if I) haven’t arrived (there) at,’

[Taken from Example (4) in Hayashi (2004: 351), with an underline, some omissions and changes of notation are mine.]

(29) Customer: *ZYAa, iTINITII ZYŌSYAken*
 then, all-day pass
 ‘Then one all-day pass’

Staff: *WAA Ima uRIKIRE* =*DESU*
 ‘Sorry, we’re all sold out.’

As already demonstrated in (14i, m) in Section 3.2, the locative marker *ni* and the topic marker *wa* are inconspicuous enclitics (that is to say, their sensitivity to the environment is made known, like a litmus test, by the prosody produced by the speaker). Additionally, *nii* at the top of (28A2) and *waa* at the top of the staff’s speech in (29) both have high accents. This is because the speaker, in starting with

¹⁷ However, *danoni* appears in the lyrics of the song *Wakamonotachi* [Youths] by Tosio Fuzita, with music by Masaru Satō, 1966.

these dependent parts of grafted speech, is attempting to connect them to the preceding utterances.

Turning at last to the observation of the dependent grafted speech, the central subject of consideration in this paper, we see that the same applies here. In most cases of dependent grafted speech, as seen in Example (30), the elements at the start of the utterance have intrinsic lexical accents (e.g., the word-initial accent in the case of *kasira* “Is that so?”), and these lexical accents are used when uttering them.

- (30) *daRO(o)?* (‘Isn’t it?’), *daROo=NA(a)* (‘It would be so’), *daROo=NE(e)* (‘It would be so’), *deSYO(O)?* (‘Isn’t it?’), *deSYOo=ka=NE(e)* (‘Is that so?’), *deSYOo=NA(a)* (‘It would be so’), *deSYOo=NE(e)* (‘It would be so’), *KAmo* (‘Maybe’), *KAmo=NA(a)* (‘Maybe’), *KAmo=NE(e)* (‘Maybe’), *KAsira* (‘Is that so?’), *KAsira=NE(e)* (‘Is that so?’), *MItai* (‘It looks that way’), *MItai=NE(e)* (‘It looks that way’), *MItai=da=NA(a)* (‘It looks that way’), *MItai=da=NE(e)* (‘It looks that way’), *raSli* (‘Apparently’), *raSli=NA(a)* (‘Apparently’), *raSli=NE(e)* (‘Apparently’)

On the other hand, in principle, those that start with the copulas *da* and *desu*, which would tend to conform to their surrounding environment, begin with a high accent. See Example (31).

- (31) a. *DA=to* (‘I heard so’),¹⁸ *DA=to=SA* (‘I heard so’), *DA=wa=NA(a)* (‘That’s right’), *DA=wa=NE(e)* (‘That’s right’), *DA=wa=yo=NE(e)* (‘That’s right’), *DA=yo=NA(a)* (‘I agree with you’), *DA=yo=NE(e)* (‘I agree with you’), *DEsu=ka=NE(e)* (‘Is that so?’), *DEsu=NA(a)* (‘That’s right’), *DEsu=NE(e)* (‘That’s right’), *DEsu=yo=NE(e)* (‘I agree with you’)
 b. *da=NA(a)* (‘It looks that way’), *da=NE(e)* (‘It looks that way’)

While for those in (31b), the accent starts low, for those in (31a), it starts high.¹⁹ Unlike the cases of conjunctions and other examples seen previously, instead of all falling into the category of those for which the accent starts high, as in (a), there are some cases that fall into group (b). However, these cases in (b) could be understood as following another kind of regularity, where a dependent word (that is, an inconspicuous word) in the mora immediately preceding an interactional particle *na(a)* or *ne(e)* at the end of utterances takes a low accent. This regularity applies not only to (b) but to (a) as well. For example, in *da=yo=na(a)* (‘I agree with you’),

¹⁸ One of the reviewers told me that they utter *da=to* with LH rather than HL accent. I would like to leave this individual difference for further study.

¹⁹ *Datte* and *datte=sa* are not included here because it is not clear whether they start with a high or low accent. They may start with both.

the *yo* has a low accent. Furthermore, it also can be observed in *ka=na(a)* ('I am not sure' Example (4) in Section 2) and *ka=ne(e)* ('I am not sure'), which do not start with copulas. In these cases, *ka* has a low accent. Thus, it has a high degree of generality.²⁰

However, if the observations above are valid, then we probably would need to review our understanding of the boundaries of utterances. The view of boundaries up till now has held that boundaries are assigned by parts of speech, and the meanings of sentences and prosody (or, in this case, lexical accent) reflect these boundaries. This is illustrated in Figure 3 below.

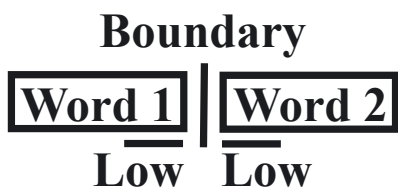


Figure 3: The traditional view of boundaries. The vertical line indicates a boundary, the boxes “Word 1” and “Word 2” indicates inconspicuous words, and horizontal lines indicate low tones as boundary tones.

In Figure 3, there is a boundary between “Word 1” and “Word 2,” and as these words are inconspicuous, a low tone occurs before and after these boundaries to reflect these, as a boundary tone (or a low accent as described in Section 3.3).

The view of boundaries in Figure 3 is valid for our observations through Section 3.3. However, it is unable to explain the fact that the lexical accent begins high in the cases of utterances of conjunctions starting with copulas ((30b)) and those starting with particles and binding particles ((31) (32)), or the fact that in principle the accent starts high in the case of grafted speech beginning with a copula ((31a)), as seen here in Section 3.4. See Figure 4 below.

Unless intentionally connecting a new utterance (Word 2 in the figure) to one already uttered (Word 1 in the figure), a boundary tone appears before and after the boundary, as seen in Figure 3. However, when intentionally connecting the new utterance to the one already uttered, the boundary is canceled *ex post facto*, and as a result, the boundary tone remains only before the boundary (the developments from left to bottom right in Figure 4).

²⁰ The low accent on *wa* in *da=wa=yo=ne(e)* is thought to be due to the regularity that an interactional particle takes a low accent when it appears in a position other than the end (of a sentence or a clause).

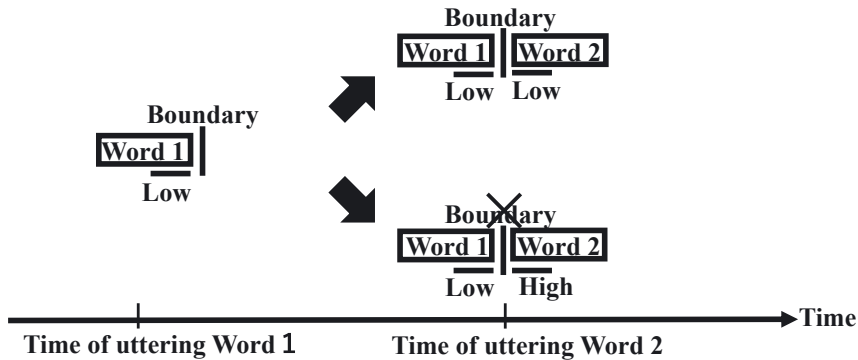


Figure 4: The view of boundaries proposed by this paper. The vertical line indicates a boundary, and the horizontal lines indicate boundary tones. The top arrow points to when Word 1 is not intentionally connected to Word 2; the bottom arrow points to when Word 1 is intentionally connected to Word 2. The horizontal axis indicates an abstract time.

In summing up, the initial high accent of dependent grafted speech listed in (31a) reveals that the speaker cancels the boundary when they utter them. This indicates that the speech that we call “dependent grafted speech” resembles a conjunction type of speech far from the full-fledged sentence type of speech. Its “dependency” is not just nominal or conceptual but real and substantial, with prosodic substantiation.

4 Ending intonation of dependent grafted speech

Let us observe the ending prosody of dependent grafted speech—particularly its intonation.

As used here, the end of dependent grafted speech utterance refers specifically to the interactional particle.²¹ While this is considered in more detail in other papers (Sadanobu 2014, 2020b), due to its dependent nature, dependent grafted speech will, in most cases, require an interactional particle at its end. For example, while a survey of 44 native Japanese-speaking students at universities in the Kansai area (conducted May 14, 2019) demonstrated that while the informants tended to view answers to the question *Ano hito=tte, hanasi, nagakunai?* (“Doesn’t that person talk a lot?”) that lacked interactional particles, such as *da*, *desu*, and

²¹ What we refer to as “interactional particles” in this paper are often also called “sentence-final particle” (*bun-matuziyosi* in Japanese). We do not adopt this naming to avoid misunderstanding. While interactional particles appear at the final part of dependent grafted speech, it does not follow that dependent grafted speech is sentence speech.

ka, as unnatural utterances, they tended to consider that utterances followed by interactional particles, such as *da=na*, *da=ne*, *da=yo=na*, *da=yo=ne*, *desu=nee*, and *ka=naa*, sounded natural ((32) (33) (34)). Below, for each utterance ending, the number of speakers who considered it natural (on the left) is separated by a slash (“/”) from the number of speakers who considered it unnatural (on the right).

(32) [When asked *Ano hito=tte, hanasi, nagakunai?* “Doesn’t that person talk a lot?”]

- a. *DA.* 1/43
COP
‘(Lit.) That’s true.’
- b. *da =NA.* 43/1
COP =IP
‘That’s true.’
- c. *da =NE.* 42/2
COP =IP
‘That’s true.’
- d. *DA =yo =NA.* 43/1
COP =IP =IP
‘Definitely.’
- e. *DA =yo =NE.* 44/0
COP =IP =IP
‘Definitely.’

(33) [When asked *Ano hito=tte, hanasi, nagakunai?* “Doesn’t that person talk a lot?”]

- a. *DEsu.* 2/42
COP
‘(Lit) That’s true.’
- b. *Desu =NEe.* 42/2
COP =IP
‘That’s true.’

(34) [When asked *Ano hito=tte, hanasi, nagakunai?* “Doesn’t that person talk a lot?”]

- a. *Ka.* 2/42
Q
‘(Lit.) Is that so?’
- b. *ka =NAa.* 41/3
Q =IP
‘I am not sure.’

As the above examples demonstrate, interactional particles often appear in dependent grafted speech. Here in Section 4, we will observe the intonation of these interactional particles.

From the tendencies in boundary tones in modern standard Japanese discussed in Section 3.3 (19) (reproduced as (32)), as with a lexical accent, a tendency can be identified for intonations to be lower before and after a boundary as well (33).²²

From this tendency, the intonation of an interactional particle at the end of dependent grafted speech would be expected to be lower. However, this expectation often does not hold true. The intonation of an interactional particle tends not to be a falling one. While it is not the case that there are no examples of a falling intonation, the environments in which they appear are limited. Let us consider this point specifically using *=da=yo=ne*, which was judged to sound natural by all informants in the survey mentioned above (32e), as an example.

As illustrated in Section 3.4, the copula *da* at the beginning of *=da=yo=ne* has a high accent, and this is reflected in F0 as a high tone. The *yo* that follows it has a low tone in accordance with the regularity under which the accent of a dependent word in the mora immediately before interactional particle *na(a)* or *ne(e)* at the end of utterances takes a low accent (see Section 3.4). Our chief concern, the ending *ne*, might be spoken with a rising intonation that goes from a low to a high tone. Additionally, under the non-gradual, very abrupt rising intonation referred to hereafter as a “leaping” intonation,²³ *ne* might be spoken with an abruptly higher tone than *yo* (i.e., *=yo=ne* sounds as if it were an accentual sequence LH) as an auditory impression. On the other hand, *ne* is never uttered with a falling intonation that falls from a low tone to an even lower one. While it may be spoken with a falling intonation, this occurs only in cases in which the tone returns from a high

²² I admit that a “leaping” intonation introduced below often appears immediately before a boundary. In this sense, (35) is not a strict reflection but a simplified version of my view on boundary tones.

²³ A “leaping” intonation has been given various names such as *kyōshi kotoba*, *sensei kotoba no kuse* “teachers’ talking habit” (Noji [1946] 2005: 54), *intensitii* “intensity” (Kawakami 1956), *ato-dakagata purominensu* “prominence with latter part heightened” (Ōishi [1959] 1980), *takuritu hyōgen* (no) *intoneesyon* “intonation of prominence” (Miyaji 1963), *gakkō no sensei tō* “school-teacher’s tone” (Akinaga 1966: 50), *ikitugi intoneesyon* “breathing intonation” (Tanaka 1973: 222–223), and *bunsetumatu no kyōtyōzyōsyō* [phrase-final emphatic rising] (Kōri 1997: 195–196), from which it is difficult to choose a suitable one. I call this intonation “leaping,” as the essence of its auditory image lies in the discontinuity of rising from low to high tone as if the speaker’s voice is leaping. A leaping intonation might seem to convey the meaning of emphasis or speech continuation, but it is not necessarily the case. See Sadanobu (2016: Chapters 3 and 4) for details. A leaping intonation is often followed by a falling intonation. I put them in a square bracket like [leaping intonation with a falling end] as they sound as if they are a single unit.

one immediately after a leaping intonation (i.e., $=da=yo=nee$ sounds roughly like HLHL).

We have seen above, the intonation of an interactional particle at the end of dependent grafted speech, which is the subject under consideration here, (i) basically does not fall, and (ii) the cases in which it does fall are limited to those of returning from a leaping intonation. These two points seem to have something important to tell us about the status of dependent grafted speech.

We will consider the second point first. Previous research on the [leaping intonation with a falling end] (Kōri 1996: 69) described it as not appearing at the end of a sentence. While there are exceptions to this description, such as the way the sentence *Hara=ga tatuu!* (“That makes me so angry!”) may end with a [leaping intonation with a falling end] (roughly like LHLHL), it describes a tendency. For example, while in *Dakara, are=wa, iya=na=no* (“That’s why I hate it”) the phrases *dakara* and *are=wa* may be pronounced using a [leaping intonation with a falling end], as *dakaraa* (roughly like HLHL) and *are=waa* (roughly like LH SuperH L), only the sentence-final phrase *iya=na=no* may not be pronounced using a [leaping intonation with a falling end] (roughly like LHLHL). We should accept the tendency that a [leaping intonation with a falling end] will not appear in the final phrase of a sentence (Sadanobu 2016: Chapter 4, Section 6.2). The fact that the interactional particle at the end of dependent grafted speech may be uttered using a [leaping intonation with a falling end] without difficulty suggests that the end of dependent grafted speech does not follow the pattern of the end of a sentence—that is, that dependent grafted speech does not resemble a sentence.

The same can be seen with regard to the first point above—that the intonation of an interactional particle, which is the subject under consideration here, basically does not fall. This is because the phenomenon by which the intonation of an interactional particle basically does not fall without being proceeded by a leaping intonation can be observed when an interactional particle appears in the middle, rather than the end, of a sentence (Sadanobu 2019).

For example, the phrase *yame=te=yo* (“stop it”) uttered with a falling intonation on the ending interactional particle *yo* (roughly like LHLHL) is heard only as an utterance of a woman asking somebody to stop doing something. That is, this is the sentence speech of *yame=te=yo*. It does not sound like a spoken phrase (i.e., phrase speech) within a sentence (... *yame=te=yo*, ... ‘I stopped it and ...’). For it to sound like phrase speech within a sentence, it would need to be pronounced with a leaping intonation immediately before the falling intonation, such as *yame=te=yoo*, ... (roughly like LHH SuperH L). Spoken in this way, it would sound like phrase speech within a sentence (and not like sentence speech), as in *ore=ga=yoo*, *sore=o=yoo*, *yame=te=yoo*, *sorede=yoo* (“I stopped it and ...”),

although in this case, the speaker's person-type changes to that of a vulgar male type.

As another example, the phrase *sore=de=sa* uttered with a falling intonation on the interactional particle *sa* at its end (roughly like LHHL) can only be heard as an utterance with a meaning such as "That's why." It sounds like a sentence, but not like a phrase in the middle of a sentence. To sound as a phrase uttered in the middle of a sentence, it would need to have a leaping intonation immediately before the falling intonation, as in *sore=de=saa* (roughly like LHH SuperH L). In this way, it no longer sounds like sentence speech but sounds only like phrase speech in the middle of a sentence.

One more example is the phrase *koi=ne* spoken with a falling intonation on the interactional particle *ne* at its end (roughly like HL SuperL). It can only be heard as an utterance with the meaning of acknowledging the strength of something. It sounds like a sentence (*Koi=ne*. "It is strong."), but does not sound like a phrase in the middle of a sentence (*koi=ne*, ...). While if uttered with a leaping intonation immediately before the falling intonation, as in *koi nee* (roughly like HLHL), it could still be a case of sentence speech (as in *Kono kōhī, koi=nee*. "This coffee is strong!"). It also could sound like phrase speech within a sentence (as in *Koi=nee, kōhī=o=nee, non=de=nee*, ... "I drank strong coffee and ..."). The interactional particle *na* follows the same pattern as seen here for *ne*.

More strictly speaking, the only interactional particles that may be spoken with an intonation that includes a falling intonation, as a [leaping intonation with a falling end], when appearing at the end of a phrase in the middle of a sentence are *yo*, *sa*, and *ne*, as seen above, and *na*. When they appear at the end of a phrase within a sentence, other interactional particles will, in principle, lose the possibility of a falling pattern and be spoken with a rising intonation. For example, an interactional particle such as *zo* said to appear only at the end of a sentence, may appear at the end of a phrase within a sentence, as in *Minna=de taisetsu=ni sodatete ita, sono hana=o=da=zo, heiki=de musiritot=te*, ... ("To tear out remorselessly those flowers that everybody had taken such good care of, ..."), and in such a case the interactional particle has a rising intonation.²⁴

To summarize the above, the interactional particle (e.g., *ne*) at the end of dependent grafted speech (e.g., *da=ne*) is not uttered with falling intonation

²⁴ There are exceptional interactional particles, such as *ka*, *kasira*, and *kke*, which appear with falling intonation at the end of phrases (e.g., *Suiyō=da=tta=ka* [falling] and *kare=ga=ki=ta=yo*. 'He came on probably Wednesday.'). These particles are special as they lexically share the meaning of interrogation with rising intonation. Simultaneously, dependent grafted speech with these particles at the end, such as *darō=ka*, *desu=ka*, *desyō=ka*, *da=tta=kke*, and *da=tta=kasira*, is also exceptionally uttered in falling intonation.

(i.e., *da=ne* cannot sound like HL) unless it is preceded by a leaping intonation (i.e., *da=ne* can sound like LHL). While this restriction of intonation pattern cannot be found for interactional particles at the end of a sentence, interactional particles in the middle of a sentence generally have the same restriction of intonation (e.g., *Ne* of *koi=ne* in the middle of a sentence cannot be uttered as a falling intonation without being preceded by a leaping intonation). These all indicate that the end part of dependent grafted speech is not like that of a sentence.

5 Conclusion

This paper intensively examined the lexical accent of copulas at the start of Japanese dependent grafted utterances (Section 3) and the intonation of their ending interactional particles (Section 4), together with the prosody of various other words, phrases, and sentences. The investigation results reveal that both the starting and ending parts of dependent grafted speech do not look like those of a sentence. These findings cast doubt on the grammatical status of dependent grafted speech as a sentence and contrast with long-held views guided by sententialism that maintained that discourse consists of sentences. Rather, the findings presented in this paper open up doors to a new concept of discourse, as a mixture of diverse constituents, including sentences, but also dependent grafted speech.

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