

英 文 要 旨

論文題目：「現代日本語の受身文の体系

—意味・構造的なタイプの記述から—」

Title : “The System of Present-day Japanese Passive

—Describing the Meaning-Construction Types—”

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Although considerable study has been devoted to the Japanese passive construction and various types of passive sentences have been pointed out, much is yet to be done to position these various passive types in the paradigmatic system of Japanese passive construction.

We extracted passive sentences from the corpora of four text genres, which are novels, the conversations in novels, the reported articles of newspaper, and critiques. About all the extracted passive sentences, we investigated their structural properties such as a subject, an actor, the categorical meaning of the verb and a tense-aspect type, taking various other passive types that have not been pointed out in the past.

Each sentence type that we call the meaning-construction type carries its own meaning and function, independently of the words in the sentence, which are sustained by the structural properties. The meaning-construction type is the construction pattern abstracted and generalized from the sentence being used

repetitively.

It's important that these meaning-construction types form a network. The paradigmatic system is this network of relations among meaning-construction types. We have revealed the network system of passive constructions by deliberating which of those types are adjacent to one another and in which constructive condition they approach each other.

Finally 63 subtypes, whose structures based on the verb categorical meaning, are taken out. All of these subtypes are classified into four main types, distinguished by their subject and actor property that is animate or inanimate, and named animate-subject and animate-agent passive (AA passive), animate-subject and inanimate-agent passive (AI passive), inanimate one argument subject passive (I1 passive), inanimate-subject and inanimate-agent passive (II passive). As an animate agent hardly appears in the inanimate-subject passive sentence, we call its type inanimate one argument subject passive which corresponds inanimate-subject and animate-agent passive.

Also we grouped the subtypes into fifteen middle types whose structures based on main verb group and tense-aspect property. In the AA passive there are positioned AA change action type composed with change verbs, AA non-change action type composed with non-change verbs, AA cognition type composed with cognitive verbs, AA behavior type composed with behavior verbs and AA adversative passive type composed with both transitive and intransitive verbs. While in the I1 passive, there are I1 change action type, I1 non-change action type, I1 cognition type and I1 behavior type, whose structures are based on verb meanings. The other three middle types also fell into I1 passive, which are I1 existence type with existence structure, I1 social habitual type with indefinite general agent and I1 over tense type with no agent. The II passive has two middle types, II phenomenon type with phenomenon verbs and II relation type which describes relation between a subject and an actor. The fifteen middle passive types are those five types in AA passive, seven types in I1 passive, two types in II passive and AI passive. They can be figured as follows.

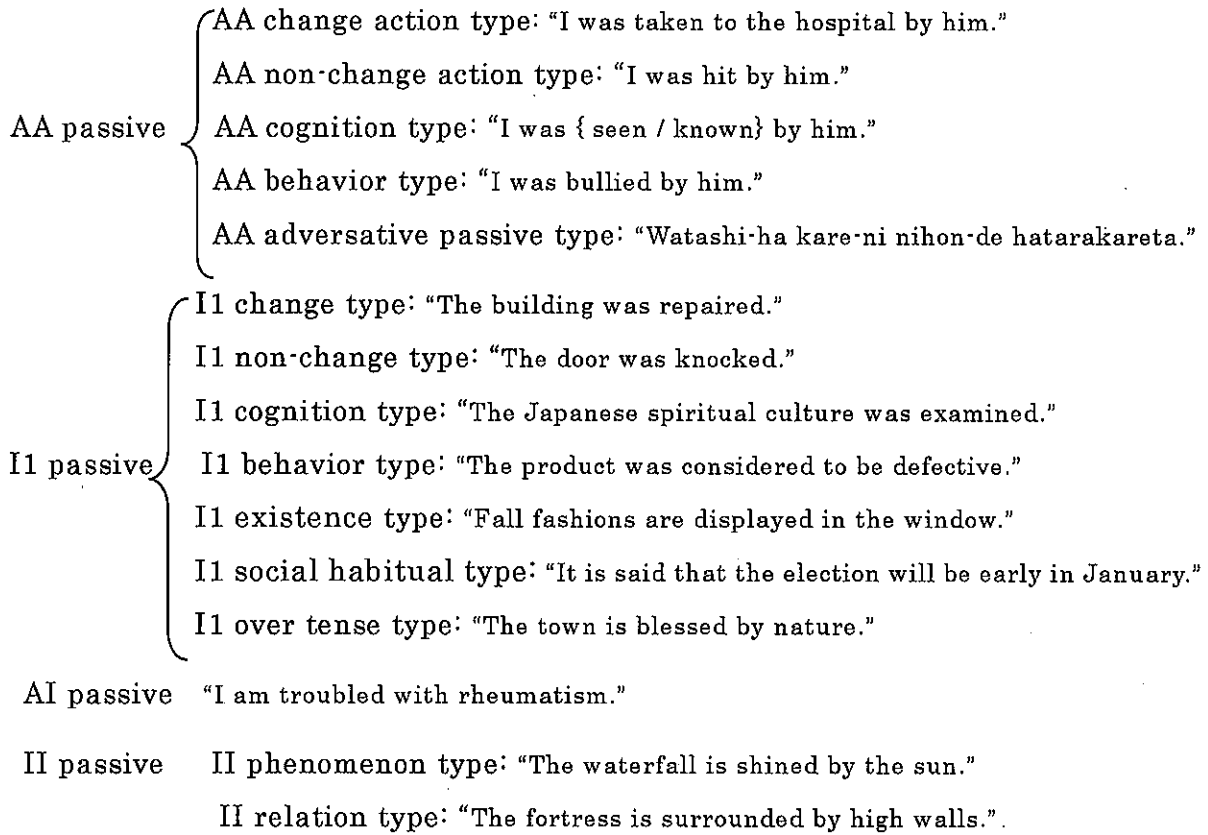


Figure 1

The fifteen middle types are subclassified in different criteria, i.e. AA passive by the existence of active sentence (AA adversative passive type and others) and I1 passive by the property of an agent and tense-aspect (I1 existence type, I1 social habitual type, I1 over tense type and others), because they are organized by bottom-up procedure. This asymmetric subclassification indicates that each of main types carries its proper meaning or function and extends respective meaning-construction subtypes. We investigated the relation among these four main types and fifteen middle types by describing the interaction of all the 63 subtypes.

In addition, there are some important points about Japanese passive that come out of this investigation. For example, the passive composed with a contact verb which represents the non-change verb group shows definite difference between animate-subject and inanimate-subject. In the statistics, the animate-subject passive of contact verb appears in high frequency, whereas the inanimate-subject passive of contact verb hardly appears through all the text types. This biased distribution indicates that the contact verb which lacks the change and the result of action does not fit as an element to the I1 passive

structure, which functions to defocus an agent and focus the change of action.

Furthermore, the statistical data presented the relationship between the passive types and the text genres.

This study adopted the new approach by which the interaction (network) of the sentence types whose structures based on the verb meaning are investigated. This lexico-construction approach, as it were, will contribute more accurate research not only in the statistics of data from different text genres but also in comparative study with historical system and with another language system.