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Tel. 81-3-5319-4916 Fax 81-3-5319-4917

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An Enterprise in the Cognitive Science of Language: A Festschrift for Yukio Otsu

Edited by:

Tetsuya SANO, Mika ENDO, Miwa ISOBE, Koichi OTAKI, Koji SUGISAKI, and Takeru SUZUKI

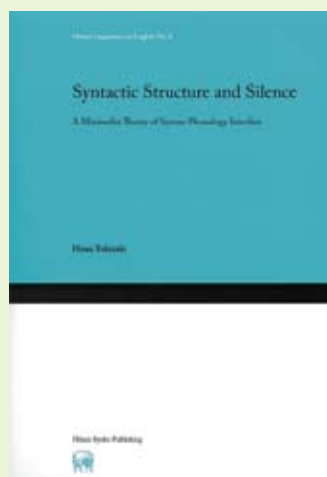
This book is a Festschrift for Professor Yukio Otsu on the occasion of his 60th birthday. It is a collection of 48 papers by his colleagues and students, including contributions by Stephen Crain, Nina Hyams, Thomas Roeper and William Snyder. It covers diverse topics such as syntax, morphology, phonology, L1 acquisition, L2 acquisition, language processing, etc. Each paper attempts to reveal the cognitive mechanism of human mind through the research of human language, and the volume is full of insightful observations in the cognitive science of language.



Syntactic structure and silence: A minimalist theory of syntax-phonology interface

Hisao TOKIZAKI

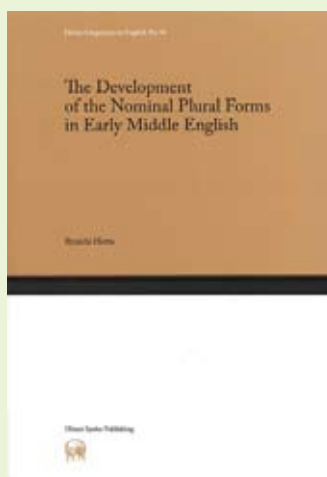
Based on the minimalist program, *Syntactic Structure and Silence* proposes a simple mapping system between syntax and phonology, which gives a number of theoretical consequences in a wide range of grammar: phonology, syntax, semantics, discourse analysis and sentence processing. Tokizaki shows a unified account of current topics in linguistic interfaces such as deriving edge parameter from syntactic head parameter, deconstructing prosodic hierarchy, the effects of speech rate and constituent length on prosodic phrasing, and building and parsing of syntactic structure. The discussion is based on the data from a large variety of languages including English, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Chinese, Mende, Kinyambo, and Hausa.



The Development of the Nominal Plural Forms in Early Middle English

Ryuichi HOTTA

This monograph is the first attempt after a century's interval to investigate how the s- and other plural formations were distributed geographically and developed diachronically in Early Middle English, and why they developed in the way they did. The main answer to the question "how" is that the generalization of the s-plural proceeded roughly in a way that the theory of lexical diffusion predicts. The question "why" are given various answers, but the author proposes a combination of language-internal and -external factors, from a reorganization of the nominal inflectional system to an indirect impact of the Old Norse plural formation on the English.



Chunking and Instruction: The Place of Sounds, Lexis, and Grammar in English Language Teaching

Takayuki NAKAMORI

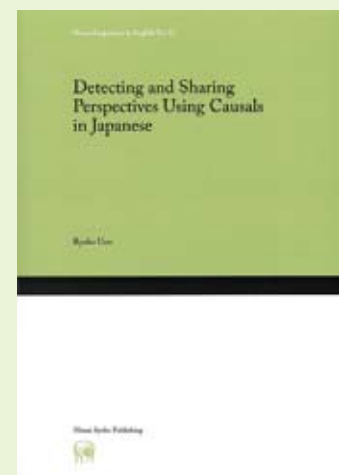
This book reports on the author's ten-year project entitled as 'Language Processing and Foreign Language Pedagogy' fully sponsored by the Japanese Ministry of Education. The aim of this research is to build up a firm theoretical foundation of Japan's English language teaching in an English-as-a-foreign-language context. The book explores the acquisition of communicative competence, sound systems, functional categories, vocabulary including verbs, and grammar (passives, infinitives, and relative clauses) based on theories of language processing. The significance of chunking in sound and sentential processing is closely examined, and the possibility of a chunk-based instruction, namely the Lexical Approach, is proposed and tested in the classroom.



Detecting and Sharing Perspectives Using Causals in Japanese

Ryoko UNO

This book analyzes Japanese kara sentences (those which contain the causal connective kara) within the framework of cognitive linguistics. By using the notion 'subject involvement', the connection between forms and meanings and the relationship between usages are analyzed. It is pointed out that there are two types of 'speaker involvement'. They show two different ways to use perspectives. The first speaker involvement affects the detection of perspectives. The degree of speaker involvement is part of the conveyed information. On the other hand, high speaker involvement in the second type can invite the sharing of perspectives or sharing of intentionality. The sentence may not be informative, but it affects interaction. Through the analysis of kara sentences, this book explored the possibility of constructing grammar from a first-person point of view.

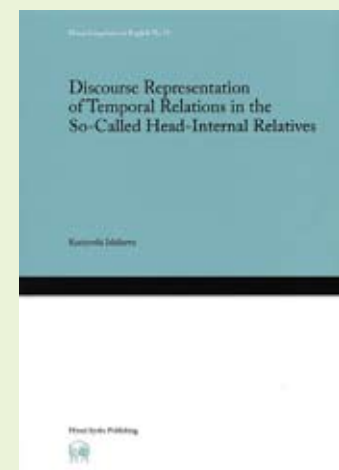


Discourse Representation of Temporal Relations in the So-Called Head-Internal Relatives

Kuniyoshi ISHIKAWA

This book presents a model of the representation of interpretation for an untensed nominal complement construction in Japanese, the so-called Head-Internal Relative construction.

It draws on an event-based approach to temporally underspecific constructions. The temporal interpretation of this construction necessarily involves access to the discourse representation of event units with its predicates. The aspectual compatibility between the two predicates affects the interpretation processes. It then presents a specific reasoning process through information-updating and argues that such a matching process is vital to the interpretation of the temporal ordering between the two contiguous events in the constructions.



Features and Roles of Filled Pauses in Speech Communication: A corpus based study of spontaneous speech

Michiko WATANABE

This book examines features and functions of filled pauses (fillers) in Japanese using a combination of corpus studies and psycholinguistic experiments. The first half of this book explores factors that influence the frequencies and the choice among various types of fillers by using /The Corpus of Spontaneous Japanese/. The second half examines the effect of a filler /eeto/ on native and non-native listeners' prediction about the expected forthcoming speech. Linguists who question how studies of language use bear on issues in linguistic theory will find this book to be a valuable resource. Michiko Watanabe is a researcher at Graduate School of Frontier Sciences, The University of Tokyo.



Japanese Loanword Phonology The Nature of Inputs and the Loanword Sublexicon

Masahiko MUTSUKAWA

The study of loanwords has been of great importance in Japanese phonology, since most of the new words in the Japanese lexicon are loanwords, more specifically American English loanwords. A number of issues have arisen in this field, but many of them are still under debate. Discussing four phonological phenomena observed in English loanwords (accentuation of English loanwords, the realization of English /r/, the realization of the English plural morpheme, and English compound abbreviation), this book focuses on issues regarding the nature of inputs to loanword adaptation and the Loanword sublexicon, one of the four sublexica in the Japanese lexicon.



Ichikawa Sanki Award 2010

Derivational Linearization at the Syntax-Prosody Interface

Kayono SHIOBARA

This monograph develops a model of grammar in which linearization is distributed between core syntax and the syntax-prosody interface. Using an incremental structure-building mechanism, it provides a derivational model of the syntax-prosody mapping in which the unit of spell-out is defined by correspondence relations between syntactic objects and prosodic objects. This approach, dubbed as the "Prosodic Phase Hypothesis", provides a prosodically-based account of the distinctive properties of English heavy NP shift and Japanese VP-internal scrambling, including not only clearly prosodic factors such as weight and sentence level stress, but also, indirectly, sensitivity to semantic-pragmatic factors such as focus.

