

Masaya Yoshida  
Northwestern University

Kaori Miura  
Kyushu Sangyo University

The mixed distribution of na-Adjectives with loan words and morphologically ‘simple’ words naturally follow from the zero-derivation analysis. Simply put, they are zero-derived denominal adjectives.

#### 4 Predictions

These analyses of na-Adjectives predict that root-affixes, affixes that select ‘root’ (or elements in which a category head is attached directly to the root: Arad 2003, 2005), cannot be attached to na-Adjectives. First, ka-ending cases undergo explicit suffixation (Nishiyama 1999), thus a root-affix cannot be attached to them. Second, cases with loan words and ‘simple’ words should not tolerate root-affix because they undergo zero-derivation (“zero derived words do not permit the affixation of further derivational morphemes”: Myers 1984, Pesetsky 1995). In Japanese, there are certain suffixes that c-select Adjectives and further select ‘root’. For example, a nominalizing suffix *-mi* “-ness” can be attached to a ‘simple’ adjective but not to an A-A compounds, but another nominalizing suffix *-sa* “the degree of” can be attached to an A-A compound (Kageyama 1993, Sugioka 1984).

- |     |                                |  |  |
|-----|--------------------------------|--|--|
| (6) | a. ama-i<br>sweet-i<br>‘sweet’ | b. ama-mi<br>sweet-mi<br>‘sweetness’                   | c. *ama-zuppa-mi<br>*sweet-sour-mi<br>sweet-sourness                   |
|     | d. ama-i<br>sweet-i<br>‘sweet’ | e. ama-sa<br>sweet-degree<br>‘the degree of sweetness’ | f. ama-zuppa-sa<br>sweet-sour-degree<br>‘the degree of sour-sweetness’ |

If *-mi* is a root suffix, and if na-Adjectives undergo explicit suffixation or zero-derivation, then it is predicted that na-Adjectives do not tolerate *-mi* suffixation. On the other hand, i-Adjectives, which do not undergo zero-derivation, could tolerate *-mi* suffixation. Furthermore, *-sa*, which is not a root-suffix, could be attached to both na-Adjectives and i-Adjectives. As predicted, na-adjectives indeed do not tolerate *-mi* suffixation, but tolerate *-sa* suffixation.

- |     |   |   |   |  |
|-----|---|---|---|--|
| (7) | a. *kirei-mi<br>clean-mi<br>‘cleanness’ | b. kirei-sa<br>clean-degree<br>‘the degree of<br>cleanness’ | c. *sizu-ka-mi<br>quiet-mi<br>‘quietness’ | d. sizu-ka-sa<br>quiet-degree<br>‘the degree of silence’ |
|-----|---|---|---|--|

On the other hand, i-adjectives do tolerate both *-mi* suffixation and *-sa* suffixation.

- |     |                               |                                  |  |
|-----|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| (8) | a. huka-i<br>deep-i<br>‘deep’ | b. huka-mi<br>deep-mi<br>‘depth’ | c. huka-sa<br>deep-sa<br>‘the degree of depth’ |
|-----|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|

#### 5 Conclusion

This study has shown that na-Adjectives (Nominal Adjectives) involving loan words and ‘simple’ words undergo zero-derivation. Examining the distribution of an A-selecting root-suffix *-mi*, we have shown that na-Adjectives are zero-derived adjectives, but i-adjectives are not.

**References** Arad, Aya (2003) Locality constraints on the interpretation of roots: the case of Hebrew denominal verbs. *NLLT* 21(4):737–778. Arad, Maya. (2005) Roots and patterns: Hebrew morpho-syntax. Springer. Halle, Morris and Alec Marantz. (1993) Distributed morphology and the pieces of inflection. In *The View from Building 20*, 111–176. MIT Press. Kageyama, Taro. (1982) Word formation in Japanese. *Lingua* 57:215–258. Kageyama, Taro. (1993) *Bunpoo to Gokeesei [Grammar and Word Formation]*. Hituzi Syoboo. Miyagawa, Shigeru. (1987) Lexical categories in Japanese. *Lingua* 73:29–51. Myers, Scott. (1984) Zero-derivation and inflection. In *MITWPL* (7) 53–69. Nishiyama, Kunio. (1999) Adjectives and the copulas in Japanese. *JEAL* 8(3):183–222. Nishiyama, Kunio. (2005) Morphological boundaries of Japanese adjectives: Reply to namai. *LI* 36(1):134–143. Pesetsky, David. (1995) *Zero syntax*. MIT Press. Sugioka, Yoko. (1984) Interaction of derivational morphology and syntax in Japanese and English. Ph.D. thesis, University of Chicago.