Pragmatic Constraints on Extraprogrammatic Morphology in Japanese Sign Language Onomastics

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BACKGROUND
In JSL, one can find a robust influence of written/spoken Japanese on the generation of onomastic words or name signs ([Ann 1998, Nonaka 2005, Nakamura 2006, George 2011, Nonaka et al., 2015]). The semantics, morphology, or even phonology can contribute to a given onomastic output. This phenomenon has been discussed in the literature of JSL and of other sign languages such as Taiwan SL ([Ann 1998, Su and Tai 2005]) and Hong Kong SL (Tang 2015). While most work is descriptive, the current work frames onomastic formation as an extraprogrammatic process driven by analogy and pragmatics.

OBJECTIVES
This work compares output paradigm distributions from personal and prefectural name signs in order to determine factors that may drive output selection.

OUTPUT PARADIGMS
Although JSL onomastic formation in JSL is systemic, multiple paradigms exist. This work applies two broad categories of onomastic formation.

1 Semantically or Phonologically mapped signs
Names in this category are mapped semantically, morphologically or phonologically to the Japanese source name. Semantic mapping refers to names in which each morpheme or character is represented by a sign carrying the same meaning. Phonological mapping refers to cases in which the sign name indexes to the sound of the spoken name.

2 Referential signs
Sign names in this category refer to a characteristic or association that the source name has. These sign names have structural independence from the spoken name equivalents. Associations oftentimes involve well-known historical references.

BRENTARI SYLLABLE (2008, 6-7)
A sign consisting of a single movement, whether path, local or trilled, can be classified as monosyllabic.

METHOD
- Collected citation forms for prefrontal signs from Yoneyama ([1997]) and compared them with independent sources, such as the corpus described in Bono et al. (2014).
- Compared paradigm distribution of prefrontal signs with Nonaka et al. (2015) name signs.
- Analyzed prefrontal sign output structure.

EXTRAPROGRAMMATICALITY IN JSL
JSL onomastic formation acts as an extraprogrammatic process (Mattielo, 2013), in that output production is systemic yet not completely predictable using only grammatical rules. Analogical and pragmatics appear crucial.

Analogy—JSL outputs mapping to spoken Japanese names are the most common. Analogical and phonological mapping to a source spoken language word initially generates most outputs. In the case of prefrontal signs, well-formedness constraints, such as truncation, create morphologically efficient outputs.

Pragmatics—Widely used names license the use of semantically opaque but efficient outputs. The paradigm split between personal and prefrontal name signs are licensed by Mattielo’s (2013) notion of “contextual suitability”. With respect to a person’s name, especially in a new social context, semantic clarity is highly salient and requires the use of multiple segments. In contrast, prefrontal names represent a small set of culturally familiar entities, so the use of opaque, culturally indexed and truncated forms do not pose a semantic barrier.

CONCLUSION
Social context determines the ability of an interlocutor to connect a sign name to its correct referent; therefore, pragmatics drives the selection of the most appropriate output paradigm for recoverability and efficiency.

Future work collecting elicited place name data and variants would better test the conclusions. The Nonaka et al. name signs might only refer to names in formal contexts. Names from contexts with familiar such as a classroom may yield more morphologically simple forms.

REFERENCES

PARADIGM DISTRIBUTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Symbol</th>
<th>Sign Name</th>
<th>Morphemes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Referential</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Truncated</td>
<td></td>
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<td>421</td>
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<td>Mapped</td>
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All images from Yoneyama (1997)

EXTRA.Experimental data show that JSL personal name forms are typically onomastic.

Bitte geben Sie den Text in natürlicher Sprache wieder.