

## 1-Deletion: Measure Nouns vs. Classifiers

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In this talk, I will show that measure nouns must be distinguished from classifiers in view of their susceptibility to 1-deletion. I will also suggest that a full theoretical understanding of the relevant phenomena comes from an analysis that makes crucial use of number features.

**Measure Nouns vs. Classifiers:** 1-deletion is a phenomenon where a numerical base is used alone but multiplication by 1 is implied. For example, *hyaku* means one hundred in Japanese, while one must say *ichi-man* for ten thousand, using the numeral for 1. I will point out first that this phenomenon is not limited to numerical bases. Interestingly, 1-deletion is possible for measure nouns, whereas classifiers are systematically resistant to it. This contrast indicates that measure nouns and classifiers are different kinds of creatures, despite the fact that they both follow a numeral directly in Japanese.

**Featural Analysis:** A principled account of the contrast in question becomes possible when licensing of a numeral and the number content of measure nouns and classifiers are characterized in terms of features. Watanabe (2010) proposes that a numeral is licensed/selected by [ $\pm$ augmented] (obligatorily in Japanese) and that the relevant functional head is realized as a classifier in Japanese only if it has both [ $\pm$ singular] and [ $\pm$ augmented]. This analysis guarantees that a classifier is always used together with a numeral, which means that 1-deletion is not possible. If measure nouns do not have to be always provided with [ $\pm$ augmented], on the other hand, it follows that 1-deletion is in principle possible for them. In fact, featural defectiveness of measure nouns also makes sure that they are not used with a classifier.

**Features and Morphology:** Thus, 1-deletion is regarded as a consequence of lacking the licenser/selector of a numeral, namely, the specification of [ $\pm$ augmented]. The characterization of 1-deletion in terms of number features receives support from rampant suppletion and morphological alternation displayed by nouns expressing temporal units in Japanese. The pattern of suppletion and morphological alternation found falls under Hurford's (1987) generalization concerning suppletion and 1-deletion, according to which 1-deletion is used for the suppletive form of the numerical base. Since there is an alternation like *shuu* ~ *shuu-kan* 'week' in Japanese, one can easily point to *shuu*, the version forcing 1-deletion, to verify the absence of the crucial feature that licenses a numeral. In the case of 'week', *kan* is the carrier of [ $\pm$ augmented]. Likewise, but less transparently, suppletion is also due to a difference in feature content.

If time allows, I will take up the expression of human age as another case that shows that measure words are nouns.

### Ref.

Hurford, J. R. (1987), *Language and Number*. Oxford: Blackwell.

Watanabe, A. (2010) Vague Quantity, Numerals, and Natural Numbers. *Syntax* 13, 37–77.