

Classification of nominal compounds containing mimetics: a Construction Morphology perspective

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1. Introduction

Data: Nominal Compounds containing Mimetics (NCMs)

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| (1) a. <i>hokahoka-gohan</i>
MIM(warm)-rice
'warm delicious-looking rice' | b. <i>bata-ashi</i>
MIM(fluttering)-leg
'flutter kick (of swimming)' | c. <i>mune-kyun</i>
heart-MIM(wrung)
'feeling emotional' |
|---|--|--|

-Kageyama and Saito (2016):

- Identify combinatory patterns (e.g. Mimetic + Native Japanese: *garagara-hebi* 'rattle snake')

-Yang (2013): Semantic classification

Table 1: Semantic classification of NCMs by Yang (2013: 14-16)

Major category	# of token	Sub-category	Example (Mimetic in italics):
Nature (11/215=5.1%)	3	Weather	<i>karakara</i> -tenki 'dry-weather'
	7	Water/liquid	<i>shitoshito</i> -ame 'drizzling-rain'
	1	Earth/fire	<i>toro</i> -bi 'simmering flame'
Human (111/215=51.6%)	44	Manner	<i>burabura</i> -aruki strolling-walk
	25	Emotion/sensation	(1c)
	22	Characteristics	<i>baribari</i> -kisha 'bright and eager news reporter'
	20	Physique/figure	(1b)
Object (93/215=43.3%)	27	Movement/change	<i>bikkuri</i> -bako 'jack-in-the-box'
	56	Shape/condition	(1a)
	7	Sound/instrument/money	<i>chinchin</i> -densha 'surface car'
	3	degree	<i>doka</i> -yuki 'heavy snow fall'
Total:	215		

Goal:

-To examine how mimetics participate in word-formation of nominal compounds.

-To argue that NCMs are part of the inheritance hierarchy for nominal compounds, building on Booij (2010: 7); the top node of the hierarchy diverges according to the head position, and the next lower nodes diverge into the categories 'attributive-appositive' and 'subordinate', adapted from Scalise and Bisetto's (2009) classification.

Organization:

Section 2: Preliminary information

- 2.1 Lexical categories in Japanese
- 2.2 Inheritance hierarchy of nominal compounds

Section 3: Classification

- 3.1 Attributive compounds: subtype of attributive-appositive type
- 3.2 Subordinate
 - 3.2.1 Subordinate compounds: Ground type
 - 3.2.2 Subordinate compounds: Verbal-nexus type

Section 4: Concluding remarks

2. Preliminary

2.1 Lexical categories in Japanese

		<u>Non-mimetic</u>	<u>Mimetic</u>
(2)	a.	noun (N):	
		<i>Ame</i> _(N) <i>da.</i> rain COP 'It is rain.'	<i>ponpon</i> 'tummy in child language'
	b.	verb (V):	
		<i>nomu</i> 'drink', <i>suru</i> 'do'	<i>dókidoki suru</i> (mimetic+ <i>suru</i> 'do') (Reduplicated: accented) <i>yukkuri suru</i> 'relax'
	c.	adjective (A)	
		<i>Ookii</i> _(ADJ) . big 'It's big.'	N/A
	d.	adjectival noun (AN)	
		<i>Yuuga</i> _(AN) <i>da.</i> elegant COP 'It is elegant.'	<i>Betobeto da.</i> (Reduplicated: unaccented) sticky COP 'It is sticky.'
	e.	verbal noun (VN)	
		<i>Sookin</i> _(VN) <i>suru.</i> sending.money do 'send money'	
	f.	adverb (Adv)	
		<i>boozen to</i> 'blankly', <i>gakuzen to</i> 'in terror'	<i>hirahira (to)</i> 'flutteringly' <i>yukkuri (to)</i> 'slowly', <i>kon to</i> 'tap'

2.2 Inheritance hierarchy of nominal compounds

Construction Morphology → a hierarchical lexicon (Booij 2010) = "inheritance tree"; "each node inherits the properties of its dominating nodes" (Booij 2010: 25).

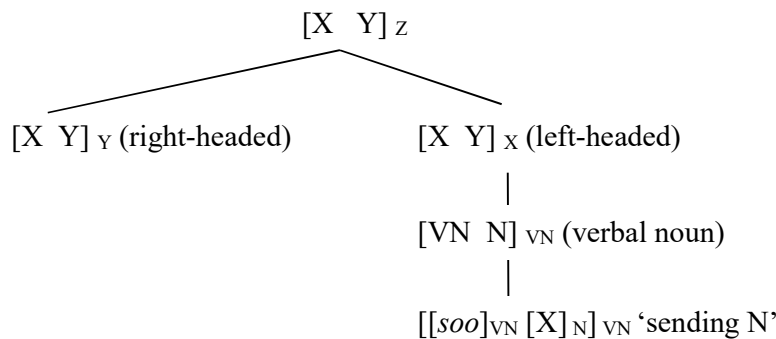


Figure 1: Noun compound schema for Japanese (Booij 2010: 70)

-A preliminary examination of NCMs : right-headed (with some exceptions).

-The right-headed NCMs can be classed into: Scalise and Bisetto's (2009) 'attributive-appositive' and 'subordinate' compounds.

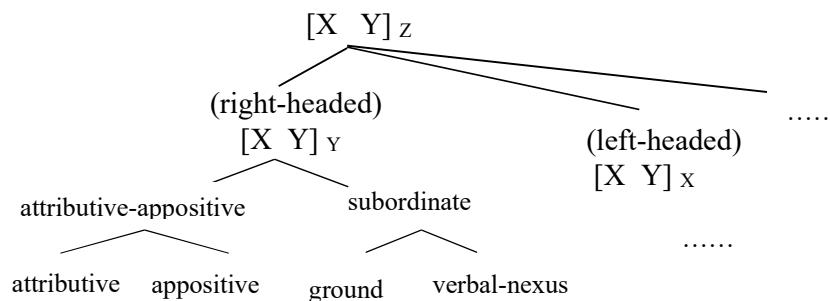
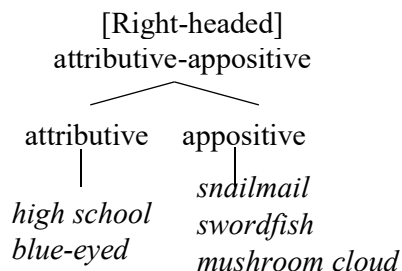


Figure 2: Partial network of nominal compounds in Japanese

3. Classification

3.1. Attributive compounds: subtype of attributive-appositive type



(adapted from Scalise and Bisetto (2009: 50))

- (3) a. [kinoko_N- gumo_N]_N mushroom-clouds 'clouds that look like mushrooms'
 b. [teppoo_N- ame_N]_N bullet-rain 'rain that moves fast like bullets of the gun'
- (4) Attributive-type compounds: [X_[non-head: (non-MIM)]-Y_[head: N]]_N
- a. [ganko_{AN}- oyaji_N]_N stubborn-man 'stubborn man'
 b. [kansoo_{VN}- hada_N]_N dry-skin 'dry skin'
 c. [yawa_{AN}- hada_N]_N soft-skin 'soft skin'
 d. [oo_{ADJ}- otoko_N]_N big-man 'giant'
- (5) a. [ganko_{AN (NON-MIM)}- stubborn] oyaji_N ← ganko na oyaji
 stubborn man ← stubborn COP.ATTR man
 'stubborn man'
 b. [kansoo_{VN (NON-MIM)}- drying] hada_N ← kansoo shita hada
 skin ← skin drying do.PAST skin
 'dry skin'
 c. [yawa_{AN (NON-MIM)}- soft] hada_N ← yawaraka na hada
 skin ← skin soft COP.ATTR skin
 'soft skin'
 d. [oo_{A (NON-MIM)}- big] otoko_N ← ookii otoko
 man ← big man
 'giant'
- (6) Attributive-type compounds: [X_[non-head: (MIM)]-Y_[head: N]]_N
- a. [purunpurun_(MIM)- zerii_N]_N jiggly-jelly 'jiggly jelly'
 b. [tsurutsuru_(MIM)- hada_N]_N smooth-skin 'smooth skin'
 c. [botteri_(MIM)- bara_N]_N plump-belly 'plump belly'
- (7) a. [gachigachi_(MIM)- oyaji_N]_N hard-man 'stubborn man (man whose way of thinking is inflexible)'
 b. [chirichiri_(MIM)- atama_N]_N frizzy-head 'frizzy-haired head'
 c. [mojamoja_(MIM)- ude_N]_N shaggy-arm 'shaggy-haired arm'

- (8) a. [tsurutsuru_{AN (MIM)}-smooth] hada_N ← tsurutsuru no hada
 skin MIM COP.ATTR skin
 ‘smooth skin’
- cf. b. [yawa_{AN (NON-MIM)}-soft] hada_N ← yawaraka na hada
 skin soft (non-MIM) COP.ATTR skin
 ‘soft skin’
- (9) a. [botteri_{VN (MIM)}-plump] bara_N ← botteri shita hara
 belly MIM do.PAST belly
 ‘plump belly’
- cf. b. [kansoo_{VN (NON-MIM)}-dry] hada_N ← kansoo shita hada
 skin dry (non-MIM) do.PAST skin
 ‘dry skin’

(10) Summary on attributive-type NCMs

- a. The mimetics that participate in NCMs: AN, and VN
- b. The head nouns combined with mimetics: similar to those combined with non-mimetic words, such as a body part and an object with a particular attribute.

Schema for attributive nominal compounds in Japanese:

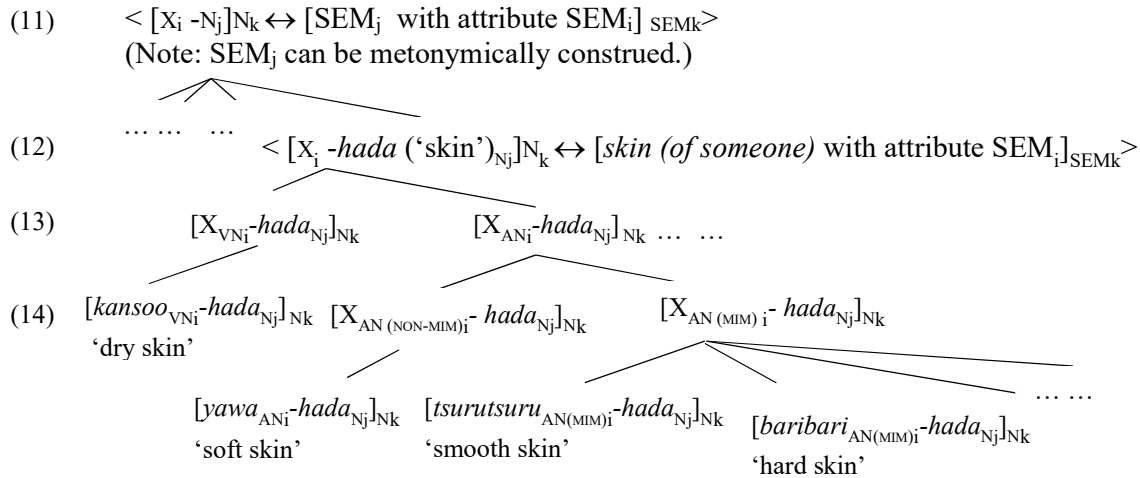
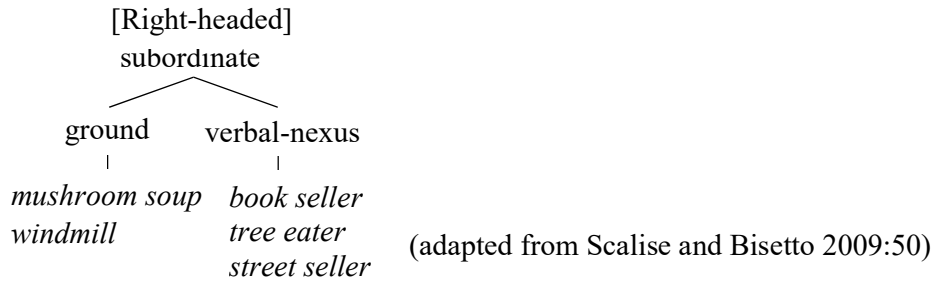


Figure 3: Partial sketch of the hierarchical network of nominal compounds (Attributive type)

- (14') a. [gachigachi_(MIM)-] hada_N ‘rough skin’
 b. [... (MIM)-] hada_N ‘hard skin’
 MIM= baribari ‘dry and rough’
 zarazara ‘unsmooth’
 gorigori ‘hard’
 jikujiku ‘wet’
 betabeta ‘sticky’
 mochimochi ‘soft’
 tsurutsuru ‘smooth’
 subesube ‘smooth’
 gitoito ‘oily’
 pukupuku ‘plump’ etc.

3.2 Subordinate



3.2.1. Subordinate compounds: Ground type

Ground-type compounds: [X_[non-head: (non-MIM)]-Y_[head: N]] N

- (15)
- | | | | | |
|----|---------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| a. | [omocha _N - | bako _N] _N | toy-box | ‘toy box’ |
| b. | [benkyoo _{VN} - | beya _N] _N | studying-room | ‘room to study’ |
| c. | [naga _A - | ame _N] _N | long-rain | ‘rain that lasts for a long time’ |
| d. | [sokuseki _{AN} - | ryoori _N] _N | instant-dish | ‘instant dish’ |
| e. | [kaijuu _N - | eiga _N] _N | monster-movie | ‘monster movie’ |

(16) Ground-type compounds: [X_[non-head: (MIM)]-Y_[head: N]] N

- | | | | | |
|----|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| a. | [shitoshito _(MIM) - | ame _N] _N | drizzling-rain | ‘gentle rain’ |
| b. | [hisohiso _(MIM) - | goe _N] _N | whisper-voice | ‘whispered voice’ |
| c. | [ponpon _(MIM) - | jooki _N] _N | chug-steamship | ‘steamship that chugs’ |
| d. | [dotabata _(MIM) - | eiga _N] _N | romping.about-
movie | ‘slapstick motion picture’ |
| e. | [gisugisu _(MIM) - | shakai _N] _N | edgy-society | ‘society characterized by
friction and discord’ |
| f. | [bikkuri _(MIM) - | bako _N] _N | surprise-box | ‘jack-in-the-box’ |

- (17)
- | | | | | | |
|----|---|--|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| a. | [shitoshito _{ADV (MIM)} -
drizzling
‘drizzling rain’ | ame _N] _N ←
rain | shitoshito _{ADV}
MIM | huru
fall | ame
rain
‘rain that falls <i>drizzingly</i> ’ |
| b. | [hisohiso _{ADV (MIM)} -
whisper
‘whispered voice’ | goe _N] _N ←
voice | hisohiso _{ADV}
MIM | hanasu
talk | koe
voice
‘voice of people talking <i>in a whisper</i> ’ |
| c. | [ponpon _{ADV (MIM)} -
chug
‘steam passenger launch that chugs’ | jooki _N] _N ←
steamship | pónpon _{ADV}
MIM | susumu
proceed | jooki
steamship
‘the steamship that proceeds <i>chug-chug</i> ’ |
| d. | [dotabata _{ADV (MIM)} -
romping.about
‘slapstick motion picture’ | eiga _N] _N ←
movie | hito ga
people NOM | dótabata _{ADV}
MIM | ugoku
move
eiga
movie
‘the movie in which people move <i>romping-about</i> ’ |

- (18) a. $[bikkuri_{VN(MIM)}- bako_N]_N \leftarrow akeru\ to\ hito\ ga\ bikkuri\ suru\ hako$
 surprise box open when people NOM MIM do box
 ‘jack-in-the-box’ ‘the box that surprise people when it is opened’
- b. $[gisugisu_{(MIM)}- shakai_N]_N \leftarrow hito\ ga\ gisugisu\ shi\ te\ iru\ shakai$
 edgy society people NOM MIM do CONJ BE society
 ‘society characterized by friction and discord’ ‘society in which people are edgy’

(19) Schema for Ground type compounds in Japanese:

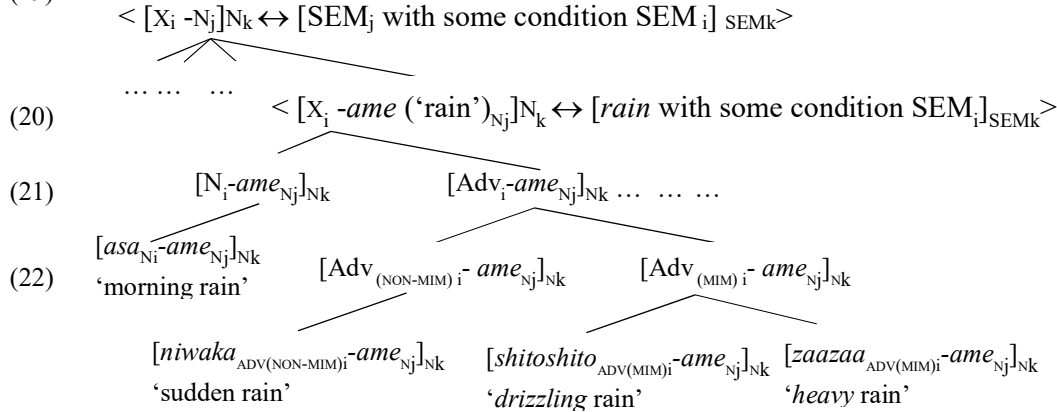


Figure 4: Partial sketch of the hierarchical network of nominal compounds (Ground type)

3.2.2. Subordinate compounds: Verbal-nexus type

- Verbal-nexus type compounds: $[X_{[non-head: (non-MIM)]} - Y_{[head: VN]}]_{VN}$
- (23) a. $[yama_N - aruki_{VN}]_{VN}$ mountain-walking ‘mountain walking’
 b. $[yoko_{ADV} - buri_{VN}]_{VN}$ diagonally-falling ‘(rain) coming slanting down’
 c. $[haya_{ADV} - ne_{VN}]_{VN}$ early-sleeping ‘going to bed early’
 d. $[uzu_N - maki_{VN}]_{VN}$ whirl-turning ‘whirlpool’
 e. $[ori_N - zume_{VN}]_{VN}$ box-packing ‘packing (food) into a box’
 f. $[mizu_N - nure_{VN}]_{VN}$ water-getting.wet ‘get wet (splashing) water’
- (24) Verbal-nexus type compounds: $[X_{[non-head: (MIM=MANNER)]} - Y_{[head: VN]}]_{VN}$
- a. $[yochiyochi_{(MIM)} - aruki_{VN}]_{VN}$ toddling-walking ‘walking *toddle-toddle*’
 b. $[zaazaa_{(MIM)} - buri_{VN}]_{VN}$ pouring-falling ‘raining *heavily*’
 c. $[goro_{(MIM)} - ne_{VN}]_{VN}$ flopping-sleeping ‘*flopping* down’
- (25) a. $[yochiyochi_{ADV(MIM)} - aruki_{VN}]_{VN} \leftarrow yochiyochi_{ADV} aruku$
 toddling walking MIM walk
 ‘walking *toddle-toddle*’ ‘walk *toddle-toddle*’
- b. $[zaazaa_{ADV(MIM)} - buri_{VN}]_{VN} \leftarrow zaazaa_{ADV} huru$
 pouring falling MIM fall
 ‘raining *heavily*’ ‘rain *heavily*’
- c. $[goro_{ADV(MIM)} - ne_{VN}]_{VN} \leftarrow gorot\ to\ neru$
 flopping sleeping MIM QUOT sleep
 ‘*flopping* down’ ‘flop down’

- (26) Verbal-nexus type compounds: [X_[non-head: (MIM=RESULTATIVE STATE)]-Y_[head: VN]]_{VN}
- | | | | | |
|----|--|---|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| a. | [<i>gyuugyuu</i> - _(MIM) - | <i>zume</i> _{VN}] _{VN} | being.squeezed-
being.packed | ‘being jam-packed’ |
| b. | [<i>guruguru</i> _(MIM) - | <i>maki</i> _{VN}] _{VN} | going.round-wrap | ‘being coiled up’ |
| c. | [<i>bisho</i> _(MIM) - | <i>nure</i> _{VN}] _{VN} | being.soaked-
getting.wet | ‘being completely soaked’ |

- (27)
- | | | | | |
|----|--|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| a. | [<i>gyuugyuu</i> _{AN (MIM)} -
being.squeezed
‘being jam-packed’ | <i>zume</i> _{VN}] _{VN} ←
being.packed | <i>gyuugyuu ni</i>
MIM COP.ADV | <i>tsumeru</i>
pack
‘jam-pack (something)’ |
| b. | [<i>guruguru</i> _{AN (MIM)} -
going.round
‘being coiled up’ | <i>maki</i> _{VN}] _{VN} ←
wrapping | <i>guruguru ni</i>
MIM COP.ADV | <i>maku</i>
wrap
‘coil up something’ |
| c. | [<i>bisho</i> _{AN (MIM)} -
being.soaked-
‘being completely soaked’ | <i>nure</i> _{VN}] _{VN} ←
getting.wet | <i>bishobisho ni</i>
MIM COP.ADV | <i>nureru</i>
get wet
‘get soaking wet’ |

- (28) Verbal-nexus type compounds: [X_[non-head: N]-Y_[head: MIM]]

- | | | | | |
|----|------------------------------|--|---------------|---|
| a. | [<i>mune</i> _N - | <i>kyun</i> _{VN(MIM)]_{VN}} | chest-squeeze | ‘feeling emotional pain
(as if your chest is given a
squeeze)’ |
| b. | [<i>kabe</i> _N - | <i>don</i> _{VN(MIM)]_{VN}} | wall-banging | ‘(a man) banging his hand
onto a wall while closing
in on a female’ |
| c. | [<i>neko</i> _N - | <i>banban</i> _{VN(MIM)]_{VN}} | cat-banging | ‘knock knock cats [(hood)
banging (to save) cats]’ |

(<http://www2.nissan.co.jp/SOCIAL/CAMP/NEKOBANBAN/>, cf. Naya and Ikarashi 2016)

- (29)
- | | | | | | |
|----|--|--|--|----------------|-------------|
| a. | [<i>mune</i> _N - | <i>kyun</i> _{VN(MIM)]_{VN} ←} | <i>mune ga</i> | <i>kyun to</i> | <i>suru</i> |
| | chest | MIM (squeezing) | chest NOM | MIM QUOTE | do |
| | ‘feeling overwhelmed with emotion’ | | ‘one’s heart feels <i>painful</i> as if someone gives it a
squeeze’ | | |
| b. | [<i>kabe</i> _N - | <i>don</i> _{VN(MIM)]_{VN} ←} | <i>kabe o</i> | <i>don to</i> | <i>suru</i> |
| | wall | MIM (banging) | wall ACC | MIM QUOTE | do |
| | ‘(a man) banging (his hand) onto a wall
(while closing in on a female)’ | | ‘bang on a wall’ | | |
| c. | [<i>neko</i> _N - | <i>banban</i> _{VN(MIM)]_{VN} ←} | | | |
| | cat | MIM (banging) | | | |
| | ‘knock knock cats [(hood) banging (to save) cats]’ | | | | |
| ← | <i>neko o</i> | (<i>sukuu tameni</i> | <i>shatai o</i>) | <i>banban</i> | <i>suru</i> |
| | cat ACC | save for | car.body ACC | MIM QUOTE | do |
| | ‘bang on (the car body to save) cats’ | | | | |

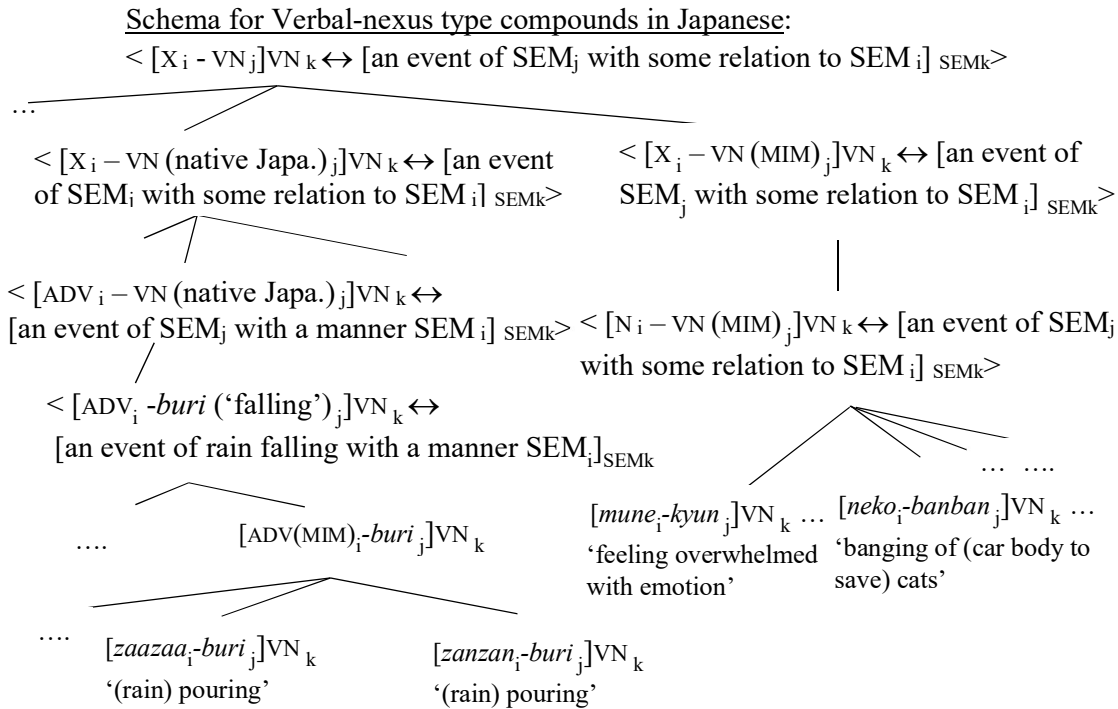


Figure 6: Partial sketch of the hierarchical network of nominal compounds (Verbal-nexus type compounds)

4. Concluding remarks

- Proposal of an inheritance hierarchy for nominal compounds, incorporating categories discussed in Scalise and Bisetto (2009)
- Construction Morphology representational system proves useful to indicate where NCMs appear in the word network.
- Mimetics can enrich lexical varieties of nominal compounds, and are integral part of nominal compound word formation.
- Need for a typological study

- (30) a. Japhug (Rgyalrong, Sino-Tibetan) (Jaque 2013: 282)
 jəkmɯ-zdɔkzdɔk thumb-IDEO (small and active) 'bird sp.'
- b. Gbaya (Niger-Congo) (Noss 1985: 247)
 kpu-kpút-yi 'bubbling water'

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