

# JADH 2012 CONFERENCE "Inheriting Humanities"

15 - 17 September 2012

Faculty of Engineering Bldg.2 (Hongo Campus),  
University of Tokyo

<http://www.jadh.org/jadh2012>



The Japanese Association for Digital Humanities is pleased to announce its second annual conference, to be held at the University of Tokyo, Japan, 15-17 September, 2012. The conference will feature posters, papers and panels. We invite proposals on all aspects of digital humanities internationally, and especially encourage papers treating topics that deal with the ways that humanistic studies are being inherited by humanities scholars in the digital age.

In this decade, the digitization of cultural resources has been carried out extensively by various projects and organizations, taking the ever-growing Internet as the main infrastructure. However, in Japan, such activities have tended to be carried out by practitioners and researchers of information technology--often without sufficient cooperation with humanities scholars. Therefore, one of the aims of JADH2012 is to raise awareness regarding the efforts of humanities researchers and to have some discussion about this area, so that we may provide new support for various approaches toward inheriting humanities in the digital age.

Hosted by: **JADH 2012 organizing committee** Under the auspices of **Japanese Association for Digital Humanities**

Co-hosted by: **Center for Evolving Humanities, Faculty of Letters, University of Tokyo / Digital Humanities Core, Interfaculty Initiative in Information studies, University of Tokyo / Center for Knowledge Structuring, University of Tokyo / International Institute for Digital Humanities**

Co-sponsored by: **SIG Computers and the Humanities, Information Processing Society of Japan / Japan Art Documentation Society / Alliance of Digital Humanities Organizations**

**JADH Conference 2012**  
**“Inheriting Humanities”**

**15-17 September 2012**

**Faculty of Engineering Bldg.2 (Hongo Campus), University of Tokyo**  
於東京大学本郷キャンパス工学部2号館

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Under the auspices of Japanese Association for Digital Humanities

主催  
人文情報学推進協議会

Co-hosted by  
Center for Evolving Humanities, Graduate School of Humanities and Sociology, University of Tokyo  
Digital Humanities Core, Interfaculty Initiative in Information studies, University of Tokyo  
Center for Knowledge Structuring, University of Tokyo  
International Institute for Digital Humanities

共催  
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東京大学大学院情報学環 デジタル・ヒューマニティーズ・コア  
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## [C-1] Design of Serial Comparison Model for the Diachronic Corpus Study of Japanese

*Hilofumi Yamamoto (Tokyo Institute of Technology / University of California, San Diego), Makiro Tanaka (National Institute of Japanese Language and Linguistics) and Yasu-Hiro Kondo (Aoyama Gakuin University / National Institute of Japanese Language and Linguistics)*

The project "the design and development of a diachronic corpus of Japanese" began in 2009 at the Department of Corpus Study, the National Institute of Japanese Language and Linguistics (NINJAL) as a collaborative research project by linguists and scholars of literature from NINJAL and the University of Oxford. Its focus is on collecting representative Japanese literary works and classical documents from the tenth century to the nineteenth century.

We are currently working on the development of a prototype version of the diachronic Japanese corpus: i.e. we are focusing on the selection of materials, digitizing texts, adding alternative texts (different orthography) to original texts, compiling a basic thesaurus that differentiates between different spellings, and word segmentation.

This paper addresses the discussion of the basic concepts encountered during our work on the project: synchronic and diachronic analysis, which led us to the design of a serial comparison model which allows us to examine language change between documents or literary works with respect to time.

Saussure (1983) defines diachronic change as a language feature transforming according to time, and synchronic as a language feature at a certain moment in time. In either event it is necessary to compare any two types of texts to examine differences in terms of diachronic or synchronic change. What we examine is not differences in content but those in language use. Therefore we must extract, in a clear way, only the differences in language use between the target texts.

Many studies have tried to examine differences in language use. However, in almost every case, examples or clues of language change were collected not by computers but by time-consuming manual work. The methods they employed are thus impractical for the collection of a large number of examples or clues, as is often the case in corpus studies. Furthermore, there is a risk that utilizing such methods could lead researchers into only collecting sentences conforming with their hypotheses. Therefore, it is necessary to use computers and corpora for conducting more exact and unbiased research than was ever achieved or possible before. This, however, requires us to prepare a framework that can clearly differentiate ways of language use and contents of texts.

To this end, we developed a "serial comparison model" which allows us to examine evidence of language change by searching in corpora, and classify vocabulary items into

differences in content or differences in language use.

The finding of this study is that the serial comparison model allows us to 1) discern language change between any two points in time, and 2) classify vocabulary items into five categories: unchanged, similar but not used in the new text, similar but not used in the old text, newly used, and abandoned. When comparing two texts, the model extracts differences in language change from differences in content.

<**Keywords:** Corpus Linguistics, Diachronic Language Study, Comparative Study>



## [C-1] Emotive Adjectives and Verbs of the Heian Japanese

*Makiro Tanaka (National Institute for Japanese Language and Linguistics)  
and Hilofumi Yamamoto (Tokyo Institute of Technology)*

In Modern Japanese, agents or objects of emotive adjectives can be indicated as follows: 'watashi wa kanashi' (I am sad) or 'wakare ga kanashii' (farewells are sad). It is also possible to use emotive verbs in the modern written style called 'gendai kakikotoba': 'wakare o kanashimu' (sorrow over farewells).

On the other hand, the presence of agents of emotive adjectives and sentences containing emotive verbs is missing in the Tale of Genji (in the Heian period; ca. 1000; Genji Monogatari) which is written in traditional Japanese sentence style called 'wabuntai'. The characteristics of sentence structures in the Heian period are summarized as follows:

- Agents are not indicated in adjective sentences.
- The use of verb sentences depends on the kind of emotion the verb indicates.

The aforementioned grammatical usages have turned out to be different in our examination of the corpus of Tales of Times Now Past (Konjaku Monogatarihū; ca. 1130; established at the end of the Heian period) which consists of both 'wabuntai' sentences and 'kanbunkundokutai' sentences. ('kanbunkundokutai' is a style of written Japanese that follows the grammar of Chinese classics (kanbun) and reproduces the style and feel of Japanese sentence sounds (kundoku), although it was never transcribed in Chinese classics.)

The change is that we clearly observed the use of emotive adjectives and the use of various kinds of emotive verb sentences, whose sentence constructions are very similar to those of modern Japanese. By comparing sentences in Tales of Times Now Past with equivalent sentences in Chinese texts in the original works of Tales of Times Now Past, we assured that this change of sentence construction structure is caused by the effect of Chinese sentence styles.

Therefore, we estimate that the two styles (wabuntai and kanbunkundokutai) merged in the 12th century and the use of emotive agents or objects and emotive verbs, as seen in contemporary Japanese, are a direct result of the mixing Chinese sentence structure (kanbunkundokutai) in with the language.

<**Keywords:** corpus linguistics , diachronic language study, comparative study , stylistics of classical Japanese, mix of two styles>