

Interactions of Ironical Scare Quotations and Discourse Particles in Japanese

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This talk investigates the interaction of ironical scare quotations and discourse particles in Japanese. The Japanese particle *ne* is compatible with an ironical scare quotation as shown in (1a), while another particle *yo* sounds very odd as shown in (1b). When there is no discourse particle as in (1c), the acceptability of the ironical scare quotation is a little degraded.

(1) [Peter was tailing Tom for two hours and Tom noticed that at the very beginning of Peter's tailing. When Tom entered a cafe, Peter spoke to Tom, saying, 'Hi, Tom, it's really a coincidence!' Tom replies ironically:]

- | | | | | | | | |
|----|--------------------------------|---------------|--------|----|--------|---------------|--------|
| a. | Honto | 'guuzen' | da ne! | b. | *Honto | 'guuzen' | da yo! |
| | really | 'coincidence' | is NE | | really | 'coincidence' | is YO |
| | 'It's really a "coincidence"!' | | | | | | |
| c. | ?Honto | 'guuzen' | da! | | | | |
| | really | 'coincidence' | is | | | | |

When there is no quotation marker and the speaker is really surprised that she/he met the hearer, all of three variants are felicitous as in (2).

(2) [Peter spoke to Tom, saying, 'Tom! It's really a coincidence!' Tom is surprised and says:]

| | | | |
|--------|-------------|----|------------|
| Honto | guuzen | da | {ne/yo/φ}! |
| really | coincidence | is | NE YO |

The goal of this talk is to explain why the acceptability of ironical scare quotations differ depending on discourse particles as in (1). It is also investigated how the ironical interpretation of the scare quotation in (1) come about.

As a framework I adopt the judge parameter proposed by Lasersohn (2005) and propose that quotation markers in ironical scare quotations can be treated as judge-shifting operators. After presenting empirical advantages of this treatment of quotation markers, it is shown that the ironical meaning of quotations is conversational implicature as suggested by Gutzmann & Stei (2011). As for semantics of Japanese discourse particles, I develop a theory based on Davis (2009) and McCready (2009). Under these assumptions, the data in (1) and (2) are analyzed and it is shown that the proposed theory correctly predicts the behavior of ironical scare quotations and discourse particles in Japanese.

References: Davis, C. (2009). Decisions, dynamics and the Japanese particle *yo*. *Journal of semantics* 26(4), 329–366. Gutzmann, D. & Stei, E. (2011). Quotation marks and kinds of meaning. Arguments in favor of a pragmatic account. In E. Brendel, J. Meibauer & M. Steinbach, *Understanding Quotation*. Berlin, New York: Walter de Gruyter, 161–193. Lasersohn, P. (2005). Context dependence, disagreement, and predicates of personal taste. *Linguistics and Philosophy*, 28(6), 643–686. McCready, E. (2009). Particles: Dynamics vs. utility. *Proceedings of Japanese/Korean Linguistics* 16, 466–480.