

Workshop on Japanese Language and Interaction

Intersubjectivity and Empathy in Interaction

National University of Singapore
Department of Japanese Studies

August 17-18, 2017 Venue: AS8 05-50

The Department of Japanese Studies at the National University of Singapore is honored to host the 2nd international Workshop on Japanese Language and Interaction. This year's theme is "Intersubjectivity and Empathy in Interaction".

This workshop has been convened to explore the intersubjectivity and empathy negotiated in everyday conversation, focusing on various linguistic and non-linguistic resources through the examination of video-recorded naturalistic data in various contexts.

Studies on Japanese communication style have often asserted that maintaining group harmony is highly valued in Japanese culture and "mutual dependency", and "empathetic understanding" of unstated words are often said to be the quintessential manifestation of such cultural value. Yet in such studies, no evidence is shown to demonstrate that participants of conversation themselves are oriented to such cultural values in any specific moment. Nonetheless, there is no doubt that speakers of Japanese, whether they are children or language learners, do achieve intersubjective understanding and empathy. The question is: In what kind of interactional moments such notions are thematized, what kinds of linguistic resources are deployed and how do participants display their orientation toward those resources? To investigate these questions, Conversation Analysis is used as the common methodology in this workshop examining moment-by-moment unfolding of talk-in-interaction.

There will be talks that focus on specific linguistic tokens, as well as data sessions where participants collaboratively investigate some interactional phenomena. Data session workshops are the most common collaborative research methodology used by Conversation Analysis practitioners. Researchers from different disciplinary backgrounds get together in these sessions to examine and cross-analyze the specific stretch of conversational data that one of the researchers has selected from a larger data-set. These researchers together carefully examine all the recordings and transcripts of the selected data that owner of the data is attempting to analyze. The researchers collaboratively work to formulate a cross-disciplinary understanding of the phenomenon. All the participants can focus on any aspect of the interaction to the analysis, but that analysis has to be grounded in the data itself. All the participants bring their own expertise and collaboratively analyze the data. Anyone who wants to participate in this collaborative learning opportunity is welcome.

Organised by

Program

DAY 1 Thursday, August 17

**All the talks are in English.*

10:00-10:10 Opening Remarks Emi Morita

10:10-11:00 Matt Burdelski (University of Osaka)

Lecture: Emotion and language socialization: Intersubjectivity and empathy in adult-child and peer interactions

11:00-11:50 Tomoko Endo (Seikei University) & Daisuke Yokomori (Kyushu University)

Lecture: Searching in Japanese conversation: Self-addressed questions *nanteyuuno*, *nandaroo* and *nandakke*.

12:00-14:00 Lunch Break

14:00-15:50 Tomoyo Takagi (University of Tsukuba) & Emi Morita (NUS)

Lecture: Signaling emergent interactional agendas: the "interjectional" expression *anoo* in Japanese conversation

15:50-16:10 Break

16:10-17:00 Michie Kawashima (Kansai Gaidai College)

Lecture: Intersections between Japanese grammar and interaction; some preliminary findings from both ordinary and institutional settings

DAY 2 Friday, August 18 DATA SESSION WORKSHOP

**All data will be in Japanese.*

10:30-11:20 Data session lead by Hosoda Yuri & David Aline (Kanagawa University)

Constructing, supporting and opposing arguments in second language peer discussion for language learning.

11:20-12:10 Data session lead by Tomoyo Takagi

Interaction between an adult and a child with high-functioning autism

12:10-14:00 Lunch Break

14:00-14:50 Data session lead by HyunJung KWON (Ibaraki University)

Overt epistemic status check *-tte shitteru?* ('Do you know ~?') in NS-NNS interaction

14:50-15:40 Data session lead by SiEun RIM (Hankuk University of Foreign Studies)

Turn-initial *iya* in Japanese conversations

15:40-16:00 Break

16:00-16:50 Discussion: Using CA for linguistic research, lead by Akira Takada (Kyoto University)