### Notes on Relativization in Japanese

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Notes on Relativization in Japanese

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In this talk, we have argued for the existence of the relative clauses in Japanese that are derived by movement, as well as those derived by non-movement.

The relative clause (1b) lacks the sort of island effect observed in the scrambling case (1a), which is derived by the syntactic movement of the scrambled phrase:

(1) a. *sono-kuruma-o, [Taroo-ga [e1 yogoshita kodomo]-o
    stained kid
    shikaritsuketa
    scolded
  
  Lit. "That car, Taro scolded the kid who stained."

b. [Taroo-ga [e1 yogoshita kodomo]-o shikaritsuketa] kuruma,
  Lit. "the car which Taro scolded the kid who stained"

We attributed the lack of island effect in this relative clause to the availability of an empty resumptive pronoun pro in the gap position of the relative clause. We have assumed the following licensing condition on pro:

(2) In Japanese, pro is licensed by abstract Case-assignment.

However, some sort of movement must be involved in those relative clauses where pro is not available in the relevant gap.

Firstly, the following semantic constraint on resumptive pronouns prevents pro from appearing in the gap position of the relative clauses that are headed by a quantified NP.

(3) An NP with the feature [+pronominal] cannot have a
quantified NP in A'-position as its antecedent.  
(Chao and Sells (1983), Saito (1985))

Hence, a gap in such a relative clause must obligatorily be a trace left by movement. The island effect in the following sentence tells us that this is so. Consider:

(4) *[Hanako-ga [e, nagutta otoke]-o aishiteiru]dono-onna-mo; 
guy ACC love

Jiro-o nagutta
Lit."Any woman that Hanako loves the guy who hit hit Jiro."

Secondly, the relativization of (i) an adjunct and (ii) a topic phrase also must involve movement because neither a gap in an adjunct position nor the one in a topic position does not meet the licensing condition of pro (2). The island effect observed below shows that this is the case:

(5) *[Mary-ga [e, John-o sashita hito]-o aishiteiru] naifu 
person love
Lit."the knife which Mary loves the person who stabbed John with"

(6) a. Reagan-wa [Nancy-ga byooki-da]
TOP NOM be ill
Lit."As for Reagan, Nancy is ill in bed."

b. ??[Taro-ga [[e, [Nancy-ga byooki-da]]-toyuu uwasa]-o 
that rumor
kiita Reagan, 
heard
Lit."Reagan, who Taro heard a rumor that Nancy is ill in bed"