Presumptive and negative presumptive forms in the Ibaraki dialect: another glance at a mystery of /r/
Presumptive and Negative Presumptive Forms in the Ibaraki Dialect:  
Another Glance at a Mystery of /r/  

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0. Introduction

This paper is concerned with presumptive and negative presumptive forms in the Ibaraki dialect. Below are some representative examples discussed here:

(1) a. ikube  'You will go, won't you?'  
b. tabeppe  'You will eat it, won't you?'  
c. takakappe  'It is expensive, isn't it?'
(2) a. osame  'You didn't push it, did you?'  
b. tomme  'You didn't take it, did you?'  
c. tabeme  'You didn't eat it, did you?'

The examples in (1) illustrate the attachment of the presumptive particle. The forms involve /be/ or /ppe/ at the end of the words. They are identical in meaning but are different in the form to which they are added. These examples in (2) show suffixation of the negative presumptive forms. (2b) is different from the others in that /mme/ is involved.

As far as I know, these kinds of expressions in Ibaraki dialect, unlike those of other dialects (e.g., the Tokyo dialect) have never undergone a thorough phonological analysis. Though there is an extensive investigation that provides a dialect distribution map of Kanto area (Ohashi (1976, 1990)), it does not deal with the question of why these forms have such endings as they are.

In this paper, we argue that the apparent complexity of the forms in the Ibaraki dialect turns out to be governed by conditions and rules which are not unique to this dialect but are operative in Japanese dialects in general. The organization of this paper is as follows. In section 1, we clarify the mechanisms of presumptive formation. In section 2, we discuss the applicability of the process, providing data of negative
presumptive forms. Section 3 makes concluding remarks.

1. Presumptive Forms

In this section we attempt to capture the mechanisms of the derivational process of presumptive forms. We argue that the apparent complexity of the forms is due to a peculiar characteristic of the segment /r/ in Japanese, i.e., a vowel after /r/ is sporadically deleted (Post-/r/ Vowel Deletion). In section 1.1, we provide examples of verbs as basic data. Next in section 1.2, we introduce a series of rules and conditions used in the course of derivation. Then in section 1.3, we turn to presumptive formation in the Ibaraki dialect. Section 1.4 is devoted to a discussion of related issues.

1.1. Basic Data

Let us first look at examples of verbs. Presumptive forms are given on the left side of the columns, indicative forms in the middle and glosses on the right side.

(3) a. aube a-u 'fit'
b. ikube ik-u 'go'
c. osube os-u 'push'
d. tatube tat-u 'cut'
e. sinube sin-u 'die'
f. yomube yom-u 'read'
g. oyogube oyog-u 'swim'
h. toppe tor-u 'take'
i. tabeppe tabe-ru 'eat'
j. akeppe ake-ru 'open'
k. suppe su-ru 'do'
l. kuppe ku-ru 'come'

As shown in (3), the presumptive forms in the Ibaraki dialect involve /be/ or /ppe/ at the end of the words. At first glance, there seems to be no systematicity in the selection of the two forms. It seems that the corresponding indicative forms give us a
clue. When the indicative forms end with sequences of a consonant other than /r/ plus /u/, /be/ is attached to the forms, as in (3a-g). In contrast, when the indicative forms end with /ru/, whether /r/ is inside or outside of the stem, presumptive forms involve /ppe/ at the end of the words as shown in (3h-l).

Here we assume that the presumptive form is based on the indicative form for two reasons. One is that both a vowel-final stem (e.g., tabe-ru) and a consonant-final stem (e.g., tor-u) select the same forms ending with /ppe/. The form of the stem is not relevant. Rather it is crucial whether the indicative form ends with /ru/ or not. The other is that the sequence of the indicative + /be/ (e.g., torube) does not sound so bad, though the sequence is not usually used in this dialect. Therefore, we assume that the presumptive form is derived through attachment of the particle /be/ to the indicative form.

Then the derivational process of the presumptive form in (3b), for example, goes as follows:

(4) \[
V \ C \ V \ C \ V \ V \ C \ V \ C \ V
\]
\[
i k \ u \ + \ b \ e \rightarrow i k \ u \ b \ e
\]

Note that indicative suffixation (/ik + u/) takes place before presumptive formation. All the examples in (3) involve this process. As for the examples in (3a-g), the process of particle attachment yields the surface form.

When it comes to the case of (3h-l), the matter does not seem so simple as in the case of (3a-g). Further processes change the underlying form (e.g., /toru + be/) to the surface form (e.g., /toppe/). Before we turn to a consideration of the derivational system of the forms in (3h-l), we present rules and conditions which constitute the system.

1.2. Rules and Conditions

In this subsection, we introduce rules and conditions which are involved in presumptive formation in the Ibaraki dialect. There are four rules, (i.e., Post-/r/ Vowel Deletion, Gemination,
Devoicing and Coda Nasalization) and two conditions, (i.e., Coda Condition and Voiced Consonants Condition). We see how the series of these processes works.

1.2.1. Post-/r/ Vowel Deletion

Post-/r/ Vowel Deletion, which explains the fact that the sequence of /ru/ is missing in the presumptive forms, begins a series of processes. This is one peculiar characteristic of the segment /r/, i.e., a vowel after /r/ is sporadically deleted.' This rule is introduced in the study of Onbin phenomenon in Tanaka et al. (1992). We cite this below:

(5) Post-r Vowel Deletion
\[ V \rightarrow \emptyset / r \_ + [-\text{cont}] \]

This rule says that a vowel after the segment /r/ is deleted when it is followed by a segment with the feature [-continuant]. There is a morpheme boundary between a vowel and a consonant with [-continuant].'

Though this rule is omitted from their final account of verbal conjugation, Tanaka et al. (1992) notes that this rule has an independent motivation, providing the following facts. The forms given on the left side of the columns are input forms of the rule and those given in the middle are output forms of the rule and further processes. Glosses are given on the right side.

(6) a. wakaranai wakannai 'I don't know.'
 b. sousuruto sousutto 'Then'
c. yaruka yakka 'Shall we do it?'

Take (6a), for example, in which the sequence /ra/ is followed by /n/. Since /n/ has the feature [-continuant], the word satisfies the environment of the rule. Thus the post-/r/ vowel /a/ is deleted.

However, the forms listed in the middle of (6) are not arrived at only through this rule. The output form of this rule /wakarnai/ is not acceptable as it stands and hence further processes are needed to get the surface form. Then what prohibits
the output form and causes further processes?

1.2.2. Coda Condition

The answer to this question lies in consideration of the proper syllable structure. Prohibition of a consonant other than nasals in coda position is formalized in Ito (1986) as below.

(7) Coda Condition

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\mathcal{C} \\
\mathcal{C} \\
[-\text{nasal}]
\end{array}
\]

The Coda Condition (7) rules out a consonant with the feature [-nasal] in coda position. This condition properly expresses the absence of closed syllables other than /VN/ in Japanese. The same is true of the Ibaraki dialect. Since the output form of the rule /wakarnai/ involves a consonant in coda position and the consonant /r/ has the feature [-nasal], it is blocked. Next we consider a way to avoid the violation of this condition.

1.2.3. Gemination

To avoid the violation of the Coda Condition (7) Gemination is used. This is formalized in Tanaka et al. (1992):

(8) Gemination

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\mathcal{C} \\
\mathcal{C} \\
\text{root} \quad \text{root}
\end{array}
\]

This rule means that the root tier node of the second consonant spreads onto the first consonant, as shown by the dashed line, while the root tier node associated with the first consonant delinks, as shown by the double-crossed line.

Ito (1989) argues that geminates are immune from the Coda Condition because of its doubly linked nature, as shown in (9).

(9) [\begin{array}{c}
\mathcal{C} \\
\mathcal{C} \quad \mathcal{C} \\
\mathcal{C}
\end{array}]

/kite/  ‘stamp’

Recall that the consonant which triggers Post-/r/ Vowel Deletion has the feature [-continuant]. Thus, voiced stops /b,d,
$g$/. voiceless stops /p,t,k/ and nasals /m,n/ are subject to this rule. In the case of voiced stops, the output form of this rule is unacceptable, while in the case of voiceless stops and nasals the output form is acceptable. What explains this contrast?

1.2.4. Voiced Consonants Condition

It is widely known that a sequence of voiced consonants is not allowed in Japanese. This is captured by means of the following condition:

(10) Voiced Consonants Condition

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{[+voi]} \\
\ast \text{C} \\
\text{C} \\
\text{[-nas]}
\end{array}
\]

This condition means that the sequence of voiced consonants is ruled out except for nasals. Thus in the case of voiced stops, which have both features [+voice] and [-nas], sequences /bb/, /dd/, /gg/ are blocked by this condition. In contrast, voiceless stops and nasals lack the features, [+voice] and [-nasal], respectively. Thus sequences /pp/, /tt/, /kk/ and /mm/, /nn/ are not ruled out. Then what happens to the unacceptable voiced geminate? Ito & Wester (1986) mention two strategies to avoid the violation of the voiced geminates; Devoicing and Degemination (i.e., Coda Nasalization).

1.2.5. Devoicing

We look at the devoicing rule, which is formulated as follows:

(11) Devoicing

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{[+voi]} \\
\ast \text{C} \\
\text{C} \\
\text{[-nas]} \\
\Rightarrow \\
\text{C} \\
\text{C} \\
\text{[-nas]}
\end{array}
\]

In (11) the feature [+voice], which is associated with a geminate, is replaced by [-voice]. Unacceptable voiced geminates become
acceptable voiceless geminates. Itô & Mester (1986) observe that the voiced geminates found in a few unassimilated loans (e.g., /handobaggu/ 'handbag', /beddo/ 'bed') are devoiced in casual speech.

1.2.6. Coda Nasalization

Another strategy used to avoid the Voiced Consonant Condition is Coda Nasalization. Itô & Mester (1986) observe that this rule is a regular phonological process in Japanese used to avoid voiced geminates. Coda Nasalization is formalized in Tanaka et al. (1992) as follows:

(12) Coda Nasalization

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{[-nasal]} \quad \text{[+nasal]} \\
\begin{array}{c}
\text{C} \\
\text{position}
\end{array} & \rightarrow & \begin{array}{c}
\text{C} \\
\text{position}
\end{array}
\end{array}
\]

This rule says that the association of [+nasal] to the first element of a voiced geminate renders the sequence acceptable.

Itô & Mester (1986) present an example of intensive infixation to illustrate this process.

(13) togaru 'be pointed' tongaru 'be pointed (int.)'

Intensive infixation involves insertion of a skeletal slot and subsequent spreading of the adjacent consonant. Though the sequence /gg/ is doubly linked and hence immune from the Coda Condition, it is ruled out by the Voiced Consonants Condition. If the feature [+voice] remains attached to the CV tier, the other feature, i.e., [-nasal] must be changed. Then we derive the acceptable homorganic cluster /gg/.

1.2.7. Summary

To sum up, we present the series of rules and conditions discussed above in the following chart.
(14) Post-/r/ Vowel Deletion (5)
      Coda Condition (7)
      Gemination (8)
      Voiced Consonants Condition (10)
      Devoicing (11) Coda Nasalization (12)

In section 1.2, we have introduced a series of rules and conditions. First, Post-/r/ Vowel Deletion (5) applies. The output form of the rule is blocked by the Coda Condition (7). Then, Gemination (8) takes place to avoid the violation of the Coda Condition. When the geminate is voiced and not nasal, it is ruled out by the Voiced Consonants Condition (10). To avoid the violation of this condition one of the two strategies are used; Devoicing (11) or Coda Nasalization (12).

In section 1.3, we analyze the data given in section 1.1 and argue that the series of rules and conditions introduced in section 1.2, is operative in the case of the Ibaraki dialect.

1.3. Derivation of Presumptive Forms

As mentioned above in section 1.1, presumptive formation is divided into two groups as to whether the indicative form ends with /ru/ or not. While the latter (3a-g) show a straightforward derivation as shown in (4), the former (3h-l) seem to involve a complex derivational system. In this subsection, we reveal the derivational process of the type in (3h-l), taking the sequence /tabeppe/, for example.

As mentioned in section 1.1, presumptive forms are derived by attaching the presumptive particle /be/ to the indicative form. Thus we assume /taberube/ is the underlying form for /tabeppe/.

Since /ru/ is followed by a consonant with the feature [-continuant], Post-/r/ Vowel Deletion (5) is operative. The application of the rule yields the sequence /taberbe/ as in (15):

(15) C V C V C V C V C V C C V
    t a b e r u b e → t a b e r b e

The output form in (15) is ruled out by the Coda Condition (7).
Since /r/, which has the feature [-nasal], is in coda position, the sequence /taberbe/ is not allowed.

To avoid the violation of the Coda Condition, Gemination (8) is used. We apply this rule to the output form of (5) /taberbe/.

\[
\text{(16) CVCCVV (8) CVCCVV} \\
\text{taberbe} \rightarrow \text{tabebe}
\]

Since the particle-initial consonant is the voiced stop /b/, the application of the rule yields the voiced geminate /bb/. This is ruled out by the Voiced Consonants Condition (10).

A strategy adopted to avoid the violation of the condition in this dialect is Devoicing (11). We apply this rule to the output form of (8), /tabbabe/, as below:

\[
\text{(17) CVCCVV (11) CVCCVV} \\
\text{tabebe} \rightarrow \text{tabepe} \\
\text{[+voi]} \quad \text{[-voi]}
\]

Then we finally get the presumptive form /tabeppe/. This derivational process is true of all the /ru/-ending indicatives listed in (3h-1).

The presumptive formation is summarized as follows:

\[
\text{(18) a. VCVCCV} \\
\text{ikube} \\
\text{b. CVCCVV (5) CVCCV CV (8)} \\
\text{taberube} \rightarrow \text{taberbe} \\
\text{CVCCVV (11) CVCCVV} \\
\text{tabebe} \rightarrow \text{tabeppe}
\]

The presumptive forms in the Ibaraki dialect are derived through the attachment of the particle /be/ to the indicative forms, which are divided into the /ru/-ending form (18b) and others (18a). The /ru/-ending form involves further processes to obtain the surface form because of the peculiar nature of /r/. First the /ru/-ending form conforms to Post-/r/ Vowel Deletion (5). Since the output violates the Coda Condition (7), Gemination (8) is applicable. The output voiced geminate is blocked by the Voiced
Consonants Condition (10), thus devoicing (11) takes place to obtain the surface form.

1.4. Related Forms

So far we have observed the derivational process of the presumptive form of verbs, in which the whole system in (14) is applicable. Now we turn to the case of other categories; adjectives and a copula.

1.4.1. Adjectives and a Copula

We provide presumptive forms of adjectives and sequences of adverb + copula below.\textsuperscript{14}  The presumptive forms for those categories are given on the left side of the columns, roots plus relevant sequences in the middle and glosses on the right side.

(19) a. takakappe taka-kar 'It is expensive, isn't it?'
    b. samukappe samu-kar 'It's cold, isn't it?'
(20) a. kireidappe kirei-dar 'It is beautiful, isn't it?'
    b. soudappe sou-dar 'Isn't it?'

Here we assume that the inputs of presumptive formation are the forms listed in the middle of the columns in (19-20) and leave it open whether the forms assumed here are tenable or not. We discuss this point in section 1.4.2.

Given the assumption that forms like /taka-kar/ are inputs of the presumptive formation, the same kind of explanation as in the case of verbs is available here. They differ in just one respect, i.e., Post-/r/ Vowel Deletion is irrelevant here. Since the input forms do not involve /rV/-sequence, Post-/r/ Vowel Deletion (i.e., the first rule in (14)) is not applicable. Forms like /taka-kar/ are subject to all the other processes in (14).

Taking (19a), for example, we illustrate the derivation below:

\begin{verbatim}
    t a k a k a r b e → t a k a k a b e →
    C V C V C V C V C V
    t a k a k a p e
\end{verbatim}
As we mentioned above, the input form /taka-kar-be/ is first subject to the Coda Condition (7). Since /r/ has the feature [-nasal], it is not allowed in coda position. Then Gemination (8) takes place to avoid the violation of the Coda Condition. The output form /takakabbe/ is blocked by the Voiced Consonants Condition (10). Devoicing (11) changes this to the acceptable form /takakappe/.

1.4.2. Adequacy of the underlying forms

We now turn to the adequacy of the assumption that forms like /taka-kar/ or /sou-dar/ in (19–20) are proper underlying forms. The assumption is supported by two pieces of evidence in the Tokyo dialect; past forms and negative forms.

Below are examples of past forms in the Tokyo dialect:

(22) a. takakatta 'It was expensive.'
    b. samukatta 'It was cold.'
(23) a. kireidatta 'It was beautiful.'
    b. soudatta 'It was right.'

(22a), for example, shows that /takakatta/ is derived from /taka-kar/ through /ta/ suffixation. If we assume that the underlying form does not have /r/, then we get unacceptable past form /takakata/.

Next we provide negative forms of adjectives in the Tokyo dialect:

(24) a. takakarazu 'It is not expensive.'
    b. samukarazu 'It is not cold.'

The suffix /azu/ attaches to the consonant-final stem, while /zu/ attaches to the vowel-final stem. Thus in (24a), /taka-kar/ is considered to be the underlying form of negative formation. If we assume that the underlying form does not have /r/, i.e., it is the vowel-final stem /taka-ka/, then we get unacceptable /takakazu/.

From these data, we can say it is not completely untenable to regard a form like /taka-kar/ as the underlying form of presumptive formation.
1.4.3. Cross-Dialectal Variation

So far we have examined data from the Ibaraki dialect, where either /be/ or /ppe/ is used. According to the research in Ohashi (1976) there is or was a dialect in the western part of Kanto area (hereafter the west Kanto dialect), which involves the sequence /mbe/ instead of /ppe/ used in the Ibaraki dialect:

(25) soudambe

Comparison of the two forms tells us that the two dialects use different strategies to avoid the violation of the Voiced Consonants Condition (10). Recall the series of rules and conditions summarized in (14). The last stage of the processes involves the alternative choice of Devoicing (11) and Coda Nasalization (12). While Devoicing is selected in the Ibaraki dialect as shown in (17), Coda Nasalization is selected in the west Kanto dialect. We illustrate the derivational process of the form in (25) below:

(26) C V V C V C C V (8) C V V C V C C V (12)
    soudarbe → soudabe →

C V V C V C C V
    soudambe

As in the case of (20b), since /soudarbe/ is ruled out by Coda Condition (7), the sequence becomes /soudabbe/ by Gemination (8). Then, in this case Coda Nasalization is used to avoid the violation of the Voiced Consonants Condition (10). Thus we obtain the surface form /soudambe/.

2. Applicability of Post-/~r/~ Vowel Deletion

In the preceding section we have revealed the derivational process of presumptive forms. In that case, whenever the environment is satisfied, Post-/~r/~ Vowel Deletion is applicable and hence the rest of the process works. However there is a case in which the rule is not applicable even if the environment is satisfied. This section discusses this point. In section 2.1, we
provide basic data in which not all instances of the sequence /rV/ are subject to Post-/r/ Vowel Deletion. In section 2.2, we examine a possible approach to the applicability of Post-/r/ Vowel Deletion. Then in section 2.3, we deal with a further issue.

2.1. Basic Data
2.1.1. Negative Presumptive Forms

We first provide the paradigms of negative presumptive forms below. Negative presumptive forms are given on the left side of the columns, indicative forms in the middle and glosses on the right side.

(27) a. awame a-u 'It didn't fit, did it?'
    b. ikame ik-u 'You didn't go, did you?'
    c. osame os-u 'You didn't push it, did you?'
    d. tatame tat-u 'You didn't cut it, did you?'
    e. siname sin-u 'It didn't die, did it?'
    f. yomame yom-u 'You didn't read it, did you?'
    g. oyogame oyog-u 'You didn't swim, did you?'
    h. tomme tor-u 'You didn't take it, did you?'
    i. tabeme tabe-ru 'You didn't eat it, did you?'
    j. akeme ake-ru 'You didn't open it, did you?'
    k. sime su-ru 'You didn't do so, did you?'
    l. kome ku-ru 'He didn't come, did he?'

We assume that basically the suffix /ame/ attaches to the consonant-final stem (27a-h) and /me/ attaches to the vowel-final stem (27i-l) as in the case of the corresponding /mai/ or /nai/ suffixation in the Tokyo dialect. However, the form in (27h) is not arrived at only through /me/ suffixation.

Here again the same process works as in the case of presumptive formation. Below is a derivation of (27h):

(28) $\begin{array}{ccccccc} CV & CV & CV & CV & CV & CV & CV \\
\text{torame} & \rightarrow & \text{torme} & \rightarrow & \text{tome} \end{array}$

First /torame/ becomes /torme/ by Post-/r/ Vowel Deletion (5). Then it undergoes Gemination (8) to avoid the violation of the
Coda Condition (7). Since the sequence /mm/ is not blocked by the Voiced Consonants Condition (10), the rest of the processes (i.e., Devoicing or Degemination) are irrelevant here.

Presumptive particle attachment discussed in section 1.1 and negative presumptive suffixation discussed here are straightforward illustration of Post-/r/ Vowel Deletion (5). Next we provide data which show that the application of the rule is limited to a certain suffix.

2.1.2. Negative Presumptive Potential Forms

The ending suffix /me/ can follow other stem-forming suffixes. Here we present representative examples of the sequence root + potential suffix + negative presumptive suffix on the left side, outputs of the processes (14) in the middle and glosses on the right side.

(29) a. oseme  'You cannot push it, can you?'
b. yomeme  'You cannot read it, can you?'
c. toreme  *tomme  'You cannot take it, can you?'
d. kireme  *kimme  'You cannot cut it, can you?'
e. taberame  taberamme 'You cannot eat it, can you?'
f. mirareme  miramme  'You cannot see it, can you?'

In (29a-d), root forms are consonant-final and /e/ is used to express meaning of potential. When the potential suffix /e/ is attached to the /r/-ending root, it constitutes a /rV/-sequence as shown in (29c-d). The /rV/-sequences, however, do not undergo Post-/r/ Vowel Deletion. As for vowel-ending roots, the suffix /rare/ is used to express potential meaning. In this case, Post-/r/ Vowel Deletion is applicable as shown in (29e-f). The output forms are more natural in casual speech.

Here a question arises as to why the potential form /toreme/ does not undergo Post-/r/ Vowel Deletion. In the following subsection, we discuss the applicability of this rule in detail.
2.2. Derivational vs. Inflectional

In this subsection, incorporating the insight of de Chene (1987, 1988), we suggest that a distinction between derivational and inflectional suffixes is relevant to the applicability of Post-\(r\) Vowel Deletion.

We repeat some representative data relevant to the discussion here. The inputs of Post-\(r\) Vowel Deletion are given on the left side and the outputs on the right side.

\[(30)\]
\[
\begin{array}{ll}
\text{a. } & \text{tor-u-be } \quad \text{toppe} \\
\text{b. } & \text{tabe-ru-be } \quad \text{tabeppe}
\end{array}
\]

\[(31)\]
\[
\begin{array}{ll}
\text{tor-ame } & \text{tomme} \\
\end{array}
\]

\[(32)\]
\[
\begin{array}{ll}
\text{a. } & \text{tor-e-me } \quad \ast \text{tomme} \\
\text{b. } & \text{tabe-rare-me } \quad \text{taberamme}
\end{array}
\]

All the examples in (30-32) involve \(rV\)-sequences. The forms in (30a-b) are examples of presumptive particle attachment, where the indicative suffix \(u\) undergoes Post-\(r\) Vowel Deletion. The form in (31) is an example of negative presumptive suffixation, where a part of the suffix is subject to the rule. Examples in (32) are negative presumptive potential forms, where the rule applies to a part of the suffix \(rare\), as in (32b), but not to the suffix \(e\), as in (32a). In what point is the suffix \(e\) distinguished from other suffixes?

Following de Chene (1987, 1988), we attach importance to a distinction between derivational and inflectional suffixes. Here we review de Chene's discussion. Concerning the applicability of the \(r\)-epenthesis rule, which he proposes, the distinction between the two plays an important role. We cite the \(r\)-epenthesis rule below:

\[(33) \quad \emptyset \rightarrow r / V \}

This rule says the segment \(r\) is inserted between a stem and a suffix to break a hiatus. The following representation is taken from de Chene (1987, 1988).
(34) a. [[[mi].. rare].. reba], 'provided (he) is seen'
    b. [[mi].. e].., 'is visible'

If we apply this rule to the form in (34b), we get another word /mi-re/, which is an innovative version of /mirare/. He explains the failure of the rule (33) to apply to (34b) as follows. /e/ in (34b) is a derivational suffix, while /rare/ in (34a) is an inflectional suffix. They belong to different lexical strata. The /r/-epentheses rule is applicable only at the latter stratum.

Here we assume that the suffix /e/ in (29a–d) is a derivational suffix, contrasting with inflectional suffixes like the passive /(r)are/ and the causative /(s)ase/, which are productive and hence do not need to be learned as distinct lexical items (cf. Jacobsen (1992)).

Given the assumption that the potential /e/ is a derivational suffix, /toreru/ is obtained like below in de Chene's framework.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stratum X (derivational)</th>
<th>[tor[e]]</th>
<th>← Bracketing Erasure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stratum Y (inflectional)</td>
<td>[[tore]]ru</td>
<td>← /r/-epentheses rule</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Derivational suffixation takes place in Stratum X. When the form [tor[e]] goes out of Stratum X, it becomes [tore] by Bracketing Erasure (Kiparsky (1982)). de Chene's /r/-epentheses rule is applicable only at Stratum Y. We claim that the same is true of Post-/r/ Vowel Deletion, i.e., Post-/r/ Vowel Deletion is applicable only at Stratum Y.¹⁶

2.3. A Further Issue

In this subsection we briefly discuss a further issue concerning the applicability of Post-/r/ Vowel Deletion.

The problem concerning the applicability of Post-/r/ Vowel Deletion is complicated in the case of passive forms. The input
forms of the rule are given on the left side of the columns, the 
output forms of the process (14) are given in the middle and 
glosses are given on the right side.

(36) a. osareme *osamme 'You weren't pushed, were you?'
b. yomareme *yomamme 'It wasn't read, was it?'
(37) a. torareme ?toramme 'It wasn't taken, was it?'
b. kirareme ?kiramme 'It wasn't cut, was it?'
(38) a. taberareme #taberamme 'It wasn't aten, was it?'
b. mirareme #miramme 'You weren't seen, were you?'

(36) is totally unacceptable. Though the judgments of (37) and 
(38) differ from speaker to speaker, informants agree that the 
primary interpretation of (38) is the potential meaning, i.e., the 
sequence is fully acceptable in the potential sense as mentioned 
in section 2.1.2 but not in the passive sense (this is expressed 
by the mark # in (38)). This fact implies that we need future 
research on the semantics of /rare/ in terms of polysemy. These 
examples sound better, given an appropriate context.¹⁴ It should 
be noted that when the suffix /rare/ becomes /ram/, the potential 
meaning is preferred.

At present I cannot give any satisfactory explanation to this 
fact. Here we simply point out a question to be solved in future 
research.

3. Conclusion

In this paper, we have clarified the following two points; 
One is the derivational process of the presumptive and negative 
presumptive form in the Ibaraki dialect. The other is the 
applicability of Post-/r/ Vowel Deletion.

As for the former, the presumptive particle /be/ attaches to 
the indicative form in the first place. Then the /ru/-ending 
indicative form undergoes Post-/r/ Vowel Deletion and the series 
of rules and conditions begins to apply. Since the output form is 
ruled out by the Coda Condition, it is subject to Gemination. 
Then to avoid the violation of the Voiced Consonants Condition,
Devoicing takes place and we obtain the surface form. However, in the case of negative presumptive potential formation Post-/r/ Vowel Deletion fails to apply to the suffix /e/.

As for the latter, we have argued, by incorporating the insight of de Chene (1987, 1988), a distinction of derivational and inflectional suffixes plays an important role in determining the applicability of the Post-/r/ Vowel Deletion.

NOTES

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1 In this dialect, the particle /be/ has three meanings, i.e., question, invitation and will. The meaning of these expressions are disambiguated given a particular context and the pitch accents as illustrated below:

(1) a. omae-wa ikube? 'You will go, won't you?'
   [L L H]

b. moo ikube. 'Let's go now!'
   [L H L]

c. kyoo-wa hitori-de ikube 'I will go alone today.'
   [L L L]

However, this distinction is not relevant here.

2 As for the negative presumptive suffix /me/, it can express the action of the past, present or future, depending on context.

3 Previous studies point out two more peculiar characteristics of /r/ in Japanese. One is concerned with underspecification. /r/ is not specified for the feature [+voice] in Rendaku (Ito & Mester (1986)) and Onbin (Tanaka et al. (1992)) phenomena. The underspecified character of /r/ is also discussed in Mester & Ito (1989). The other is that /r/ is inserted between
a verbal stem and a suffix as a hiatus-breaking consonant in
verbal inflection (de Chene (1987, 1988)).

4 Note that in (3a) the underlying form for the indicative is
/aw-u/.

5 The indicative form is derived from the root form by /u/
suffixation in the case of the consonant-final stem (e.g., /k-u,
/lor-u/). As for the vowel-final stem, the /r/-epenthesis rule
proposed in de Chene (1987, 1988) is operative.

(i) \( \emptyset \rightarrow r /V \) \( \ast \_\_\_V \)

VS is an abbreviation of 'verbal stem'. The epenthetic /r/ is
inserted between a verbal stem and a suffix to break a hiatus as
shown in (ii).

(ii) \( C V C V V \) \( (i) C V C V V \)
\( \bar{t} \bar{a} \bar{b} \bar{e} \_u \rightarrow \bar{t} \bar{a} \bar{b} \bar{e} \bar{r} u \)

6 de Chene (1988) argues that /r/ serves as a buffer-segment
and is inserted between a stem and a suffix rather than into a
suffix.

7 The rule may be triggered by the vocalic nature of the
segment /r/, which constitutes a VV-like sequence when it is
followed by a vowel. We do not discuss this point here.

8 We find two examples which undergo Post-/r/ Vowel Deletion
in a morpheme; /ussee/ (this is derived from /urusai/) and
/kunnai/ (the input form is /kurenai/).

9 I'm grateful to Yukiko Kazumi and Hideki Zamma for
suggesting this sort of idea to me.

10 It should be noted that there are two presumptive forms
for adjectives, as shown below.

(i a) a. takaiibe
b. takakappe

'It is expensive, isn't it?'

(i a) is derived from indicative form by attaching the particle
/be/. We are concerned with the latter form.

It should also be noted here that the interrogative particle
/ka/ shows similar behavior as the presumptive particle /be/ in
the case of verbs. Observe the following examples:

(ii) a. ikuka 'Do you go there?'
    b. tabekka 'Do you eat it?'

In the case of adjectives, however, /ka/ and /be/ do not attach to the same stem.

c. takaika 'Is it expensive?'
    d. souka 'Is it so?'

11 Some people have pointed out to me that /dahe/ is also heard in the western part of Ibaraki.
12 I am grateful to Hideki Zamma for pointing out these data to me.
13 I am grateful to Masao Okazaki for pointing out these data to me.
14 Though the treatment of the suffixes /mai/ and /amai/ is controversial, i.e., there is no agreement on the basic form and the derivational process of the other, we do not discuss this point here.
15 If we take these observation into consideration, Post-*/r/ Vowel Deletion may be revised as follows (I am grateful to Masao Okazaki for suggesting this sort of idea to me):

(i) V → ø / (+), (ra) r (+), _ + [-cont]
    Condition: + is realized in either a or b.

In the case where + is realized in a, /tabe-ru-be/ and /tabe-rare-me/, for example, become /tapepe/ and /taberamme/, respectively. In the case where + is realized in b, /tor-u-be/ and /tor-ame/ become /toppe/ and /tomme/, respectively.
16 The acceptability of this type of sequence differs depending on the selection of verbs. Here we choose verbs which are compatible with this form for the purpose of the discussion here.
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