

Clausal increments in Japanese

While TCUs and TCU continuations have been construed historically as predominantly syntactically-defined entities, more recent research (e.g. Ford and Thompson 1996) has underscored the centrality of prosodic and pragmatic dimensions. This view has in turn been taken a step further with research (e.g. Auer 2007) advancing an even more multi-dimensional construal of turn expansions and implicating the notion that a purely syntactic categorization may be untenable outside of English. This study further develops such a possibility and looks at a class of examples in Japanese conversation whereby syntactically independent, but pragmatically, semantically and prosodically dependent clausal units seem to be acting functionally as increments. Some potential implications that this has for the role of syntax in a theory of turn-taking, as well as for the categorization of TCU continuations will also be discussed.

Auer, P. 2007. Why are increments such elusive objects? An afterthought. *Pragmatics*, 17(4)

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Couper-Kuhlen, Elizabeth and Tsuyoshi Ono. 2007. Incrementing in conversation. A comparison of methods in English, German and Japanese. (To appear). *Pragmatics*, Special issue "Turn continuation in cross-linguistic perspective", Tsuyoshi Ono & Elizabeth Couper-Kuhlen, eds.