Gefördert vom
bmb+f
Bundesministerium für
Bildung, Wissenschaft,
Forschung und Technologie

Verbmobil
Verbundvorhaben

The light verb constructions in Japanese

Tsutomu Fujinami and
Christine Nanz

Universität Stuttgart

Vm
Report 221
March 1998

March 1998

Tsutomu Fujinami and
Christine Nanz

Institut für Maschinelle Sprachverarbeitung
Universität Stuttgart
Azenbergstraße 12
D – 70174 Stuttgart

Tel.: (0711) 121 - 1363
Fax: (0711) 121 - 1366
e-mail: {tsutomu, nanz}@ims.uni-stuttgart.de

Gehört zum Antragsabschnitt: 3.1 Contrastive Phenomena and Fragment Encoding

Die vorliegende Arbeit wurde im Rahmen des Verbundvorhabens Verbmobil vom Bundesministerium für Bildung, Wissenschaft, Forschung und Technologie (BMBF) unter den Förderkennzeichen 01 IV 701 N3 gefördert. Die Verantwortung für den Inhalt dieser Arbeit liegt bei dem Autor.

ISSN 0949-6084

Zusammenfassung

We study the light verb constructions in Japanese, the constructions of verb phrases with *'suru'*. We analyse and describe systematically the phenomena and propose how to encode the meaning in Verbmobil Interface Term (VIT). We also compare the constructions with those in German and English.

Inhaltsverzeichnis

1 Introduction

We build the transfer module to translate spoken Japanese into German, and vice versa, for the second phase of Verbmobil project. Of many phenomena and problems we have encountered so far, we study in the report the light verb constructions in Japanese. To start with, we look into a definition of the construction. Below is an excerpt from [**?**]:

> **light verb** A verb with little or no semantic content of its own which combines with a (usually indefinite) direct object noun or NP which itself expresses a verbal meaning. In English, the most usual light verbs are *'make'*, *'do'*, *'take'*, *'have'* and *'give'*, as in such expressions as *'have a look'*, *'take a drink'*, *'have a smoke'*, *'do a dance'*, *'give a shrug'*, *'make a move'*, *'give a kiss'* and *'have a wash'*.
>
> Most light verb constructions in English have matching lexical verbs from which they differ, if at all, in an aspectual nuance: there appears to be little difference between *'She gave him a kiss'* and *'She kissed him'*, but there is a perceptible difference between *'She took a drink'* and *'She had a smoke'* on the one hand, and *'She drank'* and *'She smoked'*, on the other.
>
> Light verbs occur in many languages other than English: Japanese *'suru'*, Turkish *'etmek'* and Basque *'egin'*, all meaning roughly *'do'*, for example, all serve to construct large numbers of verbal expressions with accompanying nouns, though in these languages, unlike in English, there is usually no alternative lexicalization available. Turkish *'etmek'* is in fact specialized in this function, while the Japanese and Basque verbs also serve as ordinary lexical verb.

According to the definition, the light verb constructions can be identified with two features:

(D1) The light verb has little semantic content in itself.

(D2) The light verb combines with a direct object noun which itself expresses a verbal meaning.

As for Japanese, it is mentioned that *'suru'* is the light verb, which means roughly *'do'* in English. Examples also indicate the followings:

(O1) In English, most light verb constructions have matching lexical verbs.

(O2) Some light verb constructions imply a subtle, aspectual nuance, not found in its matching lexical verb.

(O3) In Japanese, there is usually no alternative lexicalization available. (No example is presented, however.)

In the following we first examine these five claims. Are the first two features, (D1) and (D2), observed as to the Japanese light verb, *'suru'*, too? What is the little semantic content of light verbs? Can *'suru'* be combined only with a direct object? What characteristics can we observe in Japanese, the characteristics parallel to (O1) and (O2)? Does the observation (O3) hold? If there is a matching lexical verb, what semantic difference can be found? Some parts of these questions are answered in the following sections (§**??** and §**??**). After the examination, we propose how to represent the meaning of light verb constructions (§**??**) in our notation, VIT (Verbmobil Interface Terms) [**?**].

The main purpose of the report is to analyse and describe systematically the phenomena in Japanese, thus, some important issues are left untouched. The meaning of the light verb constructions is not fully discussed, for instance. Some attempt for cross-linguistic examination is reported in §**??**, but it is not enough to find a principle of the light verb constructions across languages. We will report on these issues elsewhere.

2 The constructions with nouns

We examine examples from the Verbmobil corpus. We can observe the following in the examples:

- The definition (D2) has to be extended as for Japanese because the words combined with *'suru'* are not limited to a direct object noun or NP.
- The observation (O3) is not really correct. Some light verb constructions can be replaced by a single (compound) verb.

These points will be explained in the below. Other questions such as (1) the meaning of *'suru'* and (2) the semantic difference between a light verb construction and its matching verb, will not fully be addressed in this report. As for examples, we will only present phrases necessary for illustration so as to make the report accessible. The original sentences from which the examples are extracted, are presented in Appendex **??**.

2.1 The four particles

In Japanese, syntactic functions of phrases are indicated with various particles. The particles involved in the light verb constructions are *'o'*, *'ga'*, *'ni'*, and *'wa'*, which we assume to specify noun phrases as *object*, *subject*, *target*, and *topic*, respectively. While syntactic theories may prefer the terminology such as accusative, nominative, dative, and topic form to indicate these particles, we will not employ them, with the exception of *topic*, because we are primarily concerned with semantics and the terminlogy does not really fit to the meaning of particles.

In the other terminology, they might be called *theme*, *agent/source*, *goal*, and *topic*, respectively, but we do not employ them either because the terminology has a strong connection with a particular theory, namely, θ-theory. But one can freely switch between these different terminlogies when he or she looks into the literature, e.g. [**?**].

Of these four particles, we will see that the construction, *'wa'*+*'suru'*, can be replaced by one of the other three constructions when the effect of topicalization is removed (§**??**). Besides these four particles, there is another particle, *'to'*, which appears to be followed by the light verb, but we will conclude that they are better regarded as a single word, *'toshite'* (§**??**).

In the below, we will examine examples in order. Here comes some basic knowledge of Japanese grammar to understand examples. The light verb, *'suru'*, can often be inflected to *'shi'* or *'shite'* to combine with auxiliaries, e.g. *'nai'*(negation), *'tai'*(want), *'iru'*(progressive), and *'masu'*(formal). The other light verb, *'itasu'*, is a polite form of *'suru'*, which is also inflected to *'itashi'*.

2.2 The construction with object

A noun marked with *'o'* can be followed by *'suru'*. A number of examples can be found in the corpus (Table **??**). To each noun, the construction is possible such that the noun is marked with *'o'*, followed by *'suru'*. For example, a light verb construction, *"choosee o suru"*, is grammatical.

In the table we observe the following:

- For almost all constructions there is a matching lexicalized verb. Only *"hisho o suru"* (to act as secretary) does not have its matching verb.[1]
- Almost all matching verbs are formed just by dropping the particle, *'o'*. (We consider *'machiawase-ru'* and *'uchiawase-ru'* to have under-

[1] This might mean that the *'suru'* for *'hisho'* (secretary) is a heavy *suru*, not a light one.

Noun	in English	the meaning	Matching verb
choosee	adjustment	to adjust	choosee-suru
deNwa	phone	to make a phone call	deNwa-suru
fakkusu	fax	to send someone a fax	fakkusu-suru
hisho	secretary	to act as secretary	(heavy?)
juNbi	preparation	to make preparations	juNbi-suru
jitsueN	demonstration	to give a demonstration	jitsueN-suru
kakuniN	confirmation	to confirm	kakuniN-suru
keNkyuu	study	to make a study	keNkyuu-suru
kookaN	exchange	to exchange	kookaN-suru
machiawase	appoint	to make an appointment	machiawase-ru
o-hanashi	talk(+hon.)	to have a talk	o-hanashi-suru
o-negai	request(+hon.)	to request	o-negai-suru
seeri	arrange, adjust	to put something in order	seeri-suru
shippitsu	writing	to write	shippitsu-suru
shokuji	meal	to take a meal	shokuji-suru
soodaN	consultation	to consult	soodaN-suru
uchiawase	arrangement	to make arrangements	uchiawase-ru

Tabelle 1: The construcion with an object

gone some phonetic transformation, e.g. *'machiawase-suru'* turned into *'machiawase-ru'*.)

- There is no perceptible difference in meaning between the light verb constructions and their matching lexical verbs.

- Some constructions can be translated into English also as a light verb construction, namely, the constructions involving *'deNwa'*, *'hanashi'*, *'juN-bi'*, *'jitsueN'*, *'keNkyuu'*, *'shokuji'*, and *'uchiawase'*. The English verbs employed are *'make'*, *'have'*, *'give'*, and *'take'*, but *'do'* does not appear at all.

2.3 The construction with subject

Only a few examples can be found as for the construction involving a noun as subject. One example is (**??**) *"kaNji ga suru"* and the other is (**??**) *"ki ga suru"*. Both of them can be translated to a construction involving a perception noun or verb, *"I have a feeling that"* or *"I feel that"*. It must be noted that there is no matching lexicalized verbs to the construction, contrasted to the construction with an object (§**??**).

(1) juu go nichi wa chotto muri ga aru yoona kaNji ga suru
the 15th is not really suitable feeling subj. light verb
I have a feeling that the 15th is not really suitable.

(2) chotto mazui ka na to yuu ki ga suru
that it might be problematic feeling subj. light verb
I feel that it might be problematic.

While only two occurrences are found in the Verbmobil corpus, the light verb construction with the subject marker, *'ga'*, is generally employed to express a perception. In Table **??**, the first four nouns are related to a perception. *"nioi ga suru"* means for example that something smells.[2] The below half of the table also shows that internal feelings can be a subject of *'suru'*. When the construction expresses a feeling, the structure is more or less preserved when translated into English. The translations include the light verb, *'have'*.

Noun	in English	the meaning	Matching verb
nioi	smell	it smells	none
oto	a sound, noise	it sounds	none
aji	a taste	it tastes	none
hadazawari	the touch, feel	it feels	none
memai	giddiness	to fell giddy	none
zutsuu	headache	to have a headache	none
omoi	an experience	to have an experience	none
yokan	a presentiment	to have a presentiment	none

Tabelle 2: The construcion with a subject

Focus and *'ga'* In the Verbmobil corpus, we can find further two examples where the particle, *'ga'*, is followed by a light verb. One example is (**????**) *"o hanashi ga shi tai"* and the other is (**??**) *"uchiawase ga shi tai"*. We doubt however if these sentences are a genuine *'ga'*+*'suru'* construction because the first sentece becomes ungrammatical when the auxiliary, *'tai'*, is removed as seen in Example (**????**). To support our intuition, it is possible to replace *'o'* for *'ga'* as seen in Example (**????**). The same goes for the next sentence (**??**). The semantic difference between the sentences (**????**) and (**????**) is subtle. It seems that the context or discourse prefers *'ga'* to *'o'*, indicating the noun as focus.

[2] Curiously, nouns related to vision are not involved in the sort of construction. A future project?

The phenomena look puzzling. One explanation is that the nouns involved in the *'o'*+*'suru'* construction can become the subject in the *'ga'*+*'shi-tai'* construction. The role of *'tai'* has to be clarified in that case, but the issue is beyond our scope. We just point out the phenomenon.

(3) a.

o	hanashi	ga	shi	tai
hon.	talk	subj.	light verb	want

I would like to have a talk (with you).

b.

*o	hanashi	ga	suru
hon.	talk	subj.	light verb

I have a talk (with you).

c.

o	hanashi	o	shi	tai
hon.	talk	obj.	light verb	

I would like to have a talk (with you).

(4)

uchiawase	ga	shi	tai
arrangement	subj.	light verb	want

I would like to make an arrangement.

2.4 The construction with target

Three patterns can be observed in the construction with a target (Table **??**). In the first class, time expressions are marked with *'ni'*, followed by *'suru'*. The expressions mean to schedule something on the time. The last noun in the class, *'heya'*(room) can be understood to be in the same class of temporal locations. Note that we have to complement the sentence with an appropriate verb in the context for translation. In other words the light verb can mean various actions depending on the context.

The constructions in the second class look like phrasal verbs. For example, *'rusu ni suru'* (to be away) can take an argument as seen in (**??**).

(5)

ie	o	rusu	ni	suru
home	obj.	away	target	light verb

(I) am away from home.

As for the third class, wh-pronouns can be a target in the construction. In all cases, the sentence ends with *'ka'* to form a question. Appropriate verbs have to be inferred for this class, too.

(6)

doko	ni	itashi	mashoo	ka?
where	target	light verb(formal)	formal	question

Where? (Where shall we meet?)

Noun	in English	the meaning	Matching verb
gogo	the afternoon	to schedule it in ...	none
getsumatsu	the end of month	to schedule it at ...	none
31 nichi	the 31st	to schedule it on ...	none
chikaiuchi	near future	to schedule it in the near future	none
heya	room	to meet in one's room	none
rusu	away	to be away	none
ki	mind, worry	to warry about	none
yotee	plan	to plan	yotee-suru(?)
tanoshimi	delight	to look forward to	none
doko	where		none
dochira	which		none
naNji	what time		none
dare	who		none
itsu	when		none
donoyoo	how		none

Tabelle 3: The construcion with a target

2.5 The construction with topic

The construction takes the form of *"... wa suru"*. Three kinds of constructions can be found for the class (Table **??**). The first kind is a topicalized form of the *"... o suru"* construction, e.g., *"heNji wa suru"*. The effect of *'wa'* is dependent on the context. In most cases, the effect can be expressed by adding to the phrase the adverbial, *'at least'*, but the translation is not always correct.

For the second kind, we found only one example, *"ichi do wa suru"*, meaning to do something at least once. Its untopicalised version is *"ichi do suru"* (to do something once). Since the phrase, *'ichi do'*(once), is an adverbial, we conclude that the construction is not a light verb construction, but *'suru'* functions as normal verb.

As for the third kind, we find a light verb construction with *'ni'* followed by *'wa'*. The phrases can be removed the topic effect just by removing *'wa'*, that is, *"raigetsu ni wa suru"* is still grammatical when turned into *"raigetsu ni suru"*. The effect varies depending on the context. The phrase, *"raigetsu ni wa suru"*, is translated to *"to schedule it next month at latest"*, but the translation can be *"to schedule it as early as next month"* in a different context.

Notice that the topicalization is realized differently for *'o'* and *'ni'*. While the object particle, *'o'*, is overwritten by *'wa'*, the target particle, *'ni'*, is not.

We wonder, then, how the case is with the subject particle, *'ga'*. Although no example is found in the corpus, *'ga'* is overwritten by *'wa'*. We are not sure of what conclusion can be drawn from the data. The phenomena should be studied as a problem of topicalization. What we would like to argue here is solely that all the light verb construcitons involving *'wa'* are reducible to a phrase either with *'o'*, *'ga'*, or *'ni'* when the effect is removed.

Noun	in English	the meaning	Matching verb
heNji	reply	to reply	heNji-suru
juNbi	preparation	to make a preparation	juNbi-suru
uchiawase	arrangement	to make an arrangement	uchiawase-ru
ichi do	once	to do it at least once	none
raigetsu ni	next month	to schedule it next month	none
hoka no hi ni	some other day	to schedule it for some other day	none

Tabelle 4: The construcion with a topic

2.6 The construction with *'to'*

The combination of *'to'* plus *'shi'* is found to follow a noun or noun phrase. All the examples found in the Verbmobil corpus are of the form of either *'to shi te wa'* or its polite form, *'to shi mashi te wa'* as seen below. Note that all the phrases are topicalized with *'wa'* and that they can be translated to *'as for'*.

We think that the construction can be best understood as the combination of *'to-shi-te'* and *'wa'* because the part, *'to-shi-te'*, can be removed altogether without making the sentence ungrammatical. The effect of the part seems to do something with focus. In the sentence (**????**), for example, *'to-shi-te'* contrasts the speaker's perspective to the hearer's. In the sentence (**????**), the time to end is contrasted with the time to start. Because of its distinctive meaning, we conclude that *'to-shi-te'* is a single word and cannot be decomposed to *'to'*, *'shi'*, and *'te'*.

(7) a. kochira no hoo to shi te wa tsugoo ga yoroshii
my part light verb topic that's fine
For my part, that's fine.

b. gogo no hoo ga watashi to shi te wa ureshii
afternoon me light verb topic good
For me, afternoon is better.

c. kochira to shi te wa
my part light verb topic

itsuka no gozeNchuu ni shi tai
I would like to schedule it in the morning on the fifth.

For my part, I would like to schedule it in the morning on the fifth.

d. shuuryoo jikaN to shi mashi te wa
The time to end light verb(formal) topic

yo ji made to yuu yotee de yoroshii deshoo ka?
does the plan to continue till 4 o'clock suit you?

As for the closing time, does the plan to finish at 4 o'clock suit you?

3 The constructions with other lexical categories

In this section we consider the light verb constructions with lexical categories other than noun and similar constructions without any particle such as *'o'*, *'ga'*, and *'ni'*. It is questionable whether the sort of construction we consider here can still be called a light verb construction, but we investigate the sort of constructions, too, for the sake of completeness. We use the terminology, *light verb construction*, in the broadest sense. A phrase is a light verb construction if the light verb, *'suru'*, is involved in.

It is worth noting that the all examples from the Verbmobil corpus are of polite expressions, expressing the speaker's respect either to the addressee or to the recipient of the action described by the verb. As for categories, we found only two cases. One is a construction with adjective, the other with verb. We look into the phenomena in order.

3.1 The construction with adjective

In the construction, an adjective bears an honorific marking, followed by *'suru'*. In the sentence (**????**), *'issho'*(together) is adjective and bears the honorific marker, *'go'*, expressing the respect to the addressee. The phrase, *'go issho suru'*, thus means to be together with someone respected by the speaker. Where they are is described by the preceding phrase, *"teNji kai ni"* (the exhibition).

In the second sentence (**????**), *'jama'*(disturbing) is adjective, too, and preceded by an honorific marker, *'o'*, expressing the speaker's respect to the recipient. The phrase, *'o jama suru'*, means to be disturbing to someone respected by the speaker. Where he is disturbing is determined by *"keNkyuu shitsu ni"* (the office). Although the word, *'jama'*, is regarded as adjective, the object particle, *'o'*, can follow it as seen in Example (**????**). (The example is not found in the Verbmobil corpus, however.)

To compare the sentence (**????**) with (**????**), it is impossible to insert the object particle, *'o'*, after *'issho'* as seen in (**????**). It is also characteristic to (**????**) that the honorific marker, *'go'*, cannot be removed as seen in (**????**). The construction without *'o'*(honor.) is however grammatical for (**????**) as seen in (**????**). Given these data, we think that the two adjectives belong to different semantic classes. We will be back to the point in Section **??**, where we discuss the argument structure of adjectives.

(8) a. teNji kai ni go issho suru
exhibition target honor together light verb
I go with you to the exhibition.

b. *teNji kai ni go issho o suru
exhibition target honor together obj. light verb
I go with you to the exhibition.

c. *teNji kai ni issho o suru
exhibition target together obj. light verb
I go with you to the exhibition.

(9) a. keNkyuu shitsu ni o jama suru
your room target honor disturbing light verb
I visit your office.

b. keNkyuu shitsu ni o jama o suru
office target honor disturbing obj. light verb
I visit your office.

c. keNkyuu shitsu ni jama o suru
office target disturbing obj. light verb
I visit your office.

3.2 The construction with verb

The verbal part is constructed by adding *'suru'* to the verb of a particular form of inflection. (We do not go into the inflection system of Japanese verbs.) The honorific marker, *'o'*, precedes to the *verb*+*'suru'* part. Examples are given in the below. *'o ukagai suru'*(**????**) forms an honorific form of *'ukagau'*(to visit). We can find to each construction a matching lexicalized verb, e.g. *'au'* to *'o ai suru'*, *'tazuneru'* to *'o tazune suru'*, and *'kiku'* to *'o kiki suru'*. In all examples, the person respected is the recipient of the action.

It is impossible to insert any particle between the verb and *'suru'*. Removing the honorific marker, *'o'*, also leads to ungrammatical sentences. We conclude therefore that the *'o'*+*verb*+*'suru'* form is a way to derive honorific expressions of the verb.

(10) a.

keNkyuu shitsu	ni	o	ukagai	suru
office	target	honor	visit	light verb

I visit your office.

b.

shokudoo	de	hiru goro	o	ai	suru
restaurant	location	around noon	honor	meet	light verb

I will see you in the restaurant around noon.

c.

Kishimoto seNsee	o	o	tazune	suru
Prof. Kishimoto	obj.	honor	visit	light verb

I go to see Prof. Kishimoto.

d.

nittei	o	o	kiki	suru
schedule	obj.	honor	ask	light verb

I ask you about the schedule.

4 The VIT encoding of light verb constructions

4.1 Desiderata

In the section, we propose how to encode the meaning of light verb constructions in VIT. Before looking into the matter, we make it explicit what we expect of the encoding. We believe that the encoding should satisfy at least the followings:

1. The current VIT definition should be changed as little as possible. Any changes should respect the principle governing the design of VIT.
2. The representation must be easy to construct. It should be compositionally constructible from the given sentence.
3. The representation must be language-independent. The translation between different languages then should be easier.
4. The representation must be given proper model. The semantics should capture the subtle nuance of light verb constructions.

Of these points, we pay particular attention to the first three, but leave the matter open for the last because the problem is not urgent for translation and requires more careful research.

4.2 The specification predicates

We maintain the idea that the light verb, *'suru'*, has little meaning in itself, but can combine something else to form a verbal part of the sentence. We think that the element combined with *'suru'* plays a distinctive role, the role that other arguments in the sentence cannot fulfill. In our view, the element is more closely related to *'suru'* than any other elements and specify the meaning of *'suru'* by adding to it a verbal meaning. To implement the idea, we define the basic encoding as below:

Encoding 1 *The specification of light verb constructions takes the form of suru(l, i1), specN(l, i1, i2), ..., where the index, i2, is further specified by other predicates encoding the meaning of the accompanying noun.*

The way to specify the meaning of *'suru'* is determined by particles. We observed in the above that only the three particles, *'o'*(object), *'ga'*(subject), and *'ni'*(target), can participate in the light verb constructions. We thus introduce to the VIT three predicates, *spec1*, *spec2*, and *spec3*, each determined by the particles, *'ga'*(subject), *'ni'*(target), and *'o'*(object), respectively. The numbering is to conform to the convention for *argN*.

Encoding 2 *The specification predicate, spec1, encodes the function of 'ga' (subject), spec2 that of 'ni' (target), and spec3 that of 'o' (object).*

In the below, we show examples to each specification predicate. The order is to start with *spec3*, proceed to *spec1*, and finish with *spec2* so that we can examine the encodings in the same order as the previous section was organised.

4.2.1 Encoding the light verb construction with object

The meaning of the sentence (**????**) is encoded as (**????**). Because the particle of the phrase specifying the light verb is *'o'*, we encode the relation as *spec3*, which introduces a new index, *i2*, relating it to the index introduced by the light verb, *i1*. The index, *i2*, is further specified by *keNkyuu*(study). The *arg1* of *'suru'* is encoded as before, independent of and external to the *spec3*-*keNkyuu* pair.

(11) a. tanaka seNsee ga keNkyuu o suru
Prof. Tanaka subj. study obj. light verb
Prof. Tanaka makes a study.

b. *suru(l1, i1), spec3(l1, i1, i2), keNkyuu(l2, i2),*
arg1(l1, i1, i3), named(l3, i3, tanaka), ...

Note that the above encoding is simplified. We should encode the information contained in *'keNkyuu'* using the *nominalization* predicate if we follow the current practice for normalization. But we do not elaborate the example further for the sake of simplicity.

4.2.2 Encoding the light verb construction with subject

The meaning of the sentence (**????**), originally presented as (**??**), is encoded as (**????**). We encode the relation as *spec1* because the particle of the phrase specifying the light verb is *'ga'*. The newly introduced index, *i2*, is related to the index introduced by the light verb, *i1*. The index, *i2*, is further specified by *kaNji*(feeling).

The rest of information contained in the phrase, *'juu go nichi wa chotto muri ga aru yoona'*(that the 15th is not really suitable), should hang on the index, *i2*. It is however unclear how to encode that part in VIT. (But the problem is irrelevant of the light verb construction.)

(12) a. juu go nichi wa chotto muri ga aru yoona kaNji ga suru
the 15th is not really suitable feeling subj. light verb
It seems that that the 15th is not really suitable.
(I have a feeling that ...)

b. *suru(l1, i1), spec1(l1, i1, i2), kaNji(l2, i2), ...*

4.2.3 Encoding the light verb construction with target

The meaning of the sentence (**????**), originally presented as (**??**), is encoded as (**????**). We encode the relation as *spec2* because the particle of the phrase specifying the light verb is *'ni'*. The newly introduced index, *i2*, is related to the index introduced by the light verb, *i1*, as above. The index, *i2*, is further specified by *rusu*(being away). The object or theme, *'ie'*(home), is encoded as the *arg3* of the light verb and the introduced index, *i3*, is specified as *ie*(home).

The encoding might be as (**????**) if the zero pronoun is encoded. The predicate, *arg1*, is also independent of and external to the *spec2-rusu* pair.

(13) a. ie o rusu ni suru
home obj. away target light verb
(I) am away from home.

b. *suru(l1, i1), spec2(l1, i1, i2), rusu(l2, i2), arg3(l1, i1, i3), ie(l3, i3), ...*

c. *suru(l1, i1), spec2(l1, i1, i2), rusu(l2, i2),*
arg3(l1, i1, i3), ie(l3, i3),
arg1(l1, i1, i4), pron(l4, i4), prontype(i4, top, zero), ...

4.3 Specifying other constructions with *'suru'*

4.3.1 Compound verbs with *'suru'*

When we examined the light verb construction with object (§**??**), we observed that the compound verbs matching to a light verb construction do not contain a special meaning, distinguishable from the meaning of its corresponding light verb construction. For example, the meaning does not vary between the sentence (**????**), originally presented as (**????**), and the other sentence (**????**), with the compound verb.

Put the syntax aside, we see no sense in encoding the meaning of compound verbs differently from that for the light verb constructions. We therefore propose to encode the meaning of compound verbs exactly the same way when they can be paraphrased to a light verb complex. The encoding is presented as (**????**).

(14) a. tanaka seNsee ga keNkyuu o suru
Prof. Tanaka subj. study obj. light verb
Prof. Tanaka makes a study.

b. tanaka seNsee ga keNkyuu suru
Prof. Tanaka subj. study
Prof. Tanaka studies (it).

c. *suru(l1, i1), spec3(l1, i1, i2), keNkyuu(l2, i2),*
arg1(l1, i1, i3), named(l3, i3, tanaka), ...

4.3.2 The *'suru'* construction with adjective

We observed that adjectives can also specify the meaning of *'suru'* (§**??**). Put the question aside, if the construction is a light verb construction or not, we can extend our approach to encoding the meaning of such constructions. To distinguish the sort of construction from others presented in the above, we invent a new predicate, *spec0*.

The meaning of the sentence (**????**), originally presented as (**????**), is encoded as (**????**). The predicate, *spec0*, introduces the new index, *i2*, relating it to the index introduced by the light verb, *i1*. The index, *i2*, is further specified by the adjective, *'issho'*(together). The honorification indicated by *'go'* is thought to hang on the index, *i2*. The target of the action, *'teNjji kai'*(exhibition), is encoded as *arg3* of the light verb, independent of and external to the triplet of *spec0*, *issho*, and *go*.

(15) a. teNji kai ni go issho suru
exhibition target honor together light verb
I go with you to the exhibition.

b. *suru(l1, i1), spec0(l1, i1, i2), issho(l2, i2), honorific(l3, i2), arg3(l1, i1, i3), teNjikai(l4, i3), ...*

How about the case for *'jama'* (disturbing), though? In Section §**??**, we observed that both constructions, one without and the other with the object particle, *'o'*, are possible and there is no perceivable difference in meaning. (The examples are reproduced in the below as (**????**) and (**????**).) We think therefore that the meaning of the two sentences should be identical and the specification predicate, *spec3*, be employed. The encoding looks like (**????**).

(16) a. keNkyuu shitsu ni o jama suru
your room target honor disturbing light verb
I visit your office.

b. keNkyuu shitsu ni o jama o suru
office target honor disturbing obj. light verb
I visit your office.

c. *suru(l1, i1), spec3(l1, i1, i2), jama(l2, i2), honorific(l3, i2), ni(l4, i1, i3), keNkyuushitsu(l5, i3), ...*

To conclude this section, we should think of what the semantic difference exists between *'issho'* (together) and *'jama'* (disturbing). The difference is, we think, that the former does not take an object argument while the latter does. That is, we can disturb someone, but we cannot *'together'* someone; we can only be *'with'* someone. It may be premature to take up the issue of argument structure of adjectives, but the notion is too handy to dismiss here. With the ideas from θ-theory, we formulate the encoding of adjectives as follows:

Encoding 3 *The specification predicate, spec0, encodes the function of adjective adjoining to 'suru' if the adjective does not take an object as argument. The other specification predicate, spec3, must be employed instead if the adjective can take an object argument.*

4.3.3 The *'suru'* construction with verb

The technique devised to encode the meaning of adjective plus *'suru'* can be applied to the construction with verb, too (§**??**). The meaning of the sentence (**????**), originally presented as (**????**), is encoded as (**????**). Not many words are needed to explain the encoding because it is parallel to (**????**). An advantage is that there is the index, *i2*, to which we can attribute the honorific information.

(17) a. keNkyuu shitsu ni o ukagai suru
office target honor visit light verb
I visit your office.

b. *suru(l1, i1), spec0(l1, i1, i2), ukagau(l2, i2), honorific(l3, i2), arg3(l1, i1, i3), keNkyuushitsu(l4, i3), ...*

4.3.4 The *'suru'* construction with *'no'*-adnominal

The object participating a light verb construction can be specified by another object conjoined with the adnominal, *'no'*. The adnominal is often called *genitive*, but we maintain our semantic approach here, avoiding the terminology too syntactic. In the sentence (**????**), for example, the object noun, *'choosee'*(adjustment), is specified by *'nittee'*(schedule), meaning that the adjustment is for scheduling. Semantically, the noun, *'nittee'*(schedule), is thought to be the *arg3* of *'choosee'*(to adjust).

To encode the meaning, we allow the index, *i2*, introduced by *'choosee'*, to be further specified using *argN* predicates as seen in (**????**). The index, *i2*, denotes a part of event specified *'choosee'*(to adjust), whose theme is specified using *arg3* as *nittee*(schedule). (In the current practice of VIT encoding, the *arg3* predicate is likely *no*, the relation between *'choosee'* and *'nittee'* left unspecified.)

(18) a. kobayashi seNsee ga tanaka seNsee to
Prof. Kobayashi subj. Prof. Tanaka with

nittee no choosee o suru
schedule adnom. adjustment obj. light verb

Prof. Kobayashi adjusts the schedule with Prof. Tanaka.

b. *suru(l1, i1), spec3(l1, i1, i2), choosee(l2, i2), arg3(l2, i2, i4), nittee(l3, i4), arg1(l1, i1, i3), named(l5, i3, kobayashi), to(l6, i1, i5), named(l7, i5, tanaka), ...*

It is interesting to compare (**????**) with another VIT encoding for the sentence

(**????**) because its meaning is thought to be the same, but the syntax is different. The syntactic differences are that the compound verb, *'choosee suru'* (to adjust), is employed instead of *'choosee o suru'* (to make an adjustment) and that the object noun, *'nittee'* (schedule), is marked by the particle, *'o'*, while it was the adnominal, *'no'*, that relates *'choosee'* (adjustment) and *'nittee'* (schedule) in (**????**).

The VIT encoding for (**????**) is presented as (**????**). The encoding is only different from (**????**) in that the *arg3* shares with *suru* the same label, *l1*, and index, *i1*. This means that the object noun, *'nittee'*, is an argument of *'suru'*, not an argument of *'choosee'*.

(19) a.

kobayashi seNsee	ga	tanaka seNsee	to
Prof. Kobayashi	subj.	Prof. Tanaka	with

nittee	o	choosee	suru
schedule	obj.	to adjust	

b. *suru(l1, i1), spec3(l1, i1, i2), choosee(l2, i2),*
arg3(l1, i1, i4), nittee(l3, i4),
arg1(l1, i1, i3), named(l5, i3, kobayashi),
to(l6, i1, i5), named(l7, i5, tanaka), ...

The close relationship between (**????**) and (**????**) will be useful when we translate the sentence (**????**) into English or German because the trace of light verb construction can easily be removed. Once we transform (**????**) into (**????**), translating the sentence into *"Prof. Kobayashi adjusts the schedule with Prof. Tanaka."* should be straightforward. We could also preserve the structure to generate the sentence, *"Prof. Kobayashi makes an adjustment of the schedule with Prof. Tanaka."*

5 Comparison with other languages

5.1 The light verb constructions in German

As far as the light verb construction is concerned, Japanese is syntactically richer than English and German. The constructions for which we can find a counterpart in English or German are limited to the construction with object (§**??**) and some constructions with subject to express an experience (§**??**).

Because we have already given a translation to each construction in English (§**??**), we consider cases for German here. Table **??** shows part of translation into German. In almost all cases, *'machen'* is employed for the light verb. The only curious case is with *'hisho'*. The German translation employs *'sein'*, not a light verb, which may be taken as an evidence that *'hisho o suru'* is not a light verb construction. (The examples can be found in Apendix **??**.)

noun	in German	the meaning
hisho	Sekretaer	Sekretaer sein
jitsueN	Vorfuehrung	eine Vorfuehrung machen
o-hanashi	Gespraech	Gespraech machen
shippitsu	Aufsatz	einen Aufsatz machen
soodaN	Diskussion	eine Diskussion machen
uchiawase	Treffen	ein Treffen machen

Tabelle 5: The construcion with an object compared with German

As for the construction with subject, we find that German, too, employs *'haben'*. *"kaNji ga suru"* (to have a feeling that) is for example translated to *'das Gefuehl haben'* (§**??**).

Note The translations above are extracted from the Verbmobil corpus. We however think that the last four translations are not so appropriate and may be better translated to *'Gespraech fuehren'*, *'einen Aufsatz schreiben'*, *'diskutieren'*, and *'ein Treffen vereinbaren'*. The light verb constructions in Japanese, then, may not find many counterparts in German. We need to collect more data to reach to a meaningful conclusion.

5.2 Literary vs. colloquial styles

There is a difference between Japanese and English that light verb constructions are literary in Japanese while they are colloquial in English [**?**]. For example, (**????**) *'to take a rest'* can be translated into either a light verb complex, (**????**) *'kyuukei o suru'* or a single verb, (**????**) *'yasumu'*. The former is literary style while the latter is colloquial. It is no wonder why light verb constructions are often found in the Verbmobil corpus.

(20) a. to take a rest

b. kyuukei o suru
rest obj. light verb

c. yasumu
to rest

5.3 Context change potentials

Can a light verb complex introduce a marker into discourse? Most examples from English and German include indefinite descriptions but they cannot be picked up later. The only possibility is to introduce into the discourse an *event* marker. The sentence (**????**) can, for instance, be followed by another sentence (**????**), which picks up the event with *'that$_j$'*. But there is no way to pick up the other marker, i.

(21) a. We made$_j$ an arrangement$_i$ for the meeting.

b. Before that$_j$ we had to see Prof. Kimura.

The nouns appearing in the light verb constructions in Japanese, too, follow similar patterns and introduce only event markers. The noun, *'uchiawase'* (arrangement), marked with k, for example, cannot be referred back by *'sono'* in (**??**). (It does not matter whether the object particle, *'o'*, is inserted between *'uchiawase'* and *'shi'*. The example is taken from 013.RMN:NAB04 (§**??**) and simplified.)

(22) a.

koNdo	no	kaigai shucchoo	nitsuite
next	adnominal	business trip	about

uchiawase$_k$	(o)	shi$_j$	tai	no desu kedomo
arrangement	obj.	light verb	want	sentence end

I would like to make an arrangement for the next business trip.

b.

ippeN	sono$_j$	mae	ni
once	that	before	target.

o	ai	shi	tai	no desu kedomo .
honor.	meet	light verb	want	sentence end

Before that, I would like to meet you once.

5.4 Specifying the light verb constructions in other languages

As we have seen already in Section **??** and Section **??**, the light verb constructions found in German or English are subsumed by those found in Japanese. Because only an direct object noun or NP can take part in the construction, the predicate, *spec3* is sufficient to encode the structure.[3]

[3]Bianka Buschbeck-Wolf pointed out that the sentence like *"Wir machen ins Kino."*(We go to cinema) does not involve an indefinite (p.c.). To solve the problem we can employ *spec*2 because *'ins Kino'* appears to express a target. But we should first settle the question, what the light verb construction is in German.

The difference from the current encoding would be to represent the meaning of the direct object noun to be subordinated by *spec3*, not by the light verb. For example, the meaning of the sentence (**????**) is encoded as (**????**).[4] The same meaning may be encoded in the current practice as (**????**), where *arg3* replaces *spec3*.

(23) a. She took a drink.

b. *take(l1, i1), spec3(l1, i1, i2),*
indef(l2, i2, l3), drink(l3, i2), nominalised(l4, i2),
arg1(l1, i1, i3), pron(l5, i3),...

c. *take(l1, i1), arg3(l1, i1, i2),*
indef(l2, i2, l3), drink(l3, i2), nominalised(l4, i2),
arg1(l1, i1, i3), pron(l5, i3),...

One may wonder if it is worth doing to represent the meaning of light verb constructions differently. There is a trade off. Representing the meaning as (**????**) makes the task of the semantic construction (slightly) harder because the construction is dependent on the sort of object nouns combined with verbs. But the task is essentially for the semantic construction because a light verb complex can be detected by looking into lexicon. The translation will be easy once the meaning is represented in structurally distinguishable form. The trace of light verb constructions can be detected just by looking for *spec3*. If the light verb constructions are not specially analysed within the syntax and semantics module, on the other hand, the translation will be more demanding because it has to be judged by looking into some other sources whether a particular combination of a verb and *arg3* forms a light verb complex. We conclude therefore that the right place to do the job is within the syntacs/semantics module.

6 Conclusion

We have examined examples of the light verb construction in Japanese and classified them into certain classes. We also proposed how to encode the meaning in VIT. We finally compare the constructions in Japanese with those in English and German. Our study is however not sufficient to build a general theory of light verb constructions. We leave the comparative study for the future project.

Acknowledgement We are grateful to Toshiko Arai-Sixt, who translated most Japanese sentences in Appendix into German.

[4]The encoding of indefinite description is simplified.

References

Dorna, M. and Emele, M. C.: 1996, Semantic-based transfer, in *Proceedings of Coling '96*, pp 316–321

Egawa, T.: 1964, *A new guide to English grammar*, Kaneko shobo

Grimshaw, J. and Mester, A.: 1988, Light verbs and θ-marking, *Linguistic Inquiry* 19(2), 205–232

Trask, R. L.: 1993, *A Dictionary of Grammatical Terms in Linguistics*, Routledge

A Examles from Verbmobil corpus

A.1 The construction with object

A.1.1 choosee

196.RMN:AAL06: hai . jitsuwa tsugi no kaNjikai no juNbi no tame no uchiawase o shi tai to kobayashi no hoo ga mooshi te ori mashi te tanaka seNsee to *choosee o shi* tai to omoi mashi te o deNwa shi te ru N desu ga .

Ja. In der Tat sagt Herr Kobayashi, daß er eine Vorbesprechung für die Vorbereitung der nächsten Versammlung der Organisatoren haben möchte.

061.RMN:NAI04: sore ni kaNshi te ikeN kookaN o shi tai to yuu koto de ueda no hoo kara mooshimoo↩ iware mashi te sukejuuru no hoo o *choosee suru* yoo ni to yuu shiji ga ari mashi ta node

Außerdem würde Herr Ueda gerne einen Meinungsaustausch darüber machen, ist mir von ihm gesagt worden. Ich habe den Auftrag, dafür einen Termin zu *machen*.

A.1.2 deNwa

057.RMN:NAH04: koNkai wa gakkaishi no tokushuu no koto de sukoshi matsumoto seNsee to o hanashi o shita ↩ shi taku omoi mashi te odeNra ↩ *o deNwa o shi* mashi ta N desu keredomo .

Also dieses Mal habe ich *angerufen*, weil ich über die Sache mit der Sonderausgabe der Zeitschrift mit ihm sprechen möchte.

050.RMN:AAE06: taiheN subarashii to omoi mashi ta . soko de ima watashi mo onaji keNkyuu o shi te ori masu node zehi o hanashi o shi tai to omoi mashi te *o deNwa shi* ta N desu ga .

Ich dachte, daß das wunderbar ist (sei). Da ich gerade die gleiche Forschung betreibe, hätte ich unbedingt gerne darüber gesprochen. Daher habe ich angerufen.

A.1.3 fakkusu

No example of *'fakkusu'+'suru'* is found in the Verbmobil corpus.

071.RMN:NAR08: ni juu ni nichi wa choodo gogo koogi na N desu yo ne . wakari mashi ta . suimaseN tonikaku saishuukoo ichioo *fakkusu o shi* te oki masu . chotto mada hakkiri shi nai hi mo ari masu N de moo ichido nittei o tsume te moo ichido go reNraku shi masu . sore de yoroshii deshoo ka .

Genau am 22. nachmittags habe ich eine Vorlesung! Alles klar. Entschuldigung. Ich werde Ihnen auf jeden Fall die letzte Version *faxen*. Ganz klar ist der Tag ja auch noch nicht. Ich werde mich wegen des Tagesplans noch einmal bei Ihnen melden. Ist Ihnen das recht?

A.1.4 hisho

No example of *'hisho'+'suru'* is found in the Verbmobil corpus.

063.RMN:NAF02: moshimoshi itsumo o sewa ni nat te ori masu . watakushi nemoto kyooju no *hisho o shi* te ori masu harada to mooshi masu kedomo .

Hallo, ich *bin der Sekretaer* von Professor Nemoto. Ich heiße Harada.

A.1.5 juNbi

014.RMN:AAQ22: maemotte sukoshi *juNbi o shi* tai to omoi masu node juu ji de ikaga deshoo ka .

Da ich vorher noch einiges *vorbereiten* möchte: Wie wäre es um zehn Uhr?

104.RMN:NAN15: wakari mashi ta . hitsuyoo na shiryoo wa *juNbi shi* te iki masu N de . so shi tara raishuu no getsuyoobi juu hachi Nchi no juu ni ji ni shokudoo no iriguchi de o machi shi te masu . sorede yoroshii desu ka .

Ich bin einverstanden. Ich werde die benötigten Unterlagen vorbereiten und zu Ihnen kommen. Also, ich warte auf Sie um 12 Uhr am Montag den 18ten in der nächsten Woche am Eingang des Restaurants. Wie paßt es bei Ihnen?

A.1.6 jitsueN

005.RMN:NAZ02: kochira kitani to mooshi masu . keNkyuushitsu de jikkeN no *jitsueN o shi* tai N desu kedomo .

Hier... Ich heiße Kitani. Also: ich möchte gerne im Institut *eine Experiment-Vorfuehrung machen.*

030.RMN:NAU04: koNnichiwa . jitsuwa konaida hanashi te ita jikkeN nitsuite *jitsueN shi* tai to omoi masu kedomo .

Aeh, guten Tag. Aeh, eigentlich möchte ich *eine Vorführung* des neulich besprochenen Experiments *machen.*

A.1.7 kakuniN

077.RMN:NAR08: wakari mashi ta . koNdoo ni mo saido *kakuniN o shi* te ori mau $\hookleftarrow$ mi masu keredomo ima no tokoro juu yokka ai te ori masu . juu yokka no soo shi mashi tara juu ji goro ni sochira no hoo ni ukagau to yuu koto ni sashi te itadai te oi te yoroshii deshoo ka .

Ja, ich habe verstanden. Ich *schaue* noch einmal bei Professor Kondoo nach... Am 14. hat er Zeit. Wenn wir es am 14. machen, wäre es recht, wenn er so gegen 10 Uhr bei Ihnen vorbeikäme? Wie wäre das?

102.RMN:ABA11: wakari mashi ta juu saN nichi no ichi ji desu ne . soredewa kochira yamamoto no hoo ni *kakuniN shi* te oki masu node .

Ich habe verstanden. Am 13ten Um 1 Uhr, ja? Also, ich werde es Prof. Yamamoto bestätigen.

A.1.8 keNkyuu

050.RMN:AAE06: taiheN subarashii to omoi mashi ta . soko de ima watashi mo onaji *keNkyuu o shi* te ori masu node zehi o hanashi o shi tai to omoi mashi te o deNwa shi ta N desu ga .

Ich dachte, daß das wunderbar ist (sei). Nun, ich habe angerufen, weil ich umbedingt über Ihre Arbeit sprechen möchte, und auch gerade dieselbe Forschung betreige.

413.RMN:ADU10: watashi wa sono ↩ sono hi wa ichi nichi ai te ori mashi te ie de *keNkyuu suru* yoo[you] ni nat te ori masu node dochira ni demo ukagau koto wa deki masu .

Da ich den Tag ganz frei habe, wollte ich nur zu hause forschen. Deswegen ist es möglich, daß ich überall hinkommen kann.

A.1.9 kookaN

No example of *'kookaN'*+*'suru'* is found in the Verbmobil corpus, but the construction sounds natural.

050.RMN:NAW07: sore wa daikaNgee desu . zehi watakushi mo ikeN *kookaN o shi* tai to omoi masu .

Dies pat mir. Ich hätte auch gerne einen Meinungsaustausch.

A.1.10 machiawase

134.RMN:ABH08: soo desu ka . kochira mo yooka wa ichi nichi juu ai te ori masu node sono hii ni itashi tai to omoi masu ga basho no hoo desu wa (hoo desu ga) umeda ni ari masu node umeda no shiNhaNkyuu hoteru no robii de *machiawase o shi* tai to omou N desu ga .

Ach so. Am 8ten habe ich auch den ganzen Tag frei, deshalb wäre mir dieser Tag sehr recht. Da der Ort in Umeda ist, würde ich Sie gern in der Empfangshalle des shiNhaNkyuu Hotels treffen.

770.RMN:NFI07: maa ni jikaN teedo[teido] da ne . jaa sorejaa gogo ichi ji kara to yuu koto ni shi mashoo[mashou]. jaa gogo ichi ji ni kaisha no geNkaN mae de *machiawaseru* to yuu koto de yoroshii deshoo[deshou] ka .

Es wird etwa 2 Stunden dauern, nicht wahr? Also, machen wir es so, ab 1 Uhr nachmittags. Wäre es bei Ihnen recht, daß wir uns um 1 Uhr nachmittags vor dem Eingang der Firma treffen würden?

A.1.11 o hanashi

029.RMN:ACA10: soo desu ne ni jikaN kurai *o hanashi o shi* tai to omou N desu keredomo . ni jikaN kurai goo (gogo) kara tore masu deshoo ka .

Ach so. Ich möchte ein etwa zwei Stunden langes *Gespräch machen*. Wenn wir uns ab nachmittags zwei Stunden Zeit nehmen, würde das passen?

043.RMN:AAC02: rigaku bu kagaku dai ichi ka no tsutsui desu kedomo . izeN *o hanashi itashi* te ori mashi ta suiso gasu no jikkeN o ichi do seNsee[seNsei] to jitsueN shi te mi tai N desu kedomo . seNsee[seNsei] no sukejuuru no hoo[hou] o kika se itadaki tai N desu kedomo .

Ich bin Tsutui von der ersten Chemieabteilung der naturwissenschaftlichen Fakultät. Ich würde gerne mal mit Ihnen die Wasserstoffgasexperimente ausführen, über die wir schon gesprochen haben. Ich möchte gern Ihren Zeitplan erfahren.

A.1.12 o negai

092.RMN:AAV02: watakushi satoo kyooju no hishoo shi te ori masu fukudome to mooshi masu keredomo hoNjitsu wa yamada kyooju ni desu ne tokubetsu koogi no *o negai o shi* tai to omoi mashi te o deNwa sashiage te iru N desu keredomo .

Ich heiße Fukudome, der Sekretär vonProf. Sato. Ich rufe Sie an, weil ich heute Prof. Yamada zu einer Sondervorlesung bitten möchte.

003.RMN:NBA19: hai kochira koso yoroshiku *o negai itashi* masu . shitsuree shi maasu .

(Ja, sie auch. Auf Wiederhören.)

A.1.13 seeri

No example of *'seeri'*+*'suru'* is found in the Verbmobil corpus, but the construction sounds natural.

091.RMN:AAW03: hai todoke te itadai te mata sono ue de sukoshi shi↩
seeri o suru to yuu fuu na katachi na N deshoo ka .

Ja, wir würden das auch gerne. Außerdem könnten wir noch ein wenig *den Ablauf besprechen*. Wie sollen wir das machen?

A.1.14 shippitsu

065.RMN:NAH04: moshimoshi koNkai o deNwa itashi mashi ta no wa okada seNsee to kochi↩ watashi no hoo de gakkaishi no tokushuu no shuppitsu (shippitsu) keeka↩ shi↩ tokushuu no *shippitsu o shi* yoo to omot te ori mashi te

Hallo, ich rufe an, weil ich mit Professor Okada *einen Aufsatz* für die Sonderausgabe der Zeitschrift *machen* möchte. Um das zu besprechen, rufe ich an. Wer ist denn da? Wissen Sie etwas über die Sache mit der Sonderausgabe?

189.RMN:NAE02: itsumo o sewa ni nat te ori masu . kyooto[kyouto] daigaku kobayashi keNkyuu shitsu no suzuki to mooshi[moushi] masu . konotabi sakai seNsee[seNsei] to kobayashi to de kyoodoo[kyoudou] *shippitsu suru* hoN ni tsui te kobayashi ga geNkoo[geNkou] o mochiyot te keNtoo[keNtou] shi tai to mooshi[moushi] te ori masu ga ni jikaN hodo chikai uchi ni o ai shi tai to mooshi[moushi] te ori masu ga sakaishi seNsee[seNsei] no yooji[youji] wa donoyoo[donoyou] ni nattsu↩ sakai seNsee[seNsei] no yotee[yotei] no hoo[hou] wa doo[dou] nat te i ru deshoo[deshou] ka .

Guten Tag. Ich heiße Suzuki vom Kobayashi-Institut an der Kyoto Universität. Über das Buch, das dieses mal Prof. Sakai und Prof. Kobayashi zusammenverfassen, möchte Prof. Kobayashi die Manuskripte von beiden überprüfen. Er möchte ihn in den nächsten Tagen etwa 2 Stunden treffen. Wie sehen die Pläne von Prof. Sakai aus?

A.1.15 shokuji

No example of *'shokuji'*+*'suru'* is found in the Verbmobil corpus, but the construction sounds natural.

096.RMN:ABA04: kochira koso doomo arigatoo gozai mashi ta . jitsuwa kyoo o deNwa shi ta riyuu wa desu ne raigetsu no shiNpojiumu no tame no kyoodoo happyoo no uchiawase no keN o zehi chikai uchi ni okonai tai to omoi mashi te doo deshoo dekire ba *shokuji o shi* nagara kiNkyoo mo ukagai tai to omou N desu keredomo .

Vielen Dank auch. Ich habe Sie eigentlich heute angerufen, weil ich mit Ihnen in den nächsten Tagen eine Besprechung über die das gemeinsame Referat beim Symposium im nächsten Monat haben möchte. Wie wäre es bei Ihnen, wenn wir zusammen essen und auch ich von Ihnen die Neuigkeiten hören könnte?

A.1.16 soodaN

187.RMN:AAM04: soo desu ka . ie kaNjikai no uchiawase e no *soodaN o shi* tai to omoi mashi te o deNwa sase te itadai ta N desu keredomo .

Ach so. Ich habe Sie angerufen, da ich den Geschäftsführer treffen möchte.

018.RMN:AAR04: dai saN juu rokkai no gakkai shi no koto de chotto go *soodaN[soudaN] shi* tai N desu keredomo . raigetsu atari go tsugoo[tsugou] yoroshii deshoo[deshou] ka .

Ich möchte für die 36. Nummer der wissenschaftlichen Zeitschrift *eine Diskussion machen.* Würde es so etwa im nächsten Monat passen?

A.1.17 uchiawase

080.RMN:ABO05: hai kyoo o deNwa shi ta no wa shichi gatsu no kaigai shucchoo o nakai kyooju to iku N desu keredomo sono mae ni mukoo de no sukejuuru no *uchiawase o* jizeN ni *shi* te okoo to omot te iru N desu . nakai kyooju no tsugoo o oshie te morae masu ka .

Ja, ich rufe an wegen der Reise mit Professor Nakai zum Kongress im September. Ich würde davor noch gerne *einen Termin* zur Besprechung (der Reise) *vereinbaren.* Können Sie mir sagen, wann Professor Nakai Zeit hätte?

013.RMN:NAB04: hoNjitsu o deNwa itashi mashi ta no wa desu ne koNdo no desu ne kaigai shucchoo nitsuite desu ne iroiro to *uchiawase shi* tai no desu kedomo sore nitsuite ippeN sono mae ni desu ne o ai shi tai no desu kedomo . yotee naNka wa doo nat te ori masu deshoo ka .

Warum ich heute angerufen habe: Wegen der nächsten Auslandsreise möchte ich gerne verschiedenes besprechen. Deswegen möchte ich vorher *ein Treffen machen.* Wie würde das von der Zeit her aussehen?

[an example of scrambling] 110.RMN:NAO04: soo desu kaa . koNdo no zeNkishikeN no moNdai no uchiawase o seNsee to shi tai to omot te ru N desu ga yotee nitsuite wa kadowaki saN de o wakari ni nari masu ka .

Ach so. Ich hätte gern mit dem Professor eine Besprechung über die Fragen der nächsten Prüfung des ersten Halbjahres. Kennen Sie seine Pläne, Herr Kadowaki?

A.2 The construction with subject

A.2.1 kaNji

010.RMN:NAZ11: soo desu ne . chotto yahari juu go nichi ha chotto muri ga aruyoona *kaNji ga itashi* masu kedomo chotto osoku nari↩ isshuukaN zureru N desu kedomo ni juu saN nichi dat tara ichi nichi ai te ori masu kedomo . sochira no hoo wa ikaga deshoo ka .

Ach so. Jjj... ja... eigentlich ist der 15. leider auch unmöglich, *habe ich das Gefühl.* Wir verschieben um eine Woche. Am 23. wäre der ganze Tag frei. Wie wäre das bei ihnen?

A.2.2 ki

644.RMN:NEM08: yoji kara desu ka . soo[sou] desu ne asatte wa chotto kochira mo tsugoo[tsugou] ga ari masu node de saraishuu made nobi te shimau to yappari chotto mazui ka na to yuu *ki ga shi* masu node . jaa ashita no yuugata kara chotto mooshiwake[moushiwake] nai N desu kedo jikaN tot te itadake mase N ka .

Ab 4 Uhr? Übermorgen habe ich Termine. Ich finde es nicht so gut es bis zur übernächsten Woche zu verschieben. Also, hätten Sie morgen am Abend für mich Zeit?

A.3 The construction with target

A.3.1 gogo

009.RMN:AAH12: soo desu ne *gogo ni shi* te itadake reba arigatai no desu ga daitai uchiawase toshite ni jikaN gurai de kimaru to omou N desu ga naNji gurai ga yoroshii deshoo ka .

Ach so. Wenn wir es *am Nachmittag* machen könnten, wäre ich dankbar. Wir sollten für die Besprechung etwa zwei Stunden festlegen. Wann etwa würde es passen?

A.3.2 getsumatsu

171.RMN:ACE08: ni juu ni nichi getsuyoobi desu ne . getsuyoobi wa mooshiwake ari mase N kochira no hoo batabata shi te ori mashi te desu node deki mashi tara *getsumatsu ni shi* te itadake ru to arigatai N desu ga seNsee no hoo getsumatsu go yotee wa ikaga deshoo ka .

Montag den 23ten, nicht wahr? Es tut mir leid. Da ich am Montag viel zu tun habe, bin ich sehr dankbar, wenn es am Monatsende wäre. Wie sieht es bei Ihnen am Monatsende aus?

A.3.3 31 nichi

171.RMN:ACE10: hai . soo desu ka . ni juu roku nichi watakushi mo shucchoo o ni de te ori mashi te deki mashi tara soo desu ne ossharu yoo ni saN juu nichi ka *saN juu ichi nichi ni shi* te itadake ru to arigatai N desu ne . de saN juu nichi mo saN juu ichiNchi mo ryoohoo tomo o hiru sugi ka yuugataa ni shi te itadake ru to arigatai N desu ga ikaga deshoo ka .

Ja, ach so. Am 26ten habe ich auch eine Geschäftsreise. Ich bin sehr dankbar, wenn es am 30ten oder 31ten wäre, wie Sie sagten. Ich bin dankbar, wenn es nachmittags oder abends an einem der beiden Tagen wäre. Wie wäre es bei Ihnen?

A.3.4 chikai uchi ni

265.RMN:NCO02: miyahara desu ga . nakagawa seNsee[seNsei] desu ka . mae o hanashi shi mashi ta reeno[reino] kooeN[koueN] kai no keN na N desu keredomo . uchiawase no hoo[hou] *chikai uchi ni shi* tai N desu keredomo .

Hier ist Miyahara. Sind Sie Prof. Nakagawa? Ich hätte gern mit Ihnen in den nächsten Tagen eine Besprechung über diesen Vortrag, über den wir schon mal gesprochen haben.

A.3.5 heya

201.RMN:NBP14: soo[sou] desu ne . kekkoo[kekkou] desu . soredewa saN ji kara go ji to yuu[iu] koto de . basho wa seNsee[seNsei] no *o heya ni shi* mashoo[mashou] ka . watakushi no hoo[hou] ni shi mashoo[mashou] ka .

So, das ist gut. Also, von 3 bis 5 Uhr. Wählen wir als Ort Ihr Zimmer oder meines?

A.3.6 rusu

150.RMN:NAS07: mooshiwake ari mase N . saN juu nichi wa shucchoo de ichiNchi *rusu ni suru* N desu keredomo .

Verzeihung. Am 30ten bin ich wegen einer Geschäftsreise abwesend.

A.3.7 ki

179.RMN:NAD03: hirata seNsee o hisashiburi desu ne . soo watashi no hoo mo chotto sono koNtoo (koto) ni kaNshi te chotto *ki ni shi* te ta N desu keredomo soi de (sorede) sorosoro naNka gutaiteki na naiyoo toka tte yuu (iu) no wa go soodaN dekiru yoo na jootai ni nari mashi ta deshoo ka .

Schon lange habe ich nichts mehr von Ihnen gehört, Prof. Hirata. So, ich habe auch schon daran gedacht. Sind Sie soweit, daß wir über den konkreten Inhalt sprechen können?

A.3.8 yotee

296.RMN:ADM04: hai raigetsu ni ari masu paneru disukasshoN no naiyoo[naiyou] ni tsui te watakushi tachi panerisuto de saN ka suru *yotee[yotei] ni shi* te ori masu node sono koto ni tsui te uchiawase o mooshiage[moushiage] tai to omoi mashi te o deNwa itashi mashi ta .

Ich habe Sie angerufen, weil ich mit Ihnen über den Inhalt der Podiumdiskussion des nächsten motats sprechen möchte. Wir haben vor, daran teilzunehmen.

A.3.9 tanoshimi

180.RMN:NAD07: soo desu ka . watashi mo *tanoshimi ni shi* te mashi ta N de narubeku hayaku shi tai desu ne . soo desu ne koNshuumatsu gurai deshi tara gogo kara yotee ga ai te iru yoo na N desu ga .

Ach so. Darauf habe ich mich schon gefreut, deshalb hätte ich es gerne möglichst bald. So, an diesem Wochenende habe ich nachmittags Zeit.

A.3.10 doko

061.RMN:NAH13: hai jikaN no hoo wa sore de mattaku moNdai ga ari mase N . sore to ato doko de auka to yuu koto na N desu keredomo basho nitsuite wa *doko ni* itashi mashoo ka .

Ja, was diese Zeit angeht, das ist kein großes Problem. Und dann weiterhin, aber wo soll das Treffen stattfinden? Was den Ort angeht, *wo* sollen wir es machen?

A.3.11 dochira

114.RMN:ABE11: ee kochira mo ichi nichi ai te ori masu node dewa basho wa *dochira ni itashi* mashoo .

Aeh, ich habe auch den ganzen Tag Zeit. Nun, welchen Ort nehmen wir?

A.3.12 naNji

094.RMN:AAV09: hai kekkoo desu ga . o jikaN wa *naNji gurai ni* itashi mashoo ka .

Ja, es ist gut. Um wieviel Uhr wollen wir es ungefähr machen?

A.4 The construction with topic

A.4.1 heNji no hoo

100.RMN:ABC15: wakari mashi ta . ichio seNsee ni o ukagai shi te mi masu node itsugoro made ni *go heNji no hoo wa sure* ba yoroshii deshoo ka .

Ich habe verstanden. Ich werde den Professor ein mal fragen. Etwa bis wann soll ich ihnen die Antwort geben?

A.4.2 juNbi

043.RMN:AAC08: soo[sou] desu ka jikkeN no jikaN wa daitai ni jikaN gurai na N desu kedomo juNbi nado ga hitsuyoo[hitsuyou] ka to omoi masu node subete *juNbi wa* watakushi ga *itashi* masu node o hiru kara ni jikaN gurai ake te itadake masu ka .

So, Die Zeit für die Experimente dauert ungefähr 2 Stunden. Die ganzen benötigten Vorbereitungen werde ich machen. Könnten Sie ab mittags etwa 2 Stunden dafür Zeit haben?

A.4.3 uchiawase

016.RMN:NAC06: soo desu ne dekire ba raishuuchuu ni *uchiawase wa shi* tai N desu keredomo .

Ach so. Ich möchte *die Besprechung* möglichst in der nächsten Woche *machen.*

A.4.4 ichi do

320.RMN:ACX03: soo[sou] desu ne sugie seNsee[seNsei] chotto raigetsu wa daibu yotee[yotei] ga hait te iru N desu ga maa *ichi do wa shi* nai to ike nai to omot te ori mashi ta node naNtoka shi tai to omou N desu ga seNsee[seNsei] no go tsugoo[tsugou] wa ikaga deshoo[deshou] . tsuki no zeNhaN wa ikaga desu ka .

So, Prof. Sugie hat nächsten Monat viele Termine, aber ich werde es irgendwie schaffen, einen freien Termin zu bekommen, weil ich dachte, daß es ein Mal gemacht werden muß. Wie sieht es bei Ihnen aus? Wie wäre es Ihnen in der ersten Monatshälfte?

A.4.5 raigetsu ni

799.RMN:NFR17: soredewa shika ta nai desu ne . hoN to nara ba saN gatsu i nai ni yara nakere ba ike nai shigoto na N desu keredo maa toriaezu *raigetsu ni wa shi* masu ka shika ta nai kara .

Da kann man nichts machen. Eigentlich müßte man die Arbeit innerhalb des März machen. Machen wir es unverzüglich im nächsten Monat, weil es nicht anders geht.

A.4.6 hoka no hi ni

669.RMN:AFT08: so shi tara mooshiwake[moushiwake] nai N desu kedo *hoka no hi ni wa sashi* te morat temo ii desu ka . de kochira no tsugoo[tsugou] bakkari mooshi[moushi] te warui N desu kedo so shi tara doyoobi[doyoubi] ↩ juu yokka no doyoobi[doyoubi] no gozeN chuu toka wa doo[dou] desu ka .

Entschuldigung, könnte ich an einen anderen Tag den Termin machen? Es tut mir leid, daß ich nur von meinem Plan spreche. Könnten Sie vormittags am Samstag den 14ten?

A.5 The construction with *'to'*

A.5.1 kochira

013.RMN:NAC11: soo desu ne dekire ba kochira no keNkyuushitsu ni kite itadake reba *kochira to shi te wa* tsugoo ga ii N desu keredomo .

Ach so. Wenn sie freundlicherweise in mein Institut kommen könnten, würde *mir* das gut passen.

A.5.2 watashi

046.RMN:AAE11: dekire ba gogo no hoo ga *watashi to shi te wa* ureshii no desu ga .

Ich würde froh sein, wenn es freundlicherweise nachmittags wäre.

A.5.3 kochira

137.RMN:ABH08: hai soo desu ne *kochira to shi te wa* itsuka no gozeNchuu ka muika no gogo nanoka no gozeNchuu no doreka ni shi tai to omot te iru no desu keredomo .

Ja, so. Bei mir ist lieber entweder den 5ten vormittags, den 6ten nachmittags oder den 7ten vormittags.

A.5.4 shuuryoo jikaN

051.RMN:NAI17: soo desu ne dewa jikkeN to mata sono juNbi iroiro jikaN ga kakaru to omoi masu node ichioo ichi ji saN jupuN kara hajime mashi te *shuuryoo jikaN to shi mashi te wa* yo ji gurai made to yuu koto de to yuu yotee de yoroshii deshoo ka .

Weil das Experiment und auch seine Vorbereitungen einiges an Zeit brauchen, beginnen wir vorläufig um 1 Uhr 30. Ist es ihnen recht, bis 4 Uhr zu planen?

A.6 The construction with adjective

A.6.1 issho

085.RMN:NAL04: yamamoto to desu ne tanaka kyooju no hoo de raishuu no teNjikai no hoo ni *go issho suru* uNnuN to yuu hanashi ga de te ori mashi te tanaka kyooju no go tsugoo no hoo o desu ne o ukagai dekire ba to omoi mashi te o deNwa sashiage ta N desu ga .

Also, wir sollten einen Termin für ein *gemeinsames* Gespräch mit Professor Tanaka nächste Woche auf der Ausstellung vereinbaren. Wenn es möglich ware würde ich Ihn bitten, bei uns vorbeizukommen. Darum rufe ich an.

A.6.2 jama

113.RMN:NAQ10: soo desu ne sore ga ii to omoi masu . soredewa ku gatsu muika asu desu ne gogo ni seNsee no keNkyuushitsu ni *o jama suru* to yuu koto de yoroshii deshoo ka .

So, so ist es gut. Wäre es bei Ihnen recht, daß ich morgen am 6ten September nachmittags bei Ihrem Institut vorbeikommen?

A.7 The construction with verb

A.7.1 ukagau

004.RMN:AAF18: soo desu ne sore no hoo ga ii to omoi masu . seNsee no hoo ni watakushi ga juu ni ji ni kaigi ga owari masu node watakushi no hoo ga jikaN teki ni yoyuu ga ari masu kara watakushi no hoo ga seNsee no keNkyuushitsu ni *o ukagai suru* tte yuu no wa yoroshii deshoo ka .

Aeh, ach so. Das paßt, denke ich. Aeh, bei ihnen... Weil ich, da meine Sitzung um 12 Uhr endet, einen zeitlichen Spielraum habe, *komme* ich in ihr Büro. Ist das gut?

A.7.2 au

005.RMN:AAG19: soo desu ka . deshi tara mikka no shuu wa muzukashii kato omoware masu ga tooka no shuu desu to gomeNnasai desu nee nakanaka ai te ru jikaN ga ari mase N node mokuyoobi no juu ni ji kara ni ji made chuushoku o heNjoo shi te *o ai suru* koto wa deki masu ga .

Ach so? Wenn das so ist, scheint es in der Woche des dritten schwierig zu werden. Wenn das in der Woche des zehnten wäre... Ach, Entschuldigung. Weil da so ohne weiteres auch keine freie Zeit ist, könnten wir uns am Donnerstag von 12 bis 2 *treffen* - ich würde auf mein Mittagessen verzichten.

A.7.3 tazuneru

165.RMN:ABY09: kashikomari mashi ta . soo shi mashi tara sonoyoo ni kimura no hoo ni mooshi tsutae te oki masu node doozo yoroshiku o negai itashi masu . osoreiri masu . basho no hoo desu ne kime sase te itadaka nai to ike nai N desu keredomo doo itashi mashoo ka . seNsee no keNkyuushitsu *o tazune suru* to yuu koto de yoroshii deshoo ka .

Jawohl. Also, ich werde es Herrn (Prof.?) Kimura sagen. Vielen Dank. Wo sollte es sein? Wäre es Ihnen recht, wenn er bei Ihrem Institut vorbeikommen würde?

A.7.4 kiku

102.RMN:NAO04: o sewa ni nat te ori masu . kochira no yamada no hoo kara keNkyuu naiyoo nitsuite ikeN kookaN o shi tai node yamamoto seNsee no go tsugoo o *o kiki suru* yoo ni yuware te iru N desu ga go yotee wa ikaga deshoo ka .

Guten Tag. Mir wurde von Prof. Yamada gesagt, daß ich die Pläne von Prof. Yamamoto erfragen soll, weil Prof. Yamada über den Forschungsinhalt gerne einen Meinungsaustausch hätte.