

Frame-Based
Contrastive Lexical Semantics
and Japanese FrameNet:
The Case of RISK and *kakeru*

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1. Introduction

- Japanese FrameNet (2002-)
<http://jfn.st.hc.keio.ac.jp/>
- Contrastive Lexical Semantics based on Frame Semantics
- Polysemy structures across typologically unrelated languages
- Semantic Frames as interlingual representations? (Boas 2005)
- *risk* and one of its corresponding Japanese verb *kakeru*

2. The RISK Family of Frames

Frame Elements

- **Action:** the act of the Protagonist that has the potential of incurring Harm (*a trip into the jungle, swimming in the dark*).
- **Asset:** a valued possession of the Protagonist, seen as potentially endangered in some situation (*health, income*).
- **Harm:** a potential unwelcome development coming to the Protagonist (*infection, losing one's job*).
- **Protagonist:** the person who performs the Action that results in the possibility of Harm occurring.

Background Knowledge

- **Chance:** the uncertainty about the future.
- **Risky Situation:** the state of affairs within which the Asset might be said to be at risk.

(4) JEOPARDIZING

He risked **his life** {for a man he did not know}.

Protagonist

Asset

Beneficiary

(5) INCURRING

He risked **losing his life savings**

Protagonist

Harm

{by investing in such a company}.

Action

(6) DARING

I wouldn't risk **talking like that in public.**

Protagonist

Action

2.1. The RISK frame: *risk.v* and its Japanese translation equivalents

1 JEOPARDIZING

Protagonist	TARGET	Asset
NP.Ext	<i>risk.v</i>	NP.Obj

Corresponding Expressions: *kakeru, tosu, kiken ni sarasu*

2 INCURRING

Protagonist	TARGET	Harm
NP.Ext	<i>risk.v</i>	PPby.Obj

Corresponding Expression: *kiken o okasu*

3 DARING

Protagonist	TARGET	Action
NP.Ext	<i>risk.v</i>	VPing.Obj

Corresponding Expression: *aete*, (*kiken o okasi(te)*)

2.2. Japanese Expressions in JEOPARDIZING

(7) naze [_{Protagonist} syooboosi wa] [_{Beneficiary} hito no tame ni]
why firefighters TOP people GEN for DAT
[_{Asset} inoti o] **kakeru** no ka.
life ACC NMLZ Q

‘Why do firefighters risk their lives to help people?’

(8) [_{Asset} syoku o] **tosita** yuuki ni atama ga sagaru.
career ACC PERF bravery DAT head NOM descend

‘(I) take off my hat for the bravery of risking her career.’

(9) kanozyo wa iraku ni itte [_{Asset} inoti o]
she TOP Iraq GOAL go life ACC

kiken ni sarasita.

risk DAT expose

‘She went to Iraq and risked her life.’

JEOPARDIZING: *kakeru*

1) [Protagonist-ga] [Asset -o] *kakeru*

(10) [Protagonist senmonka ga]

experts

NOM

[Asset **gakusya seimei o**] **kakete**

scholarly

career

ACC

ronziteirunoda ...

argue

‘Experts are arguing (for the hypothesis), risking their careers.’

JEOPARDIZING: *kakeru*

(Continued)

2) [Protagonist-ga] [Purpose -no tame ni] [Asset -o] *kakeru*

(11) “doosi” to ie ba, mukasi wa
COMPL say COND formerly TOP

keppan o osite,
petition-sealed-with-blood ACC seal

[Purpose **kyootuu no mokuteki no tame ni**]
common GEN purpose GEN for DAT

[Asset inoti o] **kakeru** nakama desita.
life ACC group COP-PAST

‘In the past, *doosi* referred to buddies among whom people risked their lives for a common goal, by sealing it with blood.’

JEOPARDIZING: *kakeru* (Continued)

3) JEOPARDIZING: [Protagonist-ga] [Motivation -ni] [Asset -o] *kakeru*

(12) [Protagonist yamanoi husai no] akumademo

Mr. and Mrs. GEN persistently

[Motivation onore no yume ni]

one GEN dream DAT

[Asset inoti o] **kakeru** sono sugata ...

life ACC that attitude

‘the attitude of Mr. and Mrs. Yamanoi, who
risked their lives for the sake of their dream...’

2.5. A Representation of English-Japanese correspondence

Table 2. Partial Valence Table for *risk* in JEOPARDIZING

- a. [Protagonist: NP.Ext] *risk.v* [Asset: NP.Obj]
- b. [Protagonist: NP.Ext] *risk.v* [Asset: NP.Obj]
[Beneficiary: PP_*for*.Dep]
- c. [Protagonist: NP.Ext] *risk.v* [Asset: NP.Obj]
[Purpose: VP *to*.Dep]
- d. [Protagonist: NP.Ext] *risk.v* [Asset: NP.Obj]
[Motivation: PP_*for*.Dep]

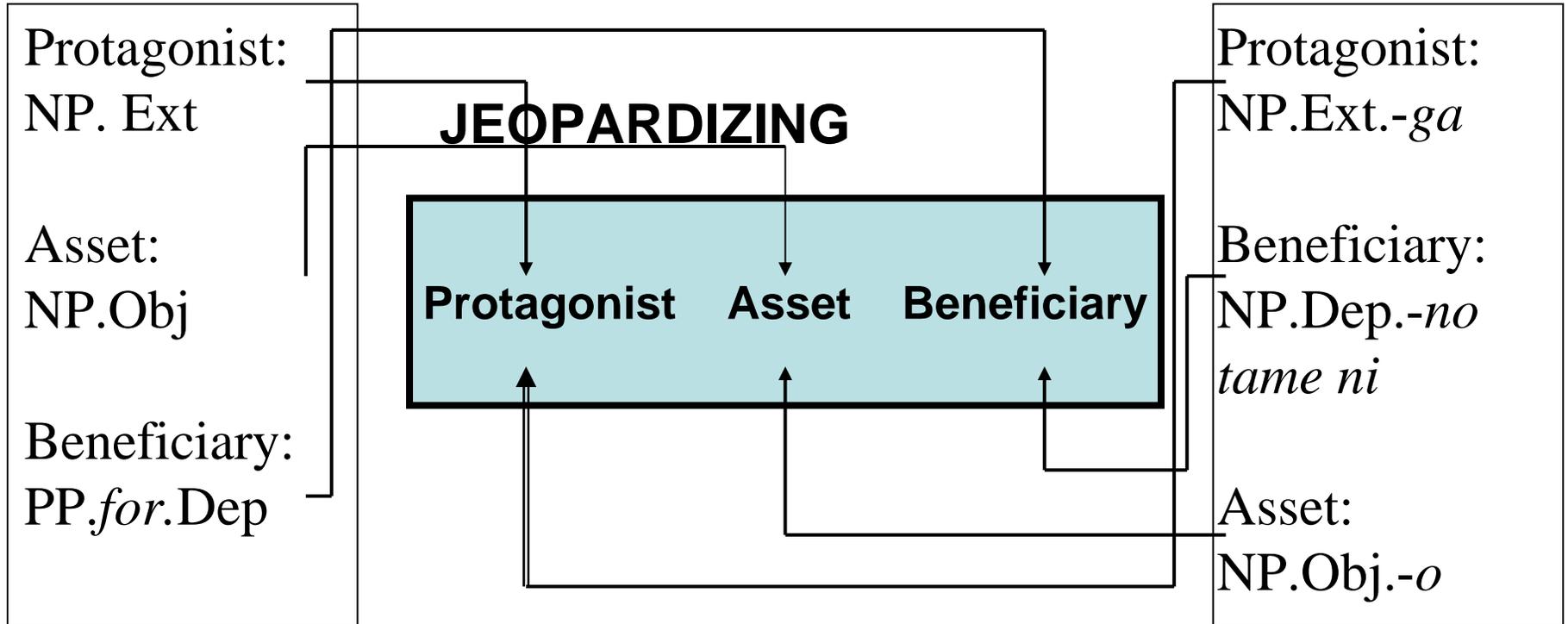
Table 3. Partial Valence Table for *kakeru* in
JEOPARDIZING

- a. [Protagonist: NP.Ext.-*ga*] [Asset:NP.Obj.-*o*]
kakeru
- b. [Protagonist: NP.Ext.-*ga*] [Beneficiary:
NP.Dep.-*no tame ni*] [Asset:NP.Obj.-*o*]
kakeru
- c. [Protagonist-*ga*] [Purpose: NP.Dep.-*no
tame ni*] [Asset: NP.Obj.-*o*] *kakeru*
- d. [Protagonist: NP.Ext.-*ga*] [Motivation:
NP.Dep.-*ni*] [Asset: NP.Obj.-*o*] *kakeru*

Linking Partial English and Japanese Lexicon Fragments via JEOPARDIZING

From English-*risk-2b*
(Line b of Table 2)

From Japanese-*kakeru-3b*
(Line b of Table 3)



3. Japanese *kakeru.v* and its Frames

kakeru.v 賭ける

JEOPARDIZING

(19) He **risked** his life.

(20) kare wa inoti o **kaketa.**
he TOP life ACC

‘He risked his life.’

Japanese *kakeru.v* 賭ける

Also In:

BETTING

(21) kare wa 3000 en o sono uma ni **kaketa**.
he TOP yen ACC that horse DAT
'He bet 3000 yen on that horse.'

DEVOTION

(22) kare wa seesyun o yakyuu ni **kaketa**.
he TOP youth ACC baseball DAT
'He devoted his youth to (playing) baseball.'

RELIANCE

(23) kare wa syoosin o tyokuzoku zyoosi ni **kaketa**.
he TOP promotion ACC direct supervisor DAT
'He counted on his direct supervisor for a promotion.'

3.1. BETTING

1. [Protagonist-ga] [Outcome -ni.DAT] [Asset -o] kakeru

(24) [_{Protagonist} watasi wa] [_{Outcome} denmaaku no kati ni]
I TOP Denmark GEN victory DAT
kaketa kara ...
PAST because

‘Since I betted on **Denmark’s victory**, ...’

(25) [_{Protagonist} kenbutukyaku mo] [_{Outcome} dotira ga katu ka ni]
onlookers also which.side NOM win Q DAT
[_{Asset} genkin o] **kakeru.**
cash ACC

lit. ‘Onlookers also bet cash on **which side will win.**’

3.1. BETTING (continued)

2. [Protagonist-ga] [Cotheme -to] [Outcome -o.ACC] kakeru

(26) [_{Protagonist} gyanburaa no sukai wa],
 gambler GEN Sky TOP

[_{Cotheme} sikin o hosigaru nakama no
 seed.money ACC want pal GEN

neisan to]

Nathan with

[_{Outcome} sara o habana ni turedaseru ka o]
 Sara ACC La Habana GOAL take Q ACC

kakeru...

lit. 'The gambler Sky bets his pal Nathan, who wants seed money, on **whether he would take Sarah to La Habana.**'

3.2. DEVOTION

[Protagonist-ga] [Asset -o]

[Purpose/Meaning action -ni] kakeru

(30) [_{Purpose} koremadeni naku karuku,

Ever

light

sukkirisita sake o tukuridasu koto ni]

pure

ACC create

thing DAT

[_{Asset} zinsei o] **kaketa** ...

span.of.life ACC

‘(He) dedicated his life to creating *sake* which tastes lighter and purer than has ever been tasted.’

3.3. RELIANCE

1. [Protagonist-ga] [Purpose/Benefit -o] [Intermediary/Instrument/Mean action -ni] kakeru

(33) toozyoosuru no wa,

enter.stage NOML TOP

[Benefit kessyoo toonamento sinsyutu o]
finals tournament advancement ACC

[Means_action kono itiban ni] **kakeru**
this match DAT

[Protagonist ingurando].
England

‘Playing against the team is England, which is counting on this match for advancement to the tournament final.’

3.3. RELIANCE (Continued)

2. [Protagonist-ga] [Purpose/Benefit -tame] [Intermediary/Instrument/Means_action -ni] kakeru

(34) [_{Purpose} koyoo o kakuhosuru tame]
employment ACC secure for

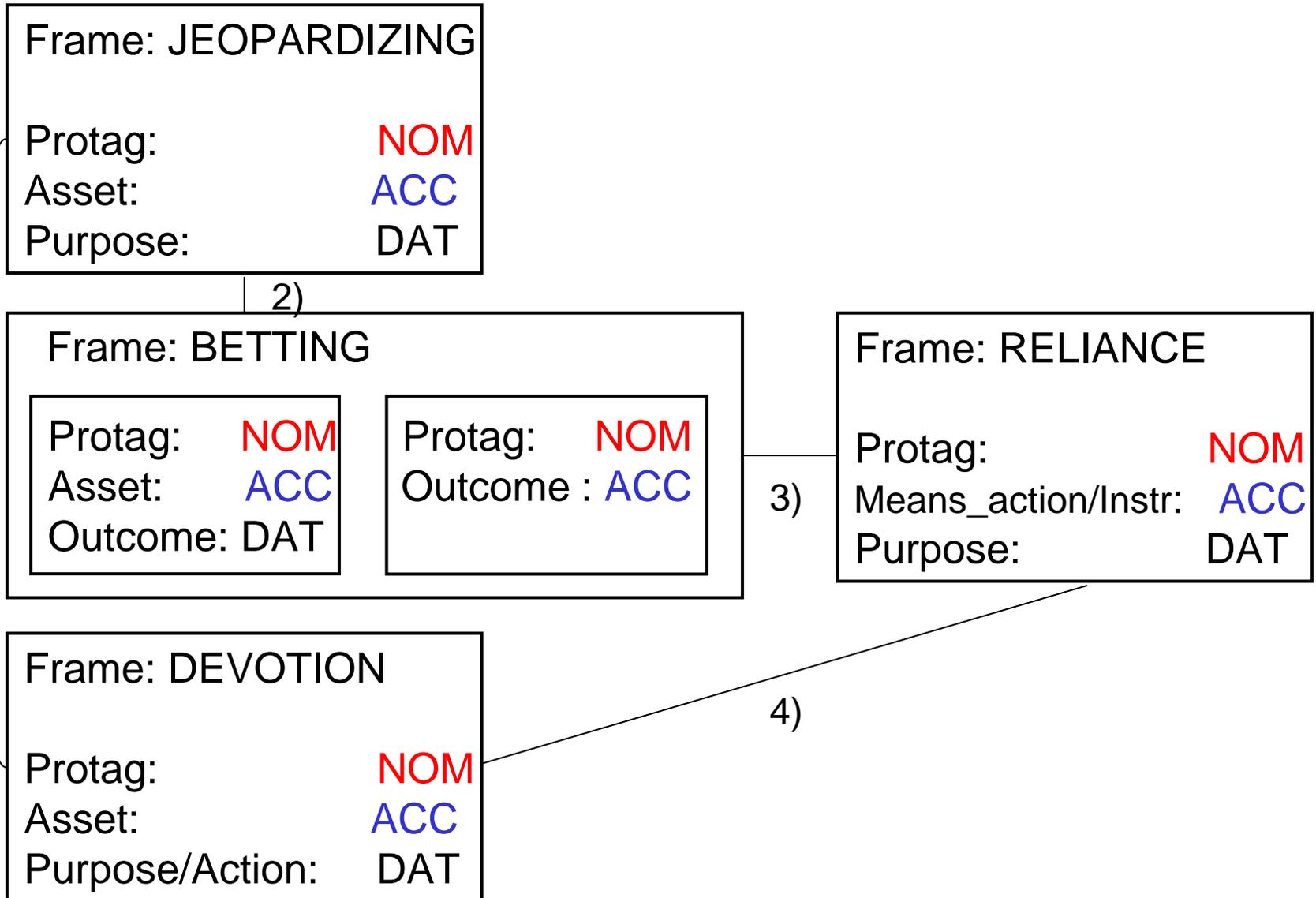
[_{Means_action} sizen to kyooseisuru
nature with live.together

yuuki noogyoo ni] **kaketa.**

organic farming DAT

‘In order to ensure job security, (they) counted on organic farming, which allowed them to live in good harmony with nature.’

3.4. Semantic Network of *kakeru*



1) JEOPARDIZING and DEVOTION

(35) a. JEOPARDIZING = (7)

naze [_{Protagonist} syooboosi wa] [_{Beneficiary} hito no tame ni]
why firefighters TOP people GEN sake DAT
[_{Asset} inoti o] **kakeru** no ka.
life ACC NMLZ Q

‘Why do firefighters risk their lives to help people?’

b. DEVOTION = (30)

[_{Purpose} koremadeni naku karuku, sukkirisita sake o
Ever light pure ACC
tukuridasu koto ni] [_{Asset} zinsei o] **kaketa** ...
create thing DAT span.of.life ACC

‘(He) dedicated his life to creating *sake* which tastes lighter and purer than has ever been tasted.’

2) JEOPARDIZING and BETTING

(36) a. JEOPARDIZING

[_{Protagonist} tai tero butai wa] [_{Purpose} hitoziti kyuusyutu ni]
anti terrorist team TOP hostages rescue DAT

[_{Asset} inoti o] kaketa.
life ACC PAST

‘The antiterrorist team risked their lives to rescue the hostages.’

b. BETTING

[_{Protagonist} kare wa] [_{Outcome} hitoziti kyuusyutu seikoo ni]
he TOP hostages rescue success DAT

[_{Asset} 100 doru o] kaketa.
dollar ACC PAST

‘He bet 100 dollars on the success of the hostage rescue operation.’

3) BETTING and RELIANCE

(37) RELIANCE

a. [Instrument **ato no iti-wari ni**] **kakeru**
rest GEN 10% probability DAT

‘count on the last 10 percent probability’

b. [Instrument **henkasuru koto no kanoosee ni**]
change thing GEN possibility DAT

kakeru

‘count on the possibility of change’

4) DEVOTION and RELIANCE

(38) a. The DEVOTION interpretation

... “[Purpose/Action zibun ga itiban akogareru tiimu ni]
I NOM most aspire team DAT

kakete mi tai” to setumeisi ta.

try want COMPL explain PAST

‘(he) explained, “I want to devote (myself) to (playing) on the team to which I aspire the most.”’

b. The RELIANCE interpretation

... “[Means action zibun ga itiban akogareru tiimu ni]

kakete mitai” to setumei sita.

‘(he) explained, “I want to count on (playing) on the team to which I aspire the most.”’

4) DEVOTION and RELIANCE (Continued)

(39) a. RELIANCE

[Means_action boohu e no tingonka ni]
late-husband GOAL GEN remembrance DAT

[Purpose **saiki** o] kaketa.

comeback ACC PAST

'I relied on (creating) a remembrance to my late husband to get back on my feet again (as an artist).'

b. DEVOTION

[Purpose/Action **iti nen go no saiki ni**] kaketeiru
one year after GEN comeback DAT PROG

noni, ima, yameru meritto wa nai...
although now quit advantage TOP there.is.no

'We are devoted to (realizing) our comeback in a year, so there is no advantage to quitting now.'

4. Conclusion

Semantic Frames as Interlingua between Japanese and English?

