Sequential Voicing in Japanese
Papers from the NINJAL Rendaku Project
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The papers in this tightly focused collection all report recent research on aspects of *rendaku* (‘sequential voicing’), the well-known morphophonemic phenomenon in Japanese that affects initial consonants of non-initial elements in complex words (mostly compounds). The papers include broad surveys of theoretical analyses and of psycholinguistic studies, meticulous assessments (some relying on a new database) of many of the factors that putatively inhibit or promote *rendaku*, an investigation of how learners of Japanese as foreign language deal with *rendaku*, in-depth examinations of *rendaku* in a divergent dialect of Japanese and in a Ryukyuan language, and a cross-linguistic exploration of *rendaku*-like compound markers in unrelated languages. Since *rendaku* is ubiquitous but recalcitrantly irregular, it provides a challenge for any general theory of morphophonology. This collection should serve both to restrain oversimplified accounts of *rendaku* and to inspire to further research.

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