

It goes without saying that, in case there is any TMA morphology in a language, you are likely to find it in its verbal constructions – so much so that we may accidentally ignore the fact it can also be found, albeit rarely, attached to other lexical categories (it is worth noting that, some textbooks, such as Comrie (1985, p. 13), dutifully acknowledge this possibility). Japanese, for instance, has a rather broad set of TMA morphemes in what is usually taken to be one of its (sub)classes of adjectives. These so-called adjectives can be found both in attributive construction and predicative constructions, displaying the full range of morphemes on both occasions. “Oishi-i udon o tabe-ta” (yummy-NON.PAST udon.noodles OBJ eat-PAST) [I ate yummy udon noodles] is just as grammatical as “Oishi-katta udon o mainichi omoidas-u” (yummy-PAST udon.noodles OBJ everyday remember-NON.PAST) [I remember every day the yummy noodles], despite the different tense morphology used in the adjective in each example. Likewise, “Udon wa oishi-i” [Udon.noodles TOP yummy-NON.PAST] (The udon noodles are yummy) and “Udon wa oishi-katta” [Udon.noodles TOP yummy-PAST] (The udon noodles were yummy) are perfectly grammatical. Scepticism regarding the status of this word as “adjective” would be entirely justified by this behaviour alone, as verbs in general can also appear in attributive and predicative constructions: “Tabe-ta udon wa oishi-katta” [Eat-PAST udon.noodles TOP yummy-PAST] (The udon noodles I ate were yummy) is an example of the former, and the latter can be found in the very first example of this abstract. This, however, would ignore the fact these words do exhibit the typical properties of “adjectives”, such as the possibility of comparison “udon wa sushi yori oishi-i” [udon.noodles TOP sushi ABL yummy-NON.PAST] (Udon is more yummy than sushi), and being modified by intensifiers “totemo oishi-i” [very yummy-NON.PAST] (Very yummy). Musqueam, a Salish language, not only allows for the presence of TMA morphology in its adjectives, “kʷθə θi-ʔ čtwaʔ məstəyəxʷ” [ART big-past SPEC person] (That great person, as he must have been) (SUTTLES, 2004, p. 65), but it also does the same for nouns, giving rise to constructions such as “kʷθə nə-mən-əʔ” [ART my-father-PAST] (My late father) (SUTTLES, 2004, p. 64). On the lookout for more examples of TMA morphology outside the verb, as defined by the classification of lexical categories present in Dixon (2010), the ongoing functional typological survey described in this paper aims to analyse and look for affinities in the grammars of some 75 genetically unrelated languages, sampled for maximum variability as described in Bakker (2011). This survey aims to look for grammatical affinities among the outliers, such as dependent/head marking (NICHOLS, 1986), which Dixon (DIXON, 2004, p. 32-36) suspects may explain the Japanese examples above. As a result, the presence of characteristics more commonly associated with verbs outside this scope should point out that, contra Baker (2004), a more fluid and continuous view of lexical categories is not only possible but necessary for functionalists and formalists alike.