Chinese adjective-noun combinations ([A N]’s) are word-level expressions constructed in an autonomous word formation component of the grammar. I propose a monomorphemic constraint on the adjective of [A N]. Together with evidence from a potential naming function, lexical gaps, and the tests of adverbial modification, conjunction reduction, and XP substitution, this constraint supports the wordhood of Chinese [A N]. Neither anaphoric accessibility nor the restrictions on the ordering of adjectives are reliable criteria for establishing the status of Chinese [A N]. The various properties of Chinese [A N] are accounted for under the framework of Construction Morphology (Booij 2010).


(The image is not directly related to the talk.)

Light refreshments will be served.

For further information, please contact Mee-Jeong Park (meejeong@hawaii.edu) or Saeko Shibayama (sshiba@hawaii.edu). The Talk is open to the public and funded by the EALL Enrichment Fund.