

questions for lev

April 30, 2015

1. Case assignment

Kuraŋɔ's case assignment system is what I think is called "Fluid-S"—S patterns with A and O depending on volitionality of the agent.

(1) Nakari. [nakari]

na- Ø- kari
1- ERG- sleep
'I sleep.' (by my own volition.)

(2) Nakukari. [nakukari]

na- ku- kari
1- NOM- sleep
'I sleep.' (no entailment about my volition.)

(3) Nimotivagaana. [nimotiβaga:na]

ni- Ø- moti -βa -ga: -na -Ø
2- ERG- die -CAUS -FUT -1 -ABS
'You are going to kill me.' (More on causatives later...)

In transitive sentences, ERG and ABS case are used. NOM and ABS case are marked the same, but one marks S_o and one marks O. Should I even call it NOM in (1) or should I just call it ABS?

If you negate a Fluid-S intransitive sentence, are you negating the volition (or lack thereof) or are you negating the action of the verb? How would you negate the other one?

2. Case assignment in ditransitives

In a ditransitive sentence, what is the case of the verb's second argument? Is it GEN? OBL? DAT? What are GEN, OBL, and DAT? Are there other kinds of case?

(4) Nawivinu namiromiku nungu. [nauʝiβinu namirɔmiku nuŋu]

na- Ø- ʊɪβi -nu -Ø na- miɾɔ -mi -ku nu -ɣu
 1- ERG- give -3 -ABS 1- cat -POSS -ABS 3 -GEN
 ‘I give him/her my cat.’

3. Causatives

Below is an example of how causatives work in Kuraŋɔ. Are causatives usually marked on the verb? If they are, is my form typologically acceptable?

(5) Nakumotigaa. [nakumɔtigaa:]

na- ku- mɔti -gaː
 1- NOM- die -FUT
 ‘I am going to die.’

(6) Namotivagaana. [namɔtiβagaːna]

na- Ø- mɔti -βa -gaː -na -Ø
 1 ERG- die -CAUS -FUT -1 -ABS
 ‘I am going to kill myself.’ (lit: ‘I am going to make myself die.’)

Also, how do causatives work in a Fluid-S system? Is the case assignment on O (previously “underlyingly?” S) determined by volition, or does it follow standard rules for transitive sentence case assignment?

(7) Gangaka nasivamonu. [gaŋaka nasiβamɔnu]

ga -ɣa -ka na- Ø- si -βa -mɔ -nu -Ø
 EMO -NEG -EMO:HAPPY 1- ERG- COP -CAUS -PST 3 -ABS
 ‘I made him/her unhappy.’ (It is my fault that he/she was unhappy.)

(8) Gangaka nakusivamonu. [gaŋaka nakusiβamɔnu]

ga -ɣa -ka na- ku- si -βa -mɔ -nu -Ø
 EMO -NEG -EMO:HAPPY 1- NOM- COP -CAUS -PST 3 -ABS
 ‘I made him/her unhappy.’ (No implication that it was my fault.)

What about the causative morpheme without the introduction of another argument? Do languages do that? Is below typologically acceptable?

(9) Nakumotivagaa. [nakumɔtiβagaː]

na- ku- mɔti -βa -gaː
 1- NOM- die -CAUS -FUT
 ‘I am going to be killed’ (lit: I am going to be made dead)

How do you negate the causative versus negating the verb?

4. Applicatives

How are applicatives usually marked? A suffix on the introduced argument or a suffix on the verb?

(10) Nimotivagaana. [nimotiβaga:na]

ni- Ø- mōti -βa -ga: -na -Ø
2- ERG- die -CAUS -FUT -1 -ABS
'You are going to kill me.'

(11) Nimotivagaana soodongu'uti. [nigu naku mōtiβaga: sɔ:dɔŋuʔuti]

ni- Ø- mōti -βa -ga: -na -Ø sɔ:dɔ -ŋu -ʔuti
1- ERG- kill -CAUS -FUT -1 -ABS sword -GEN -APPL
'You are going to kill me with a sword.' (lit: 'You made me die with a sword.')

negation in applicatives

applicatives without another argument

5. Antipassives

What are they and how could I implement them?

6. Directionals

Let's discuss directionals and how I could use them instead of prepositions (like in the sentence i am going to the store, the directional would be marked on 'store')

im going to jump versus im going-dir:prox jump 'im going to go jump' im going to jump versus im going to jump store-dir:prox 'im going to jump to the store' (Maybe use an applicative here on store as well as it is an introduced argument?)

7. How do you draw origo graphs?