

# The intersection of temporal & modal interpretation

## A view from Arnhem Land

Prospectus defense

December 4, 2017

### Kriol apprehensionality [rop]

- (1) *main dedi imin go la det shop ailibala bambai imin kambek bla gugum dina*  
my father 3s=PST go LOC the shop morning **bambai** 3s=PST come.back PURP cook dinner  
*bla melabat*  
PURP 1p.EXCL

'My dad went to the shop this morning, **then** he came back to make lunch for us' (AJ 23022017)

- (2) **Context:** I've invited a friend around to join us for dinner. They reply:

- a. *yuwai! bambai ai gaman jeya!*  
yes! **bambai** 1s come there

'Yeah! I'll be **right** there!'

- b. *najing, im rait! bambai ai gaan binijim main wek!*  
no 3s okay **bambai** 1s NEG.MOD finish 1s work

'No, that's okay! (If won't, **otherwise**) I mightn't (be able to) finish my work!' (GT13072017)

- (3) **Context:** A child is playing on a car and is told to stop.

- a. *gita la jeya!*  
get off LOC there!

- B. *ba wani?*  
why?

- A. *bambai yu breigim motika*  
**bambai** 2s break car

'Get off of there [...why?...] In a moment you'll break the car!' (GT 16032017)

### Yolŋu TMA

- (4) **Apparent insensitivity of verbal morphology to tense distinction in Wangurri** [dhg]

- a. NONFUTURE USE

*nhän gayŋa ŋirrima-li ŋarra*  
3s IPFV home-ALL go.I

'they went/were going home' (PST) **or** 'they're going home' (PRES)

- b. FUTURE USE

*nhän ŋarru ŋirrima-li ŋarra*  
3s IRR home-ALL go.I

'they will/should/must go home'

([dhg] McLellan 1992:154)

(5) Cyclicity and metricality in Djambarrpuyngu [dhg]

a. RECENT PAST WITH I

yo barpuru-ny ḡarra ḡaḡa nhā-ma-ny (\*nhāḡal)  
yes, yesterday-PROM 1s 3s.ACC see-I/\*III-PROM

'Yes, I saw him yesterday'<sup>1</sup>

b. TODAY PAST WITH III

ḡe ḡāthur ḡarra ḡanya nhā-ḡal ḡoḡarr dhiyal  
yes, today 1s 3s.ACC see-III morning PROX-LOC

'Yes, I saw him here this morning'

c. DISTANT PAST WITH III

maarra ga-n malwan-dja dhāra-n yindi maḡḡa-ḡ  
two IPFV-III Hibiscus-PROM stand-III big 3d-PROM

'Two big Hibiscus flowers were growing there' (at some place in the speaker's youth) (Wilkinson 1991: 339)

Figure 1. Schematisation of inflectional domains (Wilkinson 1991:362)

