

A Source of Conativity in Tlingit Pluractional Verbs

Laurestine Bradford

May 10, 2024

Table of Contents

1. Tlingit Pluractional Morphology
2. Conative interpretation of pluralional forms
3. Building up the conative interpretation
4. Imperfective aspect can't do it all
5. Implications for eventuality class
6. Summary

Tlingit Pluractional Morphology

Tlingit (*Lingít* [łín'kít])

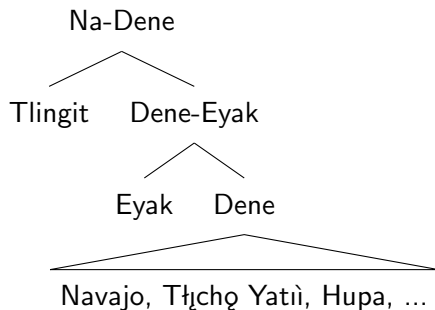


Figure: Tlingit's family tree

- About 100 fluent speakers currently. (Twitchell, 2018)
- Numerous revitalization programs, including a language nest, school and university classes, Yukon Native Language Centre program for adult learners. (Burge, 2024)

Tlingit country



Figure: Tlingit country in North America

Tlingit country



Figure: Dialect regions of Tlingit country

Tlingit verbs can have a lot of things in them

a glossed verb that's simple

a glossed verb that's complicated

both of them should have a x on them so that we can see. both should be highlighted.

say a definition, say it's a cute portmanteau, give a citation for the definition

Tlingit pluractionality

examples of the ways they'll see it translated

Looks different depending on conjugation class

that stuff

Conative interpretation of pluralational forms

Pluractional forms interpreted as conative (“trying”)

examples of that

It's not just Tlingit

lots of people do this, cite cusic, cite everyone

What is it about repetition?

cite the people who mention that
mention that non completion must not be required

It's not about “mental action”

cite people who say actual trying verbs are like this
mention your agentivity example
any sort of agent intent is a pragmatic inference

Proposal: A pluractional verb says several events begin

flesh that out, maybe with pictures

Building up the conative interpretation

Tlingit verbs are made of syntax (Crippen, 2019)

that big verb

Tlingit verbs are made of syntax (Crippen, 2019)

that big verb made of syntax

Tlingit verbs are made of syntax (Crippen, 2019)

small verb

Tlingit verbs are made of syntax (Crippen, 2019)

small verb made of syntax

Tlingit verbs are made of syntax (Crippen, 2019)

disclaimer a priori we don't necessarily know where these suffixes go in this structure, I have some reason to believe they're low but not sure

Ways of deriving repeated non-culminating events

verb is lexically culminating

verb is lexically non culminating

Imperfective aspect can't do it all

Imperfective aspect

the thing that people say it means, can cite whomever

Non-culmination from imperfective aspect?

outline how that would look like
make it clear it couldn't be the other way

Some verbs cannot be imperfective

say james calls them achievements. whatever.
say (cite wilhelm) best guess is because non durative.

Achievements can be imperfective when pluractional

make analogy to doelling and aspectual coercion and also “killing flies”

Achievements can be conative when pluractional

show that data

Achievements can be conative when pluractional

explain how this is a problem for deriving conativity through imperfectivity

Ways of deriving repeated non-culminating events

verb is lexically culminating

verb is lexically non culminating

cross out the last one

say something about how you're not sure how to distinguish those ones empirically

Additional datum: repeating culminating events

talk about s'

say that still doesn't help distinguish those two possibilities

Implications for eventuality class

One possibility: lexically non-durative and non-culminating

give an example of that

Another possibility: Runup achievements

explain how that goes

Summary

Summary

- summary
- bullet
- points

Thank you!

PUT IN ACKNOWLEDDGMENTS HERE

- Burge, H. D. (2024). *Woosh jín toolshát yeisú, we're still holding each other's hands: relationships and revitalization in Lingít country* (Doctoral dissertation, University of British Columbia). doi: 10.14288/1.0439964
- Crippen, J. A. (2019). *The syntax in Tlingit verbs* (Doctoral dissertation, University of British Columbia). doi: 10.14288/1.0388221
- Twitchell, L. A. (2018). *Haa Dachxhánx'i Sáani Kagéiyi Yís: Haa Yoo Xh'atángi kei Naltseen, for our little grandchildren: Language revitalization among the Tlingit*. (Unpublished doctoral dissertation). University of Hawai'i at Hilo.