



Austronesian languages and other things I wanted to tell you guys about

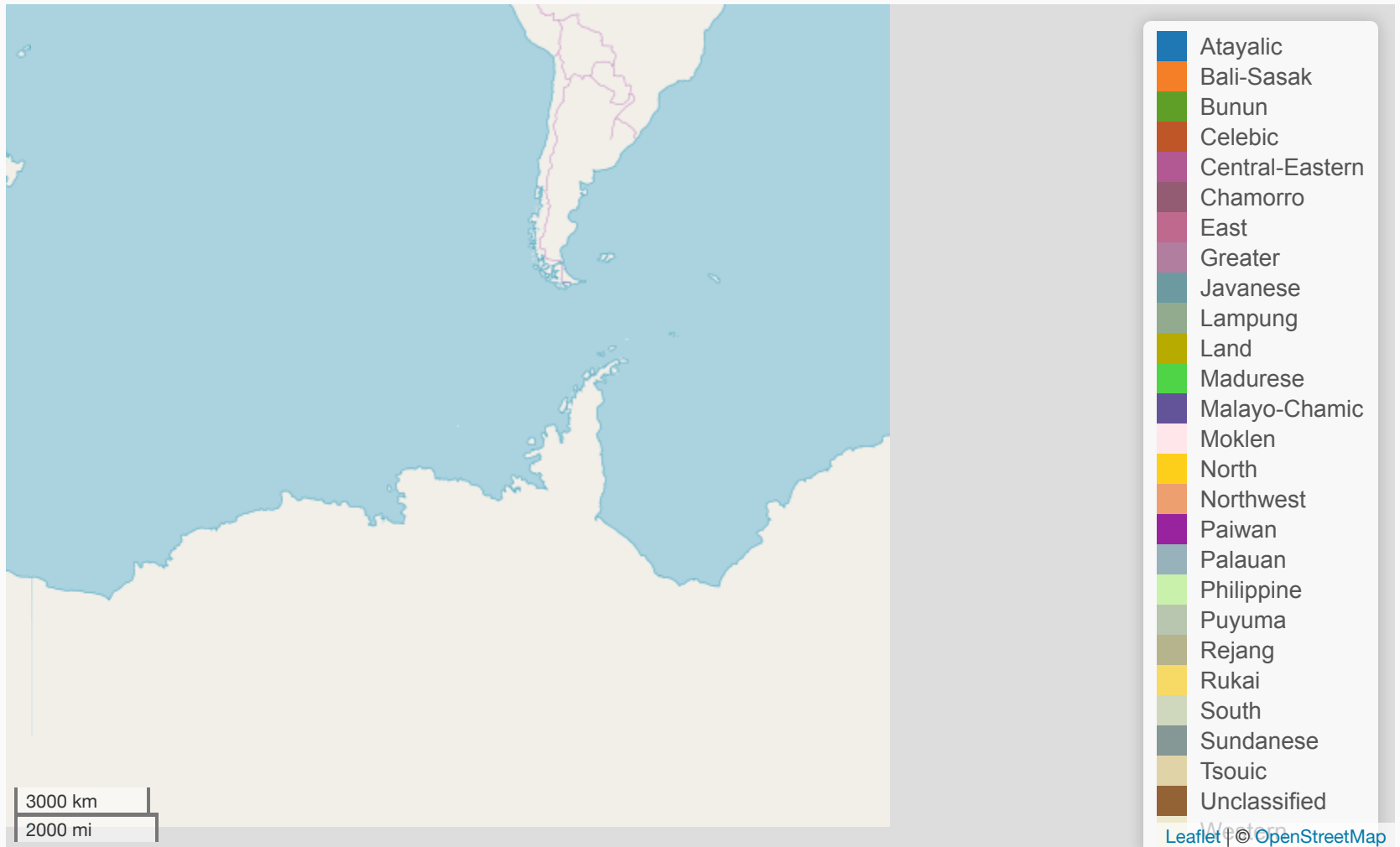
Thomas Van Hoey 司馬智

2018-07-19



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The Austronesian Language Family



Roadmap

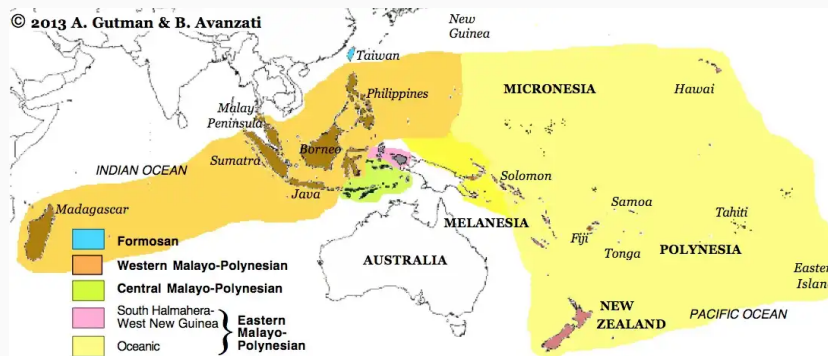
What can we do with this knowledge? What questions are to be explored?

- (historical) phonology
- lexical-semantics
 - conceptualization of space: land-sea axis
 - conceptualization of seasons / time
- focus system
 - neutral alignment
 - order V second or V first
 - different languages
 - nominalization
- some other languages
 - alignment and valence
 - Manchu

Three groups of Austronesian

Three groups (Ross 2002)

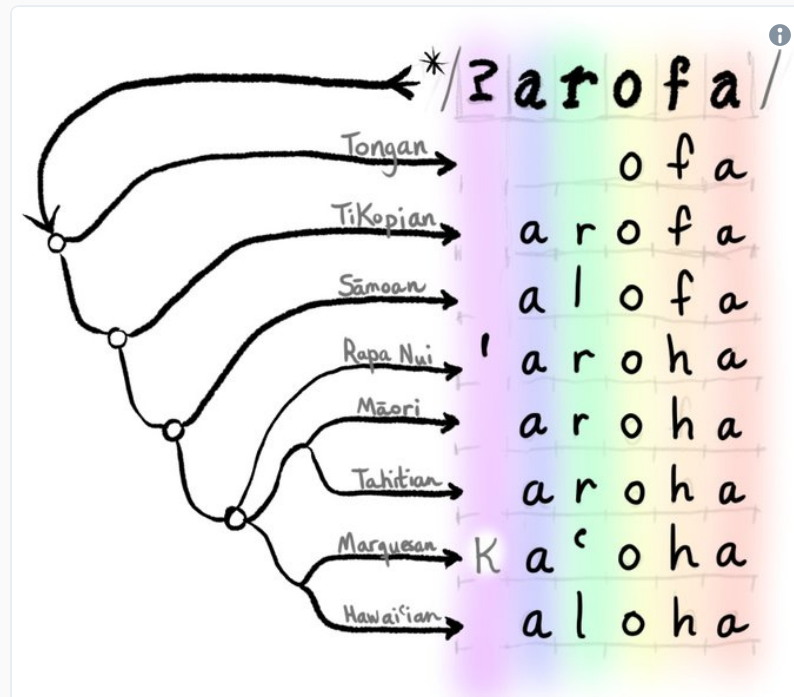
1. Philippine-type languages
2. Indonesian-type languages
3. post-Indonesian type languages



<http://www.languagesgulper.com/eng/Austronesmap.html>

So if you know where the language is located geographically (and it belongs to the Austronesian family), you can make some educated guesses about some features.

post-Indonesian languages: aloha



NativLang
@NativLang



Aloha! Here's a family tree showing the history behind one Polynesian word, starting from Proto-Polynesian at the top. Throughout its history this word has meant love, pity, concern, empathy, hello, farewell.

4:27 AM - Jul 6, 2018

♡ 114 💬 32 people are talking about this

post-Indonesian reconstructions

Tongan	Samoaan	Tahitian	Maori	Hawaiian	gloss
manu	manu	manu	manu	manu	'bird'
ika	iʔa	iʔa	1	iʔa	'fish'
kai	2	ʔai	kai	ʔai	'to eat'
tapu	tapu	tapu	tapu	3	'forbidden'
vaka	vaʔa	vaʔa	waka	waʔa	'canoe'
fohe	foe	hoe	hoe	hoe	'oar'
mata	mata	4	mata	maka	'eye'
ʔuta	uta	uta	uta	uka	'bush'
5	toto	toto	toto	koko	'blood'

Can you fill in the blanks?

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Can you fill in the blanks?

1. ika, 2. ʔai, 3. kapu, 4. mata, 5. toto

Based on <http://udel.edu/~dlarsen/ling203/Slides/Linguistic%20Reconstruction.pdf>

More Hawaiian typology

‘a’ole ‘o-ia e puka ana

NEG he FUT graduate SINGLE.EVENT

"He won't graduate"

- analytic language
- VSO order (negation is often treated as a verb)
- no-Philippine-type voice
(like we saw in 何老師's talk)

Indonesian-type languages

- phonological inventory is quite small (like all Austronesian languages)
- analytic language (agglutinative)
- SVO order (tendency)
- voices / focus system: actor, undergoer + extra
- affixes:
 - *di-* patient focus
 - *diper-* causative focus
 - *meng-* agent focus
 - *memper-* causative agent
 - *ter-* agentless action (involuntary, sudden, stative...)
 - *-kan* causative, benefactive
 - *-i* locative
 - *ber-...-an* plural subject
 - *ke-...-an* potential, unintentional

Examples

- *duduk* 'to sit down'
- *men-duduk-kan* 'to sit someone down, give someone a seat, to appoint'
- *men-duduk-i* 'to sit on, to occupy'
- *di-duduk-kan* 'to be given a seat, to be appointed'
- *di-duduk-i* 'to be sat on, to be occupied'
- *ter-duduk* 'to sink down, to come to sit'
- *ke-duduk-an* 'to be situated'

Philippine-type languages

- Taiwan, Philippines, Madagascar...
- analytical (agglutinative)
- VSO tendency
- typically a 4 focus system (or voice system)
 1. agent focus
 2. patient focus
 3. location focus
 4. instrumental / beneficiary focus

language	agent	patient	location	instrumental
Proto-Austronesian	*M-	*-en	*-an	*Si/Sa-
Isbukun Bunun	ma-	-un	-an	is/sin-
Yami	m-/ -om-	-en	-an	i-
Paiwan	-em-	-en	-an	si-
Tagalog	mag- / -um-	-in	-an	ipag-

So this is very robust, especially the first three.

Tagalog

But what do these focus affixes mean?

Mag-salis ang babae ng bigas sa sako para sa bata.

AF-will:take:out TR woman ART rice LOC sack BEN child

'The woman will take some rice out of {a / the} sack for {a / the} child.'

Aalis-in ng babae ang bigas sa sako para sa bata.

will:take:out-TF ART woman TR rice LOC sack BEN child

'{A / The} woman will take the rice out of {a / the} sack for {a / the} child.'

Aalis-an ng babae ng bigas ang sako para sa bata.

will:take:out-LF ART woman ART rice TR sack BEN child

'{A / The} woman will take some rice out of the sack for {a / the} child.'

Ipag-salis ng babae ng bigas sa sako ang bata.

BF-will:take:out ART woman ART rice LOC sack TR child

'{A / The} woman will take some rice out of {a / the} sack for the child.'

Tagalog (Langacker 2008 adapted from Schachter 1976)

TR = trajector (here: the thing in focus); TF = theme focus; LF = locative focus; beneficiary focus

Isbukun Bunun

Tense

Root	Meaning	Present	Recent past	Remote past	Future
hanup	'to hunt'	hanup	h-in-anup	h-inin-anup	na=hanup
	打獵	打獵	打過獵	很久以前打過獵	要打獵了

Aspect

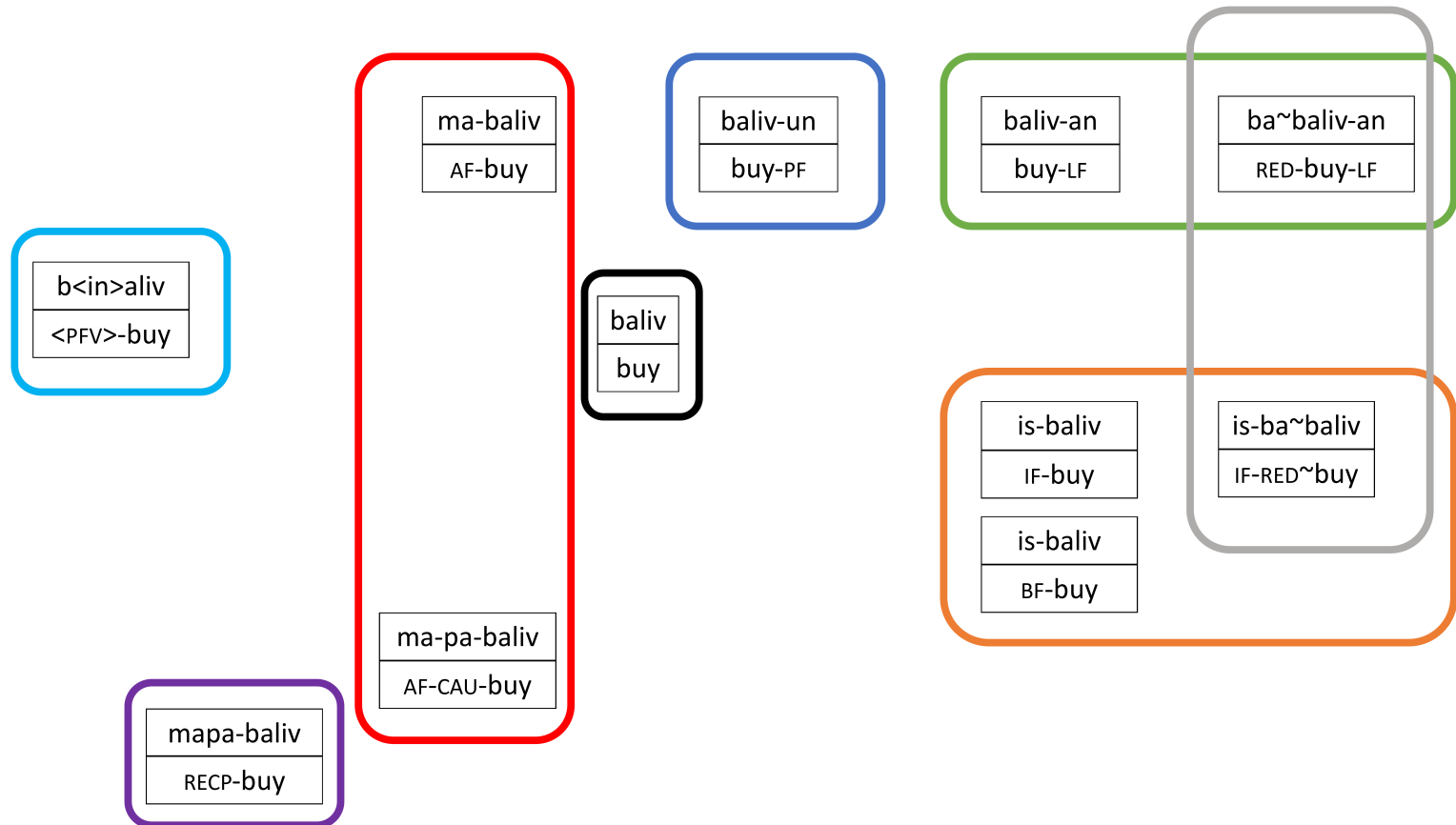
Root	Meaning	Simple	Perfective	Repetitive	Durative
hanup	'to hunt'	hanup	hanup-in	ha~hanup	hanup-ang
	打獵	打獵	打獵了	一直打獵	正在打獵

Reduplication

Reduplication can have many meanings: repetition (*ha~hanup*), intensive (人海茫茫), diminution 'make smaller' (看看)...

Bunun nominalization

Having this kind of focus system is also useful for nominalization.



Bunun nominalization

root	meaning	focus	nominal	meaning
ka-huzas	'to sing'	ka-hu~huzas	kahuhuzas	'singer'
un-huma	'to farm'	m-unhu~huma	munhuhuma	'farmer'
hanup	'to hunt'	ha~hanup	hahanup	'hunter'
masnav	'to teach'	mas-na~nav	masnanav	'teacher'
kaun	'to eat'	ka~kaun-un	kakaunun	'food'
baliv	'to buy'	baliv-un	balivun	'things to be bought'
pit'ia	'to cook'	pit'i-un	pit'iun	'food'
kaun	'to eat'	is-ka~kaun	iskakaun	'cutlery'
patas	'to write'	is-pa~patas	ispapatas	'pen'
kaun	'to eat'	ka~kaun-an	kakaunan	'dining place'
baliv	'to buy'	ba~baliv-an	babalivan	'shop'
sumsum	'to worship'	su~sumsum-an	susumsuman	'church/temple'
(pas-)nava	'to study'	pas-na~nava-an	pasnanavaan	'school'

Bunun seasons: *talabal* 好熱

If you know that *na=* is a future/irrealis marker and *min-* means 'change', then what are these seasons in Bunun?

1. *naminhamisan*

2. *talabal*

3. *namintalabal*

4. *hamisan*

1.

2.

3.

4.

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If you know that *na=* is a future/irrealis marker and *min-* means 'change', then what are these seasons in Bunun?

1. *naminhamisan*

2. *talabal*

3. *namintalabal*

4. *hamisan*

1.

2.

3.

4.

1. IRR=change=winter 'autumn'

2. summer

3. IRR=change=summer 'spring'

4. winter

Location across languages

body as center

left-right front-back

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left-right front-back

fixed coordinates

cardinal directions North, East, South, West

Location across languages

body as center

left-right front-back

fixed coordinates

cardinal directions North, East, South, West

geographical terrain

land-sea axis upstream-downstream

The land-sea axis

Many Austronesian languages use a radically different way of expressing direction, mostly due to their being located on islands: the so-called **land-sea axis**.

	Inland	Seaward
PAN	*daya	*lahud
Pazeh	daya 'upstream; east'	rahut 'downstream; west'
Thao	saya 'uphill, upstream'	raus 'downhill, downstream'
Paiwan	zaya 'upland, upriver'	lauz 'seaward, downriver'
Yami	rala 'next to the mountain	ralud 'towards the sea'
Ilokano	dáya 'east'	láud 'west'
Cebuano	iláya 'away from coast/town'	iláwud 'near coast/town'
Kelabit	dayəh 'upstream'	laʔud 'downstream'
Manam	auta 'landward'	ilau 'seaward'
Lakalai	-ilo 'landward'	-lau 'seaward'
Pohnpeian	peiloŋ- 'landward'	peiei- 'seaward'
Hawaiian	mauka 'landward'	makai 'seaward'

The land-sea axis

BEST TIP EVER!

When confronted with a problem, look at the clues they give you. Especially if it's a map.

-- but you probably already knew this...

14th ILO (2016) Aralle-Tabulahan

<http://www.ioling.org/booklets/iol-2016-indiv-prob.en.pdf>

<http://www.ioling.org/booklets/iol-2016-indiv-sol.en.pdf>

However, also use your common sense: many Austronesian people live in warm climates near the equator, so it doesn't make sense to think of 4 seasons, but just in terms of WARM and LESS WARM or RAIN and NO RAIN. They will probably have many words for BOAT, but not many for TRAIN, since many islands are small.

On the other hand, don't overthink the clues they give you, but just try to stay alert.

Alignment and valence / valency

valence

The valence of a lexical item is its inherent relationality that allows it to govern a particular number of arguments

- 看 = usually 2 participants
- 跑 = usually 1 participants
- 給 = usually 3 participants

alignment

Typologically we can see some major roles in clauses

- Participant in a clause with 1 participant = S
- Participant as 'do-er' in clause with 2 participants = A
- Participant as 'done-to' in clause with 2 participants = O
- Participant as 'the given' in clause with 3 participants = T
- Participant as 'the receiver' in clause with 3 participants = R

Alignment = the system that organizes these basic roles

Alignment patterns

Frequent patterns

NOMINATIVE (S/A) vs. ACCUSATIVE (O)

- $S = A \neq O$
 - I run; I see him.

ABSOLUTIVE (S/O) vs. ERGATIVE (A)

- $S = O \neq A$
 - gizona ettor-i da. 'the man has arrived.'
 - mutila-k gizona ikusi du. 'the boy has seen the man.'
(gizona = man, mutila=boy)

NEUTRAL

- $S = A = O$
 - 男生到了，我看到他

Alignment patterns

Rare patterns

These patterns are definitely possible, but just very very very rare.

TRIPARTITE

- $S \neq O \neq A$

DOUBLE OBLIQUE

- $S \neq O = A$

Complications of alignment

Please reconstruct the alignment system of Warrgamay (Dixon 1981). Make a table of nominals and the marking they receive.

1. ngulmburu gagama 'The woman will go.'
2. ngana gagama 'We will go.'
3. ngananya nyurra ngundalma 'You (pl.) will see us.'
4. gagama maal 'The man will go.'
5. maal ngulmburunggu ngundalma 'The woman will see the man.'
6. gagama nyurra 'You (pl.) will go.'
7. maalndu ngulmburu ngundalma 'The man will see the woman.'
8. nyunga gagama 'It will go.'

1. ngulmburu ngana ngundalma 'We will see the woman.'
2. nyurranya ngana ngundalma 'We will see you.'
3. maalndu nyunga ngunday 'The man sees it.'
4. ngananya ngulmuburunggu ngundalma 'The woman will see us.'
5. nyubula nganya ngundalgani 'The two of you are looking at me.'
6. ngadha maal ngundalgani 'I look at the man.'
7. maalndu nyubulanga ngundalgani 'The man is looking at the two of you.'
8. nyulangga maal ngunday 'It is seeing the man.'

Complications of alignment

word	A	S	O
1sg	ngadha	1	nganya
1pl	ngana	ngana	ngananya
2du	nyubula	2	nyubulanga
2pl	nyurra	nyurra	nyurranya
3sg	nyulangga	nyunga	nyunga
woman	ngulmburunggu	ngulmburu	ngulmburu
man	maalindu	maal	maal

What do you think 1 and 2 are?

Complications of alignment

word	A	S	O
1sg	ngadha	1	nganya
1pl	ngana	ngana	ngananya
2du	nyubula	2	nyubulanga
2pl	nyurra	nyurra	nyurranya
3sg	nyulangga	nyunga	nyunga
woman	ngulmburunggu	ngulmburu	ngulmburu
man	maalindu	maal	maal

What do you think 1 and 2 are?

1. ngadha, 2. nyubula

Split ergativity

Some languages have more than one system, e.g. NOMINATIVE and ERGATIVE. Should you encounter such a problem, you should try to find the 'split' in the system.

This split is often determined by the semantics of the NP

1 pron > 2 pron > 3 pron > pers. names > human N > animate N > inanimate N

NOM/ACC -----> <----- ERG/ABS

= Silverstein Hierarchy (Silverstein 1976, Tsunoda 1981)

- If an NP in the hierarchy is marked by NOM/ACC alignment, everything higher (more left) will also be NOM/ACC
- If an NP in the hierarchy is marked by ERG/ABS alignment, everything lower (more right) will also be ERG/ABS

Valence decreasing

PASSIVE: defocusing the A

English:

- The police caught the thief.
- The thief was caught (by the police).

ANTIPASSIVE: defocusing the O

Anyua (Sudan, Reh 1996):

- rīŋó ā-cám ɲɪl̩àal-li
meat PAST-eat child-DET
"The child ate the meat."
- ɲɪl̩àál ā-cámó (kɪ-ríŋō
child PAST-eat.ANTIPASSIVE OBL-meat
"The child ate (*from* the meat)."

DEOBJECTIVE: completely removing the O

Ainu:

- sake a-ku
sake 1SG.TR-drink
'I drink sake.'
- i-ku-an
DEOBJ-drink-1SG.INTR
'I drink.'

ANTICAUSATIVE: completely removing the A

Turkish:

- Anne-m kapı-yı aç-tı.
mother-1SG door-ACC open-PAST(3SG)
'My mother opened the door.'
- Kapı aç-ıl-dı.
door open-ANTIC-PAST(3SG)
'The door opened.'

Valence increasing

APPLICATIVE: adding an O

Indonesian:

- Orang itu me-masak ikan.
man ART TR-cook fish
'The man cooked fish.'
- Orang itu me-masak-kan perempuan itu ikan.
man ART TR-cook-APPL woman ART fish
'The man cooked fish for the woman.'

CAUSATIVE: adding an A

- Chinese 我吃麵 'I eat noodles.' 媽媽讓/使/叫/
給我吃麵 'Mum makes me eat noodles.'

Tip: pay attention to what happens in a ditransitive sentence

Bunun:

- m-aun sidi mas ismuut(-cia)
AF-eat goat OBL grass(-DIST.OBL)
'The goat eats grass.'
- ma-pa-kaun saia mas sidi ismuut
AF-CAU-eat 3SG.NOM OBL goat grass
'He makes the goat eat grass. / He feeds grass to the goat.'

A O -> A O ∅

Complication

Some languages use the same markers for different purposes.

You are probably familiar with English -s

- *dog-s*
- *eat-s*
- etc.

But let us look at Manchu (Altaic, Gorelova 2002):

- gele-bu-he
fear-PASS-PART
was frightened (by)
- gele-bu-he
fear-CAU-PART
caused to be frightened

Luckily it is not that much of a problem, as particles or other markers will help disambiguate.

- bi in-de gele-bu-he
I he-DAT fear-PASS-PART
“I was frightened by him.”
- i mim-be gele-bu-he
he I-ACC fear-CAUS-PART
“He caused me to be frightened.”

Bunun vs. Manchu phonology

Here is nice Isbukun phonology

	Front	Central	Back
High	i		u
Mid			
Low		a	

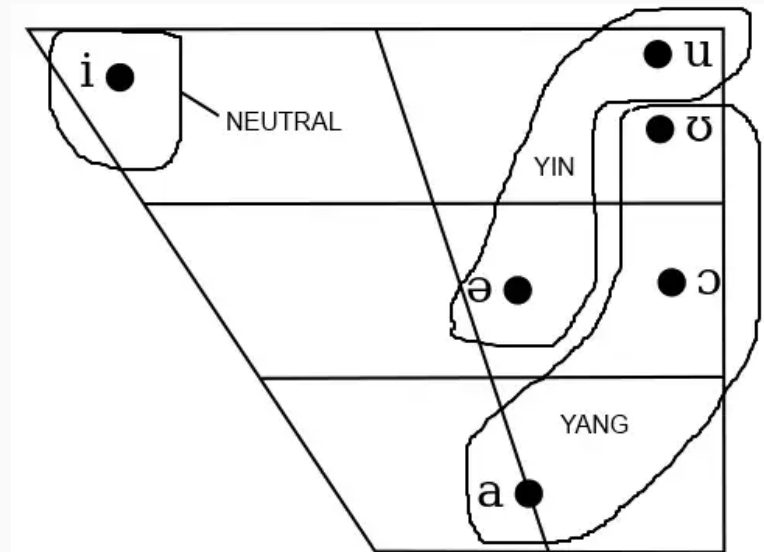
Some uncommon sounds as well, though:
allophonic variation in /l/:

- *ma-la~la'la*
AF-RED~call
keep on calling

pronounced as [malalaʔla] or [maɬaɬaʔɬa]

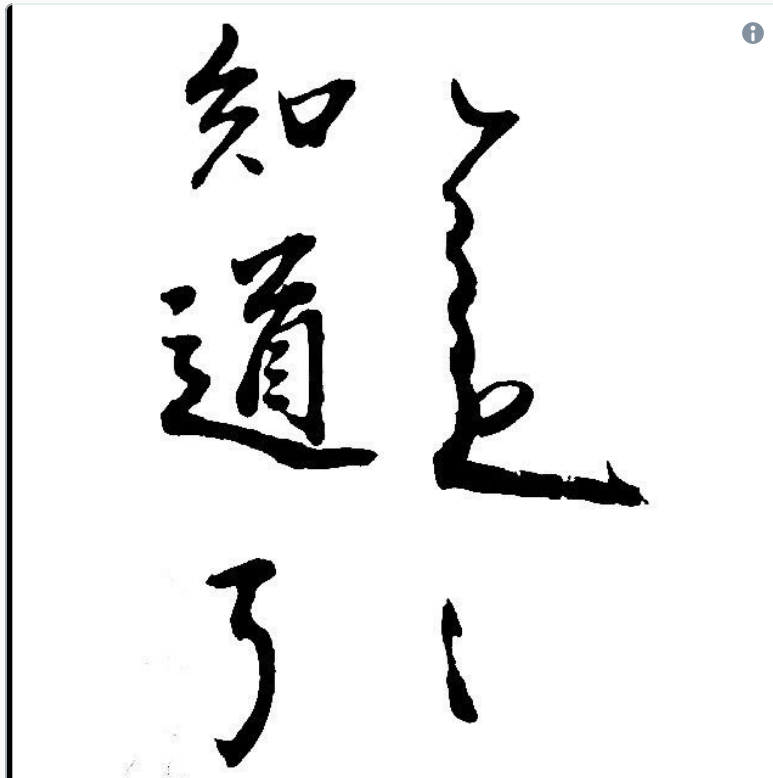
ɬ is not uncommon in Formosan languages

Here is strange Manchu phonology



- *amila* 'rooster'
- *emile* 'chick'
- *ama* 'father'
- *eme* 'mother'

Manchu *saha* 知道了



Fresco SAM-SIN

@manjurabumbi



Antwoorden op @isaac

That is SAHA in Manchu (the H is with friction).

From SAMBI 'to know' @isaac

00:59 - 28 jul. 2016



5



Andere Tweets van Fresco SAM-SIN bekijken



Manchu alphabet

Manchu alphabet

type	direction	form	combinations
alphabet syllabary	up->down, left->right	different forms beginning, middle, end	sometimes ligatures (combinations)

Isolated	ᡤ	ᡥ	ᡦ	ᡨ	ᡩ	ᡪ	ᡫ
Initial	ᡤᡵ	ᡥᡵ	ᡦᡵ	ᡨᡵ	ᡩᡵ	ᡪᡵ	ᡫᡵ
Medial	ᡤᡵ	ᡥᡵ	ᡦᡵ	ᡨᡵ	ᡩᡵ	ᡪᡵ	ᡫᡵ
Final	ᡤᡵ	ᡥᡵ	ᡦᡵ	ᡨᡵ	ᡩᡵ	ᡪᡵ	ᡫᡵ
Romanization	a	e	i	o	u	ū/uu/v	y/y/i'
IPA	[a]	[e/ɤ]	[i]	[ɔ]	[u]	[ʊ]	[y]



The end.

And with this I wish you good luck in the competition!

Think in the box and out of the box.

And win!