

Agent Focus in Austronesian
Dan Brodtkin | SS Circle | January 29

1 Syntactic Ergativity: What, How, and Why?

1.1 The Ergative Extraction Constraint

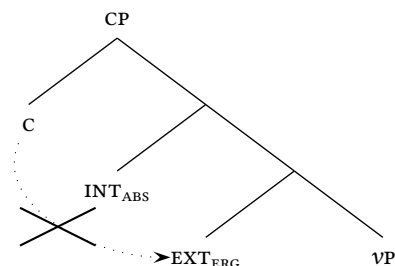
- Many ‘ERGATIVE’ languages: asymmetry in the A’-domain.
 - For some A’-operations (WH-movement, relativization):
 - The internal argument (INT) is accessible, but,
 - The transitive external argument (EXT) is not.
 - The *Ergative Extraction Constraint* (EEC; Aissen 2017).
 - Dixon (1979): Syntactic Ergativity = includes the EEC
 - Polinsky (2017): Syntactic Ergativity = the EEC
 - Yuan (2018): Syntactic Ergativity = INT > EXT .
- (1) *Mandar (South Sulawesi): The EEC*
- a. **Na-ita=aq**
3.ERG-see=1.ABS
‘He saw me’
 - b. **Innai na-ita**
who 3.ERG-see
‘Who did he see?’
 - c. ***Innai na-ita=aq**
who 3.ERG-see-1.ABS
IM: ‘Who saw me?’

1.2 The Typology of EECs

- The EEC: **not a unitary thing** (Deal 2015a)
 - The ecosystem of the EEC: substantial variation.
 - Sometimes: the EEC = a single constraint which blocks extraction of the EXT and does nothing else (Otsuka 2006)
 - Elsewhere: the EEC = one corner of a broader constraint which blocks extraction of many things: (Aldridge 2004)
 - The **repair** to the EEC: even more variation.
- (2) *Repairs to the EEC:*
- Intransitive Morphology: W. Austronesian (Keenan 1976); Mayan (Smith-Stark 1978); Inuit (Bittner 1994)
 - Resumption: Tongan (Otsuka 2006)
 - Passive (+): Salishan (Davis et al. 1993); Nukuoro (Drummond 2021)

1.3 The Sources of EECs

- One view: **case-discrimination** (Otsuka 2006; Deal 2017)
 - Argument: the EEC iff \exists overt case-marking (Dixon 1994)
 - Claim: the A’-extraction probe does not target ERG.
 - Another view: **locality** (Campana 1992; Aldridge 2004)
 - Argument: the EEC iff \exists evidence that (i) absolutive licensing is in T^0 or (ii) the absolutive c-commands the ergative.
 - Claim: A’-extraction sensitive to locality (Shlonsky 1992)
- (3) *Syntactic Ergativity: INT Highest*



1.4 Today’s Question: Why Be Intransitive?

- Pattern: extraction of EXT → ‘intransitive’ morphology.
 - Distribution: ‘caseless’ languages (Mayan; Austronesian)
- One view: this avoids a locality violation (Aldridge 2004)
- Another: reflex of A’-impoverishment (Deal 2017)
- **Claim:** for Mandar, the first analysis is required.

The Roadmap

1. Mandar Background
2. High Absolutive Syntax
3. The Intransitive Construction
4. Locality and the EEC

2 Mandar and the EEC

2.1 Mandar Background

- Mandar: South Sulawesi Subgroup; Austronesian
 - South Sulawesi = branch of Western Malayo-Polynesian
 - Mandar = in the Northern Branch of SSul (Mills 1975)
- Demographic Facts:
 - Speakers: 500,000 (Census; 2000)
 - EGIDS level: 6a (Ethnologue)

2.2 Data Collection

- Summer 2018-Present: ongoing work on Mandar + relatives. Previous work on South Sulawesi:
 - Some data: from a written corpus; compiled in 2019.
 - The rest: elicited from winter 2018-present.
- Elicitation methodology:
 - Two speakers; university students from West Sulawesi
 - Began working with both in Indonesia; Winter 2018
 - Elicitation now via zoom; in Indonesian and Mandar
- Language-level descriptions: Campbell 1989; Jukes 2006; Laskowske 2016
- SIL descriptions of agreement: Strømme 1994; Matti 1994; Valkama 1995; Friberg 1996; Payne and Laskowske 1997
- Historical work: Mills 1975; Sirk 1989
- Generative work: Finer 1997, 1998

2.3 Mandar Alignment

- Head-marking morphological ergativity.
 - vso/vos order; *pro*-drop.
 - No morphological case-marking.
 - Ergative prefix on v ; absolutive enclitic in T⁰
- Ergative Prefix/Absolutive Enclitic → Agreement.
 - Mark person; not number (Preminger 2014)
 - Forms vary with finiteness (Nevins 2011)
 - Track non-referential xps (Baker and Kramer 2018)
- Glossing: SET.A (ERG) vs. SET.B (ABS) (Zobel 2002)

- (4) *Head-Marking Ergativity*
- a. Mecawa=i [ABS **iKacoq**].
 laugh=3B NAME
 ‘Kacoq is laughing.’
- b. Na-pecawai=aq [ERG **iKacoq**].
 3A-laugh.at=1B NAME
 ‘Kacoq is laughing at me.’

(5) *The Mandar Agreement System:*

π	ERG/A	ABS/B	PR.SG	PR.PL
1	u-	=aq	<i>yau</i>	<i>itaq</i>
2	mu-	=o	<i>iqo</i>	<i>mieq</i>
3	na-	=i	<i>ia</i>	<i>ia</i>

2.4 Ergative Extraction → Intransitive Prefix

- Extraction of the EXT → the *quirky intransitive* construction.
 1. Ergative prefix → \emptyset .
 2. Intransitive prefix *maN-*.
 3. ABS agreement → INT.
 - The same construction: Mayan AGENT FOCUS
 - No SET.A; intransitive status suffix; AF suffix; SET.B → INT
 - **Surface Form:** transitive clause + intransitive prefix.
 - **Question:** does this implicate the EEC?
- (6) *The Quirky Intransitive*
- a. Na-bokko=aq [EXT sarrang] .
 3A-bite=1B ant
 ‘An ant bit me.’
- b. ***Apa** na-bokko=aq [EXT *t*] ?
 what 3A-bite=1b
 IM: ‘What just bit me?’
- c. **Apa mam-**bokko=aq [EXT *t*] ?
 what QI-bite=1b
 ‘What just bit me?’

3 Why Intransitivity?

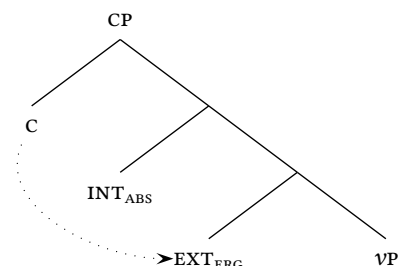
3.1 The Morphological Approach

- Extraction Morphology (Chung and Georgopoulos 1988)
 - Austronesian: ‘special’ intransitive morphology; WH-AGR
- Idea: intransitivity = derivational reflex of extraction.
 - A’-extraction triggers *impoverishment* (Baier 2016)
 - Impoverishment → ‘default intransitive’ (Newman 2020)
- **Result:** no special syntax to circumvent the EEC.
 - The EXT *can* extract in a transitive clause.
 - Clauses with ‘extraction morphology’ show the same syntax as those which lack it (Baier 2016, *pace* Erlewine 2016)
- **Prime candidates:** Mandar (and Mayan languages)
 - No morphological case (→ no EEC on some views)
 - ABS agreement → INT: **looks like transitive syntax.**

(7) *Impoverishment* (Baier 2018)

1. WH-moved EXT → A’-feature.
2. The ERG probe: copies A’-features from the EXT (Deal 2015b)
3. A’-features cannot be spelled out → total impoverishment.

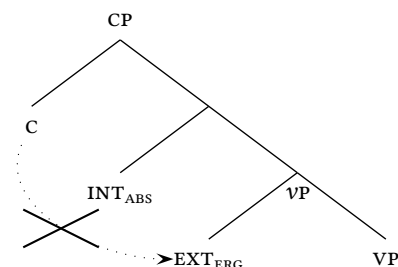
(8) *Ergative Extraction: Impoverishment*



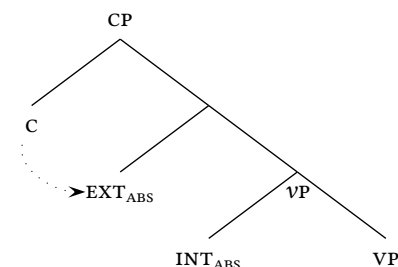
3.2 The Syntactic Approach

- Precedent: A’-extraction constrained by locality.
 - Ergative languages: the old story (Campana 1992)
 - Nominative-accusative languages: parallel subject-object asymmetries with resumption (McCloskey 1990; Shlonsky 1992); extractability (Erlewine and Branan 2020).
- Claim: EEC iff the transitive INT C-commands EXT.
- Common arguments: INT > EXT in:
 - Anaphor binding: Toba Batak (Cole and Hermon 2008)
 - Variable binding: Malagasy (Pearson 2005)
 - Condition c: Popti’ (Craig 1977), Chuj (Royer 2020)
 - Quantifier float: Tsotsil (Aissen 1984), Salish (Gerds 1988)
 - Scope: Kalaallisut (Bittner 1994), Tagalog (Aldridge 2012)
- **Result:** ergative extraction **iff** EXT > INT
- **Claim:** intransitive morphology allows this to occur.

(9) *Ergative Extraction: Locality Problem*



(10) *The Intransitive Solution*



3.3 Mandar: Locality

- The Quirky Intransitive: implicates distinct syntax.
- Provides a locality-compliant means to extract the EXT.
- Special v^0 : shifts & licenses the INT in the VP.
- **Result:** allows the EXT to move to SPEC,TP; be extracted.

(11) *The Argument*

- a. EEC via Locality: INT > EXT
- b. Quirky intransitive: EXT > INT
- c. This construction: last resort.
- d. A’-extraction irrelevant: *control*

4 Regular Transitive → High Absolutive

4.1 High Absolutive Syntax

- Ergative languages show variation with regard to the position (12) of the absolutive argument (Bittner and Hale 1996a,b)
 - High Abs languages: the ABS = highest in its clause
 - Low Abs languages: the ABS → no consistent position
- **Key Pattern:** High Abs → transitive INT > EXT

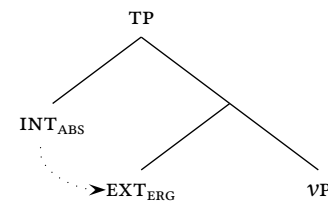
High Absolutive Families:

- a. Philippine-type langs (Philippines, Taiwan, Indonesia) (Aldridge 2004)
- b. Mayan groups in Huehuetenango (Barrett 2002; Coon et al. 2014)
- c. Inuit (Bittner 1994; Yuan 2018)

4.2 Binding Patterns → High Absolutive Syntax

- Mandarin: INT consistently binds into EXT.
 - Same patterns: many Philippine-type languages
- **Claim:** Mandar = High Absolutive language
 - Result: locality a plausible source of the EEC
- **N.b.:** no one diagnostic is definitive. It's the sum total.

(13) *Binding: INT > EXT*



4.2.1 Condition A

- Claim: if ∃ ergative anaphor, then INT > EXT (Anderson 1976) (14)
 - **N.b.:** this only works in one direction. Ergative anaphors may be independently ruled out for other reasons.
- The condition-A anaphor **alawe** 'self': OK as EXT.
- High-Abs Parallel: Toba Batak (Cole and Hermon 2008)

INT-into-EXT for Condition A

- a. *Pole=**aq/i** **alawe-u**.
come=1B/3B self-my
IM: 'Myself came.'
- b. Na-ita=**aq** [_{EXT} **alawe-u**] [_{INT} *pro*].
3A-see=1B self-my
'Myself saw me (in the mirror).'

4.2.2 Condition C

- Claim: if INT > EXT, then it should be impossible for an R- (15) expression in the EXT to be coindexed with a pronominal INT.
- English: **no** 'Dan_i's mother saw him_i.'
- Mandarin: this constraint holds.
- High-Abs Parallel: Popti' (Craig 1977), Chuj (Royer 2020)

INT-into-EXT for Condition C

- a. *Na-ita=i **ia** [kindoqna iNina]
3A-see=3B her the.mom NAME
IM: 'Nina_i's mom saw her_i.'
- b. Na-ita=i iNina [kindoqna].
3A-see=3B NAME her.mom
'Her_i mother saw Nina_i.'

4.2.3 Condition B

- Claim: if INT > EXT, then a quantifier in the INT should be able (16) to bind a variable in the EXT (Rackowski 2002)
- Mandarin: possible; quantified INT > variable in EXT
 - **N.b.:** does **not** reflect the absence of weak crossover.
- High-Abs Parallel: Malagasy (Pearson 2005)

INT-into-EXT for BVA

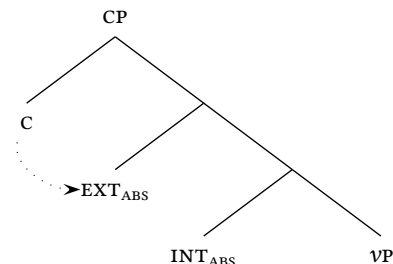
- a. **Sangnging** na-salili=i
all 3A-miss=3B
[_{EXT} kindoq-na] [_{INT} sanaeke]
mother-her child
'Her_i mother misses every child_i.'

5 Quirky Intransitive → Low Absolutive

5.1 Split Predictions

- Split predictions about quirky intransitive syntax.
1. The impoverishment approach: no special syntax.
 - The relative height of the INT & EXT: **not relevant**.
 - **Result:** this construction → no change in syntax.
 2. The locality approach: special syntax required.
 - The relative height of the INT & EXT: **relevant**.
 - **Result:** this construction → EXT > INT syntax.

(17) *Locality Prediction: EXT > INT*



5.2 First Clue: Low Absolutive Licensing

- Quirky Intransitive: absolutive agreement → INT.
- **Question:** how high is this agreement?
 - If τ^0 : quirky intransitive → regular syntax.
 - If somewhere else: **no** regular syntax.
- Linear Position → agreement on v^0 .
 - Transitive INT → agreement in 2P.
 - Quirky intransitive INT → agreement follows v
- **Claim:** this INT does not interact with τ^0 .

(18) *Quirky Intransitive: Low ABS*

- Innai **maq**-urung=**o** [_{INT} *pro*] ?
who QI-kiss=2B
'Who kissed you?'
- Innai indang pura **maq**-urung=**o**?
who not ever QI-kiss=2B
'Who never kissed you?'
- Indang=**o** pura **na**-urung?
not=2B ever 3A-kiss
'She never kissed you?'

5.3 Second Clue: Binding Patterns

- Transitive: INT > EXT in binding.
 - INT binds anaphors in the position of EXT.
 - INT induces condition C violation inside EXT.
- Quirky intransitive: EXT > INT.
 - **No anaphor binding** from INT into EXT.
 - **No condition C** from INT into EXT.

(19) *Quirky Intransitive: EXT > INT*

- ***Alawe**-u **maq**-ita=**aq** [_{INT} *pro*].
self-my QI-see=1B
'Myself saw me.'
- [Kindoqna **iNina**] **maq**-ita=**i ia**.
the.mom NAME QI-see=3B her
'Nina_i's mom saw her_i.'

5.4 Third Clue: Other Privileges

- Quantifier float: another asymmetry.
 - Transitive INT: can float a preverbal quantifier
 - Quirky intransitive INT: **cannot**
- **Conclusion: Special Syntax**
 - Transitive: INT > EXT.
 - Quirky intransitive: EXT > INT.

(20) *Quantifier Float: INT Low*

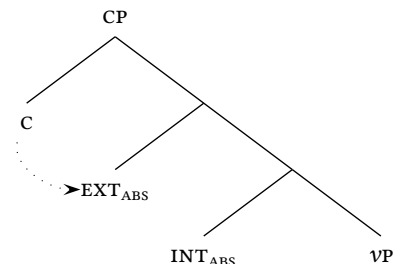
- Sangnging** na-ita=**o** .
all 3A-see2B.
'He saw all of you.'
- *Innai **sangnging** **maq**-ita=**o**?
who all QI-see2B
IM: 'Who saw all of you?'

6 The EEC and Locality

6.1 Proposal: Intransitives + Locality

- Mandarin: the EEC \rightarrow Locality.
 - The transitive: $INT > EXT$
 - **Result:** EXT cannot be extracted.
- Quirky Intransitive \rightarrow solution.
 - This construction: $EXT > INT$
 - **Result:** EXT free to undergo extraction.
- **Claim:** deeper than surface morphology.

(21) *Locality Prediction: $EXT > INT$*



6.2 The Highest-Only Extraction Constraint

- The EEC \rightarrow one corner of a broader constraint.
- Mandarin: **only the absolutive XP can extract.**
- Example 1: **comitative verbs (si-)**
 - EXT \rightarrow absolutive agreement; extraction
 - INT \rightarrow no agreement; no extraction
- Example 2: **psych predicates**
 - EXP \rightarrow absolutive agreement; extraction
 - SOURCE \rightarrow no agreement; no extraction
- Example 3: **transitives**
 - INT \rightarrow absolutive agreement; extraction
 - EXT \rightarrow **ergative prefix; no extraction**
- **Claim:** \exists locality constraint on extraction (Keenan 1976)
- **Mandar:** the quirky intransitive \rightarrow **locality solution.**

(22) *Comitatives: Absolutes-Only*

- Si-ala=aq** [_{EXT} *pro*] [_{INT} *iNina*].
COM-take=1B NAME
'I married Nina.'
- Innai si-ala** [_{EXT} *t*] [_{INT} *iNina*].
WHO marry NAME
'Who married Nina?'
- *Innai si-ala=o** [_{EXT} *pro*] [_{INT} *t*].
who marry=2B
IM: 'Who did you marry?'

(23) *Psych Predicates: Absolutes-Only*

- Marakke=aq** [_{EXP} *pro*] [_{SR} *iNina*].
fear=1B NAME
'I fear Nina.'
- *Innai marakke=o** [_{EXP} *pro*] [_{SR} *t*]?.
who fear=2B
IM: 'Who do you fear?'

6.3 Alternative Approaches: Prospectus

- These patterns have been analyzed elsewhere as:
 1. K-Discrimination for covert/abstract κ (Drummond 2021)
 2. Covert embedding of non-ABS XPS in PPS (Polinsky 2017)
 3. Freezing effects linked to predicate fronting (Chung 2005)
- No alternative seems promising in Mandarin.
 - 1: locality already works.
 - 2: no evidence for covert PP structure
 - 3: no evidence for PRED-fronting (Little 2020)
- **N.b.:** Locality required across W.Austronesian.

(24) *Mandar: zero evidence for PPs*

- *Na-saka=aq di/sola/pole/**
3A-catch=1B in/with/from
kaneke.
crocodile.
IM: 'A crocodile caught me.'
- *Me-ita=aq di/sola sanaeke.**
ANT-see=1B in/with kid
IM: 'I'm watching kids.'
- *Apa me-ita=o?**
what ANT-see=2B
IM: 'What are you watching?'

7 Interlude: Transitive Syntax

7.1 Transitive Voice: Two Heads

- Two-way *voice* system: antipassive & transitive.
 - Antipassive voice → *me-*, *maN-*...
 - Transitive voice → SET.A prefix
- Both voices → *bimorphemic*
 - v^0 : *pe-*, \emptyset -, *paN-*...
 - *voice*⁰: *m-*, SET.A...

7.2 *voice*⁰: introduces the EXT

- Verbs with an EXT → *-um-*, *m-*, or SET.A
 1. Unergative v → infix *-um-*
 2. Unaccusative v: **neither**
- **Claim**: *-um-*, SET.A → *voice*⁰.
 - Introduce the EXT; selects v^0 (Harley 2013)
 - *-um-* → the **m-** in antipassive *me-* (De Guzman 1978)

7.3 v^0 : shifts the INT

- Antipassive voice: *definiteness effect* (Schachter 1996)
 - OK: INT w/ unique but discourse-new referent
 - BAD: INT w/ established referential index
- **Claim**: definite INT → must leave VP (Diesing 1992)
 - Transitive v^0 (\emptyset -): triggers movement to SPEC,VP.
 - Antipassive v^0 (**pe-**): no movement (Aldridge 2004).

7.4 T^0 : High-Absolute Licensing

- The two voices: different *licensing* schemas.
 - Transitive: EXT licensed by *voice*⁰ (SET.A → agreement)
 - Intransitive: EXT not licensed by *voice*⁰ (*-um-*; no AGR)
 - **Result**: EXT licensed in *voice*_P **iff** transitive.
- T^0 : licenses the **Absolute**.
 - Antipassive: EXT needs licensing → **EXT**
 - Transitive: EXT licensed → **INT**
- **Claim**: licensing → movement to SPEC,TP.
 - Absolute XP: binds into other arguments, extracts...
 - Classical view: this XP is **high** (Campana 1992).
- Austronesian: unremarkable story (Guilfoyle et al. 1992)

(25) *Voice Frames: Bimorphemic*

- Me**-lullung=aq kaeng pute.
ANT-wear=1B cloth white
'I'm wearing white cloth.'
- Apa **mu-pe**-lullung?
what 2A-ANT-wear
'What are you wearing?'

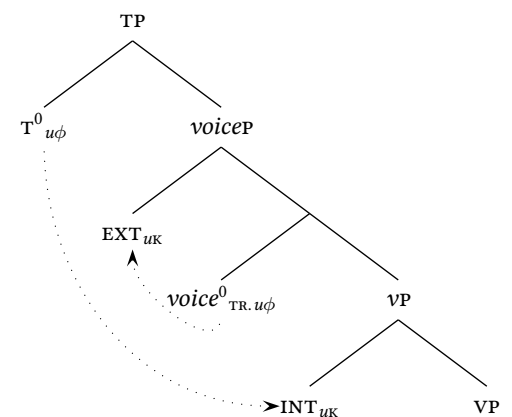
(26) *Voice and the EXT*

- T-um**-etteq=aq.
INT-weave=1B
'I'm weaving.'
- Bemme**=i
fall=3B
'It fell.'

(27) *The Definiteness Effect*

- Me**-ita=aq iting sanaeke.
ANT-see=1B this kid
'I'm watching these kids.'
- ***Me**-ita=aq iKacoq.
ANT-see=1b NAME
IM 'I'm watching Kacoq.'

(28) *Transitive: High Abs via Licensing*



8 The Quirky Intransitive v^0

8.1 Morphological Decomposition

- The prefix *maN-*: bimorphemic.
 - The ‘intransitive’ *voice⁰ -um-*; introduces EXT
 - The ‘quirky intransitive’ v^0 *paN-*
 - Appears bare in imperatives; allomorph *paQ-*
 - The head which hosts low agreement (Brodtkin 2021)
 - Proposal:** triggers movement of INT to SPEC, VP

- (29) *maN-* = *-um-* + *paN-*
- Innai **mam**-baca=**i**?
who QI-read=3B
‘Who read it?’
 - Iqo **pam**-baca=**i**!
2SG QI-read=3B
‘Read it!’

8.2 INT → SPEC, VP

- Distribution: v^0_{QI} **iff** INT = definite.
- Incorporation Pattern:** QI INT → SPEC, VP
 - VP-internal material: pseudo-incorporation.
 - Prosodically grouped together with the verb
 - Enclitics follow the verb + PNI material.
 - Targets: NP objects; locative XPs.
 - Quirky intransitive: **no** pseudo-incorporation.
- Result:** v^0_{QI} → movement of INT.
 - N.b.:** $v^0_{\text{QI}} \neq$ antipassive v^0 .

(30) *Indefinite INT: no Quirky Intransitive*

- *Innai **mam**-baca=**i buku**?
who QI-read=3B book
IM ‘Who read books?’

(31) *Quirky Intransitive: No PNI*

- Maq**-baluq **balenga**=**i**.
ANT-sell pot=3B
‘She’s selling pots.’
- *Innai **mam**-baluq **iqo**=**bomo**?
who QI-sell 2SG=again
‘Who sold you again?’

8.3 INT → Agreement on v^0

- Quirky intransitive v^0 *paN-* → $u\phi$
- Extraction of ABS + definite INT → **no AGR** w/o *paN-*.
 - Other voice frames (comitative; psych v) → **no Agr**
 - Extraction + other ‘antipassive’ prefixes → **no Agr**
- Claim:** this agreement → v^0 (*paN-*).

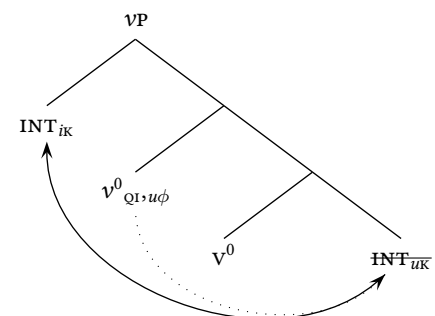
(32) *Other Extraction Frames: No Agreement*

- Innai **si**-ala(=***i**) iNina?
who COM-take=3B NAME
‘Who married Nina?’
- Innai **me**-ita(=***i**) iNina?
who ANT-see=3B NAME
‘Who is watching Nina?’

8.4 Claim: Low-Absolutive Licensing

- Quirky intransitive v^0 : licenses INT in SPEC, VP.
 - Only occurs with definite INT → forces the shift.
 - Hosts agreement → licenses the INT (Raposo 1987)
- Elsewhere: **this pattern is impossible.**
 - Mandar = High Abs language; ABS licensing in T^0 .
 - Typical case: definite INT not licensed in VP (Bok-Bennema 1991)
 - Result:** transitive INT → SPEC, TP.
- N.b.:** typical licensing schema → **locality problem.**

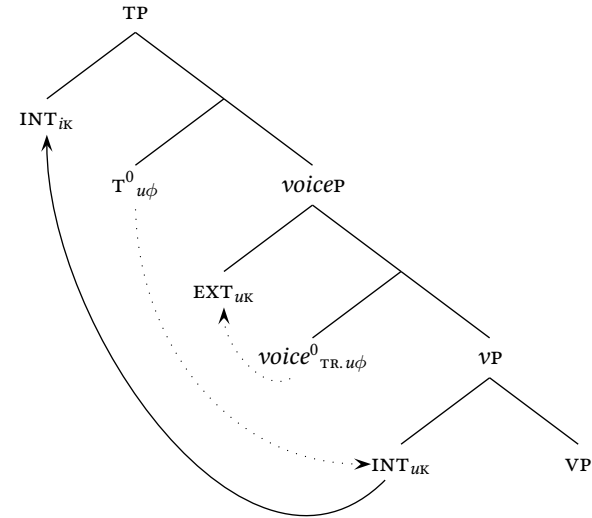
(33) *Quirky Intransitive: Low Abs*



9 The Quirky Intransitive and Locality of Extraction

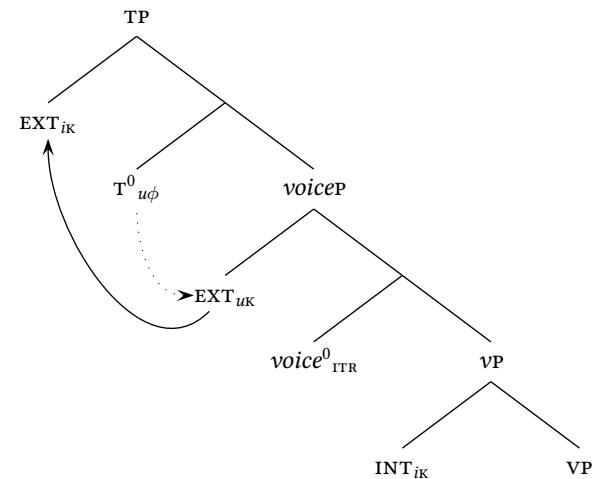
9.1 Recap: The Locality-and-Licensing Model

- Transitive clause: $INT > EXT$
 1. INT binds an anaphor in the position of the EXT
 2. INT induces condition-C violations in the EXT
 3. Quantified INT can bind a variable in the EXT
 4. Absolutive arguments \rightarrow float quantifiers
 5. Absolutive agreement: sits in T^0
- The EEC: locality constraint in the A'-domain (Campana 1992)
 - Cf. s-o asymmetries in resumption (McCloskey 1990; Shlonsky 1992), extractability (Erlewine and Branan 2020)
- **Claim:** $INT > EXT$ for reasons of licensing.
 - Definite INT \rightarrow must escape VP
 - Transitive v^0 : cannot license the INT.
 - **Result:** INT \rightarrow SPEC,TP.

(34) *Transitive: INT > EXT for Licensing*

9.2 The Quirky Intransitive: Circumventing the Constraint

- The Quirky Intransitive: $EXT > INT$
 1. INT cannot bind an anaphor in the position of the EXT.
 2. INT cannot induce condition-C violation in the EXT.
 3. INT cannot float a quantifier.
- **Proposal:** this construction \rightarrow **locality-compliant**
 - The INT remains beneath the EXT.
 - **Result:** extraction of the EXT \rightarrow respects locality.
- **Derivational Mechanics:**
 - Quirky intransitive v^0 : licenses the INT in SPEC,VP.
 - Intransitive $voice^0$: does not license the EXT.
 - **Therefore:** EXT \rightarrow SPEC,TP; INT remains low.
- This pattern: **not** predicted on non-locality accounts.

(35) *INT licensed Low \rightarrow EXT can Extract*

9.3 Summary: The Quirky Intransitive Recipe

- Extraction of the EXT + definite INT:
 1. No ergative prefix (SET.A)
 2. Intransitive $voice^0$ + special v^0
 3. Absolutive agreement \rightarrow INT.
 4. Ban on pseudo-incorporation of the INT
- **Mandar:** quirky intransitive v^0 *paN-*.

(36) *The Mandar Summary* (Friberg 1996)

- a. Innai **maq**-baluq balenga?
who ANT-sell pot
'Who is selling pots?'
- b. Innai **mam**-baluq=**o** iquo?
who QI-sell=2B 2SG
'Who sold you?'

10 Intransitivity: A Prospectus

10.1 Mandar: Intransitive → Locality

- Mandar shows a locality constraint on A'-extraction.
 - Transitive clause: INT > EXT → EEC
- Quirky intransitive construction: **locality solution**.
 - Visible difference in the position of the INT.
 - **Result**: distinct locality-compliant syntax.
- This construction does **not** involve:
 1. Non-local extraction of the EXT (*pace me*, 2019)
 2. Antiagreement and nothing else (Erlewine 2016)
 3. The reassociation of agreement on τ^0 (Newman 2020)
- **Conclusion**: intransitivity → locality-compliance in Mandar.
- **Open Question**: what about intransitivity elsewhere?

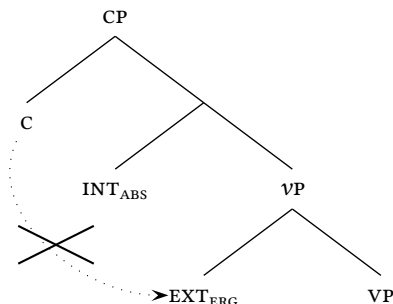
10.2 Central Indonesia: Parallel Facts

- Subgroups: South Sulawesi, Kaili-Wolio, Bungku-Tolaki
 - Roughly 40 languages; neighbors to Mandar
- Four shared patterns:
 1. No morphological case
 2. Head-marking ergative alignment (SET.A/SET.B)
 3. Convergent evidence for INT > EXT in transitive.
 4. Extraction of EXT + definite INT → **QI**
- **Suspicion**: the locality-based account is required.

10.3 Mayan: Same Thing

- High-Abs Mayan (Q'anjob'alan, K'ichean, etc)
 1. No morphological case
 2. Head-marking ergative alignment (SET.A/SET.B)
 3. Convergent evidence for INT > EXT in transitive.
 4. Extraction of EXT + definite INT → **QI**
- The Quirky Intransitive "Agent Focus":
 1. No ergative prefix (SET.A)
 2. Intransitive *voice*⁰ + special *v*⁰
 3. Absolutive agreement → INT.
- **Suspicion**: this is the same thing.
- Intuition: locality-based EECs are likely real.

(37) *The Mandar EEC: Locality*



(38) *Quirky Intransitive: Recap*

- a. Apa **mam**-bokko=**o**?
 what QI-bite=2B
 'What bit you?'

(39) *South Sulawesi: Parallels* (Friberg 1996)

- a. Na-beta=i [INT iAli] [EXT iAmir]
 3A-beat=3B NAME NAME
 'Amir beat Ali.' Konjo
- b. iAmir **ang-nganre** loka.
 NAME ANT-eat banana
 'Amir is eating bananas.' Konjo
- c. iAli **ang-kanre**=i lamejaha-ta.
 NAME QI-eat=3B fruit-your
 'Ali ate your sweet potato.' Konjo

(40) *Chuj (Q'anjob'alan): High-Abs Syntax*

- a. Ol=**ach w**-il-a'
 will=2B 1A-see-TR
 'I'll see you.' Coon 2018:10
- b. *Ix-y-il [**pro**] [s-mam **waj Xun**].
 T-3A-see 3-dad CLF NAME
 IM: 'X₁'s dad saw him₁' (Royer p.c.)

(41) *Chuj: Quirky Intransitive*

- a. *Mach ix=**ach y**-il-a'?
 who PFV=2B 3A-see-TR
 IM: 'Who saw you?' (Royer '20)
- b. Mach ix=**ach mak**'-an-i?
 who PFV=2B hit-AF-ITR
 'Who hit you?' (Hou 2011:13)

11 Conclusion: How Many EECs?

11.1 Locality Exists

- Many languages: **like** **Mandar**.
 1. Transitive clause: INT > EXT
 2. Locality constraint: only extract the highest thing.
- Sometimes: visible ‘ergative’ case-system.
 - Tagalog (Aldridge 2004), Tongan (Otsuka 2006)
 - Inuit (Bittner 1994; Yuan 2018)
- Other times: no morphological case.
 - Mayan (Coon et al. 2014; Royer 2020)
 - W.Indonesia (Guilfoyle et al. 1992)
- These languages → ∃ locality constraint.
 - “Is this the EEC” → terminological question
 - **cf:** the ‘are Philippine languages ergative’ lit.

- (42) *The EEC without case: W.Indonesia:*
- a. *Balinese* (Wechsler and Arka 1998)
 - b. *Malagasy* (Paul and Travis 2006)
 - c. *Batak* (Cole and Hermon 2008)
- (43) *Malagasy: no case; EEC*
- a. Vono-**in**' [_{EXT} iSoa] [_{INT} ahoko]
kill-TR NAME chicken
'Soa is killing chickens.'
 - b. *Ny mpamboly vono-**ina** ahoko
the farmer kill-TR chicken
IM: 'the farmer killing chickens.'
 - c. Ny mpamboly **mam**-ono ahoko
the farmer ANT-kill chicken
'The farmer killing chickens.'
- Malagasy: Pearson 2005: 393,412/3

11.2 Ergative Languages → Extremely Diverse

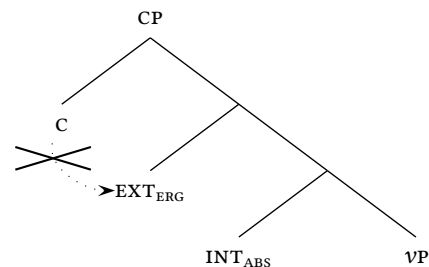
- Other languages → **not** **Mandar** (Deal 2015a)
 1. ∃ languages w/o locality constraints on extraction.
 2. ∃ EEC + no INT > EXT (Legate 2012)
 3. ∃ EEC + no INT > EXT + **no** M-case (Drummond 2021)
- Expectation: the EEC ≠ one thing (**cf:** diversity of repairs!)

- (44) *Salishan: the EEC Repair*
1. The verb → passive morphology
 2. The transitive EXT → extracted
 3. The EXT: resumed as an *adjunct*.

11.3 Open Question: What are all of these EECs?

- Alternative paths to the EEC exist.
 1. K-Discrimination for covert/abstract κ (Drummond 2021)
 2. Covert embedding of non-ABS XPs in PPs (Polinsky 2017)
 3. Freezing effects linked to predicate fronting (Chung 2005)
- Beyond the pale: some funny correlations
 - High Absolute syntax → Locality Constraint?
 - Verb-initial order → ergativity? (Mahajan 1994)
- **Conclusion:** there is a lot to be understood.

- (45) *This also exists:*



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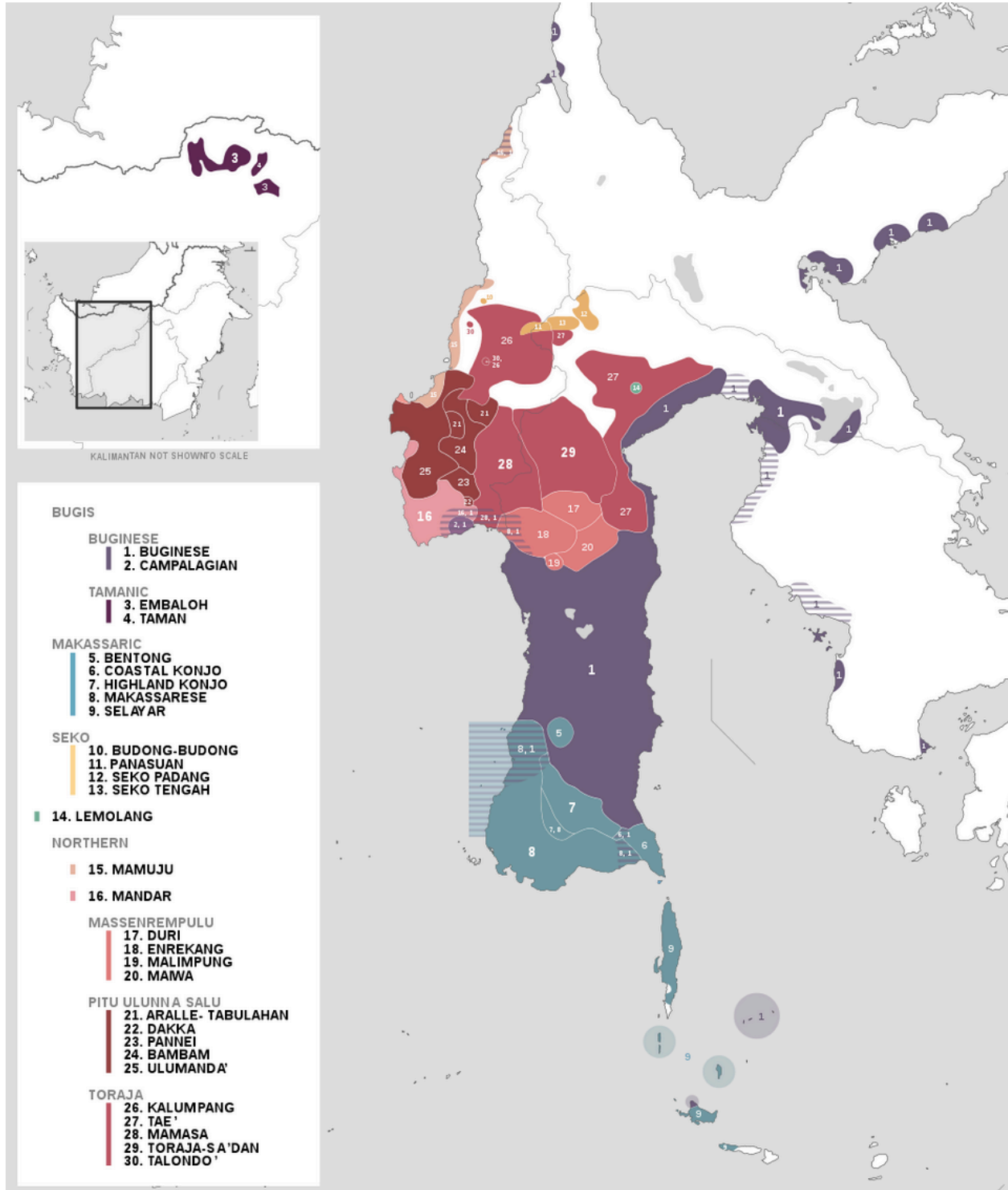
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