# Locality and Extraction in Mandar

Dan Brodkin Linguistics at Santa Cruz; March 6, 2023

A longstanding question in syntactic theory: what are the types of movement operations made available by the faculty of language, and what gives rise to the differences between them?

The Classical Answer: The syntax distinguishes between two different types of displacement:

- 1. A-movement, which is strictly local, interacts with Case/Agreement, and targets only DPs,
- 2. ...and A-movement, which avoids these restrictions and obeys looser constraints on locality.
  - (1) A-Movement: *Mary* seems [ \_\_\_\_\_ to have left ].
  - (2) Ā-Movement: *Who* [ 'd you see \_\_\_\_]?
- Mystery one: can these differences be linked to the positions that they target?
  - A-positions: potential thematic positions (argument positions) (Chomsky 1981)
  - A-positions: non-thematic positions (adjunct positions) (Chomsky 1989)

A separate question lies in a restriction on A-extraction: the Ergative Extraction Constraint

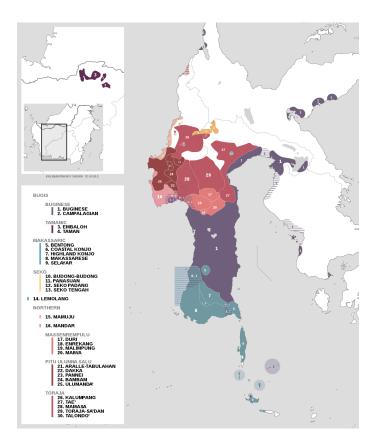
- Ergative-Absolutive alignment: a system of Case/Agreement that's different from English, where intransitive subjects behave like transitive objects instead of transitive subjects.
  - (3) *Morphological Ergativity*:
    - a. *She*<sub>ABS</sub> ran.
    - b.  $Her_{ERG}$  saw she<sub>ABS</sub>.
- A subset of ergative systems show an apparent restriction in the A-domain:
  - You can extract the intransitive subject and transitive object; not the transitive subject.
  - (4) *The Ergative Extraction Constraint:* 
    - a. *Who* [left \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_]?
    - b. *Who* ['d you see \_\_\_\_\_\_\_]?
    - c. *XWho* [\_\_\_\_\_\_ saw you ]?
- Mystery Two: if A-extraction is flexible, why should such a constraint exist?

The goal of this talk: to investigate these matters in Mandar, a language of Indonesia.

- 1. This language shows the ergative extraction constraint.
- 2. This reflects a deeper pattern: apparent Ā-operations shows A-style locality.
- 3. This restriction is linked to the position they target: it's lower than normal A-movement.
- 4. This leads us to architectural questions on the nature of movement and clause-building.

# 1.0: Mandar

Mandar is a language that's spoken by about 400,000 people on the island of Sulawesi.



The language has the profile of an Austronesian language from this area: (cf. Tagalog)

- Verb-initial word order
- Ergative-absolutive agreement
- Verbal alternations between transitive and antipassive.

The shape of a Mandar clause:

(5)	Mar-rokko	i	battang,	tapi <b>na-larang</b> i dott	cor.
	ANTIP-smoke	ЗАВ	s cigarette	but 3erg-forbid 3ABs doc	tor
	"He <sub>ABS</sub> smoke	Sikki et al. 1987; 1192			

The data in this talk will come from three sources:

1. Fieldwork in Sulawesi	2019, 2022
2. Ongoing work with Jupri Talib, Anchu Mansur, and Nabila Har	una 2018-

3. Prior descriptive literature; compiled into a searchable online corpus (www.kratylos.org)

### **1.1: The Extraction Constraint**

**Our starting point** is a restriction on WH-movement: the Ergative Extraction Constraint.

- In wh-questions, it is possible to extract the **absolutive subject** and the **absolutive object**:
  - (6) a. Innai missung \_\_\_\_\_ABS?
    who left
    'Who<sub>ABS</sub> left?'
    b. Innai mu-ita \_\_\_\_\_ABS?
    - who 2erg-see 'Who<sub>ABS</sub> did you<sub>Erg</sub> see?'
- But it's not possible to extract the ergative argument.
  - (7) \*Innai na-ita o \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
     who 3ERG-see 2ABS
     BAD: 'Who<sub>ERG</sub> saw you<sub>ABS</sub>?'
- The only way to extract the external argument: use a construction where it's absolutive.
  - (8) Innai ma'-ita \_\_\_\_\_ABS o?
     who AGENT.FOCUS-see 2ACC
     'Who<sub>ABS</sub> saw you<sub>ACC</sub>?'

This is part of a broader constraint: **wH-movement can only target the absolutive argument**.

- In antipassive clauses, you can extract the absolutive subject, but not the oblique object.
  - (9) \***Apa** mas-saka iAli \_\_\_\_\_\_? what ANTIP-catch NAME BAD: 'What<sub>OBL</sub> 's Ali<sub>ABS</sub> catching?'
- The same constraint rules out the extraction of many other things.

– No direct-questioning an argument PP.	(*Into what did it fall?)
– No direct-questioning a non-DP adjunct.	(*where did they go?)

#### Summary: there is an "Absolutives-Only Extraction Constraint."

- This is familiar from the literature on Western Austronesia, where similar constraints on argument extraction are widespread (Keenan 1976, Kroeger 1993, Paul 1998, Chen 2017).
- Similar constraints exist in: Inuit (Bittner 1987), West Circassian (Ershova 2019), Kwakwala (Anderson 1984), Salishan (Davis et al. 1993), Tsimshianic (Davis & Brown 2011, Brown 2016), Kanamarí (Katukinan; Queixalos 2010), and parts of Mayan (Larsen & Norman 1979).

N.b.: in Mandar, this holds of relativization and focus-fronting too. We'll focus on wH-questions.

### 1.2: The Nature of the Restriction

First Challenge: how can we understand the Absolutives-Only Extraction Constraint?

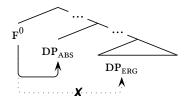
Two lines of thought predominate:

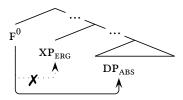
- Case-Based Accounts of the constraint:
  - Background: movement is triggered by higher heads (Altruism; Lasnik 1996)
  - These heads only want things with Absolutive Case (Discrimination; Deal 2016)
  - ...or they avoid arguments with Ergative Case (Ergative-as-PP: Polinsky 2012)
- Locality-Based Accounts of the constraint:
  - The absolutive argument raises above the ergative argument, (Campana 1992)
  - usually due to the way that absolutive Case is assigned, (Levin & Massam 1985)
  - ...and this sets up a configuration where only the absolutive argument can extract.

Initial Goal: to build toward a Locality-Based Analysis of Mandar. Brodkin 2022

(10) The Locality Analysis

(11) *Rejected: The Case Alternative* 





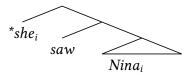
First argument: the source of Absolutive Case sits above the source of Ergative Case.

- The heuristic: the structural positions of absolutive and ergative agreement.
- 1. Absolutive agreement appears in the middle field, but ergative agreement is verb-adjacent.
  - (12) Ndang i mala u-pau.
     NEG 3ABS can 1ERG-say
     'I can't say it.' Friberg & Jerniati 2000
- 2. Absolutive agreement, but not ergative agreement, interacts with functional heads that sit high in the clause:  $ASP^0$  (they form portmanteaux) and  $C^0$  (it varies with clause type).
  - (13) a. Massau mi, jari malai ma'. recover PFV.3ABS so return PFV.1ABS
    'He recovered, so I came home.' Friberg & Jerniati 2000
    b. Bulang, indoia' mai, anna'-u mala ma'-issangi alaweu. moon shine on me, that-1ABS.SUBJUNCTIVE might ANTIP-know self
    'Moon, shine on me, that I might know myself.' (Bulang, by Sulkep Liaco')

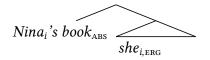
## 1.3: High Absolutive Syntax

**Second Argument**: the absolutive argument always moves above the ergative.

- 1. The absolutive argument can appear in the middle field, but the ergative argument cannot.
  - (14) Rua i iAli na-pelambi' iMina. Have 3ABS NAME 3ERG-visit NAME
     'Mina<sub>ERG</sub> has visited Ali<sub>ABS</sub>.
- 2. The absolutive argument c-commands all of the other arguments in the clause.
  - Condition C: names cannot be c-commanded by coindexed pronouns.
    - (15) English: Condition C

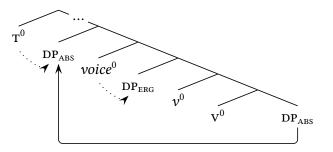


- The distribution of pronouns and names shows that the absolutive is high in Mandar:
  - (16) Na-na-waca i manini [ABS buku na-alli iNina dionging].
    will-3ERG-read 3ABS later book 3ERG-buy NAME yesterday
    'She<sub>i</sub>'ll read the book that Nina<sub>i</sub> bought yesterday.'
  - (17) Mandar: Condition C



#### Drawing these two strands together, we arrive at a High-Absolutive analysis:

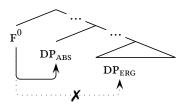
- Absolutive Case is assigned by τ<sup>0</sup>; Ergative Case is assigned by *voice*<sup>0</sup>.
- The absolutive argument moves above the ergative argument in order to interact with  $\tau^0$ .
- The result: the absolutive argument always moves into the highest position in the clause.
- (18) High-Absolutive Syntax



# 2.0: The Locality Constraint

From this perspective, we can reinterpret the Absolutives-Only Extraction Constraint:

- The absolutive argument is always the highest argument in the clause.
- The head that triggers wH-movement can only attract the closest argument.
- The result: there's no wH-movement of anything except the absolutive argument.
- The Locality Constraint (19)



**Second Challenge**: why should wn-movement be subject to such a constraint?

- The classical theory: WH-movement belongs to a class of "A"-movements that:
  - Bypass most intervening arguments - Tolerate pied-piping of prepositions

1	(What did you send Mary _	?)
	( <i>To whom</i> did you send the letter _	?)

- Can escape finite clauses.
  - (*Who* did you visit ?)
- These operations ostensibly contrast with a class of "A"-movements, which:

<ul> <li>Cannot bypass intervening arguments</li> </ul>	(* <i>The letter</i> was sent Mary)
<ul> <li>Prohibit pied-piping of prepositions</li> </ul>	(* <i>On the leaf</i> was stepped)
<ul> <li>Cannot escape finite clauses.</li> </ul>	(* <i>Mary</i> seemed was ok.)

From this standpoint, we can reframe the initial puzzle in a different way:

### Could Mandar wH-movement have the properties of A-movement?

Some Guiding Desiderata:

- EXPLANATION: the analysis should derive its results from architectural principles of syntax, not just restate the problem in the lexicon (cf. the Borer-Chomsky Conjecture).
- EXTENSION: the analysis should offer a plausible perspective on patterns beyond Mandar (as many High Absolutive languages show a similar constraint; Bittner 1987; Brown 2016...).
- FLEXIBILITY: ...and it should provide enough flexibility to account for known exceptions (Pizarro-Guevara 2020, Erlewine & Lim 2022) while still maintaining a restrictive character.

\*On a leaf was stepped \_\_\_\_. \*Mary seemed was brilliant.

### 2.1: The Raising Connection

To deconstruct Mandar wн-movement, we'll look at:

- Targets: can it apply to non-DPs?
- Finiteness: can it proceed from finite clauses?
- Symmetry: does it look like real cases of Raising in the language?

Targets: Mandar WH-movement can only target DPs.

- To form locative questions, you can't extract a PP.
  - (20) a. Bemme i tama iting gelas.
    fall 3ABS into this glass.
    'It fell into this glass.'
    - b. \*Tama apa bemme (i) \_\_\_\_\_\_OBL?
      into what fall 3ABS
      BAD: "Into what did it fall?"
- The strategy: strand the P in a pseudopassive, then extract the DP.

Finiteness: Mandar WH-movement can only proceed out of non-finite clauses.

- The diagnostic: no absolutive agreement.
  - (22) Inna na-mu-pile (\**i*)?which will-2ERG-choose 3ABS'Which will you pick?'

Symmetry: the same restrictions hold over Raising to Subject.

- Evaluative predicates (hard, easy...) allow for Raising to the absolutive position.
- This process can only target the highest argument of the immediately lower clause.
  - (23)a. Maparri' i bau [ u-ande \_\_\_\_\_ABS ]. tough 3abs fish 1ERG-eat 'Fish is tough for  $me_{ERG}$  to eat \_\_\_\_\_ABS.' b. \*Maparri a' yau [ u-ande \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ bau ]. tough 1sg 1erg-eat fish 1ABS BAD: "I'm tough \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to eat fish\_ABS."
- And naturally, it requires the lower clause to be non-finite.

### 2.2: Further Evidence

#### All of this suggests that Mandar wn-movement has the profile of Raising to Subject:

This result leads us to two further predictions about long-distance wn-movement:

- Finiteness: it should require every clause along its path to be non-finite.
- Strict locality: it should pass through the subject position of every clause on its way.
- (24) Everyone seems [\_\_\_\_\_\_ to be likely [\_\_\_\_\_\_ to come to Santa Cruz ]].

Finiteness: every clause along the path of wn-movement must be non-finite.

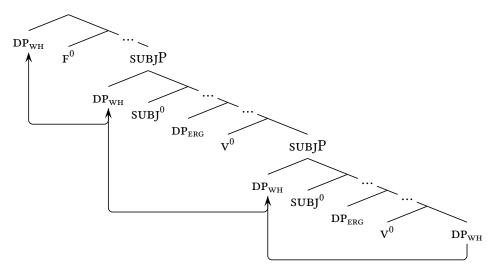
(25) Inna mu-sanga (\*i) \_\_\_ [ na-u-pile (\*i) \_\_\_ ] ]?
which 2ERG-think 3ABS will-1ERG-pick 3ABS
'Which one do you think I'll pick?'

Strict locality: wn-words pass through the absolutive position of every clause on their way.

- Clausal embedding verbs are usually antipassive (OBJECT  $\neq$  ABS), but:
- When wh-words are extracted across them, they take the kind of morphology that would appear if objects or applied arguments raised to the absolutive position.
- (26) a. **Mah**-hara a' mua'**ma'**-ua i iAli mua'**mang**-uma i iMina. ANTIP-hope 1ABS that ANTIP-say 3ABS NAME that ANTIP-plant 3ABS NAME 'I hope that Ali said that Mina was planting.'
  - b. Apa **mu-po-**hara \_\_\_\_\_\_abs **na**-ua-**ngan** iAli \_\_\_\_\_abs **na**-uma \_\_\_\_\_abs? what 2ERG-APPL-hope 3ERG-say-APPL NAME 3ERG-plant 'What do you hope \_\_\_\_ Ali said \_\_\_\_ Mina was planting?

Interim Conclusion: WH-movement has the properties of Raising.

(27) Long-Distance wH-Movement



### 3.0: Why is Mandar wн-movement like Raising?

With this result secure, we can understand puzzle one in a slightly different way:

### Why does wn-movement have the properties of Raising in Mandar?

**N.b.**: we're dealing with a pattern that's larger than Mandar.

- The symmetry holds in Western Austronesian: Tagalog (Kroeger 1993), Selayarese (Finer 1997), Indonesian (Cole & Hermon 2005), Malagasy (Paul 1998), Formosan (Chen 2017),
- Plus: Kwakwala (Anderson 1984), Gitxsan (Brown 2016), Thompson River Salish (Kroeber 1997), Ktunaxa (McClay & Birdstone 2015), Dinka Bor (Van Urk 2015), and from the right perspective, K'iche' and Kaqchikel (and possibly related languages; Mendes & Ranero 2021).

The literature on individual cases of this pattern has responded by suggesting:

• that wh-movement is A-movement	Anderson 1984
<ul> <li>that wн-movement is a subtype of Ā-movement</li> </ul>	Finer 1997
• that WH-movement is a mixture of A- and A-movement	Van Urk 2015

The real question: "Why do movement operations have the properties that they do?"

- The goal of the Minimalist Program: to avoid enshrining these differences as primitives.
- The classical framework of A and Ā is beset with independent challenges.
  - Tough Movement is "unexplained and in principle unexplainable" (Holmberg 2000)
  - There are issues with many putative correlates of the split (e.g., Reconstruction)

**The result**: there's an emerging consensus that we need to to rethink the A-Ā divide.

- One body of work attempts to reformulate the divide in various different ways (Chomsky 2008; Obata & Epstein 2011; Van Urk 2015; Fong 2019, Safir 2019)
- Another seeks to pin down the correlates of the split in a more nuanced way (Gong 2022).

#### My proposal: there is no primitive split between A- and $\bar{A}$ -movement.

- Both proceed through the same syntactic operation (MOVE; formally AGREE + MERGE).
- Both are triggered by the same types of syntactic features (Generalized EPP-features).
- The locality profile of movement is linked to the height of its landing site.
  - Movement that targets low positions, like SPEC, TP, shows strict A-style locality.
  - Movement that targets high positions, like SPEC, CP, shows the profile of A-movement.
- There is no need to posit mixed A-Ā movements or positions (Mahajan 1990).
  - The Ergative Extraction Constraint follows from general constraints on movement.
  - It tracks a broad cross-linguistic pattern: low steps of Ā-movement obey A-locality.

### 3.1: Clauses that launch Wh-Movement are Smaller

**Empirical Foundation**: the clauses that launch WH-movement in Mandar are reduced.

- 1. They must be non-finite.
  - (28) [?? Innai ma'bottor (\*i) ]? who gamble AGR'Who's gambling?'
- 2. They cannot contain an overt complementizer.
  - (29) [?? Innai (\*mua') ma'bottor ]? who that gamble'Who's gambling?'
- 3. Both  $\tau^0$  and  $c^0$  are suppressed along the path of long wh-movement.
  - (30) Apa mu-pohara (\*mua') na-uangan iAli (\*mua') na-uma iMina?
    what 2erg-hope that 3erg-say NAME that 3erg-plant NAME
    'What do you hope (\*that) was said by Ali to be planted by Mina?'
- 4. WH-movement blocks the insertion of CP-level adjuncts along its path.
  - (31) a. [<sub>сР</sub> Bara' [<sub>тР</sub> manao ai pa'mai'na ]]. hopefully painful ЗАВЅ his heart
     'Hopefully he'll get his due.'
    - b. U-eppei i to [?? (\*bara') na-pole \_\_\_].
      1ERG-await 3ABS the people hopefully will-come
      'I'm waiting for the people who are (\*hopefully) going to show up.'
- 5. WH-movement forces a "jailbreak" for second-position clitics.
  - (32)a. U-sanga <sub>CP</sub> na-mindai' **bo** i de' nomor lima e ]. 1ERG-think will-appear again 3ABS this number five here 'I think this five will come up again.' [?? na-mindai' \_\_\_\_ ] ]? b. Inna **bo** [<sub>??</sub> mu-sanga which again 2ERG-think will-appear 'Which do you think will come up again?'

Intuition: the absence of overt  $x^0$ s means the absence of xps (no  $c^0 \rightarrow$  no cp; Doherty 1993)

#### Result: the clauses that launch wn-movement are smaller than those which do not.

## 3.2: Height and Relativized Locality

#### These results allow us to approach two questions that surround wn-movement:

- STOPPING POINT: what's the position that WH-movement passes through?
- MAXIMAL SIZE: what's the highest projection in a clause that's extracted from?

**Background**: the clause is organized into a sequence of functional projections.

(33)	$C^0$	>	$\mathbf{T}^{0}$	>	$\operatorname{POL}^0$	>	<b>PERF</b> <sup>0</sup>	>	<b>PROG</b> <sup>0</sup>	>	<i>voice</i> <sup>0</sup>	>	$v^0$	>	$\mathbf{v}^{0}$
	that	you	ı would		not		have		been		being		pei	sua	ded

**Observation**: the Mandar clauses that launch wH-movement contain everything below  $T^0$ .

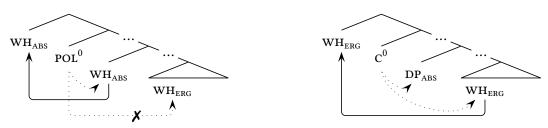
- These clauses can host negation, which sits immediately beneath  $T^0$ , in POL<sup>0</sup>.
- They contain all of the functional structure beneath that point:  $PERF^0$ ,  $voice^0$ ,  $v^0$ ,  $v^0$ .
  - (34) Innai [POLP ndang [PERFP rua [voiceP millamba]]].
     who not have leave
     'Who has never left?'

Proposal: Mandar WH-movement proceeds out of POLP, passing through SPEC, POLP.

- The features that drive wH-movement originate at the base of the extended projection (v<sup>0</sup>).
- As the extended projection unfolds, the lowest  $x^0$  in which they can be active is POL<sup>0</sup>.
- From this position, they trigger AGREE and then MERGE, yielding movement.

#### The locality constraint arises as a direct consequence of this low landing site:

- The steps of movement that are triggered low in the extended projection obey strict locality.
- It is only higher up, at the CP-level, that looser locality constraints emerge.
- (35) Low Movement: Strict Locality
- (36) High Movement: Flexibility



Sidenote: structure-building stops at POLP in Mandar clauses that launch wn-movement.

- This is a stipulation at present, but it's connected to a broader cross-linguistic pattern.
  - (37) a. I'm sure [ $_{CP}$  that everyone is coming to Santa Cruz ].
    - b. Who are you sure [<sub>TP</sub> \_\_\_\_\_ is coming to Santa Cruz ]?
      - c. Who are you sure  $*[_{CP}$  that \_\_\_\_\_ is coming to Santa Cruz ]?

### 3.3: Low Extraction Beyond Mandar

This analysis allows us to capture strictly-local A-extraction in a streamlined and elegant way.

- There's no need to postulate a primitive split between A- and A-movements (or features)
- There's no need to posit an  $A = \bar{A}$  conspiracy in Mandar or other High-Abs languages.
- Rather: the basic restriction follows from two basic components:
  - 1. The locality profile of movement follows from the height of its landing site, and
  - 2. The relevant steps of wh-movement target relatively low positions.

#### The first component is completely necessary; because the Mandar pattern is the norm.

Example One: Reduced Relativization

- English has a type of reduced relative clause that can't contain agreement,  $\tau^0$ , or  $c^0$ .
  - (38) The headway  $[?? \_$  being made on the A-Ā divide ]
  - (39) a. \*The child  $[_{TP}$  **doing** watch TV]
    - b. \*The child  $[_{CP}$  that **being** watched ]
- This structure is the same size as the clauses that launch wh-movement in Mandar:
  - (40) The bananas  $[P_{OLP} \text{ not already eaten }]$
  - (41) Any students [PERFP having already finished the exam ]

### • And it shows the same constraint on strict locality:

(42) a. The monkey [PERFP \_\_\_\_ being watched by the children ]
b. \*The monkey [PERFP the children watching \_\_\_ ]

### Example Two: Romance Pseudorelatives

- Beneath verbs of direct perception, French employs this RC-like structure: Kayne 1982
  - (43) J'ai vu Jean qui \_\_\_\_\_ fumait.
    I saw John c was smoking
    'I saw John smoking.'
- The pseudorelative is not a full CP; it can't host topicalization (possible in French RCs),
- And like reduced relatives, it only allows for relativization of the highest argument.
  - (44) \*J'ai vu Marie qui Jean embrassait \_\_\_\_.
    I saw Mary c John was kissing
    BAD: 'I saw Mary being kissed by John.'

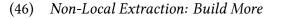
Jorge's comment: "it is almost certain that something similar happens in Turkish."

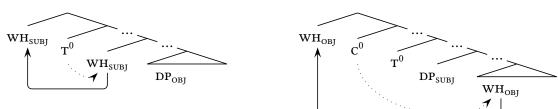
## 3.4: One Response to Strict Locality

We can see evidence for the second ingredient from the attested responses to the constraint.

There's one response which is widespread in English: Reprojection.

- There are processes of " $\overline{A}$ "-movement associated with low heads, like  $T^0$ ,
- These processes generally obey strict locality, because they target low landing sites.
- When they violate the strict locality constraint, they appear to target higher positions.
- To avoid strict locality, the movement-driving feature is passed to a higher head, like c<sup>0</sup>.
  - (45) Local Extraction: Stay Small





English wн-movement shows this pattern:

- Do-support suggests that non-highest movement targets a higher position.
- Convergent evidence: the possibility for an overt  $c^0$  in Belfast English Henry 1995
  - (47) a.  $[_{TP}$  who \_\_\_\_ left ]?
    - b.  $[_{CP}$  what did  $[_{TP}$  you buy \_\_\_\_]?
  - (48) a. I wonder [<sub>CP</sub> which dish that they picked \_\_\_\_].
    - b. \*I wonder  $[_{TP}$  which author that \_\_\_\_ wrote this book].

So does infinitival relativization:

- Subject and "high adjunct" relatives can receive a pure future interpretation,
- But Object and "low adjunct" relatives require something like an extra covert modal:
  - (49) a. the guy  $[_{TP}$  \_\_\_\_ to fix the sink ] is here.
    - b. the reason  $[_{TP}$  \_\_\_\_ to do this ] is that it'll save time.
  - (50) a. the sink [MODP MODAL [TP to fix \_\_\_\_] is this one.
    b. the time [MODP MODAL [TP to do it \_\_\_\_] is now.

See also: German/Dutch v2

- (51) a. [<sub>TP</sub> Es hat das Brot gegessen ]. it has the bread eaten
  'It ate the bread."
  - b. [<sub>CP</sub> Das Brot/\*es hat [<sub>TP</sub> das Kind gegessen ]. the bread/it has the kid eaten
    'The kid ate the bread/\*it.'

(per Travis 1984; Zwart 1993)

German;?

## **3.5: A Second Response to Strict Locality**

The effect that underlies the resolution to strict locality in Mandar is one of **Suspension**.

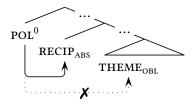
- There are cases where higher heads stop lower heads from attracting things.
  - (52) a. He shouldn't've been told, and **nor**  $[_{TP}$  \_\_\_\_\_ should've been  $[_{VP}$  anyone else ] ].
    - b. J'exige [<sub>CP</sub> que [<sub>TP</sub> \_\_\_\_\_ soit éliminée [<sub>VP</sub> cette solution ] ]].
      I require that be<sub>sUBJUNCTIVE</sub> eliminated this solution
      'I require that this solution be eliminated.'
- There are cases where this effect is correlated with the movement of something else.
  - (53) a. This proposal was much more problematic
     [<sub>CP</sub> than [<sub>TP</sub> \_\_\_\_ had been [<sub>VP</sub> any of the ones before it ] ].
    - b. [CP Quand [TP deviendra [VP célèbre ce comédien ]]]?
       when will become famous this comedian
       'When will this comedian become famous?'

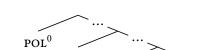
### • This effect is visibly called up to resolve problems of locality in Mandar.

- In the ditransitive construction, the recipient usually moves to the absolutive position.
  - \* It triggers a form of agreement which appears in second-position, and
  - \* It shows the standard binding behavior for absolutive arguments.
  - (54) [<sub>тр</sub> Byasa o melo' [<sub>vp</sub> na-bengan sicco' ] ]. usually 2ABS will Зекс-give a little
     "He will usually give you a little."
- WH-movement can target the theme in the ditransitive, **but when this occurs**, recipient agreement appears lower and the recipient does not leave the VP.
- (55) [<sub>FP</sub> Apa byasa melo' [<sub>VP</sub> na-bengan o ]]. what usually will 3ERG-give 2ABS
  "What will he usually give you?"
- Claim: POL<sup>0</sup> wants to attract the theme, so it stops *voice*<sup>0</sup> from pulling up the recipient.

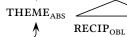
(57)

(56) Default: No Extracting Theme





Solution: Keep the Recipient Low



## 4.0: Conclusion

#### This theory leads us to a new understanding of the Ergative Extraction Constraint.

- There's no need to postulate any mechanism that's specific to ergativity at all.
- The operative constraints are ones that hold in cross-linguistic perspective.

This result fits very naturally with our initial desiderata:

- EXPLANATION: the analysis derives its result from architectural principles of syntax
- EXTENSION: the analysis offers a plausible perspective on patterns beyond Mandar.
- FLEXIBILITY: the analysis provides enough flexibility to account for known variation.

### In the same vein, it lays the groundwork to reformulate the A-A distinction.

- It allows us to understand the particular properties of "low" A-operations:
  - There's no featural difference between strictly-local A-movements and non-local ones.
  - The differences in locality emerge exclusively from the height of the landing site.
- And it opens up a path to understanding the other correlates of the split in a new way.

### Finally, it opens up a set of questions on the nature of structure-building itself.

- The analysis makes three claims about Extended Projection:
  - 1. The features which drive movement can be passed along the extended projection.
  - 2. Features of one  $x^0$  in the extended projection can interfere with features on another.
  - 3. Movement operations can suspend the need for further structure-building.
- These ideas connect to a range of foundational puzzles in syntactic theory:
  - Extraction-Raising interactions: High wн-movement blocks raising of the subject.
    - (58) [<sub>CP</sub> **Quand** [<sub>TP</sub> deviendra [<sub>VP</sub> célèbre **ce comédien** ]]]? when will.become famous this comedian?
  - The Comp-Trace Effect: Low wн-movement blocks the projection of с<sup>0</sup>.
    - (59) a. I'm sure [ $_{CP}$  that everyone is coming to Santa Cruz ].
      - b. Who are you sure [<sub>TP</sub> \_\_\_\_\_ is coming to Santa Cruz ]?
      - c. Who are you sure  $*[_{CP}$  that \_\_\_\_\_ is coming to Santa Cruz ]?

#### Finally, this project continues a long tradition of syntactic research at UC Santa Cruz,

- Which engages in a careful and long-term fashion with lesser-studied languages
- And brings its results to bear on the most fundamental questions in syntactic theory.