

(1) Paper title: **An ethnosemantic study of ghost terms in Thai**

(2) Sub-field: ethnolinguistics, semantics

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## An ethnosemantic study of ghost terms in Thai

Previous studies show that Thai people's ways of life and traditions from birth to death are related to ghosts. Most of the studies deal with the role of ghosts in Thai society, but there has been no study on ghost terms in Thai, which would reflect the ghost system in Thai thoughts. Thus, this study aims to analyze the system and categorization of terms for ghosts and spirits in Thai. Componential analysis and folk taxonomy, which are methods in the ethnosemantic approach, are adopted for the analysis.

The population of this study is Wat Suan Kaew Community, Tambon Bang Len, Amphoe Bang Yai, Nonthaburi Province, a representative of a mainstream Thai community. Fifteen purposively selected informants were interviewed. The result of the analysis shows that there are 59 ghost terms representing 51 types of ghost. Some ghost types are represented by more than one term. The componential analysis of the terms reveals that there are ten dimensions of contrast, which distinguish one of the terms from others. They are: "form", "good / evil", "appearance", "condition of death", "dwelling", "duty", "age", "food", "gender", and "specialty". The outstanding dimensions which cover all the terms are "form", "good / evil" and "appearance".

The findings also show that all the ghost terms can be categorized into five hierarchical classes: **unique beginner**, **life-form**, **generic**, **specific**, and **varietal**. There is only one unique beginner term – *phi&i1* 'ghost+spirit'. There are two life-form terms: *phi&i2* 'ghost' and *winyaan* 'spirit'. As for generic ghost terms, there are three terms: *phi&i3* 'man ghost', *phi&i-sa&aN-theewadaa* 'good spirit', *phi&i-ha&a-saataan* or *phu&ut-phi&i-piisa&at* 'bad spirit'. Thirty five specific ghost terms were found e.g., *naaN-ma&ay* 'female tree spirit', *phi&i-pa&a* 'forest demon', *phi&i-taay-ho&oN* 'spirit from violent death', *pre&et* 'evil tall spirit', etc. There are 13 sub-specific ghost terms, such as *ca&law-mE&E-say* 'female banyan tree spirit', *ca&law-mE&E-makha&am* 'female tamarind tree spirit', *naaN-taanii* 'female banana tree spirit', *phi&i-na&am* 'water demon', *the&lep* 'male deity', and *the&lep-thidaa* or *naaN-fa&a* 'a female deity', , etc.

It should be noted that Thai people conceive ghosts as human. Indeed, most types of ghosts have a human shape and some are even human themselves. Thai ghosts are distinguished by their kindness or badness, sex, age, dwelling place, and the food they take.

Furthermore, it is found that Thai people have negative attitudes towards ghosts as can be seen from the meanings of ghost terms. They find ghosts frightening, disgusting, accepting bribes, having misfortune as a result of karma. However, ghosts are seen as a means of controlling society.

- (1) Paper title: **The quotative complementizer in Lao and Thai**
- (2) Sub-field: syntax
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## The quotative complementizer in Lao and Thai

### ABSTRACT

Previous studies on Lao and Thai grammar all agree that the cognate *waa-waʼa* is a complementizer in the two languages (see Higbie and Thinsan 2003, Iwasaki and Ingkaphirom 2005, Enfield 2007). In my previous study on “Complementizers and verb classification in Thai” (Prasithratsint 2007), *waʼa* is found to occur with “communicative” verbs, such as *phuʼut* ‘to say’, *athi↔baay* ‘to explain’, *thaʼam* ‘to ask’, as in the following example.

khaʼw **phuʼut**      *waʼa*    thu↔k-yaʼaʼndii    kh)\ʼn IE↔Ew  
 he    speak COMP everything    good    rise    already  
 ‘He said that everything had been better (improved).’

It is also pointed out in the study that the *waʼa* complementizer conveys the sense of ‘quoting’ and introduces something quoted. However, no elaboration of this point has been provided, and it is still not clear how this function word behaves. Also, it may be interesting to find out about this cognate word in Lao since Lao and Thai are very closely related.

The present study therefore aims to analyze the syntactic function of *waa-waʼa* in Lao and Thai. It is hoped that the findings will shed light on this obscure grammatical word and also contribute to the formation of a more comprehensive grammar of Lao or Thai.

Based on an approximately two-million-word corpus of Standard Thai and written documents in Standard Lao of about one million words of length, the study shows that in addition to being a **complementizer**, the word *waa-waʼa* also functions as a **verbum dicendi** or **declaratory word**, which introduces a quotation or paraphrase, similar to *say*, *like*, or *go* in English. It is thus labeled in this study “**the quotative complementizer**”, which behaves the same in Lao and Thai. The findings also reveal that there is no distinction between direct and indirect (reported) speech in the two languages. Indeed, the word *waa-waʼa* introduces both the direct and the reported speech clause, either in statements and questions.

The study has certain significant implications. It confirms the theory of grammaticalization—the function word *waa-waʼa* is grammaticalized from the lexical word of the same form meaning ‘to say’. It also shows a great discrepancy between the grammar of English and that of Lao and Thai, as far as complementation is concerned.

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**Paper title :** A comparison of the subcategorization of the ‘put on’ verbs in Thai and Japanese

**Sub-field:** Ethnolinguistics

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## A comparison of the subcategorization of the 'put on' verbs in Thai and Japanese

It has been observed that there is a great deal of discrepancy between the subcategorization of verbs in Thai and that in Japanese. One of the most interesting groups of verbs is the 'put on' verbs. The event of putting clothes on a human body is expressed by different lexical verbs in the two languages. There seem to be many more words used to express the actions of 'put on' in Japanese than in Thai. Very few studies have been found to discuss 'put on' verbs in Japanese and none in Thai.

The purpose of the study is thus to compare and contrast the use of 'put on' verbs including their subcategorization and to infer about Thai and Japanese worldviews.

The data was collected from dictionaries, Chulalongkorn University Corpus Base and informants from both languages. Experiments were conducted so as to find out whether the informants would categorize things to put on in the same way as the subcategorization in their grammars.

The findings show that Thai and Japanese subcategorize 'put on' verbs differently. Japanese 'put on' verbs are expressed by different lexical verbs depending on which body part is involved. On the other hand, the choice of 'put on' verbs in Thai does not depend on the body part, but on the characteristics of the clothing and adornments. Moreover, Thai 'put on' verbs overlap a lot, but Japanese 'put on' verbs do not. This can be inferred that Thai and Japanese speakers have different worldviews corresponding to the patterns in the languages they speak. Based on this inference, I end the paper by discussing the findings in the light of the Whorfian Hypothesis.



**Code-Switching as a Means of Staking the Claims of Identities:  
A Case study of the Media in the Viet Diaspora**

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ABSTRACT

The influence of a donor language on a receiving one has always been permanent and become increasingly frequent in most Diasporas. Code-switching, a term used in many different meanings in the literature of bilingual discourses, is a way to construct characteristic of a given ethnic category and at the same time, to claim category memberships for both addressers and addressees in their languaging process. This paper addresses the question how code-switching is used to express and negotiate identity in the Viet diasporas. Besides, it is a study of how identities are constructed through discourses and vary across interactions rather than such social addresses of speakers as ethnicity, sex, age etc. Further, with qualitative analyses on the media in Viet diasporas, the paper shows how specific language choices may be tied to diasporic norms to perform pre-existing identity categories of interlocutors in various geographical areas.

Abstract for 18<sup>th</sup> Southeast Asian Linguistics Society Meeting

Paper Title: Acoustic Features of Obstruent Voicing Contrasts in Burmese

Sub-field: Phonology

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This phonological study is the first (to my knowledge) to offer an in-depth analysis of acoustic characteristics that differentiate Burmese obstruent voicing categories. The results of the study contribute two new findings to the field:

- Voice onset time (or VOT; the length of time between the release of the stop and the beginning of voicing) is a relatively minor aspect of the Burmese voiceless vs. voiced distinction.
- In fricated segments, frication intensity is an important aspect.

Cross-linguistically, three-way obstruent voicing distinctions are often signaled not only by variations in VOT but also by variations in the length of the following vowel. For Burmese, however, the acoustic features of the three-way contrasts (typically transcribed as voiceless aspirated, voiceless unaspirated, and voiced) do not appear to be simply a matter of these two signals. At least two additional factors are also implicated – breathiness (a well-known feature for Burmese) and frication intensity. Furthermore, in some cases VOT is at best only marginally implicated.

The Burmese obstruents showing three-way voicing contrasts include the following phonological segments:

Bilabial stops:	p <sup>h</sup> , p, b
Alveolar stops:	t <sup>h</sup> , t, d
Palatal stops (affricates):	c <sup>h</sup> , c, ʃ
Velar stops:	k <sup>h</sup> , k, g
Alveolar fricatives:	s <sup>h</sup> , s, z

Based on my spectrographic and waveform analysis of pilot data collected from one native speaker, it appears that there are at least four acoustic phenomena involved in Burmese voicing contrasts:

(1) Voice onset time: For the non-affricated stops, average VOT is longest for the aspirated and shortest for the voiced segments. However, the fricated obstruents each follow different average VOT patterns. Furthermore, VOT for some voiced vs. voiceless pairs may not be consistently distinguishable.

(2) Duration of the following vowel: For obstruents at most places of articulation, average length of the following vowel is shortest for the unaspirated and longest for the voiced segments.

(3) Breathiness (i.e., reduced levels of acoustic intensity across all frequencies throughout the syllable's vowel): For obstruents at all places of articulation, the voiced segments are signaled by breathiness throughout the syllable.

(4) Acoustic intensity of high-frequency energy in fricated segments: For the affricates and fricatives, the level of acoustic intensity in the frication itself appears to be important in voicing contrasts.

Research is currently underway to incorporate more extensive data from additional native speakers into the final analysis.

Paper Title:

**Semantic Extension of the Verbs of Tactile Sensation in Thai and Zhuang**

Sub-filed:

**Cognitive Semantics**

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It is known that there is a strong tendency for certain verbs in isolating languages to have semantically developed a wide range of extended senses, as evidenced by, for example, the work on transfer verbs as passive markers in Mandarin by Yin (2005), on directional verbs as success markers in Thai by Thepkanjana (2002), and on the verb of giving as a causative verb and agent marker in Hakka by Lai (2001). This paper has an aim to probe into another type of verb, i.e. the verb of tactile sensation, which has received relatively less attention in linguistic literature particularly on complex verbal constructions, grammaticalization, polysemy and polyfunctionality. The focus is placed on the contrastive semantic study of the verbs of tactile sensation: *tôŋ* in Siamese Thai and *tô:ŋ* in Zhuang, a member of the Northern Tai language family spoken in Guangxi, Southern China. Though historically derived from the same proto-verb meaning 'come into contact with,' the two words exhibit different patterns of semantic extension. It is found in this paper that synchronically Thai *tôŋ* functions as both lexical verb and modal, and encompasses four lexical meanings: touching, being correct, agreeing or corresponding with something, and being liable for punishment; and two grammatical functions as a deontic modal of necessity and an epistemic modal of certainty. On the other hand, Zhuang *tô:ŋ* functions as both lexical verb and modal, and expresses five lexical meanings of: touching, coming into contact with, being right to the target, being correct, and winning or gaining something with a stroke of luck; and one grammatical function as an adversative passive marker. The paper also argues that the meanings mentioned are by no means related in a haphazard or arbitrary fashion, but inextricably interwoven to form a semantic network, and finally the semantic extension of these two words can be accounted for in terms of the cognitive process of metaphorical and metonymic association, following Lakoff and Johnson (1980; 1999)

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(1) Paper title: **Extrametricality in Budai Rukai**

(2) Sub-field: phonology

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## Extrametricality in Budai Rukai

This paper investigates the stress patterns, the occurrence of echo vowels, and the extrametricality in Budai Rukai, an Austronesian language spoken in Taiwan, with less than 3,000 speakers. Segmental phonemes of Budai Rukai have been briefly introduced in earlier field reports (Li, 1977a; Zeitoun, 2000), but a clear picture on segmental phonology, word stress, and prosodic formation is scanty. Furthermore, stress in Budai Rukai has been a controversial issue in earlier studies (Li, 1977a; Ross, 1992; Blust, 1997), but none of them offer a proper account for the prosodic patterns in Budai Rukai. In the present study, the restrictions of echo vowels, stress and accent patterns, and the interrelationship between echo vowels and extrametricality are explicitly described and clarified.

Words in Budai Rukai generally end with a vowel. Echo vowels are present in roots or stems, affixes, and the other independent words of Budai Rukai. In the present study, the occurrence of echo vowels in affixation is subject to the syllable type of the following suffixes. Echo vowels are treated as epenthesis to avoid consonantal coda in Budai Rukai. Moreover, echo vowels are extrametrical in the representation of stress, pitch accent, and beyond word-level prosody. Final syllables at the right edge of a Budai prosodic word are extrametrical. In the word-prosody of Budai Rukai, echo vowels are never stressed and never lengthened. Furthermore, a cautious examination on the Budai prosodic words has revealed that the so-called regional accent is a type of pitch accent imposed on long vowels, not short vowels. The melody is always aligned with penultimate long vowels. Echo vowels do not get metricality in word-prosody of Budai Rukai, neither in regional nor imperative accent.

It is concluded that echo vowels, though appear to be obligatory in the syllable template of Budai Rukai, are phonetically and phonologically invisible in stress footing and accent alignment. With an account of syllable extrametricality, the prosodic patterns of Budai Rukai in the present study not only provide new evidence for the reconstruction of Proto-Austronesian (PAN) stress but also elucidate Ross's (1992) proposal that the oxytones of Budai are apparently the last remnants of PAN contrastive stress.

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p.1

Abstract for SEALS XVIII

Title:

“Proto-Aslian diphthongs and historical parallels in other Austroasiatic languages”

Subfield:

Historical linguistics

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Abstract:

This paper will propose the reconstruction of four diphthongs in Proto-Aslian, the language which is ancestral to the Aslian languages spoken by the Orang Asli of Peninsular Malaysia. This is a new finding since such diphthongs are no longer found today in the currently spoken Aslian languages, except for Jah-Hut which has kept three of these four diphthongs.

It will then show that such a reconstruction is in line with what we find in two other branches of the Austroasiatic family, namely the Nicobarese branch (spoken in India) and the Katuic branch (spoken in parts of Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam and Thailand).

This provides one more argument of a systematic nature to confirm that the Aslian languages belong historically to the Austroasiatic family.

The method used is the comparative method applied to Semai, Temiar, Lanoh, Che'Wong, Jah-Hut and Semelai, which the author has worked on for many years.

p.3

References:

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Paper Title	:	HARMONIOUS VOWELS IN REDUPLICATIONS AS THE REPRESENTATION OF THE JAVANESE SPEAKERS' LIFESTYLE
Sub-field	:	Morphology / Word Formation
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## Abstract

The paper discusses the formation of Javanese reduplications which are backgrounded by the artistic lifestyle of the speakers. The members of the Javanese society demonstrate the richness of art quality in their life as can be seen from their clothes, from their pattern of traditional houses, from their many kinds of art performances, as well as from their verbal and non-verbal behavior. This phenomenon is shown by several unique figures of speech possessed by the Javanese speakers, such as *wangsalan*, *sanepa*, *sasmita*, and so on. Those figures of speech are created artistically, and are exploited to state one's intention indirectly for the sake of being polite or being respectful to the other side in interactions.

The other example of artistic representation in Javanese language is the formation of reduplications. These language units are formatted to have several meanings such as plurality, repetition, and present continuous. In creating these language units, Javanese speakers only have two formulas:

- a. repeating the base form such as *mlaku* (to walk) to be *mlaku-mlaku* (to take a walk)
- b. making a reduplication of which the first part has a lower vowel than the second one. In this case the base form can be either the first or the second part of the reduplication. For example: from the word *mangan* (to eat) a Javanese can make it into *mongan-mangan* (to eat several times); the word *Siman* (a Javanese name for male person) can be reduplicated such as in the sentence of *aja mung nyebut **Siman-Simin** wae*. The bold words are the base form, so the repeating part can precede or follow it depending on the quality of the vowels in the base form.

Whatever the formula it takes, a reduplication shows an artistic and harmonious pattern, i.e., one of the vowels in the second part (either it is the base form or not) tends to be higher than its peer in the first part. Data from several sources of usage will be displayed to explain this linguistic phenomenon.

**Keywords:** reduplication, vowel, high, low, Javanese, artistic, harmonious

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(1) Paper title:

**'Sound[s/ed] like ...?' Approximate Phonetic Search in the Mon-Khmer Languages Project**

(2) Sub-field

**computational linguistics, phonology**

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### ‘Sound[s/ed] like ...?’ Approximate Phonetic Search in the Mon-Khmer Languages Project

The wealth of data made available by modern language documentation and preservation projects opens the door to comparative linguistic analysis on a grand scale. Yet even with (some would say ‘despite’) the aid of computers, coming to terms with this largesse has been an unexpected struggle. We must on occasion ruefully admit that, however tedious, the pencil-and-paper methods employed by our predecessors helped them develop the intimate knowledge of form and content necessary to navigate and classify tens or hundreds of thousands of citations.

The *Mon-Khmer Languages Project* confronts this problem of overabundance in aiding discovery of the content of our language database. It includes data from a growing number of roughly 150 languages in the dozen or so branches of Mon-Khmer, the major component of the Austroasiatic family, as well as proto-language reconstructions whenever available.

Our difficulties are partially due to the raw material: to the plethora of traditions, skills, and standards of the five full generations of scholars whose work we record, their mix of phonemic and phonetic notation, and the bracketed ambiguous segments so often required for provisional reconstruction.

But most problematic are the uses to which linguists wish to put these data. Beginning with renditions whose diversity brings Shaw’s *fish = ghoti* example to mind, we must respect the endless capacity of human speakers to introduce variation in articulation as we seek the cognate daughters of an elusive Mon-Khmer parent, or compile and analyze the regular patterns of correspondence that are the grail of the comparative method.

Our solution focuses on these three points – *notation*, *realization*, and *historical variation* – in implementing approximate phonetic search. Notational inconsistency is managed by building in specific equivalence sets (e.g. **g/g** or **ŋ /hm**), and by expanding bracketed reconstructions as part of the initial storage process (e.g. a head originally listed as **\*b[h]raap** is implicitly indexed as **braap** and **bhraap**). Variations in phonation, vowel length and the like are managed with approximate match letters and special-purpose search controls.

The most interesting innovation is a graphical interface, modeled after the standard IPA manner-of-articulation chart, that lets the user incorporate extensible pre-built *allophone sets* into search queries. These are carefully designed to reflect predictable historical and areal variation, and include many natural classes of consonants and vowels that characterize Mon-Khmer language variation. We will describe the design of the system and demonstrate its operation.

**Call for papers**  
**18<sup>th</sup> Southeast Asian Linguistics Society Meeting**  
**Bangi, Malaysia**

- (1) Title: “On cognate objects and cognate subjects in East Asian languages”
- (2) Sub-field: Functional syntax
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## Abstract

Cognate objects (CO) have been recorded in a number of unrelated languages, including East Asian languages (e.g. Matisoff 1996). CO constructions should theoretically meet the following criteria:

- i. syntactic: verb “ordinarily” intransitive;
- ii. semantic: the object refers to the action itself or to the result of the action (*He slept a troubled sleep* vs. *He smiled a bitter smile*);
- iii. morphological: object noun and verb share the same stem.

This is for typical properties. Now, the notion has been extended in various ways, including objects of intransitive verbs that are not morphologically related (ex. 2, Gougenheim 1964). Following the same line, one could count as a CO the Korean noun *insayng* “life”, with the verb *salta* “live” in (3), which parallels the sequence with a morphological cognate *salm sata* (same meaning); however *salta* “live” is officially recorded as having transitive uses<sup>1</sup>. The notion CO has in fact been applied to objects of transitive verbs as well, when they are obligatory “dummy” objects (ex. 4, same stem).

The situation, quite confusing, might appear clearer in the following chart, where the three typical properties of COs are considered separately:

	V ordinarily intransitive	semantic redundancy	same stem
(1) Eng. <i>He smiled a bitter smile.</i>	+	+	+
(2) Fr. <i>Il a pleuré des larmes de joie.</i> 'He cried tears of joy.'	+	+	–
(3) Kor. <i>Ku.nun phalan manhun insayng.ul salassta.</i> 'He lived a varied life.'	–	+	–
(4) Hind. <i>Mai~ khaanaa khaauu~gaa.</i> <sup>2</sup> 'I will eat (food).'	–	+	+
(5) Eng. <i>Exiled from Italy, he lives a Bohemian life in New-York.</i> ( <i>New York Times</i> , 2008.01.26)	??–	+	+
(6) Kor. <i>Eceyspam isanghan kkwum kkwuessta.</i> 'Yesterday night, (I) dreamed a strange dream.'	??+	+	+
(7) Jap. <i>Kinoo fushigi.na yume.wo mimashita.</i> <sup>3</sup> 'Yesterday (I) dreamed a strange dream.'	–	–	–

Using the same criteria, we shall raise the question of “cognate subjects” in East Asian languages. Being not aware of any impersonal verb construction in those languages, it is doubtful whether cases similar to (1), i.e. a “typical cognate subject”, could be found in the area<sup>4</sup>. However, types (3) and (4) are attested, as respectively exemplified in the following extracts from Korean (“height be\_big”) and Thai (“strength be\_strong”) pop song lyrics:

	V ordinarily impersonal	semantic redundancy	same stem
(8) <i>Na.n, khi khu.n yeca.ka cohta</i> (Song Chang Yui) 'I, I like tall women'	–	+	+
(9) <i>Gor jai chan man mai koi kaeng raeng tao-rai</i> (Hum) 'Because my heart isn't really so strong.'	–	+	–

Type (4) seems so pervasive across Asian languages that it could prove very interesting from the perspective of areal linguistics.

<sup>1</sup> See the *Big Dictionary of the Korean Standard*, in the sense “endure, experience”. Alongside with the sense “live”, this “second” meaning matches perfectly with the more “typical” construction *salm salta in pwulhaynghan salm.ul salassta* ‘(He) lived/endured a life of misery’.

<sup>2</sup> Example from Elena Bashir.

<sup>3</sup> Japanese does not seem to have productive CO constructions. See however *odori.wo odoru* “dance a dance”.

<sup>4</sup> Cf. Romance languages: Sp. *Este año han llovido lluvias tan copiosas, que ...* “This year so copious rains have rained that ...” (in Zaefferer, 2002: 44), or this Italian example found on the web: *Non scenderò nei posti dove nevica la neve grigia* “(lit.) I shall not go down into the places where the gray snow snows” ([www.nntp.it/arti-scrivere/800278](http://www.nntp.it/arti-scrivere/800278))

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Abstract for SEALS XVIII meeting in 2008

Paper title: **Kri, a Vietic language of Laos**

Sub-field: Descriptive linguistics

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## Abstract:

Kri is a Vietic language spoken by a community of some 250 people in an upland valley near the Vietnamese border in Khammouane Province, Laos. The language and culture of the Kri were almost entirely undocumented until the first author made field trips to the area in 2004-6 to begin an ethnographic and linguistic description project. This paper presents an overview of current findings outlining basic structures of the language and its lexicon, and aspects of the ethnographic setting of the language. The talk will concentrate on the analysis of the phonological system, an important example of a register-terminance system, of the kind which can evolve into a 'tone' system. Description of the Kri language is important not only because it is a previously undocumented language – thus adding to the global database for human diversity – but because its archaic phonology and lexicon contain valuable clues for the study of language relatedness within the Mon-Khmer language family, and in the mainland Southeast Asia area.

- (1) Title: A Cross-linguistic Dimension of Pragmatic Particles
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## Abstract

### A Cross-linguistic Dimension of Pragmatic Particles

The study investigated one commonly used pragmatic particle in Indonesian (*ya*) and the comparable English particle *yeah*. Videotaped data of naturally occurring conversations by native speakers of Indonesian and of English were collected. A cross-linguistic pragmatic model (Östman, 1981, 2006) and previous studies on Indonesian particles (Wouk, 1998, 2001) and the English *yeah* (Jucker & Smith, 1998) were used to examine the data. Results indicated a number of discursive functions that converge to two focal functional indicators of the particle pair *ya-yeah*, which is to receive and present a discourse. First, as a reception particle, *ya* is comparable to *yeah* because *yeah* functions as an echo or affirmative response to an inquiry. Second, unlike *yeah*, *ya* can function to extend common ground so that the listener can respond effectively. *Ya* shares *yeah*'s function as a reception particle, with an additional function as 'presentation particle' serving to extend common ground. The proposed cross-linguistic dimension has extended functional description of *yeah*, clarified that the functions of *ya*, and illustrated the commonalities within the functional descriptions that both particles share. Both Indonesian and English data indicate that the speakers and hearers are involved in building solidarity in interaction by using pragmatic particles. The cross-linguistic dimension analysis forms a natural link between grammatical and interactional competence and bears an important pedagogical consequence for the Indonesian language teaching in terms of both improving teaching materials based on improved studies in Indonesian pragmatic particles and bringing the culture closer to the learner by understanding the functional spectrum of the particles.

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**SEALS XVIII**  
**THE 18TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOUTHEAST ASIAN LINGUISTICS**  
**SOCIETY**

**21-22 MAY 2008**  
**UNIVERSITI KEBANGSAAN MALAYSIA, BANGI**

Title: HOW POSSESSIVE IS AN ENCLITIC ‘-NYA’ IN MALAY?  
Subfield: Syntax  
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**ABSTRACT**

‘-nya’ is a form which resembles a word but cannot stand on its own. It ‘leans’ on an adjacent host word. Due to this characteristic, it is known as a clitic. The clitic ‘-nya’ cliticizes at the end of the host, therefore, it is classified as an enclitic. This enclitic has various distributions in Malay language because it can cliticize to various hosts such as nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs. Its function depends on the host it cliticized to. The aim of this paper is to conduct a syntactic analysis on the cliticization of enclitic ‘-nya’ to a noun. This paper claims that enclitic ‘-nya’ is a head and cliticization happens at the S-structure. This analysis argues that cliticization in Malay involves adjunction. The movement is a head movement which adjoins to its host which is also a head at the S-structure. This movement analysis causes an empty category known as clitic trace to be left behind which requires the Empty Category Principle to be fulfilled at the S-structure. The fulfillment of Empty Category Principle will support that cliticization in Malay happens at the S-structure. Cliticization in Malay also affects the assignment of case and theta role. This paper claims that enclitic ‘-nya’ absorbs the genitive case which is assigned at the D-structure but not the assigned theta role. This analysis is against the claim by Kayne (1975) and Aoun (1985), who analyzed French clitics, that clitics absorb theta roles. This analysis is also against Jaeggli (1986), who analyzed Spanish clitics, that clitics absorb both cases and theta roles.

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SEALS XVIII Abstract

Title of paper: MacNabb's Lai Orthography

Subfield: Phonology or Orthography

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## MacNabb's Lai Orthography

D. J. C. MacNabb's *Handbook of the Haka or Baungshe Dialect of the Chin Language* (Rangoon: Government Printing, 1891) is the first attempt to describe the Lai language. Considering that the British gained control of Upper Burma in 1885 and the effective pacification of the Chin and Lushai Hills dates from 1896, it is a rather remarkable work.

The intended purpose of the *Handbook* was 'to bring the acquisition of a useful knowledge of this language within the reach of all officers either Military or Civil in the Chin Hills.' It consists primarily of 31 lessons each containing a vocabulary illustrated by sentences. Aside from a few notes in the Introduction, there is no explicit discussion of pronunciation, and the grammar consists of short lists of sentences in various tenses and moods, or interrogation and negation. This is supplemented by a 'conjugation' of the verb *ding* 'drink' and a collected vocabulary.

MacNabb does not describe how he learned the language or established an orthography other than: 'the system of spelling I have used in this book is the Government system of transliteration as far as I have found it possible to follow it.' This paper will examine MacNabb's Lai orthography in comparison with that in use today. Among the phenomena of Lai phonology which he represents inconsistently or not at all are: aspiration, voiceless sonorants (in initial position), the glottal stop and glottalized sonorants (in final position) and retroflex stops. This not to mention vowel length and tone, which are not represented in current orthography either.

Paper title: Adaptation of French loanwords in Vietnamese

Sub-fields: phonetics, phonology, loanword adaptation, Vietnamese

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## **Adaptation of French loanwords in Vietnamese**

Due to the long-term contact between French and Vietnamese, the Vietnamese lexicon has many borrowed items from French, some of which have been nativized while some are marked as foreign through phonetic characteristics. These loanwords, especially the marked ones, have been adapted into the native patterns step-by-step through variations and competition between these variations. However, the curious question is whether the current loan tokens can shed light on the matter of loanword adaptation as a process of phonetic perception by native speakers. Peperkamp (2005) argues that in speech perception, the phonology of the listener's native language influences the decoding process of non-native forms but the actual mapping is not identical to the native phonology. It is proven through previous experiments that loanwords' features are originated phonetically through native speakers' perception of the words. "A non-native sound that is almost equidistant to two different native sounds is likely to show more variability in its adaptation than one is phonetically much closer to one of the native sounds than to all others" (Peperkamp 2005). This adaptation applies to both loanwords that have entered the lexicon of the borrowing language and loanwords that are borrowed once in a while.

This paper researches on a list of French loanwords in Vietnamese, their phonetic variations and the mapping of French sounds onto Vietnamese sounds. The adaptation of French consonants and clusters toward Vietnamese native patterns shows a great deal of variations, especially for those segments that are non-native and are similar to more than one native segment. The variations are originated from native speakers' perception of the foreign words. In the modern lexicon, these variations are not in conflict with each other. They are all well-established entries and some even show a semantic differentiation. The foreign words that remain different from the native phonological pattern of velar labialization can be either fossilized lexicon or just natively accepted variations. This mapping and variation is then compared with the adaptation of the current English terms into Vietnamese through a different list of English loanwords, focusing on the pattern of velar labialization.

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- (1) Title: Excrescent Vowels in Minangkabau
- (2) Subfield: Phonology
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Comparison of the West Sumatran language Minangkabau with closely related Malay reveals the existence of excrescent vowels in word-final codas in certain phonological environments, for example:

- (1) (a) Minangkabau: *masuk* 'enter'  
 Malay: *masuk*  
 (b) Minangkabau: *putuih* 'cut off'  
 Malay: *putus*

The correspondences may be represented in the following two re-write rules of epenthesis, reflecting the historical directionality of the process:

- (2) (a)  $\emptyset \rightarrow a / i, u \_ \_ k, ng, h, r, l \#$   
 (b)  $\emptyset \rightarrow i / u \_ \_ p, t, s \#$

(The above rules are couched in the standard orthography: *ng* is a digraph representing a velar nasal, while *k* is realized word-finally as a glottal stop. Further sound changes entail that in Minangkabau in word-final position, *r* and *l* are deleted, while *s* is realized as *h*.) The Minangkabau forms cited above are the citation forms; a hitherto unnoted fact is that in actual speech they alternate with forms in which the excrescent vowel is absent, e.g. *masuk* ~ *masuk*, *putuih* ~ *putuh*.

Excrescent vowels in Minangkabau are not syllabic; for example, in (1), *-suak* and *-tuih* constitute single syllables, with the syllabic peak falling on the original vowel *u*, the excrescent vowel being of reduced nature. Most commonly, such words are analyzed as containing a complex offglide nucleus; however, under an alternative analysis, supported by some evidence from the *Sorba* ludling, the excrescent vowel may instead "go with" the final consonant, either as a complex coda or else even as a single complex segment (Crouch 2008). The alternations between forms with and without excrescent vowel raise the question which of the two forms is the underlying one. Arguments can be constructed in favour of either of the two forms being underlying, perhaps suggesting that the most appropriate analysis lies elsewhere, as for example is provided for within non-derivational frameworks such as Declarative Phonology (Bird ed. 1991 and others).

A central question is: Under what conditions do the two alternative forms, with and without the excrescent vowel, occur? Examination of a naturalistic corpus of Minangkabau speech suggests that the answer lies in the realm of phrasal phonology; specifically, forms with the excrescent vowel tend to occur at the end of a phonological phrase, or tone group, whereas forms without the excrescent vowel are more often encountered in non-final positions. However, the phrasal conditioning of the alternation is not categorical but rather a mere tendency, albeit one that is statistically significant. Thus, for a given word, the excrescent vowel is more likely to occur utterance finally than utterance medially, more likely to occur phrase finally than phrase medially, and more likely to occur at the end of a complex word (formed by compounding or reduplication) than in the middle of such a word.

In conclusion, the distribution of excrescent vowels in Minangkabau is compared with other hitherto undescribed alternations in other Malayic languages also exhibiting phrasal-phonological conditioning of an apparently statistical, non-categorical nature: among these are final excrescent nasals in Tapan, preoralization of final nasals in Balai Berkuak Malay, final glottal stops in Jakarta Indonesian, and the alternation between final *-n* and *-ng* in the Manokwari dialect of Papuan Malay. Such phrasal phonological alternations also provide a plausible diachronic basis for the process of grammaticalization leading to the development of morphological alternations between so-called absolute and oblique forms in the dialects of Kerinci (Usman 1988).

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## **The Structure of the 4<sup>th</sup> Sentence in Malay: A Pragmatic Explanation**

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Tatabahasa Dewan (2004:322) basically categorises the basic sentence in Malay into 4 basic structures as follows: (1) Noun Phrase + Noun Phrase, (2) Noun Phrase + Verb Phrase, (3) Noun Phrase + Adjective Phrase, and (4) Noun Phrase + Prepositional Phrase. This categorisation is based on surface level sentences produced in both verbal and written form by users and speakers of Malay. In structures 1, 2 and 3, the heads which make up the constituent of the subject and predicate have clear meaning and can be clearly delineated in the mind of the Malay speaker. In structure 4, however, the head which makes up the constituent of the predicate, which is the prepositional phrase, is clearly different from the heads forming the constituent of structures 1, 2 and 3, as it does not represent any conceptual meaning to users and speakers of Malay. In other words, the preposition which is the head of the prepositional phrase in the predicate does not have any concrete or abstract referential meaning. The question of how and why a prepositional phrase whose head is a preposition can represent one of the basic structures of a sentence in Malay has not been fully explained. A preposition which does not carry any conceptual meaning should essentially make it more difficult for the phrase to be understood by users and speakers of Malay. This is, however, not the case. It seems that the prepositional phrase which appears as the predicate of some sentences in Malay carry a meaning which can be understood by users of the Malay language. This question therefore merits a thorough analysis and explanation based on actual usage of the language by users and speakers of Malay in their daily lives. A research of this nature can only be appropriately dealt with by employing knowledge from the field of pragmatics, the only area in linguistics which can explain and describe meaning and language usage based on context. Using the pragmatic approach, specifically the Relevance theory, the researcher believes that the question related to the structure of the 4<sup>th</sup> basic sentence which is widely used in Malay can be explained in a more critical and empirical manner, especially by employing the principles of cognitive and communicative relevance as well as the ideas put forth by Sperber and Wilson (1986, 1995).

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# **The Sentence Repetition Test as a tool to measure community-wide bilingualism in standard Indonesian**

*Sociolinguistics*

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## Abstract

*The Sentence Repetition Test (SRT) is a language proficiency test developed to quantitatively measure the community-wide proficiency level in a second language. Consisting of fifteen sentences ranging in topics and difficulty, the tool is proven effective for measuring the bilingualism proficiency at the lower and intermediate levels. This paper will briefly discuss the development of the Indonesian SRT, its administration and application in the Rejang community of Bengkulu, Indonesia. The development process involves the calibration of the SRT to other more reliable tests like the Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) or the Second Language Oral Proficiency Evaluation (SLOPE) and the selection of test sentences based on a Difficulty Level (DL) and Discrimination Index (DI). The SRT is administered using a stratified and systematic sampling methodology and standard administration procedures. The paper will discuss how the results are analyzed and interpreted and will also relate the SRT results to factors that affect the community's bilingual proficiency, such as poor access to education, infrequent contact with speakers of other languages or contact in which only very basic Indonesian is used, and high ethnic homogeneity within the community.*

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- (1) Paper title: Progressive Aspect, the Verbal Prefix *meN-* and Stative Sentences in Malay
- (2) Subfield: Semantics
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## Progressive Aspect, the Verbal Prefix *meN-* and Stative Sentences in Malay

The verbal prefix *meN-* in Malay contributes a progressive-(like) meaning in some intransitive sentences.

- (1) Harga elektrik turun/menurun.  
price electricity fall/meN-fall  
'The price of electricity fell/is falling.'

This effect of *meN-* is not easily detected in transitive sentences, leading many to consider *meN-* in transitive and intransitive sentences as distinct prefixes (Cole and Son 2004; Fortin, in press), with the transitive *meN-* given analyses that are unrelated to aspect (Voskuil 1993; Soh 1998; Fortin, in press; but see Benjamin 1988; Gil 2002). In this paper, we claim *meN-* has aspectual effects in transitive sentences as well.

Though the distinction is subtle, Malay native speakers have noted *meN-* sentences describe events that are more "in progress" than sentences without *meN-*.

- (2) Saya akan bina/membina makmal kamu.  
I will build/meN-build laboratory your  
'I will build/be building your laboratory.'

If *meN-* is a progressive(-like) viewpoint aspect marker, one expects it to have restricted distribution in stative sentences (e.g., \*John is knowing Bill) (Vendler 1967, Dowty 1979). We argue this restriction holds in Malay, despite some apparent counter-examples.

Our evidence comes from results of a corpus study and native speakers judgments. We identified 1129 *meN-* verbs from a corpus of front-page articles of Utusan Malaysia (January 1-5, 2006). Out of 80 verbs that are semantically "stative", we found very few instances where the verb takes only the prefix *meN-*. There are no examples like those in (3a), which native speakers also judge to be unacceptable.

- (3) a. \*Ali menyukai/menghormat cikgu-nya.  
Ali meN-like/meN-respect teacher-his  
b. Ali suka/hormat cikgu-nya.  
Ali like/respect teacher-his  
'Ali likes/respects his teacher.'

However, there are many cases with *meN-* appearing with the same verbs when the verbs bear the suffix *-i*.

- (4) Ali menyukai/menghormati cikgu-nya.  
Ali meN-like-i/meN-respect-i teacher-his  
'Ali likes/respects his teacher.'

We argue sentences like (4) with the suffix *-i* are not statives. Unlike statives, they can appear in imperatives (Smith 1991).

- (5) Sukailah/\*sukalah jiran tetangga anda!  
like-i-LAH/ like-LAH neighbour your  
'Like your neighbours!'

Also, they can appear with *perlahan-lahan* 'slowly', which is odd with states (Maslida 2005).

- (6) Ali belajar menyukai /\*suka sekolah baru-nya perlahan-lahan.  
Ali learn meN-like-i/like school new-his slowly  
'Ali learns to like his new school slowly.'

Furthermore, we argue *sedang* 'currently' does not distinguish states from (durative) events (contra Maslida 2005), and the presence of prepositions (e.g., *pada*, *akan*) after semantically "stative" bare verbs have aspectual effects.

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## The 18th Annual Meeting of the Southeast Asian Linguistics Society (SEALS 18)

- **Paper Title:** Nominalization, Relativization and Genitivization in Selected Palaungic Languages
- **Sub-field:** Comparative Grammar
- **Name of Author:** Paulette Hopple, Ph.D.
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### Abstract

The same marker of nominalization and relativization, sometimes including genitivization, has been noted across many Tibeto-Burman languages.<sup>1</sup> In mainland Southeast Asia, little has been known about the grammatical patterns of the Palaungic branch of the Mon-Khmer language family.<sup>2</sup> This branch appears to share similar grammaticalized functions of the nominalizing particle as many Tibeto-Burman languages.

This paper, as part of ongoing research, discusses the relationship of nominalization to other strategies of sentence information structuring (relativization and genitivization) among three Palaungic languages –Plang (Pang Pung dialect), Wa (Kengtung dialect), and Palaung (Ruching dialect).

A typology of the functions of nominalization within and between the three languages is discussed along with constructional restrictions. A proto-Palaungic grammatical typology is suggested by the constructional configuration of nominalization.

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<sup>1</sup> Matisoff's 1972 paper on Lahu initiated tracking this phenomenon in Asia. DeLancey 1986, 1989, followed that up with observations about Lhasa Tibetan, Newari and Tibeto-Burman in general. Noonan 1997 on Chantyal, a Bodic type language in the Tibeto-Burman family language of Nepal. Hopple 2003 mapped the underlying structures of nominalization in Burmese.

<sup>2</sup> Most of the scholarly research on Palaungic has been phonetics, phonology or historical reconstruction. Some of the research on aspects of Palaungic grammar has been done by Shorto 1960, 1963 for Palaung and Wa, by Milne 1921 for Rumai Palaung, by Janzen 1976 for Pale Palaung.

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**The Social Variation of Malay in Kuching, Sarawak:  
Identity and Integration<sup>1</sup>**

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**Abstract**

Language variation is shown from its regional or social dimension. This paper is about social variation of Malay language spoken in Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia. The focus is on their accents. As a part of Malay language society, the Malays of Kuching have their own accent which is different from other Malay accents or the standard national accent. This paper analyzes the use of national accent and local accent among the Malay informants in the city of Kuching. The discussion is based on a sociological urban dialectology research. For the analysis, two phonological variable – open-ended vowels (a), such as *saya* and post-vocalic (r), such as *pasar* are chosen. Issues on accents are studied through two different formalities of speech styles, namely text style and casual style. Two social variables - sex and age groups will be considered in the analysis. The uses of national accent compared with the local accent will be linked to the issues of identity and integration.

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<sup>1</sup> This paper is based on UKM-SK-04-FRGS0015-2006 research project.

## “Abstract for SEALS XVIII”

- (1) Paper title: Semantic Motivation for the Malay prefix *beR-*
- (2) Sub-field: Semantics
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### Abstract

The prefix *beR-* has several (disparate) meanings depending on the category of the root word it attaches to. The four main categories are *beR*-verbs (*berlari, berunding, berundur*), *beR*-nouns (*berbasikal, berbaju, bersawah*), *beR*-adjectives (*bersedih, bergembira*) and function words as well as numerals (*beroleh, berserta, bersatu, berdua*). Even within a particular category, there appears to be different sub-meanings.

This paper examines the notion of structured polysemy in the Malay prefix *beR-* using the framework of Cognitive Grammar developed by Langacker (1987, 1991). Recognizing the fact that the prefix *beR-* has several (disparate) meanings depending on the category and nature of the root word it attaches to; a more unified and motivated account of the cluster of meaning of the prefix *beR-* is in order.

The concept of an abstract schema overarching a radial category is invoked to provide a structured and motivated account of the meanings for the prefix. Metaphor and metonymy provide the cognitive mechanism whereby the range of meanings is extended. Hence, the various grammatical meanings of the prefix are related to each other via reference to the abstract schematic form, metaphors and metonymy. For instance in the *beR*-noun category, based on the embodied experiences of possession, the various meanings of the prefix can be seen as emanating from the metaphor of possession (*berpelajaran*) > instrumental (*berkasut*) > possessive/locative functional (*bersawah*) > creative (*bertelur, berbunga*).

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**SEALS XIII 2008**

**Title of Paper:**        **A Comparison of the variation of Bahasa Melayu (Malay language) as used by the Babas and Chitties of Melaka**

**Subfield**        :        **Sociolinguistic**

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## **Abstract**

### **A Comparison of the variation of Bahasa Melayu (Malay language) as used by the Babas and Chitties of Melaka**

The Babas and Chitties are descendants of the Chinese and Indians who have been in Melaka since the reign of the Melaka Sultanate in early 15<sup>th</sup> century. Known as the Peranakan or Straits born Chinese and Indians, the Babas and Chitties of Melaka have developed a Malay patois unique only to their respective communities. Their variation of the Malay language is the main language spoken in their communities. Most of them cannot speak Chinese or Tamil although some can speak through their association with local Chinese or Indians (Chinese who came to Malaysia in early 20<sup>th</sup> century). Even though both have their own variation of Malay language it is of interest to investigate the differences between the Babas' and the Chitties' patois which each developed through a process of assimilation into the Malay community. Thus, this paper studies Bahasa Melayu as used by the groups mentioned by investigating the accent based on two phonological variable – the open ended vowels (a) and post vocalic (r). This is studied through four speech styles namely: word list, reading passage, interview and story telling. The various speech styles represents formal to informal language used i.e. from text to spoken language. The study will also consider the social economic status of the informants in the analysis as this is also a factor that may contribute to language variation.

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- (1) Paper title: The syntactic development of classifier phrases in young  
Vietnamese children
- (2) Sub-field: First language acquisition, Syntax
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## **The syntactic development of classifier phrases in young Vietnamese children**

This study investigates for the first time the syntactic development of numeral classifiers in Vietnamese, employing both longitudinal and cross-sectional data. Naturalistic longitudinal data were collected over a period of 6-11 months from four children at the ages 1;9, 1;11, 2;4 and 2;6, living in Vietnam, to determine the emergence of their first classifiers and to trace the early syntactic development of classifier phrases. To investigate later syntactic as well as semantic development, cross-sectional data were collected from 50 children between the ages 2;10-5;6, at a daycare center in Vietnam. Over several sessions, children participated in two experimental elicited production tasks (114 stimuli: pictures, toys and real objects requiring different types of classifiers) as well as semi-controlled naturalistic dyadic interactions.

There have been some previous studies in other Asian languages that have investigated the syntactic development of classifier phrases: Erbaugh 1982, Hu 1993 on Mandarin, Carpenter 1987 on Thai, and Wong 1998 on Cantonese. Consistent with results of studies in other Asian languages, the four longitudinal children in my study demonstrate early knowledge of the classifier slot in a noun phrase. As early as age 1;11, they can produce an obligatory classifier, not only with a noun, but also with a demonstrative and an interrogative. Between the ages 2;0-2;7, they build two- and three-element classifier phrases, using not only the general classifier as a placeholder, but also their 'favorite' classifier. Contrary to Wong's (1998) results that Cantonese children tend to combine a classifier with a number before they combine it with a head noun, my results show that Vietnamese children do the reverse. Up to age 3;2, they perform poorly in numeral constructions, omitting classifiers, making word order errors, and indicating numerals incorrectly. In numeral constructions, Vietnamese children overuse the general classifier much less frequently than do children learning other languages; they either omit the classifier or employ overgeneralizations and overextensions with the five different classifiers they know at that age. The results from the cross-sectional data show that such errors decrease only after age 3;2. The results also show that as of age 4, children's increasing ability to count facilitates their production of classifier phrases. The findings in my study strongly support the claim that children's ability to count and their understanding of enumeration and quantification affects their ability to use classifiers syntactically. There is a strong interaction between cognitive knowledge and syntactic development.

395 words

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Title of presentation: Reduplication in Kimaragang  
Topic: Phonology  
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Kimaragang is spoken by approximately 20,000 people in Sabah, Borneo, Malaysia. See also Kroeger (2005)'s general description. This presentation discusses a few aspects of reduplication in Kimaragang, and is based on extensive fieldwork conducted by the first author.

Reduplication in Kimaragang has two suppletive templates with identical semantics: Root Reduplication and CV Reduplication. The choice between Root Reduplication and CV Reduplication is largely phonologically based. Root Reduplication can only occur if the base is a **disyllabic onsetless foot**:

(1) *piondomondom* (pi- RED- ondom) 'keep remembering'.

The reduplicant is inserted before the root. Elsewhere CV Reduplication occurs: inserted before the root if the root is C-initial (2), and infixes into the root if the root is V-initial and trisyllabic or longer (3):

(2) *koboboros* (ko- RED- boros) 'reason for speaking'

(3) *kopiuririmos* (ko- pi- RED- urimos) 'continually feel pain'

We will argue that, since a disyllabic onsetless foot is a marked prosodic unit, this suppletive allomorphy pattern is not 'optimal'. Data from related languages suggest it is the result of historical developments. The synchronic data can be better explained if it is assumed that each template is subcategorized for a base with certain phonological and morphological characteristics rather than in an output-oriented approach.

The **infixing reduplication**, as in (3) above, also occurs in related languages and has often been cited in the theoretical literature, but in Kimaragang it is complicated by the suppletive allomorphic templates. Rather than presenting an alternative prosodic analysis, this presentation seeks to put this phenomenon in perspective of the morphology of the language as a whole.

The examples in (4) illustrate a phenomenon that also exists in Tagalog and other related languages, and has been classified as '**overcopying**' or '**overapplication**' by McCarthy & Prince (2005). They suggest that the root adapts to the reduplicant in order to make base and reduplicant identical in shape. Booij & Lieber (1993), Cole (1994), Downing (1998) and Inkelas & Zoll (2005) all suggest a similar, prosodic analysis, in which the base of reduplication for vowel-initial roots includes the prefix-final consonant in order to provide it with an onset.

(4) *mongingirak* (-um- pong- RED- irak) 'laugh at'  
*pananagos* (pong- RED- tagos) 'clear throat'

We will adopt ideas from the prosodic analysis but show that it works only partly for Kimaragang and that the answer for Kimaragang must be sought in the morphophonemics of the prefix *pong-*.

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- 1) **Topic:** Grammaticalization of the Verb of Taking into Pragmatic Markers in Thai
- 2) **Sub-field:** Semantic and Syntax
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## Grammaticalization of the Verb of Taking into Pragmatic Markers in Thai

The verb of taking is found to be one of the verbs which is highly grammaticalized and highly polysemous across languages. It is found in previous studies that the verb of taking is usually grammaticalized into functional or grammatical words, such as direct object markers or instrumental noun markers as in *ba* in Mandarin Chinese and *de* in Twi. This paper aims at investigating the pattern of grammaticalization of the verb of taking in Thai, namely /ʔau/, in comparison with those of the corresponding verbs in other languages. If the notion of “grammatical morpheme” is understood in the narrow sense, it is found that /ʔau/ is grammaticalized into only one grammatical morpheme, namely, the causative marker. However, the causative marker /ʔau/ has a restricted use and occurs only in the spoken language. This grammaticalization path from the lexical verb /ʔau/ to the causative marker is hardly found in other languages. Another pattern of grammaticalization of /ʔau/ which is hardly found in the verb of taking in other languages is that in which /ʔau/ is grammaticalized into pragmatic markers. Pragmatic markers express the relation or relevance of an utterance to the preceding utterance or to the context. In normal cases, they occur sentence-initially or sentence-finally but optionally in the spoken language. In this paper, it is argued that /ʔau/ is grammaticalized into three pragmatic markers which add pragmatic meanings to the events denoted by the main verbs. The first pragmatic meaning is that the subject chose to do something as opposed to something else. The second one is that the speaker was a victim of an unpleasant event. As for the third one, /ʔau/ serves to introduce a new utterance. /ʔau/ in the first two pragmatic functions is considered a kind of particle whereas that in the third one is considered a discourse marker, which is a kind of pragmatic marker.

It is also argued that the concept of grammaticalization must be enriched and that of grammatical morpheme must be understood in the broad sense so that it will include pragmatic marker as a product of grammaticalization. This paper also argues that metonymy plays a crucial role in grammaticalization and semantic extension. The approach used in this study corresponds to what Traugott (1968) terms “internal semantic reconstruction”, which refers to the study of synchronic senses of a lexical item to hypothesize the historical order in which those senses arose.

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Paper title:

The pragmatics of Malay numeral classifiers: An investigation of modern Malay corpuses

Sub-field:

Pragmatics

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Abstract:

Anaphora and definiteness are most commonly expressed in Malay via the use of pronouns (e.g. “*dia*”, “*mereka*”) and the language’s *kata penentu* (i.e. “*itu*”, “*ini*”) respectively (Abdullah Hassan, 1993; Nik Safiah Karim, 1995). In addition to the two grammatical categories, numeral classifiers – a linguistic device that overtly manifests the human conceptual categorization (Allan, 1977; Craig, 1986) – have also been used both in the written and spoken discourse of several numeral classifier languages to achieve similar effects (Craig, 1986; Downing, 1986; Goral, 1978; Hopper, 1986). Downing (1986, p. 345) illustrates how Thai, Vietnamese and Japanese numeral classifiers may function as a “stylistic neutral anaphoric option for the speaker anxious to avoid the ponderous repetition of full nouns...”. She explains how sufficiently powerful numeral classifiers can be as anaphoric reference by showing the use of Thai, Vietnamese and Japanese numeral classifiers as a cohesive device to refer to objects not only beyond the noun phrase boundary but also beyond the sentence boundary in which the numeral classifiers are used (Downing, 1986). Using examples from *Hikayat Abdullah*, Hopper (1986) on the other hand, suggests that numeral classifiers in the classical Malay may sometimes be used to indicate the extent of definiteness of a noun in question. He demonstrates how numeral classifiers in the text were used to foreground a particular noun phrase so as to signal to the audience that the noun phrase in question has the potential to be activated later in the discourse. Because definiteness can be expressed via the use of numeral classifiers in Malay, alternatively, the absence of this syntactic-semantic category could have the potential to indicate indefiniteness in this Austronesian language. This paper presents an analysis of various modern Malay corpuses accessible to children which includes children’s television programs in Malay and children’s online pages by *Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka*. The analysis suggests that the Malay numeral classifiers are also used in modern Malay corpuses to perform both anaphoric and determinative functions and that they sometimes do get omitted despite being described by Malay linguists as an obligatory entity when a noun is present with a numeral. This paper also discusses the omission of numeral classifiers in the corpus in terms of pragmatic factors and indefiniteness of the noun phrase in question – and show that this omission is not due to speakers’/writers’ lack of knowledge in the use of numeral classifiers. (393 words)

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(1) Paper title: Identification of Vietnamese final stops: A preliminary investigation of the effect of speakers' dialects

(2) Sub-field: phonetics

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We examined the effect of speakers' dialects on the identification of word-final stops in Vietnamese. Stops in the word-final position are unreleased in Vietnamese [1-5]. Further, in the Southern dialect, deletion [1] or merger of word-final /t/ and /k/ [4, 5] has been reported. This may lead to the expectation that the final stops are less intelligible in the Southern than in the Northern dialect.

Twelve native speakers of Vietnamese (6 male, 6 female) produced bVC words (where V = /i a o u @/, C = /p t k/, tone = rising) which were presented as stimuli. Half were speakers of the Northern dialect and the other half were speakers of the Southern dialect.

Twenty-four listeners (Northern dialect speakers) were tested in Vietnam using a three-alternative forced-choice identification task. On average, the listeners correctly identified the final stop 45% of the time (1922 out of 4272 tokens correctly identified). Their identification accuracy depended both on the dialect of the speakers and the place of articulation of the final stop. Figure 1 shows the mean identification scores by the 24 listeners according to the dialect of the speakers.

A two-way ANOVA with Dialect (Northern, Southern) and Place of articulation (p t k) yielded a significant effect of Dialect [ $F(1, 23) = 75.7, p < 0.001$ ] and an interaction effect [ $F(2, 46) = 9.9, p < 0.001$ ] on the identification scores obtained for each listener. The main effect of Place was not significant.

The simple effect of Dialect was significant for all three stops [/p/:  $F(1, 23) = 8.4, p < 0.01$ , /t/:  $F(1, 23) = 65.0, p < 0.001$ , /k/:  $F(1, 23) = 20.4, p < 0.001$ ]. The listeners correctly identified the stop place significantly more often when it was spoken in the Northern than in the Southern dialect. The simple effect of Place reached significance only for the stops spoken in the Southern dialect [ $F(2, 46) = 4.0, p < 0.05$ ]. The only significant difference was between /p/ (43% correct) and /t/ (34% correct).

We observed that dialectal differences had perceptual relevance for the identification of the final stops in Vietnamese and the Northern dialect was more intelligible than the Southern dialect. To determine whether our results suggest an acoustical cause and generalize to other listeners, it would be necessary to examine the perception of Southern dialect speakers and to acoustically analyze the stimuli in our future work.

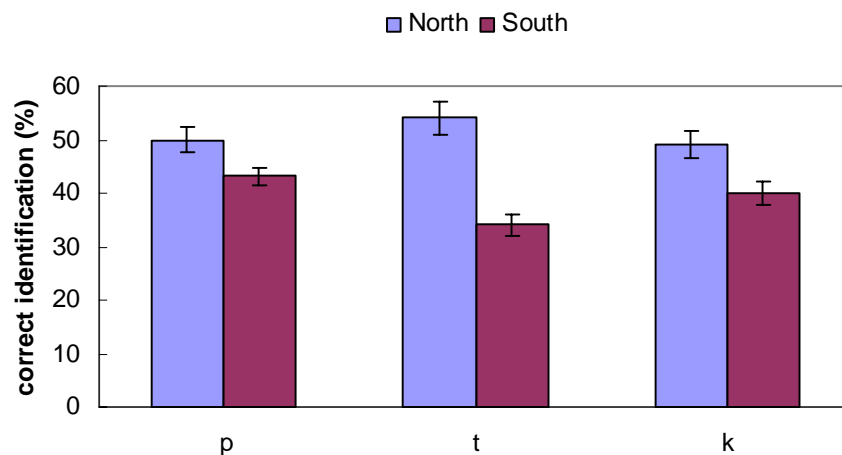


Figure 1: Correct identification by 24 native listeners

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## Prepositions in Thai: A reanalysis

Various linguists have examined words which are traditionally called prepositions in Thai. Warotamasikkhadit (1992) proposed that there are no prepositions in Thai. Other linguists maintain that there remain prepositions in Thai (cf. Savetamalya 1989; Indrambarya 1995; Prasithrathsint 2000). Words which appear in the following frame [NP V NP \_\_ NP] have been widely discussed and classified into various categories: verbs (Indrambarya 1995), nouns (Savetamalya 1989; Indrambarya 1995, Prasithrathsint 2000), prepositions (Indrambarya 1995, Prasithrathsint 2000), adverbs (Indrambarya 1995) or even conjunctions (Warotamasikkhadit 1992)

With new findings in recent years, my aim in this paper is to take a closer look each of the words which may appear in the above construction. Using precise and reliable set of syntactic criteria, I can synchronically identify prepositions in Thai. The data are drawn from present-day standard Thai corpus. The result shows that words which may appear in this position may have homophonous forms and they may belong to one of the four lexical categories, namely, verbs, prepositions, nouns or adverbs -- with the limited number of the last two classes.

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Basic serial verb constructions in Thai

semantics, syntax

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This study aims to provide a comprehensive classification of complex events expressed by basic serial verb constructions in Thai. ‘Basic serial verb constructions (in short, BSVCs)’ are defined as constructions in which two verb phrases are serialized with no overt linker (Chuwicha 1993). The two verbs in the constructions must denote a certain substantial situation (action, process, change, state, emotion, and so on) and share at least one nominal argument, which may or may not be explicitly expressed, as exemplified below.

- |      |  |      |  |
|------|--|------|--|
| (1a) | paa    t`ek<br>throw be broken<br>(He) threw (it) and (it) was broken. | (1b) | pay    th`uŋ<br>go     arrive<br>(He) went away and reached (there). |
| (2)  | y`aaŋ    kin<br>roast    eat<br>(He) roasted (it) to eat.              |      |  |
| (3)  | n`oon    ?`aan<br>lie      read<br>(He) read lying.                    |      |  |
| (4)  | y`aak    pay<br>want    go<br>(He) wanted to go.                       |      |  |

I posit two most important dimensions for classifying complex events expressed by Thai BSVCs:

- A. Temporal relation between two events represented by the two verb phrases:  
Consecutive vs. Simultaneous
- B. The degree of assertiveness (factuality) of each of the two constituents:  
Assertive (Factual) vs. Nonassertive (Nonfactual)

Previous studies on Thai serial verb constructions (Chuwicha 1993, Diller 2006, Kessakul 2005, Kölver 1984, Muansuwan 2002, Sereechoensatit 1984, Sudmuk 2005, Thepkanjana 1986, 2006, Wilawan 1993, *inter alia*) mainly consider the former temporal dimension leaving the latter modal dimension untouched. The latter modal dimension is directly related to Gestalt distinction between coordination and subordination, namely ‘Complex Figure’ vs. ‘Figure-Ground’ constructions (Croft 2001). The combination of two assertive constituents forms a coordination-like Complex Figure construction, while the combination of an assertive constituent and a nonassertive constituent forms a subordination-like Figure-Ground construction. In other words, the degree of unity of the two constituents of a BSVC is determined by a modal factor with respect to assertiveness.

In terms of the two dimensions A and B above, complex events expressed by Thai BSVCs are classified into four main types:

- Type I. Complex event of natural consequence (consecutive, coordination-like), e.g. (1)
- Type II. Complex event of purposive activity (consecutive, subordination-like), e.g. (2)
- Type III. Complex event with two facets (simultaneous, coordination-like), e.g. (3)
- Type IV. Complex event integrated (simultaneous, subordination-like), e.g. (4)

In this study I argue that ‘restrictedness of the membership of a verb class (Aikhenvald 2006)’ and ‘agentivity in verb-meaning’ are not crucial factors for the classification of complex events expressed by Thai BSVCs.

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## Abstract

### Doing Metrosexuality in Men's Advertisements

Korapat Pruekchaikul

Metrosexual is "a neologism generally applied to heterosexual men with a strong concern for his appearance ("Metrosexual")" and those who have several lifestyles of typical gay men. Introduced for the first time in 1994 in Mark Simpson's article, "Here come the mirror men", published in The Independent, the term achieves huge popularity when David Beckham, the British football player, appears as the metrosexual posterboy for many male advertisements and the model for "a glossy gay magazine in the UK (Simpson, 2002)". In the magazine, Beckham reiterated his gender identity that he is straight but does not mind if not only women but men find him sexually attractive (Simpson, 2002).

To possess the quality that both women and men admire, metrosexual men, as claimed by Simpson (2002), need to have money to spend, live within easy reach of a metropolis, embrace femininity more than ever before and accept female customs and attitudes which make them look uncertain of their real identity. Moreover, being narcissistic is archetypal for metrosexual men as this quality confirms their actual existence among other people.

If Mark Simpson's article gives birth to the metrosexual man, some male advertisements, especially those concerning health and beauty products, publicly confirm and maintain the existence of this new male hybrid. The implication of metrosexuality in the advertisements is created in both language and paralinguage. In terms of language technique, the use of what Fairclough (1995) calls 'conversationalisation (10)' is predominant. Conversationalization, the mixture of public and private talk, can be so subtle that a scientific topic is presented in a relaxing way, "in terms of rhythm and intonation, and ... colloquial vocabulary and idioms (Litosseliti, 2006: 91)", or in terms of 'role borrowing (Torben and Schroder, 1985: 62)'. Also, conversationalization can be very sensational and attention-grabbing, employing figurative languages like metonymy, hyperbole, pun, metaphor, parallelism and rhyme (Vestergard and Schroder, 1985: 59-62), or synaesthetic, supernym as well as catachresis (Guy, 1992: 104, 106, 108), as well as "sensational disclosures as headlines, ... direct questions, personal narratives and dramatic stories (Litosseliti, 2006: 91)". Regarding the paralinguage, there are many techniques used in advertisements. To name

but a few are iconity with words, connected icons and symbols, writing that provokes iconic behavior or idexical graphology (Guy, 1992: 78-85). Both the use of linguistic and paralinguistic techniques mentioned earlier aim not only to sell the product advertised but also to generalize the type of metrosexual men – the men who both gays and straight guys “would rather *be* than [have sexual intercourse with] (Simpson, 2002)”.

This paper’s principal objective is to answer the question of *how some male advertisements in Thailand represent and/or construct metrosexual Thai men* as shaped and agreed upon by Mark Simpson (2002), Liu (“Mirror, Mirror”), and O’Shaughnessy and Stadler (2005: 364). The data of analysis comes from adverts in modern Thai male magazines, and the Internet. The answer to this question will enable us to realize the emergence of modern Thai males who are different from the normative men Thai people were familiar with in the past.

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# AN ETHNOSEMANTIC STUDY OF COOKING TERMS IN LANNA THAI

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This study aims at the componential analysis of the cooking terms in a main dialect spoken in the Lanna region, which is rich in cultural and ethnic diversity. This region is located in the northwestern part of Thailand, with a long history of civilization of about 1,400 years. One of its interesting cultural aspects, cooking, is indigenous and unique from the neighboring regions and thus deserves serious studies. However, there is only a small amount of work done in Lanna Thai, and all the previous works were conducted in the ethnography approach, which did not enable us to see the cultural scenario systemically and scientifically. The ethnosemantics approach is therefore chosen for this study, which focuses on the whole system of culture-specific culinary art distinct from other parts of the country. The data has been elicited from the Lamphun province by the random methodology and collected from a corpus. The choice of study tokens is restricted verbs of cooking, 25 of which are found: /κια<ω/, /κE:N/, /κηυ(αω), /χO(μ/, /χιαω/, /τηO:τ/, /το(μ/, /ταμ/, /πι(N/, /μO(π/, /φαμ/, /λα(π/, /λυ(ι/, /σ(α:ι/, /ON/, /O(μ/, /E(π/, /ηο?/, /μο(κ/, /χO:ι/, /κηE(π/, /χι:ι/, /ηυ(μ/, /νI(N/, and /σO:φ/. It is found that there exist nine dimensions of contrast, namely: (1) blending ratio, i.e. [+NO BLENDING], [+LITTLE BLENDING], [+MUCH BLENDING], and [HARMONIOUS BLENDING]; (2) the resultative state for edible, i.e. [+RAW], [+UNDERGONE HEAT], [+TRANSFORMED], and [+UNDERGONE SEASONING]; (3) time, i.e. [LITTLE TIME], [+MODERATE TIME],

and [+MUCH TIME]; (4) the nature of an object undergoing heating, i.e. [+WRAPPING], [+DIRECT HEAT]; [+SIMMERING]; [+STEAMING]; [+FRYING]; and [+NO HEAT]; (5) the contact with liquid during cooking, i.e. [+WATER], [+OIL], and [+NO LIQUID]; (6) the level of heat, i.e. [+NO HEATING], [+MODERTE HEATING], and [+HIGH HEATING]; (7) specific equipment used, i.e. [+ BANANA LEAF], [+ASH], [+POT], [+PAN], [+CHOPPING BOARD], [+LONG STICK], [+OTHER EQUIPMENT]; (8) taste, i.e. [+SOUR], [+OILY], [+OTHER TASTES]; (9) ingredients, i.e. [+RICE], [+VEGETABLE], [+MEAT], [+PASTE], and [+OTHER INGREDIENTS]. One of the interesting cultural implications from this study is that “cooking” in Lanna terms does not necessarily always correspond to “being directly heated” in the universal terms. This phenomenon can be well explained by taking “Emics” into consideration (Pike, 1964). In the case of “eating raw food”, according to the Lanna worldview, raw food is not something bad, poisonous, or rotten, but rather tasty, medicinal, and specific to the masculine culture.

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**Title:**

The Use of Composition in Malay  
Language Newspapers' Front Pages

**Field:**

Discourse Analysis- Social Semiotics

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### **Abstract:**

This presentation deals with the use of composition in Malay Language Newspapers' (MLN) front pages. It examines front pages as they are the face of MLN and are commonly seen by readers. Composition concerns the placement of elements in space that consists of framing, salience and information value.

This presentation posits two questions: How is composition used in MLN front pages? How do image and language interact via composition? These questions are answered using front pages from MLN in Malaysia and Indonesia. MLN front pages might seem aesthetic or haphazard to some but composition tries to make sense of them systematically. Composition recognizes that image and language elements placed in different parts of front pages gives them different values and hence different meanings. This also influences the roles of image and language in front pages and their inter-relations. These elements are not simply placed in front pages as designers have to exploit the space they have to create front pages that are cohesive and coherent.

It is ultimately proven that composition helps make sense of MLN front pages besides presenting similarities and differences in its use in different front pages. Its dynamic nature is seen that is also responsive to MLN genre and social practice.

Title: Event coercion with the completive particle *lei* in Makuri Naga.

Subfield: Semantics and Syntax

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Makuri Naga, spoken in north-west Myanmar, and in north-eastern India, has recently been the subject of an unpublished grammar sketch (Kwan Bei 2006) and ongoing thesis work by Vongsuh shi (in progress), a native speaker. These studies show that like many SOV Tibeto-Burman languages, this language has a rich system of verbal particles that modify the event denoted by the sentence. These particles occur primarily post-verbally (though a few can occur immediately before the verb). The information provided by these particles is a mix of directional, aspectual, temporal, and to a lesser extent manner, epistemic, and mitigation information. Deciding on the specific contribution of each particle is vexed because there are clear compositional effects that derive from apparent hierarchal relationships among the particles. In the course of investigating these verbal particles we became intrigued by one particle which seemed to correlate highly with providing event-“completion” and yet often was part of sentences denoting imperfective events and states. That particle, *lei*, is the focus of this paper. In (1) *lei* can be seen as part of an event that is clearly culminated and yet in (2a) the same particle is associated with an event that is not culminated. Interestingly the appearance of a past realis maker (2b) can create ungrammaticality.

(1) hüh pē shit shit sūv vu lei le  
DEM CASE Adv Adv V V TAM TAM  
this TOP now now rise.up go.dir BE.AT PRS.RLS  
this (pig) has just now got away

(2) a. Amitpi o sha *lei* le b. \*Amitpi o sha *lei* net  
N.PRO CASE ADJ V TAM N.PRO CASE ADJ V TAM  
3S ABS old BE.AT PRS.RLS 3S ABS old BE.AT PST.RLS  
He is old \*He had been old

We suggest that the event based semantic proposals coming from a variety of sources: Herweg (1991), de Swart (1997), Parsons (1990), and others, give good insight into the behavior of this particle. In particular when the semantic notion of STATE is defined as a homogeneous temporal interval relative to the event that it is associated with (Herweg 1991), then the various behaviors of *lei* can be accounted

for by proposing that its function is to associate the event description it dominates to a homogeneous interval. This means, surprisingly enough, that perfective interpretations are being created by turning an event into a state. Turning events into states (event coercion) has been suggested by others and an informal adoption of de Swart (2000) is used to do that here.

This paper looks at the use of *lie* with 11 different event types (some of which are compositionally created by other verbal particles) and provides a single semantic proposal for *lie* which accounts for its behavior in these environments. Necessarily some basic claims about the structural hierarchy of verbal particles are also implied.

1) Paper title: **The Information Structure of Nominal Phrases and DP-internal Phrasal Movement in Buginese**

(2) Sub-field: formal syntax

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## The Information Structure of Nominal Phrases and DP-internal Phrasal Movement in Buginese

Following Aboh's Split DeterminerPhrase (DP) hypothesis, this paper argues that the information structure is encoded in the syntactic structure of nominal phrase based on the linguistic data of Buginese, an Austronesian language spoken in Indonesia. As indicated by Nishiyama (1998), Buginese nominals allow a remarkable free word order:

- (1) a. iaro lima buku-e      b. lima iaro buku-e      c. lima buku-e iaro  
    those five book-the      five those book-the      five book-the those  
    d. iaro buku lima-e      e. buku iaro lima-e      f. buku lima-e iaro  
    those book five-the      book those five-the      book five-the those

According to Nishiyama's iterated DP analysis, where demonstratives project a DP and c-select another DP headed by the definite marker *-e*, (1a) is the underlying structure generated by the operation Merge only, whereas (1b-f) are derived by DP-internal phrasal movement. However, cross-linguistically speaking, the postulation that demonstratives project an upper DP is quite idiosyncratic. Moreover, as admitted by Nishiyama himself, the discussion of what sort of feature triggers the proposed movement is absent in his analysis. Therefore, the current paper intends to fill in this gap in terms of Chomsky's (2001, 2005) Probe-Goal approach of Minimalism. Given Aboh's (2004) Split DP hypothesis, which argues that the left periphery of nominal phrase encode the information structure in the same way as the left periphery of clause, I re-interpret Nishiyama's analysis by saying that all the examples in (1) are derived by DP-internal topicalization and/or focalization proceeded by a phrasal movement, namely the movement of Num(ber)P to the Spec(ifier) of lower DP in Nishiyama's proposal. The internal structure I propose for Buginese nominal is schematized as:

- (2)  $D_{\text{topic}}P > D_{\text{focus}}P > D_{\text{topic}}P > D_{\text{definite}}P > \text{NumP} > \text{SpecificityP} > nP > NP$ .

Following Li's (1999) study on NumP and Sio's (2006) study on S(pecificity)P, I assume numerals are accommodated in SpecNumP and demonstratives are accommodated in SpecSP and moved to SpecD<sub>definite</sub>P. Furthermore, I assume the optional movement as in the DP-internal topicalization or focalization is triggered by the edge feature whereas the obligatory phrasal movement such as the movement of NumP to SpecD<sub>definite</sub>P is triggered by the [EPP] feature. The interaction of these two types of movements then leads to the free word order in Buginese nominal phrases shown in (1). The derivation process as mentioned is that the obligatory movement of NumP to SpecD<sub>definite</sub>P takes place before the DP-internal topicalization or focalization which targets SpecD<sub>topic</sub>P or SpecD<sub>focus</sub>P respectively.

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**Proposal for a Paper the 18th Annual Meeting of the Southeast Asian Linguistics Society**

Nasal Preplosion and Word-Final Glottal Stops in Temuan:  
a Non-Linear Analysis.

A Paper in Phonology

By

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This paper looks at two features of Temuan phonology – nasal prelosion and word-final glottal stops. Both features have been attested in other Proto-Malay languages as well as in Aslian languages.

The following examples illustrate the two features:

makan [maka<sup>d</sup>n]

kita [kita/]

The two features have been described and analysed as discrete phenomena but this paper uses a non-linear analysis to argue that both features can be seen as manifestations of a single constraint on the realization of the phonological boundary at the right edge of words.

The analysis is based on Temuan field data collected by the writer and published data for other languages.

**Contact-induced tonal development?  
A comparison of register in three Cham dialects**

Language Contact, Phonology, Phonetics

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It is often assumed that Eastern Cham (Phan Rang Cham), a language spoken in south-central Vietnam, has evolved from a classic register system to a tone system (Blood 1967; Hoàng 1987; Moussay 1971; Phú *et al.* 1992; Thurgood 1993, 1996, 1999). This claim is based on the fact that pitch is the most important phonetic property in the contrast between registers/tones, even if it downplays the role of other acoustic cues and of phonological distribution (Brunelle 2005a, b, 2006). The central role of pitch in Eastern Cham has been attributed to contact with Vietnamese, a language that has a full-fledged tone system (Thurgood 1996, 1999). It is generally accepted that the Cham dialects that are less (or not) in contact with Vietnamese have preserved a more conservative register system relying on voice and vowel quality (Baumgartner 1998; Edmondson and Gregerson 1993; Thurgood 1996, 1999).

A laryngographic study of three Cham dialects was conducted to replicate previous results and test the claim that the acoustic cues of the tone/register contrast are similar to those found in neighboring languages. The first dialect that was investigated, Eastern Cham, is in close contact with Vietnamese. The second dialect, Mekong Delta Cham, is also in contact with Vietnamese, but its speakers are less integrated in the Vietnamese polity (Taylor 2007). The third dialect is spoken in Kompong Chhnang province, Cambodia, and is only in contact with Khmer, a non-tonal language. Ten speakers of each dialect (5 men, 5 women) recorded wordlists of minimal pairs differing in their tones/registers. Three articulatory properties (glottal opening, larynx height and  $f_0$ ) and two acoustic variables (first and second formants) were measured for each speaker.

Surprisingly, our results show that there is much more variation between speakers within than across dialects. In all three dialects, the two registers/tones have statistically different means for all measured phonetic indicators. The differences between speakers mostly lie in the phasing of the acoustic properties with the syllable. The most interesting result is that  $f_0$  (pitch) is a robust acoustic property of register/tone in all three dialects. Since Cambodian Cham is not in contact with tone languages at all, this sheds doubt on the claim that Eastern Cham is becoming tonal because of contact with Vietnamese and suggests that pitch is an original property of the Cham register contrast. Despite important lexical differences, it seems that Cham dialects are less phonetically divergent than previously assumed.

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**Lexical Borrowing through Globalization  
(Title)**

**(Language Contact)  
(Sub-field)**

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**Statement of Topic:**

Globalization is the new buzz word. In linguistics, the influences of globalization have caught the experts unprepared that there truly is no academic study conducting investigations that could provide empirical evidences and trace the changes. Through globalization, languages in contact are significantly affected by the rapid growth and changes in communication and computer technologies thus allowing the exchange of new ideas and cultural influences immediate and in a seamless reality.

Many linguists analyze the effects of globalization on the basis of language dominance and endangerment. These assumptions consequently limit the focus and direction of discussion solely on the political and economic fronts and in parallel with the concept of colonialism. This paper will present a new, interesting and important discussion of this contemporary linguistic phenomenon. Still under investigated, this paper will propose that through globalization, a new linguistic phenomenon is evolving called the 'global lexical borrowing.'

**Approach**

Due to the nature of this paper this research will use the deductive research method. Such method will allow predictions on certain relationships or the occurrence of a phenomenon. Since statistical data will not be used in this paper, the investigative approach of collected examples (mostly Tagalog) will eventually help to explain expected results.

This paper will determine whether the relationship that exists between globalization and global lexical borrowing is one that is characterized by a cause and effect or one that is characterized by a co-occurrence of both events. Depending on this determination, the type of relationship can only be further hypothesized as an outcome that is predictable or even unavoidable

New words that have been introduced in the last 2 decades are now shared by different languages. Examples will demonstrate and prove that global lexical borrowing is a phenomenon that has become prevalent and persistent. It is necessary to use languages that bear no relationships with each other to prove the patterns that follow global lexical borrowing.

This paper will also utilize flow charts to clearly show how borrowing occurs. These flowcharts will help us outline patterns of borrowing of new lexical items from the source language to the receiving language.

**Conclusion**

In the end, this paper will posit that global lexical borrowing is a phenomenon brought about by globalization. The phenomenon will continue to spread without necessarily endangering existing languages but perhaps improving the lexicon of native languages and at the same time creating a unique global lexicon.

**Abstract of paper to be presented at the 18<sup>th</sup> SEALS conference, May 2008.**

**Title of paper:** Deixis and information structure in Mon  
**Subfield:** Semantics/pragmatics and syntax  
**Author:** Mathias, Jenny (Mr.)  
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## Deixis and information structure in Mon

Superficially Mon has a three-way deictic system with postnominal particles indicating PROXIMAL (nəʔ), MEDIAL (kəh) and DISTAL (təʔ) deixis, not unlike Thai but markedly different from Burmese which makes only a two-way distinction. The picture in Mon is complicated by two factors: 1. There are competing forms for the proximal deictic, especially in the literary language, going back to two historically unrelated lexemes. 2. What appears to be a medial deictic particle in fact has other functions as well and often combines with the proximal and distal deictic particles.

In this study I will focus on the syntactic and discourse functions of the ‘medial’ marker *kəh*, tracing its history from Old and Middle Mon to the modern vernacular. I will argue that the functional load of *kəh* is information structure rather than deixis. It will be seen that the marker *kəh* is in fact used to mark known or IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION (cf. Lambrecht 1994:109), or to reactivate distant TOPICS, i. e. *kəh* has anaphoric rather than deictic function. It can be extended to deictic contexts, where it is used as medial marker. The fact that the notion of IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION is very close to that of TOPIC has led some authors to describe *kəh* as a topic marker *per se* (e.g. Jenny 2005). This view has to be reassessed, though, as *kəh* marked phrases can co-occur with the focus marker *raʔ* (but see Dik 1989:266).

*kəh* looks like the equivalent of a definite marker in many constructions, but it differs from such in that it does not involve inclusiveness (or completeness) of the referent and that it marks not only NPs, but also other pieces of information (cf. Lyons 1999:280). One important function *kəh* has acquired, though, is to mark the end of an NP.<sup>1</sup> This function is especially prominent in complex NPs including a relative clause, which is not otherwise marked as such in Mon. As the content of the relative clause is presupposed and therefore necessarily known/identifiable in the context, it can receive the marker *kəh*, the scope of which is extended from the relative expression to the head noun, i.e. it is the head noun that is seen as identifiable. This extension is illustrated in (1):

- (1) mənìh [ràn lə̀ lə̀c mùə]IDF kəh  
man buy KEEP text one IDF
- [mənìh ràn lə̀ lə̀c mùə]IDF kəh ‘the man who bought a book’  
man buy KEEP text one IDF

The analysis to be presented in this study is based on data from a wide range of texts, including Old and Middle Mon inscriptions, literary Modern Mon and data of modern spoken Mon gathered by the author during many years of fieldwork in Thailand and Burma.

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<sup>1</sup> This does not mean that *kəh* is a nominalising device for verbs or verbal phrases, as claimed by Bauer (1982:331).

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(1) Paper title:

Description of Sakizaya

(2) Sub-field:

Language Description

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## Description of Sakizaya

Sakizaya, known as a dialect of Amis for years, one of the Austronesian languages, is spoken on the eastern part of Taiwan Island, mainly in northern Hualien. The population is estimated to be less than 2000 and all speakers are older adults.

The data on the linguistic research of Sakizaya are comparatively scarce, which include the researches of Mabuchi, T., Tsuchida, S. (1982, 2002), Jen-Kuei Li (1999) and Tsukida, N. (1993). The previous three only mentioned Sakizaya on the categorizing of Amis language, but Tsuchida labored over a 39-paged specific discourse on Sakizaya language. Besides, the Sakizaya people's spiritual leader, principal Lai-Won Lee (1996), also contributed greatly to related discourses.

In this paper, I would like to present the collected language data of Sakizaya and the approximately 60% difference compared with Amis. I will preliminarily arrange and list the phonological, morphological and syntactic differences between Sakizaya and Amis according to the field work so far. For example, on the phonemic inventory systems, Sakizaya language and Amis have completely similar vowels, but Sakizaya language includes two more consonants (/z/ and /b/) than Amis. Moreover, the consonant /f/ in Sakizaya language is seldom employed. The existence of the specific consonant is probably influenced by neighboring Amis phoneme, but this argument needs further linguistic data to attest it. In addition, Amis' /ʌ/ and /x/ are mostly replaced by /h/ in Sakizaya. On morphological consideration, Sakizaya and Amis languages both have verbal prefix *mi-* which functions as agent focus, and verbal prefix *ma-* as agent or patient focuses. The Sakizaya language has one more prefix *mo-* than Amis, but Sakizaya doesn't have verbal infix *-om-* as agent focus in Amis. Within the comparison, I hope this paper could derive more discussion on this endangered language, Sakizaya.

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(1) Paper title: A Diachronic Study of /yuù/ in Thai

(2) Sub-field: Historical Syntax

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## A Diachronic Study of /yuù/ in Thai

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This article is a diachronic study of /yuù/ in Thai from the Sukhothai period to the present. The data elicited is based on published documents between 1826 B.E.-2546 B.E. It is found that the functions of /yuù/ are not identical through the six different periods including the Sukhothai period, the Ayutthaya period, the reigns of King Rama I- King Rama III, the reigns of King Rama IV – King Rama V, the reigns of King Rama VI – King Rama VIII and the present. In the Sukhothai period, /yuù/ had one function, which was a verb and three new functions--continuative/ progressive aspect markers, idiomatic phrases functioning as adverbs and conjunctions that evolved in the present. A semantic analysis shows that /yuù/ which has been grammaticalized to functional meanings are the meaning: “to stay, to live” and “to be in/at”.

The findings suggest that the grammatical process found in the data coincided with the universal phenomenon of grammaticalization in terms of uni-direction and gradual change.

- (1) Paper title:  
Noun-modifying constructions in Tagalog
- (2) Sub-field:  
Functional syntax
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This paper makes a unified account for different types of noun-modifying constructions in Tagalog. We start our discussion by pointing out that there are three distinct types of noun-modifying constructions (or relativization) in Tagalog. **[A-type]** Predicates are limited to those with a focus affix, and only a nominative argument is obligatorily gapped. **[B-type]** Predicates are restricted to those without a focus affix, and only an argument is obligatorily gapped, whether it is in the nominative case or in the genitive case. **[C-type]** Predicates can be those either with or without a focus affix, and no constituent is gapped. Each type is exemplified by (1), (2) and (3) respectively. Prior studies have been concentrating either on Type A or Type B (Schachter 1976, Cena 1979, Kroeger 1993); no substantial discussion has been done on Type C.

- (1)    yung=picture    na    [b<in>igay-ø            ni=Kathleen    sa=akin]  
        ART=picture    LK    give<PRFV>-PF    GEN=K.        DAT=1SG:DAT  
        ‘the picture Kathleen gave to me’
- (2)    yung=picture    na    [gusto        ni        Kathleen]  
        ART=picture    LK    like        GEN    K.  
        ‘the picture Kathleen likes’
- (3)    yung=picture    na    [naka-palda            si=Kathleen]  
        ART=picture    LK    wear.skirt            ART=K.  
        ‘the picture in which Kathleen is wearing a skirt’

In this paper, we claim that, in spite of their seemingly differences, all three types of constructions belong to a single class of constructions, that is, the noun-modifying construction, showing the following common properties. [1] All constructions meet the functional definition of relative clauses (Keenan and Comrie 1977). [2] Not a special marker for relativization but a linker is employed. [3] It is possible to omit a head noun. That is, every noun-modifying clause can work as a referential expression without the syntactic or semantico-pragmatic support by a head noun. [4] The order of head noun and noun-modifying clause can be inverted.

Then, we claim that a nominalization analysis, rather than an extraction analysis, can account for all the three types of noun-modifying constructions (cf. Comrie 1998). In this approach, a noun-modifying structure is analyzed as a nominalized clause apposed to its head noun (cf. Comrie and Thompson 1985, Shibatani ms.). Differences between Types A, B and C are attributed to different types of nominalizations (argument nominalization vs. event nominalization) and different constraints on nominalizations imposed by predicates. It is also shown that this analysis, in turn, can provide a more satisfactory explanation to Types A and B than an extraction analysis, especially, to the fact that noun modification is possible without a head noun.

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## **Homorganic point of articulation in modern Khmer songs**

Naraset PISITPANPORN

### Abstract

This paper examines six final stops: -p, -t, -c, -k, -ʔ and -h in Khmer as found in songs sung by different Khmer singers. It is found that the six word-final consonants tend to vary when they are pronounced in songs. In general, these final stops vary with nasals: -m, -n and -N respectively when they occur in singing. In other words, this linguistic phenomena is in line with what is called homorganic point of articulation: -m < -p; -n < -t; -N < -c, -k, also -h and -ʔ. However, words with such final stops may not always vary with the same singer and if so, they tend to be homorganic point of articulation. As a result, this homorganic point of articulation plays an important role in helping make the pitch levels of the words of the songs become level. The songs are thus good to listen to. Whether the homorganic point of articulation, by Khmer singers, is an intentional or sub-unconscious, further sociolinguistic study should be carried out to gain a better understanding of such linguistic phenomena.

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- (2) Sub-field: phonology
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**Title:** Polyfunctionality of the *sɛŋ* grammatical word in Thai

**Sub-fields:** 1) Syntax  
2) Typology

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## Polyfunctionality of the *sɪ̀ŋ* grammatical word in Thai

In previous studies including Thai grammar books, the word *sɪ̀ŋ* is recognized as performing two grammatical functions. A few linguists recognize *sɪ̀ŋ* as an accusative case marker, whereas others recognize *sɪ̀ŋ* as a relative clause marker. However, the previous analyses of the two grammatical functions of *sɪ̀ŋ* do not cover and cannot explain the occurrence of *sɪ̀ŋ* in the following contexts.

(1) *sɪ̀ŋ r̂aŋ n̄i kháw yaN máy s̄aap*

SUENG story this s/he yet not know  
'This story, s/he has not known yet.'

(2) *kháw thamŋaan n̄ak sɪ̀ŋ kháw wǎŋ w̄aa cà s̄ɔ̀ɔp  
ph̄aan*

s/he work hard SUENG s/he hope that will take an exam pass  
'S/he works hard. S/he hopes that s/he will pass the exam.'

So far, there has been no in-depth study as to what function *sɪ̀ŋ* performs in those contexts. Therefore, based on written data in present day Thai (e.g. newspapers, journals, novels, etc.), this study attempts to analyze *sɪ̀ŋ* in Thai so as to find out how many functions it has and what those functions are.

It is found that *sɪ̀ŋ* in the present day Thai has four functions: 1) a relative clause marker 2) a topic marker 3) an end-focus marker 4) a discourse marker. The *sɪ̀ŋ* relative clause marker indicates a clause as a noun modifier which contains a gap (or a pronoun) co-referential to the modified noun, as in (3).

(3) *kháw pay sanǎambin [sɪ̀ŋ (man) ȳuu klay mak]*

S/he go airport SUENG it be located far much  
'S/he went to the airport which is very far.'

The *sɪ̀ŋ* topic marker indicates a part of sentence that is being talked about, for instance *sɪ̀ŋ* in example (1). The *sɪ̀ŋ* end-focus marker indicates an important part of sentence that is being emphasized at the end of the sentence, as in (4).

(4) *ǎkkhiiphay nam maa [sɪ̀ŋ kaans̄ũns̄iá chiiwít lé s̄áps̄n]*

fire bring come SUENG loss life and property  
'Fire brings about the loss of life and property.'

The word *sɪ̀ŋ* as a discourse marker indicates that two sentences in the text are related and it shows continuity of thoughts or ideas for instance *sɪ̀ŋ* in example (2).

In conclusion, *sɪ̀ŋ* in present day Thai is a functional word that plays a role in both the Thai syntax and discourse. The case of *sɪ̀ŋ* is an evidence of a

grammaticalization in Thai, which adds a new discourse function to an originally syntactic function word.

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## Eventivity and Stativity in Thai Predicates

### Abstract

This paper elucidates the semantic differences of eventive and stative predicates in Thai, with a view to shedding light on the problem of the categorial distinction. Despite the common assumption that Thai does not distinguish between verbs and adjectives syntactically as well as morphologically, explicit differences are found in the usage of certain predicates.

- (1)    naroN    pen        khon    {suouN- suouN / \*phuout- phuout}.  
       Narong   COPULA   person   tall-tall / \*speak-speak  
       ‘Narong is a {very tall/\*talkative} person.’
- (2)    faoay    tham-Naan    {noay /dii}  
       Faay    work            tired /good  
       ‘Faay worked and got tired./ Faay worked well.’
- (3)    {phuout /maw /dii}            sio  
       speak /drunk /good            FINAL PARTICLE (IMPERATIVE/EMPHATIC)  
       ‘{Speak! / Get drunk! OR (I’m) drunk, indeed / Good, indeed}.’

In (1), predicates like ‘good’ can be reduplicated to emphasize the meaning, but others like ‘speak’ cannot. In (2), predicates like ‘tired’ are interpreted as the second verbs of the serial verb construction, but others like ‘good’ are interpreted as manner adverbs. In (3), ‘speak’ has an imperative reading with the particle *si<sup>o</sup>*, while ‘drunk’ allows both imperative and emphatic readings, and ‘good’ has only an emphatic reading.

Enfield (2004) classifies “adjectives” as a sub-type of verbs in Lao, a language similar to Thai. By extending this view to Thai, I claim that “adjectives” should be treated as a particular class, though not as a syntactically independent category. My claim is based on the semantic properties of various types of predicates, as represented by Lexical Conceptual Structure (LCS). Thai predicates are divided into four types, each with a distinct LCS representation: (i) EVENTIVE PREDICATES (e.g. *tham-Naan* ‘work’), (ii) INHERENTLY STATIVE PREDICATES (e.g. *ru<sup>o</sup>u* ‘know’), (iii) INCHOATIVE PREDICATES (e.g. *maw* ‘be drunk/get drunk’), and (iv) ADJECTIVAL PREDICATES (e.g. *chala<sup>o</sup>at* ‘clever’). The classification is based on the predicate’s property associated with “eventivity” (cf. Kageyama 2006). The major distinction lies between eventive (i.e. (i), (ii), and (iii)) and non-eventive (i.e. (iv)) predicates. Group (i) is consistently eventive, while (iii) is originally eventive but may be shifted to non-eventive by a certain semantic operation I propose. Group (ii) is seemingly stative but arguably involves backgrounded events in LCS. This leaves us with group (iv), which I propose to identify as the “adjectival” category in Thai. The semantic mechanism of predicates that I introduce can explain not only the above phenomena but also the semantic ambiguity of the predicate such as *p<sup>o</sup>↔<sup>o</sup>↔<sup>o</sup>* ‘open/be open’ which is pointed out by Thepkanjana (2000).

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## ABSTRACT FOR "SEALS XVIII"

1. Paper title: *Vietnamese Passive Sentences from a Typological Perspective*
2. Sub-field: *Syntax*
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There exist different views on passive constructions in Vietnamese. Some researchers claim that there are no passive voice and passive constructions in Vietnamese because Vietnamese is an isolated language [1,12]. Other researchers argue that although the Vietnamese language does not have passive voice as a morphological category, it still has passive construction as a syntactic category. Yet there is no agreement among researchers on the classifying criteria of passive constructions. [2, 10, 13]

The present paper aims at studying passive constructions in Vietnamese from the perspective of syntactic typology [5, 6, 7, 14]. On the typological differentiation of 3 types of passive constructions in languages which are purely morphological passive, morpho-syntactic passive and purely syntactic passive and based on different kinds of evidences, the paper will highlight: 1) Although Vietnamese does not have passive voice as a purely morphological phenomenon, it still has passive constructions as a syntactic phenomenon, marked by word order and function words (bi/duoc); 2) There are 3 syntactic alternations of passive constructions in

Vietnamese (which are:  $N2 @-ic/bP V1$ ,  $N2 @-ic /bP N1 V2$ ,  $N2 @-ic/bP V b\grave{e}i N1$ ) and all can be identified and differentiated from other types of syntactic constructions by specific criteria.

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## **Semnam: an Orang Asli language of Perak, Peninsular Malaysia**

### **Sub-fields**

linguistic description, endangered languages research, phonology, morphology, syntax, lexicon

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## **Semnam: an Orang Asli language of Perak, Peninsular Malaysia**

Semnam, also known as Lanoh, is a previously undescribed Aslian (Mon-Khmer) language spoken by c. 250 Orang Asli near Lenggong, in Perak, Peninsular Malaysia. This paper reports on initial linguistic analysis of the language, based on fieldwork conducted 2006-2008. It outlines the rich phonemic system of the language (displaying, for example, 36 contrasting vowel nuclei), its elaborate morphological processes, as well as general syntactic features. A preliminary typological and lexical comparison is made with other Aslian languages, such as Temiar (Benjamin 1976), Semelai (Kruspe 2004), and Jahai (Burenhult 2005). Semnam shares several structural features with its closest relatives, including the rich phonology and productive morphology typical of Aslian languages. Nevertheless, it exhibits the most saturated vowel system so far discovered in Aslian, and it employs some allomorphic processes unknown elsewhere. Although historical phonology shows that Semnam is a member of the Central subbranch of Aslian (along with Temiar and Semai, cf. Diffloth & Zide 1992), analyses of its basic vocabulary point to significant lexical similarity to members of the Northern subbranch, spoken by culturally more closely related groups of people.

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**Bahasa Melayu *MeN...* - ... *kan* Affix: A Morphosemantics Analysis**

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The *meN...* affix is one of the most prolific affixes in Malay which acts as a marker for verbs (both transitive and intransitive). There are five variants of *meN...* and they are *me-*, *mem-*, *men-*, *meng-* and *menge-*. This paper seeks to examine the different ordering of derived words by focusing on *me- kan*, *mem- kan* and *men- kan* variants. Morphological analysis on the ordering of the affixes depends on semantics aspects. For example, sentences such as “*Dia mendapat maklumat berhubung kes itu,*” “*Dapatkan saya maklumat mengenai kes itu.*” and “*Untuk mendapatkan maklumat berhubung kes itu.*” demonstrate the different morphological levels of the derived words (*dapatkan*, *mendapat* & *mendapatkan*) and a semantic explanation will determine the acceptability of those forms. Therefore, a morphosemantic analysis of the derived words will establish the different levels of ordering of the words. The analysis will utilize lexical morphology theory in determining the order of the derived words. Data for this analysis is taken from a corpus built by our research group.

**Title:** Subjectification of the verb /hǎn/ 'SEE' in Thai  
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## **Subjectification of the verb /hǎn/ 'SEE' in Thai**

This paper aims at appealing the notion of subjectification of the verb /hǎn/ 'SEE' which displays in three unique constructions; negative, quotative, and equative constructions. The different kinds of construction of the verb /hǎn/ 'SEE' as a result of semantic extension show the development of raising constructions where the speaker is, semantically, an argument of the verb (Langacker: 1990). That is to say the verb /hǎn/ 'SEE' is grammaticalized by being raised into the three constructions to denote the speaker's involvement to the event as the speaker select a particular perspective to construe situations subjectively. Recognizing the subjectivity of the verb /hǎn/ 'SEE' raised in the three constructions helps support the notion of subjectification under the process of grammaticalization postulated by Langacker (1990).

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(1) Paper title:

*Is Mon-Khmer dead? Long live Austroasiatic!*

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## **Abstract**

In reviewing the classification of Austroasiatic languages in the twentieth century, it is evident that cleanly identifying the constituency of a “Mon-Khmer” family within the phylum has never been satisfactorily resolved. Initially narrowly defined, the putative membership of Mon-Khmer steadily expanded over time; perhaps the only consistent characteristic of alternative formulations was the lack of any claim to the Munda languages of India. And, since the 1980s, this has been the generally received consensus view: that Austroasiatic consists of the two principal clades Munda and Mon-Khmer.

Looking back, it is apparent that this view emerged absent a comprehensive Austroasiatic reconstruction, by researchers who relied on typological, lexical, and lexicostatistical considerations in making their classifications. But this methodology, however reasonable, has created divisions that go far beyond simple language classification. Over the last half century there has been an ongoing social separation between Mon-Khmer and Munda (mostly India-based) scholars; unfortunate if the existing classification paradigm is correct, but needless and harmful if it turns out that our attitudes and work practices have been framed around a model that is ultimately disproved.

While the Austroasiatic conferences held in India in 1977 and 2007 provided excellent opportunities for bridge-building, the three-decades gap between meetings is itself evidence of the conceptual fragmentation that has paralleled the geographic – as opposed to linguistic – distance between Munda and Mon-Khmer. In fact, from the comparative-historical viewpoint there are no data that decisively indicate that all of the Mon-Khmer languages are closer to each other than any are to Munda. Indeed, new and conflicting classification models have been advanced (e.g. Peiros 2004, Diffloth 2005), and it has been argued that the Munda languages are structurally innovative rather than archaic (e.g. Donegan & Stampe 2004). It may well be that Munda is best viewed as a typologically variant Northern Mon-Khmer branch (for want of a better term).

These considerations highlight just how precarious are our traditions of treating Munda as a distant cousin, while taking for granted the place of Mon and Khmer within in a sub-branch. On the contrary, we should recognize Munda’s integral role in the comparative study of the Austroasiatic languages of Southeast Asia, and go on to ask if there is any true cladistic motivation that requires the term “Mon-Khmer” at all. More importantly, even as we use modern resources and improved methods to help resolve technical issues of clades and branchings, it is equally imperative that we work to bring South Asian and Southeast Asian linguists together in an inclusive research community of Austroasiatic scholars.

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## Proto-Southwestern Tai A New Reconstruction

Southwestern Tai (SWT) is the best studied among the three main branches of the Tai language family according to Li (1960)'s classification. Languages generally assigned to the SWT group includes a great number of varieties spoken in Vietnam, Laos, Thailand, China, Myanmar, and India, such as Thai (or Siamese), Lao, Shan, Black Tai, White Tai and Lue, to cite a few. Because discrepancies among earlier proposals (Brown 1985, Jonsson 1991, Li 1977, and Sarawit 1973) are major obstacles both in subgrouping SWT varieties and in reconstructing PT, this paper makes use of data from 28 varieties, including Gedney ms. (n.d.), Umar 2003, Xing 2000 as well as the author's own fieldwork incorporating new data from lesser-known languages, to proposes a revised PSWT reconstruction.

An initial argument disconfirms Luo's (1997, 2001)'s proposal that SWT be split into two sister branches; I then identify the phonological characteristics that distinguish SWT varieties. Next, I will review the earlier proposals and put forward a new reconstruction of PSWT which makes the following claims: 1) there was a distinct series of uvular consonants in PSWT, 2) there is no evidence for clusters *\*phr/l-*, *\*khl-*, and *\*mr-* at the PSWT level, 3) mid back unrounded vowel *\*ɣ* must be reconstructed for PSWT, and 4) vowel length was contrastive. Last, I will discuss important features of the proposed PSWT phonology that have implications for the reconstruction of Proto-Tai, including 1) redundancy of length contrast among non-high vowels, 2) gaps within the sub-system initial clusters, and 3) the defective nature of the vowel *\*ɣ*.

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Paper title: **Split Quantified Phrases in Thai Nominals**

Sub-field: **descriptive/formal syntax**

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## ABSTRACT

This paper is about sentences like the following, more particularly the fact that the noun phrase seems to be split in two: the noun is separated from its numeral and classifier by a predicative element:

- (1) a.   kháw tham [SC nǎngsuu tòk sǎam lêm]  
           he   make    books   fall three Cl  
           ‘he dropped three books’
- b.   kháw tii [SC mǎa taaj sǎam tua]  
           he   beat    dogs dead three Cl  
           ‘he beat three dogs to death’

How are these split structures derived? There are two possibilities: the N and the Nume-Cl are generated as one whole and split in the course of the derivation of the sentence, or they are generated separately. If they are generated as one whole, there are once again (at least) two possibilities: either the N has been moved away from the Nume-Cl, or the Nume-Cl has been moved away from the N.

We will show that both movement strategies run into problems, some theoretical, some empirical. This means that N and Nume-Cl are separate from the start. If that is so, then there are two questions: first, where are they generated and secondly, what is their relation?

In this paper we explore the possibility that the relation between N and Nume-Cl is one that is very similar to the “part-whole” relation we observe between a topic and the subject in certain types of topic sentences, in which the topic is generally assumed to be base generated in the topic position. We will consider interpretation effects, the use of resumptive pronouns and further movability of the topic.

## Abstract for SEALS XVIII

**Title** POLITICS IS THAI BOXING:  
The concept of politics as reflected in metaphorical  
expressions used by Thai politicians

**Sub-field** cognitive linguistics, pragmatics

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## POLITICS IS THAI BOXING:

### The concept of politics as reflected in metaphorical expressions used by Thai politicians

#### Abstract

This research aims at examining concepts related to politics as reflected in metaphorical expressions used by Thai politicians. The data elicited includes various types of discourse such as media interviews, censure debates and campaign speeches. According to Lakoff & Johnson (1980), metaphorical expressions in our language are tied to metaphorical concepts in systematic way. For this reason, we can use metaphorical linguistic expressions to study the nature of metaphorical concepts and to gain an understanding of the metaphorical nature of concepts that structure our everyday activities.

The study reveals that Thai politicians represented politics as Thai boxing whereas politicians were viewed as professional boxers. In Thai culture, good boxer are 'Look phoo chai' [lû:k phû: cha:j]-- 'the real man' In addition, elections and censure debates were also represented as boxing matches and arguments between the politicians were their fights on the ring. In term of functions, Thai politicians use these metaphorical linguistic expressions to attract voters' attention, to cultivate in-group solidarity, and to create positive images for themselves. The image projected is "They are brave and professional fighters."

Monadic Verbs in Isamal Language  
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This paper focuses on the monadic verbs of Isamal language namely the ergatives and the unergatives. Isamal is an indigenous language spoken in Samal Islands in Mindanao, Philippines. This paper makes use of the Minimalist Program in analyzing these verb types highlighting the argument/thematic structures of the verbs and the syntactic structures as projected by the lexical items. Traditionally, the entire class of monadic verbs is termed as intransitive verbs. In the advent of the Unaccusative Hypothesis and the Burzio's Generalization, these verbs are given the intense scrutiny in various syntactic researches within the auspices of the generative linguistics. These predicate types are examined side by side with the argument/thematic structures of these predicates and the implication on the clausal structures of Isamal. This paper entails NP movement and all syntactic processes appurtenant thereto, where NP also meant DP as used in this paper.

# **WH-QUESTIONS IN MALAY CAREGIVER-CHILD INTERACTIONS**

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## **ABSTRACT**

This preliminary study aims to describe the usage of Wh-questions in the interaction between 12 dyads of caregivers and children aged between 4 to 6 years old. We describe children's response to caregivers' usage of Wh-questions. A 10-minute language sample is selected from a 30-minute recording of free play for each dyad in therapy room, using video and audio equipment. Data collected was then transcribed into orthographic Malay. Our results showed that caregivers directed more questions to girls than to boys. Caregivers' and children's mean percentages for usage of Wh-questions of all questions were 38.13% and 45.32% each. Caregiver used more of yes/no questions and questions with raised intonation. Children's age and gender did not affect the frequency of usage of Wh-questions. Caregivers and children used 11 and 6 types of Wh-questions respectively. Both caregivers and children used the same 4 types of Wh-questions most, which consist of 'apa', 'mana', 'kenapa' and 'macam mana'; in the descending order. 'Apa' questions occupied 63.63% of all caregivers' Wh-questions and 42.59% of all children's Wh-questions. Caregivers used 'apa' questions to: 1) obtain names of objects, story characters or actions at the scene of interaction; 2) obtain description of objects or pictures; and 3) obtain answers based on children's knowledge and experience. Types of Wh-questions used by both caregivers and children were affected by children's age. Children responded mostly in verbal form (36.15%), followed by physical form (13.25%) and combinations of verbal and physical forms (8.43%). A total 36.15% response was not able to be recorded for two reasons: 1) children did not respond to caregivers' questions; and 2) caregivers did not wait for children to respond after asking questions. Factors affecting usage of Wh-questions in caregiver-child interactions were also discussed.

Topic: Different style, different accent?

Area : Sociolinguistics

By

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## Abstract

This paper discusses accent differences in terms of two Malay language phonological variables in four speech styles; word list, reading passage, interview and story telling styles. The first 2 styles referred to text reading styles. The two phonological variables are the final syllable open-ended vowel (a) such as in *saya* 'I', and post-vocalic (r)<sub>2</sub> such as in *pasar* 'market'. The accents referred to here are the national standard and local accents. The problem studied is based on 25 non-native speakers of Malay informants in the city of Kota Bharu, Kelantan, Malaysia. The study also takes into accounts two social variables, namely the socio-economic status (SES) of the informants (combination of level of education, types of occupation, and income indices), and age group. The discussion will lead to the issues of whether the different speech styles bring about different accents in different spoken contexts.

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**An acoustic study of the tone system of Penang Hokkien – a contact variety of Southern Min**

Sub-fields: phonetics, language contact

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In this talk I present the results of a preliminary acoustic analysis into the tone system of Penang Hokkien, a contact variety of Southern Min spoken in Pulau Pinang, Malaysia. Apart from providing a general description of the tone system, one issue I seek to address is whether variation exists amongst speakers' tone inventories, given that Penang Hokkien developed in a linguistically varied environment, and most importantly where several Southern Min varieties (e.g., Zhāngzhōu, Quánzhōu, Cháozhōu etc) were present.

In order to obtain the contrasting tones in citation and sandhi forms, six native speakers were recorded reading a word list as well as phrases and sentences with targeted words. The data was then analysed in Praat by examining the pitch contours ( $=f_0$ ) in spectrograms. As expected for a Southern Min variety, five tonemes for open syllables and two for checked syllables were found, each paired with a sandhi tone. As a tone system, it was also found that Penang Hokkien is very similar to that described of Zhāngzhōu (Tung 1958). That Zhāngzhōu-based varieties may have had a major influence on Penang Hokkien is not unexpected, given the high socio-economic status of a number of clans from this region during Penang's early days.

Nevertheless, there appears to be some variation, perhaps indicative of Penang Hokkien's contact history. For example, two variants were found for tone T2 (following Middle Chinese division of tones), which for Zhāngzhōu is a high falling tone often described as (53). This high falling tone exists in Penang Hokkien, but there appears to be a variant that is high rising (35). Amongst the speakers, the occurrence of each variant is generally systematic, e.g., speakers who use the high rising variant for a particular T2 syllable (= word) will tend to use it for other T2 syllables, and vice versa. Initial testing indicates that speakers tend to disregard this difference in tone shape for T2. Using this and other evidence, the tone space for Penang Hokkien is discussed.

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Paper title: Variation in the systems of kinship terms used by  
Teochui speakers of different age groups in Wat  
Hualampong community in Bangkok

Sub-field: Sociolinguistics

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Variation in the systems of kinship terms used by Teochui speakers of different age groups in Wat Hualampong community in Bangkok

Wat Hualampong community is a crowded community in the heart of Bangkok. It is close to Chulalongkorn University and about 3 kilometers from Silom, a very sophisticated area near the Chao Phraya River. There are two ethnic groups living in this community: Thai and Teochui. These ethnic groups in this interact with each other all the time. This made me wonder how each of the groups preserve its identity, especially the Teochui, who are Chinese minority in Thailand. Therefore I am interested in finding out whether the Teochui people in this community still maintain their language. I chose to focus on kinship terms because they represent basic relationships and used in daily life.

This objective of this paper is to study the system of kinship terms used by Teochui speakers and to investigate variation in the use of the terms among Teochui speakers in different age groups. The linguistic variables studied are basic kinship terms in Teochui and the social variable studied is age. I divided the age groups into two: the old age group (35 years old and over) and the young age group (26 years old and below). The data used in this study was gathered by interviewing 14 informants in Wat Hualampong community.

The hypotheses of this paper are that the kinship terms in Teochui are differentiated by five dimensions of contrast: generation, lineality, age, parental link, and sex and that the terms spoken by the young group are influenced by Thai kinship terms.

The findings reveal a relationship between the linguistic variables and the social variable. The result of the analysis indicates that most of the old Teochui speakers used Teochui kinship terms, except some speakers who have a Thai father or mother. They would use Thai kinship terms mixed with Teochui terms. As for the young group, it is found that they all used Thai kinship terms for 'child' and 'grand-child', and the Thai terms for 'mother' and 'father' in case one of the parents is Thai.

This study implies gradual change in the identity of the Teochui group in Thailand and that social factors, such as intermarriage, can cause linguistic change.

# **Common Persian and Arabic Loanwords in Malay: A Trilingual Comparison**

Phonology/Semantics

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# Common Persian and Arabic Loanwords in Malay: A Trilingual Comparison

## Abstract

Due to the vast influences of Islam on the South East Asia region, Malay has acquired a very large number of Persian and Arabic words. Persian and Arabic also utilize various common words because of long direct contact in trade and commerce, religious pilgrimage, and sojourns.

A loanword is a word directly taken into one language from another with little or no translation. Loanwords can also be called “borrowings”. The study of loanwords provides a link of discovery to historical, cultural, and linguistic dimensions of various cultures.

In this study, a relatively complete list of the common words in Malay, Persian, and Arabic will be compiled. Persian and Arabic loans into Malay may be to a greater or lesser extent assimilated. There may be a change in pronunciation so that the word follows the Malay model rather than the Persian or Arabic model. In addition to the different pronunciation of these loanwords, Malay speakers use them with different meanings within different context than their Persian or Arabic counterparts.

Here, these common words will be investigated from the phonological and semantic perspectives without the implementation of the study of etymology. As a result, the chronological context and the way in which the word was transmitted from Persian and Arabic into the Malay language is not the case of study. The current context of the usage of the words underlies the importance of this study. Aside from words collected from the dictionaries, our data will also use native speakers’ judgments.

Such a study holds great importance in the phenomenon of bonding between people from various nations. Instead of pointing out differences which may result the alienation of one ethnicity from another, outlying the similarities between languages creates a sense of kinship among different people. Therefore, it is imminent that linguists develop such studies to unite people all around the world with the power of language.

**Key words:** Loanword, Phonology, Semantics, Malay, Persian, Arabic.

(1) Paper title

Relativization in Austronesian

(2) Sub-field (functional, discourse, sociolinguistics, phonology, formal syntax, semantics, historical, language contact, etc.)

Syntax, typology

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## Page 2

Despite the important role Austronesian languages have played in the typological and universals research of relative clauses and the attendant hierarchy of grammatical relations (Keenan and Comrie 1977, *inter alia*), no critical assessment of the assumed analysis of the Austronesian relativization has been made. Similarity between the Austronesian relativization pattern and those seen in Tibetan and Uto-Aztecan indicates that the so-called “subject-only” constraint on the Austronesian relativization is an epiphenomenon emanating from the parallel between clausal predicates and argument nominalizations, and does not support the hierarchy of grammatical relations widely assumed in the relativization literature. Relative clauses in these languages are in fact argument nominalizations with a gap that are simply juxtaposed to head nominals, some with and some others without a linker, rather than full clauses whose argument undergoes deletion or extraction as in the traditional relative clause analysis. The Austronesian focus morphology has the same function of indicating the semantic role (agentive, patientive, instrumental, etc.) of the nominalized argument as the nominalizers in Tibetan and Uto-Aztecan languages. What is peculiar to Austronesian is that clausal predicates have the same form as argument nominalizations due to their historical origins, as argued by Starosta, Pawley and Reid (1982).

The primary data for the proposed analysis come from the author’s fieldwork on the Sasak language of Lombok Island in eastern Indonesia, which independently show that the subject relation is not relevant in relativization of this Western Malayo-Polynesian language. The supporting, secondary data are drawn from Tagalog and other Austronesian languages as well as from the language families mentioned above.

**Page 3**

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## The Semantic of Prefix *peN-* in Malay: A Bridging Cross Reference Analysis

Nor Hashimah Jalaluddin

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Many Malay grammarians describe the semantic of *peN-* based on its structure and functions. Za'ba (2001), Asmah (1986), Nik Safiah et. al (1993), Abdullah & Liaw (1994) and few others agreed that the prefix *peN-* semantically refers to as an agent and instrument. Some grammarians noted that the prefix *peN-* as a patient, habitual manner and abstract marker. For instance *petani* (*farmer*) is an agent, *perokok* (*smoker*) is habitual, *pemarah* (*bad tempered*) is an abstract, *penimbang* (*scale*) is a measurement and so on. It is apparent that the description on *peN-* seems to be quite broad and overlapping and this can lead to ambiguity in meaning. Relevance theory that focuses on communication and cognition with reference assignment as one of its traits can offer a better description on *peN-*. In reference assignment, bridging cross reference (BCR) which allows the dependent on context in utterances facilitate the hearer to determine the intended meaning. '**pemakan sayur**' (vegetarian) and 'perosak bahasa' (language corrupter) need no modifier to determine that they are referring to human, as opposed to 'burung **pemakan** bangkai' - (carnivorous bird) and serangga perosak (destructive insects). The latter needs a modifier such as 'burung' (*bird*) and 'serangga' (*insect*) to show that it is non-human. In BCR, the meaning of *peN-* can be simplified as human and non human. Non-human can be further sub-classified as [+animate] and [-animate]. *PeN-* referring to human/agent does not need a specific attribute and the context will explicate the reference. Meanwhile *peN-* referring to animate and inanimate need a specific attribute modifier.

Paper title : **Interference of Thai reduplication to quantitative intensifier in Vietnamese spoken in Udon Thani province, Thailand**

Sub-field : Linguistics

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## Interference of Thai reduplication to quantitative intensifier in Vietnamese spoken in Udon Thani province, Thailand

Udon Thani, a province in the northeastern of Thailand, is the place where contains of the biggest Vietnamese community in Thailand (Sophana: 2005, 10). These Vietnamese immigrants came from all three regions of Vietnam with around 46,700 people in 1945 because of the World War II (Khachatphai: 1978, 10). At this present time, there are three generations of Vietnamese immigrant living in Udon Thani province. They still communicate to each other in Vietnamese, even though some of them are now living outside the community. They live in Thai language society; they work with Thais, so that Thai language might be involved directly in their daily life. Because of living as in bilingual community, a change has occurred with a quantitative intensifier in Vietnamese. This paper will present how it is changed.

Thai reduplication is one of several methods to show an expression in Thai. There are two kinds of reduplication in Thai: directed reduplication, and adapted reduplication. The directed reduplication is that a repeated word is the same in pronunciation as an original word. The repeated word of this kind can be changed in tones. The adapted reduplication is that a repeated word must be changed by adding some phonemes or some words in order to make it smoothly or beautifully pronounces. The directed reduplication generally is consisted of two words, but the adapted reduplication can be consisted of more than two words (Srijarong Boonchua: 1998, 148-153).

Although there are so many words of Vietnamese being as quantitative intensifier, the words “rất” [rɨt35] and “lắm” [lam35] (they mean “very”) seems to be two words widely being used to express quantity. The word “rất” [rɨt35] always be placed before modifier (“rất” + modifier), the word “lắm” [lam35] always be placed after modifier (modifier + “lắm”) (Dinh Van Duc: 2001), such as:

“rất đỏ” [rɨt35] [dɔ323] (“rất” + modifier) “very red”  
 “đỏ lắm” [dɔ323] [lam35] (modifier + “lắm”) “very red”

The directed reduplication in Thai is only one kind of Thai reduplication always unexpectedly occur as an interference to Vietnamese spoken in Udon Thani province, Thailand. This kind of Thai reduplication is widely used as a colloquial language by Thais; such as “แดง แแดง” [dɛŋ35] [dɛŋ33] “very red”.

Interference of Thai reduplication to quantitative intensifier in Vietnamese has occurred when Vietnamese living in Udon Thani province speak Vietnamese within their community. They unexpectedly use the directed reduplication of Thai to replace quantitative intensifier in Vietnamese, such as they say “Sao hôm này chị mặc áo **đỏ đỏ** thế hả chị?” (Why do you dress in very red today?) actually thay should say “Sao hôm này chị mặc áo **rất đỏ** thế hả chị?”. This is a kind of interference called *syntactic interference*, it appears when patterns from language A carried over into language B or when patterns of language B are interpreted in term of patterns of language A (Ilse Lehiste: 1998, 15). This phenomenon does not only occure with Vietnamese living in Udon Thani province, but it also occure with Vietnamese who are living in others provinces in Thailand because they are living within Thai language society. Language contact takes place between speakers of different

languages in contact situation. In order for communication to take place, the Vietnamese immigrants living in Udon Thani province must arrive at a certain degree of comprehension of Thai language and must acquire a degree of facility in producing utterance between language, some of them may have become bilingual.

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Paper title: Village Names in Chiang Saen: A linguistic-dominated multidisciplinary view on the study of village names

Sub-field: Ethnolinguistics

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## Abstract:

The present study aims to investigate linguistic characteristics of village names in Chiang Saen District across three critical periods: Period 1 (before 1958): before the formal announcement as a district, Period 2 (1958-1983): before the division of its sub-districts from three to six, and Period 3 (1984-present). The data used in this study were retrieved from governmental and academic documents, together with in-depth interviews of seventy village headmen from the fieldwork. The findings show that village names in Chiang Saen District consist of mainly words from nominal domain i.e. geography, specific names, nature, religious, occupations, living places. The most preferable pattern of naming is GEOGRAPHY + SPECIFIC NAMES (such as /sop1 kok1/ = 'mouth of the river' + 'Kok River'). From the investigation of the establishment of villages, it was found that the formal formation of new villages in early period (Period 1 and Period 2) was from the settlement of new communities in the new areas. However, in later period (Period 3), the formation of new villages was from the expansion of the existing communities. The trend in naming new villages in Period 3 is the addition of relational words, mostly words refer to direction, after the names of the existing villages (such as from /paa1 khaa0/ to /paa1 khaa0 nua4/ (/nua4/ means 'north'). History and way of life in Chiang Saen are also discussed.

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- (1) Paper title: **The Verb of Acquiring in Vietnamese: A Corpus-based Cognitive Semantic Study**
- (2) Sub-field: **Cognitive Semantics**
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## The Verb of Acquiring in Vietnamese: A Corpus-based Cognitive Semantic Study

A linguistic phenomenon in Mainland Southeast Asian languages which has been extensively investigated across languages are the grammaticalization and the poly-functionality of the verb of acquiring. The verb of acquiring is one of the verbs that are the most commonly used, the most highly grammaticalized and the most polysemous in Mainland Southeast Asian languages. Some examples of research works on this topic include Enfield (2003), Onkthiemsak (2001) and Takahashi (2003). The present study is different from the previous one in that it will examine the verb *đạt* 'to acquire' in Vietnamese by using the combination of two approaches, i.e. the theoretical framework of cognitive semantics (Reimer 2005, Taylor 1996, and Tyler and Evans 2003) and the corpus-driven approach (Gries 2006). It is generally known that the verb of acquiring across languages has both lexical and grammatical functions. It is found by Enfield (2003) that this verb can be syntactically categorized as follows: (i) a lexical verb, (ii) a preverbal modal/ aspectual marker (typically 'get to', or 'have to'), (iii) a postverbal modal/aspectual marker (typically 'potential' or 'completive'), (iv) a marker of complex descriptive complement constructions such as resultative, adverbial and potential expressions. This study limits its scope of study to the lexical verb category of the verb of acquiring only. As a lexical verb, it is found that the meanings of *đạt* are: (i) acquire, come to have, (ii) win, succeed, (iii) have got husband of wife, (iv) attaining rank, (v) know-and-have-ability-for, and (vi) okay, fine. It is argued in this study that the above lexical meanings of *đạt* are interrelated and are extended from the basic meaning by means of metonymic processes. The various meanings of *đạt* will be represented in this study in the form of a semantic network. Regarding the corpus linguistic aspect of this study, all occurrences of the verb *đạt* are collected from the corpus of actual language used in Vietnamese. The corpus linguistic approach can provide empirical evidence to some claims argued for from a cognitive linguistic perspective, such as the identification of the prototypical category and the form of a postulated semantic network.

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- 1) Title : On Benefactive in Thai and Vietnamese: The Verb of Giving
- 2) Sub-field: Semantic and syntax
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## On Benefactive in Thai and Vietnamese: The Verb of Giving

In this paper, benefactive constructions comprise of the verb of giving as a marker and convey the benefactive meaning. The function of the benefactive-marking extends from the basic sense of the verb of giving which implies the benefits in some way to the recipient from its action. This meaning is one of many meanings of the verb of giving in various languages including Thai and Vietnamese which are investigated in this paper. The verb of giving in Thai and Vietnamese, namely, *hây* and *cho* respectively, will be comparatively examined. The previous works have shown that *hây* and *cho* exhibit the similar extended grammatical meanings. However, there are significant differences in the scope of the benefactive meaning that should be concerned. This study aims at discussing the benefactive constructions marked by the verb of giving in Thai and Vietnamese. It is found that benefactive constructions in Vietnamese extend further to cover an inanimate benefactor whereas the benefactive participant in Thai must be a human being only. Moreover, benefactive constructions in Vietnamese can appear in sentences with non-action verbs and in isolated noun phrases, or in other words, non-sentences of which in Thai we use another word marked this function. The findings in this paper reveal that Vietnamese employs the verb of giving in a creative way rather than Thai.

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A Comparative Study of Color Terms among Fujian Speakers in Singapore,  
Taiwan, Penang and Southern Thailand

Semantics

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## ABSTRACT

“Fujian” or “Hokkien” is a Chinese dialect originating in Fujian province in China. Although Fujian Chinese is not so significant when compared to other Chinese dialects, especially nearby Taichew, this dialect is still found in other parts of the world outside of mainland China. The obvious places where this dialect is still spoken are Taiwan, Singapore, Penang (Malaysia), and Thailand to name just a few. Little serious linguistic study on Fujian dialects has been done, especially ones employing an ethnolinguistic approach. I therefore report here on a comparative or a cross - regional study of basic as well as non - basic color terms in Fujian found in Singapore, Taiwan, Penang (Malaysia), and Southern Thailand. It was carried out as a test of Berlin and Kay’s (1969) “evolutionary” theory of color term universals. 40 Fujian informants, both male and female, aged between 30 – 45, and passing a color blind test were the sample in the study: 30 from Taiwan (TW), Singapore (SP), and Penang (PN)(Malaysia); while another 10 lived in Southern Thailand (ST: Krabi, Trang, Phang-nga, and Phuket). They all use the Fujian Chinese dialect as their first language of communication.

It can be concluded from the study that there is a difference in the number of basic color terms: ten Fujian basic color terms representing nine basic color categories are found in Singapore and Taiwan, while nine basic color terms representing nine basic color categories are found in Penang (Malaysia) and Southern Thailand. It is very noticeable that the basic color terms representing BROWN and PINK are not found in all regions studied. The terms used to signify those basic color categories are non - basic color terms. It is also interesting to note that a basic color term ‘λα:δμ’ representing the color category BLUE in Fujian might be a cognate word of the terms representing BLUE, ‘λα:δμ’ and ‘λυ□αμ’, found in Zhuang in U - Thang - Yong - Ning and Zin - Jiang - Yong - Ning regions.

In terms of color evolution, it could be hypothesized that the evolution of the nine basic color categories in Fujian agrees with that put forth by Berlin and Kay.

For non - basic color terms in Fujian, four strategies in coining non - basic color terms are found : 1) modifying basic color terms, 2) modifying specific objects used as non - basic color terms, 3) compounding two basic color terms with the word ‘κα□?’ meaning ‘and’ or ‘with’, and 4) using specific objects as color terms.

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**Title:** The honorific system reflected by first-person pronouns,  
second-person pronouns and responding particles  
in Thai royal vocabularies

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**The honorific system reflected by first-person pronouns,  
second-person pronouns and responding particles  
in Thai royal vocabularies**

Since 'Rajasap' or Thai royal vocabularies are the special level of Thai language, the previous studies about 'Rajasap' are mostly concerned with its usage. However, there is no one studying 'Rajasap' as the linguistic forms reflecting the honorific system. Addressing this gap, this paper aims to analyze Thai royal vocabularies as reflecting the honorific system and analyze their word formation by thoroughly looking at first-person pronouns, second-person pronouns and responding particles in 'Rajasap'. Firstly, this paper argued that first-person pronouns and second-person pronouns are the referent honorifics while responding particles are the addressee honorifics. Secondly, These linguistic forms are composed of the word 'Buddha', 'head' and 'feet'. All of these vocabularies are the syntacticized forms which the literal meanings of these vocabularies have not been conscious by Thai speakers anymore.

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**(1) Paper Title**

Semantics and sensory encoding in Semai expressives

**(2) Sub-field**

anthropological linguistics, semantics, psycholinguistics

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## **Abstract**

This paper discusses the semantics and sensory encoding of Semai expressives. Expressives (or ideophones) is a common class of words in many Southeast Asian languages. These words convey speakers' sensory and perceptual experiences in relation to a particular phenomenon. They display detailed semantics with sound symbolic features and are often governed by speakers' first-person experience of a situation.

In the Mon-Khmer Aslian language Semai, expressives constitute a large groups of words. Semai has approximately 25,000-30,000 speakers who belong to the Orang Asli population on Peninsular Malaysia. Semai is not a written language and most speakers are bilingual in Bahasa Melayu, the Austronesian national language of Malaysia.

As first noted by Diffloth, formal features of Semai expressives display patterns common for expressives in many Austroasiatic languages. Morphological processes include various types of reduplication and infixation. The integration of expressives into the syntax is limited; expressives often precede whole sentences, verb phrases or isolate nouns, and negation as well as quantification of expressives is not possible (c.f. Diffloth 1972, -76).

This paper offers new data and analysis of Semai expressives. It establishes in detail what sensory and perceptual information expressives convey, presenting the types of perceptual experiences encoded in each sensory modality. Data shows that expressives conveying visual, auditory and olfactory perceptions are most common, but also that those encoding cross-modal sensory information constitute a substantial part of the inventory.

Further, this paper presents the sound symbolic structures of Semai expressives. It outlines the language specific use of vowel and consonant alternations to express fine-grained semantic differences between different forms; e.g. the use of different vowel qualities to distinguish different shades of darkness, or the altering of manner of articulation to express gradient changes in the intensity of smell.

This paper also addresses speakers' meta-linguistic knowledge of expressives. Data indicates that speakers of Semai identify formal and functional oddities of expressives in relation to other word classes. In addition, speakers show difference in attitude towards usage of expressives versus other word classes.

Finally, initial observations of cross-speaker variations of expressives is discussed. Speakers show considerate idiolectal and dialectal differences in their respective expressive vocabulary.

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Representing Complex Oral–Nasal Segments  
in the Kualan Language of Borneo  
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Kualan is a language spoken, with much dialectal variation, along the Kualan River in southwestern Borneo. It is closely related to the Samandang and Simpang languages spoken in adjacent areas. These languages belong to the Land Dayak group of languages, which are spoken over a large stretch of land in the interior of western Borneo, reaching Sarawak in the north. Land Dayak languages belong to the Western Malayo–Polynesian branch of the Austronesian language family, but their exact subgrouping within this branch has yet to be determined.

Apparently no previous attempts have been made to write the Kualan language. However, there have been some limited efforts to write Samandang and Simpang. Since the 1980s, some religious texts in Samandang have been produced by foreign missionaries with the help of native speakers. In the 1990s, a few booklets of folk stories in Simpang were published under the sponsorship of the Ford Foundation.

A particular challenge in devising writing systems for southern Land Dayak languages is the representation of complex oral–nasal segments. Kualan, Samandang, and Simpang all have complete series of post–occluded nasals, preoccluded nasals, and prenasalized (oral) stops. Of these, only post–occluded nasals are distinctive; preoccluded nasals and prenasalized stops are allophones of plain nasals and plain stops respectively, and occur in predictable environments. In the writing systems devised for Samandang and Simpang, different strategies were used in representing these complex segments. The Samandang writing system distinguishes plain and post–occluded nasals by marking nasalization of vowels which follow plain nasals with an accent mark, even though speakers are not conscious of this automatic nasalization. The Simpang writing system only distinguishes preoccluded nasals allophones from plain nasals, even though they are in complementary distribution, presumably because they constitute the series most perceptible to outsiders. This paper claims that neither of these strategies is adequate, since they do not result in intuitive phonemic writing systems which can be easily learned and used by native speakers. A third strategy is therefore proposed for Kualan, which enables writers to represent all and only the phonemes of their language.

**Title: A Contrastive Analysis between Thai and Myanmar Discourse Markers**

**Sub-field: Discourse Analysis**

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**A Contrastive Analysis between Thai and Myanmar Discourse Markers**

The reason to consider markers wherever they occur are that context and meaning interact to produce the full communicative force of the expressions used as discourse markers. We saw that markers may have referential meaning that acts in concert with their discourse location. But without considering markers in a variety of discourse locations, we would not be able to tease apart the contribution made by meaning from that made by context, or, to see what meaning and context contribute together. I would especial like to study their linguistics forms and put particular emphasis on conversational discourse. Believing in the light of discourse analysis their meaning would become even more explicit. I will thus use the discourse analysis framework proposed by Deborah Schiffrin (1987) and the study is a comparative study in casual conversation between standard Thai and standard Myanmar. It is expected that this study will be beneficial to those who are studying both the Thai language and Myanmar language as a foreign language insofar as they can effectively communicate with native speakers of Thai and Myanmar.

Title: It was done or it has been done? : What corpus tells us about perfective aspect and perfect in Thai

Subfield: semantics

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## ABSTRACT

This paper presents a semantic analysis of one of the most extensively studied aspectual marker in Thai, i.e. *lææw45*, from the perspective of the Selection Theory, which assumes that an aspectual construal of a situation codified by a linguistic expression is a result of interactions in systematic ways between two separate semantic layers, i.e. viewpoint aspect and situation aspect (Aktionzart). “These two categories stand in an operator-operandum relationship, where the viewpoint-aspect markers select their matching elements in situation aspects, thereby highlighting specific boundaries or phases” (Bickel, 1997: 115).

This paper aims at (1) investigating the aspectual meanings derived from the interactions between *lææw45* and all situation types, (2) cross-linguistically comparing and contrasting the aspectual meanings obtained in (1) with the prototypically semantic properties of the two aspectual categories, i.e. perfective aspect (Smith, 1991) and perfect (Bybee and Dahl, 1989; Bybee, et al., 1994) and (3) discussing the overlapping and diverging semantic properties of these two aspectual categories found in *lææw45*. The finding obtained from this comparison will account for why the form, *lææw45*, has been analyzed in many different ways in previous studies, i.e. a temporal adverbial roughly translated as English ‘already’ (Haas, 1964; Warotamasikkhadit, 1976); a completive marker indicating a completion of a situation (Sindhvanandha, 1970), a perfective aspect marker (Scovel 1970; Boonyapatipark 1983; Bisang 2003; Kullavanijaya and Bisang 2004) and a marker of perfect (Sereechareonsatit, 1984; Thepkanjana, 1986; Dahl, 1985; and Howard, 2000).

This paper also argues that the form *lææw45* is, in fact, ambiguous. Depending on the situation-aspect type (Aktionzart type) with which it co-occurs and the context in which it is used, *lææw45* can be analyzed as indicating either the perfective aspect or the perfect. Moreover, it is found in the corpus that there is one meaning that unifies all the postulated aspectual meanings of *lææw45*, i.e. the change of state of the subject of the sentence. *lææw45* carries the presupposition of an immediate past event or state in opposition to the one described by the sentence. This kind of presupposition is also found in the form “-le” in Chinese (Soh and Gao, 2006), the form “already” in English (Michaëlis; 1992, 1996) in colloquial Singaporean English (Fong, 2005).

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**Abstract : SEALS XVIII**

**Title:** Reduplication in Thai: Form and Function

**Subfield:** formal syntax

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**Abstract Topic:** Reduplication in Thai: Form and Function

Reduplication is a linguistic phenomenon whereby a lexical item is repeated and expanded so that its grammatical functions could be varied. It is a common linguistic characteristics in South East Asian, South Asian, and Australian languages (Abbi 1992, Fabricius 1998). There are two types of reduplication process: complete and partial. In Thai the two types can be found. The instances of the complete one are illustrated in the word *keng keng* 'clever' in the phrase *dek keng keng* 'clever children', *chaa chaa* 'slowly' in the phrase *phuut chaa chaa* 'speak slowly'. Besides, the partial form can be seen the word *yaak jon* 'poor', *suay ngaam* 'beautiful'. This paper will highlight the two type forms in relation to their grammatical functions in Thai. The study corpus obtained from a few contemporary sources like Thai mass media on-line, the articles and columns from the Thai magazine *Kun stree*, and idiomatic sayings are analysed. The findings show that the complete type which affects the word classification display descriptive, mood-imperative function and the partial type shows no change in lexical classification but for word-meaning emphasis only. The study will create language awareness in terms of the usage of adverbial form in Thai imperative utterances and the higher mastery of Thai words

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## LEXICAL-SEMANTIC SYSTEM OF THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED AND THE AUDITORY IMPAIRED

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### Abstract

This study explores the mental organization of Lexical-Semantic System between three groups of Thai children -- the blind group, the deaf group, and the normal children. Three experiments were carried out to investigate the differences between each group.

The first experiment involves the use of word association test in exploring the semantic systems of deaf children and hearing children activated by visual words and blind children and sighted children activated by auditory words. In this experiment, the subjects were asked to name any words which are semantically related to the designated groups of words (30 nouns, 30 verbs, and 30 adjectives) within a limited time by using DMDX program. The associative responses can be classified into four categories - taxonomic semantic relations, non-taxonomic semantic relations, non-semantic relations and errors.

Taxonomic semantic relations are superordination, subordination, co-ordination, synonymy, opposite and similarity.

Non-taxonomic relations include part-whole relation, whole-part relation, entailment, physical property relation, functional property relation, manner relation, thematic relation, resultative relation, place relation, time relation, event relation, verb serialization relation, attitude/value/ emotion relation and specific experience relation.

Non-semantic relations include consonant association, vowel association, consonant and vowel association, consonant and vowel and tone association, compounding and idioms.

Errors are in the form of sound/form pattern errors, repetition, reduction, no response and definition.

As regards nouns, most of the associative responses given by deaf children involve items with compounding (e.g. /mææw/<cat>→/náam/<water> = /mææw- náam/ <seal>) and collocation (+ predicate) (e.g. /wua/<cow>→/kin-jâa/<eat grass-predicate>) while the hearing groups responses are predominantly items with co-ordination (e.g./mææw/<cat>→/măa/<dog>) as that blind children and sighted children give to nouns.

In terms of verbs, most of the associative responses that deaf children, hearing children, blind children and sighted children give to verbs is collocation (e.g./dæn/<walk>→/mææw/<cat>)

Activated by adjectives, most of the associative responses that deaf children give to adjectives is physical property relation as hearing children and sighted children (e.g./khăaw/<white>→/kra-dàat/<paper>) while most of the associative responses that blind children give to adjectives is opposites. (e.g./khăaw/<white>→/dam/ <black>)

The findings indicate that the lexical-semantic system of the visually-impaired tends to be taxonomic while that of auditory-impaired is non-taxonomic.

The second experiment involves the use of definition test to investigate whether the subjects define words by using taxonomic organization knowledge or not. To this end, concept types of definitions referred to in ISO/R 1087-intensional definition, extensional definition and contextual definition have been used. In this experiment the subjects were asked to define 30 nouns and 30 verbs. It is found that most of definition types that blind, hearing and sighted children used are intentional definition /mæ:w/ → pen sàt khon chop líaŋ/ (cat → a small animal

that people often keep as a pet → using taxonomy organization knowledge) while deaf children prefer contextual definition / mə:w kin nũu/ (cat → cat eat rat. → not using taxonomy organization knowledge).. The result of this experiment confirms the result of the first experiment.

The third experiment involves the use of comparison test to see whether visually impairment has an impact on association property to things or not. In this experiment, the subjects were asked to associate 30 adjectives to things by using the pattern ‘attributive term as .....’ (e.g. as red as). It is found that that blind children can only associate the designated attributive terms to things whose attribute has to be visually perceived, for example, /khiăw <green> mwan <as> mæ:ŋ-tháp < a beetle of the genus Buprestis, having brilliant green integuments >

The results from the three experiments are discussed as follows: The lexical-semantic system of the blind group tends to be taxonomy-oriented while that of the deaf children is non-taxonomic. In this regard, the semantic system of the visually-impaired is closer to the sighted children than the auditory impaired group to with the hearing ones.

## **Proposal for Presentation**

### **SEALS XVIII** **The 18th Annual Meeting of the Southeast Asian Linguistics Society**

- |                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| (1) Paper title             | Reading Recent Indonesian Non-conventional Expressions   |
| (2) Sub-field               | Discourse  |
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## Abstract

It is a truism that language undertakes changes in some respects along the course of history (see e.g., Burkette, 2001; Goss, 2002; Nawata, 2000). A gross evidence of language changes is the split of one language into two or more languages in its later development. Malay and Indonesian, which are now of two different entities, used to be of one language. People also now consider English no longer as a single monolithic English, rather, as (World) Englishes (Doyle, 1989; Norton, 1997; Flowerdew, 2001).

There are, however, some other changes which are not as apparent as the split of a language. Within a language, a novel accentuation, as a form of the change, might come to the fore. In Indonesian, for instance, certain words enjoy wider recognition and use relatively more than the others. Especially, such a situation is apparent in the language of media, particularly, advertisement. This holds true with the word *banget* in Indonesian media, be they electronic or print. A recent instance is *Delon banget*, an expression spoken by Ata, a presenter of 'Indonesian Idol' at its first contest grand final on August 28, 2004, televised direct across the country by RCTI TV station.

Seemingly, the recent popularity of such a word is due to its non-conventional use. The normal orthography of *banget* has been frequently written in the media as *BANGEEET* and the should-be pronunciation of *BANGEEET* as /baŋə:t/ (with the stress on the second syllable) is also violated by the use of /ba::ŋət/ (with the first syllable being stressed). This suggests that, basically, certain words potentially gain certain reception or appreciation due to, referring to Saussurean linguistics, its non-conventional use.

Yet, there has been, hitherto, no document which deals with this recent phenomenon in Indonesian language. The present paper is, therefore, devoted to providing an initial intimation of such non-conventional expressions in the light of Saussurean concepts of language, particularly, those around the notion of convention vis-à-vis syntagm and paradigm (Saussure, 1959).

Saussure's conception of language is powerful for analysis of (unusual) phrases; yet, as to why there is now a somewhat burgeoning use of nouns to replace adjectives (paradigmatic and syntagmatic manipulation) in Indonesian language is beyond pure Saussurean concepts of human language. This paper will, as a conclusion, level critiques at Saussurean linguistic concepts around this problem and put forth alternative explanation about the issue at stake.

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## Two Complementizers? Analysis of Amis *u* and *a*

Amis complementation has been studied by several scholars, such as Wu (1995) and Liu (2003). *a*, which often appears in Amis complement clauses, is often ignored (e.g. Wu, 1995) or analyzed as the infinitive complementizer, grammaticalized from the conjunctive “and” (Liu, 2003; Tsai, 2007). However, example (1) clearly contradicts the hypothesis of Liu (2003) and Tsai (2007), which relates *a* to infiniteness. In addition, another element, *u*, which often appears in positions similar to those of *a*, is neglected in previous literature. This abstract discusses the distribution of *u* and *a*.

I suggest that *a* and *u* interact with temporal, aspectual, and mood (TAM) information of embedded clauses, which have rarely (if ever) been considered in previous literature. Examples (1) and (3) show that *a* cannot introduce a complement clause whose event is measured as either a past or past perfective, whereas *u* can.

I find that *u* is complementarily distributed with *a*. (4) shows that *u* can occur in the sentence-initial position. This observation is not found in *a*, which seems to introduce complement clauses only. (5) also shows that *a* can introduce infinite complement clauses, whereas *u* is incapable of doing so. Although *u* seems to appear in sentences whose TAM information is opposite to *a*, some exceptions do exist. Interestingly, even though *a* and *u* mark the same TAM information (see examples (6) & (7)), their occurrences are still complementarily distributed and conditioned by certain restrictions about which I am uncertain.

Where *u* and *a* can occur puts them into the paradoxical situation of being complementizers. *a* can occur in the direct perception construction where CP and IP are reduced (e.g. Felser, 1998; van Gelderen, 2004). In addition, *u* and *a* can complementarily appear in the ECM construction in which CP is reduced so that one argument of the embedded clause can receive the case from the matrix verb. The ECM (3) and direct perception (8) examples suggest *u* and *a* are probably not complementizers.

In this study, I open another door to look at Amis *a*, from perspectives of its interaction with TAM in complement clauses. I also compare *a* with *u*, showing that these two elements are often distributed complementarily and suggesting that their complementizer status is still questionable.

Appendix:

- (1) Ma-fana' kaku a/\*u ta-tayni  $\phi$ -ci aki anudafak  
 Neut-know 1sg.Nom Red-come Nom-Pm Aki tomorrow  
 "I know that Aki will come tomorrow."
- (2) pa-suwal  $\phi$ -ci maluta ci liting-an u pa-ka-so'elin\*(-ay tu) ci yis-an  
 Cau-say Nom-Pm Maluta Pm Liting-Dat Cau-KA-real-Fac Asp Pm Jesus-Dat  
 "Maluta persuaded Liting to believe in God." (ps. Liting believes in God now.)
- (3) Pa-ka-soe'lin kami cingraan u/\*a ma-luwud-ay k-u cacikayen  
 Cau-KA-real 1pl.Nom 3sg.Dat UV-win-Fac Nom-Cm contest  
 "We believe him to have won the contest."
- (4) u/\*a ma-mi-pa-hanhan  $\phi$ -ci aki a mi-tilid  
 Red-AV-Cau-rest Nom-Pm Aki AV-study  
 "Aki is going to drop off school."
- (5) Mi-lalang kaku ci aki-an \*u/a mi-palu ci kacaw-an  
 AV-dissuade 1sg.Nom Pm Aki-Dat AV-beat Pm Kacaw-Dat  
 "I dissuaded Aki from beating Panay"
- (6) Ma-fana' kaku u/\*a ma-mi-palu  $\phi$ -ci aki ci panay-an  
 Neut-know 1sg.Nom Red-AV-beat Nom-Pm Aki Pm Panay-Dat  
 "I know that Aki is going to beat Panay."
- (7) Ma-fana' kaku a/\*u ma-ma-palu n-i aki  $\phi$ -ci panay  
 Neut-know 1sg.Nom Red-UV-beat Gen-Pm Aki Nom-Pm Panay  
 "I know that Aki will be beaten by Panay."
- (8) Ma-araw aku  $\phi$ -ci aki a mi-cemud i la-luma  
 UV-see 1sg.Gen Nom-Pm Aki AV-in Prep inside-room  
 "I saw Aki walking inside the room."

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## **Phonology-Morphology Interface in Malay**

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The aim of this paper is to examine the interface between phonology and morphology in Malay prefixation and suffixation. It is apparent that the phonological behavior of prefixation in this language is quite distinct both in character and degree of generality from suffixation. Phonological rules that are visibly active at the stem-prefix juncture are not permissible at the stem-suffix juncture, and vice versa. For instance, regular rules such as nasal assimilation, nasal coalescence and glottal epenthesis that are applicable in the domain of prefixation are generally inapplicable in the domain of suffixation. On the contrary, gemination and glide formation rules that are active at the stem-suffix juncture are inactive at the stem-prefix juncture. In previous studies, the asymmetry was accounted for by rule applications that are conditioned by morpheme boundaries (Farid 1980), and by phonological representations that postulate distinct underlying representation of morphemes (Teoh 1994). The present study offers an account based on the theoretical framework of Lexical Phonology (Kiparsky 1982, Mohanan 1982). It is claimed that suffixation and prefixation operate at different levels or strata with the former precedes the latter. The rule of nasal assimilation, nasal coalescence and glottal epenthesis apply at the prefixation stratum, while the rules of gemination and glide formation apply at the suffixation stratum. The phonological rules apply accordingly because the relevant environments are available at that particular stratum.

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