

## The constituency and command paradox in Philippine languages

### 1.0 Command

- Basic evidence for **Gen/Erg** > **Nom/Abs**

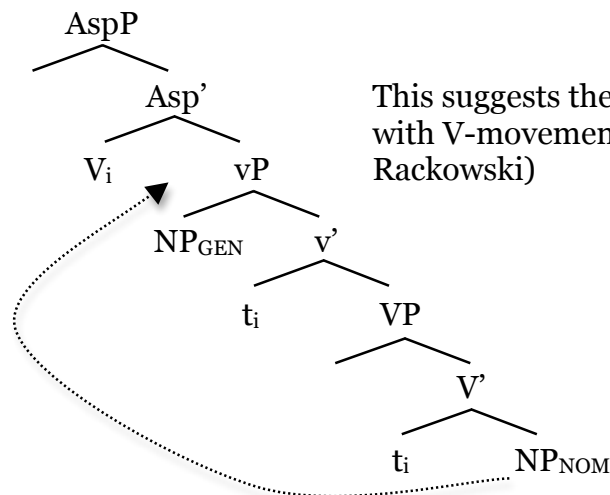
- Reflexive anaphors (Schachter 1976 inter alia)

- (1) T<in>ign-an ni=Juan ang=sarili=niya  
<BEG>see-LV P.GEN=Juan NOM=self=3S.GEN  
'Juan looked at himself.'
- (2) \*T<in>ign-an ng=sarili=niya si=Juan  
<BEG>see-LV GEN=self=3S.GEN P.NOM=Juan
- (3) ?\*T<in>ign-an si=Juan ng=sarili=niya  
<BEG>see-LV P.NOM=Juan GEN=self=3S.GEN

- Evidence for **V** > **Nom/Abs**

- NPI licensing

- (4) Wala=ng b<in>ili-Ø=ng libro ang=sinuman  
NEG.EXT=LNK <BEG>buy-PV=LNK book NOM=anyone  
'Nobody bought a book.' (Aldridge 2004)
- (5) \*May b<in>ili-Ø=ng libro ang=sinuman  
EXT <BEG>buy-PV=LNK book NOM=anyone



## 2.0 Constituency

• Philippine type coordination is not expected in a single spine structure. (Keenan 1976, Pearson 2007 fn.10, Travis 2005)

- (6) a. [I-ni-hatid ni=Paolo] at [s<in>undo-∅ ni=Pedro] si=Juan  
 CV-BEG-escort GEN=P. and <BEG>pick\_up-PV GEN=P. NOM=Juan  
 ‘Paolo escorted and Pedro picked Juan up.’
- b. \*[I-ni-hatid si=Paolo] at [s<in>undo-∅ si=Pedro] ni=Juan  
 ?[I-ni-hatid si=Paolo] at [s<in>undo-∅ si=Pedro] || ni=Juan  
 CV-BEG-escort NOM=P. and <BEG>pick\_up-PV NOM=P. GEN=Juan  
 ‘Juan escorted Paolo and picked up Pedro.’

- (7) a. [Manuhor baoang] jala [mangolompa mangga] halak i *Toba Batak*  
 AV:buy onions and AV:cook mangos man DET  
 ‘The man buys onions and cooks mangos’

- b. [Di-tuhor si=Ore] jala [di-lompa si Ruli] mangga  
 PV-buy ART=Ore and PV-cook ART Ruli mangos  
 ‘Ore buys and Ruli cooks mangos’

- Emmorey (1984) offers prosodic evidence for the same constituency in Toba Batak. There, the nuclear pitch accent falls on the stressed syllable of the last lexical item in the Predicate Phrase.

• No Philippine-type language shows evidence as that found in Celtic languages for VO constituency, i.e. SVO order and VO constituency when V movement is blocked.

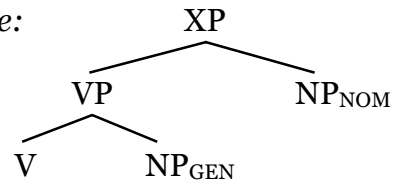
- (8) a. Y mae’r dyn [wedi gweld y ci] *Welsh*  
 PRT COP.3SG.PROG:the man PERF see(V<sub>N</sub>) the dog  
 ‘The man has seen the dog.’

- b. [Wedi gweld y ci] y mae’r dyn  
 PERF see(V<sub>N</sub>) the dog PRT COP.3SG.PROG:the man  
 ‘The man has seen the dog.’ (Sproat 1985:178, Aldridge 2003:166)

- (9) a. \*[Adügü-tu Maria] luma [aluguraha-ti John] fein *Garifuna*  
 make-3SF Maria and sell-3SM John bread  
 (Can only mean, ‘Maria makes (something) and John sells bread’)

- b. \*[Adügü t-umu-ti Maria] luma [aluguraha l-umu-ti John] fein  
 make 3SF-TR-3SM Maria and sell 3SM-TR-3SM John bread  
 (Can only mean, ‘Maria makes (it) and John sells bread’)

(10) *Constituency tree:*



### 3.0 Other command & constituency paradoxes

- Coordination groups adjuncts with low arguments and adjuncts with adjuncts:

(11) John met [Susan on Friday] and [Maria on Saturday]

(12) John sings [here on Sundays] and [there on Saturdays]

- But such constituents for coordination are not constituents for movement

(13) Who<sub>i</sub> did John meet *t<sub>i</sub>* on Friday?

(14) \*[Who on Friday] did John meet?

- Also, outer adjuncts scope over inner adjuncts on the right edge

- Pesetsky (1995): The Dual System hypothesis

*Layered Syntax:* XP-movement island conditions on XP movement, XP-ellipsis, interpretation of modification relations

*Cascade syntax:* everything else (Pesetsky 1995:248)

- But Tagalog does not pattern like English in allowing (almost) any two final constituents to group together for the purposes of coordination:

(15) \*T<in>ign-an [ni=Maria si=Paul] at [ni=Pedro si=Paula]  
<BEG>look-LV GEN=M. NOM=P. and GEN=P. NOM=P.  
(For, Maria looked at Paul and Pedro looked at Paula.)

- Cascade structure cannot be responsible for the coordination pattern in Tagalog

### 4.0 The copular analysis and its predictions

- The difference is that Philippine languages use aspect marked thematic nominalizations for canonical transitive predications

- One motivation of the copular nominal analysis of Philippine predications is that it provides a cross-linguistically commonplace analogue to the Austronesian extraction restriction:

(16) \*Ni=Ronaldo ay p<in>ili-∅ si=Juan  
 GEN=Ronaldo TOP <BEG>choose-∅ NOM=Juan

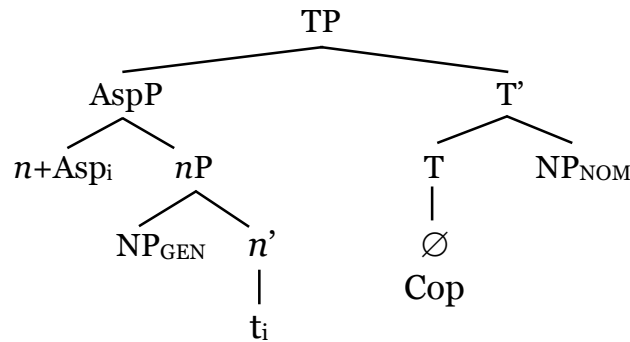
(17) Si=Juan ay p<in>ili-∅ ni=Ronaldo  
 NOM=Juan TOP <BEG>choose-∅ GEN=Ronaldo  
 ‘Juan was chosen by Ronaldo.’

(18) \*Ni=Ronaldo, ang=kaibigan si=Juan  
 GEN=Ronaldo NOM=friend NOM=Juan

(19) \*Of Ronaldo<sub>i</sub>, John is the employee t<sub>i</sub>

- The relation between the ergative and absolutive DPs is that between a possessor of a nominal predicate and its subject

(20)



- No c-command relation at all between the genitive and nominative argument at any point in the derivation.

- So how do we get asymmetric licensing of reflexive anaphora in event predications? The same way we get it between a possessor of a nominal predicate and the nominative.

(21) a. Kaaway ni=Tyson ang=sarili=niya  
 enemy GEN=Tyson NOM=self=3S.GEN  
 ‘Tyson’s enemy is himself.’

b. ?\*Kaaway nang=sarili=niya si=Tyson  
 enemy GEN=self=3S.GEN NOM=Tyson  
 ‘Tyson’s enemy is himself.’ (Kaufman 2009)

- The pay-off is a unified account for reflexive anaphora in nominal and verbal predicate pairs:

- (22) a. Ampon=niya            ang=sarili=niya  
 adoptee=3S.GEN        NOM=self=3S.GEN  
 'He is his own adoptee.'
- b. in-ampon-Ø=niya            ang=sarili=niya  
 BEG-adoptee-PV=3S.GEN        NOM=self=3S.GEN  
 'He adopted himself.'

#### 4.1 Tagalog command relations revisited

- When there is no structure to determine binding relations, anaphora must rely on extra-structural factors:

##### Affectedness relations

Possessor > Possessee

Agent > Patient

- The fact that binding is not structurally determined also allows it to be reversible when affectedness is equivocal, as with relations.

(23)

Si=Hesus ay Ama, pero hindi pwedeng ama=siya ng=sarili=niya  
 NOM=Jesus TOP father but NEG can:LNK father=3S.NOM GEN=self=3S.GEN  
 'Jesus is the father but he can't be the father of himself.' (from web)

(24)

hindi=po=kasi tamang sabi-hin na Ama=niya ang=kanyang sarili  
 NEG=POL=because correct:LNK say-PV LNK father=3S.GEN NOM=3S.GEN:LNK self  
 'It's not correct to say that his father is himself.' (from web)

- Note that these two naturally occurring examples both involve locative voice predicates, whose "underlying object" is less effected than that of patient voice predicates.

(25) Kaya siya ay na-ta~takot kapag  
 REAS 3S.NOM TOP NVL.BEG-IMPRF~fear when

in-udyuk-an=siya            ng=kanyang sarili  
 BEG-tempt-LV=3S.NOM        GEN=3S.GEN self  
 'That's why he was scared when he was tempted by himself' (from web)

(26) su~sumbat-an=siya            ni=Dardo at su~sumbat-an=siya  
 IMPRF~reproach-LV=3S.NOM GEN=D. and IMPRF~reproach-LV=3S.NOM

ng=kanyang sarili  
 GEN=3S.GEN self  
 'Dardo will reproach him and himself will reproach him.' (from web)

- That the semantics of the predicate head in a copular sentence should effect binding is not unusual, cf. representational nouns vs. non-representational nouns

(27) a. John is a caricature of himself      b. \*John is an employee of himself

- Condition C

- It's been noted that clitic movement seems to feed Condition C:

(28) \*M<in>a~mahal-∅=siya<sub>i</sub>      [ng=mga=kaibigan ni=Juan<sub>i</sub>]  
 <BEG>IMPRF~love-PV =3S.NOM GEN=PL=friend      GEN=Juan  
 'John's friends loves John.'

- It hasn't been noted that the same violation is also present with two proper names and the nominative in final position:

(29) \*?M<in>a~mahal-∅ [ng=mga=kaibigan ni=Juan<sub>i</sub>] [si=Juan<sub>i</sub>]  
 <BEG>IMPRF~love-PV GEN=PL=friend      GEN=Juan NOM=Juan  
 (For, 'John's friends love John.')

This is not what we expect, cf.

(30) a. John<sub>i</sub>'s mother called John<sub>i</sub>      b. \*John<sub>i</sub> called John<sub>i</sub>'s mother

- It's also been noted that bound variable readings suggest mutual c-command between the transitive A and P arguments (Richards 1993):

(31) M<in>a~mahal-∅ [ng=kanyang<sub>i</sub> anak] [ang=bawat nanay<sub>i</sub>]  
 <BEG>IMPRF~love-PV GEN=3S.GEN:LNK child NOM=each mother  
 'Her child loves every mother.'

(32) M<in>a~mahal-∅ [ng=bawat<sub>i</sub> anak] [ang=kanyang nanay<sub>i</sub>]  
 <BEG>IMPRF~love-PV GEN=each child NOM=3S.GEN:LNK mother  
 'Every child loves her mother.'

- Suspiciously similar to the binding without c-command we find in copular clauses (Higgins 1973):

(34) a. [The person everyone<sub>i</sub> loves the most] is his<sub>i</sub> mother.  
 b. What [everyone<sub>i</sub> hates most] is to have his<sub>i</sub> mother insulted.

## 5.0 Conclusion

- There are still many unexpected binding facts for all present structural accounts
- Some of these find a similarity to binding in copular sentences which have also been analyzed as the result of “extra-structural” factors
- On the empirical side, we need is an unbiased survey of binding relations in Tagalog obtained under controlled/experimental conditions.

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