

## When Philippine-type voice meets Indo-European-style voice: Insights from Puyuma

**Introduction.** Following the division of Voice and *v*, the active/passive voice contrast has been captured through the postulation of different “flavors” of Voice (e.g. Harley 2013; Legate 2014). Philippine-type Austronesian languages have been claimed to bear a similar and more elaborate voice system, whereby different “flavors” of Voice<sup>0</sup> and Appl<sup>0</sup> enable not only internal arguments but also adjunct-like phrases (e.g. locative, benefactor) to be promoted to Subject (Rackowski 2002; Aldridge 2004, 2012, 2017; a.o.).

We argue instead that Austronesian-type “voice” has nothing to do with Voice<sup>0</sup>(/Appl<sup>0</sup>), despite what its name suggests. Our evidence comes from Puyuma, an Austronesian language that exhibits both a Philippine-type four-way voice system and a two-way voice contrast akin to active and passive. We show that the two types of “voice” can co-occur, because Philippine-type “voice” is *not* the morphological reflex of any functional head hosted within the core verbal projection (VoiceP), but instead agreement morphology **hosted at C**. This undermines the ergative/valency-indicating approach to Philippine-type voice (De Guzman 1988; Mithun 1994, Aldridge 2004, 2017; a.o.), and lends new support to the A'-agreement approach to voice in similar languages (Chamorro: Chung 1994; Malagasy: Pearson 2005).

**The phenomenon.** Puyuma possesses an understudied affix *u-*, which, when attached to a 2-place verb marked in Philippine-type Actor Voice (1a), denotes a passive-like construction (1b): the external argument is obligatorily absent, and the theme bears subject-marking, akin to unaccusative subjects (1c).

- (1) a. M-ekan na suwan kana buṅa. b. M-u-ekan la na buṅa. c. M-utani na buṅa.  
 [AV]-eat DF.PIVOT dog DF.ACC yam [AV-U]-eat PRF DF.PIVOT yam [AV]-fall DF.PIVOT yam  
 ‘The dog ate the yam.’ ‘The yam was eaten up.’ ‘The yam fell (to the ground).’

When present in a causative construction, *u-* must appear between Philippine-type Actor Voice morphology (*m-*) and causative morphology (*pa-*), with the causer obligatorily absent, as in (2a-b).

- (2) a. M-u-pa-resis na raman. b. M-u-pa-depe' na tamaku.  
 [AV-U-CAUS]-intersperse DF.PIVOT weed [AV-U-CAUS]-inflamm DF.PIVOT cigarette  
 ‘The weed was made interspersed.’ ‘The cigarette was made inflamed.’

**Claim 1: *u-* is a detransitivizer.** Despite their superficial similarity, the *u-* construction is not a passive, given its incompatibility with agent-denoting PPs (*by*-phrases) (3) and agent-oriented adverbs (4b).

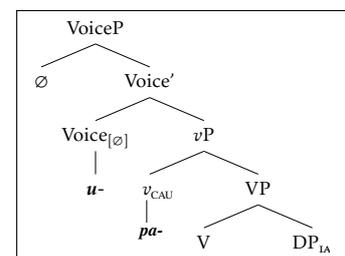
- (3) M-u-deru na kuraw (\*kandrina walak/\*dra traw/\*dra kadaw/\*dra karayag).  
 [AV-U-COOK] DF.PIVOT fish (\*that.OBL child/\*INDF.OBL someone/INDF.OBL SUN/INDF.OBL foehn)  
 ‘The fish (was) cooked (\*by that child/\*by someone/from sunshine/from foehn).’

- (4) a. (✓Tremakatrakaw) m-ekan na ṅiyaw kana kuraw. 2-place AV-construction  
 (secretly.AV) [AV-eat] DF.PIVOT cat DF.ACC fish  
 ‘The cat ate the fish (secretly).’

- b. (\*Tremakatrakaw) m-u-ekan na kuraw. AV-marked *u*-construction  
 (secretly.AV) [AV-U-eat] DF.PIVOT fish  
 ‘The fish was eaten (\*secretly).’

The *u-* construction is also not an anticausative, given its compatibility with a wide range of agent-oriented verbs (e.g. *catch, comb, cheat, buy, bury, fold, fill, collect*), which are known to disallow inchoative counterparts across languages (Haspelmath 1993; Reinhart 2000; Alexiadou et al. 2006). It is also distinct from middles, given the obligatory presence of the detransitivizing affix *u-*, as middles are typically morphologically unmarked (e.g. Kemmer 1993; Kaufmann 2007). Finally, it is not an impersonal, given the mandatory “promotion” of the internal argument to Subject status as evidenced by case-marking (‘pivot’) (cf. (1a-c)). We conclude that *u-* is an external-argument eliminating affix that marks an understudied type of detransitivization process distinct from all four common types of derived intransitive.

**Claim 2: *u-* is the morphological reflex of Voice** We argue that the detransitivizer *u-* is the morphological reflex of a **deficient Voice**, which does not introduce an external argument or Case-license its internal argument—as opposed to the external argument-introducing Voice<sup>0</sup> in the 2-place construction (1a), which is zero-marked. Consequently, the internal argument in the *u*-marked construction (1b) checks Case with T, akin to unaccusatives (1c). The co-occurrence of *u-* (reflex of Voice) and *pa-* (reflex of *v*<sub>CAU</sub>) in (2a-b) lends new empirical support to Voice and *v* as two distinct functional heads—the former as responsible for external argument-introducing and the latter for introducing causative semantics (e.g. Pylkkänen 1999; Marantz



2001; Schäfer 2008; Harley 2013; Legate 2014). Crucially, the linear order of the two affixes (*u-pa*-ROOT) follows from the prediction of the Mirror Principle (Baker 1980), in which *u-* (reflex of Voice) surfaces to the left of *pa-* (reflex of *v*) and the root (V).

**Claim 3: Philippine-type AV morphology does not mark Voice** Assuming the Mirror Principle holds, that Philippine-type AV morphology *m-* surfaces to the left of the reflex of Voice (*u-*) and *v* (*pa-*) (2) suggests that it is hosted at a projection **higher than Voice** and outside of the core verbal projections. Support for this comes from the affix's obligatory insertion into the progressive prefix (*Ca*-reduplication), which indicates that Actor Voice is encoded into morphology after that of ASPECT<sup>0</sup>. This lends new support to a family of A'-agreement approaches to Philippine-type voice (Chung 1994; Pearson 2005; Chen 2017), according to which AV morphology is **hosted at C**, realizing an Agree relation between [u<sub>OP</sub>] and the nominative DP. This accounts for its presence regardless of the valancy of the verb: intransitives (1c), detransitives (1b), transitives (1a). [The AV affix *m-* has three allomorphs: <em> (pre-C<sub>non-bilabial</sub>); *me-* (pre-liquid); <en> (5b) (pre-bilabial) (5a).]

a. AV form <em>√	b. AV form (progressive) C<em>a-√	
d<em>eru	d<em>a-deru	'cook'
g<em>isgis	g<em>a-gisgis	'shave with a razor'
k<em>aratr	k<em>a-karatr	'bite'
s<em>absab	s<em>a-sabsab	'wash'
t<em>enun	t<em>a-tenun	'weave'

**Claim 4: Philippine-type voice is not hosted within the verbal complex.** This observation, at the same time, undermines the ergative analysis of Philippine-type voice. Under that approach, AV and PV marker is the spell-out of intransitive and transitive Voice<sup>0</sup>, respectively, while Locative Voice (LV) and Circumstantial Voice (CV) each mark an Appl<sup>0</sup> that licenses the Subject (pivot-marked phrase) as the highest internal argument (Aldridge 2004). In this view, 2-place AV-clauses like (1a) are antipassives whose intr. Voice<sup>0</sup> is spelled out as *m-*. Now, the fact that the alleged antipassive (1a) is compatible with detransitivization (1b) argues against the antipassive view of (1a). Two pieces of evidence reinforce that the AV morphology is *not* a reflex of intransitive Voice: its presence in unaccusatives (5a)—which in principle does not contain a Voice<sup>0</sup> as it neither introduces an EA nor assigns structural Case to its IA—as well as (5a)'s 2-place causative counterpart (5b), which is incompatible with an intransitive analysis.

- (5) a. Me-redék na walak i renarenadrán. *Unaccusative*  
 [AV-arrive] DF.PIVOT child LOC playground  
 'The child arrived at the playground.'
- b. P<en>a-redék na walak kana ladru i renarenadrán. *Causative counterpart of (5a)*  
 [CAU<AV>arrive] DF.PIVOT child DF.ACC mango LOC playground  
 'The child threw (*lit.* made arrive at) the mango to the playground.'

The compatibility of AV morphology with both intransitives and transitives indicates that Philippine-type AV and PV affixes are *not* transitivity-indicating morphology hosted at Voice<sup>0</sup>.

**Puyuma LV/CV affixes are not applicative markers.** We demonstrate that Puyuma LV/CV affixes also behave like agreement morphology, rather than an applicative marker (reflex of Appl<sup>0</sup>) that licenses the pivot phrase in the **highest internal argument position** (Aldridge 2004; Rackowski & Richards 2005 for Tagalog). First, evidence from binding reveals that the pivot phrase in a CV-clause can be interpreted as a bound variable of another internal argument (6a), indicating that it is *not* introduced in the highest IA position—contra the baseline assumption of the ergative analysis. Second, the fact that LV/CV morphology obligatorily cliticizes to the **highest predicate** of a clause (6b-c)—e.g. an adverb (6c)—reinforces the agreement approach to LV/CV affixes and argues against analyzing them as applicative markers.

- (6) a. Ku=beray-anay [tu<sub>k</sub>=lribun] [kan tinataw kana kiakarun<sub>k</sub> driya].  
 [1S.GEN=give-CV] [3.POSS.PIVOT=wages] [ACC 3s.POSS.mother LK laborer every]  
 'I gave every laborer's<sub>k</sub> mother his/her<sub>k</sub> wages.' (distributed reading available)
- b. Ku=beray-anay kana walak na aputr.  
 [1S.GEN=give-CV] SG.ACC child DF.PIVOT flower  
 'I gave the child the flowers.'
- c. Ku=trakatrakaw-anay beray kana walak na aputr.  
 [1S.GEN=secretly-CV] give.DEFAULT.AV DF.ACC child DF.PIVOT flower  
 'I *secretly* gave the child the flowers.' (cf. (6b))

**Conclusion.** We argue that Philippine-type "voice" is fundamentally different from the traditional sense of 'voice' (i.e. **valency-indicating morphology hosted at Voice**), hence its compatibility with true cases of *voice* morphology (e.g. *u*-<sub>DETR</sub>). Crucially, the presence of the Voice<sup>0</sup>-realizing detransitivizer *u-* (and an accompanying active/detransitive alternation) in at least three other Philippine-type Austronesian languages (Bunun, Thao, Saaroa) indicates that the current observation is not specific to only Puyuma.