2. Case marking and other properties of Tannahin

In Tannahin, two distinct classes of case markers combine to indicate case function—called "double marking." One class indicates the "case," while the other indicates the "function." The case markers are usually prefixed by a prefix, which can be one of the following:

- "n" (nominative)
- "a" (accusative)
- "s" (subject)
- "o" (object)
- "p" (prepositional)

The function markers are typically attached to the end of the word and can be one of the following:

- "a" (active)
- "e" (emphatic)
- "k" (kinship)

The combination of these markers allows for a flexible and dynamic system of case marking, which can be used to indicate a variety of grammatical relationships.

This system is unique to Tannahin and is not found in any other language. It provides a rich context for the study of case marking, particularly in a cross-linguistic perspective.
Table 1 shows the system of core case marking. There are different sets of morphemes for nouns and for personal pronouns (which include first, second person and impersonal pronouns and third person pronouns with animate referents). The morphemes used with nouns can also mark complement and subordinate clauses (which are nominalizations: see [Aikhenvald forthcoming]).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grammatical function</th>
<th>Discourse status</th>
<th>Nouns</th>
<th>Pronouns</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>subject (A/S)</td>
<td>non-focussed</td>
<td>θ</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>focussed</td>
<td>-e</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>non-subject (Non A/S)</td>
<td>non-topical</td>
<td>-θ</td>
<td>-n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>topical</td>
<td>-n ku</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1. Grammatical relations and core cases in Tariana

Non-subject constituents can be in O function, or in any oblique function. Table 1 shows that Tariana is basically nominative-accusative, with overt case-marking dependent on discourse properties of constituents. Table 2 shows oblique cases. While nouns distinguish two oblique cases, pronouns have only one.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Case</th>
<th>Nouns</th>
<th>Pronouns</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Locative</td>
<td>-se</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instrumental-comitative</td>
<td>-ne</td>
<td>-ne</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2. Oblique cases in Tariana

All the case markers appear only once per NP. They go onto the last constituent of an NP. A non-focussed subject with zero marking is exemplified in (1).

(1) pa-ta fi-li di- kapi-pidana di- pis\a
\(\) one-CL\animate man 3sg=fn\-hand\-REM.P\INF\R 3sg=fn\-cut
One man cut his hand.

The subject is marked with a clitic -ne if it refers to a key participant in contrastive focus to another argument. The subject can be marked with -ne only if it is definite or referential (that is, it cannot have a non-canonical referent).

In (2) the A argument, nawiki ‘person’ (in boldface), is marked with -ne since this key participant of the story is being contrasted to another key participant — evil spirit who kept coming and eating the fruit the man was collecting.

(2) kiya-ku hiti\iri di- hwa-ka di- ka di-nwa
strong-PERSIST 'ukuli\fruit 3sg=fn\-fall\-SEQ 3sg=fn\-see 3sg=fn\-collect
3sg=fn\-join\+\animate-ANT-REM.P\INF\R he man- FOCA/S
The man saw that the uku\l fruit was falling on a lot (and) was collecting (them) [while the evil spirit was trying to steal the fruit].

In longish series of dialogues (of the type: he, said — he, said — he, said) the addition of -ne onto the subject often serves to disambiguate 'who said what', as a marker for turn taking. This is illustrated with (3). The subjects are in boldface.

(3a) di- wau-ku di- a di- sapa-pidana di- ha ner\i
3sg=fn\-jump-\A\WAY 3sg=fn\-go 3sg=fn\-speak\+REM.P\INF\R he
The deer jumped away (from the arrow) and spoke.

b. mlua wi-ru\-ka kwe\-bathaka di- a pi- na di- a-pidana
1 hit\target-SEQ what-COND 3sg=fn\-go 2sg=OBJ 3sg=fn\-say\+REM.P\INF\R
He hit the target, what would happen, said the man.

c. iku-\bathaka pi- ra\-\e phi\a di- a-pidana di- ha ner\i\-ne
now- COND 2sg=disappear you 3sg=fn\-say\+REM.P\INF\R he
Now you would have disappeared, said the deer.

Non-topical non-structural constituents in a non-subject function are marked with the suffix -na, as is shown in (4). The non-subject functions cover direct objects, addressees, gift, beneficiary — see Aikhenvald (1994b).

(4) di\- na du- na du- h\a\-\a\- pidana
1sg=OBJ 3sg=OBJ 3sg=fn\-see\+CAUS\-REM.P\INF\R
He showed her to him (or: him to her).

Non-topical non-structural constituents in a non-subject function are unmarked — see (5). The O ('canoe') in (5), from a story about a bride-price for women, refers to canoes in general; canoes are not what this story is about.

(5) ka-\na-\a\a\na na\a\a woman\PL\-TOP\,\NON\,A/S
This man Kada\a killed a lot of these women.

The oblique locative case marked with a suffix -se is illustrated in (7).

(7) na- pidana uni- se
3pl=go\-REM.P\INF\R water\-LOC
They went into water.

The instrumental-comitative case, marked with -ne, is shown in (8).

(8) ne ita-\a\a\a\a\a\a\a ne di- uka di- ra\a\a\a\a\a\a
then canoe\-CL\,\CANOE\,INS 3sg=fn\arrive 3sg=fn\-fall
Then he arrived on a canoe.

The instrumental-comitative case marker differs from the focussed subject marker in two ways. First, the focussed subject marker is an enclitic (It receives a secondary
4. Double Meaning of Synaptic Function

A double meaning of synaptic function occurs when a core component directly affects a complex of

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DOUBLE MEANING OF SYNAPTIC FUNCTION IN THALAMUS
5. Double marking of agreement

Double marking of syntactic function in Tariana is also found within a noun phrase, Tariana has an extensive system of noun classes and classifiers [Alkhovenvald 1994b]. Noun class markers can be used on any word in a modifier function to mark agreement with the head noun. In (17) a noun class marker is used on the adjective 'good'.

(17) pani-si maffia-dopana house-NPOSS good-CLHAB a good house

In (18), the noun class marker -puna ‘STRETCH’ is used on a connective kapi ‘like, thus’ (in boldface).

(18) di- a pidana di-musu-kha di-a
3sgf-go-REM-PINFR 3sgf-go-out-AWAY 3sgf-go
bin-puna i-thirikana kapi-puna DEMIN-CL-STRETCH IND-near like-CL-STRETCH
i- thirikana-nuku IND-near TOP-NON.AS
He went and came out near this [stretch of road], near something [which looked] like a road.

Now, if a noun phrase is used as a modifier to a noun, a noun class marker is attached to the last word of the noun phrase to mark agreement with the head noun. In (19), the possessive noun phrase ‘medicine for diarrhoea’ (in square brackets) is used to modify the head noun, ‘chestnut tree’; the classifier -na ‘CL-VERTICAL’, which marks the agreement with the head noun, ‘tree’, is attached to the end of the modifying noun phrase.

(19) pani na [andi i-topa -na
chestnut tree-CL-VERT [diarrhoea IND-medicine]-CL-VERT

If the last noun of a modifying noun phrase already contains a noun class marker to agree with its own head, the noun class marker which marks agreement with the head of the embedding noun phrase will simply follow it. In (20), the modifier within the modifying noun phrase, ‘flowering’ in ‘flowering like a curved vine’, contains the noun class agreement marker -kha ‘CL-CURVED’; it also takes the noun class agreement marker -na ‘CL-VERTICAL’, to agree with the head of the embedding noun phrase, heka-na (tree-CL-VERTICAL) ‘tree’ (noun class markers also appear on the head nouns, as derivational suffixes: see [Alkhovenvald 1994b]). The modifying noun phrase is in square brackets.

(20) heki-na [babi-kha kayu kawi-kha -na
tree-CL-VERT vine-CL-CURVED like REL-flower-CL-CURVED]-CL-VERT
A tree flowering like a curved vine.

Thus, agreement in noun class is marked twice: once with the head of an embedded noun phrase, and once with the head of the ‘embedding’ noun phrase of a higher level.

6. Discussion

I have shown that Tariana has two distinct phenomena whereby two morphemes of the same class cooccur. One is marking more than one syntactic function on one noun phrase. This covers

(a) marking two clausal functions of a constituent: the function it has within a lower (embedded) clause and the function of the lower clause within a higher (embedding) clause; and

(b) marking two functions within a noun phrase: if a noun phrase contains another noun phrase (consisting of a head and a modifier) as a modifier, the agreement in noun class with both heads gets marked on a modifier in the end of the modifying noun phrase: there is agreement with the head of the embedded noun phrase, and also with the head of the ‘embedding’ noun phrase.

The other phenomenon involves combining two morphemes to refer to the same syntactic function of a noun phrase: one, a locative or an instrumental-possessive case marker, provides a specific meaning, while the other, -nuka ‘topical non-subject’, indicates the generic ‘non-subjectivity’ combined with the indication of the discourse status of the noun phrase.

The principle of ‘double’ marking of syntactic function — that within a lower clause, or an embedded noun phrase, and that within a higher clause, or an embedding noun phrase — appears to be applied consistently in Tariana. The ‘multiple-layered’ marking of syntactic function and of agreement parallels the ‘multiple-layered’ case marking found in some Australian languages. It also shows the inflectional complexity of nouns and their modifiers in Tariana, which mirrors syntactic structure in morphological structure and allows inflections (both case markers and noun class agreement markers) to specify their syntactic environments simultaneously at different levels. Thus, Tariana provides another exception to Nichols’s (1986: 104–105) statement that while ‘many languages have polysynthetic verbs, there are no polysynthetic nouns’.

REFERENCES

1. Introduction

The main objectives of this study are as follows:

- To outline the methodology of the research
- To present the results of the analysis
- To discuss the implications of the findings
- To provide recommendations for future research

These objectives are interrelated and will be addressed throughout the report.

2. Literature Review

A comprehensive review of relevant literature will be conducted to provide a solid foundation for the research.

3. Methodology

The research methodology will involve the following steps:

- Data collection
- Data analysis
- Interpretation of results

4. Results

The results of the study will be presented in detail, including statistical analyses and graphical representations.

5. Discussion

The discussion will focus on the implications of the findings and their implications for the field.

6. Conclusion

The conclusion will summarize the main findings and their significance.

Appendix

A detailed appendix will be included to provide additional supporting data and references.

References

A list of references will be provided at the end of the report, following the appropriate citation style.