



Historical Development of Relative Clauses in Enggano

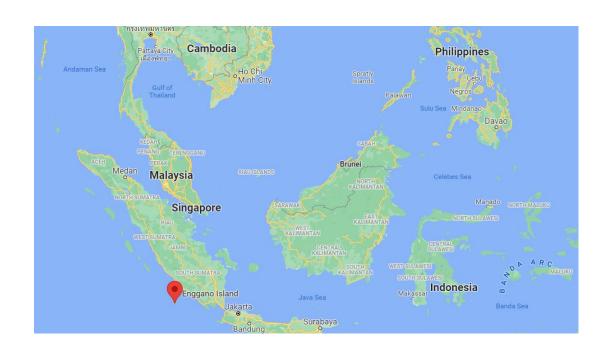
Charlotte Hemmings & Mary Dalrymple, University of Oxford LSA Annual Meeting, New York, 4-7th January 2024







• This talk sketches the historical development of relative clauses in **Enggano**, an Austronesian language spoken off the south coast of Sumatra, Indonesia.



- We will outline two important findings based on comparison of three corpora:
- (1) materials collected in 19th century (Helfrich 1916)
- (2) materials collected in 1930s (Kähler 1940, 1975, 1987)
- (3) materials collected as part of ongoing documentation since 2018





Introduction

- Firstly, all three corpora demonstrate that Enggano does not have the **subject-only extraction restriction** that is wide-spread in Western Austronesian (Keenan & Comrie 1979)
- Instead, S, A and P can all be relativized on using a **verbal construction** where the relative clause verb is marked with *ki* (see Kähler 1940, Hemmings & Dalrymple 2023).
- This is an innovative marker that is not cognate with **voice morphology** in other Austronesian languages, but is cognate with the marker *si*= that marks relative clauses in Nias (Brown 2001)





Introduction

- Secondly, comparison of the corpora at different time periods show that Enggano relative clauses have **undergone changes**.
- In the older materials (Helfrich 1916, Kähler 1955-64), relative clauses may occur with or without a relativiser $(m\tilde{o}'\tilde{o})$. They may include either a verbal or a nonverbal predicate but when the predicate is a verb it is always marked with ki-. In contrast, main clause verbs may occur in one of three major verbal constructions (ki-, bu- and bare).
- In Contemporary Enggano, however, relative clauses may contain bu-verbs as well as ki-verbs. The relativiser ($m\dot{e}'$) occurs in the majority of relative clauses.





Introduction

- We believe these findings relate to the historical development of *ki* which we argue was innovated as a **relative clause marker** (much like Nias *si*=) and subsequently **extended to main clause contexts via reanalysis**.
- That there is no subject-only extraction restriction may be tied to the fact that **Enggano does not have a symmetrical voice system.**
- The reanalysis of ki- is interesting, since the reanalysis of relative clauses is thought to play a role in the development of **symmetrical voice** morphology too (see Kaufman 2018)
- Hence, Austronesian languages may be particularly prone to **insubordination** or the reanalysis of subordinating structures as main clause structures.







- Background on Enggano
- Subject-only Extraction Restriction
- Changes in Relative Clauses between Old Enggano and Contemporary Enggano
- Conclusions











- Enggano is spoken by approx.
 1,500 speakers on Enggano Island, Sumatra, Indonesia
- There is some debate around classification but most people now agree that Enggano is Austronesian (Dyen 1965, Nothofer 1986, Edwards 2015, Smith 2017, 2020, Billings & McDonnell 2022)







- Today, Enggano island has six major settlements.
- In each village, there are both Enggano and non-Enggano populations who migrated to the island.
- Enggano is considered endangered as speakers increasingly shift to Indonesian (see Arka et al. 2022).
- The language is most vital in the central villages of Meok, Apoho and Malakoni





1850-1900	Early Wordlists	von Rosenberg 1855, van der Straaten & Severijn 1855, Walland 1864, Oudemans 1879 Helfrich & Pieters 1891, Helfrich 1893, 1916
1930s	Hans Kähler	Grammar Sketch (Kähler 1940)
		Text Collection (Kähler 1955, 1957, 1958, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1964, 1975)
		Dictionary (Kähler 1987, published posthumously)
1980s-2020s	Recent Work	Nothofer (1986, 1992), Nikelas et al (1994), Yoder (2011) Wijaya (2018), Butters (2021) Riswari et al (2021)
2018-present	AHRC-funded documentation project	Corpus of audio and video recordings with glossing in FLEX Lexical data from across the villages Grammar







Helfrich	8 texts, phrases & riddles	52 relative clauses
Kähler	8 texts	521 relative clauses + elicited examples in Kähler (1940) grammar
Contemporary	27 recordings	432 relative clauses + elicitation







 Old Enggano had CV(V) syllable structure – in Contemporary Enggano final vowels (and non-stressed medial vowels) are regularly deleted:

	Old Enggano	Contemporary Enggano
sit	hẽkũ	hẽk
garden	pia	pi
want (tr.)	kãhãpĩxĩ	kãhpĩh

• The sound written as <o> in Kähler sometimes corresponds to to <ė> /ə/ in contemporary Enggano (see Smith 2020)

	Old Enggano	Contemporary Enggano
hear	dohoi	dėhė
water	boo	bė







Nominal Marker	Function
e-	subjects/objects
u-	obliques/possessors
i-	locatives

Verbal Marker	Function
ki-	relative clauses & SVO main clauses
bu-	realis main clauses (verb-initial)
bare	irrealis clauses (negation, imperative)

Derivational Affix	Function
ра-	causative/reciprocal
-i, -a'a	applicatives
di-	passive
aba-	consecutive action
aH-	antipassive

	Set 1 (bu-)	Set 2 (bare)
1sg	ʻu-	'u-
2 sg	' 0-	u-
3sg	ka-	i-
1PL.INCL	ka-	ka-
1PL.EXCL	'u'ai	'u'ai
2 _{PL}	'oa'a	ua'a
3 _{PL}	da-/di-/ki-	da-





Nominal Marker	Function
e-	optional
u-	fossilised forms
i	preposition

Verbal Marker	Function
ki-	main clauses and relative clauses
bu-	realis main clauses
bare	irrealis clauses (negation, imperative)

Derivational Affix	Function
ра-	causative/reciprocal
-(C), -a'	applicatives
di-	passive
aba-	consecutive action
aH-	antipassive

	Set 1 (bu-)	Set 2 (bare)
1sg	u-	u-
2sg	ė-	u-
3sg	ka-	i-
1PL.INCL	ka-	ka-
1PL.EXCL	ua	ua
2 _{PL}	ėa	ua
3 _{PL}	da-	da-







Old Enggano verbs occur in one of three forms:

(1a) ka-bu-pudu-ha epaE e'ana
3.NOM-bu-kill-EMPH child DEM.MED
'and he killed the child' (Kähler 1955:90)

bu-form

(1b) kea-ba'a i-pudu e-koyo e'ana NEG-INTENSIVE 3.ERG-kill DIR-pig DEM.MED 'He didn't kill the pig' (Kähler 1940:101)

bare form

(1c) e-kaka e'ana ki-pudu e-koyo
DIR-person DEM KI-kill DIR-pig
'That person killed a pig.' (Kähler 1940:108)

ki- form





Verbal Constructions in Enggano

- It is still the case the verbs occur in *bu-*, bare and *ki-* forms in Contemporary Enggano:
- (2a) aduhur ean ka-b-dehe CONJ=finish DEM 3-BU-hear 'afterwards he heard'
- (2b) ki ke' i-dehe 3sg NEG 3-hear 'he didn't hear'
- (2c) ki ki-dėhė
 3sg ki-hear
 'he heard'







- The *bu* form is almost certainly **cognate with PAN *-um-** and hence develops from actor voice morphology (see Edwards 2015)
- The bare construction and the set 2 agreement markers may derive from a **dependent undergoer voice form** and the genitive actor pronouns (see Zobel forthcoming).
- However, the voice system in Enggano is **asymmetrical** (with passives and antipassives that are morphologically marked).
- Other voice morphology survives only in **nominalisations** (e.g. –o 'patient nominaliser' (< *-en) and –a 'locative nominaliser' (< *-an)) or in **formatives** like *aH* 'antipassive/object demoting' (< *N-) and *di* 'passive' (< *-in-) that occur both in verbal structures and nominalisations.





Summary

- Enggano is an Austronesian language spoken on Enggano island off the south coast of Sumatra
- We have analysed relative clauses in text corpora collected across three time periods that can be broadly grouped into Old Enggano (Helfrich & Kähler) and Contemporary Enggano on the basis of sound and morphosyntactic change
- In Enggano there is a clear distinction between nouns (which take case markers in Old Enggano) and verbs (which occur in one of three major constructions)
- There is no symmetrical voice system and PAN morphology has been reanalysed or survives only in nominalisations





Subject-only Extraction Restriction





Symmetrical Voice

 Western Austronesian languages are famed for their symmetrical voice systems, e.g. Kelabit tekul 'spoon.up':

```
Actor Voice
(3a)
               sineh
                      ne-nekul
                                     nuba'
                                            nedih
                                                                    seduk
                                                            ngen
                                     rice
                                             3SG.POSS
                                                            with
               DEM
                      PFV-AV.spoon
       man
                                                                    spoon
       That man spooned up his rice with a spoon'
```

(3b) Undergoer Voice

nuba' nedih sikul lai'h sineh ngen seduk
rice 3sg.Poss <uv.Pfv>spoonman DEM with spoon
'That man ate his rice with a spoon'

(3c) Instrumental Voice
seduk penekul la'ih sineh nuba' nedih
spoon IV-spoon man DEM rice 3sg.Poss
'That man used a spoon to spoon up his rice'





Subject-Only Restriction (Kelabit)

- In relativization there is a "subject-only" extraction restriction:
- la'ih Seni'er (4a) kuh suk ne-nekul nuba' ngen seduk] with spoon 1sg rice UV.PFV.see man REL PFV-AV.spoon 'I saw the man who spooned up rice with a spoon'
- (4b)sikul Seni'er kuh nuba' la'ih sineh suk ngen seduk] 1sg rice with spoon REL UV.PFV.spoon man Dem UV.PFV.see 'I saw the rice that the man spooned up with a spoon'
- (4c)nuba' nedih] Seni'er seduk la'ih sineh kuh Suk pe-nekul 1sg 3SG.POSS UV.PFV.see spoon KEL rice IV-spoon man DEM 'I saw the spoon that the man used to spoon up his rice' (Hemmings 2015)







• It is not possible to relativize on a non-subject:

(5a) *Seni'er kuh *nuba'* [suk **nekul la'ih sineh**]
UV.PFV.see 1s G rice REL AV.spoon man DEM

For: 'I saw the rice that the man spooned up'

(5b) *Seni'er kuh *la'ih* [suk **sikul nuba'**]

UV.PFV.see 1s G man REL UV.PFV.spoon rice

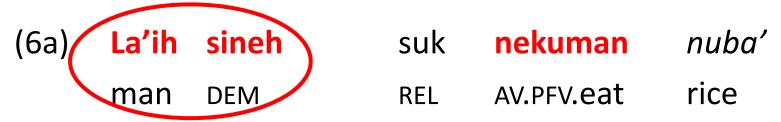
For: 'I saw the man who spooned up rice'





Subject-Only Restriction (Kelabit)

Clefts are marked in the same way and subject to the same restriction:



'It was the man who ate rice.'

```
(6b) Nuba' suk kinan la'ih sineh rice REL UV.PFV.eat man DEM
```

'It was rice that the man ate.' (Hemmings 2021)





Subject-Only Restriction (Bikol)

The same extraction restriction applies to relativization/clefting in the most conservative Philippine-type languages:

```
(7a) su babayi su nag-kaon ning/sa keso NOM woman NOM AV-eat GEN/DAT cheese 'It's the woman that ate (the) cheese.'
```

(7b) su keso su k<in>aon kaso babayi NOM cheese NOM <UV>eat GEN woman ate.'

(7c) Su tindahan su pig-bakal-an kaso babayi ning/sa keso NOM store NOM LV-buy-LV GEN woman GEN/DAT cheese 'It's at the store that the woman bought (the) cheese.' (Erlewine & Lim 2022)







• It is not possible to cleft a non-subject:

(8a) *Su/ning/sa keso su nag-kaon su babayi
NOM/GEN/DAT cheese NOM AV-eat NOM woman

For: 'It's (the) cheese that the woman ate.'

(8b) *Su/kaso babayi su k<in>aon su keso
NOM/GEN woman NOM <UV>eat NOM cheese

For: 'It's the woman that ate the cheese.' (Erlewine & Lim 2022)





Nominalisation > Verbal Morphology

• The connection between the extraction restriction and symmetrical voice morphology is often explained by the hypothesis that **voice morphology = reanalysed nominalisations** (see e.g. Starosta et al 1982, Kaufman 2009)

Proto-Austronesian Morphology (Kaufman 2018: 221)

- *-en patient nominalizer > patient voice
- *-an locative nominalizer > locative voice
- *Si- instrumental nominalizer > instrumental voice
- *<um> agent voice/nominalizer
- The idea is that nominalisation may have been used as a **relative clause** strategy, that markers were then reanalysed in this context, and subsequently introduced into main clauses via **insubordination** (Cheng 2022)





Nominalisation > Verbal Morphology

- This idea is supported by data from Puyuma, a Formosan language, where *<in>, *-en, *-an and *Si- are only used in nominalisations (often in relative clauses), whereas main clauses use another set of verbal morphology (see Ross 2009, Teng 2008)
- The idea that reanalysis of nominalisations may have first taken place in relative clauses, and then been introduced into main clauses via insubordination, is supported by **Kanakanavu**, another Formosan language, where both innovative and conservative morphology is attested in main clauses, but only the innovative forms occur in relative clauses (Cheng 2022).







- Many Austronesian languages have a subject-only extraction restriction on relativization/clefting
- These languages also have a symmetrical voice system
- The symmetrical voice system may derive from the reanalysis of nominalising morphology, starting in relative clauses





Relative Clauses in Enggano

• In Old Enggano, relative clause verbs occur in *ki*- form. This often, but not always, co-occurs with an overt relativiser *mõ'õ*:

Helfrich Corpus (9a) ke ano=nia [hemo'o k-a'ahko] i-ab-ako i-kaudara kahai and friend=3sg.poss Rel ki-swim 3-ABA-arrive Loc-village one

'And her friend who swam arrived in a village.' (Helfrich 1916, Rat 39)



'the people who brought the fish' (Helfrich 1916, Earthquake 16)





Relative Clauses in Enggano

Kähler Corpus

(10a) Ka-'ėdėha=ha 3-startle=EМРН

e-paE DIR-child [hẽmõ'õ REL.SG

ku-'uoho]

кı-sleep

'The child, who was sleeping, was startled' (Kahler 1955, 6.2)

(10b) Ka-bu-kėda'a=ha

e-inäha 'a'a=da

[ku-'uoho i-õkõ-ã]

3-BU-tell=EMPH

DIR-place OBL.older.sibling=3PL

KI-sleep

LOC-roast-LOC.NOM

'And he named the location of (their=) his older brother, who slept on the hearth' (Kähler 1955, 17.5)





Relative Clauses in Nias

• The marker *ki*- does not derive from PAN voice morphology but appears to be cognate with Nias *si*= which marks relative clauses that relativize on S/A (Brown 2001):

```
(11a) i-be khö-gu mbaru [si=bohou]
3.RLS-give DAT-1SG.POSS MUT.dress REL=NEW
'She gave me a new dress' (lit. dress that was new) (Brown 2001: 413)
```

```
(11b) Andrehe'e nasu [si=usu ya'o]

DIST MUT.dog REL=bite 1s G

'That's the dog that bit me' (Brown 2001: 413)
```

• This is a plausible cognate since Enggano /k/ corresponds to PAN *s/*t and si= and ki- also behave alike in not triggering agreement.





Relative Clauses in Nias

• In Nias, when P is relativized on, an alternative strategy is used: the verb is marked with the passive prefix *ni*- and A is marked with a mutated form or a possessive suffix:

(12) u-fake zekhula [ni-rökhi-nia]

1s.RLS-use MUT.coconut PASS-grate-3sG.POSS

'I used the coconut which she grated' (Brown 2001: 420)





Relative Clauses in Enggano

• In Enggano, *ki*- marked verbs can be used to relativize on S, A, P and Possessors across the three corpora. Hence, there is no subject-only extraction restriction:

```
Helfrich 1916 Corpus

ano=nia [mo'o k-a'ite'e kia ne'eni]
friend=3sg.Poss REL KI-thwart 3sg earlier
the friend who thwarted him' (Helfrich 1916, origins 17/18)

(13b) hi e-a'ao=dia [kia ki-dodo]
with DIR-knife=3sg.Poss 3sg KI-grasp
'with the knife he was holding' (Helfrich 1916, Munia 18)
```





Relative Clauses in Enggano

- (14a) e=apama u=kaka [mo'o ki-'ope kia] e'ana
 DIR=number OBL=person REL FOC-ambush 3sG that
 'the number of the people who lay in ambush for him' (Kähler 1975:61)
- (14b) i'iaha e-kude-a u-mẽhẽ-nũ [mỡ'ỡ aruu ki-nỡ-nỡỡ]? where DIR-originate-LOC.NOM OBL-food-2PL.POSS REL 2PL KI-REDUP-eat 'Where does the food that you eat come from?' (Kähler 1957: 153)
- (14c) Na-pa-nee i-uba 'ano=ka [k-a'ao e-pamoa] e'ana 3PL-CAUS-near LOC-house OBL.friend=1PL.INCL KI-die DIR-newborn DEM 'and approach the house of our friend whose newborn child died' (Kähler 1975: Dam 13.1)







Contemporary Corpus

```
(15a) ẽ' pa [mė' ki-pu]

DEM child REL KI-run

'This is the child that runs'
```

```
(15b) e' pa [mė' ki-pū=(de) u]

DEM child REL KI-see=(3sg.poss) 1s G

'This is the child that saw me'
```

```
(15c) e' pa [mė' u ki-pů]

DEM child REL 1s G KI-see

'This is the child that I saw' (elicitation)
```







	Relativizing on A	Relativizing on P	Relativizing on S	Relativizing on Adj
Helfrich	10/47 (21 %)	2/47 (4%)	31/47 (66%)	4/47 (9%)
Kähler	45/363 (12 %)	28/363 (8 %)	288/363 (79%)	2/363 (1%)
Contemporary	15/189 (8%)	32/189 (16.5%)	139/189 (73.5 %)	3/189 (2 %)





Relative Clauses in Enggano

• However, relative clauses can also contain non-verbal predicates:

Kähler Corpus

(16a) e-'uaha u-kaka i'ioo 'ano=nia [hemo'o **e-ko'E'E**]

DIR-speak OBL-person PREP OBL.friend-3sg.poss REL DIR-demon

'...were the words of the person to her friend, who was a demon' (Kahler, 1964, 16.5)

Contemporary Enggano

(16b) nenek ean [mė' ka'hūė] grandmother DEM REL old.woman 'the old woman' (Asal Mula Burung Hantu di Enggano)





Relative Clauses in Enggano

 And nominalisation exists as an alternative strategy to relativize on P (and is the only attested strategy when A = NP)

```
Kähler Corpus
                     e'ana mo'o e-di-pėa
                                                   OBL.father PL.EXCL.POSS
                     DEM
                                    DIR-PASS-see
       DIR-woman
       'The woman who was seen by you ('our father')' (Kähler 1957: 153)
       e-koyo [rhõ'õ e-di-pudu-bu]
                                            e'ana 'amũhõ
                     DIR-PASS-kill-2sg. Poss
       'the wild boar that you killed is big' (Kähler 1940)
(17c)
                     në'ënî [mõ'õ ki-di-kEi]
                     earlier REL
                                    KI-PASS-catch
       'Of the woman who was captured' (Kähler 1958)
```







```
Contemporary Corpus
```

```
(18a) e' it [me' pa ki-no]

DEN banana REL child KI-eat

'This is the banana that the child ate'
```

```
(18b) e' it [me' ni-no pa]

DEM banana REL PASS-eat child child the banana that was eaten by the child t
```

```
(18c) yakare [mė' ki-r-pa-pa'a' nė'ėn ẽ']
dance RFL KI-PASS-REDUP-show today DEM
'The war dance that is often performed today' (Asal Mula Tarian Perang)
```







- Unlike other Western Austronesian languages, Enggano does not have a subject-only extraction restriction
- Relative clause **verbs marked with** *ki-* can occur in relative clauses that relativise on S, A, P and possessors
- Other strategies for relativization also exist: relative clauses can include non-verbal predicates including nominalisations
- In particular, passive nominalisations with di- are used to relativize on P when A is an NP





Historical Changes





Relative Clauses over time

- In comparing the three corpora there are two main changes that become apparent:
- (1) The percentage of relative clauses with an overt relativizer increases
- (2) In Old Enggano, only *ki*-verbs are found in relative clauses, whilst in Contemporary Enggano **other verbal constructions occur** after the relativizer







	Clauses with overt relativizer	Total Relative Clauses
Helfrich	24 (46%)	52
Kähler	370 (71%)	521
Contemporary	372 (86%)	432





1. Overt Relativizers

 Many of the examples in Contemporary Enggano that do not contain a relativizer consist of only one verb or occur in structures that are ambiguous:

(19a) ke ku-'ueh ki-dė kak [**k-a'a**] because кі-sleep кі-like person кі-dead 'because he slept like a dead person' (Kähler 1955 retelling)

(19b) a=b-i hã [buh pinah yub] if=BU-exist someone VOL move house 'If someone wants to move a house' (Pidah Rumah)



2. Constructions in Relative Clauses

- In Old Enggano, all verbal structures that contain a main verb as their predicate are marked with ki-
- The only exception is when the relative clause is headed by an auxiliary that requires the dependent *bu* form:

```
(20) nãe=nã [hẽmõ'õ hoo b-apadi e-kanė̃ãːĩ e'ana] mother=3sg.poss rel prv bu-become dir-moon dem 'The mother who became the moon' (Kähler 1958)
```





2. Constructions in Relative Clauses

• In Contemporary Enggano, it is not only *ki*-verbs that we find in relative clauses, but also *bu*- (and maybe bare) verbs (without auxiliaries!):

```
(21a) ean [mė' da-bu-'u burung hantu]

DEM REL 3PL-BU-say bird ghost

'that's what they call burung hantu (owl)' (Burung Hantu)
```

```
(21b) [mė' u-pakõ'õã' ẽ']

REL 1sG-know DEM
'What I know is...' (Malakoni)
```

• There are 42 examples out of 233 relative clauses with verbal predicates (18%)





Constructions in Rel Clauses

• There is also no **extraction restriction** when bu- verbs are used. The majority of attestations relativize on P (28/42) but we also find examples:

```
(22a) kak [mė' ka-b-ah idit]
people REL 3-BU-go there
'people who go there' (cerita rakyat)
```

```
(22b) a-hã [b-a'ida' koi] if-who bu-hunt pig 'If someone hunts wild boar' (Ekonomi)
```







- So how can we interpret these findings?
- We think this is consistent with the story that ki- starts off as a **relative clause marker** (much like Nias si=). Unlike Nias, Enggano also innovates a relativiser ($m\tilde{o}'\tilde{o}$) and this may facilitate the reanalysis of ki- as simply a **verbal marker** that contrasts with nominal markers (like e- and u-) and is extended to main clauses.
- This is the position that the earliest records of Old Enggano find themselves in since *ki* can be used in **both main clauses and relative clauses**.
- Over time, as *ki* is reanalysed as a verbal marker, the relativiser becomes the main indicator of relative clauses and is **increasingly used**.





Historical Change

- Finally, once the relativiser is established as the main marker of relative clauses, and *ki*-fully reinterpreted as a **verbal marker** that alternates with *bu* and bare constructions in main clauses, these begin to alternate in relative clauses too.
- "It seems then that the reanalysis of relative clauses as main clause predicates [...] had the effect of erasing any significant differences between relative clauses and main clauses" (Kaufman 2018: 221)





Summary

- Relative Clauses have undergone **historical changes** as evidenced in the three corpora studied.
- Firstly, the percentage of clauses with an overt relativizer is increasing
- Secondly, the range of **verbal constructions** that can be found in relative clauses are changing.
- We argue that these changes are linked to the historical development of ki- which we propose was innovated as a relative clause marker and subsequently extended to main clauses





Conclusions





Conclusion

- In this talk, we presented the historical development of **relative clauses** in the Austronesian language Enggano by comparing relative clauses in three corpora collected during different time periods.
- We showed that **Enggano relative clauses do not share the common subject-only extraction restriction** familiar from symmetrical voice languages, since relative clause verbs are marked with *ki* and this strategy can be used to relativize on S, A and P.





Conclusion

- We also showed that Enggano relative clauses have changed in two interesting ways across the three corpora.
- Firstly, the number of clauses with an **overt relativizer** have increased. Secondly, whilst verbal predicates in Old Enggano clauses were always marked with *ki-*, in Contemporary Enggano relative clause verbs may also be marked with *bu-* and other verbal constructions.
- We proposed that these changes are linked to the **specific historical development** of the marker *ki-*, which we claim has been **reanalysed from subordinate** (**relative clause**) **marker to main clause** (**verbal**) **marker**, thereby blurring the distinction between clause types.





Conclusion

- This is interesting as it suggests that Enggano *ki* may have undergone the same sort of **reanalysis** process that is often suggested to explain Austronesian prehistory and the development of symmetrical voice.
- Perhaps Austronesian languages are prone to developing subordinating structures and reanalysing these as main clause verbal structures?
- Either way, relative clauses in Enggano provide further support for the idea that the **Austronesian extraction restriction** may be directly tied to diachronic development of **symmetrical voice morphology** and is therefore not expected to apply in languages where other morphological strategies are used in relativization.







The Enggano Community







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Audience at LSA Annual Meeting