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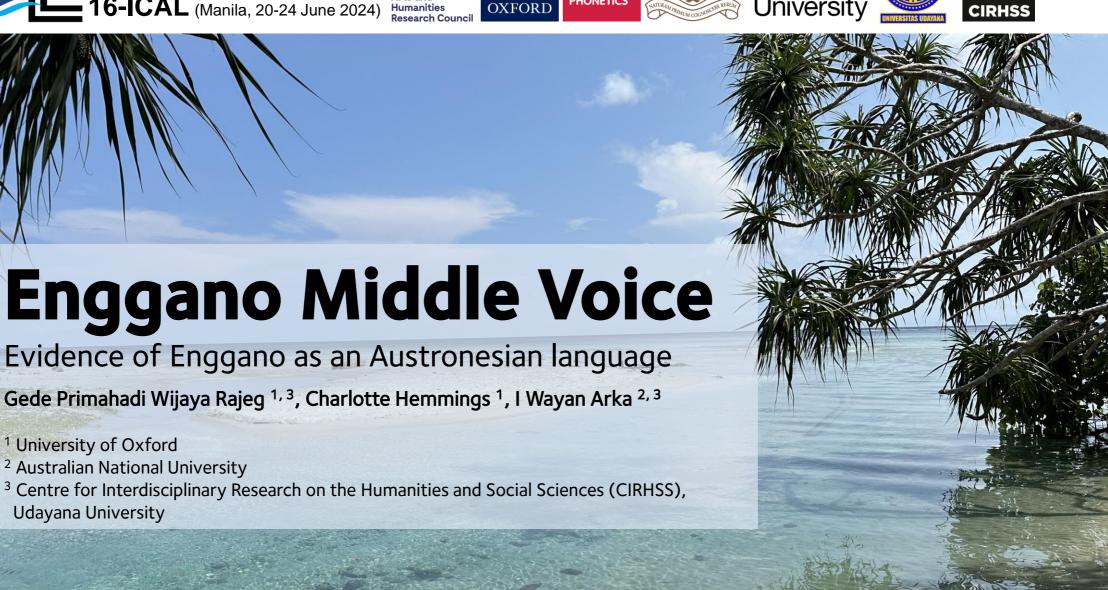






























Highlights

- Enggano middle prefix *pa-* is likely to be cognate with prefixes conveying middle functions in Oceanic languages (Bril 2005, 2019; Alfarano & Boerger 2022) and Proto-Eastern-Malayo-Polynesian (Blust, Trussel & Smith)
 - inherited from the reconstructed Proto-Malayo-Polynesian [PMP] *paR-/*maR- that becomes *paRi- in Proto-Oceanic [POC]























Enggano



 Southern most island in the chain of the Barrier Islands, off the western coast of Sumatra

















c. **1,500** speakers

Threatened

(increasingly shifting towards Indonesian [cf. Arka et al. 2022])































Previous & current works

1850-1900	Early Wordlists	von Rosenberg 1855 & 1878, 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), Edwards (2015), Smith (2017), Wijaya (2018), Butters (2021), Riswari et al (2021), Billings & McDonnell (2022)
2018-present	AHRC-funded documentation project	Corpus of audio and video recordings with glossing in FLEX Lexical data from across the villages Grammar















Roadmap

- Debate on the genealogical status of Enggano
- Enggano basic voice alternations
- Enggano middle voice
 - oppositional and non-oppositional
 - productivity of middle semantics (type frequency)
- Review of comparative data
- Conclusion and outlook















Genealogical debates















Genealogical debate about Enggano

Non-Austronesian

(Capell 1982; Blench 2014)

Austronesian

- Dyen (1962; 1965)
- Nothofer (1986) (tentatively Barrier-Islands-Batak langs.)
- Edwards (2015) (Malayo-Polynesian's primary branch)
- Billings & McDonnell (2024)(Sumatran sub-group)













Enggano as Austronesian

Malayo-Polynesian (MP) sub-group, based on lexical data, phonology, and morphology

(Edwards 2015)

The aberrant nature of Enggano:

- (i) contact effects with non-AN langs. prior to MP
 - (ii) geographical isolation of the island

(Edwards 2015)















Morphological features of Enggano as MP (Edwards 2015)

- Pronominal affixes
 - free
 - genitive suffixes
 - verbal agreement affixes
- Nominal morphology
- Verbal morphology
 - passive, causative pa-, resultative, aspectual, accidental, instrumental, ...















Morphological features of Enggano as MP (Edwards 2015)

- Pronominal affixes
 - free
 - genitive suffixes
 - verbal agreement affixes
- Nominal morphology
- Verbal morphology
 - passive, causative pa-, resultative, aspectual, accidental, instrumental, ...

Middle morphology with pa- is not yet discussed.















Enggano basic voice alternations















Active – Antipassive – Passive

(1) a. Active KI- form (Verbal Morphology 01)

Engga ki-pari' paic e'

name KI-make machete DEM

'Engga made this machete'

b. Antipassive (KI + aH- form) (Verbal Morphology 01)

Engga k-ah-bari' paic

name KI-ANTIP-make machete

'Engga makes machetes'















Active – Antipassive – Passive

(2) a. Active

E'iah ė' ki-pari'?

what 2sg KI-make

'What are you making?'

Demoted PATIENT in Antipassive

Hence, infelicitous to be extracted (e.g, in interrogative) (see 2b)

b. Antipassive (KI + aH-) (Verbal Morphology 01)

*E'iah ė' k-ah-bari'?

What 2sg KI-ANTIP-make

'*What are you making?'















Active – Antipassive – Passive

(1) a. Active KI- form (Verbal Morphology 01)

Engga ki-pari' paic e'

name KI-make machete DEM

'Engga made this machete'

c. Passive (KI + di- form) (Verbal Morphology 01)

Paic e' ki-r-pari' (o Engga)

machete DEM KI-PASS-make OBL name

'This machete is made'















Active – Antipassive - Passive

(1) a. Active KI- form (Verbal Morphology 01)

Engga ki-pari' paic e'

name KI-make machete DEM

'Engga made this machete'

d. Passive (di-form) (Verbal Morphology 01)

Paic e' di-pari' Engga

machete DEM PASS-make name

'This machete is made by Engga'



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Methodological remarks

- Contemporary Enggano Corpus (naturalistic + elicitation)
 - Interlinearlised and analysed in FLEx
- Filtering forms containing PA morph–gloss
- Determining the middle semantics (Kemmer 1993)
 - Qualitative analysis
- Quantifying the type frequency per middle semantics
 - Quantitative analysis

















pa- as a middle marker: highlights

- Attested in oppositional verbs (Inglese & Verstraete 2023)
 - as valency-reducing device to the base transitive verb

- Attested in non-oppositional verbs (Inglese & Verstraete 2023)
 - verb obligatorily and always occurring with pa-
 - encoding middle semantics (Kemmer 1993)



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Oppositional pa-















pa- as a middle marker: oppositional (1)

- (3) ik ki-**pů** kahaimėh nė'ėn mė' kė'ė-h mė' 1PL.INCL DEM.PROX KI-see REL plant-PAT.NML REL different now '(...) we now **see** different plants (...)' (ACTIVE; Cara Bertani In. 59-60)
- (4) keh ean puha' ki-**r-pu** kur ite' mountain DEM.MED be.able.to KI-**PASS-see** from here 'That mountain can **be seen** (i.e., visible) from here' (PASSIVE; Basic Structure In. 379)
- (5) ki ki**-pa**-pù-**pù** iễn

 3PL KI-**MID**-REDUP-**see** 3PL.OBL

 'They look at each other.' (MIDDLE; Verbal Morphology In. 59)















pa- as a middle marker: oppositional (1)

- (3) ik ki-pů kahaimėh nė'ėn mė' kė'ė-h mė' 1PL.INCL DEM.PROX KI-see REL plant-PAT.NML REL different now '(...) we now **see** different plants (...)' (ACTIVE; Cara Bertani In. 59-60)
- (4) keh ean puha' ki-**r-pu** kur ite' mountain DEM.MED be.able.to KI-**PASS-see** from here 'That mountain can **be seen** (i.e., visible) from here' (PASSIVE; Basic Structure In. 379)
- (5) ki ki**-pa**-pù-**pù** iễn 3PL KI-**MID**-REDUP-**see** 3PL.OBL
- $p\dot{u}$ 'see' appears in intransitive syntax (unlike (3) and (4))
- valence reduced; reciprocal reading
- oblique argument corresponding to the plural subject

'They look at each other.' (MIDDLE; Verbal Morphology In. 59)













pa- as a middle marker: oppositional (2)

- (6) Da-m-ėm pe y-amuh iu 3PL-BU-wait first NMLZ-big sea 'They first waited for the high tide' (ACTIVE; Pindah Rumah In. 5)
- (7) U p-ah-ėm iė̃m

 1SG MID-ANTIP-wait 2SG.OBL

 'I wait for you' (MIDDLE; Voice In. 25)













pa- as a middle marker: oppositional (2)

- (6) Da-m-**ėm** pe y-amuh iu 3PL-BU-**wait** first NMLZ-big sea 'They first **waited** for the high tide' (ACTIVE; Pindah Rumah In. 5)
- (7) U **p**-ah-**ėm** iė̃m 1SG <mark>MID</mark>-ANTIP-**wait** 2SG.OBL 'I **wait** for you' (MIDDLE; Voice In. 25)

In (6), *ėm* 'wait' appears in transitive syntax (no prep. marker for the direct object yamuh iu 'big sea (i.e., high tide)')

In (7), *ėm* 'wait' appears in intransitive syntax (oblique WAITEE role) with the verb occuring with *pa*- and antipassive affix *aH*-















Non-oppositional pa-















pa- as a middle marker: non-oppositional (1)

(8) a. Selus ki-p-ah-amik yic o an-de

NAME KI-MID-ANTIP-fight word OBL friend-3SG.POSS

'Selus quarrels (lit. fight-word) with his friend' (Reciprocal; Basic Structure In. 701)

b. a-kinėn hapù ẽ' ka-pùha' **pa-kom** if-how day DEM.PROX 3-be.able.to **MID-meet** '(in the future) as in today, (we) can **meet**' (**Reciprocal**; Cerita Enggano In. 63)

(9) a-p-ah-ėm a-b-i ka-'nė-k ki-**pa**-ru-**ru** if-MID-ANTIP-wait if-BU-exist 3-friend-1PL.INCL.POSS KI-**MID**-REDUP-**gather**

'waiting if there are our friends to gather' (Collective action; Cerita Enggano In. 112)













pa- as a middle marker: non-oppositional (2)

```
(10) a. U ki-pa-na-na ani

1SG KI-MID-REDUP-speak 3.OBL

'I speak to h(im/er) (Speech action; Basic Structure In. 571)
```

```
b. e-pa ean ka-pa-'oa'

NM-child DEM.MED 3-MID-cry.out

'(Then) the child cried out' (Speech action; Kähler retelling In. 51)
```















pa- as a middle marker: non-oppositional (3)

```
(11) a. U ki-pa-ema

1SG KI-MID-dance

'I dance' ([non-]translational motion; Basic Structure In. 27)
```

b. U ki-pakta karaha-' pa-ko-koeh
 1SG KI-force body-1SG.POSS MID-REDUP-squat
 'I force myself squat' ([non-]translational motion; Voice In. 299)















pa- as a middle marker: non-oppositional (4)

(12) Peh be ka-nap ẽ' ki-**pa**-ku-**kudėr** u ah origin because HUM-clan.leader DEM.PROX KI-**MID**-REDUP-**believe** 1SG PT 'Originally, because this clan leader **believe** in me' (**cognition**; Cerita Enggano In. 6)

(13) sampe am-a'-nu' e'iah mè' **pa**-'i-**'ĩẻk** until CONSEC.-NML-depth what REL **MID**-REDUP-**dry**

'until what drags on subsides' (spontaneous events; Cerita Enggano In. 30)







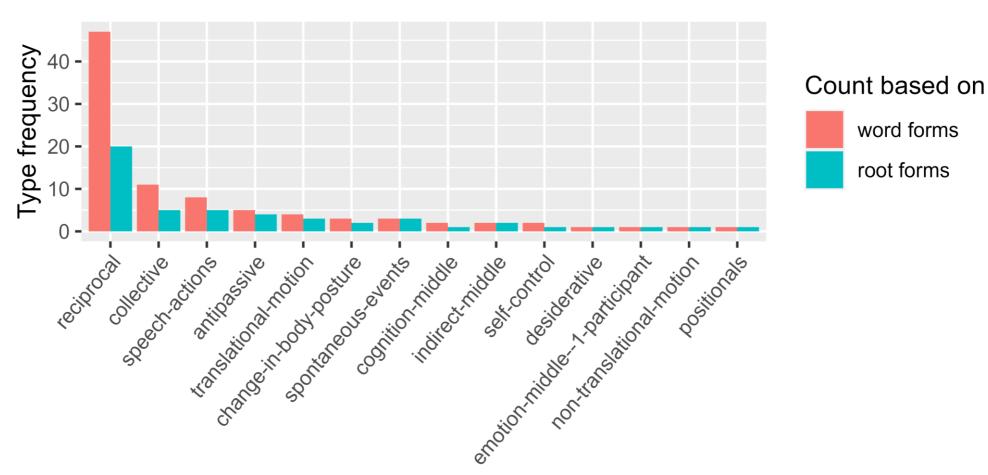








Type frequency of middle semantics with pa-



Middle Semantics















Interim summary

- pa- is polyfunctional within the domain of Middle
 - reciprocal
 - collective actions
 - antipassive
 - some other middle semantics (as in Kemmer 1993)















Interim summary

- pa- is polyfunctional within the domain of Middle
 - reciprocal
 - collective actions
 - antipassive
 - some other middle semantics (as in Kemmer 1993)
- Typical trait of cognate prefixes reflecting PAN & PMP
 *paR-/*maR- and POC *paRi- (Bril 2005, 2019; Karaj & Sansò 2023)















Brief review of comparative data

















Oceanic languages of New Caledonia (Bril 2005)

- Retaining reflexes of POC * paRi- (reconst. by Pawley 1973)
- POC *paRi- has the following meanings (Bril 2005: 26)
 - collective/associative
 - reciprocal
 - iterative marker
- POC *paRi- < PAN & PMP *paR- (Bril 2005: 26)

















Oceanic languages of New Caledonia (Bril 2005)

- In New Caledonian languages, the reflexes of POC *paRicapture:
 - reciprocal and symmetrical relations
 - plural or collective actions or relations
 - lower transitivity
 - lack of initiator/or endpoint
 - non-distinct initiator/endpoint > self-directed

(summarised in Bril 2005: 32-33)















Oceanic languages of New Caledonia (Bril 2005)

Alignment system	Location	Language	Morpheme
Ergative	Far North	Nêlêmwa	pe(-i)
		Nixumwak	pe(-i)
		Nyêlayu	<i>pe</i>
Split ergative	North	Yuanga	pe-
		Caac	<i>pe-</i> ~ <i>phe-</i>
		Jawe	pe-
		Nemi	pe-
		Fwâi	pe-
		Pije	pe-, ve-
		Pwapwâ	pe-
		Pwaamei	pe-
Accusative	Centre-North	Cèmuhî	pi-
		Paicî	pi-
		Hmwaveke	ve-
		Hmwaeke	ve-
		Haeke	ve-
		Bwatoo	ve-
Accusative	Centre-South and South	Ajië	vi-
		Xârâcùù	ù-
Accusative	Far South	Numèè	vi-
		Kwenyi	vi-
Ergative or accusative	Loyalty Islands	Iaai	ü- ∼ <u>i</u> kö <u>u</u>
	• •	Drehu	<i>ikeu; i-</i> (restricted recip.)
		Nengone	e- ~ ijeu

(verbatim from Bril 2005: 72, Appendix 2)















Comparison to Contemporary Enggano data

• The primacy of reciprocal and collective actions/events reported by Bril (2005) is mirrored in Enggano *pa-*, both from counting the (i) unique complex word forms, or (ii) just the root form types (that combine with *pa-*)















Non-Oceanic Austronesian languages

- Formosan also has cognates with similar functions (Bril 2005: 29)
- PMP *paR-/*maR- (Pawley 1973: 152-153; Pawley & Reid 1979: 11; Bril 2005: 29-30; Karaj & Sanso 2023: 227)
 - -*maR-< actor foc. -um-+*paR-
 - express middle functions in MP (Adelaar 1984)
 - Tagalog, Indonesian, Malay, Balinese (cf. Sumitri & Arka's talk)













Non-Oceanic Austronesian languages

- Formosan also has cognates with similar functions (Bril 2005: 29)
- PMP *paR-/*maR- (Pawley 1973: 152-153; Pawley & Reid 1979: 11; Bril 2005: 29-30; Karaj & Sansò 2023: 227)
 - -*maR-< actor foc. -um-+*paR-
 - express middle functions in MP (Adelaar 1984)
 - Tagalog, Indonesian, Malay, Balinese (cf. Sumitri & Arka's talk)
- PEMP (Proto-Eastern-Malayo-Polynesian) (ACD)



16TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON AUSTRONESIAN LINGUISTICS

16-ICAL 20-24 JUNE 2024 Manila, Philippines













The Austronesian Comparative Dictionary

Home

Cognatesets

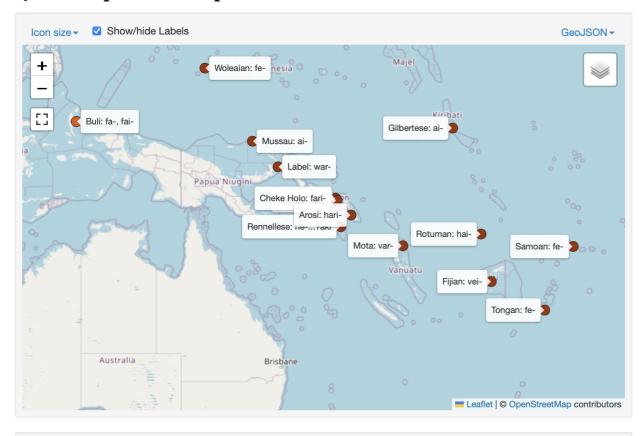
Roots Loans Near Cognates

Chance Resemblances

Languages

Sources

*paRiprefix of reciprocal or collective action



Reconstructions

PEMP

paRi-

prefix of reciprocal or...

Note

Also Kelabit pere- 'reflexive prefix'. Although this affix is commonly glossed 'reciprocal prefix', such a description clearly oversimplifies the facts. Dempwolff (1920) posited PAn *baRi- 'Sozialprafix'. His supporting evidence from non-Oceanic languages consisted of the Malay prefix berand putative fossilized affixes in Toba Batak (bor-), Sundanese(bar-), Ngaju Dayak(/bar-/), and Makassarese(/ba-/). Malay ber-, however, evidently derives from *maR- (Teeuw 1965), and the reality of the "fossilized affixes" in the other languages is open to question. Despite these problems a number of Oceanic languages clearly reflect *paRi-, and Buli fa-, fai- evidently is cognate with these forms, thus indicating Proto-Eastern Malayo-Polynesian *paRi-.

The following additional observations are noteworthy:















Combination of middle prefix and reduplication

- Esp. in MP languages (e.g., Tagalog, Malay, Indonesian) and several Oceanic languages (Bril 2005)
 - plural relationship
 - frequentative meaning
 - intensive meaning













Combination of middle prefix and reduplication

- Esp. in MP languages (e.g., Tagalog, Malay, Indonesian) and several Oceanic languages (Bril 2005)
 - plural relationship
 - frequentative meaning
 - intensive meaning
- We find this pattern in Enggano as well













ah

PT



Combination of middle prefix and reduplication: Enggano data

(12) Peh be ka-nap ẽ' ki-**pa**-ku-**kudėr** u origin because HUM-clan.leader DEM.PROX KI-**MID**-REDUP-**believe** 1SG

'Originally, because this clan leader **believe** in me' (**cognition**; Cerita Enggano In. 6)

(13) sampe am-a'-nu' e'iah mė' until CONSEC.-NML-depth what REL

pa-ʻi-**ʻĩëk** MID-REDUP-dry

'until what drags on subsides' (spontaneous events; Cerita Enggano In. 30)















(10) a. U ki-pa-na-na ani
1SG KI-MID-REDUP-speak 3.OBL

'I speak to h(im/er) (Speech action; Basic Structure In. 571)















(5) ki 3PL ki**-pa**-pù-**pù** KI-**MID**-REDUP-**see** iễn

3PL.OBL

'They look at each other.' (MIDDLE; Verbal Morphology In. 59)













(9) a-p-ah-ėm a-b-i ka-'nė-k if-MID-ANTIP-wait if-BU-exist 3-friend-1PL.INCL.POSS ki-**pa**-ru-**ru** KI-**MID**-REDUP-**gather**

'waiting if there are our friends to gather' (Collective action; Cerita Enggano In. 112)













(9) a-p-ah-ėm a-b-i ka-'nė-k if-MID-ANTIP-wait if-BU-exist 3-friend-1PL.INCL.POSS ki-**pa**-ru-**ru** KI-**MID**-REDUP-**gather**

'waiting if there are our friends to gather' (Collective action; Cerita Enggano In. 112)

(14) ik ẽ' buh pa-**ru**-' ik dėm 1PL.INCL DEM.PROX will CAUS-**gather**-APPL 1PL.INCL goods 'We will gather goods' (Perkawinan In. 40)













(9) a-p-ah-ėm a-b-i ka-'nė-k if-MID-ANTIP-wait if-BU-exist 3-friend-1PL.INCL.POSS

ki-**pa**-ru-**ru** KI-<mark>MID</mark>-REDUP-gather

'waiting if there are our friends to gather' (Collective action; Cerita Enggano In. 112)

(14) ik ẽ' buh pa-**ru**-' ik dėm 1PL.INCL DEM.PROX will CAUS-**gather**-APPL 1PL.INCL goods 'We will gather goods' (Perkawinan In. 40)

From 8 tokens of 'gather' with (ru)ru, only once it is found not reduplicated as in (14)













(11)

```
b. U ki-pakta karaha-'1SG KI-force body-1SG.POSS
```

```
pa-ko-koeh
MID-REDUP-squat
```

'I force myself squat' ([non-]translational motion; Voice In. 299)













(11)

```
b. U ki-pakta karaha-' pa-ko-koeh

1SG KI-force body-1SG.POSS MID-REDUP-squat

'I force myself squat' ([non-]translational motion; Voice In. 299)
```

c. U ki-'iėb ė pa ean ka-bu-**koeh** 1SG KI-do OBL child DEM.MED 3-BU-**squat** 'I make the child squat'

From 16 tokens of 'squat' with *(ko)koeh*, only twice it is found not reduplicated (as in 11c); the rest are reduplicated and appear with *pa-* only















Conclusion & outlook















Conclusion

- Enggano shows voice oppositions
 - active, anti-passive, passive, middle















Conclusion

- Enggano shows voice oppositions
 - active, anti-passive, passive, middle
- Enggano pa- is likely cognate with prefixes in Oceanic languages and MPs, reflecting PMP and PAN *paR-/*maR-
 - Lost of the original pluractionality relation *-(a)R- (Blust 2013: 389) (as in Balinese ma-) but Enggano pa- is still connected to Middle func.
 - Similarly polyfunctional, but predominantly reciprocal and collective
 - Similar features of Middle Pref. + Root reduplication















Outlook

 Historical comparison with Old(er) Enggano (from text corpus and diachronic lexical database) to investigate the development of Enggano middles (cf. Englesia 2023)















Example comparison with *EnoLEX* database (Krausse et al., Rajeg et al., *in progress*; AsiaLEX 2024 talk)

Retrieving word forms meaning 'sit cross-legged', 'squat' and 'gather'

```
# A tibble: 4 \times 6
                       `IPA phonemic transcription`
                                                      English
                                                                         `Original English gloss in source` `Cognate ID`
  Year
         `Given as`
  <fct> <chr>
                       <chr>>
                                                      <chr>>
                                                                         <chr>>
                                                                                                                       <int>
1 1895
        pakomakja
                      pakomakja
                                                      sit cross-legged
                                                                                                                        1982
2 1891
        fakowèhkowéh fakowehkoweh
                                                                                                                        2103
                                                      squat
3 1891
        fakowèhkowéh fakowehkoweh
                                                                                                                        2103
                                                      squat
4 1895
        pakowèh
                       pakoweh
                                                                                                                        2103
                                                      squat
```

```
# A tibble: 5 \times 6
                                     `IPA phonemic transcription`
                                                                    English `Original English gloss in source` `Cognate ID`
        `Given as`
  Year
  <fct>
        <chr>
                                     <chr>>
                                                                     <chr>>
                                                                             <chr>>
                                                                                                                           <int>
1 1979
                                                                    gather
                                                                             "mutual help"
                                                                                                                             912
        paruru
                                     paruru
2 1987
        padudu ; parudu ; paruru: padudu ; parudu ; paruru:
                                                                    gather
                                                                                                                             912
3 2011
                                                                     gather
                                                                                                                             912
        parur
                                                                             "celebration"
                                     parur
                                                                    gather
                                                                             "celebration"
                                                                                                                             912
4 2019
        parur
                                     parur
5 2023
                                                                    gather
                                                                             "celebration"
                                                                                                                             912
        parur
                                     parur
```















Outlook

- Historical comparison with Old(er) Enggano (from text corpus and diachronic lexical database) to investigate the development of Enggano middles (cf. Englesia 2023)
- Systematic comparison with middles of the neighbouring Barrier-Islands & Sumatran Languages to further determine the sub-grouping of Enggano within the Austronesian family













Mentawai (Khatib et al. 1998)

- paruruk'tatap (IDN); look at/stare at each other' (p. 95)
- paicok'bertatapan (IDN); look at each other' (cf. masiicok 'menatap (IDN); to see/look at something') (p. 95)
- paruruk 'kumpul (IDN); gather' (p. 50) (cf. rurukakek 'kumpulkan (IDN); gather sth.)
- pagulut'bertengkar (IDN); fight' (cf. gulut'tengkar (IDN); fight') (p. 97)
- pa'aili'bertemu (IDN); to meet' (cf. masiailiakek'menemui (IDN); to see/meet sb.' (p. 97)















Nias (Brown 2001)

- Nias (another Barrier-Islands language)
- Prefix fa- can encode middle functions (mainly discussed is 'reciprocal' [Brown 2001: 562])
- fa- can also encode causative (like Enggano causative pa-?)
- Brown (2001: 216) labels the non-causative function of *fa*-as a derivation device for "dynamic' intransitive verbs"
 - transitive verb roots (de-transitivising as in Middle function?)
 - noun roots
 - bound roots

















mėk ėm nah; terima kasih; thank you









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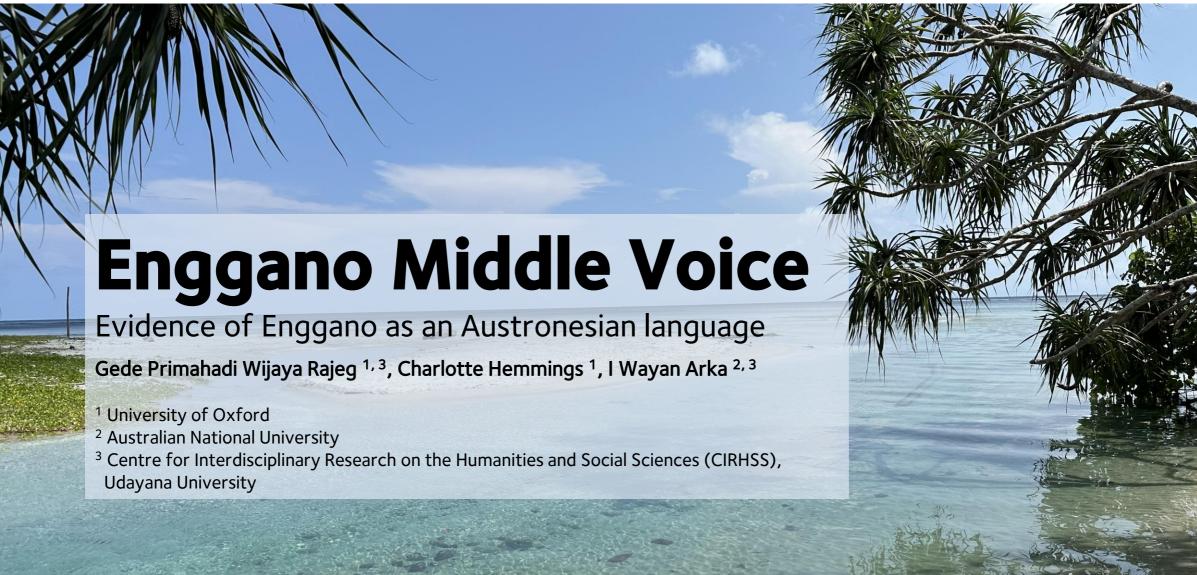


























Verbal Marker	Function
ki-	main and relative clauses
bu-	realis main clauses
bare	irrealis clauses (negation, imperative)

	set 1 (w/ BU-)	set 2 (w/ bare)
1SG	u-	u –
2SG	ė-	u –
3SG	ka-	i-
1PL.INCL	ka-	ka-
1PL.EXCL	ua	ua
2PL.	ėa	ua
3PL.	da-	da-

Derivational affixes	Function
pa-	causative; middle
-(C), -a'	applicatives
di-	passive
aba-	consecutive action
aH-	antipassive















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

(14) be apiah ki dit ne'e keab e'iah ki-dėhė nėn 3SG there recently NEG because how.many what how 1SG KI-dengar 'because however many were here earlier, I did not hear (a thing).















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

(14) be apiah e'iah ki-dėhė ki dit ne'e keab nėn recently NEG because how.many 3SG there what how 1SG KI-hear 'because however many were here earlier, I did not hear (a thing).'

```
(15) kamu kan kep bu-dėhė (...)

2SG INTERJ not.yet BU-hear

'you haven't heard (...)'
```















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

(14) be ki-dėhė ki dit ne'e keab e'iah apiah nėn recently NEG because how.many 3SG there what how 1SG KI-hear 'because however many were here earlier, I did not hear (a thing).'

```
(15) kamu kan kep bu-dėhė (...)

2SG INTERJ not.yet BU-hear

'you haven't heard (...)'
```

(16) ki ke' i-dehe 3SG NEG 3-hear 'he didn't hear'















Enggano as non-Austronesian

In terms of vocabularies and grammar, Enggano is "sui generis"

(Capell 1982: 5; cf. Blench 2014)

Remnant of pre-Austronesian languages with Austronesian borrowings

(Capell 1982: 6)













Enggano as Austronesian

Based on lexicostatistical classification, one of the two subgroups of AN languages in Western Indonesia, but labelled as "ungrouped"

(cf. Dyen 1962: 44, 1965: 28)

Barrier Islands-Batak subgroup, based on shared phonological and lexical innovations

(Nothofer 1986)













Enggano as Austronesian

Malayo-Polynesian (MP) sub-group, based on lexical data, phonology, and morphology

(Edwards 2015)

The aberrant nature of Enggano:

- (i) contact effects with non-AN langs. prior to MP
 - (ii) geographical isolation of the island

(Edwards 2015)















Enggano as Austronesian

Sumatran sub-group

(Billings & McDonnell 2024)

Together with Barrier-Island Batak sub-group langs., Gayo (Northern Sumatra), Nasal (Southwestern Sumatra)