

Variation in Ende Word Order

Megan M. Brown

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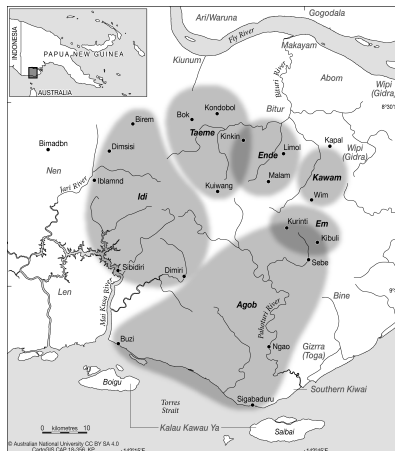
12th International Austronesian and Papuan Languages and
Linguistics Conference, June 18, 2020



- Pahoturi River language
- > 600 speakers
- Limol, Malam, and Kinkin

(Eberhard et al., 2019; Lindsey, 2019)

The Ende Language



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The Ende
Language

Word Order
Trends In
Ende

Consistencies

Variation

Larger
Implications

Cross-linguistics
Word Order Trends

Summary

The Ende Language

Word Order Variation

The Ende Language

Word Order Variation

- (1) Da **bongo** **ttongo** **lla** **de** **papa** **dägagän**
if **you** **one** **man** ACC **hit** **AUX.3SG**
'If you hit someone'
Subject - **Object** - **Verb**

The Ende Language

Word Order Variation

- (1) Da **bongo** **ttongo** **lla** **de** **papa** **dägagän**
if **you** **one** **man** ACC **hit** **AUX.3SG**
'If you hit someone'
Subject - Object - Verb
- (2) **Yäbäd** angde **ikop** **dägagän** **kok** **bom** kollba peyang
sun when **see** **AUX.3SG** **moon** ACC fish with
'When sun saw moon with the fish'
Subject - Verb - Object

The Ende Language

Word Order Variation

- (3) **Ge** **lla** **de** **umllang** **dägagän** **mälla** **da**
this man ACC inform AUX.3SG woman NOM
'Then some woman informed this man'
Object - Verb - Subject

The Ende Language

Word Order Variation

- (3) Ge lla de umllang dägagän mälla da
this man ACC inform AUX.3SG woman NOM
'Then some woman informed this man'

Object - Verb - Subject

- (4) Mälla de lla da eka nântamenynän
wife ACC man NOM tell.REC 3SG>3SG
'A man told the wife something'

Object - Subject - Verb

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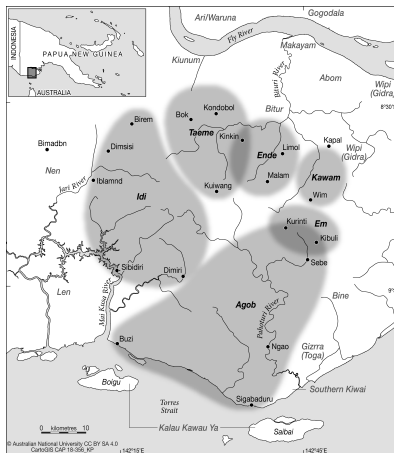
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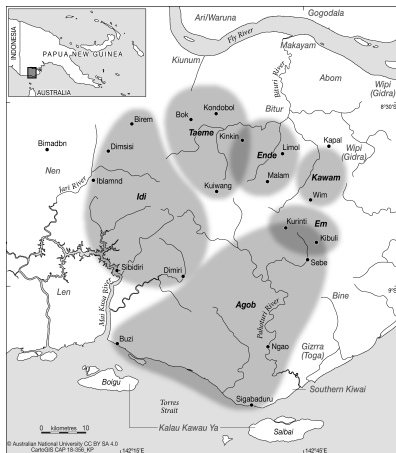
Summary

The Project



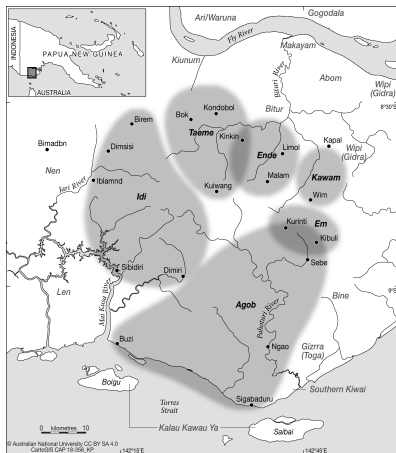
- What are the most common word orders in Ende?

The Project



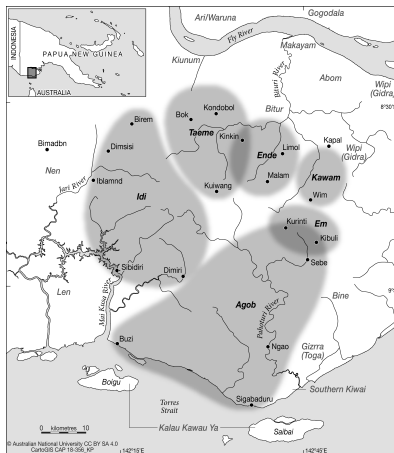
- What are the most common word orders in Ende?
- Where variation occurs, what factors might influence the use of one order vs another?

The Project



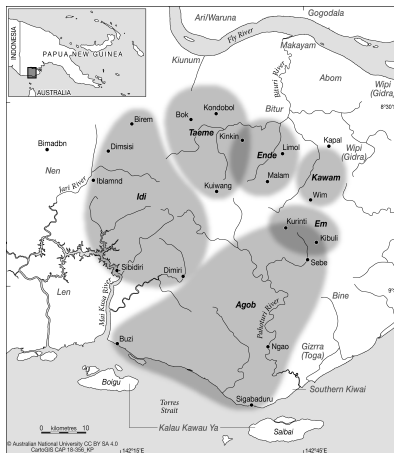
The Data

- Ende corpus (Lindsey, 2015)
 - > 100 hours recorded Ende Speech
 - > 200,000 words transcribed
 - 4 recordings of spoken Ende selected



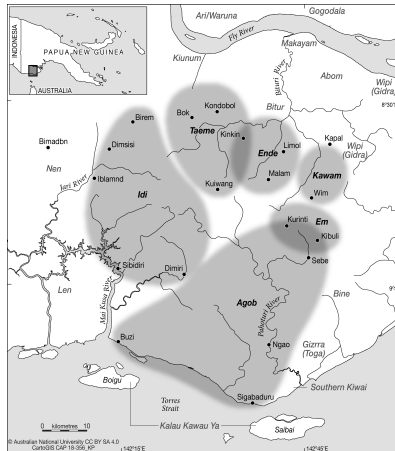
- 4 speakers
- 2 male, 2 female
- Age Range = 57-76
- Narratives and stories

The Data



The Analysis

- Verbs, Subjects, and Objects
- Copula Constructions
- Pre- and Post-Nominal Adjectives
- Main Verbs and Auxiliary Verbs
- Adpositions (Prepositions vs. Postpositoins)
- Demonstratives



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Copula Constructions

Copula constructions are always ordered predicate-copula (n=25).

- (5) Ngäma ttoenttoen dan
our small-story COP
Predicate - Copula

Consistencies

Auxiliary Verbs

Auxiliary verbs always followed the main verb (n=75),

- (6) **ttoe** amallo
 skin_[verb] **AUX.PRS.3NSG**
 Main Verb - Auxiliary Verb

Consistencies

Demonstratives

Demonstratives are always pre-nominal (n = 25)

- (7) **Ge** ttoenttoen
This small story
Demonstrative - **Noun**

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Adpositions

90% of all adpositions were postpositional (n=10)

- (8) **llig** **kälsre** **peyang**
 boy **small** **with**
 Noun Phrase - **Postposition**

Variation

Adpositions

All prepositional examples involve the preposition “**do**”

- (9) **do** **Wirbun**
to/until **place name**
preposition - noun

Variation

Adjectives

81% of adjectives were post-nominal (n = 16)

(10) **llig** **kälsre**
boy **small**
Noun - **Adjective**

Variation

Adjectives

Most cases of pre-nominal adjectives suggested borrowings

(11) **Mer** **toto**
good evening
Adjective - Noun

Variation

Subjects, Objects, and Verbs

Constructions Considered:

Variation

Subjects, Objects, and Verbs

Constructions Considered:

- Transitive Verbs
- Overt Subjects and Objects

Variation

Subjects, Objects, and Verbs

74% of all transitive sentences ($n = 50$) were SOV

(12) **Bongo** **lla** **de** **papa** **dägagän**
you **man** **ACC** **hit** **AUX.3SG**
Subject - **Object** - **Verb**

Atypical Word Orders

- (13) **Yäbäd** angde **ikop dägagän kok** **bom** kollba peyang
sun when **see AUX.3SG moon ACC** fish with
'When sun saw moon with the fish'
Subject - Verb - Object

Atypical Word Orders

- (14) **Yäbäd** angde **ikop** **dägagän** **kok** **bom** kollba peyang
sun when **see** **AUX.3SG** **moon** **ACC** fish with
'When sun saw moon with the fish'
Subject_{NEW} - **Verb** - **Object**_{ESTABLISHED}

Atypical Word Orders

- (15) Ge lla de umllang dägagän mälla da
this man ACC inform AUX.3SG woman NOM
'Then some woman informed this man'

Object - Verb - Subject

- (16) Mälla de lla da eka näntamenynän
wife ACC man NOM tell.REC AUX
'A man told the wife something'

Object - Subject - Verb

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Cross-linguistic Word Order Trends

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Cross-linguistic Word Order Trends

Object-Verb

postpositions
genitive - noun
manner adverb - verb
standard - marker
standard - adjective
adpositional phrase - verb
main verb - auxiliary verb
predicate - copula
initial question particle
final complementizer
noun - article
relative clause - noun
noun - plural word

Verb-Object

prepositions
noun - genitive
verb - manner adverb
marker - standard
adjective - standard
verb - adpositional phrase
auxiliary verb - main verb
copula - predicate
initial question particle
initial complementizer
article - noun
noun - relative clause
plural word - noun

(Dryer, 1991, 1992)

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Cross-linguistic Word Order Trends

Object - Verb

Verb - Object

Cross-linguistic Word Order Trends

	Object - Verb	Verb - Object
Common	Postpositions Standard - Adjective Main Verb - Aux Verb Predicate - Copula	Article [Demonstrative] - Noun

Cross-linguistic Word Order Trends

	Object - Verb	Verb - Object
Common	Postpositions Standard - Adjective Main Verb - Aux Verb Predicate - Copula	Article [Demonstrative] - Noun
Observed		Prepositions Adjective-Standard

Cross-linguistic Word Order Trends

	Object - Verb	Verb - Object
Common	Postpositions Standard - Adjective Main Verb - Aux Verb Predicate - Copula	Article [Demonstrative] - Noun
Observed		Prepositions Adjective-Standard
Not Observed	Noun - Article	Aux Verb - Main Verb Copula - Predicate

Cross-linguistic Word Order Trends

	Object - Verb	Verb - Object
Common	Postpositions Standard - Adjective Main Verb - Aux Verb Predicate - Copula	Article [Demonstrative] - Noun
Observed		Prepositions Adjective-Standard
Not Observed	Noun - Article	Aux Verb - Main Verb Copula - Predicate
Not Tested	Genitive - Noun Manner Adverb - Verb Adpositional phrase - Verb Final Question Particle Final Complementizer Relative Clause - Noun Noun - Plural Word	Noun - Genitive Verb - Manner Adverb Verb - Adpositional Phrase Initial Question Particle Initial Complementizer Noun - Relative Clause Plural Word - Noun

Summary

- Ende overall conforms with Dryer's trends for an **Object-Verb (OV) language**.

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- There remains a relatively high degree of **variation**

Summary

- Ende overall conforms with Dryer's trends for an **Object-Verb (OV) language**.
- There remains a relatively high degree of **variation**
- Outlook
 - Other reasons of non-SOV orderings
 - Additional feature trends in Dryer's proposal

Thank You!





Questions?

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Slides available at
meganmbrown.com

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2. SE_PN006 # 18.1
3. SE_PI041 # 32
4. SE_PI041 # 32
5. SE_SN004 # 3.1
6. RE_EE001 # 143.1
7. SE_SN004 # 2
8. SE_PI035 # 95.2
9. SE_SN024 # 15.2
10. SE_PI035 # 95.2
11. SE_PN023 # 5.1
12. SE_SF039 # 40.1
13. SE_PN006 # 18.1
14. SE_PN006 # 18.1
15. SE_PI041 # 32
16. SE_PI041 # 32