

ACADEMIA SINICA
Institute of Linguistics, Preparatory Office

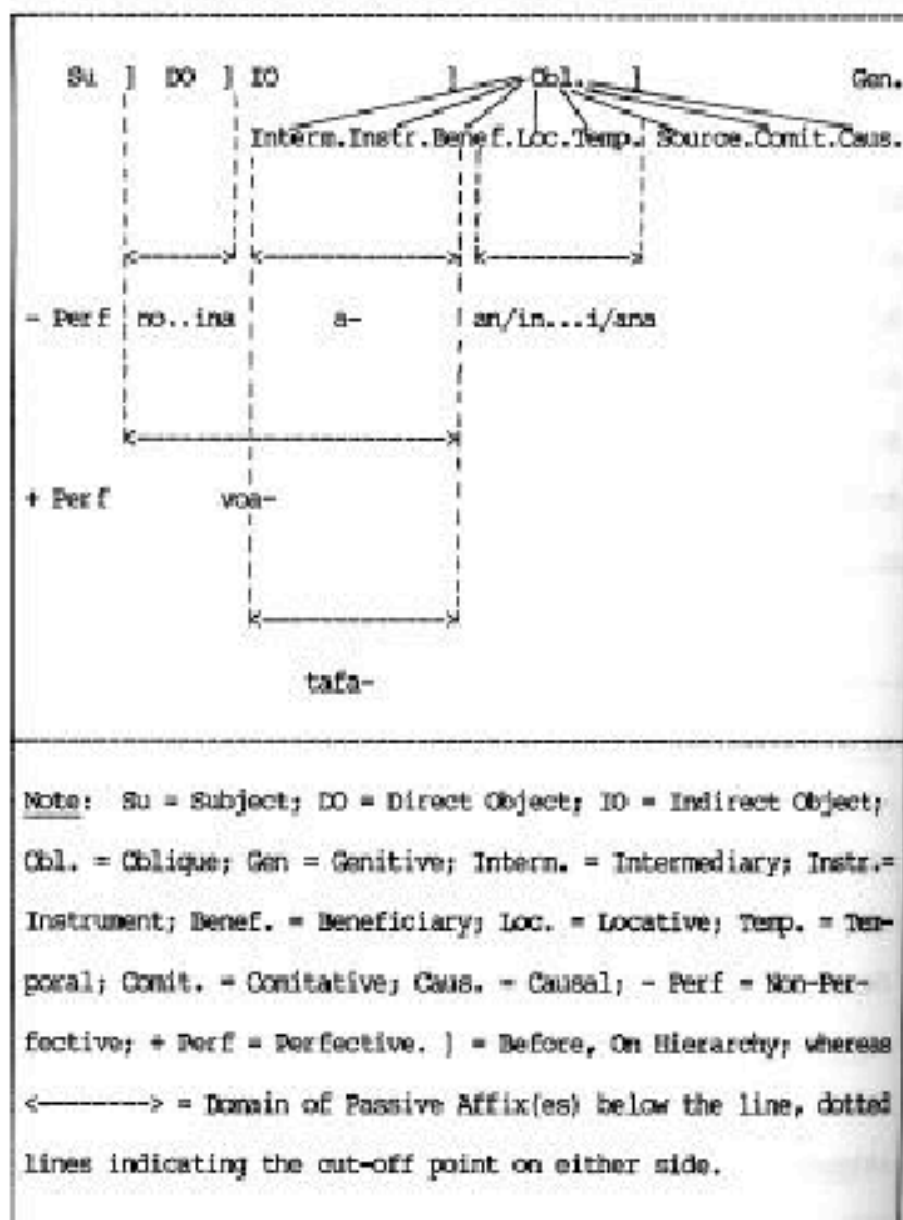
Malagasy Verbal Voice System – Part 1/March 30, 2001

by
Charles Randriamasimanana

Point # 1.1: *The Causatives of Malagasy* (1986: 492) – The distribution of the different passive affixes on the (1972) Keenan-Comrie Hierarchy.

Table 13

The Order of the Different Types of Oblique



Illustrative examples:

-DO promoted to Su

- (1) N-an-didy (an)'ilay mofo i Jeanne.
Past-prefix-cut (DO) the bread art. Jeanne
Active voice
'Jeanne was cutting the (previously mentioned) bread.'

Case 1 – Nonperfective aspect:

- (2) **No-didi-n'** i Jeanne ilay mofo.
PastPassive-cut-by' art Jeanne the bread
'The (whole) bread was cut by Jeanne.'

Case 2 – Perfective aspect:

- (3) **Voa-didi-n'** i Jeanne ilay mofo.
Perfective-cut-by art Jeanne the bread
'The bread has been cut by Jeanne.'

-IO promoted to Su

- (4) N-an-ome mofo an'i Petera i Jeanne.
Past-prefix-give bread art Peter art Jeanne
Active Voice
'Jeanne was giving bread to Peter.'

Case 1 – Nonperfective aspect:

- (5)a. **No-me-n'** i Jeanne mofo i Petera. **Standard Malagasy**
PastPassive-give-by art Jeanne bread art Peter
'Peter was given bread by Jeanne.'

- b. N-**a-me-n'** i Jeanne mofo i Petera. **Colloquial Malagasy**
Past-aPassive-give-by art Jeanne bread art Peter.
'Peter was given bread by Jeanne.'

Case 2 – Perfective aspect:

GAP as the verb *manome* 'give' entails some kind of Deliberate Activity. *Voa* on the other hand essentially introduces the notion of Accidental/NonDeliberate.

-Perfective Aspect *Tafa* & Shift from Deliberate Activity to Accidental

- (6)a. N-**i-petraka** i Jeanne.
Past-prefix-sit art Jeanne
'Jeanne sat down.'
- b. **Tafa-petraka** i Jeanne.
Perfective-sit art Jeanne
'Jeanne (inadvertently) found herself sitting.'

Point # 1. 3: The relevance of transitivity and aspect for the distribution of the Malagasy passive affixes. From *The Causatives of Malagasy* 1986-421.

fective aspect; however, if a typically intransitive verb has the corresponding transitive verb with the an(a) prefix, and if the latter is a root (this holds for class 2.M), it can take no...ina in the imperfective aspect, and voa in the perfective aspect, but if the latter is an intransitive verb with an i prefix, the a form is to be used in the imperfective aspect and tafa in the perfective aspect (see 1.1.8(3)).

3. Furthermore, it is possible to promote to Su an NP occupying a syntactic/semantic position between S_i and Constitutive-Oblique on the hierarchy:

a. if the NP to be promoted is a DO or an IO and if the verb is in the imperfective aspect, it takes the no...ina circumfix;

b. if the NP to be promoted is an Oblique-Intermediary (or, henceforth, Intermediary, for short) or an Instrumental and if the verb is in the imperfective aspect, the latter takes the a prefix;

c. however, if in (a) and (b) above, the verb is in the perfective aspect, then the latter takes the voa prefix; and

d. if the NP to be promoted is an Instrumental, a Beneficiary, a Manner, a Locative, or a Temporal, then the verb takes the an/i...i/ana circumfix, depending on its subclass.

Circumstantial Passive Voice or Passive2 illustrated:

(8)a. N-an-didy mofo t-amin' ny antsy i Jeanne.
 Past-prefix-cut bread perf-with the knife art Jeanne
 Active Voice
 'Jeanne was cutting bread with the knife.'

b. N-an-didi-an' i Jeanne mofo ny antsy.
 Past-Passive2-cut-by art Jeanne bread the knife
 'The knife was being cut-the-bread-with by Jeanne.'

Point # 2.1: Relationship between Inflections for Voice/Tense/Aspect and the grammatical subject of the sentence – Semantic Interpretation.

The relevant constructions involve a passive voice verb with different inflections for voice, tense and aspect on them. There exist four basic cases to consider (See Randriamasimanana 2000b. for detail):

A. *No...in(a)* passive typically indicates a PUNCTUAL aspect. As a result of this, the subject is usually interpreted as an entity affected as an unanalyzed whole, i.e. Nonpartitive interpretation of the grammatical subject.

- (9) **No-didi-ndRabe** ny mofo. **Punctual** meaning
pst-root-pass-byRabe the bread
'The (whole) bread was cut by Rabe.'

B. *Ø...in(a)* passive typically describes an ONGOING ACTIVITY, as in

- (10) To: fbra2@bigfoot.com
Date: Mon, 1 Feb 1999 01:10:24 -0500
Subject: Ohabolana 21-30(V), 31-40(L), 1-10(F)
From: Carol M Razafi... crazafi@juno.com

Ø-arabaina daholo indray ianareo rehetra,
Pass-saluted all once you-plural all
Literally: 'You are all being saluted (by me)!'

Typically no overt reference to the referent of the subject is required, which is retrievable from the extralinguistic context of situation.

C. With an...in(a) circumstantial voice [or its i...in(a) variant consult Randriamasimanana (1986: 419-422)], we have a **DURATIVE** aspect, hence partitive reading since the subject referent is only partially affected.

- (11) **N-an-didi-an dRabe** ny mofo. **Partitive** meaning
pst-active-root-circ-byRabe the bread
'(Some of the) bread was being cut by Rabe.'

D. With **a...in(a)** passive, there is the notion of **INCEPTIVE/BALLISTIC** aspect. Only referents that contain this particular feature, i.e. which only requires an initial impulse will be able to appear in the grammatical subject position.

- (12) **N-a-tsipin-dRabe** ny rano. **Ballistic** meaning
Past-pass-throw-by-Rabe the water
'The water was thrown away by Rabe.'

Point # 4.2: General Preposition *amin(a)* typically an adjunct, but can become an argument depending on [+/- CONTROL] feature accompanying V.1.

Point # 4.2.1: Preposition *Amin(a)* = ‘on, above, below, with, under, to the side of, etc.’

(21) N-an-didy mofo **t-amin** ny antsy i Jeanne. [= 8a.]

Past-prefix-cut bread **perf**-prep the knife art Jeanne
V.1

[+ CONTROL]

‘Jeanne was cutting bread **with** the knife.’ PP *Amin(a)* = Instrument

(22) H-andeha i Jeanne **o-amin** ny Alakamisy.

V.1 **nonperf**-prep the Thursday

[+/- CONTROL]

Fut-go art Jeanne prep the Thursday

‘Jeanne will go **on** Thursday.’ PP *Amin(a)* = Adjunct

(23) M-ipetraka eo **o-amin** ny latabatra ny antsy.

Pres-sit there **nonperf-on/above/under/...** the table the knife
V.1

[- CONTROL]

‘The knife is lying **on the table/above the table/under the table/to the side of the table, etc.**’ PP *Amin(a)* = Location

Point # 4.2.2: Case of Optional CONTROL (related essentially to verbal aspect).

Case A(24)a. H-andeha i Jeanne **amin** ny Alakamisy.

V.1 prep

[+CONTROL] **Argument**

Fut-go art Jeanne prep the Thursday

‘Jeanne will be going **on** Thursday.’ INTERNAL VIEWING

b. **Amin** ny Alakamisy no h-an-dehan-an’i Jeanne.

On Thursday part fut-Passive2-go-by art Jeanne

Argument **Circumstantial voice**

Passive 2

‘It is on Thursday that Jeanne will **be going**.’ DURATIVE

Case B (25)a. H-andeha i Jeanne **amin** ny Alakamisy.

V.1 prep

[-CONTROL] **Adjunct**

Fut-go art Jeanne prep the Thursday

‘Jeanne will go **on** Thursday.’ EXTERNAL VIEWING

b. **Amin** ny Alakamisy no h-andeha i Jeanne.

On Thursday part fut-go art Jeanne

Adjunct **Active voice**

‘On Thursday, Jeanne will **go**.’ PUNCTUAL

Point # 2.2: To Capture Relationship between Head and Specifier
 From Randriamasimanana (1998: 303-315)

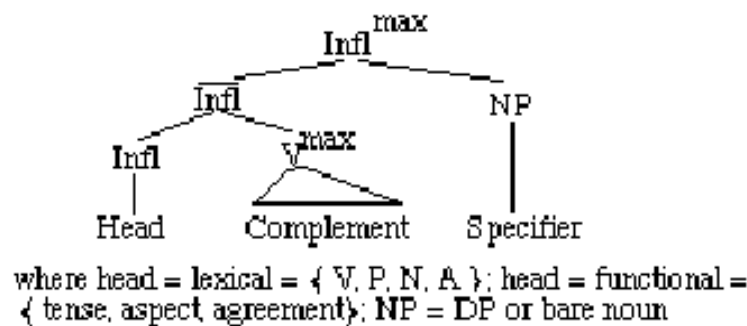


Figure 1: X-Bar Theory and Tree Geometry

The figure in 1 will enable us not only to capture the phenomena illustrated earlier under Point # 2.1, but also to summarize the distribution of empty categories in Malagasy.

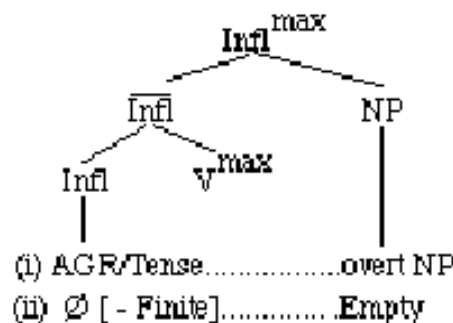


Figure 2: Summary of Distribution of Empty Categories

- (13) **Ireo m-iady ireo ny zanakao.**
 AGR pres- fight AGR the children-of-yours
 Plural verb plural
 'Voilà vos enfants qui se battent.' Origin: Abinal & Malzac 1888: 282)
 From French to English: 'Your children are there, fighting.'
 Literally: 'Your children are fighting --as we can see for ourselves.'

- (14) Date: Thu, 24 Dec 1998 06:52:17-0500
 From: CRab114103.442@compuserve.com
 Sender: CRab114103.442@compuserve.com
 To: Charles Randriamasimanana
M-anao ahoana indray o [Empty Subject] ? [1 st S in message]
Pres-do how once-more Empty?
 'How are (you)?'

From Randriamasimanana (2000b)

**Point # 3: Tense/aspect markers (i) *n-*, *m-*, *h-* for active voice vs
(ii) *no-*, *o-*, *ho-* for passive voice.**

See Handout # 2 dated March 16, 2001 for detail.

- (15) N-ikasa (ny) **h**-andeha **o** i Paoly.
past-intend (comp) **fut**-go Empty deic Paul
"Paul intended to leave."
Randriamasimanana (1997: 488)
- (16) Tia-ko **ho** entina ilay fiara (obligatorily overt subject).
be-liked-by-me **fut** be-driven the car
"I would like to drive the (previous mention) car."
- (17) No-kasa-in' i Paoly **ho** entina ilay fiara.
past-intend-by deic Paul future be-taken the car
"Paul intended to take the (previous mention) car."
Randriamasimanana (1997: 490).
- (18) N-ikasa (ny) **h**-itondra ilay fiara **o** i Paoly.
Past-intend (comp) fut-drive the car EC art. Paul
'Paul intended to drive the (previous mention) car.'
Randriamasimanana (2000b)

Point # 4.1: Argument vs Adjunct in Malagasy. [See Appendix A.]

- (19)a. **No**-didi-**nd**Rabe ny mofo. **Punctual** meaning
pst-root-pass-byRabe the bread
'The (whole) bread was cut by Rabe.'
- b. N-an-didy ny mofo Rabe.
Passt-prefix-cut the bread Rabe
D.O.
'Rabe was cutting the (previous mention) bread.'
- (20)a. N-**an**-didi-**an**dRabe ny mofo. **Partitive** meaning
pst-active-root-circ-byRabe the bread
(Some of the) bread was cut by Rabe.'
- b. N-**an**-didy **t-amin'** ny mofo Rabe.
Past-prefix-cut perf-from the bread Rabe
Oblique
'Rabe was cutting some of the bread.'

Point # 4.2: General Preposition *amin(a)* typically an adjunct, but can become an argument depending on [+/- CONTROL] feature accompanying V.1.

Point # 4.2.1: Preposition *Amin(a)* = ‘on, above, below, with, under, to the side of, etc.’

(21) N-an-didy mofo **t-amin** ny antsy i Jeanne. [= 8a.]

Past-prefix-cut bread perf-prep the knife art Jeanne

V.1

[+ CONTROL]

‘Jeanne was cutting bread **with** the knife.’ PP *Amin(a)* = Instrument

(22) H-andeha i Jeanne **o-amin** ny Alakamisy.

V.1 nonperf-prep the Thursday

[+/- CONTROL]

Fut-go art Jeanne prep the Thursday

‘Jeanne will go **on** Thursday.’ PP *Amin(a)* = Adjunct

(23) M-ipetraka eo **o-amin** ny latabatra ny antsy.

Pres-sit there nonperf-on/above/under/... the table the knife

V.1

[- CONTROL]

‘The knife is lying **on the table/above the table/under the table/to the side of the table, etc.**’ PP *Amin(a)* = Location

Point # 4.2.2: Case of Optional CONTROL (related essentially to verbal aspect).

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V.1 prep

[+CONTROL] Argument

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‘Jeanne will be going **on** Thursday.’ INTERNAL VIEWING

b. **Amin** ny Alakamisy no h-an-dehan-an’i Jeanne.

On Thursday part fut-Passive2-go-by art Jeanne

Argument Circumstantial voice

Passive 2

‘It is on Thursday that Jeanne will **be going**.’ DURATIVE

Case B (25)a. H-andeha i Jeanne **amin** ny Alakamisy.

V.1 prep

[-CONTROL] Adjunct

Fut-go art Jeanne prep the Thursday

‘Jeanne will go **on** Thursday.’ EXTERNAL VIEWING

b. **Amin** ny Alakamisy no h-andeha i Jeanne.

On Thursday part fut-go art Jeanne

Adjunct Active voice

‘On Thursday, Jeanne will **go**.’ PUNCTUAL

Point # 5: Binary Branching, Mergers & Incorporation

Point # 5.1: Binary Branching & Verbal/Nonverbal Predicate Distinction.

In Malagasy, there exist two main types of clause. Rajaona (1972).

1- **Verbal** predicate type of clause, which can take **Tense as its head**

(26) N-andidy mofo i Paoly.

Past-cut bread art Paul

‘Paul was cutting bread.’

2- **‘Nonverbal’** predicate type of clause, which can only take **Aspect as its head**

(27) T-any Antsirabe i Paoly.

Perf-at Antsirabe art Paul

‘Paul was at Antsirabe.’

(28) o-vaky ny fitaratra.

Root verb

Perf-broken the glass

‘The glass has been broken.’

Point # 5.2: Mergers

(29) N-andeha i Paoly.

Past-go art Paul

‘Paul went.’

(30) N-andeha t-any Antsirabe i Paoly. [Merging 29 as V.1 & 27 as V.2]

Past-go perf-at/to Antsirabe art Paul

V.1 V.2

‘Paul went to Antsirabe.’

(31) N-am-(v)aky ny fitaratra i Paoly. [Merging 28 as V.2 under V.1 Caus. *an*]

Past-Caus-broken the glass art Paul

V.1 V.2

‘Paul was breaking the glass.’

Point # 5.3: Malagasy P = [+ V, + N], as suggested by the aspectual marker showing up on the PP predicate in (27) as well as by the following additional data:

(32) Tsara ny any Antsirabe.

Nice **the** at Antsirabe

P [+ Nominal]

‘Antsirabe is nice.’

Contrary to the claim that P = [- V, - N] as traditionally proposed in the literature. See, for example, Radford (1997: 64, 66).

Point # 6: Contrast *No...ina* Passive vs *A...ina* Passive.

Point # 6.1: *No...ina* Passive (nonperfective aspectual form).

- (33)a. N-am-(p)otika ny fitaratra i Paoly. **Active Voice**
Past-Caus-broken the glass art Paul
Tense-V.1-Aspect+V.2
'Paul was breaking the glass.'
- b. *an(ao)* > *am* = 'do' DURATIVE
 - c. *potika* = aspect + root V 'broken,' in this case aspect = PUNCTUAL
 - d. During the process of Passive 1, V.1 = re-interpreted as aspect of V.2
 - e. As a result of step d., the initial feature [+ DURATIVE] accompanying V.1 is wiped out, replaced by the feature [PUNCTUAL] or [- DURATIVE] of V.2.

- (34) No-poteh-in' i Paoly ny fitaratra. **Passive voice**
PastPassive-broken-by art Paul the glass
PUNCTUAL
'The glass was (attempted to be) broken by Paul.'

- (35) No-poteh-in' i Paoly ny fitaratra fa tsy poti-ny. **Passive Voice**
PastPassive-broken-by art Paul the glass but not broken-by him
PUNCTUAL
'The glass was (attempted to be) broken by Paul, but was not broken by him.'
English: 'Paul attempted to break the glass, but did not manage.'

Note: PUNCTUAL does not refer to the OUTCOME nor the RESULT of the activity described by V.1 since (35) is perfectly grammatical in Malagasy.

Point # 6.2: *A...ina* Passive (nonperfective aspectual form).

- (36) N-an-defa ny entana t-any Antsirabe i Paoly. **Active Voice**
Past-prefix-send the parcel perf-to Antsirabe art Paul
DURATIVE
'Paul was sending the parcel to Antsirabe.'
- (37) N-a-lefa-n' i Paoly t-any Antsirabe ny entana. **Passive Voice**
Past-Apassive-sent-by art Paul perf-to Antsirabe the parcel
BALLISTIC
'The parcel was sent to Antsirabe by Paul.'

Note: BALLISTIC = INITIAL IMPULSE to the Deliberate Activity described by the predicate in V.1, i.e. only the INCEPTION of the DURATION involved.

Point # 7: Verbal Voice Selection in Malagasy.

Point # 7.1: General Considerations – Structure of the Malagasy Lexicon.

Many if not most typical transitive verbs in Malagasy take the *-an-* prefix, which tends to correlate with DURATIVE aspect; by contrast, there is a finite set of so-called root verbs like *lasa* ‘gone’ or *tonga* ‘arriving’, which are essentially associated with PUNCTUAL aspect. In-between those two endpoints, a large class of intransitive verbs, which can go either way (either DURATIVE or PUNCTUAL).

Point # 7.2: Obligatory Selection of Definite NP as Grammatical Subject.

[In particular, when a Definite NP not explicitly marked as previously identified –or antecedent-governed– occupies the DO position. This is mandatory, i.e. there is absolutely no choice whatsoever especially when the definite phrase is accompanied by a universal quantifier]

- (38)a. N-ahita mpianatra i Paoly.
past-see students art Paul
'Paul saw (some) students.'
- b. *N-ahita **ny mpianatra daholo/rehetra** i Paoly.
past-see the students all art Paul
'Paul saw all the students.'
- c. Hita-n'i Paoly daholo **ny mpianatra (rehetra)**.
pass-see-byart Paul all the students (all)
Lit. 'All the students were (all) seen by Paul.'
'Paul saw all the students.'

From Randriamasimanana 2000a.

- (39) a. Mijery **ny vehivavy** ny lehilahy.
see the woman the man
"The man sees the woman."

From Bennett 1986:25, example 1.

- b. Hita-n' ny lehilahy ny vehivavy.
be-seen-by the man the woman
"The woman is seen by the man." or
"The man sees the woman."

From Randriamasimanana 1994

Point # 7.3: Crucial Importance of DURATIVE vs PUNCTUAL aspect.

-A verbal predicate entry specified as PUNCTUAL is not very likely to have an argument –it is more than likely to only have an adjunct as already illustrated in Case B under Point # 4.2.2 above; by contrast, another verbal predicate, which is indicated as comprising a

DURATIVE aspect is very likely to be accompanied by an argument as already illustrated in Case A under Point # 4.2.2.

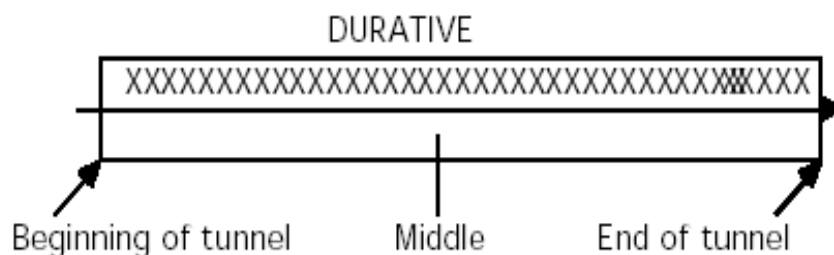
-There seems to be a correlation between the feature [+ CONTROL] and DURATIVE aspect, on the one hand; and between the feature [- CONTROL] and PUNCTUAL aspect, on the other hand, as seen under Point # 4.2.2.

Point # 7.4: Verbal Voice Selection. & Lexical Features of the Verbal Predicate.

-Assume a verbal lexical entry comprising the specification [+ DURATIVE]. Then, we have the following four possibilities:

(40)

Internal Viewing/Perspective:



Case A. The speaker wishes to highlight the DURATIVE nature of the deliberate activity described by the verbal predicate. S/he will select the **Active Voice** typically with the active prefix *-an-*, as in example (33)a. above.

Case B. The speaker wishes to highlight the PUNCTUAL nature of the deliberate activity described by the verbal predicate. S/he will select the **Passive Voice with the circumfix *no...ina***, in the nonperfective aspect as illustrated in (34) above.

Case C. The speaker wishes to highlight the BALLISTIC nature of the deliberate activity described by the verbal predicate, i.e. that only the initial impulse was provided to the activity being described. S/he will select the **Passive Voice with the circumfix *a...ina***, also in the nonperfective aspect as shown in (37).

Note that in Cases A, B and C above, reference is exclusively to the lefthand side of the tunnel depicted in diagram (40) above and NOT to the end of the tunnel or the OUTCOME or RESULT of the activity being described.

Case D. If the speaker wishes to explicitly refer to the OUTCOME of the deliberate activity being described by the verbal predicate, s/he will have to use **the Passive Voice in the perfective aspect**, i.e. with the prefix *voa-* for transitive verb as illustrated in example (3) above and with the prefix *tafa-* for intransitive verb as exemplified in (6)b above.

See Appendix C for statistics on passives from E.L. Keenan & C. Manorohanta (1998).

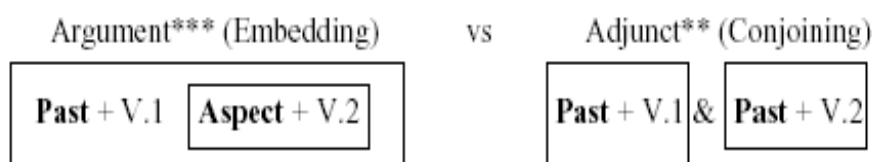
Point # 8: In Malagasy, Verbal Voice IS NOT Focus.

- (41)a. **No-vidi-n'** i Paoly **ny mofo.** PUNCTUAL
Passive1-buy-by art Paul the bread
 '(All) the bread was bought by Paul.'
- b. [Ny mofo] **no no-vidi-n'** i Paoly.
 The bread **focus particle** **Passive1-buy-by art Paul**
 'It is the bread that was bought by Paul.'
- c. Ny [mofo]_i **no n-ividy ----** i Paoly*.
 The bread **focus particle** past-buy ---- art Paul
Active Voice
 'As far as bread is concerned, Paul bought some.'

Adapted from Randriamasimanana 1997b.

- (42) N-i-petraka t-any Antsirabe i Paoly.
 past-prf-stay perf-at Antsirabe art Paul
 [+/- CONTROL] Argument/Adjunct
 'Paul stayed at Antsirabe.'
- (43) T-any Antsirabe **no n-i-petraka** i Paoly. Active Voice
Past-at Antsirabe part past-prf-stay art Paul
V.2 V.1
Adjunct [- CONTROL]**
 'It was at Antsirabe that Paul was living.'
- (44) T-any Antsirabe **no n-ipetrahan'** i Paoly. Passive Voice2
Perf-at Antsirabe part pst-i-root-circ-by art Paul
V.2 V.1
Argument * [+ CONTROL]**
 'It was at Antsirabe that Paul made his home.'

Randriamasimanana (1999b.)



*Also see Sample 2 in Appendix A.

Appendix A

The relevant distinction between ‘argument’ and ‘adjunct’ appear to be a major problem in Malagasy data analysis. See for example two excerpts from Ileana Paul 2000 (Clefts and pseudoclefts in Austronesian, AFLA, Free University, Amsterdam, The Netherlands: May 12, 2000). AFLA = Austronesian Formal Linguistics Association.

Sample 1:

- 1.2 Malagasy
 † Malagasy is VOS, with an elaborate voice system
- (7) a. Actor Topic: agent is subject *perfective*
 Nanapaka ity hazo ity tamin'ny antsy i Sahondra
 PST.AT.cut this tree this PST.P.GEN.DET knife Sahondra
 'Sahondra cut this tree with the knife.'
- b. Theme Topic: theme is subject *perfective*
 Notapahin'i Sahondra tamin'ny antsy ity hazo ity.
 PST.TT.cut.GEN.Sahondra PST.P.GEN.DET knife this tree this
 'This tree was cut by Sahondra with the knife.'
- c. Circumstantial Topic: something else (an oblique) is subject
 Nanapahan'i Sahondra ity hazo ity ny antsy.
 PST.CT.cut.GEN.Sahondra this tree this DET knife
 'The knife was used by Sahondra to cut the tree.'

In sentence (7)a. the verb *N-an-(t)apaka* ‘past-causative *an*-be cut’ comprises the feature [+ CONTROL] and therefore, the accompanying PP *t-amin*’ introducing an Instrument-Oblique must normally be an argument of the verb V.1 *n-anapaka*. If the PP *t-amin*’ is an argument of V.1, then it automatically follows that the *t*-prefix must be a perfective aspect-marker and NOT a tense-marker. If the prefix *t*- on *amin*’ was a tense-marker, then the PP *t-amin*’ would have to be an unincorporated adjunct. If this was true, then (7)b. and (7)c. should be ungrammatical since by definition an adjunct canNOT be promoted to grammatical subject!

Sample 2:

- subjects can cleft (not internal arguments)
- (8) *OK* *ny hazo*
 Ity hazo ity no nanapaka i Sahondra.
 this tree this NO PST.AT.cut Sahondra
 'It was this tree that Sahondra cut.'
- (It was trees that Sahondra cut)*

This example with a slight modification is rather similar to sentence (41)c. under Point # 8 in the text above: *Ny hazo* ‘the trees’ would be the internal argument of the verb.

Appendix B

Frequency counts of Passive from Randriamasimanana (1999)a. This is a version of a manuscript originally written in 1979.

Table 1: European Languages and Frequency Counts of Passive

Language	Source	Frequency of Passive
French	Personal Letters from native speakers	4%
English	Personal Letters from native speakers	5.5%

Table 2: Polynesian and Frequency Counts of Passive

Language	Source	Frequency of Passive
Maori	Clark 1973	56.5%
Maori	Chung 1978	75-85%

Table 4: Malagasy Passive Frequency Counts

	Source	Occurrences of Passive	Percentage
Male student	Parents	43 out of 133 verbs	32.3%
Spouse	Husband		26%
Author	Parents	496 out of 1412 verbs	35.1%
Newspapers	Madagascar	94 out of 269 verbs	35%

Appendix C

From passive statistics provided in E.L. Keenan & Cecile Manorohanta (in preparation) –version available in pdf format from UCLA Department of Linguistics website under the name of Edward L. Keenan. This is an updated version of the paper originally presented by Manorohanta at AFLA V, Department of Linguistics, University of Hawaii at Manoa, Honolulu, Hawaii: March 26-29, 1998.

Quotes:

‘1.1.3 Prefix passives are of three varieties*: a-, voa- and tafa-.’

2. The text study

Our study consisted of two novels and some 53 short newspaper articles. The novels², NZ and IKM, are romantic/adventure in genre. They are well written, popular, with much dialogue. We did the first few chapters in each, yielding a sample of 23,241 words for NZ, and 20,985 for IKM, for a total sample of 44,226 words. A "word" here is just a segment of text between spaces, so *nifampiananareo 'were caused to make each other learn by you.pl'* is one word (but 8 morphemes). The newspaper articles all appeared in 1995 in the capital Antananarivo. They are reports of current issues: car accidents, break-ins, and current social and political events. We report separately on the two classes of texts, as the results differ somewhat.

Results:

From Table 1 – Malagasy Novels.

‘Thus we have a total of 8,965 occurrences of verbs, of which 5,601 or 62% are active and 3,364 or 38% are non-active. The novels differ little among themselves: In IKM 64% of the verb occurrences are active, in NZ 61%. Contrast these figures with those for English from Svartvik (1966:46), also based on two novels.’

From Table 4 – Malagasy Newspaper Articles.

Verb forms	tokens	percent	types	percent
active	1620	50%	805	51%
non-active	1614	50%	772	49%
total	3234	100%	1577	100%.’

*Apparently the *no...ina* form of nonperfective aspect Passive has probably been inadvertently omitted.