

24.961 Problem Set 4

Selayarese is an Austronesian language spoken by some 100,000 persons on the island of Selayar, South Sulawesi Province, Indonesia.

[1] The following is a sample of data from this language. Make a table of the consonants and vowels. Are there positional limitations on the distribution of the consonants? What generalizations can be made about the gross prosodic (syllabic) shape of the words? Stress (indicated by acute accent) and vowel length (indicated by colon) are predictable. Formulate the rules to assign these features. Must they be ordered? [Note: our transcriptions abstract away from rules nasalizing vowels after a nasal consonant and the laxing of mid vowels; j is a voiced palatal affricate; ^mb, ⁿd, and ^ŋg are prenasalized stops.]

bénte	popcorn	sá:po	house
bá:tu	rock	tú:nu	burn
tá:ma	come in	ŋá:seŋ	all
já:maŋ	delicious	pú:la	island
pí:so	knife	lámpa	go
bú:laŋ	moon, month	katíntiŋ	thorn
?andéŋka	throw	sikú:ra	how many?
sássa?	lizard	tó: ⁿ do?	fence
ka?mú:ru	nose	pihá:li	answer
kalihá:ra	ant	karú:a	eight
pó:ke	spear	kánre	food
gó:lo?	dagger	pú:e?	grandfather
sé?la	salt	sampú:lo	ten
jé?ne?	water	dá:re?	monkey
bó: ^m baŋ	wave	bómباŋ	bamboo skin
há:taŋ	difficult	rú:a	two

[2] The stress of the following words is superficially anomalous. What other generalizations can be made about these words compared to those in [1]? Does this suggest a possible analysis to regularize their stress? Formulate any rules and indicate any crucial ordering restrictions.

láŋkasa	tall	míntara	tomorrow
dá:tala	pursue	síŋkulu	elbow
hállasa	suffer	salú:ara	pants
tú:lusu	go straight	maŋká:sara	macassar
ká:tala	itch	kasíssili	mosquito
lámbere	long	bé:rasa	rice

rámmasa	dirty	tú:lisi	write
pá?risi	painful	kí:kiri	metal file
sússulu	burn	sá: ^ŋ gara	fry

[3] The following words contain the locative suffix –aŋ, the transitivizing –i and the comparative –aŋ. How do these data bear on the analysis of the anomalous stress?

lámbere	long	cf.	lo:he	many
lambé:raŋ	longer		lohe:aŋ	more
lu:ara	wide	cf.	pá?ja	salty
luá:raŋ	wider		pa?já:?aŋ	saltier
hállasa	suffer	cf.	rúppa	face, meet
halla:si	make suffer		ruppá:i	confront
a?bó:toro	gamble	cf.	tínro	sleep
pa?botó:raŋ	casino		patinró:aŋ	bedroom

[4] Selayarese has many loanwords from Bahasa Indonesian. What bearing do the words below have on the analysis?

<u>BI</u>	<u>Sel</u>	
bótol	bó:tolo	bottle
árus	á:rusu	current
sénter	séntere	flashlight
kélás	ká:lasa	class
bérás	bé:rasa	rice
kábal	ká:bala	cable
kíkir	kí:kiri	metal file
kípas	kí:pasa	fan

[5] What does your analysis predict for the stress in the following loanwords? If necessary, revise your analysis. What is problematic about these data?

kártu	kará:tú	card
súrga	surú:ga	heaven
bákri	baká:ri	personal name

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