

We present a typologically oriented study of reciprocals in Malagasy (W. Austronesian, Madagascar). Of particular interest: (1) Malagasy reciprocals are very productive and expressed exclusively in the verbal morphology; there are no reciprocal pronouns. (2) In distinction to Romance, Germanic and Slavic, reciprocals do not overlap with reflexives, expressed exclusively by pronominal arguments. (3) Reciprocals only overlap some with sociatives; there being a sociative prefix distinct from the reciprocal. (4) Reciprocals are formed (recursively) throughout the grammar, both lexicon and syntax.

### Preliminaries

Like Philippine languages generally Malagasy syntax rides on its voice system. Verbs are derived by iteratively affixing roots (radicals) not themselves always words. Here are the four voices that appear dominantly in our examples: AV (*active voice*): m+px+root; TV (*theme voice*): a+root; PV (*passive voice*): root+Vna; and CV (*circumstantial voice*): AV+px+root+ana).

- 1 a. [manolotra (m.aN+tolotra) vary ny vahiny amin'ny lovia vaovao] [izy]<sub>DP</sub>  
 offers pres.act.offer rice det guest prep'det dishes new he/she  
*He offers rice to the guests on the new dishes*  
 (We write the active prefix as aN – the *m* is present tense active voice only. Present tense in non-active voices is  $\emptyset$ . *n* = past tense and *h* = future, all voices. The common (level one) active prefixes are aN-, *i*-, *a*-).
- b. atolony (a+tolotra+ny) ny vahiny amin'ny lovia vaovao [ny vary]<sub>DP</sub>  
 TV+offer+3gen det guest prep'det dishes new det rice  
*The rice is offered by him to the guests on the new dishes*
- c. tolorany (tolotra+ana+ny) vary amin'ny lovia vaovao [ny vahiny]<sub>DP</sub>  
 offer+PV+3gen rice prep'det dishes new det guests  
*The guests are offered rice by him on the new dishes*
- d. anolorany (aN+tolotra+ana+ny) vary ny vahiny [ny lovia vaovao]<sub>DP</sub>  
 av+offer+CV+3gen rice det guests det dishes new  
*The new dishes are used by him to offer rice to the guests*

This list incorporates several important asymmetries: (1) the active verbs form their imperatives by suffixing *-a* and shifting stress (phonemic) rightward. The three non-active verbs form their imperatives by suffixing *o* (= /u/), shifting stress right, unless the root contains an *o*, in which case it suffixes *y* (= /i/). (2) The first three voices, (2a,b,c), affix the root directly, but the choice of affix, while subject to some regularities, must be listed. The most usual PV ending is *-ina*, but in some cases, as here, *-ana*, (or even *-ena* or simply *-na*). We use *passive* for tv and pv collectively. Whether a root takes tv, pv or both) is not fully predictable. These forms exhibit several irregularities and are clearly lexical.

Circumstantial verb formation, built by suffixing *-ana* to any of the AV forms, is fully regular. All AV verbs feed circumstantial (cv) forms. It nominalizes by prefixing *f*- with complete productivity, preserving subcategorization and case marking of arguments. So it is more transparent than gerund formation in English. All non-AV forms present the Agent phrase as a (suffixal) possessor of the verb, whereas AV verbs present it clause finally in the nominative (*izy* 's/he', *-ny* 'his/her'). In all the Ss in (1)

only the clause final nominative DP can be relativized, host the interrogative particle *ve*, etc. All the verbs in (1) are atelic, and the final DP (the “subject”) in all cases is nominative.

## 1. Basic Reciprocals

Reciprocal IF (below) applies just to active P2s (two place predicates)  $\phi$  formed by iteratively prefixing roots in the simplest cases, and forms a higher order one place active predicate IF( $\phi$ ) taking a set as argument (DMP) interpreted crudely by:  $\llbracket \text{IF}(\phi) \rrbracket(A) = \llbracket \phi \rrbracket(x)(y)$ , all  $x \neq y \in A$ , [**known to be inadequate** – Here we focus on the formation and distribution of IF( $\phi$ )].

### 1.1 The shape of IF is conditioned by the choice of AV prefix

- 2 a. manenjika (m+an+enjika) an-dRabe Rakoto *Rakoto is chasing Rabe*  
 pres+av+chase acc-Rabe Rakoto
- b. mifanenjika (m+rec+an+chase) Rabe sy Rakoto *R&R are chasing each other*
- 3 a. Niarahaba (n+i+arahaba) azy aho *I greeted him*  
 greeted pst+av+greet 3acc 1s.nom
- b. Nifampiarahaba (n+ifamp+i+arahaba) isika *We greeted each other*  
 pst+rec+av+greet we.incl
- c. \*\*Nifiarahaba isika *We greeted each other*

$\phi$ -prefix verbs behave similarly: *m+ $\phi$ +ino* ‘believe’, *mifampino* ‘believe in each other’

**Remark** *amp-* is a causative prefix but in active *mi-* and *ma-* verbs it just supports *if-*. Historically *amp-* is likely *aN+f* = nominalizer, as in synchronic *aN+fo* = *ampo* (= /a.<sup>m</sup>pu/‘in heart’. And *ank-* below is likely *aN+h* = nominalizer. So historically *if* just prefixes to *aN*-active verbs. Analogously for *ank(a)* with *m.a*-prefix verbs): From *mahita* (*m+a+hita*) ‘sees’:

4. Mifankahita (m+ifank-ahita) Rabe sy Ranaivo *Rabe and Ranaivo see each other*  
 pres+rec+see Rabe and Ranaivo

### 2. P2s may be built from P3s+Argument, and P1s + “accessible” PPs:

- 5 a. m+aN+tolotra (manolotra) torohevitra an-dRabe Rasoa *Rasoa offers advice to Rabe*  
 pres+av+offer advice acc-Rabe Rasoa
- b. m+if+aN+tolotra (mifanolotra) torohevitra Rabe sy Rasoa *R and R offer each other advice*  
 pres+rec+av+offer advice Rabe and Rasoa
- 6 a. manoratra (m+aN+soratra) taratasy ho an-dRabe Rasoa *Rasoa writes letters to Rabe*  
 writes pres+av+write letter for/to-Rabe Rasoa
- b. mifanoratra (m+if+aN+soratra) taratasy Rabe sy Rasoa *R&R write letters to e.o.*  
 pres+rec+av+write letters Rabe and Rasoa
- 7 a. manao (m+aN+tao) farafara ho an-dRasoa Rabe *Rabe is making a bed for Rasoa*  
 makes pres+av+make bed for acc-Rasoa Rabe

- b. mifanao (m+if+aN+tao) farafara Rabe sy Rasoa *R and R are making beds for e.o.*
- 8 a. Mandainga (m+aN+lainga) amin-dRaso a Rabe *Rabe lies to Raso a*  
 pres+av+lie prep-Raso a Rabe
- b. Mifandainga (m+if+aN+lainga) Rabe sy Raso a *Rabe and Raso a lie to each other*  
 Lie to e.o. pres+rec+av+lie Rabe and Raso a

But we cannot reciprocalize out of existence a rich PP (though the idea is expressible):

- 9 a. Mipetraka (m+i+petraka) akaikin-dRabe Raso a *Raso a is sitting near Rabe*  
 pres+av+sit near-Rabe.gen Raso a
- b. \*Mifampipetraka Rabe sy Raso a *Rabe and Raso a are sitting near e.o.*
- c. Mipetraka m+if+an+akaiky Rabe sy Raso a *R & R are sitting near e.o.*  
 Pres+av+sit pres+rec+av+near Rabe and Raso a

**Gen 1 Verbal affix reciprocals only bind one argument of a given verb to an antecedent.**  
**Pronominal reciprocals can do two:** *We protected / saved e.o. from e.o.*

**Corollary:** Reciprocal -if- does not iterate

10. \*\*Nififaneho isika *We show each other to each other*  
 Nifaneho sary isika *We showed each other pictures*

**Gen 2 (Malagasy) Theme, passive and circumstantial voice verbs do not reciprocalize**  
 (But, reciprocal verbs causativize, which then passivize, reciprocalize, then causativize...)

- 11 a. Enjehin-dRakoto (enjika+ina+Rakoto) Rabe *Rabe was chased by Rakoto*  
 chase+pass+Rakoto Rabe
- b. \*Ifenjehin-dRakoto sy Rabe *Rabe and Rakoto are being e.o. chased*

## 2. Reflexives, Sociatives, and Reciprocals

- 12 a. Manaja (m+an+haja) azy<sub>i</sub> Rabe<sub>j</sub> *Rabe respects him (i ≠ j)*  
 b. Manaja tena Rabe *Rabe respects himself*  
 c. Mifanaja Rabe sy Rakoto *Rabe and Rakoto respect each other*
- 13 a. miaraka (m+i+araka) izahay *We are together*  
 pres+av+follow we.excl
- b. miasa (m+i+asa) izy ireo *They are working*  
 pres+av+work 3nom dem.pl
- c. miara-miasa (m+i+ara(ka)-m+i+asa) izahay *We work together*  
 pres+av+follow-pres-av-work we.excl
- d. mpiara-miasa (mp+i+ara(ka)-miasa izahay *We are co-workers*  
 er+av+follow-pres+av+work we.excl

The prefixal status of *miara-* is shown by the fact that throughout the language compounding *w+w'* triggers the loss of final *-ka*, *-tra*, and *-na* on *w*, mutating an initial continuant of *w'* to the corresponding non-continuant: *manapaka+hevitra* ‘decide: lit cut+thought’ = *manapa-kevitra*. But with *miaraka*+verb, usually an initial consonant on *w'* just copies that on *miaraka*. So we have *hiara-hiasa*, *hiara-hihira* ‘will jointly work, sing, etc. rather than *hiara-kiasa*, *hiara-kihira*, etc.

### 3. Lexical Diversity: Chaining and Inanimates

- 14 a. *mifandimby* (m+if+ aN+dimby)      ny taona      *The years follow upon one another*  
       pres+rec+av+successor det year
- b. *Ohatra ny zaza mifanarakaraka izahay*      *We quarrel all the time* (like older and  
       Like det child pres.rec.(follow)<sup>2</sup> we.excl.      younger siblings)
- c. *mifanapatapaka* (m+if+an+tapaka<sup>2</sup>) eto ireto roa tsipika ireto      *These two lines intersect here*  
       pres+rec+av+cut here dem.pl two line dem.pl

**notation** *w*<sup>2</sup> is the reduplication of *w*. It involves dropping weak endings *-ka*, *-na*, *-tra* and some consonant mutation: *tapaka*<sup>2</sup> = *tapatapaka*; the (non-reciprocal) av form is *manapatapaka*. Reduplication is widely used, applies to roots (and some *aN*+root) and so feeds IF (in distinction to Chicewa). Reduplicating after reciprocalization in (14b) we get, incorrectly, *\*mifanapakapaka*.

### 4. Some (classically) Lexical Properties of Reciprocals

#### 4.1 Affixless Reciprocals

Malagasy presents some “bare” reciprocal lexical verbs, reminiscent of English *fight*, *argue*, *kiss*. Most if not all of these also take reciprocal morphology, so they are cases where the reciprocal and non-reciprocal verb have the same meaning.

- 15 a. *mipaka* (m+i+paka) / *mikaona* (m+i+kaona) ireo hazofisaka ireo  
       pres+av+touch      pres+av+join these boards these  
       *These boards touch / are joined*
- b. *mifampipaka* (m+ifamp+i+paka) / m+ifamp+i+kaona ireo hazofisaka ireo  
       *These boards touch / are joined to each other*
- 16 a. *Akaiky ny tranoko ny azy*      *His house is near mine*  
       near det house.my det his
- b. *mifanakaiky* (m+if+ an+akiky) ny tranonay      *Our houses are near each other*
17. *Mifanasaka* / *misasaka* (< *sasaka* ‘half’) ny ankizilahy sy ny ankizivavy ao am-pianaranay  
       *The boys and the girls in our class each number half*

Similar are: *manatrika* / *mifanatrika* ‘attend to, help’; *tandrify* / *mifanandrify* ‘be opposite’

#### 4.2 Allomorphs and Selection of IF vary with lexical properties of verbs

The alternative to treating *if* as a lexical prefix is to derive the set taking reciprocal P1 *mifanenjika* syntactically from a binary relation denoting P2 + a reciprocal pronoun *if*: [*manenjika* +

*if*]. But ordinary pronouns do not vary in form with active voice morphology: *manenjika azy izy* lit: chases him he; *mikapoka azy izy* ‘beats him he’; *mahita azy izy* ‘sees him he’. So the attested allomorphy is unexpected on the *if* = pronoun view, natural on the *if* = affix view. Dually pronouns do vary for person and number in Malagasy. E.g. the accusative plurals are: *anay* (us.excl), *antsika* (us.incl), *anareo* (you.pl), and *azy (ireo)* (3 (dem.pl)). But *if* marks neither person nor number.

Regarding selection, IF selects active verbs and yields active verbs as values, as shown by their imperative forms.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 18 a. M.an.enjika azy izy ‘chases.act him he’<br>pres.av.chase him he       | b. Mifanenjika izy ireo ‘<br>pres.rec.act.chase 3nom dem.pl |
| 19 a. Manao (m.an.tao) farafara ho azy Rabe<br>pres.av.do bed for 3acc Rabe | <i>Rabe is making beds for him/them</i>                     |
| b. Manaova (m.an.taov.a) farafara ho azy!<br>pres.av.do.imp                 | <i>Make beds for him/them!</i>                              |
| 20 a. Mifanao (m.if.an.tao) farafara Rabe sy Rajaona<br>pres.rec.av.do      | <i>R and R are making beds for e.o.</i>                     |
| b. Mifanaova (m.if.an.taov.a) farafara!<br>pres.rec.av.do.imp               | <i>Make beds for each other!</i>                            |
| 21 a. ataon-dRabe ho an-dRasoa ny farafara                                  | <i>The bed is being made by Rabe for Rasoa</i>              |
| b. ataovy (a.taov.y) ho azy ny farafara<br>tv.do.imp for her det bed        | <i>Be made (by you) the bed for her</i>                     |
| c. **ifataon-Rabe sy Rasoa ny farafara                                      | <i>The bed is being made for e.o. by R &amp; R</i>          |

NB: The translations of non-active Ss in English are awkward, but they remind the reader that the verbs are in a different morphology than the “active” one. They are fully natural in Malagasy. Note that in distinction to English all the four non-active voice verbs have imperative forms – indeed they are what you use in practice. The active is more like a hortative. □

#### 4.3 Some reciprocal verbs lack a non-reciprocal source

- 22 a. Mifanaritarika (m+if+an+tarika<sup>2</sup>) any an-tsena any ny tovolahy  
pres+rec+av+lead there loc-market there det young.man  
*The young men walk around the market a bit helter-skelter*
- b. \*manarika, \*mifanarika. So the apparent sources for the reciprocal in (22a) do not exist.
- 23 a. Nifanena (n.if.an.tsena) t.any an-tsena Rabe sy Ravelo      *R and R met e.o. at the market*  
pst.rec.av.meet pst.there loc-marked R and R
- b. \*manena ‘meet’; *mitsena* = m.i.tsena ‘meet’.

As indicated here, many roots take both *man-* and *mi-* active prefixes, but many also take just *man-* and many also take just *mi-*. Again lexical unpredictability.

#### 4.4 Reciprocal verbs which differ in meaning from their non-reciprocal source

24 a. mifampitaritarika any an-tsena any ny tovolahy ‘same meaning as (22a)’

b. mitarika / mitaritarika an-dRanaivo any an-tsena Rabe  
*Rabe leads/guides Ranaivo in the market*

So in (24a) the root *tarik* ‘lead’ accepts the av *mi* prefix, optionally reduplicates, but both uses mean ‘lead, guide’ not ‘enter pele-mele’. So if we thought to interpret the meaning of (24a) using (24 c) below we would not get the right meaning (interpreting *if as* EACH OTHER):

c. [<sub>P1</sub>mitaritarika [if]] [Ranaivo sy Rabe]  
*\*R & R lead each other in the market* ✓ *They moved around pele-mele in the market*

25 a. mifanisa (m.if.an.isa) ny ankizivavy sy ny ankizilahy ao am-pianara.nay  
pres.rec.av.count det girls and det boys there at-class.our  
*There are the same number of boys as girls in our class*

b. manisa ny mpianatra tonga ny mpampianatra *The teacher counts the students (who) arrive*

So *manisa* means to count, its reciprocal *mifanisa* does not mean “Each counts the other(s)”

26 a. M.i.dera azy aho b. M.ifamp.i.dera hery ny kandidats  
praise him 1s.nom demonstrate (their) force the candidates

27 a. Kopahy ny vovoka manototra ny akanjo.nao *Flap off the dust which covers your clothes*  
Brush.off det dust (rel) covers det clothes.your

b. Mifanototra hiditra ao am-pianarana ny ankizy *The children want to enter class simultaneously*

So reciprocal *mifanototra* conjures images of children crowding each other to get into class, whereas non-reciprocal *manototra* (*m.an.tototra*) means to fill in, cover. A more striking case, beyond the scope of this article is the interrogative verb *maninona?* ‘What (are you) doing?’ and its “reciprocal” *Mifaninona?* ‘What kin relation are you?’

#### 4.5 Agent Nominalizations apply to reciprocal verbs: mp+Vav

28 a. Mianatra ‘studies’ ⇒ mpianatra ‘student’  
Mampianatra ‘cause to study’ ⇒ mpampianatra ‘teacher’  
Mifanampy ‘help e.o.’ ⇒ mpifanampy ‘people who are helping e.o.’  
Mifankahalala ‘detest e.o.’ ⇒ mpifankahalala ‘people who detest e.o.’  
Mifankatia ‘love e.o.’ ⇒ mpifankatia ‘lovers’

NB: Nominalization (here and later) preserves verbal subcategorization:

29 a. ny mpampianatra ahy “my teacher” lit: the teacher me, (*ahy* is accusative))  
b. ny mpampianatro = ‘the teacher-my’ (the teacher I “possess” e.g. hired)

Two properties of reciprocals used in the literature to justify that they are P2s+a pronoun:

#### 4.6 Object comparison readings

(30a) has an object comparison reading, (30b.2), reasonable if the transitive verb has an independent direct object:

- 30 a. John and Mary like each other more than Bill and Susan  
b.1 J & M like e.o more than they like Bill and Susan (Subject Comparison)  
b.2 J & M like e.o. more than Bill and Susan like them (Object Comparison)

But in Malagasy we find only the subject comparison reading, reasonable if the reciprocal P1 does not consist syntactically of a P2 + object pronoun:

- 31 a. Mifankatia (m.ifank.tia) kokoa Rabe sy Rasoa noho Ranaivo sy Ravao  
pres.rec.like more Rabe and Rasoa than/against Ranaivo and Ravao  
*Rabe and Rasoa like e.o more than Ranaivo and Ravao like e.o* (Subject Comparison)  
*\*Rabe and Rasoa like e.o. more than they like Ranaivo and Ravao* (Object Comparison)

#### 4.7 Event quantifiers

Ss like (32a) are not felt as ambiguous as between (32b) and (32c). A speaker of (32a) might simply not have considered the distinct situation types expressed by (32b,c). So the adverbial modification adds new information.

- 32 a. Nifandaka (n.if.an.daka) intelo Rabe sy Rakoto *Rabe and Rakoto kicked e.o. three times*  
pst.rec.av.kick 3 times R and R  
b. Nifandaka intelo nisesy Rabe and Rakoto *They kicked each other three times in a row*  
c. Nifandaka intelo avy Rabe and Rakoto *They kicked each other three times each*

#### 4.8 Quantified antecedents

Worth noting that reciprocal P1s accept quantified DP antecedents just as non-reciprocal ones do (see Keenan 2008, Paul 2012).

- 33 Mifankahazo / Mifanentana ny mpianatra rehetra (ao an-dakilasy)  
Get-along-with e.o // get-along-with e.o. det student all (there in-class)  
*The students in the class all get along with each other*

*ny mpianatra rehetra* ‘det student all’ can be replaced by: *ny ankamaroan’ny mpianatra* ‘the majority of the students’, *ny mpianatra vitsivitsy* ‘few students’, *ny antsasaky ny mpianatra* ‘half the students’, *ny valompolo isan-zaton’ny mpianatra* ‘80% of the students’, *ny roa ampahatelon’ny mpianatra* ‘two thirds of the students’. Often non-increasing DPs are expressed predicatively:

- 34 a. Tsy nisy afa-panadinana ny mpianatra na iray aza *No student at all passed the exam*  
not was/had free-exam det student or one even  
b. Latsaka ampahatelonny ny mpianatra m.ifank.ahazo L  
Less a-third-of det student pres.rec.receive (get-along-with e.o.)  
*Less than a third of the students get along with each other*  
c. Antsasaky ny mpianatra katroka no m.if.an.entana  
half.gen det student exactly FOC get along with each other  
*Exactly half the students get along with e.o.*

#### 4.9 We vs I readings

In passing, though not clearly relevant to our current concerns, we note that the “I” reading, (35c) of (35a) is not available in Malagasy:

- 35 a. John and Mary think they love each other  
b. John and Mary each think “We love each other” (“We” reading)  
c. John thinks he loves Mary and she thinks she loves him (“I” reading)
- 36 a. Mihevitra Rabe sy Rasoafa mifankatia R & R think that they love e.o.  
pres.av.think R and R comp love e.o.  
*Each thinks “we love each other” – no other reading*

HLM represent the scope ambiguity in (35) according to the landing site of *each* which flitters. But reciprocal *if* in Malagasy is synchronically monomorphemic. (But historically the Malagasy reciprocal reconstructs to *fai* (Blust, pc < *paRi*). (cf Futunan *fe-*). Perhaps the *i* in *if* is just the active voice *i-* and the diphthongue *ai* assimilates to the following vowel.

#### 5.0 Productive Processes which feed Reciprocal Formation

##### 5.1 Circumstantial verbs (cv)

These are formed with full productivity by suffixing *-ana* to an active form and shifting stress rightward. The active prefix may be *aN-*, *i-*, *a-* as well as the result of prefixing them with reciprocal and causative affixes (plus a few others mentioned in passing below). CV verbs are used when a “subject” DP is oblique: locative, instrumental, temporal, manner,...

- 37 a. n.an.enjika azy amin'io fiara io Rabe  
pst.av.chase him.acc with that car that Rabe  
*Rabe chased him with that car*
- b. N+aN+enjika+ana+Rabe (nanenjehan-dRabe) azy io fiara io  
pst+[[av chase]+cv]+Rabe him.acc that car that  
*That car was used by Rabe to chase him (Rabe ≠ him)*
- c. nifanenjehan-dRabe sy Rakoto ireto fiara ireto  
pst.rec.av.chase.cv-R and R dem.pl car dem.pl  
*Those cars were used by R & R to chase each other in*
- d. ny fiara (izay) nifanenjehan-dRabe sy Rakoto the car(s) in which R & R chased each other  
the car (that) av+chase+cf.Rabe him

**Gen** Recall: only subjects relativize, etc. so we often illustrate cv with relative clauses

- 38 a. ny soa (izay) nifanaovantsika (n+if+aN+tao+ana+ntsika)  
*the good (that) was done by us to e.o.* pst+[[rec+av+do]+cv]+our.incl
- b. ny taratasy nifanoratan-dRabe sy Rasoana n+if+aN+soratra+ana+R&R  
the letters written to e.o by Rabe & Rasoana pst+[[rec+av+write]+cv]+R&R



pst cause-rec-bite-rec abs art clsf dog erg art child  
*The child made the two dogs bite each other*

e fe-faka-gakulu'aki a le sā toe  
 3 rec-cause-move.slightly'rec abs art clsf child  
*The two children made each other move a little*

In causatives of reciprocals, e.g. (42b), the antecedent of reciprocal *if* is the surface object, not the subject, which is the Agent of the causativized verb. This pattern holds for reflexives as well:

45. Nampamono tena an-dRabe ianao *You made Rabe kill/hit himself*  
 pst.caus.aN.kill self acc-Rabe 2s.nom

### 5.3 Causatives of Reciprocals take Passive-INA and Circumstantial-ANA

46 a. Tokony *h.amp.if.an.entan.ina* ve ny isan'ny olom-boafidy sy ny isan'ny mponina?  
 Should [fut+[[cause+[rec+av+entana]]+pv]] Q the number of officials elected and the number of the inhabitants be made to correspond to e.o.? (Nws92-95)

b. ny taratasy *nampifanoratan-dRabe* (n+amp+if+an+soratra+ana+gen.Rabe) ny zanany  
 the letters pst+cause+rec+av+soratra+cv-Rabe the children-his  
*the letter(s) that Rabe made his children write to each other*  
 (The letters that were caused by Rabe to be written by his children to e.o.)

c. ny teny vahiny *nifampianarantsika* (n + if+ amp + i + anatra + ana + ntsika)  
 the foreign lgs taught to each other by us pst+[[rec+caus+av+study]+cv+1pl.incl.gen]

NB: (46c) shows that reciprocals of causatives (-*amp*-) undergo Circumstantial Formation

### 5.4 Iterating Causative and Reciprocals?

(42a,b) show that causative creating AMP applies to active verbs built from reciprocal IF and conversely, so in principle they should iterate.

47 a. Nandaka (n+aN+daka) azy isika *We kicked him*  
 pst+av+kick 3acc we.incl  
 b. Nifandaka (n+if+aN+daka) isika *We kicked each other*  
 pst+rec+av+kick we.incl

c. Nampifandaka (n+amp+if+aN+daka) antsika Rabe  
 pst+cause+rec-af+kick us.acc.incl Rabe  
*Rabe made us kick each other* NB: The antecedent of *if* does not c-command it.

d. Nifampifandaka (n+if+amp+if+aN+daka) isika *We made each other kick each other*  
 pst+rec+cause+rec+av+kick we.incl

d'. N.if.amp.if.an.oratra taratasy fisaorana Rabe sy Rakoto (Built from 42a)  
 pst.rec.cause.rec.av.write letter thanks Rabe and Rakoto  
*Each of Rabe and Rakoto brought it about that the other had letters of thanks written*

e. N.amp.if.amp.an.oratra taratasy azy ireo aho (Built from 42b)

pst.caus.rec.caus.av.write letter 3acc dem.pl 1s.nom  
*I obliged them to have letters written to each other*

Educated non-linguists start pausing at (47d); structural linguists smile but do not reject it – it is well formed morphosyntactically and compositionally interpreted. So we count it grammatical, though it is pushing the performance boundary. Another example that was interpreted correctly with only modest exasperation was (47b). But (47c) seems clearly to cross the performance boundary:

- 48 a. Mampifanome vola an-dRabe sy Rakoto aho *I had Rabe and Rakoto give each other money*  
 pres.rec.give money acc-R and R 1s.nom
- b. M.if.amp.if.an.ome vola Rabe sy Rakoto *Each of R and R had the other given money*  
 pres.rec.caus.rec.av.give money R and R
- c. M.amp.if.amp.if.an.ome vola azy ireo aho *I made them each have the other given money*  
 pres.caus.rec.caus.rec.av.give money 3acc dem.pl I

### 5.5 Abstract Circumstantial Nominalizations f+Vcv

Nominalization of circumstantial verbs (preserving subcategorization and case marking of arguments) is highly productive. Reciprocal verbs fully participate; the reciprocal may have an Agent phrase antecedent or be abstracted to mean “mutual”.

- 49 a. Mifanolotra (m.if.aN.tolotra) f.an.omez.ana isan-taona isika *We offer e.o. gifts each-year*  
 pres.rec.av.offer nom.av.give.cv each-year we.incl
- b. Ho.tohizana ny fifanolorantsika (f.if.aN.tolotra.ana.ntsika) fanomezana isan-taona  
 fut.continued det nom.rec.av.offer.circ.our gifts each-year  
*Our mutual offering of gifts each year will be continued* (textual example)
- c. f.if.anka.tiav.ana ‘mutual love’; ny fifankatiavan-dRabe sy Rasoana  
 nom.rec.caus.love.cv det mutual love-gen.Rabe and Rasoana *R&R’s mutual love*
- 50 a. Nanameloka ny fifamonoana (f.if.aN.vono.ana) niseho tany Rwanda ny ONU  
 condemned the genocide nom.rec.av.kill.cv happened pst.there Rwanda det U.N.  
*The U.N. condemned the killings (which) happened in Rwanda*
- b. Ny fifandirana (f.if.aN.ditra.ana) ela loatra no tsy mampiroso ny dinika  
 det squabbling nom.rec.av.dispute.cv long too FOC not advance det careful.study  
*This continual squabbling hinders the deliberations* (lit: not make-advance = make not advance)
- c. Ny polisin’ny tanana no mandamina ny fifamoivoizana  
 det police’gen.det town FOC control det traffic (mutual going back and forth)
- d. Fifanampiana Malagasy ‘Malagasy Mutual Aid (Society)’ (F.if.aN.ampy.ana = nom.rec.av.aid.cv)

Morphological reciprocal verbs nominalize in Chicewa (Mchombo) and Futunan (Moïse-Faurie).

### 5.6 Reciprocal Predicates Coordinate

- 51 a... ny fanaovana fanasana [ifampiarahabana sy [ifampirariana soa]] amin'ny mpiara-miasa

aminy ... (newspaper example)  
 b... the doing of banquets in which they and their co-workers greet each other and wish each other well ...

52. Nifampiarahaba sy nitsiky izahay *We greeted each other and smiled*  
 greeted e.o. and smiled we.excl

### 5.7 Possessive Head Incorporation feeds Reciprocalization

Keenan & Ralalaoherivony 2000 discuss a highly productive process of Possessor NP Raising with incorporation of the head of the possessive DP incorporated into the predicate:

- 53 a. Tery [ny trano.nay] *Our house is cramped*      b. [Tery trano] izahay *We are house-cramped*  
 tight det house.our.excl      Tight house we.excl

Raising + Incorporation from Object also occurs productively and feed Reciprocal Formation:

- 54 a. Mandidy [ny nonon'i Soa] ny dokotera      b. [Mandidy nono] an'i Soa ny dokotera  
 av.cuts det breast'art Soa det doctor      av.cuts breast acc'art Soa det doctor

- 55 a. mandriotra ny volon'i Soa i Vao      b. mandriro-bolo an'i Soa i Vao  
 pres.act.pull det hair'art Soa art Vao      pull-hair acc'at Soa art Vao  
*Vao is pulling Soa's hair*      Vao is hair-pulling Soa

- c. mifandriro-bolo i Soa sy i Vao      *Soa and Vao are hair-pulling each other*  
 pres.rec.av.pull-hair art Soa and art Vao

Similarly we have: *nifanongotra nify Rasoa sy Ravelo* 'R&R reciprocally teeth pulled'; *mifankahita toetra Rasoa sy ny vadiny* 'Rasoa and her husband know each other's character'. We might further note that the incorporated possessive head is not fully fused with the host verb, and separates from it when the host verb is non-active and the Agent phrase is present:

- 56 a. Tsy fantatro izay ifandrоритан'ny zazavavy volo  
 not know.pass.1s comp rec.pull.cv'det young.women hair  
*I don't know why the women pulled e.o.'s hair*
- b. Nahagaga anay ny fifanongotan'izy ireo nify *Their mutual pulling of teeth surprised us*  
 surprised us det nom.rec.av.pull.cv'3dem.pl teeth
- c. Mampalahelo anay ny fifandrоритан'i Soa sy i Vao volo S & V's mutual hair-pulling saddened us  
 cause-sad us.acc det nom.rec.av.pull.cv Soa & Vao hair

There are cases however where a derived form is acceptable but the intermediate stage is not:

- 57 a. mifangala-bady (m.if.aN.halatra.vady) Rabe sy Ranaivo *R&R steal e.o.'s spouses*  
 rec. steal-spouse pres.rec.av.booty, spouse Rabe and Ranaivo

- b. \*mangala-bady an-dRanaivo Rabe *Rabe spouse-steals Ranaivo*

Nor is Raising+Incorporation totally free: the predicates created when Raising is from subject tend to be



independent of that of the matrix verb, which is passive (pv). This use of the DP boundary works in our more complex examples. Thus (59c) above, with all verbs circumstantial, is paraphrased by (60d) below:

- d. Omaly no nikasantsika [ny hifanampy hitsara ireo fanadinana ireo]  
 yesterday FOC intend.cv.our [det fut.rec.av.help fut.av.judge those exams those]

### 5.9 Cross clausal binding

- 61 a. Mampanantena an'i Koto ny zokiny fa ho azony ny valisoa (iriny)  
 cause.hope acc'art Koto det elder sibling comp fut receive.pass.3gen the prize (desired by him)  
*Koto promises his elder sibling<sub>j</sub> that the prize will be received by him<sub>j</sub>*
- b. Mifampanantena i Koto sy ny zokiny fa hahazo ny valisoa (iriny)  
 pres.rec.caus.hope art Koto and det elder sibling.his comp fut.av.receive det prize desired by him  
*Koto and his elder sibling promise each other that he (the other) will get the prize (he desires)*
- b'. Mifampanantena fa hahazo ny valisoa (iriny) i Koto sy ny zokiny  
 rec.hope that fut.receive the prize desired by him art Koto and det elder sibling of his
- b''. Mifampanantena hahazo ny valisoa (iriny) i Koto sy ny zokiny  
 rec.hope fut.receive the prize (desired by him) art Koto and det elder sibling of his

We are clearly just touching serious binding patterns here. Let us note cases where both the matrix and “lower” verb are reciprocal:

- 62 a. Manome toky Rabe fa hamelona an-dRasoa *Rabe promises that (he) will support Rasoa*  
 av.give trust Rabe comp fut.av.live acc-Rasoa
- b. Mifanome toky Rabe sy Raso fa hifamelona *R&R promise e.o. to support e.o.*
- c. Mifanome toky hifamelona Rabe sy Raso *R&R promise e.o. to support e.o.*

In addition Raising to Object (Paul and Rabaovololona 1998) feeds reciprocalization:

- 63 a. Miahiahy Raso fa manitsakitsaka azy Rabe *Raso suspects that Rabe is unfaithful to her*  
 suspects Raso that unfaithful to her Rabe
- b. [Miahiahy an-dRabe ho manitsakitsaka azy] Raso *Raso suspects Rabe of being unfaithful to her*  
 suspects acc-Rabe HO deceives her Raso
- c. Mifampiahiahy ho manitsakitsaka / mifanitsakitsaka Rabe sy Raso  
 rec.suspect HO deceive deceive e.o. Rabe and Raso  
*Rabe and Raso suspect each other of being unfaithful (to e.o.)*

### Interim Conclusion

Malagasy reciprocals are highly productive. They exhibit most if not all classical properties of being lexical, but also enter many syntactically productive paradigms. Thus our data do not support a universal Lexicon/Syntax parameter (contra Siloni 2012) nor do we see anything conceptually problematic about an operation that introduces bound morphology in the syntax and also has exponents in the lexicon.

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