

HISTORICAL CYCLES OF RECIPROCAL MARKING IN BANTU

AND THE POLYSEMY OF PROTO-BANTU *-AN

Koen Bostoen / Workshop on Cross-Linguistic Semantics of Reciprocals, 7-8 October 2019, Utrecht University





DEFINITIONS

- Prototypical <u>reciprocal</u> situation: a two-participant
 event in which A stands in a same relation to B as B to A; A acts on B as B on A: A>B; B<A (Lichtenberk 2000, Kemmer 1993, Heine & Miyashita 2008)
- Prototypical <u>reflexive</u> situation: a two-participant event in which a referential entity is predicated in relation to/acts on itself: A>A (Faltz 1985, Kemmer 1993, Heine & Miyashita 2008)



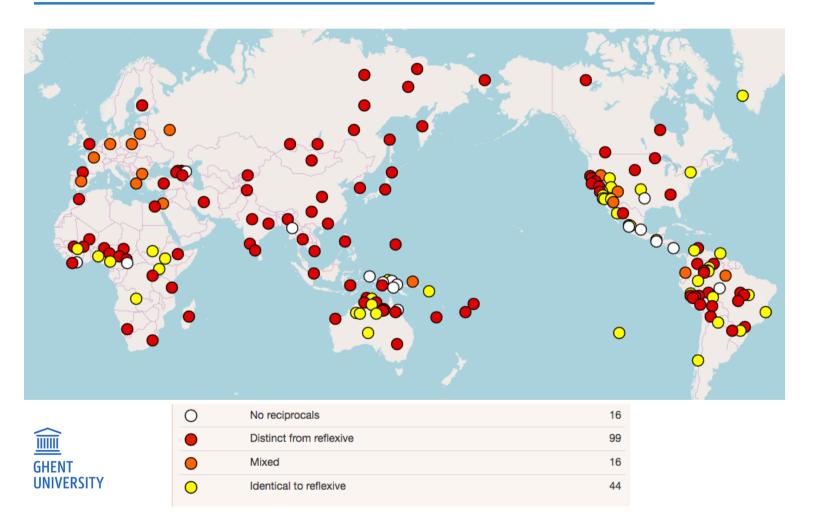
RECIPROCAL CONSTRUCTIONS

	Value	Representation
0	There are no non-iconic reciprocal constructions.	16
	All reciprocal constructions are formally distinct from reflexive constructions.	99
0	There are both reflexive and non-reflexive reciprocal constructions.	16
0	The reciprocal and reflexive constructions are formally identical.	44
	Total:	175



(Maslova & Nedjalkov 2013 – WALS)

RECIPROCAL CONSTRUCTIONS



BANTU

'[...] some languages are extremely polysemous while others are notoriously 'monosemous' in the expression of REFL, RECI, etc. [...] examples of the latter type are Bantu languages, where each of the various meanings looked at tends to be expressed by a different grammatical form.'

(Heine 2000: 19)



PROTO-BANTU

- Suffix *-an reconstructed in Proto-Bantu as a marker of reciprocity and associativity (Meeussen 1967: 92; Schadeberg 2003: 72; Schadeberg & Bostoen 2019: 182), a semantic category also known as "sociative-reciprocal" (Nedjalkov 2007)
 → occurs in same agglutinative slot of the verbal form as other voice-related derivational suffixes
- Prefix *i- (possibly *ji- or *jii-) reconstructed in Proto-Bantu as a marker of reflexivity (Meeussen 1967, Polak 1983) → occurs in same agglutinative slot of the verbal form as object markers



CHEWA

mi-kángó i-ku-phwány-<u>an</u>-a

4-lions 4SM-PRS-smash-<u>RECP</u>-FV

'Lions are smashing one another.'

m-kángó u-na-<u>dzí</u>-súpǔl-a

3-lion 3SM-PST-REFL-bruise-FV

'The lion bruised itself.'

(Mchombo 2004: 102-3)



THE BANTU -AN SUFFIX

- Across Bantu languages, reflexes of PB *-an are notoriously polysemous (Dammann 1954; Mugane 1999; Maslova 2007).
- They convey meanings as diverse as sociative/collective, reciprocal, natural collective, natural reciprocal, chaining, antipassive, intensive/extensive, iterative, comitative/ instrumental, body action middle, cognition middle, spontaneous event middle, potential, etc. (Bostoen et al. 2015).



Reciprocal

Sociative/collective
Natural collective
Natural reciprocal
Chaining
Antipassive
Intensive/extensive
Habitual
Iterative
Comitative/instrumental
Body action middle
Cognition middle
Spontaneous event middle
Mediopassive



Potential

Kiswahili

- a. *Kofi Annan a-me-kut-an-a na rais u-a Syria*Kofi Annan sc₁-pfv-find-recp-fv with president pc₁-con Syria
 'Kofi Annan has met with the president of Syria.'
- b. *Kofi Annan na rais u-a Syria wa-me-kut-an-a*Kofi Annan and president PC₁-CON Syria SC₂-PFV-find-RECP-FV
 'Kofi Annan and the president of Syria have met each other.'
- c. *Kofi Annan a-me-m-kut-a rais u-a Syria* Kofi Annan sc₁-pfv-oc₁-find-fv president pc₁-con Syria 'Kofi Annan has met/found the president of Syria.'

Kisikongo

ó-Nsìmbà bà-sìmb-àn-énè yè ò-Nzúzì
AUG₁-Nsimba sc₂-hold-RECP-PRF with AUG₁-Nzuzi
'Nsimba and Nzuzi have held each other.'

(Ndonga Mfuwa 1995: 351)

Reciprocal

Sociative/collective

Natural collective

Natural reciprocal

Chaining

Antipassive

Intensive/extensive

Habitual

Iterative

Comitative/instrumental

Body action middle

Cognition middle

Spontaneous event middle

Potential

```
Fang
```

```
'to go, leave together'
a. -kə
          'to go, leave'  > -ka-a 
   -dzán 'to disappear'
                            > -dzán-á 'to disappear together'
         'to escape'
                            > -fam-a 'to escape together'
   -fam
          'to die'
                                        'to die together'
                            > -wu-a
   -wu
                                         'to come, arrive together'
   -sź
          'to come, arrive' > -s\hat{\jmath}-\hat{a}
```

```
b. dzán-á
                 'disappear' (2sg)
```

'let's disappear (together)' (1PL) n-dzáŋ-á

dzán-á 'disappear (together)' (2PL)

záŋ-á mvú 'search the dog' (2sg)

*n-z*όη-ά mvú 'let's search the dog (together)' (1PL)

zán-á mvú 'search the dog (together)' (2PL)

(Bostoen and Nzang-Bie 2010: 1277)



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Potential



a. Cilubà

-aakana 'to fit, suit, convene; to encounter, face'

-fwàngana 'to discuss' RECP = -angan

-fwàna 'to resemble'

-pùùkana 'to find, meet, bump against; to succeed'

-sangana 'to find, meet'

(Kabuta 2008)

b. Kikwezo

guzăna 'to crush one another'

gúfwǎna 'to resemble each other'

gúmăna 'to disagree'

RECP = -angan

RECP = -agan

(Forges 1983: 286)

c. Luganda

-agalana 'to love one another'

-awukana 'to be different from each other'

-meggana 'to wrestle'

-faanana 'to resemble each other'

-kontana 'to contradict'

-kulana 'to grow up together'

-liirana 'to eat together'

-lwana 'to fight'

(UGent Luganda text corpus)²

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Kiswahili (G42)

Natural reciprocal verb stem *tukana* 'to insult' takes a direct object and allows for the productive reciprocal derivation *-tukanana* 'to insult each other' (Schadeberg 2004; Seidl and Dimitriadis 2003)

Hatukubali kumtukana Mungu... 'We do no accept to insult God...'

ha-tu-kubali ku-m-tukan-a Mungu NEG-SP_{1PL}-accept INF-OP₁-insult-FV God

(Sacleux 1930: 91)



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Bantu Lexical Reconstructions (Bastin et al. 2002)

```
'to meet, assemble'
                                        (< *-càng- 'to meet, find,
   *-càngan-
                                        assemble')
                'to abuse'
                                        (< *-t\display 'to abuse')
    *-tískan-
    *-dòngan-
                'to agree'
                                        (< *-dòng- 'to join by tying')
    *-gàban-
                'to divide up, share'
                                        (< *-gàb- 'to divide; give away')
   *-dìngan-
                'to be equal; resemble' (< *-ding- 'to measure, try; be
                                        equal')
   *-bóvdan- 'to palaver'
                                        (< *-bΰσd- 'to tell')
                                        (< *-ping- 'to exchange')
    *-pingan-
                'to exchange'
                                        (< *-dèk-'to let; let go; cease; allow')
   *-dèkan-
                'to part company'
    *-jángan-
                'to separate'
                                        (< *-jáng- 'to say no; refuse; hate')
    *-dàgan-
                'promise each other; make agreement'
                (< *-dàg- 'promise; foretell; say farewell; make testament')
   *-pàkan-
                'to be border on: to refuse, discuss'
    *-pàngan-
                'to agree'
   *-ióman-/
                'to quarrel'
m.
    *-jớman-
   *-pòman-
                'to meet'
   *-gitan-
                'to succeed to'
```

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Lingála

mí-tuka mísátu e-tút-án-í

NP₄-car three sc_{3PL,INAN}-hit-RECP-PRF

'Three cars have bumped into one another.'

(M. Meeuwis, p. c.)

Luganda

o-sobol-a o-ku-kozes-a e-bi-uma ATM SC_{2sg}-can-FV AUG₁₅-NP₁₅-use-FV AUG₈-NP₈-machine ATM

e-bi-yung-an-a mu ggwanga li-onna

 AUG_8 -PC8-connect-ASSOC-FV LOC_{18} NP5.nation PC5-whole

'You can use ATM machines that are connected to one another in the whole nation.'

(UGent Luganda text corpus)



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Kisongye

- a. $b\grave{a}$ - $mp\grave{u}lush\grave{i}$ $ab\grave{a}$ -yip-an-a bi- $k\grave{i}le$ bu- $k\grave{u}fu$ NP_2 -police SC_2 -kill-ANTIP-FV NP_8 -much NP_{14} -night 'The police often kill at night.'
- b. $b\grave{a}$ - $mp\grave{u}lush\grave{i}$ $ab\grave{a}$ -yip-a ba- $ng\grave{i}fi$ bi- $k\grave{i}le$ bu- $k\grave{u}fu$ NP_2 -police SC_2 -kill-FV NP_2 -thief NP_8 -much NP_{14} -night 'The police often kill thieves at night'

(L. Kadindula, p. c.)

Kirundi

*a-ma-hwá a-ra-zibur-an-a*AUG₆-NP₆-thorn SC₆-PRS.DISJ-prick-ANTIP-FV
'Thorns prick (people)'

(F. Mberamihigo, p. c.)



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```
Lomongo
```

```
-s\acute{a}- 'to complain' > -s\acute{a}-an- 'to complain (intensively)' 

-k\acute{m}- 'to follow' > -k\acute{m}-an- 'to follow (intensively)' 

-b\acute{a}- 'to prevent' > -b\acute{a}-an- 'to prevent (intensively)' 

-s\acute{a}- 'to squeeze' > -k\acute{a}-an- 'to squeeze (intensively)' 

-s\acute{u}- 'to penetrate' > -s\acute{u}-an- 'to intervene' 

(Hulstaert 1965: 254)
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(Huistaert 1905, 2)

Lomongo

- a. tó-kamb-an-a l'olemo
 - sc_{1pL} -work-int-fv with.np3.work
 - 'We are assiduously dedicated to work.' ('Nous sommes assidument appliqués à travailler.')
- b. á-kət-an-a l'otámbá
 - sc₁-cut-int-fv with.np₃.tree
 - 'He is dedicated to the cutting of a tree.' ('Il est appliqué à couper un arbre.')
- c. bá-sool-an-a la li-soló
 - SC2-converse-INT-FV with NP5-conversation
 - 'They are deep into a conversation.' ('Ils sont enfoncés dans la conversation.')
- d. á-kím-an-a la wibi
 - sc_1 -follow-int-fv with NP1.thief
 - 'He follows the thief.' ('Il poursuit le voleur.')

(Hulstaert 1965: 253)

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Ikela

- a. \acute{a} - $\acute{k}\acute{a}$ dang-an-a da n-nyama $_{SC_1}$ -fry-INT-FV with NP $_9$ -meat 'He always fries meat.'
- b. a- $p\acute{o}$ - $k\acute{a}d\acute{a}ng$ - $\acute{a}n$ - \acute{e} da n-nyama sc_1 -neg-fry-int-neg with np_9 -meat 'He never fries meat.'

(Forges 1977: 94–95)

Isixhosa

kwezi lokishi si-phefuml-an-a n'o-moya o-nuka-yo kuba ... at townships sc_{1PL} -breath-hab-fv with. NP_3 -air sc_3 -stink- REL_3 because ... 'We constantly breathe in bad air in the townships because ...'

(Satyo 1992)



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Ngangela

- a. $nan\acute{a}$ $n-a-t\acute{u}k-an-a$ $va-nik\varepsilon$ my.mother sc_1 -PRF-insult-IT-FV NP_2 -child 'My mother has repeatedly insulted the children.'
- b. li-n>si-a-sim-an-a si-n-site-si-snake sc₅-pRF-s-site-si-s

(Zavoni 2003: 227)



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Duala

 \acute{n} aka e ma-bol-an-ε mondó ó pang-an-ε ngingi NP9.cow SC9 PRS-do-INST-FV NP3.tail to chase-INST-FV NP10.mosquito 'The cow uses its tail to chase away mosquitos.'

(Helmlinger 1972: 399)



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Kinyarwanda

- a. u-mu-góre a-ra-kôr-a akazi n' \hat{u} -mw-eête ${}_{AUG_1-NP_1}$ -woman ${}_{SC_1-PRS}$ -work-FV work with ${}_{AUG_3-NP_3}$ -enthousiasm 'The woman is working with enthusiasm.'
- b. u-mu-góre a-ra-kôr-an-a akazi \hat{u} -mw-eête ${\rm AUG_1}$ - ${\rm NP_1}$ - ${\rm woman}$ ${\rm SC_1}$ - ${\rm PRS}$ - ${\rm work}$ - ${\rm COM}$ - ${\rm FV}$ ${\rm work}$ ${\rm AUG_3}$ - ${\rm NP_3}$ - ${\rm enthousiasm}$ 'The woman is working with enthusiasm.'

(Kimenyi 1988: 369)

Kinyarwanda

- a. gu-hing-an-a n' \hat{u} -mw- $\hat{a}na$ NP_{15} -cultivate-ASSOC-FV with AUG_1 - NP_1 -child 'To cultivate with a child (who is cultivating too).'
- b. gu-hing-an-a \hat{u} -mw- \acute{a} na NP_{15} -cultivate-COM-FV AUG_1 - NP_1 -child 'To cultivate with a child (who is not cultivating, e.g., while carrying it on the back).'

(Coupez 1985: 15)

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Fang

- a. Body action middles
 - -láb-á 'to dirty oneself, get dirty' (< -láp- 'to spatter')
 - -tsim-a 'to wipe one's arse'
 - -fɔl-a 'to change oneself, to change clothes'
 - *-wɛg-a* 'to have a rest, relax
 - -wúr-á 'to huddle up, flinch, wince'
 - -wúr-á 'to screw up (eyes), blink, frown (eyebrow), wrinkle (nose)'
 - -mɔŋ-a 'to twist, sprain (wrist, ankle)'
 - -kɔr-a 'to fold (arms, hands), cross (legs)'
 - -yág-á 'to crawl (baby), drag oneself along the ground'
 - -zil-a 'to get closer to something, approach'
- b. Cognition/emotion middles
 - -yá-á 'to get angry'
 - -zob-a 'to regret; to be embarrassed by unpleasant news, be sad'
 - -sím-á 'to remember, think'
- c. Anticausative verbs
 - -vu-a 'to grow in number, to multiply, to increase'
 - -kal-a 'to spread (intr.)'

(Bostoen and Nzang-Bie 2010: 1279–1280)

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Orungu

 $-\beta ur ana$ 'to bend (intr.)' < $-\beta ur a$ 'to bend (tr.)'

 $-\beta$ àndyànà 'to scatter (intr.)' < $-\beta$ àndyà 'to scatter (tr.)'

-yìrànà 'to flow' < -yìrà 'to pour'

-wàndyànà 'to get wounded' < -wàndyà 'to wound, hurt'

(Ambouroue 2007: 188)



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a. *-pòman- 'to be dark'

b. *-dàngan- 'to lie down'

c. *-kànkan- 'to shake (intr.)'

d. *-jàkan-'to be sufficient'

e. *-cakan-'to be restless; shake (intr.)'

f. *-kúman-'to be honoured; be(come) (< *-kúm- 'to be honored;

rich' rich')

g. *-càngan- 'to be(come) mixed' h. *-kuman- 'to be many, enough' (< *-càng- 'to mix')

(cf. *-kớm- 'to heap, gather')

(cf. *- $p\dot{v}m$ - 'to be blind')

(< *-kànk- 'to shake (intr.)')



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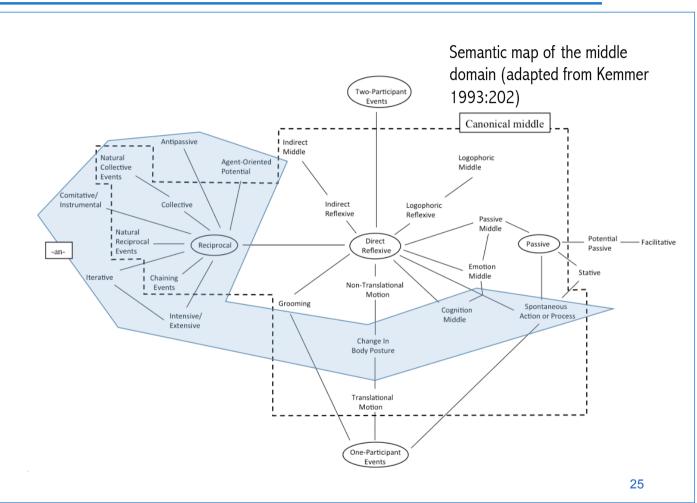
Luczazi

- a. -túk-an-a 'be capable of reviling' < -túka 'revile' -síng-an-a 'be capable of placing a curse on' < -sínga 'place a curse on'
- b. -súmang-an-a 'suffer from rabies' < -súmanga 'bite repeatedly' -táng-an-a 'be bewildered, confused'

(Fleisch 2000: 137)

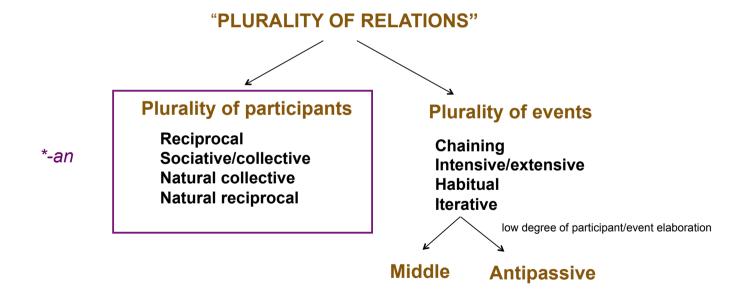
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"There is plurality of relations in an overall situation (event, state, etc.) if what can be considered to be basically one and the same relation holds more than once either between one or more participants and the event/state they are involved in, or between the relevant entities." (Lichtenberk 2000:34)

- · Plurality of participants/Co-participation: reciprocal
- Plurality of events: antipassive + iterative





DOUBLE RECIPROCITY MARKING IN BANTU

- Kemmer (1993: 102-108) proposes a typology based on the distinction between prototypical and naturally-reciprocal events;
- Type 3: "In a third type of language, a single RCPM [reciprocal marker] is used to express both naturally reciprocal and ordinary reciprocal events. This type might be termed the Changana type as such markers occur in Changana and a number of other Bantu languages.";
- Several Bantu languages do have two RECP markers, especially within West-Coastal and South-West Bantu;
- They rather correspond to Kemmer's <u>Type 2</u>.



KEMMER'S TYPE 2

- "A second type of language [...] has not one, but two overt forms to express reciprocal event types [...] which will be referred to as **two-form reciprocal languages** [bold in original], or Hungarian type languages for convenience." (Kemmer 1993: 103)
- "[A]s in languages of this type in general, one of the two reciprocal forms is "heavier" than the other in the sense that it has a greater number of phonological segments and/or forms its own lexical root. [...] The other reciprocal form in such languages has less phonological weight, in other words it has fewer phonological segments and is cliticized or bound to a lexical root (generally the verb)." (Kemmer 1993: 103)
- "In these languages, the heavy marker is used productively with ordinary transitive verbs to express reciprocal semantics. It is not required with verbs of naturally reciprocal semantics, which characteristically take the light form; where it does appear with such verbs, its function is often emphatic/contrastive." (Kemmer 1993: 105)



KEMMER'S TYPE 2

```
a. Herero (R31)

-mun-asan-a 'see each other' < -muna 'see'

-zep-asan-a 'kill each other' < -zepa 'kill'

b. Kwanyama (R21)

-deng-afan-a 'hit each other' < -denga 'hit'

-umb-afan-a 'shoot (at) each other' < -umba 'shoot (at)'

c. Haya (JE22)

-bon-angan-a 'see each other' < -bona 'see'

d. Luba (L31a)

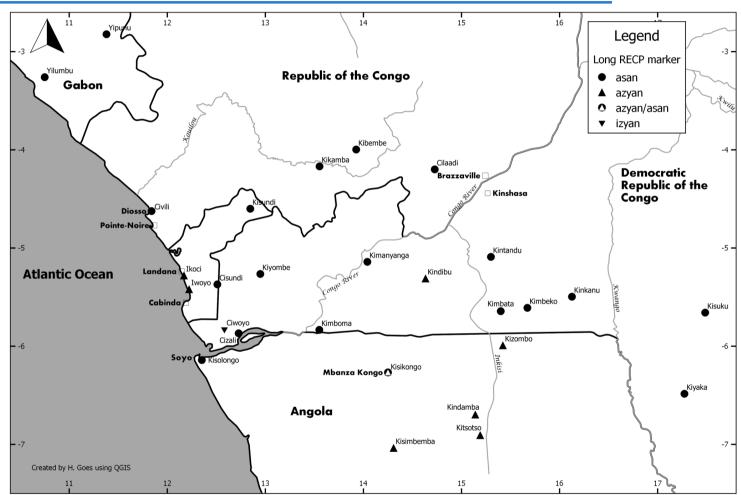
-mon-angan-a 'see each other' < -mona 'see'

(Dammann 1954: 165)
```



Heavy RECP markers including which are historically compound and include the Proto-Bantu suffix *-an

HEAVY RECP MARKERS IN THE KLC





DOUBLE RECP MARKING IN THE KLC

Kinkanu (H16g) [East]³

Biboba bíbak^héntu **bikunasananga** masangú (bawu ye báwu).

bi-boba bi-ba-N-kentu bi-kun-**asan**-ang-a ma-sangu bawu ye bawu 8-old.person 8-2-1-woman SP8-plant-RECP-HAB-FV 6-millet they and they

'The old women often plant millet for each other.'

(KongoKing 2012, fieldwork by S. Dom)

Ciwoyo (H16d) [West]

Bôbá ba bacyentó kunizyana betikunizyana mpyanza.

Ø-boba ba ba-cyento Ø-kun-izyan-a ba-iti-kun-izyan-a

2-old_person CONN2 2-woman 15-plant-RECP-FV SP2-HAB-plant-RECP-FV

N-pyanza

9-cassava

'The old women often plant cassava for each other.'

(KongoKing 2012, fieldwork by S. Dom)



DOUBLE RECP MARKING IN THE KLC

Kizombo (H16h) [South]

Aana **amonane** vazandu.

a-ana a-Ø-mon-**an**-idi va-Ø-zandu

2-child SP2-CPC-see-RECP-CPC 16-9-market

'The children saw each other at the market.'

(Fernando 2013: 49)

Kimbeko (H16g) [East]

Bana bakéntu babóli sí **bamonana** kuna nzo nkanda.

ba-ana ba-kentu ba-boli si ba-mon-an-a kuna N-zo Ņ-kanda

2-child 2-woman 2-two FUT SP2-see-RECP-FV LOC17 9-house 3-book

'The two girls will meet each other at school.'

(KongoKing 2012, fieldwork by S. Dom)



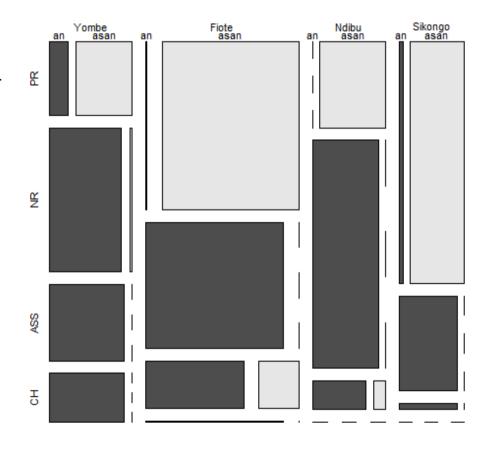
DOUBLE RECP MARKING IN THE KLC

Corpus-driven multiple logistic regression analysis

the heavy RECP suffix (light grey) is overwhelmingly used for prototypicalreciprocal situations

-an (dark grey) for natural-reciprocal and associative situations

variant ~ variety + function.





HEAVY RECP MARKER IN PROTO-KIKONGO

NGB	?	KNY	?	YK	asan		
PN asan		HGL	?	SK	asan		
LMB asan		LD	asan	E-KK			
SW-KIKO	NGO	DND	?	NTD	asan		
VL ₁	asan	SND ₂	asan	NKN	asan		
VL ₂	?	MNY	asan	MBK	asan		
YMBI	?	NDB	azian	MBT	asan		
YMBE ₁	asan	S-KIKONGO					
YMBE ₂	?	MBM	asan	DMB	azyan		
WY ₁	izyan	SL ₁	asan	TST	azyan		
WY ₂	azian	SL_2	?	SBM	asyan		
SND ₁	asan	SK	azyan/a	PMB	?		
			san				
LNJ ₁	?	ZMB	azyaan	DHG	?		
LNJ ₂	?						
ZB	?	PROTO-KIKONGO					
KC	azian	*-izyan-					



HEAVY RECP MARKERS IN SOUTH-WEST BANTU

Kimbundu	(H21a)	-ažan	Kwezo	(L13)	-angan
Lucazi	(K13)	-asian	Kete	(L21)	-angan
Luvale	(K14)	-asan	Luba-Kasai	(L31a)	-aŋan
Lwalwa	(L221)	-asyan	Luba-Katanga	(L33)	-angan
Salampasu	(L51)	-asyan	Lunda	(L52)	-añan
Kanincin	(L53)	-azyaan	Kaonde	(L41)	-añan
Kwanyama	(R21)	-afan	Songye	(L23)	-een/-ijeen
Ndonga	(R22)	-athan	Luba-Hemba	(L34)	-izyen
Herero	(R31)	-asan	Ruund	(L53)	-ijaan



REFL/RECP POLYSEMY IN SW BANTU

Mashi (K34) (Bostoen field notes 2005-2007)

a. ka-tú-cí-mon-ine rero

NEG-SM1PL-RECP-see-COMPL today

'We have not seen each other today.'

b. tu-a-cí-wan-ang-a mu mota

SM1PL-PRS-RECP-find-HAB-FV LOC18 car

'We usually meet (i.e. find each other) in the car.'



REFL/RECP POLYSEMY IN SW BANTU

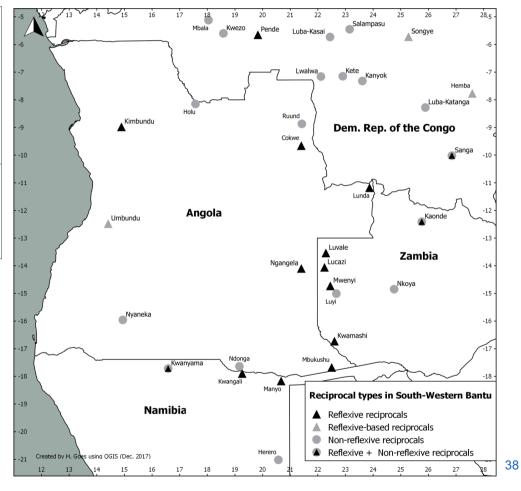
Mashi (K34) (Bostoen field notes 2005-2007)

- a. N-vu na N-dambí á-cí-kok-ire 9-hippo сом 9-elephant SM2-RECP-pull-COMPL 'The hippo and the elephant pulled each other.'
- b. tu-cí-mon-e n' oyu ka-rumba sm1pl-recp-see-sbJV com dem1 12-hare 'We should meet with this hare.'
- c. na-ní-cí-wan-a n' enji
 PST-SM1SG-RECP-find-FV COM POSS₁
 'I met with him.'
- d. na-ní-mú-wan-a PST-SM1SG-OM1-find-FV 'I met/found him.'



REFL/RECP POLYSEMY IN SW BANTU

Kimbundu	(H21a)	di-/ri-/li-	Sanga	(L35)	i-
Cokwe	(K11)	li-	Kaonde	(L41)	i-
Ngangela	(K12)	li-	Lunda	(L52)	di-
Lucazi	(K13)	li-	Umbundu	(R11)	li-
Luvale	(K14)	li-	Kwanyama	(R21)	li-
Luyana-West	(K30)	ku-	Songye	(L23)	i:een
Mbukushu	(K333)	ku-	Luba-Hemba	(L34)	iizyen
Mashi	(K34)	cí-	Umbundu	(R11)	li STEM REDUPLICATION





BANTU CYCLES OF RECP MARKING INNOVATION

	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4	Stage 5
Prototypical reciprocity	-an	-VCan	-VCan	REFL (C)i-	REFL (C)i-
Natural reciprocity	-an	-an	-VCan	-VCan	-VCan / REFL (C)i-
Other middles (sometimes antipassive)		-an	-an	-an	-an

Proto-Bantu Proto-Kikongo

South-West Bantu





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