

24.961 Fall 2002 Problem Set 1: Selayarese

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 restrictions on the distribution of the consonants? What generalizations can be made about the gross prosodic (syllabic) shape of words? Stress and vowel length 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; <sup>m</sup>b, <sup>n</sup>d, and <sup>ŋ</sup>g are prenasalized stops. ]

bénte	popcorn	sá:po	house
bá:tu	rock	tú:nu	burn
tá:ma	come in	ŋá:seŋ	all
ɲá:maŋ	delicious	pú:la	island
pí:so	knife	lámpa	go
bú:laŋ	moon, month	katíntiŋ	thorn
ʔandéŋka	throw	sikú:ra	how many?
sássaʔ	lizard	tó: <sup>n</sup> doʔ	fence
kaʔmú:ru	nose	pihá:li	answer
kalihá:ra	ant	karú:a	eight
pó:ke	spear	kánre	food
gó:loʔ	dagger	pú:eʔ	grandfather
séʔla	salt	sampú:lo	ten
jéʔneʔ	water	dá:reʔ	monkey
bó: <sup>m</sup> baŋ	wave	bómbaŋ	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
ndá:tala	pursue	síŋkulu	elbow
hállasa	suffer	salú:ara	pants
tú:lusugo	straight	maŋká:sara	macassar
ká:tala	itch	kasíssili	mosquito
lámbere	long	bé:rasa	rice
rámmasa	dirty	tú:lisi	write

páʔrisipainful		kí:kiri	metal file
sússulu	burn	sá:ⁿgara	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.	ló:he	many
lambé:raŋ	longer		lohé:aŋ	more
lu:ára	wide	cf.	páʔja	salty
luá:raŋ	wider		paʔjá:ʔaŋ	saltier
hállasa	suffer	cf.	rúppa	face, meet intrans.
halla:si	make suffer		ruppá:i	confront
aʔbó:toro	gamble	cf.	tínro	sleep
paʔbotó:raŋ	casino		patinró:aŋ	bedroom, bed

[4] Words with anomalous stress inflect differently before the possessive suffixes. Suggest a possible explanation.

sahá:la	sea cucumber	sá:hala	profit
sahalá:ku	my	sahalákku	
sahalá:mu	your familiar	sahaláʔmu	
sahalá:ta	your honorific	sahalátta	
sahalá:ba	our exclusive	sahaláʔba	
sahalá:na	his	sahaláʔna	

[5] 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
kálás	ká:lasa	class
bérás	bé:rasa	rice
kábal	ká:bala	cable
kíkir	kí:kiri	metal file
kípas	kí:pasa	fan

[6] What does your analysis predict for the stress in the following loanwords? If necessary, revise your rules.

kártu	kará:tu	card
súrɡa	surú:ɡa	heaven
bákri	baká:ri	personal name
sólder	solodé:re	weld
kórnél	koroné:le	corner kick in soccer
kárcis	karatí:si	ticket