

# Languages

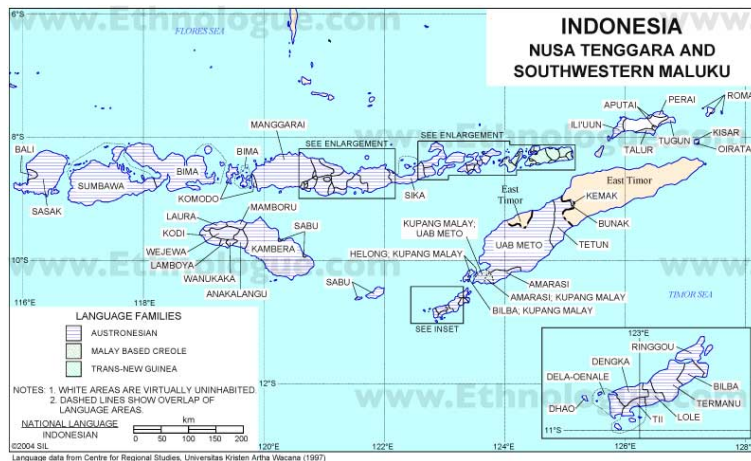
## Voice in the Languages of Eastern Indonesia: A Preliminary Glance at Discourse

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- Flores
  - Lio (CEMP, Central Flores)
  - Ngadha (CEMP, Central Flores)
- Sumbawa
  - Bima (CEMP)
- Lombok
  - Sasak (WAn, Bali-Sasak-Sumbawa)
    - Selong dialect
    - Bonjeruk dialect

# Locations



# Data

- frog stories
- personal narratives
- folk tales
- conversations

## Relevant Constructions

- Fronted patient construction (PF)

Lio

jendela kai tutu

window 3sg close

He closed the window

Ngadha

dia ja'o mu'a gha

this 1sg find PERF

I've found him

## Lio, Ngadha

- Basic Transitive Construction

Lio

kai deo ero

3rd catch bee

He caught a bee

Ngadha

go rua di lele go lako

ART bee PRT chase ART DOG

The bees chased the dog

## Bima

- Basic transitive clause

Hanta=na lako=na de

Lift=3sg dog=3sg that

He picked up his dog

sia nenti kai ra saranggo haju

3sg grasp APPL PERF branch tree

He grabbed the branch of a tree

- Oblique Agent (PF)

Lako=na ra coco wali 'ba ani ma mboto  
 Dog=3sg PERF chase CONT OBL bee REL  
 many

The dog was being chased by a bunch of bees

eda lalo kai 'ba sia doho re so'bu ani  
 See suddenly APPL OBL 3<sup>RD</sup> PL DEM hive  
 bee

They suddenly saw a bee hive

- Fronted Patient (PF)

Karefa=na (e)de tau=na 'di toples  
 Frog=3sg DEM put-3sg in jar  
 That frog of his, he put in a jar

## Sasak, Bonjeruk dialect

- Basic transitive clause

daet=n tetontel-tontel=n  
 meet=3SGA frog=3SGA  
 He found his frog

moq mu=n kapung=ah  
 then PST=3SGA embrace=3SGP  
 Then he embraced it (his dog)

Pade bojak le pang:tontel setoah  
 3PL look:for frog DEM  
 They looked for that frog

- Passive

te-kakoq elaq=n siq nyiuq etoah  
 PASS-bite tongue=3SG OBL bee DEM  
 His tongue was stung by that bee

- Fronted patient (PF)

sepatu=n mu=n balik:belah,

shoe=3SG PST=3SGA overturn

He turned his shoes upside down

- Oblique actor (PF)

deman lalok=n gitak siq Seman iku

like very=3SGA see OBL NAME DEM

He likes to be seen by that Seman

## Sasak, Selong dialect

- Oral transitive clause

Iye toloq le pang no leq dalem toples

3SG put frog DEM in inside jar

He put the frog in the jar.

te=pete=ye teh becat!

1PL=look=3SGP DM quickly

Let's look for him, come on, quickly!

- Nasal transitive clause

Iye m-eliharaq le pang kence acong,

3SG N-take:care:of frog and dog

He owns a frog and a dog

teh te=m-eta=ye teh

DM 1PL=N-look:for=3SGP DM

Come on, let's look for him, come on

- Passive

acong=ne te-paleq-paleq siq lebah ino

dog=3SG PASS-chase-chase OBL bee

DEM

His dog was being chased by those bees

- Fronted patient (PF)

kasur=ne wah bongkar=ne,

pillow=3SG PERF take:apart=3SGA

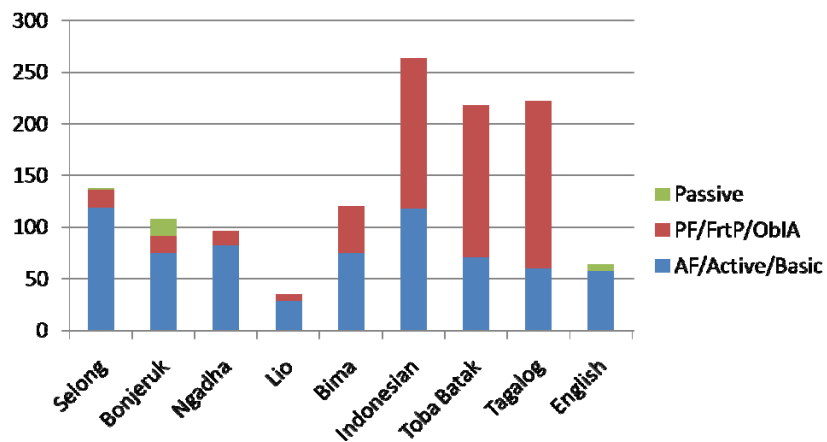
He had pulled his pillows apart

- Oblique agent (PF)  
 paleq=ne eku siq lebah ino,  
 chase=3SGA 1SG OBL bee DEM  
 I'm being chased by these bees

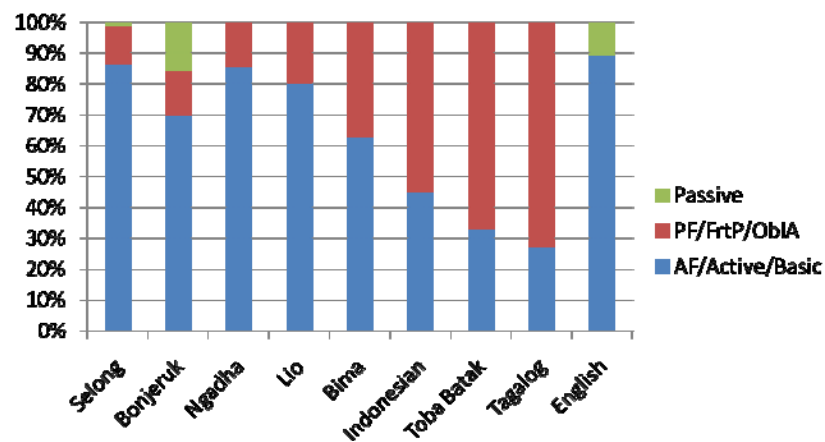
## Research Questions

- To what degree do these constructions behave like a WAN focus system?
- How do they differ from a WAN focus system?

### Frequency – Raw Numbers



### Frequency - Percentages



## Discourse Transitivity

- High transitivity
  - Realis
  - Telic
  - Kinesis
  - Volition
  - Foreground
  - Individuated patient
- Low transitivity
  - Irrealis
  - Atelic
  - No kinesis
  - No volition
  - Background
  - Unindividuated patient
- Associated constructions
  - Active voice
  - PT
- Associated constructions
  - Passive
  - AT

## Expectations

- If non-basic clauses are functionally PF, will be higher in discourse transitivity than basic clauses
  - These expectations are not always borne out even in exemplary focus languages
- If basic clauses are still functionally AF, will rarely have individuated patients
  - This expectation is borne out in exemplary focus languages

## Summary of findings for discourse transitivity

- Verbal/clausal parameters rarely show expected correlations
- Patient individuation does not show expected correlation
  - but distribution is skewed in ways that might be a reflection of a correlation at an earlier stage

## VERBAL MEASURES OF TRANSITIVITY - LIO

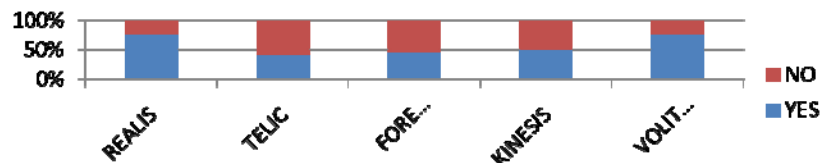


Chart 1: Basic Transitive Clauses

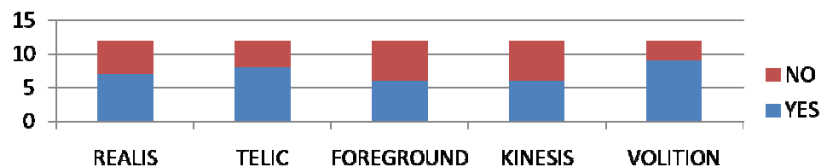


Chart2: Patient Initial Clauses

## VERBAL MEASURES OF TRANSITIVITY - NGADHA

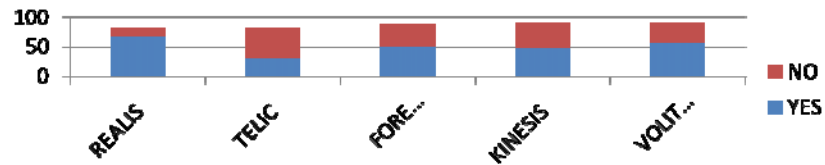


Chart 1: Basic Transitive Clauses

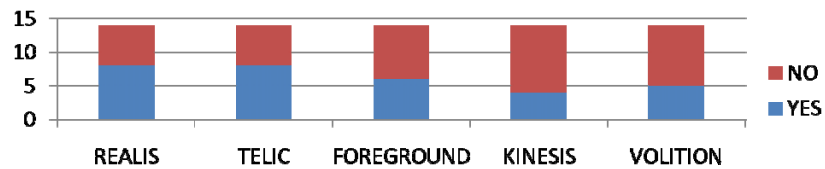


Chart 2: Patient Initial Clauses

## VERBAL MEASURES OF TRANSITIVITY - BIMA

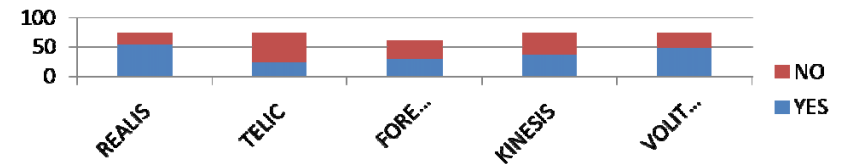


Chart 1: Basic Transitive Clauses

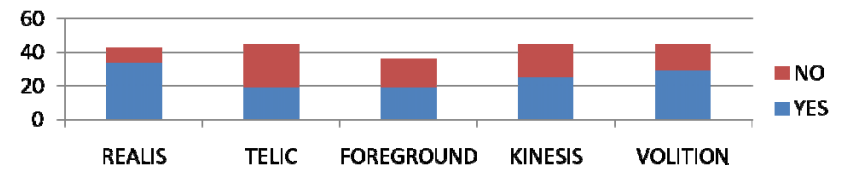
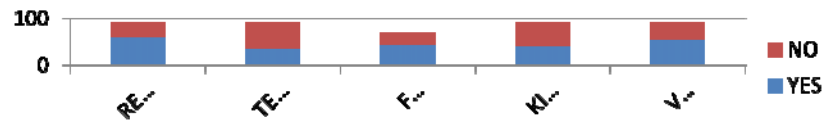


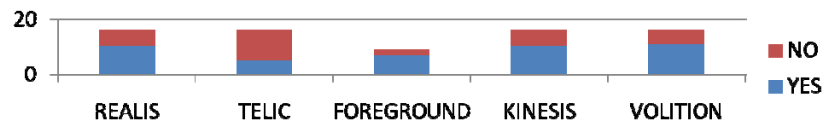
Chart 2: Patient Initial and Oblique Agent Clauses

## VERBAL MEASURES OF TRANSITIVITY – SASAK, BONJERUK DIALECT

### BASIC TRANSITIVE CLAUSES



### FRONTED PATIENT & OBLIQUE AGENT CLAUSES

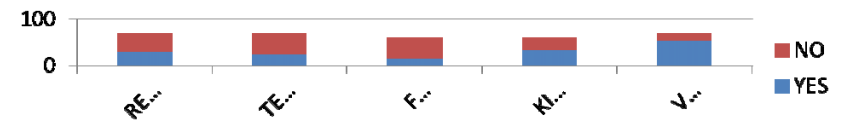


### PASSIVE



## VERBAL MEASURES OF TRANSITIVITY – SASAK, SELONG DIALECT

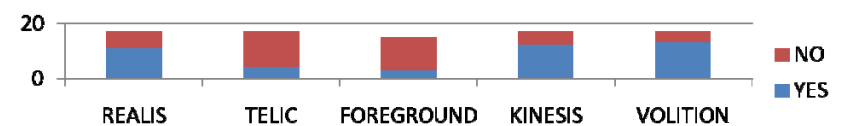
### ORAL TRANSITIVE CLAUSES



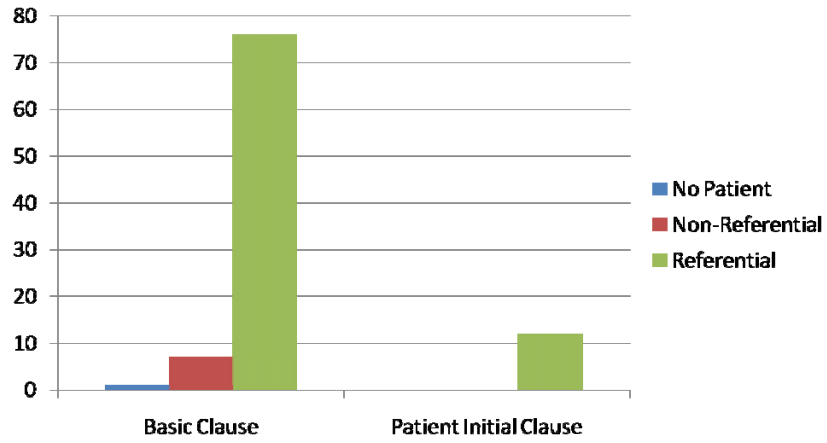
### NASAL TRANSITIVE CLAUSES



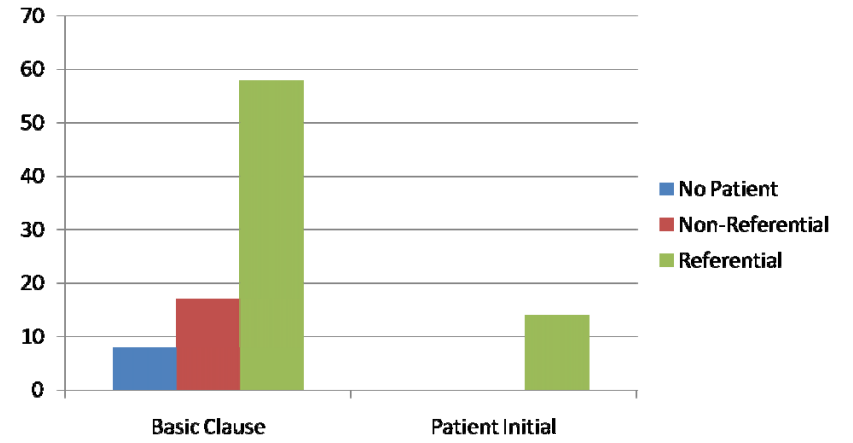
### FRONTED PATIENT & OBLIQUE AGENT CLAUSES



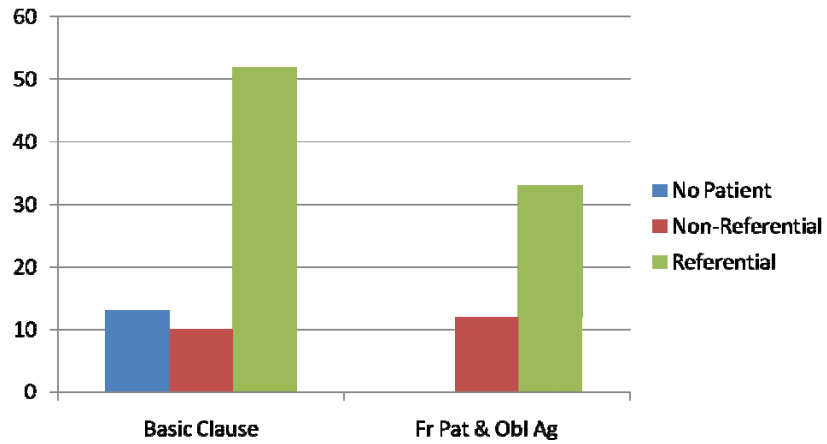
### Patient Status - Lio



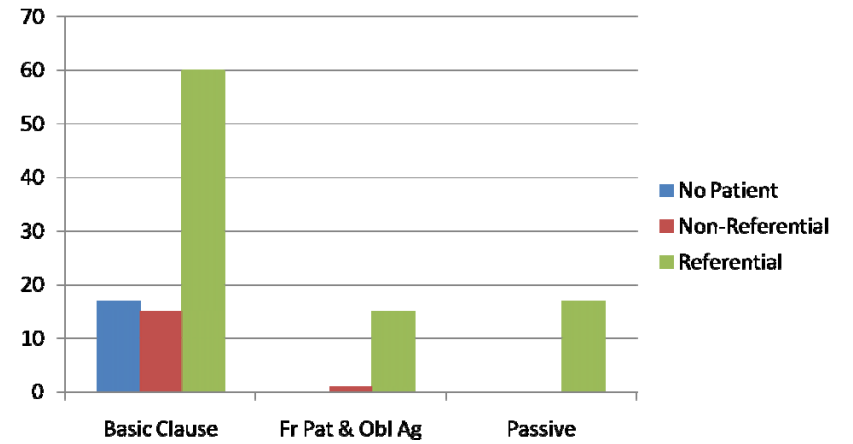
### Patient Status - Ngadha



### Patient Status - Bima

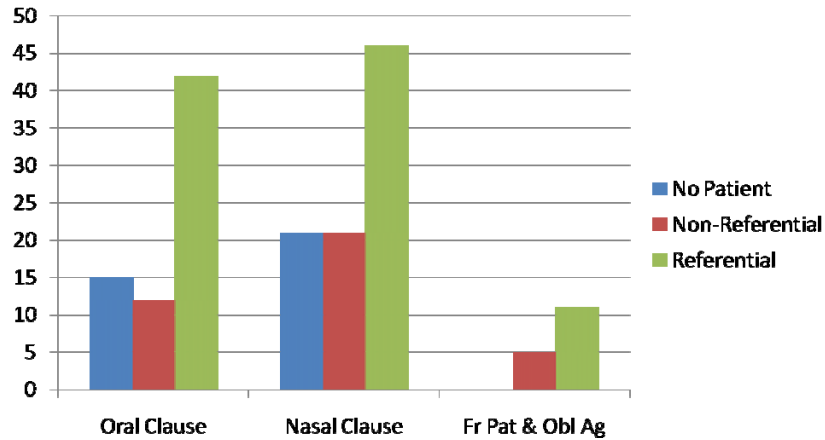


### Patient Status – Sasak, Bonjeruk Dialect





## Patient Status – Sasak, Selong Dialect



## Topicality

- Measures of Topicality
  - Lookback: how far back is the previous mention of the referent
    - Shorter distance = higher topicality
    - Longer distance = lower topicality
  - Persistence: how many times is the referent mentioned in the next 10 clauses
    - More mentions = higher topicality
    - Less mentions = lower topicality

- Topicality and Voice

|                 |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Active/Ergative | actor > patient  |
| Inverse         | actor < patient  |
| Passive         | actor << patient |
| Anti-passive    | actor >> patient |

- focus systems

AF is considered anti-passive  
 PF is considered ergative

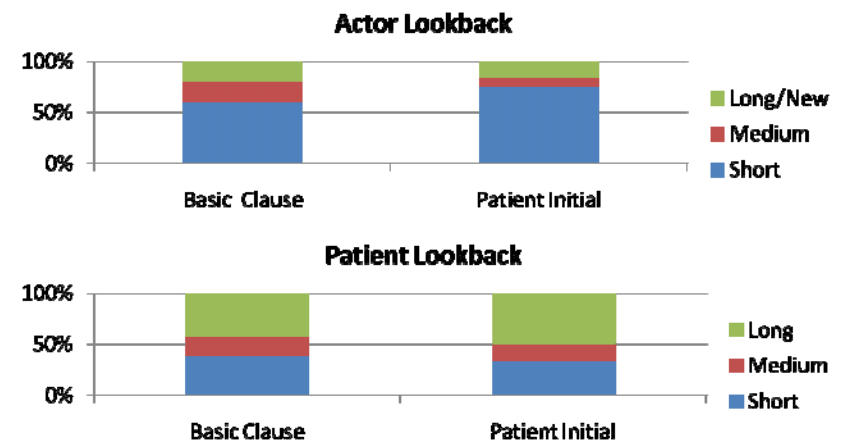
## Expectations

- If this is a focus system
  - basic clauses should be antipassive
  - non-basic clauses should be ergative
- so in both clause types
  - actor should be more topical
  - difference should be greater in basic clauses
- patient should be more topical in non-basic than in basic clauses

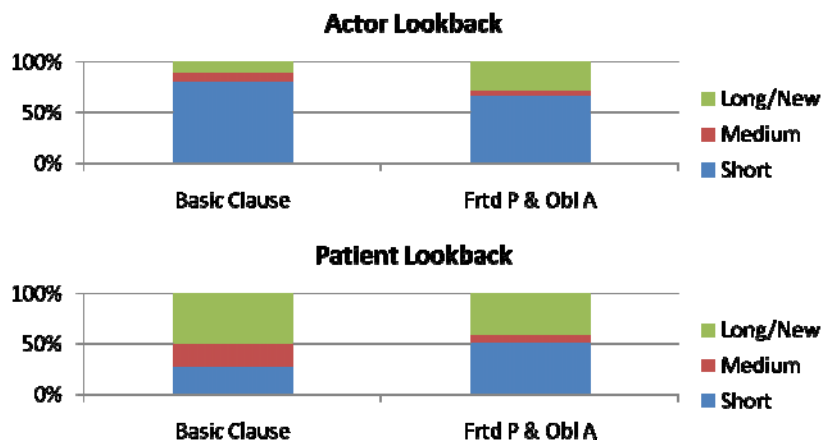
## Summary of findings for lookback

- Lookback does not show expected pattern of actor/patient relationship in most languages
  - Lio, Ngadha, Sasak – Selong Dialect, Sasak – Bonjeruk dialect
- Lookback does show patients in non-basic clauses to be (slightly) more topical than patients in basic clauses in most languages
  - Bima, Ngadha, Sasak – Selong Dialect, Sasak – Bonjeruk dialect

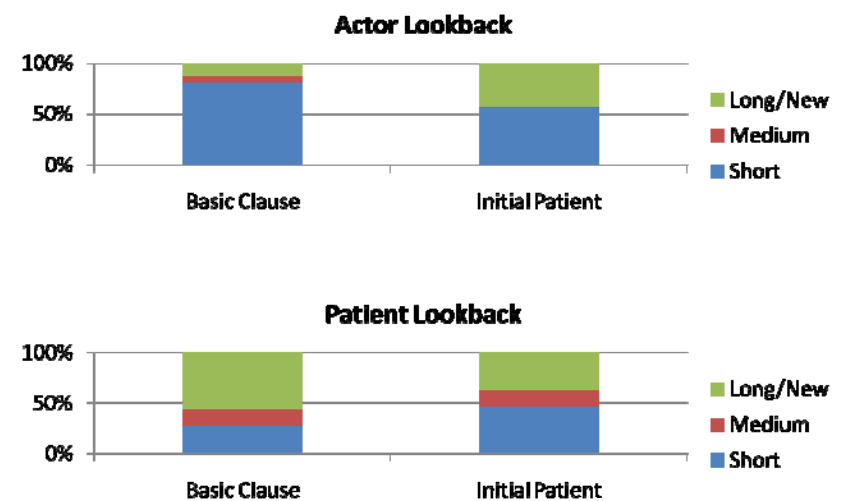
## Lookback - Lio



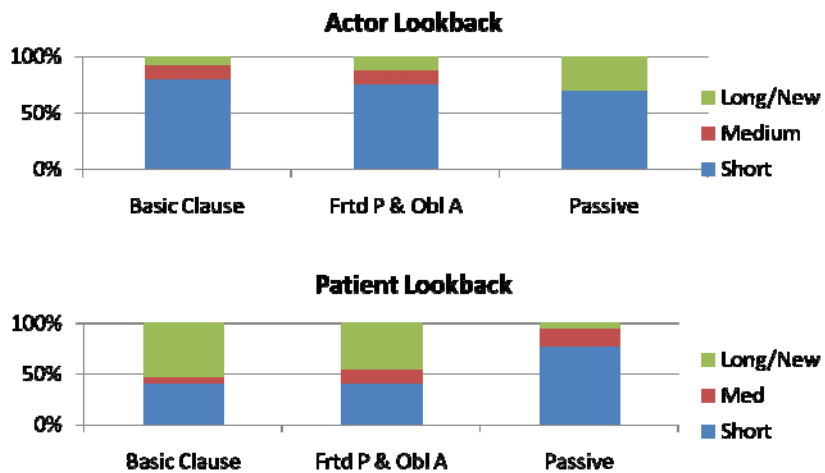
## Lookback - Bima



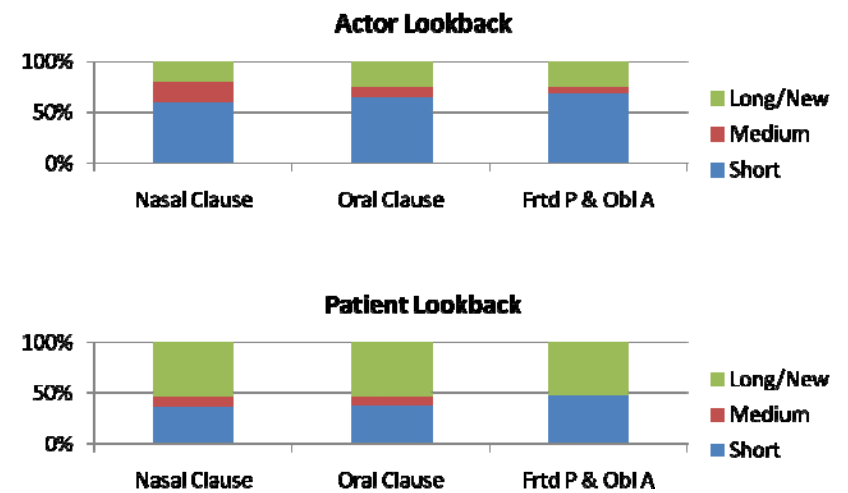
## Lookback - Ngadha



## Lookback – Sasak, Bonjeruk Dialect



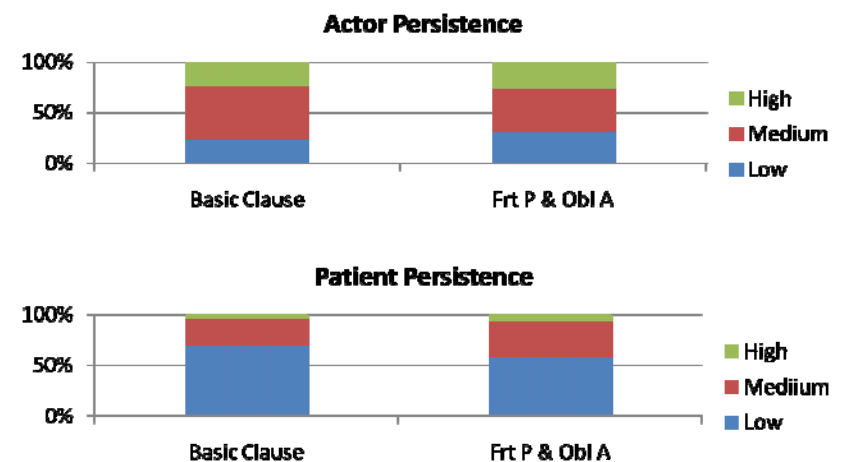
## Lookback – Sasak, Selong Dialect



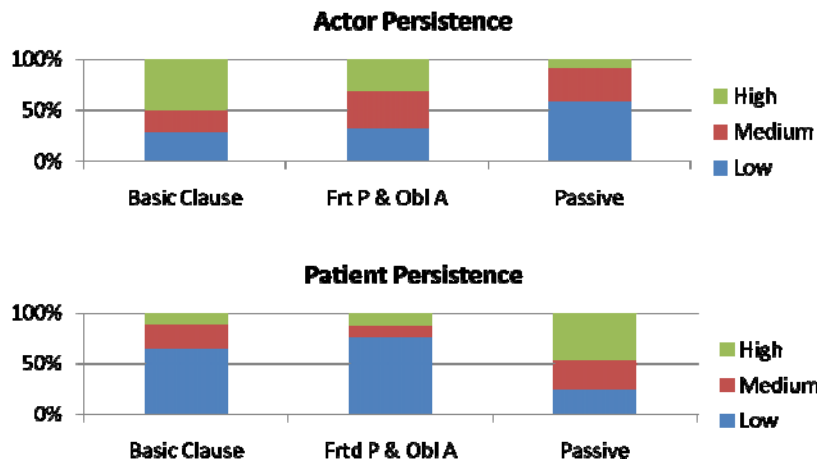
### Summary of findings for persistence

- Persistence shows the expected pattern of actor/patient relationship in some languages:
  - Ngadha, Bima, Sasak – Selong dialect
- Persistence shows patients in non-basic clauses to be more topical than patients in basic clauses in some languages
  - Lio, Bima, Sasak – Selong dialect

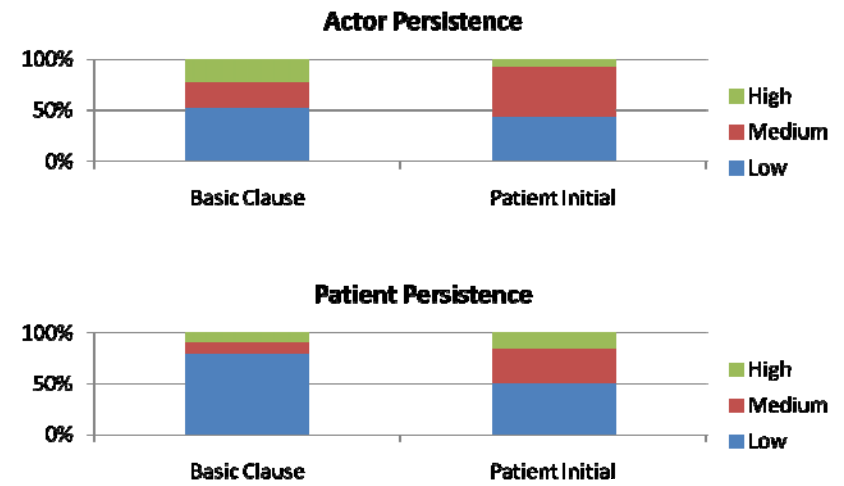
## Persistence - Bima



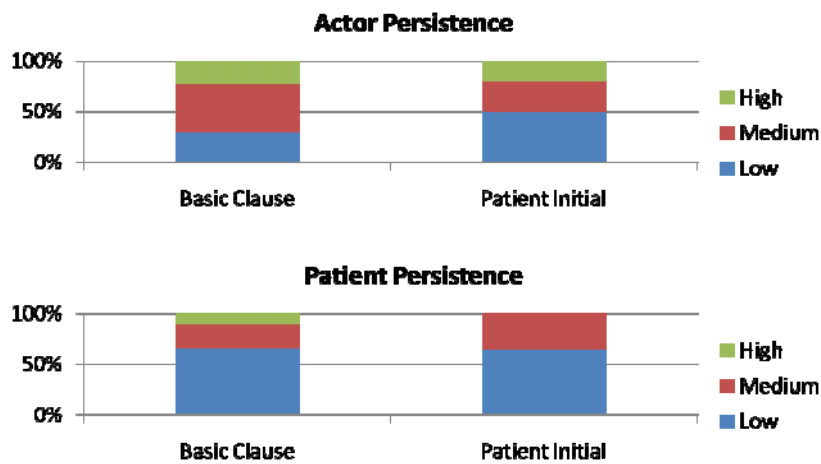
## Persistence – Sasak, Bonjeruk Dialect



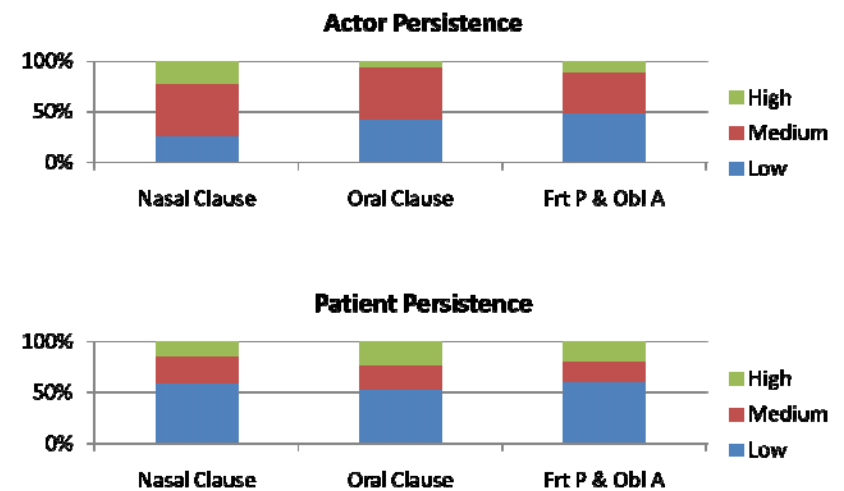
## Persistence - Lio



## Persistence - Ngadha



## Persistence – Sasak, Selong Dialect



## Conclusion

- Basic clauses are clearly not comparable to AF
  - Rather, they are ordinary active clauses
- Fronted Patient and Oblique Agent clauses do show some traces of PF functions
- Bima is the language that shows the most similarity to the old system, both in frequency and in function

## The Next Step

- Add more data for all languages
- For languages with more than 2 constructions, look at each construction individually
  - Patient initial vs oblique actor vs both
- Look into other ways of determining topicality
- Look for other possible functions for various constructions

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