

# Complex predicates and activity incorporates in Athapaskan languages

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## I. Introduction

### 1. Complex predicate

‘The term complex predicate is used to designate a construction that involves two or more predication elements (such as nouns, verbs and adjectives) which predicate as a single element, i.e., their arguments map onto a monoclausal syntactic structure.’ (Butt 2003: 1-2)

In complex predicates, each component contributes information normally associated with the head.

### 2. The verb word in Athapaskan languages

The verb word of an Athapaskan language is morphologically complex: preverb-incorporate-quantifier-pronominal-qualifier-aspect-subject-voice/valence-stem

### 3. Complex predicates in Athapaskan languages: some examples

#### a. Causatives: The addition of an argument (ɬ)

Koyukon (All Koyukon material is from Jetté and Jones 2000)

too daadle-tsəhtl

water

‘Water made a splashing sound.’ 650

too de-ɬ-tsəhtl

‘S/he caused water to make a splashing sound.’

Ahtna (All Ahtna material is from Kari 1990)

nen’ ghighi-na’

earth

‘The earth is shaking.’ 288

ɬts’ii ts’abaeli dghe-ɬ-naa

wind tree

‘Wind is moving the trees.’ 288

#### b. Middle voice: low elaboration (d, l)

Koyukon

yalaatl-ghaanh

‘He killed it/him, he beat him up.’ 227

laa-l-ghaanh

‘He got killed; he is aching all over from overexertion.’ 227

Ahtna

ighi-ghaanh

‘S/he made them.’ 130

a-d-ghaanh

‘They were made.’ 130

- c. Quantifiers (distributive, customary): An interaction with situation aspect  
 Koyukon distributive  
 heneeno  
 ‘They made camp.’ achievement n- 460  
 neeneenehelno’  
 ‘They made, set up camps.’ accomplishment s- 460  
 Ahtna customary  
 nic’anikaen ‘S/he paddled away from shore.’ achievement n- 672  
 nic’aghikaes ‘S/he paddled away from shore customarily.’ activity gh- 673
- d. Preverbs and secondary aspect: An interaction with situation aspect  
 Koyukon  
**no-ghee-’onh** ‘S/he handled, moved, carried compact O down.’ activity gh- 780  
**no-ghee-yo** ‘S/he came down (from upstairs, down off something).’ activity gh- 476  
**ho-le-’onh** ‘S/he carried compact O up a slope.’ accomplishment l- 782  
**ho-l-yo** ‘S/he went up (to the top of) the bank.’ accomplishment l- 251  
**no-nee-’onh** ‘S/he carried compact O across. achievement n- 783  
**no-nee-yo** ‘S/he walked across.’ achievement n- 476  
 Ahtna  
**ni-kaen** ‘S/he went by boat, paddling.’ achievement n- 671  
**te-z-kaen** ‘S/he started out by boat.’ inceptive accomplishment s- 671  
**ke-z-kaen** ‘S/he paddled ashore.’ accomplishment s- 673
4. Evidence that the above enter into complex predicates with the verb stem
- Two (or more) predication elements are involved.
    - The functor predicates (causative, middle) have an effect on argument structure.
    - Preverbs, quantifiers, and secondary aspect have an effect on event structure.
  - The elements are involved in a monoclausal structure.
    - There is a single set of arguments within the verb word.
    - There is a single marking for situation and viewpoint aspect within the verb prefixes.
5. The current topic: activity incorporates  
 A few examples
- Koyukon  
**sel-ghe-z-ol-deł**  
**cry-qualifier-1plS-progressive-1 voice/valence-plural go**  
 ‘We are going along shouting.’ 730

- b. Ahtna  
ʔu-sel-d-a-l-deʔ  
 around-shout-qualifier-progressive-1 voice/valence-plural go  
**sel** ‘shouting’ 455  
 ‘They (mosquitoes) are whining about’ 145
- 6. Questions
  - a. What is the morphology and syntax of activity incorporates?
  - b. Do they contribute to a complex predicate?
- 7. Findings
  - a. Unlike the pieces of complex predicates illustrated in (3), activity incorporates do not contribute information about argument structure or event structure independently.
  - b. Activity incorporates appear to pose a problem for the identification of the verbal head of the complex predicate, creating problems for uniquely identifying the verb stem and for determining morpheme order.
  - c. However, activity incorporates are morphologically noun stems rather than verb stems.
  - d. Thus, the positioning of activity incorporates does not pose a problem for the ordering of morphemes, but is predictable based on phonological and semantic principles
  - e. Activity incorporates pattern parallel to body part incorporates in requiring middle voice marking.
- 8. Structure of the talk
  - a. The morphosyntax of activity incorporates
  - b. The ordering problem posed by activity incorporates
  - c. The category of activity incorporates
  - d. A solution to the ordering problem
  - e. The structure of a verb word with an activity incorporate: activity incorporates and middle voice

## II. Activity incorporates illustrated

- 9. Incorporation of activities is possible into verbs of going, verbs of location/position, and some verbs of saying.
- 10. Verbs of motion
  - Koyukon (Jetté and Jones 2000)
  - k’eleek-ghe-do-l-kkaaʔ**  
 song-qualifier-qualifier-progressive-1 voice/valence-paddle  
 k’eleek ‘sing, song’  
 ‘He is paddling along singing’ 321
  - he-**k’eleek-ghe-daa-ghe-ge-kkaaʔ**  
 upstream-song-qualifier-qualifier-progressive-1 sgS-paddle  
 k’eleek ‘sing, song’  
 ‘I sing while canoeing upstream.’ 385

**sel-ghe-z-ol-deł**  
cry-qualifier-1plS-progressive-1 voice/valence-plural go  
'We are going along shouting.' 730

**ggũhtl-h-oł-dełtl**  
running-3plS-progressive-pl. go  
ggũyhtl 'running' (only in derivatives of this theme)  
'They are running along, racing' 211

Ahtna (Kari 1990)

**na-c'udyiis-de-l-yaa**  
back-whistle-qualifier-1 voice/valence-singular go  
c'u-d-yiis 'whistle'  
'He returned whistling.' 439

**łu-hdogh-d-a-l-yaał**  
around-potlatch speech-qualifier-progressive-1 valence-singular go  
kołdogh 'he is making a potlatch speech' 156  
'He is walking around while making a potlatch speech' 424

**i'dliis-h-d-a-l-deł**  
song-3plS-qualifier-progressive-1 voice/valence-plural go  
i'dliis 'song'  
'they are going along singing' 1990, 145

**łu-duut-d-a-l-deł**  
around-chatter-qualifier-progressive-1 voice/valence-plural go  
duut- 'chattering sound, call of sandhill crane' 158  
'They (flock of geese, cranes) are going about honking, chattering' 145

**neke-duut-d-a-l-deł**  
circle-chatter-qualifier-progressive-1 voice/valence-plural go  
duut 'chattering sound, call of sandhill crane'  
'They (cranes) are flying in a circle calling' 158

**łu-sel-d-a-l-deł**  
around-shout-qualifier-progressive-1 voice/valence-plural go  
sel 'shout, shouting' 455  
'They (mosquitoes) are whining about' 145

**dzuuggi ti-seł-d-ghe-l-ggaac**  
princess out-shout-qualifier-aspect-1 voice/valence-singular go  
seł 'shout, shouting'  
'The princess ran out shouting.' 455

Slave (Rice 1989)

**k'ina-shine-de-da**  
around-song-qualifier-singular go  
shin 'sing, song'  
'S/he walks around singing' 656

**ní-dloe-d-é-tlah**  
 terminative-laugh-qualifier-aspect-singular/dual go  
 dlo 'laugh'  
 'S/he arrived laughing' 656  
  
**k'ína-'uyi-de-da**  
 around-whistle-qualifier-singular go  
 'uyi 'whistle'  
 'S/he walks around whistling' 657  
  
**k'ína-'eji-sele-d-a-ḷe**  
 around-run-shout-qualifier-perfective-singular/dual go  
 seh, -zélé 'shout'  
 'S/he ran around shouting' 656  
 [Note that 'eji is also an incorporate, 'running']  
  
**k'e-jíe-ts'e-t-'oh**  
 preverb-hook-unspecified subject-voice/valence-go by water  
 jí 'hook'  
 'S/he trolls with line and hook.' Howard 1990: 41

Carrier (Morice 1932 II)

**ne-tlo-d-ez-ya**  
 preverb-laugh-qualifier-aspect/1sgS-sg. go  
 tlo 'laugh'  
 'I laugh walking' 143  
  
**ne-cen-d-es-aiḥ**  
 preverb-sing-qualifier-aspect-1sgS-go  
 cen 'sing, song'  
 'to walk singing, to sing walking' 131

11. Verbs of saying (only a few verbs appear to occur incorporates)

Koyukon

**ḷeekaa yetlaa-de-l-ghus**  
 dog bark-qualifier-3S-l voice/valence-holler  
 yetlaa 'barking' 564  
 'The dogs are barking, are making a clamor barking.' 259, 564  
  
**tseghe-he-d-o-l-ghos**  
 cry-3plS-qualifier-perfective-l voice/valence-holler  
 tseghe 'cry'  
 'They cried.' 259

Ahtna

**tsax-do-l-ghos**  
 cry-2plS-l voice/valence-make noise  
 tsax 'cry'  
 'You pl. are crying' 207  
 cf. del-ghos 'They are having fun, shouting' 206

da-**ts'uux**-gh-a-l-yaet  
 above-shriek-qualifier-aspect-l valence-talk  
 ts'uux shriek  
 'They baby birds) are sitting up above shrieking.'  
 nee-**dlugge**-he-d-aa-l-ghos  
 terminative-laugh-3plS-qualifier-perfective-l voice/valence-holler  
 'They went there laughing.' 259

Slave

**see**-de-gha  
 cry-qualifier-3S-make noise  
 see 'cry'  
 'They are howling.'

## 12. Verbs of position/location

Koyukon

taa-**ge<sup>h</sup>tl'**-etl-do  
 in water-fish hook-3S-perfective-singular sit  
 ge<sup>h</sup>tl' 'fish hook, jigging hook'  
 'He is angling for fish, sits fishing with a hook.' JJ 2000, 143

**dlukk**-ghe-daa-dle-do  
 laugh-qualifier-qualifier-l voice/valence-singular sit  
 dlukk 'laugh'  
 'He is sitting down laughing.' JJ 2000, 143

**tsegh**-ghe-daa-dle-do  
 tsegh 'cry'  
 'She is sitting down crying.' JJ 2000, 143

Ahtna

**dzii**-d-ghe-s-daa  
 dzii- 'inner ear' 167, whisper 173  
 'He is sitting listening.' 133

Slave

**na-tse**-de-we  
 ?-cry-qualifier-? [na-we 'singular stand']  
 tse 'cry'  
 'S/he stands crying' (Rice 1989, 656)

Carrier

**cen**-di-z-ta  
 cen 'sing, song'  
 'to sit singing, to sing while sitting' (Morice 1932 II: 130)  
**tso**-di-z-yin  
 tso 'cry'  
 'to weep while standing up, to stand up weeping' (Morice 1932 II: 130)

urwe-**tlo**-uvez-ta  
 tlo ‘laugh, laughter’  
 ‘to mock while sitting by’ (Morice 1932 II: 143)

13. Properties of activity incorporates: Relationship with the verb stem
  - a. The verb stem and the activity incorporate share a subject.  
 \*I walked in while you were singing.
  - b. The verb stem and the activity incorporate are simultaneous events.  
 ‘Combined-Action Verbs. These express the simultaneous performing of two actions: that of going, rendered by the verb, and another performed while going, and rendered by an accidental [i.e. incorporate] prefix.’ Jules Jetté, JJ 2000: 703.  
 \*I walked in after I sang.                      \*I sang after I walked in.
14. A brief introduction to aspect
  - a. Aspect is marked in several places in the verb of Athapaskan languages.
  - b. Stem forms change depending on aspect. (Ahtna)
 

durative imperfective	tsah	‘he is crying’ 374
durative perfective	ghi-tsaex	‘he was crying’
durative customary	’es-tsiix	‘I customarily cry’
  - c. Activity incorporates do not vary in form depending upon aspect, but are constant.
  - d. Situation aspect is marked by prefixes. (Ahtna)
 

activity	<b>ghi</b> -tsaex	‘he was crying’ 374
accomplishment	<b>ze-t</b> -t’aes	‘I roasted it’ 347
achievement	<b>ni</b> -yaa	‘he arrived’ 422
  - e. Viewpoint aspect (imperfective, perfective, [optative]) is marked by prefixes.
15. Properties of activity incorporates: Aspect
  - a. Situation aspect is determined by the verb stem and not by an incorporate.  
 Slave  
**tse**-the-da  
 tse ‘cry’; cf. the-da ‘s/he sits’; yj-tse ‘s/he cries’  
 ‘s/he sits crying’  
 ‘sit’ has s- situation aspect; ‘cry’ has gh-; ‘sit crying’ has s-
  - b. Preverbs are part of the situation aspect system; activity incorporates are not.  
 Ahtna  
 ti-**se**t-dghelggaac  
 ‘She ran out shouting.’ 455  
     ti- ‘out’ requires n- situation aspect  
     ‘shout’ occurs with gh- situation aspect  
     This verb has n- situation aspect.

Slave

ní-**dloē**-dētla

‘S/he arrived laughing.’ 656

ní- terminative requires n- situation aspect

laugh occurs gh- situation aspect

This verb has n- situation aspect.

16. Properties of activity incorporates: relationship to preverbs and quantifiers
- a. ‘Whenever it is necessary to add thereto the iterative *na-*, pluralitive or continuative *ne-*, progressive *le-*, or any such particle, these are placed not immediately before the conjugable part of the compound, as happens with other verbs, but invariably before the incorporated word.’ (Morice 1932 II: 130)

Carrier

na-**cen**-diz-yal

back-song-qualifier-1sgS-singular go

cen ‘sing, song’

‘to be returning while singing’ 131

hwe-**cen**-dez-yaih

away-song-qualifier-1sgS-singular go

‘to go away singing’ 131

ekha.-**cen**-dethez-yaih

out-song-qualifier-1sgS-singular go

‘to set out for the hunt singing’ 131

ne-**cen**-diz-kuh

terminative-song-qualifier-drive

‘to stop driving while singing’ 131

Ahtna

na-**c’udyiis**-del-yaa

‘He returned whistling.’ 439

- b. The iterative (‘back’ reading) affects the event defined by the preverb and the verb stem, not the event defined by the activity incorporate.
- c. Preverbs and the verb stem form a unit together semantically to the exclusion of the activity incorporate.
17. Summary
- a. Activity incorporates do not introduce argument structure.
- b. Activity incorporates do not play a role in the aspect system.

### III. A problem: the predictability of morpheme ordering

18. Ordering of morphemes
- preverb – quantifier – **incorporate** – direct object – deictic subject – qualifier – situation aspect – viewpoint aspect – subject – voice/valence – stem [root-aspect]



19. Predicting morpheme order
- Core idea: The verb stem is essentially linearized in the wrong place, and forms a syntactic and semantic constituent with preverbs. Morphemes to the right have scope over those to their left.
  - Three major factors play a role in achieving the surface order of morphemes:
    - Phonological: Affixes are grouped together by phonological shape. Phonologically incomplete/subminimal affixes (direct object-voice/valence) attach to the head; phonologically complete affixes (preverb-incorporate) are further from the head. This creates two major phonological zones of prefixes.
    - Semantic/Syntactic: Within a phonological zone, ordering relations are overall semantically/syntactically based.
    - Templatic: Within a phonological zone, ordering is idiosyncratic if no relationship, semantic or syntactic, exists between morphemes.
20. The problem  
If both the verb stem and the activity incorporate are verb stems, what is the head for purposes of affixation?

#### IV. Properties of activity incorporates: category

21. The verb stem  
Verb stems include templates and suffixes that indicate aspectual classes of various sorts (e.g., Leer 1979)

Koyukon kkaa 'to paddle, dig' (root) 320

	imperfective	perfective	future	optative
neuter	kkaanh	kkaa'	kkaa'	kkaa'
momentaneous	kkayh, kkaa'	kkaanh	kkaał	kkaał
perambulative	kkaayh	kkaanh	kkaak	kkaak
distributive	kkaa'	kkaanh	kkaał	kkaał
continuative	kkaa	kkaanh	kkaał	kkaał
multiple	kkaayh	kkaanh	kkaayh	kkaayh
customary	kkaayh	kkaak	kkaak	kkaak
persistentive	kkaah			
progressive	kkaał			
durative (dialects differ)	kkaah	kkaanh	kkaał	kkaał

22. Activity incorporates and verb stems
- Activity incorporates are not necessarily identical to roots.
  - Activity incorporates are not identical to any particular verb stem form. These incorporates are, by and large, activities (as opposed to accomplishments and achievements); they are often identical to the stem called the durative imperfective, but not all verbs for which there is an incorporated form have such a stem form.

- c. Examples from Koyukon: incorporates, roots, and verb stem forms
- ‘cry’  
 incorporate: tseh; tseghe- (with sit, holler)  
 root: tsaah 617  
 verb stems with same form as incorporate: durative imperfective, future, optative; semelfactive imperfective; persistive future, optative; neuter independent noun form: tseh
- ‘laugh’  
 incorporate: dlukk; dlugge- (with holler, no examples with positionals)  
 root: dlukk 158  
 verb stems with same form as incorporate: neuter imperfective, durative imperfective, conclusive imperfective, momentaneous perfective, persistive perfective  
 independent noun form: dlukk 159
- ‘shout’  
 incorporate: zel-, sel-, zele’ (with holler, no examples with positionals)  
 root: zeeł 729  
 verb stems with same form as incorporate: reversative imperfective, future, optative; neuter imperfective  
 independent noun form: no independent noun given
- ‘sing’  
 incorporate: k’eleek 385  
 root: lee  
 verb stems with same form as incorporate: (leek) multiple future, optative, customary perfective, future, optative  
 independent noun form: k’eleek, -k’eleege’
- ‘eat’  
 incorporate: k’onh ‘eating’ 327  
     A derived root from k’e+onh ‘eat’ 316 (k’e- unspecified object)  
 root: on 285  
 verb stems with same form as incorporate: none [vowel-initial in verb]  
 noun form: k’onh [k’onh aade dzaan k’egheeyo ‘he went all day without eating.’]
- ‘running’  
 incorporate: ggųyhtl 211  
 root: ggok ‘sg., du. runs’ 211  
 verb stems with same form as incorporate: progressive  
 noun form: no independent noun form

‘hook’

incorporate: gełtl 187

root: gełtl 186

verb stems with same form as incorporate: neuter, semelfactive,  
consecutive, durative imperfective; momentaneous perfective, future  
independent noun form: gełtl, -gełdle’

‘whistle’

incorporate: yooyeesk; also yooleesk, yoozeek 685

root: yeesk ‘whistle’; cf. yeek ‘spirit, health; yeets ‘breath’

verb stems with same form as incorporate: onomatopoeic

noun: yooyesk (no examples given)

d.

Ahtna

‘cry’

incorporate: tsax-, tsagh- 374

root: tsax, tsagh

verb stems with same form as incorporate: tsagh - durative imperfective,  
future, optative; tsax- momentaneous future

independent noun form: no independent noun listed

‘laugh’

incorporate: dlo’, dlok (depends on dialect) 164

root: dlok’ 163

verb stems with same form as incorporate: none

independent noun form: dlo’

its’e’ **dlo’** gha naniltsiis ‘he is smiling at him’ 164

‘shout’

incorporate: seł 455

root: zel ‘shout’

verb stems with same form as incorporate: durative imperfective,  
momentaneous perfective

independent noun form: no independent noun form listed

‘whistle’

incorporate: c’udyiis 439

root: yiits’ ‘breath’

verb stems with same form as incorporate: momentaneous imperfective,  
durative imperfective, optative, future

independent noun form: no independent noun form listed

‘potlatch speech’

incorporate hdogh, dogh 156

root: dogh

verb stems with same form as incorporate: durative imperfective,  
onomatopoeic, neuter imperfective, momentaneous perfective

independent noun form: no independent noun form

‘sing’  
 incorporate: c’eliis, i’dliis, -c’elige’ 279  
 root: lii  
 verb stems with same form as incorporate: none  
 e.g. c’e-de-d-lii ‘He is singing’ 279  
 c’e-t-de-s-d-le’ ‘he was singing’  
 independent noun form: c’eliis, i’dliis, -c’eliige’

23. Activity incorporates are not roots.  
 Activity incorporates are not consistently identical to a particular verb stem form.
24. Activity incorporates include most prefixes that are part of the lexical entry.  
 ‘whistle’  
 Ahtna: c’u-de-ł-yiis ‘he is whistling.’ 439  
 c’udyiis incorporate  
 Koyukon:  
 yoo#de+ł+yeesk ‘whistle’ (onomatopoetic) 685  
 yooyeesk incorporate  
 ‘sing’  
 Ahtna: P+e#d+D+lii ‘sg, dual sing P’ 279  
 c’ededlii ‘he is singing’  
 c’eliis, i’dliis incorporate  
 ‘potlatch speech’  
 Ahtna: ko+ł+dogh ‘he is making a potlatch speech’ 156  
 dogh, hdogh incorporate  
 ‘They will surround it [in a line].’ 189
25. Activity incorporates do not usually include lexicalized voice/valence.  
 whistle, sing (lii form), potlatch speech
26. Activity incorporates are not themselves complex predicates, although they may be morphologically complex.
27. Suffixes  
 While there are differences between languages, in some activity incorporates can occur with a suffix -e. Based on Kari 1990 and Jetté and Jones 200, it is what JJ (Koyukon) label -e general suffix (JJ 10; -bet ‘abdomen, belly, paunch, stomach’ 98, -bede ‘front of the body, underbelly, belly’ where it forms areal nouns ; saanh ‘summer’ 10, saane ‘in the summer’ where it forms adverbs of time). Kari 1990 (Ahtna) recognizes a noun suffix -e which occurs in some areal nouns and postpositions. He also has a -e suffix which occurs with some adverbs. I set these aside for the moment.
28. Morphologically, activity incorporates are neither roots nor verbs.
  - a. Activity incorporates are larger than roots (suffixes, prefixes)
  - b. Activity incorporates are smaller than verbs (absence of voice/valence).

29. Activity incorporates are nouns
- The form is that of an independent noun when one exists, although there are not always independent nouns.
  - There are a few forms that have the distribution of activity incorporates but occur only as nouns, and not as verb forms.
- Ahtna
- hnae ‘word’ (from the verb theme k+n+(y)aa ‘sg. talks’) 296  
 ti-**hnae**-de-l-yaa  
 out-word-qualifier-3S-l voice/valence-singular go  
 ‘He went out talking’ (Kari 1990, 424)
- naegge’ ‘eye’ 297  
 naex- incorporated form  
 hw-naex-d-ghe-s-daa  
 area-eye-qualifier-qualifier-aspect-sg. sit  
 ‘He is sitting watching’
- Koyukon
- kkenaa ‘word, talking, speech’ (‘this is a unique noun from the verb theme he+ne+Ø+(y)o sg. talks with the ne prefix appearing as a stem-initial consonant’) 428  
**kkenaa**-ghe-d-o-l-hoɬ  
 word-qualifier-qualifier-progressive-l voice/valence-singular go  
 ‘He is walking and talking’ JJ 2000, 703
- k’onh eating (‘a derived root from k’e+onh’) 316  
**k’onh**-ghe-daa-dle-do  
 eating-qualifier-qualifier-qualifier-l voice/valence-singular sit  
 ‘She is staying and eating’ JJ 2000, 143
- Activity incorporates can be arguments: subjects.
- Koyukon
- no-**tseh**-d-aal-a-’onh  
 tseh ‘cry’  
 ‘It howled once [cry is located]’ 55
- Ahtna
- ɬu-**nghel**-y-a-ɬ-taet  
 around-drunkenness-3O-aspect-causative-animate O go  
 nghel ‘be crazy, insane, out of one’s mind; be drunk’ 219  
 ‘He goes around drunk (drunkenness takes him around)’
- ts’e-**hwnic**-de-l-ts’et  
 out-news-qualifier-l valence-animate, compact object move independently  
 ‘The news came out.’ 312  
 na#ko+l+nic tell, narrate, recount  
 hwnic, -konige’ news, information 312

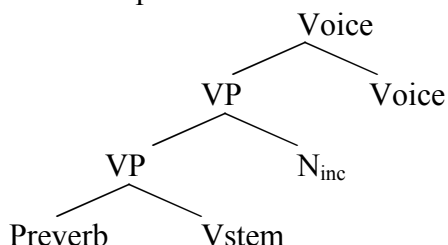
- c. Activity incorporates can be arguments: direct objects.  
Carrier  
urwe-**tlo**-nes-.ih  
3 object/preverb-laugh-qualifier/1 sg. subject-steal  
dlo 'laugh'  
'I steal a laugh at' 143; translation from Bill Poser, 2002  
(Morice: I stealthily laugh at' 143)
30. Activity incorporates are nouns in terms of lexical category.
- V. A return to the problem of morpheme ordering**
31. The problem: How is the host of affixation determined?  
Activity incorporates appear to present a problem in determining the host: which verb stem is the base for affixation.
32. If activity incorporates are nouns rather than verb stem, then a verb word contains a single verb stem, and it is the host for affixation in the linearization of morphemes.
- VI. Activity incorporates and complex predicates**
33. Activity incorporates occur with intransitive verbs.  
'sg. sit'  
Koyukon Ø+do 'sit, stay' 140  
INC+ghe+de+**le**+do 'sit, stay doing activity of INC' 143  
Ahtna Ø+da 'sit, stay'  
INC+d+**d**+daa 'sit. stay doing activity of INC' 131  
  
'pl. holler'  
Koyukon de+le+ghos 'holler' 258  
INC#de+le+ghos 'pl. make noise denoted by INC' 259  
Ahtna de+l+ghaas 'holler'  
INC#d+l+ghaas 'pl. make noise denoted by INC' 207  
  
'pl. go'  
Koyukon Ø+daatl 'pl. walk, go by foot, pl. go in vehicle' 116  
INC#ghe+de+**le**+daatl 'pl. go making INC verbal noise' 117  
Ahtna Ø+daetl' 'pl. walk, go by foot, pl. go in vehicle'  
INC#d+l+daetl' pl. go making INC verbal noise' 145  
  
'paddle'  
Koyukon Ø+kkaa 'paddle' 320  
INC#ghe+de+**le**+kkaa 'paddle, travel in boat while making oral sound denoted by INC' 321
34. Activity incorporates occur with middle voice (d/l voice valence; bolded in (33)).
35. Activity incorporates show parallel patterning to incorporated body parts, requiring middle voice (d or l voice/valence)

Koyukon      INC#d derived intransitive with incorporate  
gesekk kk'e ne-**tlool**-ode-kk'eyh  
white person like  
'He speaks English fluently, articulately.' [glides by the  
tongue] 103  
INC#d derived transitive with incorporate 103  
nelo'e-t-'oh      'she is waving her hand'  
kkaaghe-t-'oŋ      'he has his foot raised.'  
INC#le derived transitive with incorporated body part object 391  
INC#le+'o 'keep INC body part in position' 391  
INC#le derived intransitive with incorporated body part 391  
INC#le+yo 'be in position in manner of INC body part'

Ahtna      INC#d derived intransitive with incorporate 130  
tl'a#d+d=daa 'move on one's buttocks'  
INC#d+gh+d derived intransitive with incorporated body part 131  
INC#d+gh+d+daa 'sit using incorporated body part'  
INC#d+gh+d+yaa 'sg. goes using incorporated body part'  
INC#d derived transitive with incorporated body part 131  
INC#d+'aa 'move incorporated body part'  
INC#l derived transitive with incorporated body part object 261  
INC#G+l+laa 'keep pl. inc body parts in position'

36. Parallels between activity incorporates and body part incorporates
  - a. Both appear with intransitive verb.
  - b. Both contribute information about manner.
  - c. Both require d/l voice/valence, or middle voice marking.
37. On d/l voice/valence
  - a. d/l voice/valence markers are characterized in the Athapaskan literature as marking middle voice (e.g., Arce-Aranales, Axelrod, and Fox 1994, Thompson 1989, 1996, Rice 2000; based on Kemmer 1993), or as detransitivizers (Kibrik 1996)
  - b. d/l can be analyzed as functor predicates, contributing to the interpretation of their propositional complement, requiring 'low elaboration' of an entity involved in the event that serves as its complement or of the event itself (e.g., Rice 2000).
  - c. Middles typically involve two participants that are not differentiated or an aspect that is not clearly divided into an initiation and an endpoint.

38. A possible structure



39. Activity incorporates, like body part incorporates, are only possible in the context of a complex predicate, stem + middle voice
40. This requirement of middle voice is perhaps not surprising, given that the activity incorporate and the verb stem share arguments (same subjects) and do not have differentiated event structure.

## VI. Summary

41. Some conclusions
  - a. Activity incorporates are lexically nouns, solving the morpheme order problem.
  - b. Activity incorporates show parallel patterning to body part. Semantically they indicate manner (in intransitives). Morphosyntactically they require middle voice.
  - c. While the activity incorporate does not itself contribute to the argument or event structure of the verb complex, it nevertheless involves a complex predicate, namely middle voice.
  - d. This use of middle voice can be understood in that the arguments and event structure of the activity incorporate are shared with those of the verb stem.

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