

Extra problem: The Tagalog linker

Tagalog has a morpheme often described as a “linker.” If the word preceding the linker is vowel-final, the linker is *-ng* and attaches to the preceding word; otherwise it is *na*.

Consider the following data on the distribution of the linker and answer the questions on the next page.

Notes:

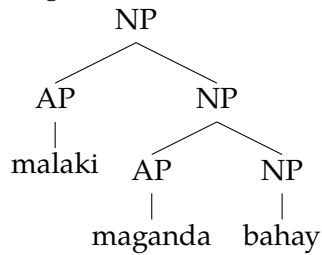
- (*LINKER) means the linker *cannot* be used; *(LINKER) means the linker *must* be used.
- *ang* is a case marker, which we will ignore.

- (1) maganda-*(ng) bahay
beautiful-*(LINKER) house
'beautiful house' (NP)
- (2) bahay *(na) maganda
house *(LINKER) beautiful
'beautiful house' (NP)
- (3) malaki-*(ng) maganda-*(ng) bahay
big-*(LINKER) beautiful-*(LINKER) house
'big beautiful house' (NP)
- (4) Malaki-*(ng) siya.
big-*(LINKER) he/she
'He/she is big.' (TP)
- (5) Maganda-*(ng) ang bahay.
beautiful-*(LINKER) CASE house
'The house is beautiful.' (TP)
- (6) Malaki-*(ng) ang maganda-*(ng) bahay.
big-*(LINKER) CASE beautiful-*(LINKER) house
'The beautiful house is big.' (TP)

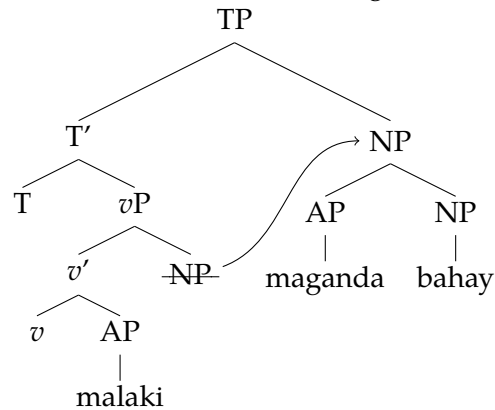
In case you know Tagalog: answer this question based solely on the data here.

- i. Assume that examples (3) and (6) have the structures below, which *do not illustrate any linkers*. (We ignore the case marker *ang* in (6).)

malaki-ng maganda-ng bahay (3)
'big beautiful house':



Malaki ang maganda-ng bahay. (6)
'The beautiful house is big.':



Two additional assumptions:

- The Hierarchy of Projections allows for clauses with the hierarchy $T > v > A$.
- Specifiers in Tagalog go on the right.

Using the lexical items below, give the sequence of Merge, Adjoin, and Move_{phrase} steps to build the tree for (3) and (6).

- ii. What is the generalization for where the linker occurs? Make sure your generalization accounts for all the data in (1–6) above.

Hint: Your answer should be based on your answer to part (i).

- iii. Here are two hypotheses about negation in Tagalog, *hindi* 'not':

- Hypothesis 1: *Hindi* is an adverb which can be Adjoined to *vP*.
- Hypothesis 2: *Hindi* is a Neg head and the Hierarchy of Projections should be modified to be $T > (\text{Neg}) > v > A$.

Based on example (7) below, which hypothesis is correct?

(7) Hindi-(*ng) malaki ang bahay.
not-(*LINKER) big CASE house
'The house is not big.'

(TP)