

Encoding indefinite NPs in Austronesian languages: kind, specificity, free choice.
Oral, (poster)

Elaborating on Haspelmath's (1997) typology of indefinite pronouns, the focus will be on a typology of strategies expressing indefinite NPs in Austronesian languages. Indefinites have to do with reference to kind and genericity, and with referential status in discourse. Strategies for indefinite reference generally differ along the parameter of specificity, sometimes along the parameter of reference to real world existence. Some languages encode reference to kind and to non-specific indefinite entities with bare nouns, others restrict bare nouns to kind and generics, and use distinct \pm specific indefinite articles for other types of indefinites. Non-assertable existential reference may be another parameter at play with a distinct paradigm of pronouns or determiners used for 'referentially' unknown, unexperienced entities with uncertain existence. In Nêlêmwa (Bril), bare nouns express kind, the specific indef. article is based on 'one', the non-specific indef. article is *xa* (also used for free choice), non-referential indef. are marked by suffix *-xo*. Generally, reference to kind, free choice and non-specific indefinites are distinct from specific indefinites. Non-specific indefinite articles generally correlate with T.A.M (irrealis, imperative, optative, conditional, etc.), or with interrogative, negative or negative existential clauses. While kind is often expressed by bare nouns, reference to kinds or sub-types of some kind, and to free choice is often marked by reduplication or plurality possibly with a non-specific article (Biak: *sup=o sup=o* (lit. land-non.sp land-non.sp) 'different/whatever places' Heuvel).

As for indefinite pronouns ('somebody/thing' etc.), they often display a mixed type using (i) either ontological nouns (person, thing, etc.) together with existential construction, non-specific articles, or a classifier (Mokilese: *armaj-men* (lit. person-HUMAN.CL) 'someone', Harrison), or (ii) interrogative WH- pronouns (Amis: *cima a tamdaw* (lit. who LNK person) 'somebody'), possibly combined with disjunctive markers (Maori: *wai rānei* (lit. who or) 'someone' Bauer). Indefinite free choice (F.C.) pronouns and determiners ('any X', 'WH-ever (X)) have scope over a set of atoms/variables that are expressed by plurality, or combination with universal quantifiers (all, every), distributive markers, reduplication, reduplicated WH- pronouns (Kupang Malay: *kekayaan apa-apa* (lit. riches RED-what) 'riches of any kind' Paauw); inclusive-additive scalar morphemes may also combine ('too, even, etc.) (Amis: *ma?a-ma?an aca a munu* (lit. RED-what also LNK goods) 'any kind of goods'), as well as disjunctive markers (Tuvaluan: *me se aa te fakalvelave* (lit. or a what the problem) 'whatever problems' Besnier). Non-specific indefinite and F.C. forms only have a potential referent that often triggers epistemic (x *perhaps* y) or irrealis morphemes, possibly combining with WH- pronouns (Amis: *anu i cuwacuwa* (lit. if LOC RED.where) 'wherever, somewhere'). A typology of the strategies for indefinite NPs will be outlined.

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