# On the case marking and the alignment of ditransitive clauses in Malagasy

マダガスカル語複他動詞節の格標示とアラインメントについて

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#### **Abstract**

When examining the nominal constituents of Malagasy ditransitive clauses, the most common pattern is the indirective alignment, which is not uncommon among world languages. It is noteworthy that the case marking of R has a few options, i.e. beneficiary marking, oblique marking, and location marking. The case marking of P (and A) in monotransitive clauses does not enjoy such freedom in Malagasy. The cases of A and P are assigned according to the voice of the clause.

In addition to the indirective alignment, the neutral alignment can also be found. So far, what I have are examples of the verb *m-an-ome* (NV-VM-give), which is used quite often. Moreover, if we look at the behavior of *ilay NP* (ANA NP), we can say that the neutral alignment turns out to be the secundative alignment and the indirective alignment turns out to be the tripartite alignment because the form *ilay NP* (ANA NP) is used for the T slot, but *an=ilay NP* (ACC=ANA NP) has to be used for the P slot.

As for the word order of ditransitive clauses, Malagasy has the VTRS order with some exceptions where it has the VRTS order.

#### 要旨

マダガスカル語の複他動節の名詞的構成要素を調べると、最も多いアラインメントのパターンは indirect パターンであり、世界の諸言語の中では平凡である。その中で特記すべきは、R の格標示の選択肢である。R は受益者標示、斜格標示、場所標示を受けることができる。単他動節の場合、P (そして A) の格標示は節のボイスによって決まってきて、上記 R の様な自由さは無い。

上述の indirect パターンの他に、neutral パターンもある。今のところ、動詞 m-an-ome (NV-VM-give) の例だけではあるが、この動詞の頻度は高い。更に、 $ilay\ NP$  (ANA NP) の振る舞いを吟味すると、上記の neutral パターンは secundative パターンに変じ、indirect パターンは tripartite パターンに変ずる。なぜなら  $ilay\ NP$  (ANA NP) は T として使われるが、P としては an= $ilay\ NP$  (ACC=ANA NP) が使われるからである。

複他動節の語順に関して、マダガスカル語は VTRS を持つが、例外的に VRTS もある。

## Introduction

The aim of this paper is to facilitate the description of Malagasy by using and adapting general linguistic and cross-linguistic tools but not so much to promote any particular linguistic theories. This time around, the case marking and object alignment of Malagasy ditransitive clauses will be examined.

# 1. Flagging of core nominals

In some of the literature dealing with Malagasy grammar, what fits into the object slot of a monotransitive clause in the nominative voice<sup>1)</sup> is considered to be accusative. However, I would like to divide the

<sup>1)</sup> Malagasy has a tripartite voice system. There are the nominative voice, the absolutive voice, and the circumstantial voice (cf. Minoura 2023), which are referred to in the literature as the active voice, the passive voice, and the relative voice (cf. Stark 1969, Moriyama 2003).

so-called "accusative" into two categories. Flagged<sup>2)</sup> accusative and unflagged oblique. Flagged accusative includes both a noun phrase<sup>3)</sup> with an *an*- prefix and an accusatively inflected pronoun. The following examples are taken from my field research in Tokyo<sup>4)</sup>.

(1)	a.	M-i-jery	azy	aho	
		NV59-VM-Watch	her/him.ACC	I	
'I am watching her/him'					
	b. M-i-jery		anao	aho	
NV-VM-Watch			you.ACC	I	
		'I am watching you'			

Azy (her/him.ACC) is the accusative form of izy ((s)he) (1a), while anao (you.ACC) is the accusative form of ianao (you) (1b).

Below are examples of noun phrases with the accusative prefix an-.

(2)	a.	M-i-jery	an=dRakoto	aho				
		NV-VM-Watch	ACC=PN	I				
		'I am watching R	lakoto'					
	b.	M-i-jery	an=Andrianina	aho				
		NV-VM-Watch	ACC=PN	I				
		'I am watching A	'I am watching Andrianina'					
	c.	M-i-jery	an=i Fara <sup>6)</sup>	aho				
		NV-VM-Watch	ACC=DEF PN	I				
		'I am watching Fara'						
	d.	M-i-jery	an=i Aina	aho				
		NV-VM-Watch	ACC=DEF PN	I				
		'I am watching A	ina'					

The personal names require an accusative prefix an- (2).

Flagging includes case marking by a particle (≒ clitic), by an affix, or by other types of inflection (cf. Malchukov et al. 2007).

<sup>3)</sup> The term noun phrase is used loosely like in Tallerman (1998) and it does not exclude determiner phrases. In this paper it also includes prepositional phrases.

<sup>4)</sup> The Malagasy examples were collected in March, 2023 from M<sup>me</sup> Raivo Toyoda, a Malagasy living in Japan who taught Malagasy at the Summer School of the Research Institute for Languages and Cultures of Asia and Africa of the Tokyo University of Foreign Studies in 2003.

<sup>5)</sup> The abbreviations used in this paper are: - (affix boundary), = (clitic boundary), + (compound boundary), 3 (third person), ABS (absolutive), ACC (accusative), ALL (allative), ANA (anaphoric), AV (absolutive voice), CAUS (causative), CV (circumstantial voice), DAT (dative), DEF (definite), DEM (demonstrative), ERG (ergative), FUT (future), GEN (genitive), INST (instrumental), IND (indicative), INT (interrogative), LAP (less affected patient), LIP (less individuated patient), LK (linker), N (noun), NOM (nominative), NP (noun phrase), NV (nominative voice), OBL (oblique), P (patient), PF (perfect(ive)), PL (plural), PN (personal/place name), PRON (pronoun), PST (past), R (recipient), SG (singular), SUBJ (subjunctive), T (theme), V (verb), VM (valence marker).

<sup>6)</sup> In some places in a clause, a personal name must be marked with a definite marker. For names beginning with *Ra*- and *Andria*-, the *Ra*- and *Andria*- are considered the definite prefix while names without the prefix must be preceded by a definite article *i*. (cf. Stark 1969, Moriyama 2003). The *i* is actually a proclitic, but not all the clitics are marked with a clitic boundary (=) in this paper. Only when the clitic is written without a space, with an apostrophy, or with a hyphen in the orthography, is it replaced by a clitic boundary (=).

If one or more determiners are used, an accusative prefix *an*- is usually required (3).

(3) a. M-i-jery an=io vehivavy io aho

NV-VM-Watch ACC=that woman that I

'I am watching that woman'

b. M-i-jery an=ilay vehivavy marary aho NV-VM-Watch ACC=ANA woman sick I

'I am watching the sick woman'

c. M-i-jery an=ilay ankizy m-i-lalao aho NV-VM-Watch ACC=ANA child(ren) NV-VM-play I

'I am watching the playing children'

d. M-i-jery an=io fiarakodia io aho NV-VM-Watch ACC=that car that I

'I am watching that car'

e. M-i-jery an=ilay fiarakodia aho NV-VM-Watch ACC=ANA car I

'I am watching the car'

However, when a noun phrase is used with the definite article ny= or without a determiner, the accusative marker is not used.

(4) a. M-i-jery ny vehivavy/ny ankizy aho
NV-VM-Watch the woman/the child(ren) I

'I am watching the woman/the child(ren)'

b. M-i-jery ny biby/ny fiarakodia aho NV-VM-Watch the animal/the car I

'I am watching the animal/the car'

c. M-i-jery biby lava aho NV-VM-Watch animal long I

'I am watching a snake'

The definite article ny (4a, b) and the anaphoric marker ilay (3b, c, e) are similar in function, but the ilay requires the accusative prefix an- while the ny does not. As for the determinerless noun phrase biby lava (animal long = snake), Minoura (2021: 65, 2023: 122-123) argues that a bare noun phrase can be an indefinite object, i.e. a P without an accusative marker (see (4) and especially (4c) for a less individuated patient (LIP, Vigus 2018)), indefinite means of transport or movement (5), indefinite core nominal in existential construction (6), and the second subject in the so-called double-subject construction (7).

(5) M-an-deha lamasinina/tongotra Rasoa (Minoura 2021: 62)

NV-VM-go train/foot PN

means of transport or movement

'Rasoa goes on a train/on foot'

(6) M-isy varavarankely lehibe ity efitra ity (Minoura 2021: 62)

NV-exist window big this room this

indefinite core nominal in the existential construction

'This room has a big window'

(7) Lava orona ilay/ny elefanta (Minoura 2021: 51)
Long nose ANA/the elephant
second subject in the so-called double subject construction
'Elephants have a long trunk (nose)'

They are not the typical core nominals. They are more like oblique objects (4c) in antipassive voice clauses in the languages that have this construction since they are less individuated patients (LIP, Vigus 2018), or oblique non-objects (5-7). Moreover, the LIPs are less individuated patients and also tend to be less affected patients (LAP, ibid.).

(8) M-i-sotrò-a rano ara+dalana, sotrò-y tsikelikely izany
NV-VM-drink-IMP water according.to+rule, drink-AV.IMP little.by.little it
'Drink water regularly; drink it little by little' (Minoura 2023: 119, Centre Médical Claym 2021)

Example (8) shows two imperative clauses. The first clause is a nominative-voice imperative clause and the second clause is an absolutive-voice imperative clause. The nominative-voice imperative clause cannot have a definite P. The P *rano* (water) is indefinite. On the other hand, the anaphoric demonstrative *izany* (it) in the second clause is definite and the imperative verb must be in the absolutive voice.

<Table 1> Accusative case and unflagged oblique case for (mostly) P

	Subjective	Accusative object	Unmarked oblique
Pronouns	izy	azy (1a)	
Pronouns	ianao	anao (1b)	
	Rakoto	an-dRakoto (2a)	
Personal names	Andrianina	an=Andrianina (2b)	
Personal names	i Fara	an=i Fara (2c)	
	i Aina	an=i Aina (2d)	
With demonstratives	io vehivavy io	an=io vehivavy io (3a)	
with demonstratives	io fiarakodia io	an=io fiarakodia io (3d)	
	ilay vehivavy marary	an=ilay vehivavy marary (3b)	
W/41	ilay ankizy milalao	an=ilay ankizy milalao (3c)	
With an anaphoric article	ilay fiarakodia	an=ilay fiarakodia (3e)	
	ilay tany	an=ilay tany (22e)	(ilay tany (22a)) <sup>7)</sup>
	ny vehivavy		ny vehivavy (4a)
	ny ankizy		ny ankizy (4a)
With a definite article	ny biby		ny biby (4b)
	ny fiarakodia		ny fiarakodia (4b)
	ny minisitra	(an=ny minisitra (16b)) <sup>8)</sup>	ny minisitra (16a)
Bare noun phrase	ny biby lava		biby lava (4c)

<sup>7)</sup> Not as an object of a monotransitive clause (P), but there are cases where a phrase with demonstratives or with an *ilay* is used without the accusative marker *an*= for a T object in a ditransitive clause (12b, 22b, 32b). *Ilay N* (ANA N) would be *an*=*ilay N* (ACC=ANA N) for P/R unlike *ilay N* (ANA N) for T.

<sup>8)</sup> Not as an object of a monotransitive clause (P), but there are cases where the definite article is preceded by the accusative marker *an*= for an object when there are more than one object in the clause (16b). The case in (16b) is neither T nor R but a causee in causative construction.

Table 1 shows the forms of noun phrases for the P function in a monotransitive clause. Those in parentheses are not used for the P function in a monotransitive clause (but they can be used when there is more than one object, etc.).

# 2. Flagging of ditransitive objects and their alignment

In the field of cross-linguistic studies, Malchukov et al. (2007: 3-4, also Haspelmath 2010) argue that languages can be divided into three categories according to the case marking of the monotransitive object (P) and the ditransitive objects (T, R).

When R is treated differently from P and T, it is called indirect alignment. In Japanese, P and T are marked accusative while R is marked dative.

```
(9) a. Miki=ga
                                  tabe-ta
                  ringo=o
      PN=NOM
                                  eat-PST
                  apple=ACC
                  P
      'Miki ate the apple'
    b. Miki=ga
                  kodomo=ni
                                  ringo=o
                                               age-ta
      PN=NOM
                  child=DAT
                                  apple=ACC
                                              give-PST
                                  T(=P)
    'Miki gave the child the apple'
```

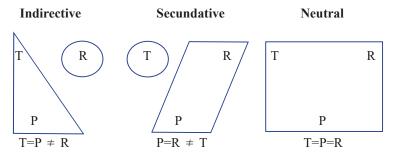
On the other hand, when the T is treated differently from P and R, it is called secundative alignment. West Greenlandic has instrumental case for T and absolutive case for P and R (Malchukov et al. 2007: 4, Fortescue 1984).

```
(10) a. Piita-p
                       tukurnarta.q
                                           tuqup-paa
      Peter-ERG.SG
                       stranger.ABS.SG
                                           kill-INT.3SG → 3SG
      'Did Peter kill the stranger?'
   b. (Uuma)
                   Niisi
                                  aningaasa-nik
                                                         tuni-vaa
      (That.ERG) Nisi.ABS.SG
                                  money-INST.PL
                                                         give-IND.3SG → 3SG
                                  T
                   R(=P)
      'He gave Nisi money'
```

When P, T, and R are encoded in the same way, such constructions are called double-object constructions and in terms of alignment, it is called neutral alignment. An example comes from Dagaare (Gur, Ghana) (Malchukov et al. 2007: 4).

Figure 1 (Malchukov et al. 2007: 4, cf. Haspelmath 2010) schematically illustrates these alignment types.

<Figure 1>Ditransitive alignment types (Malchukov et al. 2007: 4)



## 2. 1. Fluctuating R-marking

Let us take a look at the 'give' verbs. We start with the verb root *ome* (give).

(12) a.	M-an-omè	(ny) solosaina	ny ankizy	ny fanj	akana
	NV-VM-give	(the) computer	the child(ren)	the gov	rernment
		T	R	A	
	'The government	gives the childre	n (the) computers	,	
b.	M-an-omè	ilay solosaina	ny ankizy	ny fanja	akana
	NV-VM-give	ANA computer	the child(ren)	the gov	rernment
		T	R	A	
	'The government	gives the childre	n the computers'		
c.	M-an-omè	(ny) solosaina	an=ilay ankizy	1	ny fanjakana
	NV-VM-give	(the) computer	ACC=ANA child	(ren) t	the government
		T	R	1	A
ʻT	he government gi	ves the children (	the) computers'		
d.	Omè-n=ny fanjak	ana	solosaina ny ai	nkizy	
	Give-AV=the go	vernment(.GEN)	computer the c	hild(ren)	
	'The children are	given computers	by the governmen	nt'	
e.	N-an-omèz-an=n	y fanjakana	(ny/ilay	) solosair	na ny ankizy
	PST-VM-give-C	V=the governmen	nt(.GEN) (ANA/t	he) comp	uter the child(ren)
	'The children we	re given (the) cor	nputers by the gov	ernment'	

The (12a, b, c) are in the nominative voice. The (12d) is in the absolutive voice and the (12e) is in the circumstantial voice. At a first glance, (12a, b) seem to be in the neutral pattern where both the T ((ny/ilay) solosaina ((the/ANA) computer) and the R (ny ankizy (the child(ren))) are caseless. But the R is caseless only because it is a phrase preceded by the definite article ny (the). If you put a personal name (13) or ilay ankizy (ANA child(ren)) in the R slot, it is accusative marked as an=ilay ankizy (ACC=ANA child(ren), 12c). On the other hand, the T cannot be accusative-marked as easily as in (13) because it is rather rare that a person is made into a T. Such rare cases of accusative-marked human T can be seen in (18a, b). Moreover, when the T is more individuated (= more definite), the absolutive voice rather than the nominative voice is likely to be used.

(13) a. N-an-omè	(ny) solosaina	an-dRasoa	ny ray aman=dreni=ny		
NV.PST-VM-give	(the)computer	ACC-PN	the father OBL=mother=her		
	T	R	A		
'Rasoa's parents gave he	er (Rasoa) a/the c	omputer'			
b. N-an-omè	ilay solosaina	an-dRasoa	ny ray aman=dreni=ny		
NV.PST-VM-give	ANA computer	ACC-PN	the father OBL=mother=her		
	T	R	A		
'Rasoa's parents gave her (Rasoa) the computer'					

In summary, the R is marked accusative where appropriate. T is an unmarked oblique phrase. If both the accusative-marked phrase and the unmarked oblique phrase are taken to be roughly as broadly-defined "accusative," as is done in much of the previous literature (cf. Stark 1969, Moriyama 2003), then this is a neutral pattern. But in this paper, I want to present a possibility to treat this pattern as a quasi-secundative pattern, where the T is a caseless oblique as in (4c, 5, 6, 7). The quasi-secundative analysis is definitely appropriate when *ilay NP* (ANA NP) is used for T (12b) and an=ilay NP (ACC=ANA NP) is used for P (3b, c, e) and R (12c)

Moreover, some people may be puzzled that the subject in both the absolutive-voice (12b) and the circumstantial-voice (12c) is *ny ankizy* (the child(ren)). The subject in the absolutive voice is usually derived from the P in the nominative voice. Therefore it is natural that the caseless R in the nominative-voice clause is promoted to the subject in the absolutive voice. (In the following subsections, it is the caseless T that is promoted to the subject in the absolutive voice.) The subject in the circumstantial voice is usually derived from a non-core nominal (a non-S/A/P). My wild guess is that the R in the nominative-voice clause is taken as a non-core nominal in this ditransitive clause and is promoted to the circumstantial subject.

```
solom.bodiakoho9)
(14) a. N-an-omè
                                                ho an=ny ray aman=dreny
                           gift
      NV.PST-VM-give
                                                ALL ACC=the father OBL=mother
                                                R
      ny zanaka aman=jafy
      the offspring OBL=grandchild(ren)
      Α
      'The children and the grandchildren gave a gift to the parents'
    b. N-omè-n=ny zanaka aman=jafy
      PST-give-AV=the offspring OBL=grandchild(ren) (.GEN)
      ho an=ny ray aman=dreni-ny
                                                ny solom.bodiakoho
      ALL ACC=the father OBL=mother
                                                the gift
      'The gift was given by the children and the grandchildren to the parents'
                                                                      solom.bodiakoho
    c. N-an-omèz-an=ny zanaka aman=jafy
      PST-VM-give-CV=the offspring OBL=grandchild(ren) (.GEN)
                                                                     gift
      ny ray aman=dreny
      the father OBL=mother
    "The parents were given gift by the children and the grandchildren'
```

<sup>9)</sup> Solom-bodiakoho or solombody akoho or even solombodiakoho can be analyzed into solo (substitute) = m = (=LK=) body (vody buttocks) + akoho (chicken). The chicken's rump meat is the tenderest part of the chicken. It means "a gift of money to one's superior in place of the traditional chicken's rump" (Andro Vaovao 1973: 87).

The same verb root ome (give) as in (12, 13) can also have the indirective pattern (14) where the R is marked as a beneficiary, instead of the neutral/quasi-secundative pattern (12, 13). A beneficiary is marked with allative (ho) plus accusative (an=) combined. When they are combined, the benefactive meaning is rendered.

In (14a), the T is caseless and the R is beneficiary-marked with allative plus accusative. In the absolutive-voice clause (14b), the T in the nominative-voice clause is taken as the subject. In the circumstantial-voice clause (14c), the beneficiary-marked R in the nominative-voice clause is taken as the subject and the case markers are removed.

The situation in (14), where the T in the nominative clause is taken as the subject in the absolutive clause and the R in the nominative clause is taken as the subject in the circumstantial clause, is different from the situation in (12), where both the absolutive clause and the circumstantial clause take the R in the nominative clause as the subject. It seems that the T and R in (12a) are not treated as differently as the T and the R in (14a). In other words, (12a, b) do not show the indirective pattern whereas (14a) shows the indirective pattern. (12a, b, c) can be seen as an example of a neutral/quasi-secundative pattern where T is an unmarked oblique as in (4c, 5-7).

There are a few more examples with the root ome (give).

```
(15) Mba
               h-amp-i-roboròbo
                                                ny fahaiza=ny
                                                                      no
               NV.FUT-CAUS-VM-progress
                                                the ability=her/his
    So.that
                                                                      that
    n-an-omèz-an=ny fanjakana
                                                ilay/ny solosaina
                                                                      ny ankizy
    PST-VM-give-CV=the government(.GEN)
                                                ANA/the computer
                                                                      the child(ren)
    'It was so as to promote the children's ability that they were given the computers by the
    government'
```

The example (15) has the circumstantial *n-an-omez-an(a)* (PST-VM-give-CV). The subject *ny ankizy* is the R subject.

```
(16) a. N-an-omè
                                               ny minisitra
                           vary
                                  ny vahoaka
      NV.PST-VM-give
                           rice
                                  the people
                                                the minister
      'The minister gave the people rice'
    b. N-amp-an-omè
                                vary
                                       ho an=ny vahoaka
                                                               an=ny minisitra
                                                                                  ny prezidà
      NV.PST-CAUS-VM-give rice
                                       ALL ACC=the people
                                                               ACC=the minister the president
                                Т
                                       R
                                                               (A)=causee
                                                                                  causer
      'The president made the minister give rice to the people'
```

These examples are taken from the Malagasy language class in the Summer School of the Research Institute for Languages and Cultures of Asia and Africa of the Tokyo University of Foreign Studies in 2003. The (16a) is a regular neutral example just like (12a). The (16b) is a causatively derived clause from (16a). Two caseless objects are allowed in (16a), but when the causative subject is added in (16b), the former agent-subject *ny minisitra* (the minister) is marked accusative (*an=ny minisitra*, ACC=the minister) and the R is marked as a beneficiary. It seems that three consecutive caseless objects are too awkward to have so the case markers have been provided. Note that the accusative-marked an=ny minisitra (ACC=the

minister) is irregular. As a P in a monotransitive clause, it would be caseless *ny minisitra* (the minister). We will look at examples with the root *tolotra* (present).

(17) a. M-an-òlotra solosaina ho an=ny ankizy ny mpampianatra NV-VM-present computer ALL ACC=the child(ren) the teacher T R A

'The teacher gives computers to the children'

b. A-tòlotry ny mpampianatra solosaina ny ankizy AV-present the teacher(.GEN) computer the child(ren)

'The children are given computers by the teacher'

c. A-tòlotry ny mpampianatra ho an=ny ankizy ny solosaina AV-present the teacher(.GEN) ALL ACC=the child(ren) the computer

'The computers are given to the children by the teacher'

d. An-olòr-an=ny mpampianatra solosaina ny ankizy VM-present-CV=the teacher(.GEN) computer the child(ren)

'The children are given computers by the teacher'

The examples with the root *tolotra* (present) (17a) are in the nominative voice, (17b, c) in the absolutive voice, and (17d) in the circumstantial voice. In (17a), the R is marked with allative and accusative as a beneficiary. Although the R is marked as a beneficiary unlike in some examples with the root *ome* (give, 12a, 16a), both T and R in (17a) can become the subject in the absolutive-voice clauses (17b, c). The (17d) takes the R in (17a) as the marked oblique phrase and makes it into the circumstantial subject.

Let us take a look at the examples of tolotra (present) clauses with a human T.

(18) a. N-an-òlotra an=dRavao/an=i Nehemia/ny zana=ny vavy NV.PST-VM-present ACC=PN/ACC=the PN/the offspring=his female human T ho vadi=n=i Lita ny rai=ny ALL spouse=LK=the PN the father=her Α 'Her father presented Ravao/Nehemia/his daughter to be Lita's wife' b. N-an-òlotra an=dRavao/an=i Nehemia ho an=i Lita ny rai=ny NV.PST-VM-present ACC=PN/ACC=the PN ALL ACC=the PN the father=her R human T Α 'Her father presented Ravao/Nehemia for Lita' c. N-an-òlotra ny zana=ny vavy ho an=i Lita ny rai=ny NV.PST-VM-present the offspring=his female ALL ACC=the PN the father=her human T R A 'Her father presented his daughter for Lita' d. N-a-tolòtry ny rai=ny an=dRavao i Lita PST-AV-present the father=her(.GEN) the PN ACC=PN 'Lita was presented to Ravao by her father' e. No-tolòr-an=ny rai=ny an=dRavao i Lita the PN PST- present-AV=the father=her(.GEN) ACC=PN 'Lita was presented to Ravao by her father'

When a human is placed in the T slot (18a, b, c), it is either accusative marked (an=dRavao (ACC=PN), an=i Nehemia (ACC=the PN)) or unmarked (ny zana=ny vavy (the offspring=his female)). The R is marked as the beneficiary in (18b, c, ho an=i Lita (ALL ACC=the Lita)). Both (18d, e) are the absolutive-voice counterpart of (18b). This verb has two absolutive-voice forms: a-tolotr(a) (18c) and tolor-an(a) (18d).

(19) a.	N-i-angàvy	fitenenana	t-amin=i Toje	t-amin=i Tojo		i Sedera	
	NV.PST-VM-beg	speech	PST-OBL=th	ne PN	the PN		
		T	R		A		
	'Sedera asked Tojo fo	or a speech'					
b.	N-i-angàvy	fitenenana	an=i Tojo	an=i Tojo ACC=the PN		i Sedera	
	NV.PST-VM-beg	speech	ACC=the PN			the PN	
		T	R		A		
	'Sedera asked Tojo fo	or a speech'					
c.	N-i-angavì-an=i Sede	ra an=i	Tojo/*t-amin=i T	`ojo		ny fitenenana	
	PST-VM-AV=the PN(.GEN) ACC=the PN/*PST-OBL=the PN the speech						
	'Sedera asked Tojo for the speech'						
d.	N-i-angavì-an=i Sede	ra	fitenenana i Toje		)		
	PST-VM-CV=the PN (.GEN)		act.of.speaking the Pl		1		
	'Tojo was asked for a	speech by Se	edera'				

The examples (19a, b) are both in the nominative voice. (19c) is in the absolutive voice and (19d) is in the circumstantial voice. The R marker in the (19a, b) varies between the oblique marker (19a) and the accusative marker (19b). But in the absolutive voice (19c), the R is marked accusative. My language consultant actually rejected the oblique marking (*t-amin=i Tojo* (PST-OBL=the PN)) for the absolutive voice. In all these examples in subsection 2.1., T is always caseless in the nominative voice except when it is a person name and marked accusative (18a, b). On the other hand, the clauses with the verb root *ome* (give) in the nominative voice have a caseless R (12a, 16a), an accusative-marked R (13a), and a beneficiary-marked R (14a). The clauses with the verb root *tolotra* (present) in the nominative voice have a beneficiary-marked R (19a) or an accusative-marked R (19b), but the oblique-marking does not survive into the absolutive voice (19c).

#### 2. 2. Beneficiary-marked R

For some subsections starting with 2.2., we take a look at indirective-marked ditransitive clauses. Unlike monotransitive clauses with very little variation in case marking for A and P (cf. Minoura 2023), R in indirective-marked ditransitive clauses can take several forms. We start with beneficiary marking. Beneficiary marking is sometimes but not always used for the give/present verbs (2.1., 14a, 17a). It seems to be the most unmarked and most common ditransitive marking for other kinds of verbs.

(20) a. M-amp-ìta	tolo+tsaina (kolo+tsaina)	ho an=ny mpianatra	aho
NV-CAUS-cross.over	idea/advice (culture)	ALL ACC=the pupil	I
	T	R	A

<sup>&#</sup>x27;I give ideas/an advice(culture) to the pupils/students'

b. Amp-ità-0=ko	(ho an=)ny mpianatra	ny tolo+tsaina
CAUS-cross.over-AV=I.GEN	(ALL ACC=)the pupil	the idea/advice

'I give the ideas/advice to the pupils/students'

c. (N-)amp-ità-0=ko tolo+tsaina ny mpianatra (PST-)CAUS-cross.over-CV=I.GEN idea/advice the pupil

'The pupils/students are(were) given ideas/an advice by me'

d. M-ita rano ny baka

NV-cross water the ferry

'The ferry crosses water (e.g. a river)'

In the nominative voice (20a), the R is marked for the beneficiary (*ho an*= (ALL ACC=)). In the absolutive voice (20b), the beneficiary marking for the R is optional. In the circumstantial voice (20c), the R in the nominative voice becomes the subject. *Mampita* (give (20a)) is causatively derived from *mita* (cross (20d)).

'Rabe sends an e-mail to Malala'

b. M-an-dèfa hafatra m-i-afina ho an=i Malala Rabe NV-VM-send message NV-VM-hide ALL ACC=the PN PN

'Rabe sends a secret message to Malala'

c. A-lèfa=n=dRabe ho an=i Malala ny mailaka AV-send=LK=PN(.GEN) ALL ACC=the PN the e-mail

'Rabe will send the e-mail to Malala'

d. An-defàs-an=dRabe mailaka i Malala VM-send-CV=PN(.GEN) e-mail the PN

'Malala is sent an e-mail by Rabe'

In the nominative voice (21a, b), the R is marked for the beneficiary (*ho an*= (ALL ACC=)). In the absolutive voice (21c), the beneficiary marking for the R remains. In the circumstantial voice (21d), the R in the nominative voice becomes the subject.

'The grandfather/Ranaivo bought the land/a piece of land for his children'

b. N-i-vìdy ilay tany ho an=ny tanara=ny i Dadabe/Ranaivo NV.PST-VM-buy ANA land ALL ACC=the children=his the grandfather

T R

'The grandfather/Ranaivo bought the land for his children'

c. N-i-vìdy (ny) lamba ho an=i Manitra i Dadatoa NV.PST-VM-buy (the) cloth ALL ACC=the PN the uncle  $T \hspace{1cm} R \hspace{1cm} A$ 

<sup>&#</sup>x27;The uncle bought the cloth/a piece of cloth for Manitra'

d. N-i-vìdy ilay lamba ho an=i Manitra i Dadatoa NV.PST-VM-buy ANA cloth ALL ACC=the PN the uncle T R A

'The uncle bought the cloth for Manitra'

e. No-vidì-an=i Dadabe ho an=ny tanara=ny ny/ilay tany PST-buy-AV=the grandfather(.GEN) ALL ACC=the children=his the/ANA land

'The grandfather bought the land for his children'

f. I-vidi-ànan=i Dadabe tany ny tanara=ny VM-buy-CV=the grandfather(.GEN) land the children=his

'The children are bought land for by grandfather'

g. N-i-vidi-ànan=i Dadabe an=ilay tany ny tanara=ny PST-VM-buy-CV=the grandfather(.GEN) ACC=ANA land the children=his

'The children were bought the land for by grandfather'

In the nominative voice (22a, b, c, d), the R is marked for the beneficiary (ho an= (ALL ACC=)), while the T can be a bare nominal tany/lamba ((a piece of) land/cloth) or ny/ilay tany/lamba (the/ANA land/cloth) with an article. Note that the T can be ilay tany (ANA land) without an accusative marker<sup>10</sup>. In the absolutive voice (22e), the beneficiary marking for the R remains. In the circumstantial voice (22f, g), the R in the nominative voice becomes the subject while the T can be a bare nominal tany (land, 22a) or accusative marked (an=ilay tany (ACC=ANA land), 22g).

(23) a. N-i-kaomàndy zava+pisotro ho ahy i Manda NV.PST-VM-order thing+to.drink ALL me.ACC the PN T R A

'Manda ordered a beverage for me'

b. No-kaomandì-n=i Manda ho ahy ny zava+pisotro
PST-order-AV =the PN(.GEN) ALL me.ACC the thing+to.drink

'Manda ordered the beverage for me'

c. N-i-kaomandi-an=i Manda zava+pisotro aho PST-VM-order-CV=the PN(.GEN) thing+to.drink I

'I was ordered a beverage for by Manda'

In the nominative voice (23a), the R is marked for the beneficiary (*ho ahy* (ALL me.ACC)). In the absolutive voice (23b), the beneficiary marking remains for the R. In the circumstantial voice (23c), the R in the nominative voice becomes the subject and the beneficiary marking is removed.

(24) a N-i-tòno masikita ho an=i Jao i Mbola NV.PST-VM-broil skewered.meat ALL ACC=the PN the PN T R A

'Mbola broiled skewered meat for Jao'

b. N-a-tòno=n=i Mbola ho an=i Jao ny masikita
PST-AV-broil=LK=the PN(.GEN) ALL ACC=the PN the skewered.meat

<sup>&#</sup>x27;Mbola broiled the skewered meat for Jao'

<sup>10)</sup> If it were a P, it would be *an=ilay tany* (ACC=ANA land) with the accusative marker like in (3b, c, e). This shows that the T in a ditransitive clause can be treated differently from the P in a monotransitive clause.

c. N-i-tonò-an=i Mbola masikita i Jao PST-VM-broil-CV=the PN(.GEN) skewred.meat the PN

'Jao was broiled skewered meat for by Mbola'

In the nominative voice (24a), the R is marked as the beneficiary (*ho an*= (ALL ACC=)). In the absolutive voice (24b), the beneficiary marking remains for the R. In the circumstantial voice (24c), the R in the nominative voice becomes the subject.

(25) a. N-a-hìta sakaiza ho an=i Seta i Vololona NV.PST-VM-find ALL ACC=the PN the PN friend 'Vololona found a friend for Seta' i Seta b. N-a-hità-n=i Vololona sakaiza PST-VM-find-CV=the PN(.GEN) friend the PN 'Seta was found a friend for by Vololona'

In the nominative voice (25a), the R is marked as the beneficiary (ho~an= (ALL ACC=)). In the circumstantial voice (25b), the R in the nominative voice becomes the subject. The absolutive-voice counterpart for (25a) could not be elicited. One reason for this situation may be that the absolutive-voice counterpart of m-a-hita (NV-VM-find) is usually the root absolutive voice form hita, which can mean non-volitional finding or seeing and it is semantically awkward.

ny fanjakana (26) a. N-am-àtsy vola ho an=ny mponina NV.PST-VM-supply ALL ACC=the inhabitant the government money Т R A 'The government supplied money for the inhabitants' b. No-vatsì-an=ny fanjakana ho an=ny mponina ny vola PST-supply-AV=the government(.GEN) ALL ACC=the inhabitant the money 'The government supplied the money for the inhabitants' c. N-am-atsì-an=ny fanjakana vola ny mponina PST-VM-supply-CV=the government(.GEN) the inhabitant money 'The inhabitants were supplied money by the government'

In the nominative voice (26a), the R is marked as the beneficiary (*ho an*= (ALL ACC=)). In the absolutive voice (26b), the beneficiary marking remains for the R. In the circumstantial voice (26c), the R in the nominative voice becomes the subject.

(27) a. N-amp-i-ànatra	taratasy	ho	o an=i Njara		Rataoma
NV.PST-CAUS-VM-study	letters	A	LL ACC=the	PN	PN
	T	R			A
'Rataoma taught letters (alpl	habet) for Nja	ara'			
b. N-amp-i-anàr-in=dRataoma			ho an=i Njar	a	ny taratasy
PST-CAUS-VM-study-AV=	PN(.GEN)A	LL	ACC=the PN	1	the letters
'Rataoma taught the letters (	(alphabet) for	Njar	a'		
c. N-amp-i-anàr-an=dRataoma		ta	ratasy	i Njar	a
PST-CAUS-VM-study-CV=	PN(.GEN)	le	tters	the Pl	N
'Njara was taught letters (alp	ohabet) by Ra	ataom	ıa'		

In the nominative voice (27a), the R is marked as the beneficiary (*ho an*= (ALL ACC=)). In the absolutive voice (27b), the beneficiary marking remains for the R. In the circumstantial voice (27c), the R in the nominative voice becomes the subject.

(28) a. N-a	n-òratra	taratasy	ho an=ny re	eni=ny	i Ndriana	
NV	.PST-VM-write	letter	ALL ACC=	the mother=his	the PN	
		T	R		A	
ʻNd	lriana wrote a lette	r to his moth	ner'			
b. No-	b. No-soràt-an=i Ndriana			ho an=ny reni=ny		
PST	PST-write-AV=the PN(.GEN)			ALL ACC=the mother=his		
ʻNd	riana wrote the let	ter to his mo	other'			
c. N-a	n-oràt-an=i Ndriar	na	taratasy	ny reni=ny		
PST	T-write-CV=the PN	N(.GEN)	letter	the mother=his		
'His	'His mother was written a letter to by Ndriana'					

In the nominative voice (28a), the R is marked as the beneficiary (*ho an*= (ALL ACC=)). In the absolutive voice (28b), the beneficiary marking remains for the R. In the circumstantial voice (28c), the R in the nominative voice becomes the subject.

(29) a.	N-amp-an-antèna	harena	ŀ	no an≕i Soa		i Lala
	NV.PST-CAUS-VM-hope	wealth	A	ALL ACC=the	PN	the PN
		T	F	2		A
	'Lala promised wealth to Soa	ι'				
b. N-amp-an-antenà-in=i Lala				ho an=i Soa		ny harena
	PST-CAUS-VM-hope-AV=the PN(.GEN)			ALL ACC=the PN		the wealth
'Lala promised the wealth to Soa'						
c.	N-amp-an-antenà-n=i Lala			harena	i Soa	
	PST-CAUS-VM-hope-CV=tl	he PN(.GEN)		wealth	the PN	
	'Soa was promised wealth by	Lala'				

In the nominative voice (29a), the R is marked as the beneficiary (*ho an*= (ALL ACC=)). In the absolutive voice (29b), the beneficiary marking remains for the R. In the circumstantial voice (29c), the R in the nominative voice becomes the subject.

(30) a.	M-an-ìry	fahaombiazana	ho an=i Ony	i Faly
	NV-VM-hope	success	ALL ACC=the PN	the PN
		T	R	A
	'Faly wishes suc	cess for Ony'		
b.	N-irì-n=i Faly		ho an=i Ony	ny fahaombiazana
	PST-hope-AV=t	he PN(.GEN)	ALL ACC=the PN	the success
	'Faly wishes the	success for Ony'		
c.	N-an-irì-an=i Fal	ly	fahaombiazana	i Ony
	PST-VM-hope-C	CV=the PN(.GEN	) success	the PN
	'Ony was wished	d success by Falv	,	

In the nominative voice (30a), the R is marked as the beneficiary (ho an= (ALL ACC=)). In the absolutive voice (30b), the beneficiary marking remains for the R. In the circumstantial voice (30c), the R in the nominative voice becomes the subject.

In all these examples in subsection 2.2., T is always caseless even with the anaphoric *ilay* (ANA) (22b, d). A phrase with *ilay* (ANA) becomes an=ilay N (ACC=ANA N) as a P in a monotransitive clause (cf. fn 10). On the other hand, R is always marked for the beneficiary with allative and accusative markings combined.

#### 2. 3. Oblique-marked R

Now let us look at the examples of the oblique-case marked R.

(31) a.	M-amp-i-sèho	ny fahaiza=	ny amin=i Hasina	Randria
	NV-CAUS-VM-appear	the ability=1	nis OBL=the PN	PN
		T	R	A
	'Randria is showing his al	bility to Hasi	na'	
b.	Amp-i-sehò-in=dRandria		amin=i Hasina	ny fahaiza=ny
	CAUS-VM-appear-AV-P	N(.GEN)	OBL=the PN	the ability=his
	'Randria is showing his al	bility to Hasi	na'	
c.	Amp-i-sehò-an=dRandria		ny fahaiza=ny	i Hasina
	CAUS-VM-appear-CV-P	N(.GEN)	the ability=his	the PN
	'Hasina is shown Randria			

In the nominative voice (31a), the R is marked oblique (*amin*= (OBL=)). In the absolutive voice (31b), the oblique marking for the R remains. In the circumstantial voice (31c), the R in the nominative voice becomes the subject.

(32) a.	N-i-tantàra	(ny) tsaho	t-amin=ny zana=ny		i 7	Fanteraka
	NV.PST-VM-narrate	(the) rumor	PST-OE	BL=the child=	=her th	e PN
		T	R		A	
	'Tanteraka tells her ch	ild(ren) a/the i	rumor			
b.	N-i-tantàra	ilay tsaho	t-a	min=ny zana	=ny	i Tanteraka
	NV.PST-VM-narrate	ANA rum	nor PS	T-OBL=the	child=her	the PN
		T	R			A
	'Tanteraka tells her ch	ild(ren) the ru	mor			
c.	No-tantarà-in=i Tante	raka t-	amin=ny za	ına=ny	ny	/ tsaho
PST-narrate-AV=the PN(.GEN)			ST-OBL=tl	ne child=her	th	e rumor
	'Tanteraka tells her ch	ild(ren) the ru	mor'			
d.	N-i-tantarà-n=i Tanter	aka	(ny/ilay)	) tsaho	ny zana=	ny
	PST-VM-narrate-CV=	the PN(.GEN	(the/AN	A) rumor	the child	=her
	'Tanteraka's child(ren	) is/are told a/t	the rumor b	y her'		

In the nominative voice (32a, b), the R is marked oblique (*t-amin*= (PST-OBL=)). In the absolutive voice (32c), the oblique marking for the R remains. In the circumstantial voice (32d), the R in the nominative voice becomes the subject. Note that the T in the nominative voice (32a, b) and in the circumstantial voice (32c) can be a bare nominal *tsaho* (rumor) or a nominal with a determiner *ny/ilay tsaho* (the/ANA rumor). The *ilay tsaho* (ANA rumor) is not marked with an accusative to become *an=ilay tsaho* (ACC=ANA rumor). If it was a P in a monotransitive clause, the accusative marking is necessary (see fn. 10).

(33) a. N-an-ìpy ny sakaosy t-ami=ko i Sarobidy NV.PST-VM-throw PST-OBL=me the PN the bag/satchel A 'Sarobidy threw the bag/satchel at me' b. N-a-tsipì=n=i Sarobidy t-ami=ko ny sakaosy PST-AV-throw=LK=the PN(.GEN) PST-OBL=me the bag/satchel

'Sarobidy threw the bag/satchel at me'
c. N-an-ipaz-an=i Sarobidy sakaosy aho
PST-VM-throw-CV=the PN(.GEN) bag/satchel I

'I was thrown a bag/satchel at by Sarobidy'

In the nominative voice (33a), the R is marked oblique (*t-ami* = (PST-OBL=)). In the absolutive voice (33b), the oblique marking for the R remains. In the circumstantial voice (33c), the R in the nominative voice becomes the subject.

(34) a. N-i-angàvy fitenenana t-amin=i Tojo i Sedera (=19)

NV.PST-VM-beg speech PST-OBL=the PN the PN

T R A

'Sedera asked Tojo for a speech'

b. N-i-angàvy fitenenana an=i Tojo i Sedera NV.PST-VM-beg speech ACC=the PN the PN T R A

'Sedera asked Tojo (to give) a speech'

c. N-i-angavì-an=i Sedera an=i Tojo/\* t-amin=i Tojo ny fitenenana PST-VM-AV=the PN(.GEN) ACC=the PN/\*PST-OBL=the PN the speech

'Sedera asked Tojo for the speech'

d. N-i-angavì-an=i Sedera fitenenana i Tojo PST-VM-CV=the PN (.GEN) act.of.speaking the PN

'Tojo was asked for a speech by Sedera'

These examples have already been shown in (19). It is shown again because the R in the nominative clause (34a) can be marked oblique.

(35) a. N-an-ontàny vidi=n=entana t-amin=ny mpivarotra i Vola

NV.PST-VM-ask price=LK=goods PST-OBL=the merchant the PN

T R A

'Vola asked the merchant for (the) price of the goods'

b. N-an-ontanì-an=i Vola t-amin=ny mpivarotra ny vidi=n=entana
PST-VM-ask-AV=the PN(.GEN) PST-OBL=the merchant the price=LK=goods

'Vola asked the merchant for the price of the goods'

c. N-an-ontanì-an=i Vola vidi=n=entana ny mpivarotra PST-VM-ask-CV=the PN(.GEN) price=LK=goods the merchant

'The merchant was asked for (the) price of the goods by Vola'

In the nominative voice (35a), the R is marked oblique (*t-amin*= (PST-OBL=)). In the absolutive voice (35b), the oblique marking for the R remains. In the circumstantial voice (35c), the R in the nominative voice becomes the subject.

(36) a.	N-an-òlo	entana simb	a	t-amin=	ny entana vaovao	
	NV.PST-VM-replace	goods dama	iged	PST-OF	BL=the goods new	
		T		R(?? no	n-T object)	
	t-any amin=ny fivarotana¹	i Hery				
	PST-there OBL=the shop	the PN				
	location	A				
	'Hery exchanged damaged	d items with	new iten	ns at the	shop'	
b.	No-solò-an=i Hery	t-ar	nin=ny	e	ntana vaovao	
	PST-replace-AV=the PN(	.GEN) PS7	Γ-OBL=t	he g	oods new	
	t-any amin=ny fivarotana ny entana simba					
	PST-there OBL=the shop	the goods d	amaged			
	'Hery exchanged the dama	aged items w	ith new	items at	the shop'	
c.	N-an-olò-an=i Hery		entana	simba	t-amin=ny entana vaovao	
	PST-VM-replace-CV=the	PN(.GEN)	goods d	lamaged	PST-OBL=the goods new	
	ilay fivarotana					
	ANA shop					
	'At the shop, Hery exchan	iged damage	d items v	vith new	items'	
d.	N-an-olò-an=i Hery		entana		t-any amin=ny fivarotana	
	PST-VM-replace-CV=the	PN(.GEN)	goods d	lamaged	PST-there OBL=the shop	
	ny entana vaovao	, ,	-		•	
	the goods new					

In the nominative voice (36a), the R or rather the non-T object is marked oblique (t-amin= (PST-OBL=)). In the absolutive voice (36b), the oblique marking for the non-T object (= R) remains. In the circumstantial voice, the non-T object (= R) in the nominative voice becomes the subject in (36d) and the place becomes the subject in (36c).

(37) a. N-an-azàva	ny toerana	t-amin=ny mpizaha+	tany i Mahery			
NV.PST-VM-explain	the place	PST-OBL=the touris	st the PN			
	T	R	A			
'Mahery explained the to	urists the plac	ce (the ways around)'				
b. N-an-azavà-in=i Mahery		t-amin=ny mpizaha+	tany ny toerana			
PST-VM-explain-AV=the	e PN(.GEN)	PST-OBL=the touris	the place			
'Mahery explained the tourists the place (the ways around)'						
c. N-an-azavà-n=i Mahery		ny toerana	ny mpizaha+tany			
PST-VM=explain-CV=th	e PN(.GEN)	the place	the tourist			
'The tourists were explained the place (ways around) by Mahery'						

'With the new items, Hery exchanged damaged items at the shop'

In the nominative voice (37a), the R is marked oblique (*t-amin*= (PST-OBL=)). In the absolutive voice (37b), the oblique marking for the R remains. In the circumstantial voice (37c), the R in the nominative voice becomes the subject.

<sup>11)</sup> A location is expressed by the formula: location demonstrative plus areal phrase. For example, a place name is an areal noun and it does not require further marking: (t-)any Madagasikara ((PST)-there Madagascar, in Madagascar). A regular noun is not an areal noun and needs oblique marking: (t-)any amin=ny fivarotana ((PST)-there OBL=the shop, at the shop). Some of the regular nouns can also take an accusative marker: (t-)any an=tsekoly ((PST)-there ACC=school, at the school).

(38) a. N-an-aingo efi+trano t-amin=ny fanaka vaovao i Beby
NV.PST-VM-adorn room+house PST-OBL=the furniture new the PN

T R(?? non-T object) A

'Beby furnished (the) room with new pieces of furniture'

b. N-amp-i-haingò-in=i Beby t-amin=ny fanaka vaovao ny efi+trano
PST-CAUS-VM-adorn-AV=the PN(.GEN) PST-OBL=the furniture new the room+house
'Beby furnished the room with the new pieces of furniture'

c. N-amp-i-haingò-an=i Beby efi+trano ny fanaka vaovao PST-CAUS-VM-adorn-CV=the PN(.GEN) room+house the furniture new 'With the new pieces of furniture, Beby furnished (the) room'

In the nominative voice (38a), the R or rather the non-T object is marked oblique (t-amin= (PST-OBL=)). In the absolutive voice (38b), the oblique marking for the non-T object (= R) remains. In the circumstantial voice (38c), the non-T object (= R) in the nominative voice becomes the subject. Incidentally, m-an-aingo (NV-VM-adorn, furnish/adorn) is the transitive counterpart of the middle verb m-i-haingo (NV-VM-adorn, furnish/adorn oneself). When there is a pair of verb forms that differ only in the valency markers i- and an-, it is often a pair of a middle verb and a transitive verb. But it is not always guaranteed that a verb with the valency marker i- to be intransitive. It usually works when there is a pair. A verb with the valency marker an- is usually transitive. On the other hand, m-amp-i-haingo (NV-CAUS-VM-adorn, furnish/adorn oneself) is the causative of m-i-haingo. My language consultant decided to start from the causative m-amp-i-haingo to derive the absolutive-voice form (38b) and the circumstantial-voice form (38c).

There are a few more examples of cultural words.

(39) a. N-an-dà ny tolotra n-a-tao=n=ilay vinanto

 $NV.PST-VM-refuse \quad the \ gift \ PST-AV-do=LK=ANA \ son.in.law(.to.be)$ 

Т

t-amin=ny fofo=m=badi=ny ny ray aman=dreny PST-OBL=the smell=LK=spouse=his the father OBL=mother

R(?? non-T object)

'The parents rejected the gift presented by the son-in-law-to-be for the dowry'

b. N-an-dà ny vody ondry n-a-tao=n=ilay vinanto

NV.PST-VM-refuse the butt goat PST-AV-do=LK=ANA son.in.law(.to.be)

Т

t-amin=ny fofo=m=badi=ny ny ray aman=dreny PST-OBL=the smell=LK=spouse=his the father OBL=mother

R(?? non-T object)

'The parents rejected the bride price presented by the son-in-law-to-be for the dowry'

In all these examples in the subsection 2.3., T is always caseless even with the anaphoric ilay (ANA) (32b). A phrase with ilay (ANA) becomes an=ilay N (ACC=ANA N) as a P in a monotransitive clause (cf. fn. 10). On the other hand, R (or a non-T object) is always marked oblique.

#### 2. 4. Location-marked R

c. N-indràm-an=i Seheno

There are also ditransitive verbs that mark the R as a location.

(40) a. N-indrana vola t-any amin=ny zoki=ny i Seheno
NV.PST-borrow money PST-there OBL=the older.sibling<sup>12)</sup>=her the PN
T R(?? non-T object) A

'Seheno borrowed money from her older sibling'

b. N-indràm-in=i Seheno t-any amin=ny zoki=ny ny vola
PST-borrow-AV=the PN(.GEN) PST-there OBL-the older.sibling=her the money

volany zoki=ny

'Seheno borrowed the money from her older sibling'

PST-borrow-CV=the PN(.GEN) money the older.sibling=her

'Seheno's older sibling was borrowed money from by Seheno'

In the nominative voice (40a), the R is marked as a location (*t-any amin*= (PST-there OBL=), cf fn. 11). In the absolutive voice (40b), the oblique marking for the R remains. In the circumstantial voice (40c), the R in the nominative voice becomes the subject. *T-any amin=ny zoki=ny* (PST-there OBL=the older. sibling=her) is treated as an R here, but strictly speaking, it is not a recipient but rather a source.

There is also an example with a real location rather than a person with the same verb.

(41) N-indrana boky t-any am=pianarana ny ankizy
NV.PST-borrow book PST-there ACC-school the child
P location A

'The child borrowed a book at school'

When *m-indrana* (NV-borrow) is derived causatively, it becomes *m-amp-indrana* (NV-CAUS-borrow = lend).

(42) N-amp-indrana ny vola ho an=i Seheno ny zoki=ny
NV.PST-CAUS-borrow the money ALL ACC=the PN the older.sibling=her
T R A

In these examples (40a, 41a, 42a), the T is always caseless. The R or the non-T object ( $\approx$  R) is marked for location (40a, 41a). The beneficiary marking of R in (42a) belongs to subsection 2.2.

## 2. 5. Seemingly neutral alignment and irregular R-T order

'Her older sibling lent Seheno the money'

Finally, there is neutral ditransitive alignment where both T and R are marked as monotransitive P.

(43) a. M-amp-aha-fàntatra an=i Zaivololona an=i Lalaina Ramaro
NV-CAUS-VM-know ACC=the PN ACC=the PN PN
T(=P??) R(=causee) A(=causer)

'Ramaro is introducing Zaivololona to Lalaina'

<sup>12)</sup>In Malagasy, there are two sets of names for siblings. One is *zoky* (older.sibling) and *zandry* (younger.sibling). The gender does not need to be specified for this set. The other set is: *rahavavy* (same-sex.sister), *rahalahy* (same-sex.brother), *anabavy* (opposite-sex.sister), *anadahy* (opposite-sex.brother).

b. Amp-aha-fantàr-in=dRamaro an=i Lalaina i Zaivololona CAUS-VM-know-AV=PN(.GEN) ACC=the PN the PN 'Zaivololona is introduced to Lalaina by Ramaro'

Both objects in (43a) are equally marked accusative. Therefore you cannot take one of them to make it into a circumstantial subject. One theory can be that an=i Zaivololona (ACC=the PN) is the P for m-aha-fantatra (NV-VN-know) and an=i Lalaina (ACC=the PN) is the causee in the causative construction.

There are several other examples with two objects. One of the objects is a person and the other is not.

```
(44) a. N-an-dràra an=i Haja ny tsy h-i-lalao ny mpanazatra NV.PST-VM-forbid ACC=the PN the not NV.FUT-VM-play the trainer R T A

'The trainer forbade Haja to play'
b. N-an-drarà-na ny mpivarotra ny tsy h-an-doto PST-VM-forbid-CV the merchant the not NV.FUT-VM-soil ny toerana i-varot-a=ny the place VM-sell-CV=he/she/they.GEN

'It is forbidden for the merchants to soil the places where they sell'
```

In both examples (44a, b), what is forbidden is expressed in the form *ny tsy V.FUT*, i.e. *ny tsy h-i-lalao* (the not NV.FUT-VM-play) and *ny tsy h-an-doto* (the not NV.FUT-VM-soil). In both cases, the verb does not undergo morphological nominalization, which is quite easy to do in Malagasy, but instead the verb is nominalized by the placement of the definite article *ny* (the). It is also interesting to note that the verb has a negation *tsy* (not<sup>13</sup>). If you take the person object as the R, (44a) has an R-T order instead of the T-R order which can be seen everywhere in the previous pages.

We will look at some more examples where the second object is fine.

```
(45) a. N-ana-sazy
                             an=i Lalaina
                                              iray tapitrisa ariary
                                                                  ny tribonaly/ny fanjakana
      NV.PST-VM-fine
                             ACC=the PN
                                              one million ariary
                                                                  the tribunal/the government
                                              Τ
      'The tribunal/government fined Lalaina one million ariary'
    b. No-sazì-n=ny tribonaly(.GEN)
                                         an=i Lalaina
                                                            ny iray tapitrisa ariary
      PST-fine-AV=the tribunal
                                         ACC=the PN
                                                            the one million ariary
       '(The fine of) one million ariary was sentenced to Lalaina by the tribunal'
    c. No-sazi-an=ny tribonaly
                                              iray tapitrisa ariary
                                                                  i Lalaina
      PST-fine-AV=the tribunal(.GEN)
                                             one million ariary
                                                                  the PN
      'Lalaina was fined one million ariary by the tribunal'
```

Also in this example (45a), we have the R-T order instead of the T-R order. The case markings in (43a) may be the result of the causative construction. (44a) has a deverbal phrase T and (45a) has the amount of fine as the T and they both have the irregular R-T order.

<sup>13)</sup> It looks somewhat like the expletive *ne* in French. E.g. *j'ai peur qu'il ne le fasse* (I have fear that he not it do.SUBJ (I'm afraid he'll do it)) (Lawless 2023).

# 2. 6. Section summary

In the literature (cf. Stark 1969, Moriyama 2003), accusative-marked P/T and caseless P/T are treated as broadly-defined "accusative" as it is done in the English school grammar. But from the point of view of morphological case marking, this is not appropriate. (In language classrooms, it may be easier for the students to understand the mechanisms.)

From the point of view of morphological case marking, the NPs taking the role of subjective form, unmarked object/oblique form, accusative forms, and oblique-marked forms are classified in Table 2. Beneficiary forms and location forms are easily formed from ACC forms and OBL forms, respectively (cf. fns. 15, 16).

<Table 2>

	Subjective <sup>14)</sup>	Unmarked object/ oblique	ACC <sup>15)</sup>	<b>OBL</b> <sup>16)</sup>
PRON	izy ((s)he)	-	azy (her/him)	(t-)ami=ny ((PST-)OBL=3)
PN	Rakoto (PN)		an=dRakoto (ACC=PN)	(t-)amin=dRakoto ((PST-) OBL=PN)
I PN	i Aina (the PN)		an=i Aina (ACC=the PN)	(t-)amin=i Aina ((PST-)OBL= the PN)
DEM NP DEM	io vehivavy io (that woman that)		an=io vehivavy io (ACC=that woman that)	(t-)amin=io vehivavy io ((PST-)OBL=that woman that)
Ilay NP	ilay vehivavy (ANA woman)	ilay vehivavy (ANA woman, T)	an=ilay vehivavy (ACC= ANA woman)	(t-)amin=ilay vehivavy ((PST-) OBL=ANA woman)
Ny NP	ny vehivavy (the woman)	ny vehivavy (the woman, P/T/R)	-	(t-)amin=ny vehivavy ((PST-) OBL= the woman)
P/T without a determiner		solosaina (computer, P/T), bibi lava (animal long, snake, P/T)		

<sup>14)</sup> Subjective case functions as nominative in the nominative-voice clauses, as absolutive in the absolutive-voice clauses, and is used for a case-stripped (when possible) subject derived from an adjunct in the circumstantial-voice clauses. *Ny/ilay NP* (the/ANA NP) is used for both subjective and unmarked object/oblique. Morphologically speaking, they have the same forms.

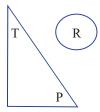
<sup>15)</sup> The beneficiary is expressed by *ho* plus the accusative forms in the table, e.g. *ho azy* (ALL 3.ACC, for her/him), *ho an=dRakoto* (ALL ACC=PN, for Rakoto).

<sup>16)</sup> Location is expressed by inserting a locative demonstrative between (t-) and OBL in the OBL forms in the table, e.g. (t-)any ami=ny ((PST-)there OBL=3, at her/him), (t-)any amin=dRakoto ((PST-)there OBL=PN, at Rakoto). Any (there) is not the only locative demonstrative that can fill the slot. Any of the 13 locative demonstratives can fill the slot. Location can also be expressed in the form (t-)locative.demonstrative ACC=NP like (t-)any an=tsekoly ((PST-)there ACC=school, at school). See also fn. 11.

Let us return to the indirective case alignment, secundative case alignment, and neutral case alignment in Figure 1. When talking about case alignment, only the nominative-voice examples are considered because T and R are always both present as objects/obliques only in the nominative voice. In the absolutive voice, T (and sometimes R) in the nominative voice becomes the subject. In the circumstantial voice, R in the nominative voice sometimes becomes the subject. Most of the examples in the subsections 2.2., 2.3., and 2.4. can be considered to have the indirective alignment pattern since both P and T are either accusative-marked or an unmarked object/oblique. R, on the other hand, is beneficiary-marked (2.2., fn. 15), oblique-marked (2.3.), or location-marked (2.4., fn. 16).

< Figure 2>Ditransitive alignment types: indirective alignment (adapted from Figure 1)

## Indirective

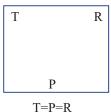


 $T=P \neq R$ 

Some of the examples in subsection 2.1. (12a, b, 16) can be considered to have neutral alignment because both T and R have no case markings.

<Figure 3>Ditransitive alignment types: neutral alignment (adapted from Figure 1)

#### Neutral

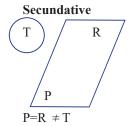


When there is an accusative marking for R, it is a bit difficult to handle. It is very easy to find accusative-marked P as in (2, 3). But it is more difficult to find accusative-marked T. There are examples of person-name T that is accusative-marked but not in the neutral alignment (18a, b) and possibly (43). (43) has two consecutive accusative-marked phrases, but this may be due to the causative derivation. Moreover, most of the T examples in this paper are case-wise unmarked object/oblique without an article or with one of the articles *ny* (the) or *ilay* (ANA). Among these T examples, the bare noun phrase without an article can be a less individuated patient (LIP) which is explained in the paragraph following (4). When a T is more definite, e.g. it is a personal name, it is an NP sandwiched by demonstratives, etc., it tends to be used as a subject in the absolutive-voice clause. See Minoura (2023: 132) for a similar discussion of

a potential definite P to be used as a subject in the absolutive-voice clause. This may also be one of the reasons why we mostly have fewer definite NPs in the T slot.

Almost all the nominative-voice ditransitive clauses in Malagasy can be classified into the two alignment types, i.e. indirective and neutral. But because of a piece of subtle evidence, we have to add other alignment types as well. The subtle evidence is that *ilay NP* (ANA NP) is not case-marked in the T slot, but when it is a P, it is accusative-marked as *an=ilay NP* (ACC=ANA NP) (3b, c, e). And the R-marking for *ilay NP* (ANA NP) can be *an=ilay NP* (ACC=ANA NP) or beneficiary-marked *ho an=ilay NP* (ALL ACC=ANA NP) (2.2.), oblique-marked *amin=ilay NP* (OBL=ANA NP) (2.3.), or location-marked *(t-)any amin=ilay NP* ((PST-)there OBL=ANA NP) (2.4., cf. fn. 16). If the R has accusative-marking, it can be said that it has the secundative pattern.

<Figure 4>Ditransitive alignment types: secundative alignment (adapted from Figure 1)

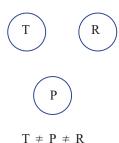


T is caseless, i.e. *ilay NP* (ANA NP) and P and R are accusative-marked, i.e. *an=ilay NP* (ACC=ANA NP).

On the other hand, if the R is beneficiary-marked, oblique-marked, or location-marked, it can be said to have a tripartite pattern.

<Figure 5>Ditransitive alignment types: tripartite alignment (adapted from Figure 1)

## **Tripartite**



T is caseless, i.e. *ilay NP* (ANA NP), and P is accusative-marked, i.e. an=ilay NP (ACC=ANA NP), and R is marked for the beneficiary, i.e.  $ho \ an=NP$  (ALL ACC=NP), oblique, i.e.  $(t-)amin=ny \ NP$  ((PST-) OBL=the NP), and location, i.e.  $(t-)any \ amin=ny \ NP$  ((PST-)there OBL=the NP).

As for the basic word order of ditransitive clauses, Malagasy has the VTRS order except in (44a, 45a). In (44a), a verb phrase nominalized by a definite article behaves as T and the clause has an R-T order

unlike in the previous subsections. In (45a), the amount of the fine is the T and the clause also has an R-T order. In all the other examples, Malagasy has a T-R order, of which Haspelmath (2015) could not find any examples at the time he wrote the paper.

main order type	R-T order	example	T-R order	example
SVO	S V O <sub>R</sub> O <sub>T</sub>	Tswana	S V O <sub>T</sub> O <sub>R</sub>	Fongbe
SOV	$S O_R O_T V$	Uzbek	S O <sub>T</sub> O <sub>R</sub> V	Ijo
VSO	$V S O_R O_T$	So	V S O <sub>T</sub> O <sub>R</sub>	Tahitian
VOS	$VO_RO_TS$	Q'eqchi'	$VO_TO_RS$	?

<Table 3> (Haspelmath 2015: 14, Table 1)

Haspelmath (2015: 14) writes "though for the least frequent order VOS, I do not know of a language with T-R order." Malagasy can fill in the gap as a language with the  $VO_TO_R$  S order in the lower-right corner of Table 3, replacing the question mark.

# Conclusion

Looking at the nominal constituents of Malagasy ditransitive clauses, the most common pattern is the indirective alignment, which is not uncommon among world languages. The examples can be found in the subsections 2.2., 2.3., and 2.4. What is noteworthy is that the case marking of R has a few options, i.e. beneficiary marking, oblique marking, and location marking. For the case marking of P (and A) in monotransitive clauses, Malagasy does not enjoy such freedom. The cases of A and P are assigned according to the voice of the clause (Minoura 2023).

In addition to the indirective alignment, there is also the neutral alignment (12a, b, 16 in 2.1.). So far, what I have are examples of the verb m-an-ome (NV-VM-give), which is used quite often. Moreover, if we look at the behavior of ilay NP (ANA NP), we can say that the neutral alignment turns out to be the secundative alignment and the indirective alignment turns out to be the tripartite alignment because the form ilay NP (ANA NP) is used for the T slot, but an=ilay NP (ACC=ANA NP) has to be used for the P slot.

As for the word order of ditransitive clauses, Malagasy has the VTRS order with some exceptions when it has the VRTS order (44a, 45a).

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