

A SKETCH OF AU MORPHOLOGY AND SYNTAX

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INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

Au is an unusual Papuan language spoken by some 4,100 inhabitants living in the East-West Wapei Council area east of Lumi, the subprovince headquarters of the West Sepik Province in Northern Papua New Guinea.

The data used in this paper are the result of research in Au carried out by the author and his wife from 1968 to 1977. Fieldwork has been done primarily in the Central dialect in the village of Tumentonik. Other dialects include the Eastern dialect and the Southern dialect which are all mutually intelligible. All research has been conducted under the auspices of the Summer Institute of Linguistics.

Much of the data was extracted from the morpheme by morpheme concordance of Au consisting of 43,332 words of text made on the IBM 1410 Computer at the University of Oklahoma by the Linguistic Information Retrieval Project and partially funded by National Science Foundation Grant GS-934.

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0. GENERAL INTRODUCTION

The Au language is spoken by 4,100 people living in the East-West Wapei Council area east of Lumi, the subprovince headquarters of the Sandaun Province in Papua New Guinea. There are three dialects: the Eastern spoken by 2,300 people living in eight villages, the Western spoken by 600 people living in three villages, and the Central, upon which this analysis is based, spoken by 1,200 people living in eight villages.

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Au is a member of the Wapei family, which together with other languages make up the Wapei-Palei stock, part of the larger Torricelli Phylum. These languages are spoken along the Torricelli mountains. Laycock (1973:7), an authority on the area states, "The Torricelli group appears to have no related languages outside of the Sepik-Ramu area...the phonology differs from that of most other Sepik groups in permitting vowel sequences and in having a large number of vowel phonemes". In a later volume (1975:768) he states, "The Torricelli Phylum appears to constitute a genetic group in itself; that is, no other languages in the New Guinea area appear to be even distantly related to it". Earlier in the same volume (1975:178) a very detailed comparison is given of features separating Australian, the Trans-New Guinea Phylum, the Sepik-Ramu Phylum and Melanesian (an Austronesian subgrouping). In having compared the chart of general characteristics outlined by Wurm with Au, we find the results suggest that Au does not compare favourably with any of them. (See Section 4. for a detailed explanation.) Apart from the survey work carried out by Laycock (1967-68, 1970-71), none of the languages of the Torricelli Phylum have been studied in detail. As part of the Torricelli Phylum, Au is part of a little studied genetic group different from any other phylum of Papua New Guinea languages. Both the Trans-New Guinea Phylum and the Sepik-Ramu Phylum have medial verb forms and a rigid subject-object-verb word order. Au has no medial verb forms, and its basic word order is rigidly fixed as subject-verb-object. Although these features would therefore make Au seem like an Austronesian type language, it remains distinct by virtue of other criteria.

0.1. Theory

The analysis presented in the following sections describes in detail the word classes, phrases and clauses, or an overview of the basic grammatical structure of Au, using a format adapted from the tagmemic model of Pike (1967).

The analysis presented here uses a simple prose description for word classes and phrases unless there are several classes of fillers for the phrases. In such cases and for clauses, a bi-dimensional array of the internal structure of the construction which is under consideration is also given, followed by the normal prose elaboration of the array. In every case, examples of the external distribution of the constructions are given.

0.2. Contrastive features

Contrastive features are those features which distinguish the various types of classes or constructions within a level. The general rule which has been followed is taken from Longacre (1964:47), who states that there must be at least two contrastive features between constructions and at least one of these differences must involve the nuclear and/or obligatory tagmas (constituents). Contrastive features which distinguish distinctive types of constructions for the levels above word are:

- (1) Contrastive categories, functions and distribution of constituents.
- (2) Number of obligatory constituents and their potential expansion.
- (3) Number of optional constituents and their potential expansion.

These are all related to the internal structure of the construction. External distribution is also important and is the primary criterion of formation for

word classes which will be discussed in sections 2 and 3. Chart A summarises the contrastive features used within each level. Tense restrictions, subject restrictions and linking devices have been omitted from consideration because they are pertinent only on levels above clause.

Contrastive features	Phrase	Clause	Sen	Para	Discourse
Kinds of constituents	X	X	X	X	X
Number of obligatory constituents	X	X	X	X	X
Number of optional constituents	X	X	X	X	X

Chart A: Contrastive features

0.2.1. Kinds of constituents

The kinds of constituents and their relationships to one another is a very significant contrastive feature and is the basis for distinguishing types of constructions on each level. The name of the constituents reflects as much as possible the contrastive categories, functions and relationships that exist between constituents in a given construction type so that these features are more quickly recognised. For example, an intensive pronoun phrase indicates that the word class pronoun has a particular function (intensive) and is a phrase level construction.

0.2.2. Number and potential expansion of obligatory constituents

The number and potential expansion of obligatory constituents is significant in that some types of constructions have more obligatory constituents than others. Most constructions at each level have at least two obligatory constituents. Also, in some types the obligatory constituents have optional expansion possibilities. For example, the Counter 1 of a general numeral phrase may occur up to six (6) times, whereas the Counter 2 may occur only once.

0.2.3. Number of optional constituents and their potential expansion

The number of optional constituents and their potential expansion is significant in that some types have no optional constituents while others do. In some constructions the optional constituents are potentially able to occur more than once, while in others they may occur only one time.

0.2.4. Linking devices

Although linking devices are primarily manifested at the sentence level or higher, they are one of the phenomena which distinguish Au from other languages in Papua New Guinea, especially non-Austronesian languages. Most of these languages have special forms for the verbs which occur medially in the sentence. These serve to chain together sentences which are part of a larger unit. In Au although there are no medial verb forms, there is the common Papuan phenomenon known as recapitulation, a type of chaining that links sentences together within higher units. When this occurs, the final verb of the final clause (and occasionally two to three final clauses) is repeated at the beginning of the next sentence. Clause level constituents other than the verb may also occur in the recapitulation, including the subject of the final clause. Often the recapitulation linkage may carry new information which is an amplification of the previous clause.

Juxtaposition is another linking device. Clauses are usually chained together in this manner, and the pronominal subject markers, which normally occur in the clause, will be omitted in subsequent clauses.

0.3. Presentation

In our outline and presentation of Au grammar in this paper, an inventory of Au phonemes is given first, followed by comments on stress (which is predictable), and concluded with the few basic morphophonemic rules that occur.

Section 1 treats verb classes first from the perspective of derivation; following that, the verb classes are considered in relation to their inflection.

Section 2 treats non-verbal word classes in a manner parallel to section 1, looking both at derivation and inflection.

Section 3 outlines the basic phrase types and shows the extensive agreement of numerals, personal pronouns and all noun-adjuncts to the nuclear or primary constituent (or head) of the constructions under consideration.

Section 4 focuses on the Au clauses. Clauses are described by dividing them into independent and dependent clauses and describing them from the perspectives of transitivity and mode. Subject cross-reference is also discussed with examples used to reflect its operation between constituents, particularly reference back to the subject.

Section 5 is a summary of the syntactic and morphological features which have been described in the earlier sections with an explanation of their significance in the overall function of Au grammar.

Section 6 outlines features described up to this point in the grammar, as well as additional features not discussed earlier by comparing them to other Papuan languages. The results of this comparative study show that Au has many aberrant features which give a solid basis for Laycock (1975:768) to rate the Torricelli Phylum as a linguistic group separate from other Papuan languages.

0.3.1. Segmental phonemes

There are 17 phonemes which represent the phonological system for Au; there are eight consonants, two semivowels and seven vowels. These are indicated below:

Consonants:	stops	:	/p/ /t/ /k/
	fricatives	:	/s/ /g/ (voiced velar fricative)
	nasals	:	/m/ /n/
	flap	:	/r/
Semivowels:			/w/ /y/
Vowels:	high front close unrounded	:	/i/
	high central close unrounded	:	/ɨ/
	high back close rounded	:	/u/
	mid central close unrounded	:	/ʌ/ symbolised /e/
	mid back close rounded	:	/o/
	low central close unrounded	:	/a/
	low central close unrounded	:	/aa/ (lengthened vowel)

The lengthened vowel symbolised as /aa/ has two distinct manifestations. In the central dialect, the lengthened vowel is interrupted by a glottal stop. /aʔa/, but in the phonological analysis has been considered as a single syllabic unit. This phenomenon does not occur in the Eastern dialect.

0.3.2. Stress

Stress normally occurs on the first syllable of a word, which may have up to four syllables. Some exceptions are noted below:

(a) The vowel /ɨ/ is never stressed unless the only vowels in the word are /e/ or another /ɨ/. Examples are:

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| (1) mɨ́tɨk <i>man</i> | (4) k-ɨ́rɨr <i>he-flees</i> |
| (2) mɨ́te <i>woman</i> | (5) k-ɨ́sáwɨn <i>he-hides</i> |
| (3) hɨ́ne <i>knife</i> | (6) k-á́tɨp <i>he-talks</i> |

(b) The vowel /e/ is never stressed unless the only other vowels are /ɨ/ or another /e/. Examples are:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| (7) né́pere <i>dog</i> | (9) k-ewá́t <i>he-gives</i> |
| (8) pé́rpere <i>flying fox</i> | (10) k-ekíntɨp <i>he-steals</i> |

0.3.3. Morphophonemics

Stem reductions and vowel alternations are the two most important types of changes occurring in Au when affixation occurs on verb stems.

(a) Stem reduction — there are two types which occur:

(1.) The last vowel /ɨ/ is lost when a suffix is attached to the verb stem.*
Examples are:

- (11) k-atin k-etn-*ɨ*wek he cuts it
 he-cuts he-cuts-it

*This happens only to the vowel /*ɨ*/.

- (12) k-*ɨ*nkatin k-*ɨ*nketn-*ɨ*wek he hunts for it
 he-hunts for he-hunts for-it

(2.) The final vowel of the initial word of any sequence is dropped when the next word begins with a vowel. Examples are:

- (13) pike p*ɨ*k ano I will return
 again again I-will go

(b) Vowel alternation

(1.) Initial verb stem vowel a alters to e and initial verb stem vowel u alters to *ɨ* when followed by p (the continuous aspect marker) or when a pronoun object is suffixed to the verb as in example (16). Examples are:

- (14) k-atip k-e-(p)-t*ɨ*p he keeps on talking
 he-talks he-cont-talks
- (15) k-uwaai k-*ɨ*-(p)-waa*ɨ* he keeps on sleeping
 he-sleeps he-cont-sleeps
- (16) k-atin k-etn-*ɨ*wek he cuts it
 he-cuts he-cuts-it

(2.) All initial verb stem vowels alter to a when future tense/aspect is formed. The subject-marking prefix is also reduplicated, and this second form appears immediately following the altered stem vowel. Examples are:

- (17) k-ewat k-(a)-k-wat he will give
 he-gives he-(give)-will-give
- (18) k-uwaai k-a-k-waa*ɨ* he will sleep
 he-sleeps he-(sleep)-will-sleep

(c) Vowel epenthesis, or the insertion of a vowel, occurs in some forms when the future tense/aspect is formed. This is to separate homorganic stops or nasals from occurring juxtaposed and causing one of them to be deleted. Examples are:

- (19) n-en n-an-+no they will go
 they-go they-will-()-go
- (20) k-akip k-ak-*ɨ*-kip he will strike him
 he-hit-him he-will-hit-him
- base forms: before epenthesis
 n-an-no they will go
 k-ak-*ɨ*-kip he will hit him

(d) Vowel raising

(1.) Initial verb stem vowels which are low or mid-central are raised when the imperative aspect prefix e is affixed to the initial verb stem. Examples are:

- (21) k-entar e-k-*ɨ*ntar
 he-because imp-he-because

- (22) k-erp e-kɪrp
 he-stands *imp-he-stands*

(2.) The last low or central vowel in verb stems raises to e when an object is affixed to the stem. The last central vowel in the verb stem raised to ɪ when an object suffix with a front or central vowel is affixed to the verb stem.

Examples are:

- (23) k-entar k-enter-ik
 he-on *he-on-it*
- (24) k-ɪnain k-ɪnein-ɪk
 he-fears *he-fears-it*
- (25) k-ises k-isis-a
 he-follows *he-follows-me*
- (26) k-ehimɪtan k-ehimɪten-ɪwek
 he marks *me-marks-for him*

1. VERBAL WORD CLASSES

1.1. Introduction

In Au the verb is the most diverse and interesting of all the word classes; verbs are interesting because of their unusual inflectional activity. Within the verbal framework, there are various classes distinguished on the basis of the different inflectional affixes which may occur, and also on the basis of the stem changes and formation, along with the distribution of verbs in higher level constructions. The verb classes are: (1) transitive, (2) ditransitive, (3) intransitive, and (4) stative. The various affixation phenomena which appear with each class will be discussed in pertinent subsections below. These affixes include subject markers, tense/aspect markers, object markers, plural/diversification markers, and reciprocation marking affixes.

Before considering the verbal classifications in any detail, it is first necessary to comment on word formation. Several of these words in the above named classes do not follow the normal pattern of affixation and need to be explained on the basis of word derivation.

1.2. Derivation

Verbs may be formed in Au through compounding into noun-verb, verb-noun or verb-verb combinations. The restrictions on affixation will be discussed under each of the appropriate sections as the various compound words are considered.

1.2.1. Noun-verb compounds

The nouns which combine with the verbs to make up this set of compound words are restricted to body parts. The verb inflects for the person, gender and number of the noun which it follows, and describes the state of that noun. Examples of these compounds are:

- (27) han - k-aa *forgets*
 heart - *it-dies*
- (28) han - tewen-in *likes; feels affection toward*
 heart - *bends-pl*
- (29) hemkre - m-enep-am *desires strongly; covets*
 blood - *they-hit- recip.*

1.2.2. Verb-noun compounds

In this set of compound words, the verb occurs in primary position and the noun (again limited to body parts) acts as qualifier of the action. Since most nouns do not inflect (see section 3.3.), no concord is shown between the verb and the noun. The verb, however, does take on an affix and inflects for person, gender and number of the subject of the construction in which it appears as the predicate. Examples are:

- (30) k-eket - han *he remembers*
 he-digs out - heart
- (31) k-ewen - naan *he spys on*
 he-bends down - eye
- (32) k-uwaai - naan *he looks around*
 he-lays down - eye
- (33) k-ewir - his *he punches*
 he-throws - hand
- (34) k-uwaai - hit *he kicks*
 he-lays down - leg
- (35) k-ikia-m - naan *he looks up*
 he-lifts-them - eye

1.2.3. Verb-verb compounds

This set of compounds is different from those in previous sets. Both of these verbs inflect; in the other sets only one constituent took on affixation. Both of these verbs must inflect identically for person, gender and number of the subject of the construction in which they appear. They manifest the predicate in clause constructions. Examples are:

- (36) k-enke - k-ari *he hangs upside down*
 he-falls - he-pulls
- (37) k-atip - k-ises *he gossips*
 he-talks - he-follows
- (38) k-ewirnak - k-eitet *he warns against*
 he-throws - he follows

(b) Subclass two transitive verbs may only take free noun objects. Examples are:

(50) k-irak tukin *he beats the slit gong drum*
 he-beats slit gong

(51) k-enep sak *he shot the pig*
 he-shot pig

(c) Subclass three transitive verbs have discontinuous morphemes as their stems; the infixed pronoun refers to the subject, not the object as is the case in other transitive verbs. Examples follow where *inatin* is the stem for *to hunt*.

(52) k-in-(k)-atin sak *he hunts for pigs*
 he-hunts-(he)-hunts pig

(53) w-in-(w)-atin wise *she hunts for grasshoppers*
 she-hunts-(she)-hunts grasshoppers

(d) Subclass four transitive verbs have an object occurring as part of the verb stem. These objects occur only in the third person and may be singular, dual or plural. These are indicated in Chart E.

	Singular	Dual	Plural
3rd person			
masc	-k-	-t-	-n-
fem	-h-	-n-	
neut	-k-	-m-	-m-

Chart E: Verb stem object markers

Examples are:

(54) k-ere-k-ir *he cuts it*
 he-cuts-it-cuts

(55) k-a-k-ip *he hits him*
 he-hits-him-hits

(e) Subclass five transitive verbs optionally take infixed object pronouns in place of free pronouns. These verbs take the benefactive object pronouns as an infix while at the same time taking direct object pronouns as a suffix. Examples are:

(56) k-it-uwek-hi-em *he asks him about them*
 he-asks-him-asks-of them

(57) k-emit-uwek-pin *he lies to him*
 he-lies-to him-lies

(f) Subclass six transitive verbs take no subject marking or tense/aspect prefixes. These are composed of derived verbs. See section 2.2.1. for a full explanation. Examples are:

- (58) han k-aa hine kirak he forgot his knife
heart it-dies knife it-his
- (59) han tewen-en nikan k-ire she mourns for her son
hear bends-pl son it-hers

(g) Subclass seven transitive verbs are irregular. The stem changes for each person because the object pronoun is wholly integrated into the verb and as such is indistinguishable from it. See Chart F for examples.

	Singular	Dual	Plural
1st person	k-eiyep he-hit-me	k-ewep-ir he-hit-us (two)	k-ewep he-hit-us (pl)
2nd person	k-itep he-hit-you	k-iyep he-hit-you (two)	k-iyep he-hit-you (pl)
3rd person			
masc	k-akip he-hit-him	k-aksip he-hit-them (two)	k-anip he-hit-them (pl)
fem	k-aaup he-hit-her	k-anip he-hit-them (two)	k-anip he-hit-them (pl)
neut	k-akip he-hit-it	k-amip he-hit-them (two)	k-amip he-hit-them (pl)

Chart F: Irregular stem verb

1.3.3. Ditransitive verbs

Ditransitive verbs do not divide into classes. They take both benefactive and direct object suffixes optionally in place of free nouns that normally occur in that position. Examples are:

- (60) k-etp-uwek-em he tells something to him
he-tells-to him-them
- (61) k-ewet-uwe menmen he gave food to her
he-gave-to her food

1.3.4. Intransitive verbs

There are two subclasses of intransitive verbs, regular and irregular. Intransitive verbs manifest the predicate constituent of intransitive clauses.

(a) Subclass one intransitive verbs are regular in that the stem does not change when co-occurring with future tense/aspect affixation. Examples are:

- | | | | | |
|------|-----------|------------|---------------|---------------|
| (62) | k-ekir | he washes; | k-ak-ikir | he will wash |
| | he washes | | he-will-wash | |
| (63) | k-irire | he dances; | k-ak-rire | he will dance |
| | he dances | | he-will dance | |

Note the morphophonemic rules in operation in the future tense examples of the above verbs. See section 0.3.3. on rules of vowel alternation.

(b) Subclass two intransitive verbs are irregular in that the stem changes when co-occurring with future tense/aspect affixation. Examples are:

- | | | | | |
|------|-----------------|-----------|---------------------|--------------|
| (64) | k-en | he goes; | k-ak-no | he will go |
| | he-goes | | he-will-go | |
| | basic stem: -en | | altered stem: -ano | |
| (65) | k-an | he comes; | k-ak-nen | he will come |
| | he-comes | | he-will-come | |
| | basic stem: -an | | altered stem: -anen | |

2. NON-VERBAL CLASSES

2.1. Introduction

Non-verbal word classes are distinguished on the basis of their external distribution in phrase and clause level constructions, and by the internal structure of the particular word class. Some words are grouped into subclasses on the basis of additional distribution and internal structure (inflection versus non-inflection). Since non-inflecting words do not demonstrate concord with other constituents of higher level constructions (i.e. clauses and sentences) in which they appear, they are totally dependent on their juxtaposed constituents (on the levels, particularly phrase) to show how they relate to these higher level constructions. In Au, the largest class of non-inflected words appearing in the lexicon are nouns, although other classes or words also have members which do not inflect; these include some adverbs and adjectives.

Words which may inflect constitute the most important classes which occur in Au. The inflection which marks the words for person, gender and number makes up the main component of the cross-reference system which operates on the clause and sentence levels. As has been previously demonstrated in section 2, the verbal word classes are very complex, taking affixation which not only includes prefixes and suffixes, but infixes as well; they may have instances of up to five syntactic categories marked by inflection in one word. The non-verbal classes, however, when inflected, have affixation preceding or following the word, and such affixation is limited to one occurrence per word.

In this section we will consider the derivation of non-verbal words, and then relate inflection to the word classes as they are applicable.

2.2. Derivation

Non-verbal words can be formed in Au through compounding. This involves grouping words such as non-adjective, noun-noun, and the reduplication of words and stems.

2.2.1. Reduplicated stems

Most non-verbal words in Au are uninflected free forms which are complete units in themselves. There are, however, a few reduplicated stems which occur, such as the following classes:

(a) Adjectives

(66) yain-yain *lazy*(67) wei-wei *soft*

(b) Adverbs

(68) main-main *slowly; quietly*(69) was-was *quickly*

(c) Nouns

(70) kukir-kukir *noise (of footsteps)*(71) tapin-tapin *gooseflesh bumps*(72) ker-ker *noise (of pounding)*(73) hin-hin *arrow design*

(d) Verbs

(74) han-han *desire; love*(75) ehin-hin *to be startled*(76) eper-per *shake with fear*(77) etari-tari *to be insensible; crazy; drunk*

The morphophonemic rule of vowel deletion occurs in the formation of verbs (75)-(77); this rule is discussed in section 0.3.3.

2.2.2. Noun-adjective compounds

The words which combine with adjectives are limited to body part nouns. These form new words which describe a state of being or a condition. Examples are:

(78) hit - noki-m *a long way*
leg - long-them(79) han - enu-k *unhappy; angry*
heart - bad-it(80) yink - enu-m *embarrassed*
skin - bad-them(81) yink - sisi *fever*
skin - hot

2.2.3. Noun-noun compounds

These compounds combine a noun in primary position which takes the role of qualifier. There are others which reduplicate and show a function of diversification or plurality. Both of these are described below.

(a) Noun-noun qualifier compound

This compound involves a noun in primary position containing a generic term, followed by a noun expressing a specific name or relation. Examples are:

- | | | |
|------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| (82) | mani Opan
river Opan | <i>Opan river</i> |
| (83) | maam n pu
grandparent appendage | <i>clan hero; great grandparent</i> |
| (84) | nikan suware
son chicken | <i>man's sister's son; nephew</i> |
| (85) | hore him
bird mouth | <i>eagle; hawk</i> |
| (86) | meni nikan
Tumbuan son | <i>Tumbuan son figure</i> |
| (87) | sak miyak
pig marsupial | <i>animals</i> |

(b) Noun-noun compound – diversification/plurality

This compound involves reduplicating the first word to produce the effect of diversification or plurality. Examples are:

- | | | |
|------|--|--------------------------------------|
| (88) | wit - wit
village - village | <i>everywhere; in all villages</i> |
| (89) | wi ham - w ⁺ - ha-m
day some - day - some-them | <i>sometimes</i> |
| (90) | ekrit - ekrit
morning - morning | <i>daily; every morning</i> |
| (91) | n-iutip n-iutip
they-one - they-one | <i>everyone; each one; one each</i> |
| (92) | tipmain tipmain
later - later | <i>forever; a long time from now</i> |

2.3. Inflection

The most frequently occurring class of inflecting non-verbal words is the pronoun. This class includes general pronouns (subject), reflexive pronouns, demonstrative pronouns and possessive pronouns, all of which occur as free forms. The interrogative pronouns (also free forms) are described below in the section on interrogatives. The bound pronoun forms occurring as affixes in conjunction with verbals include both benefactive and objective classes which have been discussed in section 1.3.1.-(c) where verbs and their affixation are described.

Other word classes which may be inflected include adjectives, nouns (including numeral and locational) and interrogatives. Inflection will be discussed in relation to how each of the above classes manifest it.

2.3.1. Nouns

Numerals and locational nouns may inflect for person, personal nouns inflect only for number. These are the only classes of nouns that inflect. Their description follows.

(a) General personal nouns change their basic form to show number and appear in most noun phrases. The few forms which occur manifest no consistent pattern of inflectional endings. Examples are:

- (93) *mīt* *men* (plural)
 men
- (94) *mītik* *man*
 man
- (95) *mītikīt* *men*
 men
- (96) *mīte* *woman*
 woman
- (97) *miyepīr* *women* (dual and plural)
 women

(b) Kinship personal nouns have the same co-occurrence restrictions as the general personal nouns. These kinship nouns are obligatorily possessed. They also inflect to show number as illustrated in (99) and (101). In this class *rer* (plural) is the only form suffixed to show plurality. Examples are:

- (98) *maam* *k-ai* *my grandfather*
 grandparent he-mine
- (99) *maam-rer* *n-aiu* *our ancestors*
 ancestor-pl they ours
- (100) *haai* *k-īrak* *his father*
 father he-his
- (101) *haai-rer* *n-aiu* *our fathers, our leaders*
 father-pl they-ours

(c) Locational nouns function as the main locational and modifier constituents in general locative phrases (examples 102-104) and in the main locational position in the positional locative phrase (example 105). Examples are:

- (102) *k-īnik* *wīnak* *under the house*
 it-under house
- (103) *k-entar* *yeno* *on the bed*
 it-on bed
- (104) *k-īrapīt* *wīnak* *next to the house*
 it-adjoins house

- (105) menep ein *near there*
 near there

(d) Numerals inflect for gender and number, but the person expressed is always third person. Only the primary numerals one and two inflect. Examples are as follows:

- (106) k-iutip *one*
 he/it-one
- (107) p-iutip *one*
 she-one
- (108) wiketer-es *two*
 two-dl.male
- (109) wiketer-em *two*
 two-dl.neut
- (110) wiketer-i *two*
 two-dl.fem

2.3.2. Adjectives

Adjectives function as modifiers in phrase level constructions and inflect for the gender and number of the constituent which they modify. In some instances, adjectives function the same as adverbs by intensifying the quality of the modifier (examples 113-114). Examples of adjectives as modifiers are:

- (111) paap noki-k *long stick*
 stick long-it
- (112) menmen enu-m *bad food*
 food bad-them
- (113) winak weini-k *empty house*
 house empty-it

Examples of adjectives functioning the same as adverbs are:

- (114) noki-m enu-m *very long*
 long-them very-them
- (115) toki-k enu-k *very old*
 old-it very-it

2.3.3. Interrogatives

There are five interrogative forms, translated by the question words 'who, what, why, where, when and how', and these function as interrogative constituents in clause level constructions. Some examples are:

- (116) k-ewai meruri *when?*
 it-when
- (117) k-enmak *why?*
 it-why

- (118) k-erkeik *how; where?*
 it-how
- (119) k-eimtn *who?*
 he-who
- (120) meka-k *what?*
 what-it

2.3.4. Free pronouns

Free pronouns are the most frequently occurring class of words in Au. Since they always occur in clause constructions manifesting subject or object constituents, they are vital to the smooth operation of the cross-reference system. This will be explained in detail in section 5.

There are four subclasses of free pronouns. These generally substitute for nouns but, unlike nouns, may not be modified by adjectives. Pronouns may manifest subject and object constituents in clause level constructions, and intensifier, possessive and specifier constituents in phrase level constructions. The classes of bound pronouns which occur affixed to verbs have been described previously in section 1.3.1. The four subclasses of free pronouns are described below.

(a) General pronouns manifest subject constituents in clause level constructions, and Head 1 in co-ordinate phrases when substituting for a noun. Chart G indicates the basic pronoun forms.

	Singular	Dual	Plural
1st person	hī	hawīr	haiu
2nd person	ti	yi	yi
3rd person			
masc	hīrak	hīrakīt	hīr
fem	hīre	hīr	
neut	hīrak	hīrem	hīrem

Chart G: Personal pronouns

(b) Reflexive pronouns (subclass two) function only as intensifier constituents in the intensive pronoun phrases (i.e. you yourself, he himself, etc.) which are described in section 3. Chart H indicates the basic pronoun forms.

	Singular	Dual	Plural
1st person	hira-kes	hira-kses	hira-s
2nd person	hira-kes	hira-s	hira-s
3rd person			
masc	hira-kes	hira-kses	hira-s
fem	hira-hes	hira-s	
neut	hira-kes	hira-mes	hira-mes

Chart H: Reflexive pronouns

(c) Subclass three demonstrative pronouns function as qualifier constituents in the general noun phrases (i.e. *these things, those things, etc.*). Chart I indicates the basic forms.

	Singular	Dual	Plural
this	ik	it	im
that	eik	eit	eim

Chart I: Demonstrative pronouns

(d) Subclass four pronouns are possessive which function as possessive constituents in general noun phrases.

Of all word classes which are non-verbal, the possessive pronouns are the most complex and occur more often than nouns in phrase constructions. The initial consonant marks the gender and the number of the item possessed, and the remainder of the word marks the person, gender and number of the possessor. Chart J illustrates this by means of two parameters: the horizontal parameter indicates the item possessed, while the vertical parameter indicates the possessor. This class set as a whole illustrates the concord between constituents more clearly than any other class of inflecting words.

	Masc-Neut Singular	Feminine Singular	Masculine Dual	Masc-Fem Plural	Neuter Plural	
1st sing	k-ai	p-ai	t-ai	n-ai	m-ai	
2nd sing	k-it	p-it	t-it	n-it	m-it	
3rd sing masc/neut	k-irak	p-irak	t-irak	n-irak	m-irak	
	k-irak	p-irak	t-irak	n-irak	m-irak	
fem	k-ire	p-ire	t-ire	n-ire	m-ire	
1st dual	k-awir	p-awir	t-awir	n-awir	m-awir	
2nd dual	k-i	p-i	t-i	n-i	m-i	
3rd dual						
	masc	k-irakit	p-irakit	t-irakit	n-irakit	m-irakit
	fem	k-ir	p-ir	t-ir	n-ir	m-ir
neut	k-irem	p-irem	t-irem	n-irem	m-irem	
1st pl	k-aiu	p-aiu	t-aiu	n-aiu	m-aiu	
2nd pl	k-i	p-i	t-i	n-i	m-i	
3rd pl						
	masc/fem	k-ir	p-ir	t-ir	n-ir	m-ir
neuter	k-irem	p-irem	t-irem	n-irem	m-irem	

Chart J: Possessive pronouns

3. PHRASE LEVEL CONSTRUCTIONS

3.1. Introduction

The first three sections have been primarily concerned with describing word classes in Au, including derivation (word compounding). We also took note of the inflectional affixation when words are incorporated into different phrase level constructions and manifest person, number and gender to show agreement or concord with other constituents of these constructions.

In this section we will outline the various types of phrase level constructions which are manifested by the verbal and non-verbal word classes. The phrase level is not complicated enough, for the most part, to warrant a bi-dimensional chart (Longacre 1972) and therefore, a simple prose description will normally be used to describe phrases, immediately followed by examples. When multiple fillers exist for any of the constituents, some confusion may arise for the more complex constructions, and therefore, a bi-dimensional chart will precede the prose description. In such charts names of the constituents, as well as their optional or obligatory status, are indicated along the horizontal parameter. The names of the class fillers which we have observed in the data are listed along the vertical parameter. An example of a bi-dimensional chart appears below.

Constituents	+ A	+ B	+ C
Classers of fillers	X	Y	Z

Model bi-dimensional chart

The system of agreement between constituents will be illustrated on the phrase level. The phrase is potentially composed of two or more words: when the construction is binary (only two constituents possible), both constituents are obligatory and they are considered nuclear to that construction; when there are more than two constituents, the nuclear item or items are obligatory, and the peripheral items occur optionally and expand or modify the nuclear items.

An Au phrase is defined as a construction in the grammatical hierarchy between the word level and the clause level. Phrase constructions generally manifest constituents in clause level constructions, although there is frequent recursion or embedding of phrases within other phrase level constructions, as can be seen, for example in the general noun phrase.

Since phrases are constituents of clause level constructions, they will necessarily fit into the cross-reference system operating on that level. Thus, if the phrase manifests Instrument in a clause, this grammatical relationship will be reflected in showing cross-reference affixation with the Subject of the clause. A verb phrase will inflect to show person, number and gender agreement with the Subject. Phrase constructions embedding in other phrase level constructions will inflect to show agreement only for the nuclear constituent(s) of that construction in which it is embedded.

3.2. Phrase types

Phrases in Au are classified on the basis of word classes which manifest nuclear constituents, the number of nuclear and peripheral (non-nuclear) constituents and their possible expansion, as well as the distribution of these various constructions in clause level constructions.

There are six major types of phrases, as enumerated in Chart K.

Phrase type	Nuclear constituent manifestation	Clause/Phrase level role manifested by phrase
Pronoun	Pronoun	Subject - Clause level
Noun	Noun	Subject, object - Clause level
Adjective	Adjective	General noun phrase
Adverb	Adverb	Manner - Clause level
Relator-axis	Locative/Possessive Instrument Duration-Temporal	General noun phrase Instrument - Clause level
Verb	Verb	Predicate - Clause level

Chart K: Phrase types

3.2.1. Pronoun phrase

There are two subclasses of pronoun phrases, both of which have pronouns manifesting the Head. Pronoun phrases manifest only the Subject in clause level constructions, and for that reason they are presented first in this section. Nouns have a wider distribution and are described later on in this section. The non-Head constituents in both pronoun phrases (intensifier and qualifier) may inflect for person, gender and number and therefore mark the type of agreement which exists between constituents on all levels. The pronoun phrases are described below.

(a) Qualified pronoun phrase

A qualified pronoun phrase consists of a Head and a Qualifier, both of which have obligatory fillers with the pronoun functioning as Subject within a clause. The Head is manifested only by a free subject pronoun, and the qualifier is manifested by a general noun phrase which may act in apposition to the pronoun. The Head of a general noun phrase is optional when it occurs in apposition to the Head of a qualified pronoun phrase. Examples are:

- (121) hi kereke-k *just me; I alone (masc)*
 I *only-he* (3rd sg)
- (122) hire kerepe-p *just her; she alone (fem)*
 she *only-she*
- (123) hire p-iutip kerepe-p *she the only one*
 she *she-one only-she*
- (124) hirak haai k-irak *he, (that is) his father*
 he father *he-his*

(b) Intensive pronoun phrase

The intensive pronoun phrase consists of a Head and an Intensifier, both of which are obligatory, with the pronoun functioning as the Subject in a clause. The Head is manifested only by a free pronoun (subject), and the Intensifier is manifested by *hira-self*, representing a class which inflects for person, gender and number. Chart H in section 1.3.4.-(b) illustrates the range of inflection for reflexive pronouns. Examples of the intensive pronoun phrase are illustrated below.

- (125) *hira* *hira-kes* *he himself*
 he *self-he*
- (126) *hi* *hira-hes* *I myself (fem)*
 I *self-she*
- (127) *haiu* *hira-s* *we ourselves (pl)*
 we pl *self-pl*

3.2.2. Noun phrase

Noun phrases are the most extensive and complex of all constructions on the phrase level. There is a great deal of embedding of other phrase types into noun phrases, but other phrase type structures have relatively little embedding.

Noun phrases primarily manifest Subject and Object constituents in clause constructions, but they may also manifest Location and Time constituents. There are four noun phrases, which are now described.

(a) Numeral phrase

The numeral phrase consists of a Counter 1, Counter 2 and Quantity. All are optionally manifested, but at least two must appear, and one of these must be a Counter constituent. Counter 1 is manifested by the numeral 'ten'. Counter 2 is manifested by the numeral 'five'. Quantity may be manifested by the numerals 'one', 'two', 'three' or 'four'. Any number in the Au counting system can be formed from these numeral combinations. The Au people count from 1-10 by using fingers on their right and left hands. A doubled fist denotes five (5) and both fists doubled denote ten (10). These are kinetic correlates of language because the people count with their fingers as they simultaneously speak with their mouths. The relationship is always additive, one element building upon another.

The numeral phrase manifests a Quantity function in the general noun phrase constructions. Counter 1 may occur up to six times. Examples are:

- (128) *hispinak* *k-iutip* *six*
 five *it-one*
- (129) *hispinak* *tekyait* *nine*
 five *four*
- (130) *hiswiyen* *hispinak* *fifteen*
 ten *five*
- (131) *hiswiyen* *hispinak* *k-iutip* *sixteen*
 ten *five* *it-one*

- (132) hiswiyen hiswiyen twenty
 ten ten

(b) Co-ordinate noun phrase

The co-ordinate noun phrase consists of a Head 1 and Head 2 both filled by a pronoun, noun or general noun phrase, conjoined by *ekite* *with, and*. The Head 2 constituent may be repeated up to five (5) times. Both Head 1 and Head 2 constituents may be manifested by proper nouns as well as by pronouns. When Head 2 is manifested by a pronoun, it is a bound form which appears affixed to the conjunction, as illustrated by example (138). Examples of the co-ordinate noun phrase are:

- (133) Yinen k-ekite haai k-irak Yinen and his father
 Yinen he-and father he-his
- (134) hi h-ekite masta I and the expatriate (white man)
 I I-and expatriate
- (135) nepere kerepe-p w-ekite haai miye just a female dog and the
 dog only-she she-and father mother owners
- (136) Nowiyen k-ekite Weisu Nowiyen and Weisu
 Nowiyen he-and Weisu
- (137) hirak k-ekite haai k-irak t-e Punak he and his father
 he he-and father he-his they-from Punak both from Punak
- (138) haiu m-ekite-ri we all and them
 we-pl we-and-they

Co-ordinate noun phrases manifest the Subject and Object on the clause level and the Head of general noun phrases.

(c) Temporal phrase

A temporal phrase manifests the Time constituent in clause constructions. The function of the phrase is to mark a Definite time and a Head, both of which are obligatory manifested. The Definite time constituent is manifested by definite time nouns, such as 'yesterday', 'today', 'tomorrow', etc. while the Head constituent is manifested by specific span time nouns as 'morning', 'afternoon', and 'night'. Examples are:

- (139) teip ekrit tomorrow morning
 tomorrow morning
- (140) napup hinkiuwe yesterday afternoon
 yesterday afternoon
- (141) patepin ekrit this morning
 today morning
- (142) teip witaan tomorrow night
 tomorrow night
- (143) meisu hinkiuwe later this afternoon
 later afternoon

(d) General noun phrase

The general noun phrase is probably the most frequent phrase type in Au. Its structure is complex enough that a bi-dimensional chart with all classes

of fillers which manifest each constituent will be helpful. The general noun phrase manifests the Subject and Object in clause level constructions and on the phrase level it embeds with the Relator-axis and Qualified pronoun phrases.

In the general noun phrase (see Chart L below for the ordering of constituents in the phrase), only the Head is obligatory, and may be considered the minimal position within a manifestation of the general noun phrase. There are six other functions with classes which co-occur with the Head, but these occur optionally with certain co-occurrence restrictions among them. Generally, no more than two other entities may co-occur with the Head constituent, but some instances have been found with three.

Examples with specific embedding will be indicated following the free translation in the right hand margin. These examples will be presented below following Chart L.

<u>+</u> Specifier	+ Head	+ <u>+</u> Possessive	<u>+</u> Description
pronoun	noun	poss. pronoun	adjective
proper noun	co-ord. phrase		adj. phrase
			interrog.- adjective

Cont...

<u>+</u> Quantity	<u>+</u> Rel-Axis	<u>+</u> Qualifier
numeral	relator- axis phr.	kereke- only-
num. phr.		dem. prn.
interrog.- adverb		

Chart L: Bi-dimensional chart of general noun phrase

- (144) nikan k-irak k-iutip kereke-k *his only son*
 son *he-his he-one only-he*
- (145) mit ha-n n-e Tumentonik (embedded Relator-axis phrase)
 men *some-they they-from Tumentonik*
some men from Tumentonik
- (146) Yinen haai kirak *Yinen's father*
 Yinen father *he-his*
- (147) hirak k-ekite haai k-irak t-e Puank (Co-ord. phr. and Loc
he he-and father he-his they-from Puank R-A phr)
he and his father (both) from Puank village
- (148) nu marmenu-m *how many pieces of wood?*
 wood *how many-them*
- (149) menmen meka-k *what food?*
 food *what-it*

3.2.3. Adjective phrase

An adjective phrase consists of a Head and a Qualifier, both of which are obligatory to the construction. The Head is manifested only by adjectives, while the qualifier may be manifested by either adverbs of intensity, or by adjectives of size acting in the role of adverbs. The adjective phrase manifests the Description function in general noun phrases. Examples are:

- (150) toki-k enu-k *very old; very hard*
 ole-it very it
- (151) yaai-k wetpen *very good; very nice*
 good-it very
- (152) kike enu-k *very little*
 little very-it
- (153) yina-k enu-k *very short*
 short-it very-it
- (154) noki-k kike *fairly long (adjective in role of adverb)*
 long-it little
- (155) toki-k iuwe *quite strong (adjective in role of adverb)*
 hard-it big

3.2.4. Adverb phrase

The adverb phrase consists of two obligatory units and one optional unit. Head 1, manifested by an adverb, the Intensifier, manifested by enu- *very*, and an optional Head 2, which is a reduplicated form of the Head 1. Adverb phrases manifest the manner in clause level constructions and emphasise the intensity of the action described by the predicate. Examples are:

- (156) mainmain enu-m mainmain *very slowly*
 slowly very-them slowly
- (157) waswas enum waswas *very quickly*
 quickly very-them quickly
- (158) hisiuwe enu-k hisiuwe *very loudly*
 loudly very-it loudly

3.2.5. Relator-axis phrase

There are four distinct relator-axis phrases. Three of them occur in clauses and the fourth occurs within general noun phrases. These phrases contrast on the basis of their manifesting classes, the number of constituents, and their distribution in various constructions.

(a) Possessive/origin phrase

The possessive/origin phrase is manifested by *-e from, belonging to* functioning as Relator. The relator inflects to agree with the filler of Head in the general noun phrase. The Axis is manifested by nouns, proper nouns and by general noun phrases. The Relator may also inflect for plurality and tense/aspect when the clause level construction in which the general noun phrase occurs requires that it do so to show concord with the Predicate. Examples are:

- (159) k-e haai k-irak (possession) *belonging to his father*
it-of father he-his
- (160) k-e Yito (possession) *(the knife) belonging to Yito*
it-of Yito
- (161) k-e Wititai (origin) *(the man) from Wititai*
he-from Wititai
- (162) menmen m-e mit n-e Puank (possession and origin)
things they-of men they-from Puank
things belonging to the men from Puank
- (163) mit miyepir n-e-rer wit wit (plurality and origin)
men women they-from-pl village village
men and women from all the villages

(b) Duration-temporal phrase

The duration-temporal phrase is manifested by two obligatory constituents, and is similar in construction to the possessive/origin phrase. This phrase type functions as Time in clause level constructions. The Relator is manifested by -e *during* and inflects to agree with the filler of the Axis. The Axis is manifested by temporals as well as by nouns. Examples are:

- (164) m-e witaan *during the night*
they-during night
- (165) m-e wepni *during the day*
they-during sun
- (166) m-e hawi hitan *during the rainy season*
they-during rainy season
- (167) m-e wepni yaaiki *during the dry season*
they-during dry season

(c) Instrument phrase

The instrument phrase is manifested by two obligatory constituents, although the second constituent may appear as a bound form affixed to the first constituent. This phrase type functions as Instrument in clause level constructions. The relator is manifested by -eriuwe *by means of, with*. The Axis is manifested by a pronoun (bound), a noun or a general noun phrase. As can be seen above, -eriuwe must take a prefix which shows person, gender and number and also agrees with the tense/aspect of the Subject and Predicate of the clause level construction in which it appears. Occasionally, -eriuwe will show accompaniment instead of instrument and when this occurs, the predicate will be manifested by an intransitive verb. Instrument always occurs with a transitive verb manifesting the predicate constituent. Examples are:

- (168) k-eriuwe hine k-irak (Instrument)
he-with bow it-his
(he shot) by means of his bow
- (169) k-eriuwe hen-ik ha-k (Instrument)
he-with bamboo arrow a-it
(he killed him) with a bamboo arrow

- (170) *t*ipir *k-irir* *k-eriuwe-rek* (accompaniment)
spirit he-fled he-with-it
the spirit fled with it (stuck in his head)
- (171) *w-eriuwe-rek* (Instrument)
she-by means of-it
(she chipped off sago pith) with it

(d) Locative phrase

The locative phrase consists of two obligatory units, and manifests the Location in clause level constructions. The Relator is manifested by a class of locationals, all of which inflect for person, gender and number; tense/aspect also occurs. (See example 175). The Axis is manifested by locational nouns and by general noun phrase; occasionally, the Axis may be manifested by bound pronoun forms, which must appear affixed to the Relator. Only three of the locationals observed in the data allow this. Examples of locative phrase are:

- (172) *k-au niu* *up high*
it-on sago
- (173) *k-au-wik* *on the ground*
it-on-it
- (174) *k-eit winak eik* *at the house*
it-at house that
- (175) *k-ak-waai yayiwe* *will be on the road*
it-will-lie on road
- (176) *k-irapit winak* *next to the house*
it-next house
- (177) *k-inik winak* *under the house*
it-under house
- (178) *k-enter-ik* *on the bed*
it-on-it
- (179) *k-iriu nu* *against the tree*
it-against tree

3.2.6. General verb phrase

There appears to be only one type of verb phrase. Although there are two other constructions which might appear to match the description of a verb phrase, when they are considered more closely the particular features involved concern the particular class of Predicate fillers. One such phrase is reduplicated verbs, which appear only to mark motion. The second is a sequence of verbs which have already been described in the section on verbal word class derivation (section 2.2.).

Since the general verb phrase is the only construction on the phrase level manifested by verbal word classes, it is more complicated than the normal phrase construction, and we have outlined it below in Chart M.

<u>±</u> Aspect	+ Head	<u>±</u> Accomplishment
ap	any verb	nepei au
wen		wen au
nepei		au werek
p̄ike		
am̄i		
are		

Chart M: General verb phrase

There are three possible functions in the phrase, and only the Head is obligatory. As can be seen in Chart M above, the Head may be filled by any verb from any class. The Aspect is manifested by ap 'not', wen 'yet', nepei 'completive', p̄ike 'repetitive', am̄i 'intensive', and are 'desiderative'. The Accomplishment may be separated from the Predicate when Object and non-diagnostic constituents occur following the Predicate; it then must occur as the last item in the clause. Examples of general verb phrase are:

- (180) ti ap ano Witne do not go to Witne
you not you-will-go Witne
- (181) hirak nepei k-en Yenkok he already went to Yenkok
he completive he-went Yenkok
- (182) n-esip-aak nepei au they already carved it
they-carve-it completive
- (183) hirak k-eiȳm k-en wen au
he he-got-them he-went non-completive
he has not yet gotten them and taken them away
- (184) hi am̄i ak̄ip I intend to hit him
I intensive I-will-hit him
- (185) hirak k-are k-ak-no Lumi he wants to go to Lumi
he he-desir. he-will-go Lumi

4. CLAUSES

4.1. Introduction

In the preceding section we described word classes, their formation and how these classes fit into various phrase level constructions. In this section we demonstrate how the different phrase types manifest various clause level constituents as they function in the clauses.

An Au clause has been defined as a construction in the grammatical hierarchy which occurs between the phrase level and the sentence level. The construction consists of or includes one Predicate or predicate-like constituent, and various peripheral constituents. The clause construction in turn usually manifests sentence level constituents.

The clause requires only one Predicate constituent which may be manifested by a word level construction which is fully inflected to show a cross reference with the other clause constituents. As was shown in section 1, a Predicate constituent may be manifested by two verb words compounded, but these do not indicate two Predicate constituents in the clause. Although both verbs inflect, only one lexical item (derived form) results. The Predicate may also be manifested by any single verb word.

Although embedding of clauses into other clause level constructions is not extensive, it does occur. In cases of embedding, the predicate constituent of the embedded clause is not included among the constituents of the clause construction under consideration.

In addition to the Predicate constituent which is obligatory in clause constructions, other optional constituents include Subject, Object, Location, Time, Manner and Instrument/Accompaniment. These optional constituents are diagnostic because they show contrast in clause types and are distinguishing features of various clauses.

Clauses are classified into two major types: Independent clauses and Dependent clauses. These contrast in the constituents manifesting clause level constructions and in their distribution in sentence level constituents.

The Equative clause has an obligatory Comment constituent functionally equivalent to the Predicate constituent although it is manifested by non-verbal word classes. See 4.2.1.-(e) for a discussion on the Equational Predicate.

4.2. Independent clause

The Independent clause manifests all bases in non-link sentences (those sentences whose constituents are conjoined by simple juxtaposition) and all bases except Link in the link sentences (those sentences whose bases are conjoined by an overt conjunction). Independent clauses consist of five basic types: (1) Transitive, (2) Ditransitive, (3) Intransitive, (4) Stative, and (5) Equative. These clause types are arrayed in Chart N along the horizontal parameter marked for transitivity. They are further distinguished in relation to their occurrence along the vertical mode parameter which includes Declarative, Interrogative and Imperative clauses. There are no Stative or Equative Imperative clauses listed, which gives a total of thirteen (13) clause types as reflected in the chart. The clauses across the transitivity parameter will be described first, and following this, the clauses of the mode parameter.

4.2.1. Transitivity parameter

Across the transitivity parameter the five clause types contrast in the manifesting class of the predicate constituent and in the optional diagnostic constituents which manifest each clause type. These are now described on the following page.

<----- Transitivity parameter ----->

	Independent transitive	Independent ditransitive	Independent intransitive	Independent stative	Independent equative
	(IT)	(ID)	(II)	(IS)	(IE)
mode parameter	$\underline{+} S + P \underline{+} O$ vITrDc	$\underline{+} S + P \underline{+} IO + O$ vIDTrDc	$\underline{+} S + P$ vIITrDc	$+ S + P + O$ vISDc	$+ Tp + Cm$ (v) IEDc
Interrogative information*	$+ Ig \underline{+} S + P \underline{+} O$ vITr	$+ Ig \underline{+} S + P$ $\underline{+} IO \underline{+} O$ vIDTr	$+ Ig \underline{+} S + P$ vIITr	$+ Ig + S + P + O$ vIS	$+ Ig + Tp + Cm$ (v) IE
Imperative	$\underline{+} S + P \underline{+} O$ vITrIp	$\underline{+} S + P \underline{+} IO \underline{+} O$ vIDTrIp	$\underline{+} S + P$ vIITrIp		

Chart N: Independent clauses

- * The interrogative may occur either in initial or clause final position depending on its function in the clause (subject/object). (See 4.2.2.-(b) Interrogative clause.)

(a) Transitive clause

The transitive clause functional points and permissible fillers are as follows:

<u>+</u> Subject	+ Predicate	<u>+</u> Object	<u>+</u> Instrument	<u>+</u> Location
noun	trans. vb	noun	inst. phr.	loc noun
pronoun	trans. vb-phr.	pronoun		
gen n-phr.		gen n-phr.		

The Predicate is the only obligatory item and is manifested by a transitive verb or verb phrase. Optional constituents include the items displayed in the above bi-dimensional array. A Subject, whose constituent may be animate or inanimate, occurs as an independent form when present, but Object, which occurs following the Predicate, may occur as an independent form (noun) or may appear affixed to the Predicate, as a pronoun. Examples are:

- (186) h-enep-ik (P, O)
I-made-it
I put it together
- (187) hır n-ınap n-eriwe-rek (S, P, I)
they they-shouted they-with-it
(as they brought it) they shouted with it
- (188) hır n-ewis-im m-au si (S, P, O, L)
they they-put-them they-on fire
they placed them on the fire
- (189) hır n-ime wınon m-e pınak m-e pınak (S, P, O, L)
they they-make tips they-of side they-of side
they carved tips on either end

The capital letters which appear in parentheses represent the constituents which manifest clause level constructions: S = Subject, P = Predicate, and so on.

(b) Ditransitive clause

A ditransitive clause is represented by the following:

<u>+</u> Subject	+ Predicate	<u>+</u> Benefactive	<u>+</u> Object	<u>+</u> Instrument
noun	di.tr.verb	noun	noun	inst. phr
pronoun	di.tr. v-phr.	pronoun	pronoun	
gen n-phr.		gen n-phr.	gen n-phr.	

The Predicate is obligatory and is manifested by a ditransitive verb or verb phrase. Optional, but diagnostic constituents, include the items displayed in the array above. A ditransitive clause has the potential of having either Benefactive or (direct) Object or both. These may be marked either as suffixes

attached to the Predicate, or independently and separately as nouns or noun phrases. The Subject must always be manifested by an animate noun. Examples are:

- (190) hīrak k-atip (S, P)
he he-said
he spoke
- (191) hīrak k-atip haai k-īrak (S, P, B)
he he-said father he-his
he spoke to his father
- (192) hīrak k-ewet (S, P)
he he-gave
he gave
- (193) hīrak k-ewet-iwek-em (S, P-B-O)
he he-gave-to him-them
he gave these things to him
- (194) k-ewet-or teipe (S-P-B, O)
he-gave-to them sago jelly
..he gave them sago jelly
- (195) hire w-ewen-iwek-or-naan (S, P-B-O)
she she-spies for him-on them-spies
she spies on them (others) for him

(c) Intransitive clause

An intransitive clause may be represented as follows:

+ Subject	+ Predicate	+ Location
noun	intr. verb	loc. noun
pronoun	intr. v-phr.	loc.phr.
gen n-phr.		

The Predicate alone is obligatory and is manifested by intransitive verbs. The other diagnostic constituents are optional and are listed above in the bi-dimensional array. Note that Benefactive and Object constituents do not occur. The following are examples of intransitive clauses:

- (196) wepni k-īr (S, P)
sun it-sees
the sun is shining
- (197) hīrak k-enke (S, P)
it it-fell
it fell over
- (198) hire w-enke-win w-eit yaank Puko (S, P, L)
she she-fell-anm. she-at forest Puko
she fell down in Puko forest

- (199) manpen k-uwaai yayiwe (S, P, L)
snake it-lies road
a snake is lying on the road
- (200) hīne k-ai k-īnatin k-ekre hei (S, P, L)
knife it-my it-fell it-into hole
my knife fell into a hole
- (201) k-epu (P)
he-cont-sits
he continues sitting

(d) Stative clause

The stative clauses are very rare and are represented as follows:

+ Subject	+ Predicate	+ Object
noun	stat. verb	noun
pronoun		pronoun
gen n-phr.		gen n-phr.

The Predicate and Object are obligatory, but the free pronoun Subject is optional. The Predicate is manifested by a stative verb, which is a compound word. The Object may be manifested by a free form such as a noun or a general noun phrase, or it may appear affixed to the verb. The few examples from the data are:

- (202) si t-aa-k wīnak (P, O)
fire they-ate-it house
the house burned down (fire ate the house)
- (203) hīrak si t-aa-k his (S, P, O)
he fire they-ate-it hand
he burned his hand (fire ate the hand)
- (204) si t-a-(t)-īknēn-i (P, O)
fire they-burn-(will)-burn-you
the fire will burn you

The Predicate is manifested in the previous examples by a verb that follows no normal inflection rules and never appears in any other form. Although, on the one hand, it appears to fit into the class of noun-verb compounds (2.2.1. noun-verb compounds), its particular formation allows us to place it in a unique class.

(e) Equative clause

The equative clause is a binary construction consisting of the following:

+ Topic	+ Comment
pronoun	possessive pronoun adjective adverb interrogative pronoun interrogative adjective

The Equative clause as a binary construction differs from other clause constructions in this regard. Further, there are no verbal classes which manifest the Predicate constituent; rather, the obligatory Comment constituent serves as predicate of the construction. Examples of the equative clause are:

- (205) im yapruwe *there are many of these*
these many
- (206) ik yaai-k *this one is good*
this good-it
- (207) hirak enu-k kike *it is too small*
it bad-it little
- (208) hirem werek 1. *those are okay, 2. that is enough*
they-neut well
- (209) hire enu *she is naughty*
she bad-she
- (210) meka-m im *what are these?*
what-them these
- (211) ti k-emɪn *who are you?*
you he-who
- (212) hi k-ai ek *it is mine*
I it-my it

4.2.2. Mode parameter

The vertical mode parameter of Chart N demonstrates the contrast in the internal structure of the verb manifesting the Predicate constituent, as well as the peripheral constituents. It also reflects the situational context and subsequent response elicited from the hearers. The Declarative, Interrogative and Imperative clauses all manifest sentence level constituents.

(a) Declarative clause

In the mode parameter (see Chart N), the Declarative is manifested by all five clause types which occur across the transitivity parameter. The Predicate is manifested by verbs which take regular inflectional affixation, but which are also affixed for the declarative mode. Examples of declarative clauses may be found above in section 4.2.1.

(b) Interrogative clause

In the interrogative clause, the presence of an interrogative constituent is obligatory, occurring in a portmanteau relationship with the constituents with which is co-occurs or replaces (i.e. those manifesting Subject, Object, Location, Instrument/Accompaniment and Time). For example, in the clause *keimɪn kan who came?*, *keimɪn* marks both the interrogative as well as the subject constituent in portmanteau relationship with it (*k-emɪn he-who*). Interrogatives may occur clause initial or final depending on their use in the clause. 'Who', 'why' and 'when' occur initially. 'Who' (used as object), 'what', 'where' and 'how many' occur in clause final position. An interrogative clause evokes several responses: a simple information response, and a yes/no response; it may also be used as a rhetorical question, that is, expecting no response; if this occurs, a tag question particle *a* occurs in clause final position. Examples of interrogative clauses are:

- (213) *hɪre w-enep p-eimɪn* (interrogative object)
she she-hit she-who
what woman did she hit?
- (214) *k-eimɪn nepɪ k-aa* (interrogative subject)
he-who completive he-died
what man has died?
- (215) *hɪrakɪt t-eit nu meka-m* (interrogative adjective)
they-masc.dl they-got wood what-them
what kind of wood did they get?
- (216) *hɪr n-en neiyɪn*
they they-went where
where did they go?
- (217) *k-uwaai meruri hɪrak k-ɪr-ep*
he-when he he-saw-her
when did he see her?
- (218) *ti h-epɪtari-em a*
you you-do not know them r-p
(someone stole the taro but) you would not know about these
things would you?
- (219) *hɪrak k-ewɪr marmenu-m*
he he-threw how many-them
how many did he throw?

(c) Imperative clause

Imperative clause constructions have verbs which manifest Predicate constituents inflected for the imperative mode. Often the subject is absent in such constructions, especially if they appear in speech quote sentences. No stative or equative clauses appear inflected for the imperative mode. Imperative clauses entail an appropriate subsequent action by the audience. Examples are:

- (220) *yi eimtau hɪm m-ai*
you you-must-hear word they-my
you must listen to my words

- (221) epau in e
 you-stay here
 you remain here
- (222) amnep mite ip e
 we-must-kill woman this
 let us kill this woman
- (223) awaai ein
 you-must-go there
 (later on, you go to the river) and you must sleep there

4.3. Dependent clause

The dependent clause constructions have the same transitivity parameter as independent clause constructions. They also have the same contrast in the Predicate manifestation and in the diagnostic constituents. The transitivity parameter will therefore be omitted as redundant in our consideration of dependent clause types, and we will focus instead on the vertical parameter. Along this parameter the dependent clauses are distinguished according to Contingency, Simultaneity, Purpose, Reason and Duration. Each clause contrasts in terms of diagnostic constituents and in sentence level distribution. See Chart O, which indicates the full range of dependent clause types which have been observed — some 21 types in all.

4.3.1. Reason dependent clause

A Reason dependent clause is manifested by the connective *entar* *because*, *on account of* which occurs as the initial constituent of the clause and inflects to show cross-reference with the Subject of the independent clause which precedes the dependent clause. Reason dependent clause manifests the Base 2 of a Reason sentence. Examples are:

- (224) k-entar yuwenep hirak k-aa-k
 he-because of flying fox he he-ate-it
 (he got sick with dysentary) because of the flying fox he ate
- (225) w-entar hire yink enu-m
 she-because she skin bad-them
 (she ran away) because she was ashamed
- (226) w-entar hawir w-enain
 we-because we (dual) we-feared
 (we did not come and dance with them) because we were afraid

4.3.2. Duration dependent clause

The Duration dependent clause is manifested by the particle *ere* *until* which occurs as the initial constituent in the clause. The particle may reduplicate the final syllable (-re) up to three (3) times to intensify the duration of the action. Duration dependent clause manifests the Base 2 of a Span Sentence. Some examples are:

<----- Transitivity parameter ----->

Vertical parameter <----->

	Dependent transitive	Dependent ditransitive	Dependent intransitive	Dependent stative	Dependent equative
Reason (R)	+R <u>+S</u> +P <u>+O</u> DTrR	+R <u>+S</u> +P <u>+IO</u> <u>+O</u> DDTrP	+R <u>+S</u> +P DITrR	+R <u>+S</u> +P +O DSR	+R +Tp +Cm DER
Duration (D)	+D <u>+S</u> +P <u>+O</u> DTrD	+D <u>+S</u> +P <u>+IO</u> <u>+O</u> DDTrD	+D <u>+S</u> +P DITrD	+D <u>+S</u> +P +O DSD	+D +Tp +Cm DED
Contingent (C)	+C <u>+S</u> +P <u>+O</u> DTrC	+C <u>+S</u> +P <u>+IO</u> <u>+O</u> DDTrC	+C <u>+S</u> +P DITrC	+C <u>+S</u> +P +O DSC	
Simultaneous (SM)	<u>+S</u> +P <u>+O</u> DTrSm	<u>+S</u> +P <u>+IO</u> <u>+O</u> DDTrSm	<u>+S</u> +P DITrSm	<u>+S</u> +P <u>+O</u> DSSm	
Purpose (Ps)	+Ps <u>+S</u> +P <u>+O</u> DTrP	+Ps <u>+S</u> +P <u>+IO</u> <u>+O</u> DDTrP	+Ps <u>+S</u> +P DITrP		

Chart 0: Dependent clauses

- (227) hīrak manpen k-e-p-riuwet meinmein ere k-en
he snake he-shoved-cont-shoved slowly until he-went
 k-e-pi-kre tu k-irak
he-in-cont-in intestine he-his
the snake shoved slowly until he went into (the man's) intestines
- (228) hīrak k-en ere-re k-ip-iun witeik
he he-went until-pl he-cont-arrived village
he went (and kept going) until he reached the village
- (229) hīrak k-e-p-ket tikaap k-e-p-nep perpere
he he-shot-cont-shot arrows he-shot-cont-shot flying fox
 ere k-e-p-nemtin
until he-finish-cont-finished
he kept releasing the arrows and shooting flying foxes until (the arrows were) finished

4.3.3. Contingent dependent clause

A Contingent dependent clause is manifested by the particle *maain* *after* and by *ewaai meruri* *when; whenever* which occur as the initial constituents of the clause; *ewaai meruri* inflects to show Subject cross-reference. Contingent dependent clause manifests the Base 1 of a Contingent Sentence, and the Base 1 of a Narrative Sentence. Some examples are:

- (230) maain ti ano ewaai mani eik hi pike
after you you-will-go you-will-sleep river that I again
 awis-ut pauwiye
I-give-you headdress
after you go and sleep at the river, I will return your headdress
- (231) k-ak-waai meruri hīrak k-ak-nen hi pike h-irir
he-fut-whensoever he he-will-come I again I-flee
whensoever the arrives, I will run away again
- (232) maain wesiuon o miyak menmen k-enektin wenmek hīrak
later rat or animal something it-trips trigger it
 wenmek kenep k-akip
trigger it-release it-kills-it
after a rat or some animal bumps the trigger, it will release
and (the trap) will kill it

4.3.4. Simultaneous dependent clause

A Simultaneous dependent clause has a Predicate constituent manifested by a continuous aspect inflectional affix attached to the verb; this operates in opposition to a predicate which follows in the next clause which has an obligatory simple past verb form. This clause manifests the Base 1 of a Narrative Sentence. Some examples from the data are:

- (233) hīrak k-īp-waai hi h-an h-en
he he-cont-sleeps I I-came I-went
while he was sleeping, I came and left
- (234) hīrak k-e-p-kip miyak hīrak k-akip
he he-shoots-cont-shoots animal he he-shot him
while he was shooting an animal, another man shot him

4.3.5. Purpose dependent clause

The Purpose dependent clause is manifested by the particle *te* *then; but; lest; so; so that* which occurs as the initial constituent of the clause. The Purpose dependent clause manifests the Base 2 of a Conditional sentence. Examples are:

- (235) hi ap aitep te ekiuwe anen
I not I-will-strike so you-imper-come down you-imper-come
I am not going to kill you, so come down
- (236) hīr n-eiyim n-an te hīr n-ankip
they they-got they-came so that they they-will-kill him
 n-anik
they-will-eat him
they collected these things and came back in order that they
might kill him and eat him (with the things they had collected)
- (237) te hīrak akimtau hisiuwe ekimamik
lest he he-imper-hear loudly he-imper-doing-it
(but he did not chew it loudly) lest the man hear him doing it

4.4. Peripheral constituents

In addition to the contrastive diagnostic functions and their constituents, there are peripheral ones which optionally occur in Dependent and Independent clause constructions. These are Time, Manner, Instrument/Accompaniment and Location. These functions and their manifesting classes are indicated below in Chart P.

Time	Manner	Instrument/Accompaniment	Location
noun	adverb	Instrument Phrase	noun
Temp. phr.	Adv. phr.		Loc. phr.

Chart P: Peripheral constituents

The ordering of the diagnostic and peripheral constituents for each of the clause types across the transitivity parameter of Chart M is given in Chart Q which follows.

The ordering given in Chart Q is the most frequent ordering of the constituents. However, there are times when peripheral constituents may shift their order, such as when prominence is given to a particular constituent in the construction. The Time constituent may be shifted from its initial position in the clause to a position following the subject in order that the subject might be made prominent. The Object may appear in initial position for the same reason. When the Object is shifted, a bound object affixed to the verb manifesting the Predicate must also be present. In an Interrogative clause, the Subject may appear twice: once initially and the second time in its normal position preceding the Predicate constituent. No other shift of constituents has appeared in the data.

No peripheral constituents have been observed in Equative clause. Some examples are:

- (238) hīrak nepup k-an witeik (Subject fronted)
HE yesterday he-came village
he came to the village yesterday
- (239) mīte hīrak mītik k-etp-uwe k-are (Object fronted)
woman he man he-said-to her he-this
this WOMAN, the man said to her...
- (240) ti h-enmak te ti h-an (Subject fronted in
interrogative)
you you-may then you you-came
then why have YOU come?

Transitive clause	<u>+</u> T	<u>+</u> S	+ P	<u>+</u> O	<u>+</u> M	<u>+</u> I	<u>+</u> L
Ditransitive clause	<u>+</u> T	<u>+</u> S	+ P	<u>+</u> IO <u>+</u> O	<u>+</u> M	<u>+</u> I	<u>+</u> L
Intransitive clause	<u>+</u> T	<u>+</u> S	+ P	<u>+</u> A	<u>+</u> M		<u>+</u> L
Stative clause	<u>+</u> T	<u>+</u> S	+ P	+ O		<u>+</u> I	<u>+</u> L
Equative clause		+ Tp	+ Cm				

Chart Q: Order of clause constituents

Along the horizontal parameter, the Declarative clause follows the same ordering given for the transitivity parameter as shown earlier. The Interrogative clause has an obligatory constituent which may occur in place of any one constituent when the focus is on that constituent (i.e. Subject, Object, Location, etc.); this does not include Predicate or Topic. For example, the Interrogative may replace the noun constituent functioning as Instrument and then appear where the Instrument would normally appear in the clause.

In a normal text, only one of two peripheral constituents, in addition to diagnostic ones, occurs in a clause.

4.5. Negation

The negative formula for Independent and Dependent clauses is as follows: when a clause occurs medially in the sentence, the Aspect, manifested by *ap not*, occurs with the Predicate and negates the clause. When a clause occurs

in sentence final position, an optional negative particle *au* *not* occurs in clause final position. If both the particle *au* and the particle *ap* occur in the same clause, *au* functions as a sentence level constituent meaning 'but'; see example (243). Examples are:

- (241) *hire w-atip a tinaa m-enti au*
she she-said hey mushrooms they-sprout not
she said, "Hey, those mushrooms have not sprouted"
- (242) *au k-irep pauwi k-auwiye au*
but he-saw-her genitals it-on her not
but he saw that she had no genitals
- (243) *hire w-en w-irek terwe ap k-enti au*
she she-went she-saw-it tulip tree not it-grew but
she went and looked at it, but the tulip tree had not grown

4.6. Embedding

In Au, embedding is very common and usually involves the clause and phrase levels. There are two types of embedding: clause embedded in clause (commonly called recursion – Longacre 1972) and clause embedded within a phrase level construction (backlooping).

4.6.1. Recursion

Recursion is generally limited to sensory verbs which include cognition and perception, and these usually have a verbal complement following which explains what was recognised or perceived. The embedded clause may only occur with a minimum of constituents (with free pronoun subject omitted) or it may include two peripheral constituents. Examples of recursion are:

- (244) *hi hanhan ahit menmen m-irak*
I desire I-will-get something they-his
I desire to obtain his possessions
- (245) *hi h-enain h-enkewin m+niu*
I I-fear I-fall down-an mountain
I am afraid that I will fall down the mountain
- (246) *hirak k-ir sak k-irak k-irir*
he he-saw pig it-his it-fled
he saw that his pig was running away

4.6.2. Backlooping

Backlooping occurs quite frequently in narrative text material. In backlooping, clauses embed themselves in phrase level constituents, usually in apposition to a noun manifesting the clause level constituents of Subject, Object, Instrument or Location. Examples are:

- (247) *hirak k-en k-ir tuwaan perpere m-aa-k (object)*
he he-went he-saw breadfruit flying fox they-ate-it
he went and looked at the breadfruit tree that the flying foxes
had been eating from (object)

- (248) w-enke w-e(p)ri tuwaan kerek nem(p)ai
she-fell she-(cont) pulled breadfruit where before (cont)
ein perpere m-enan-ek k-e(-)wi-k ek e (Object)
there flying fox they-carry-him he-(cont) sits-it that
she hung upside down on the breadfruit tree from where the flying
foxes before had carried him as he sat there (Object)
- (249) k-eit wit kerek hore k-enke kuwaa i t i (Location)
he-at place where bird it-fell it-on ground
...at the place where the bird fell to the ground (Location)
- (250) k-eriuwe hine nipaa h-ewet-iwek-em (Instrument)
he-with bow before I-gave-to him-them
...with the bow which I had previously given to him (Instrument)

4.7. Ellipsis

Another common feature in Au is ellipsis, where much of a redundant clause appears elided for the sake of brevity or convenience. This is frequent in everyday speech, but appears less in text material. The two most common types that occur in text are either an ellipsis of apposition or one of alternative. A more rare type, total ellipsis of a full sentence, may occur following a sentence which is to be negated. This can be seen in the final example below. Examples are:

- (251) nu nu k-e wi (apposition)
wood wood it-of pathway
they make a trap of wood...wood for a pathway
- (252) hi h-erekir his his yaaim m-ai (apposition)
I I-cut-it hand hand right they-my
I cut my hand...my right hand
- (253) hire w-ine nikan o niki? (alternative)
she she-bore son or daughter
did she bear a son or (did she bear) a daughter?
- (254) hire w-en w-eit wik o wikak? (alternative)
she she-went she-got two or three
did she go and get two or (did she get) three?
- (255) hir nirak-em haiu m-am-no m-etiwem; au, au (negation)
they they-do-them we we-will-go we-get-them no no
if they do these things then we go and arrest them; (if they)
don't, (then we) don't

5. SUMMARY

5.1. Introductory remarks

In the previous five sections we have outlined the basic features of Au morphology and syntax. The approach has been taxonomic (based on a tagmemic model) with items which function on lower levels manifesting constituents of higher levels.

In this section we summarise the most important features of Au grammar.

5.2. Important features of Au grammar

There are three areas of Au grammar which have features significantly different from those normally found in Papuan languages. These are: the system of agreement (which includes various classes), the verb classification (the transitive verbs in particular) and the multi-gender pronominal system, and its occurrence with both verbal and non-verbal word classes. Each of these will now be considered with examples.

5.2.1. The agreement system

There are two types of agreement which occur on various hierarchical levels in Au. These are the agreement between a noun and its modifiers, and the cross-reference between the Subject and other constituents of the clause. The constituents must agree with the Subject in person, number and gender.

Nouns and their modifiers are the main components of the agreement system. Because nouns rarely inflect, the modifier marks the person, gender and number of the phrase construction. Examples are:

- (256) $\overbrace{\text{mitik} \quad \text{enu-k}}^{\quad}$ *evil man*
 man bad-he
- (257) $\overbrace{\text{mite} \quad \text{enu-}\emptyset}^{\quad}$ *evil woman*
 woman bad-she
- (258) $\overbrace{\text{nikan} \quad \text{k-iutip}}^{\quad}$ *one son*
 son he-one
- (259) $\overbrace{\text{niki} \quad \text{p-iutip}}^{\quad}$ *one daughter*
 daughter she-one
- (260) $\overbrace{\text{mitik} \quad \text{ha-k} \quad \text{k-ere-k-e-k}}^{\quad}$ *only a man*
 man s-he only-he-that-he
- (261) $\overbrace{\text{mite} \quad \text{ha-p} \quad \text{kere-p-e-p}}^{\quad}$ *only a woman*
 woman s-she only-she-that-she

Subject, Predicate and other constituents of clause level constructions also show agreement (or concord). Since Au has no inflectional endings to show case relationships, it depends heavily upon word order and subject reference to show subject-object relationships. In intransitive clauses, the Predicate inflects to show concord with the Subject; when Location is present, it inflects as well to show concord with the Subject. An example is:

- (262) hirak k-enkewin k-eit witeik
 he he-fell down he-at village
 he fell down at the village

In a transitive clause, when Instrument occurs, it inflects in a similar manner as does Location, reinforcing the identity of the Subject. An example is:

- (263) hirak k-enep sak k-eriuwe henmik
 he he-shot pig he-with bamboo arrow
 he shot a pig with a bamboo arrow

As has been illustrated with the above examples, the agreement system includes various classes of words both verbal and non-verbal and assists in the tracking of participant reference.

5.2.2. Verb classification

The distinguishing characteristic which sets transitive verbs apart from other verbs is the occurrence of infixed subject or object markers in the verb stem. This feature is apparently unique to the Torricelli Phylum. There are two types of such verbs: in the first type, the object is a part of the verb stem; in the second, the object or benefactive suffix has been optionally incorporated into the verb, occurring prior to the final verb stem syllable. Examples are:

- (264) hir n-aa-m ninpin they ate the food

- (265) hirak k-ere-k-ir nu he chopped down a tree

- (266) hirak k-it-iwek-hi he asked him...

In both the transitive and intransitive verbs irregular forms occur. With the occurrence of first, second or third person, or singular, dual or plural number, the stem of the verb changes and the person, gender and number of the noun under focus is marked. Irregular verbs are of course not peculiar to languages of the Torricelli Phylum, but verb stems which inflect in this manner are. Examples are:

- (267) hi ninpi m-eiyo I am hungry
 I insides they-hunger me

- (268) $\overbrace{\text{hirak}}^{\text{he}} \quad \overbrace{\text{ninpi}}^{\text{insides}} \quad \text{ma-aak} \quad \text{him} \quad \text{he is hungry}$
he insides they-hunger him
- (269) $\overbrace{\text{hit}}^{\text{leg}} \quad \overbrace{\text{k-eiyewo}}^{\text{it-pains me}} \quad \text{me} \quad \text{my leg hurts}$
leg it-pains me
- (270) $\overbrace{\text{hit}}^{\text{leg}} \quad \overbrace{\text{k-ekek}}^{\text{it-pains him}} \quad \text{him} \quad \text{his leg hurts}$
leg it-pains him

(See Chart F for a full paradigm of an irregular verb.)

5.2.3. Pronominal system

The pronouns are very important in Au and phrase and clause structure reference depends heavily on them. Free pronouns usually occur in place of nouns (they may co-occur with them when the subject is to be made prominent as in examples (271-272)), manifesting both Subject and Object. They may occur affixed to non-verbals as well, including Location, Instrument, Co-ordinate and Accompaniment. Outside the Torricelli Phylum, these features would be highly unusual, for subject-marking affixes occur only with the verbs.

The pronominal system is also unique in that it incorporates not only a gender system of masculine and feminine, but includes a separate category for neuter as well. The possessive pronouns again are unique because they are inflected for a possessed item as well as a possessor. The pronominal system is the prime example of the extensive network of inter-related classes which function in the Au agreement system. Examples of free pronouns are:

- (271) $\overbrace{\text{mitik}}^{\text{man}} \quad \overbrace{\text{hir-ak}}^{\text{3rd-sg masc}} \quad \text{k-en} \quad \text{yaank} \quad \text{(Subject)}$
the man went to the forest
- (272) $\overbrace{\text{mite}}^{\text{woman}} \quad \overbrace{\text{hir-e}}^{\text{3rd-sg fem}} \quad \text{w-en} \quad \text{Yemnu} \quad \text{(Subject)}$
the woman went to Yemnu
- (273) $\overbrace{\text{hirak}}^{\text{he}} \quad \overbrace{\text{k-ewet-o}}^{\text{he-gave-me}} \quad \overbrace{\text{menmen}}^{\text{thing}} \quad \overbrace{\text{i-m}}^{\text{these}} \quad \text{(Subject, Object)}$
he gave me these things

Some further examples of bound subject and object pronouns in cross-reference with free subject pronouns are:

- (274) $\overbrace{\text{k-ere-k-ir}}^{\text{he-cut-it-cut}} \quad \text{he cut it}$
he-cut-it-cut

(275) $\overbrace{\text{hirak}}^{\text{he}}$ $\overbrace{\text{k-uwaai}}^{\text{he-slept}}$ $\overbrace{\text{k-eit}}^{\text{he-at}}$ Yemnu *he slept at Yemnu*
he he-slept he-at Yemnu

(276) $\overbrace{\text{hire}}^{\text{she}}$ $\overbrace{\text{w-ewis-ik}}^{\text{she-put-it}}$ $\overbrace{\text{k-inik}}^{\text{it-under}}$ winak *she put it under the house*
she she-put-it it-under house

These examples illustrate how the bound subject pronouns agree with the free subject pronouns, and the Location noun phrase agrees in (276) with the bound pronominal object, using a subject pronouns form to do so. Examples of the possessive pronoun forms are:

(277) $\overbrace{\text{hine}}^{\text{knife}}$ $\overbrace{\text{k-irak}}^{\text{it-his}}$ *his knife*
knife it-his

(278) $\overbrace{\text{nepere}}^{\text{dog}}$ $\overbrace{\text{p-ire}}^{\text{she-hers}}$ *her female dog*
dog she-hers

Note from these examples how the possessed item occurs in primary position and the possessor follows.

5.3. Final comments

The features which have been described in this section are considered the most unique features in the Au grammar. Because these do not follow the patterns usually found in Papuan languages, they must be considered in any theory about the origin of Au and the whole Torricelli Phylum. As a result of these aberrant features, the languages along the foothills of the Torricelli mountains have been classified as a separate phylum, for they do not fit in well with typological features manifested by the Trans-New Guinea Phylum or the Sepik-Ramu Phylum.

6. TORRICELLI PHYLUM AFFINITIES

6.1. General remarks

In this concluding section, we shall compare selected typological features of Au grammar with languages from two other major linguistic areas. In doing so, we hope to justify the claims of Laycock who described the Torricelli Phylum as 'a genetic group in itself' (1975:768).

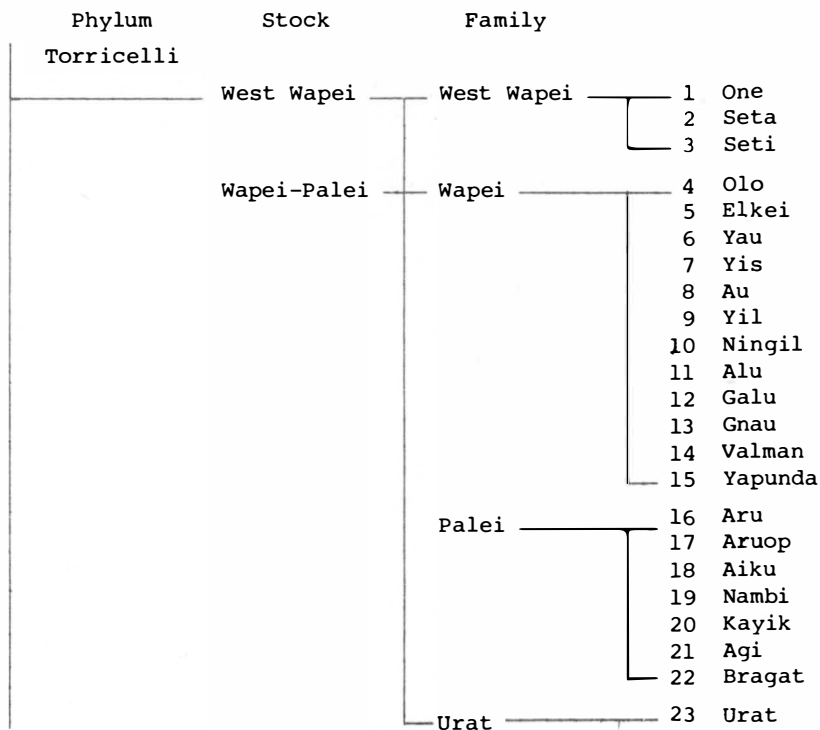
A family tree of Au and its position within the Torricelli Phylum is now given, following Laycock's classification of Sepik languages (1973:72ff). Laycock and Wurm (1964:77ff) have basically followed the Swadesh lexico-statistical technique (Swadesh 1952 and 1955c) in grouping New Guinea languages.² However, they have modified the lexical relationships significant for differentiating languages, families and stocks according to the following percentages:

- 15% - 25% same stock
- 40% - 55% different sub-families within the same family
- 60% - 81% languages of the same sub-family.

6.2. General Papuan characteristics

According to Wurm, Laycock and Voorhoeve (1975:171ff), the phonology of Papuan languages generally does not show a phonemic contrast between r and l. Stops and fricatives have a tendency to be in allophonic variation.³ Generally, there is a low number of vowel phonemes, often as few as three but occasionally as many as seven.

In morphology, the person markers generally reflect only singular and plural number, although in certain cases along the border of the Trans-New Guinea Phylum and Sepik-Ramu Phylum, the languages show distinction for dual number as well. The classification of nouns is often determined by their occurrence with a small number of classificatory verbs. Papuan languages also display a very complex verb morphology, with considerable suffixing, which is due in part to the syntactic structure of the clause, which places the verb in final position. There are also special medial verb forms which are inflectionally abbreviated, with the final verb form (usually at sentence level) marking the inflectional categories. As has already been mentioned in section 1, word order is consistently subject-object-verb, except in cases where there are discourse considerations which may alter the order of the first two constituents. This means that everything, including adverbs, must precede the verb; this supports the observation of Greenberb (1963:58-76) who notes that when the verb appears in clause final position, it is associated with various phenomena such as postpositions instead of prepositions, permutation of nouns in phrases (modifiers are moved to precede nouns) and almost all affixation is following the verb term. Finally, these languages show sets of pronouns which either make no gender distinction or are simply 2-gender systems (usually masculine and feminine).



A family tree of Au

6.3. General Torricelli Phylum (TP) characteristics

Phonologically, TP languages utilise three positions of articulation, with voiced and voiceless consonants showing allophonic variation. There are usually five vowel phonemes appearing (minimally), but there may be as many as eight, depending on the interpretation of the central vocoids and sequences that occur. There appears to be a high proportion of fricative consonants, at least in some families of the phylum (Olo, as cited by Laycock is an example of this). Morphologically, TP languages are characterised by a two (singular/plural) or three (singular, dual and plural) number system in pronouns, and have a high degree of concordance especially between the nouns and the noun-adjuncts. The pronouns occur in singular, dual and plural, showing gender distinctions in the third person (Au is an example of a three gender distinction system). Subject concordance is marked by a set of prefixes in verbs, with the same set of prefixes functioning as relators in relator-axis phrase constructions. Laycock (1975:768) has noted that these prefixes occur with non-verbs and has given example from Au using the interrogative 'why'. Although he tentatively suggests that the form may be treated as a verb we see it as merely showing the typical subject concordance occurring in other constructions. There are prepositions in TP languages, and the nouns always precede their modifiers in phrase level constructions. Finally, the typical order of words is subject-verb-object and this is radically different from the order manifested by the general Papuan languages in New Guinea.

6.4. Comparison of features

Now that we have considered briefly the typological features of each phylum, we will examine the way that the Torricelli languages differ from features typically expected of the Papuan languages. These appear below and are based upon the features outlined by Wurm, Laycock and Voorhoeve (1975:179-186). Following a general comparison, we then look more closely at the pronouns for any patterns which may be of significance.

	Trans-New Guinea Phylum	Sepik-Ramu Phylum	Torricelli Phylum
PHONOLOGY			
Place of Articulation:	three to five	three to five	three to five
Series of stops:	two	usually one	one
Fricatives:	generally one	one or more	several per language
Widely varying consonant allophones:	present	absent	present
Stops with fricative allophones:	common	rarely	common
Basic vowel phonemes:			
Basic system:	five vowels	three to five	five to eight

	Trans-New Guinea Phylum	Sepik-Ramu Phylum	Torricelli Phylum
PHONOLOGY			
Vowel phonemes with wide range of allophones:	no	yes	yes
Vowel sequences:	present	absent	present
Phonologically relevant tones:	often present	rare	absent
Morphonemic changes:	common	few	few
MORPHOLOGY			
Complex morphological system:	very complex	complex	less complex
Nature of morphology:	elaborate affixation and inflection	uncomplicated affixes	uncomplicated affixation
Person markers:			
Dual forms: (singular-plural)	common	common	common
Trial forms: (singular, dual, plural)	rare	present	common
Inclusive-exclusive in first person non-singular:	only medially; rare	rare	absent
Subject marking on verbs:	common	common	common
Object marking on verbs:	common	common	common
Position of the bound subject and object in relation to each other in verb:	separated or together	together	separated
Appearance of bound subject or object with non-verb words:	absent	absent	common
VERBS			
Existential verbs:	yes	no	no
Verb stem-changes according to the person of object or beneficiary:	in some cases	rare	common

	Trans-New Guinea Phylum	Sepik-Ramu Phylum	Torricelli Phylum
VERBS			
Indication of interrogatives:	affix on the verb	rare particle	common particle
Distinction of realis-irrealis forms:	common in some areas	rare	absent
Sentence medial forms:	very common	common	absent
SYNTAX			
Basic word order:	subject-object-verb	subject-object- verb	subject-verb- object
Subordinate clause:	generally precedes main clause	precedes main clause	predecessor follows

As has been indicated by the above comparison, the three phyla which appear across the horizontal parameter show a number of similar features. Of the thirty (30) features compared, the Torricelli Phylum has the least in common with the other two: seventeen (17) of its features are directly opposed to the Trans-New Guinea Phylum, and thirteen (13) are opposed to features of the Sepik-Ramu. The major factor to note is the difference in word order, which shows the Torricelli Phylum to be closer to the Austronesian languages in this regard; non-Austronesian languages maintain a subject-object-verb word order in all language groups. This one factor may suggest that the placement of the Torricelli Phylum in the non-Austronesian language group is tenuous. Another factor is the lack of medial verb forms which are so characteristic of the highland languages in particular, as well as others which make up the Papuan languages in New Guinea.

6.5. Pronoun features compared

In Papuan languages, the free pronouns and bound pronouns that occur can be classified in terms of person and number. In some languages, such as those placed in the Torricelli or the Sepik-Ramu gender must also be considered. In Chart R, several Papuan languages have been compared from a list of features compiled.⁴ These are in turn compared with the Torricelli Phylum languages of Au and Olo (a neighbouring language to the west).

Generally speaking, many of the Papuan languages display two number systems (singular and plural) and show little to no gender distinction; when gender is distinguished, it is usually limited to masculine and feminine. Some languages make a distinction for inclusion or exclusion of the speaker in first person.

In contrast to the general Papuan languages, the Torricelli Phylum includes languages with systems of singular, dual and plural, which make distinctions for masculine and feminine, and often, neuter as well. There is no distinction made in first person singular or plural for inclusion or exclusion of the speaker or audience.

	Eastern Central Trans-New Guinea Phylum			South-Eastern Trans-New Guinea Phylum			North-Eastern	Sepik Ramu	Torricelli Phylum	
Language	Gahuku	Fore	Awa	Suena	Barai	Daga	Selepet	Iatmul	Au	Olo
Gender distinction	no	no	no	no	no	no	no	yes	yes	yes
Exclusive-inclusive	no	no	no	yes	no	no	no	no	no	no
Person:										
Singular	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Dual	no	no	no	yes	no	no	yes	yes	yes	yes
Plural	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes

Chart R: Comparative chart of personal pronouns

ekrit h̄ir n-an-im n-an-tike teipe
 morning they they-will eat-them they-will-with sago jelly
 o n-an-wat n̄ikerek em h̄ir n-an-im
 or they-will-give children them they they-will-eat-them

B. Free translation of 'The killing of a lizard'

1. *A few days ago, the men were sitting at the men's sleeping house talking together.*
2. *They were talking together chewing betelnut and one of the men saw something hiding beneath a bed.*
3. *He said, "I see something hiding under a bed there".*
4. *He got a stick, and another man lifted up the bed, and he (the first man) saw a warp lizard and he hit it.*
5. *He hit it and it was dying and he lifted it and took it and wrapped it inside some leaves.*
6. *Later on that same night, the men dream things and (if there are no significant dreams against eating the lizard), in the morning they will eat (parts of) the lizard along with their sago jelly, or they will give (their parts of) the lizard to their children and they will eat it.*

LIST OF SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Symbols

- + = obligatory constituents or constructions
 + = optional constituents or construction
 — = underlining for vernacular examples
 () = explanatory remarks concerning the subject in focus

Abbreviations

- A = accompaniment
 adj = adjective
 adv = adverb
 an = animate
 B = benefactive
 C = contingent
 Cm = comment
 cont = continuous aspect marker
 coord nphr = co-ordinate noun phrase
 D = duration
 Dc = declarative
 DD = dependent ditransitive
 DE = dependent equative
 DI = dependent intransitive
 di.tr.verb = ditransitive verb
 dl = dual

DS	=	dependent stative
DT	=	dependent transitive
E	=	equative
ED	=	equative duration
ER	=	equative reason
fem	=	feminine
fut	=	future
gen nphr./gnp	=	general noun phrase
I	=	instrument
ID	=	independent ditransitive
IE	=	independent equative
Ig	=	interrogative
II	=	independent intransitive
imper/Ip	=	imperative
inst nphr	=	instrument noun phrase
intr	=	intransitive
IO	=	indirect object (benefactive)
IS	=	independent stative
IT	=	independent transitive
ITrC	=	intransitive contingent
ITrD	=	intransitive duration
ITrP	=	intransitive purpose
ITrR	=	intransitive reason
ITrSm	=	intransitive simultaneous
ITR.v	=	intransitive verb
L	=	location
loc phr.	=	location phrase
masc	=	masculine
n	=	noun
neut	=	neuter
O	=	object
Ps	=	purpose
P	=	predicate
phr	=	phrase
pl	=	plural
pred/P	=	predicate
prn	=	pronoun
R	=	reason
R-A	=	relator-axis
recip/re	=	reciprocal action suffix
S	=	subject
SD	=	stative duration
sing/sg	=	singular
Sm	=	simultaneous
SR	=	stative reason
SSm	=	stative simultaneous
stat	=	stative
st.v	=	stative verb
TP	=	Torricelli Phylum
Tp	=	topic (comment)
tr	=	transitive
trans.v	=	transitive verb
TrC	=	transitive contingent
TrP	=	transitive purpose

TrR	=	transitive reason
TrSm	=	transitive simultaneous
v	=	verb
v.phr	=	verb phrase

NOTES

1. This project was originally submitted to the Graduate School of the University of Texas at Arlington in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts in Linguistics in August 1978.
2. The criteria which are used by Swadesh make the following distinctions:
 - (a) Languages sharing 28% to 81% of their lexical items (vocabulary) belong to the same family.
 - (b) Languages sharing 12% to 28% of their lexical items are the same stock.
 - (c) Languages sharing 4% to 12% of their lexical items are the same micro-phylum.

Wurm states that languages were similar in their structure as they were in their lexical items (for many languages) (1964:78) and as a result, topological features were also considered in classifying the New Guinea languages.

3. Barai, which is a member of the South-Eastern Trans-New Guinea Phylum is an exception to the generalisation that stops and fricatives tend to be in allophonic variation. Both stops and fricatives occur as phonemes.
4. These features were made available by Karl Franklin from papers submitted by students for course requirements in non-Indo-European language studies, 1977, UTA.
5. Robert Young of SIL in Papua New Guinea first used monofocal and polyfocal to describe the phenomenon of two oppositions of focus on the number of the subject in bound pronoun forms. Young says,

Monofocal refers along the vertical axis to singular number for first, second and third persons; and along the horizontal axis of first person in the singular, dual and plural number. This horizontal axis is termed the ego axis because it directly refers to ego participation in the action. This means that first person dual and plural involve ego and one or more other participants. Thus the monofocal form of the stem is used...The term polyfocal describes the phenomenon exemplified by the he- form of the stem, in which the focus is on number rather than person...

This points to the fact that where second or third person intersect dual or plural in the matrix (which is outlined below), the focus is always plural.

	Singular	Dual	Plural
First	A	B	C
Second	D	F	F
Third	E	G	G

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