A Fragment of Okinawan Case Grammar

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Liu Shen

1.1 The following tree gives basic deep structure of a simple Okinawan sentence. We assume that there is no deep subject or deep object in this analysis. The "subject" and "object" are in all cases derived relations. They are to be derived by very early placement rules (2).

wan ne nuga na čičan "I heard something" (a)
DAT NEUT

?ya ya uta čičan "you heard something" (b)
DAT NEUT

taro ya warato. n "Taro is laughing" (c)
AGT

?ya ya wan ga načo. ši čičan "you are hearing me crying" (d)
DAT AGT

Within the present corpus the "cases" primitives define the functional relations of constituents of a sentence recognized are agentive, dative, and neutral. The claim of this present grammar with respect to the neutral case is that it is not naturally marked in the surface structure by any overt case marker.

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1.2 Base Rules

RULE 1:

\[
S \rightarrow \# \left\{ \begin{array}{c}
CONJ \quad S \quad S \quad S^* \\
MOD \quad PROP
\end{array} \right\} \# 
\]

(a) Junctures (\#) provide a means by which elements may be moved easily to sentence initial and final positions. They also serve as blocking symbol for P-markers which are not well-formed.

(b) CONJ may be filled in by items having the feature \(+CONJ\), viz., \(+tu\).
(c) Following Lakoff and Peters (1966) a rule a CONJ-spreading distributes the CONJ to the following S's.

(d) The iteration symbol (*) is a schema abbreviating zero or more occurrences of the preceding symbol. It is employed here to generate the indefinite number of conjoined S's permissible.

(e) The symbol MOD and PROP have been chosen following Fillmore (1966).

Rule 2: \[ \text{MOD} \rightarrow \text{TNS (PROG)} \]

(a) In the first lookup of lexicon, TNS is filled in by one of the several possible entries distinguished by \(\pm \text{PAST}\) or \(\pm \text{FUT}\).

(b) PROP is also entered in the first lexicon lookup with entry of \(\pm \text{PROG}\).

Rule 3: \[ \text{PROP} \rightarrow \text{V (NEUT) (DAT) (AGT)} \]

(a) Various T's operate on the cases following V, positioning them correctly and assuring the correct case placement markers.

(b) Verb complements come entirely from NPs.

Rule 4: \[ \text{NEUT} \rightarrow \text{NCM NP} \]

\[ \text{DAT} \rightarrow \text{NCM NP} \]

\[ \text{AGT} \rightarrow \text{NCM NP} \]

\[ (+\text{NEUT})(\pm\text{NEUT}) \]

\[ (+\text{DAT})(\pm\text{DAT}) \]

\[ (+\text{AGT})(\pm\text{AGT}) \]

(a) The process of specifying PROP's under different cases is dealt with in detail in CASE PLACEMENT (2).

Rule 5: \[ \text{NP} \rightarrow \{ \begin{array}{c} \text{S} \\
\text{NOM} \end{array} \} \]
(a) S is provided for complementation and nominalization. In this analysis only NEUT is the source for such embeddings.

(b) Phrasal conjunctions in this treatment are dealt through sentential conjunctions and identicals deletion T-rules.

2.1 The general rule of objectivalization is that the first actant to the right of the head is objectivalized -- provided, in the case of verbs, that there at least two actants. This rule simply the first actant, erase the dominating $c_j$, and raise it as right sister of head verb. The ordering of rules is that the rule of objectivalization precedes subjectivalization.

2.12 The Rule of Object Placement

$$S \cdot I. \quad X \quad MOD \quad V \quad C_j \quad [CM \quad NOM] \quad X'$$

$\quad 1 \quad 2 \quad 3 \quad 4 \quad 5 \quad 6 \quad 7$

Conditions:

(a) 2 through 6 are constituents.

(b) 3 has the feature of the form $[C_i \quad OBJ]$. 

S. C. attach 6 as right sister of 2; delete 4-5.

Examples:

(a) wan ne ?ya n. čan "I saw you"

(b) wan ne nugana čičo. n "I am hearing something"

(c) Taro ya uta čičan "You heard a song"
3.1 In this analysis the general rule of subject placement is that last actant becomes the subject; that is, wipe out the dominating case node of the last actant and attach it as the left sister of MOD.

3.11 Rule of subject placement

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  1 S. 2 I. 3 X 4 MOD 5 V 6 X 7 CM 8 NOM 9 X
```

Condition: 3 has a feature of the form \([C_i \rightarrow \text{SUBJ}]\).

S. C. reverse 5-6 and attach them as left sister of 2; delete 5.

Examples:

(a) ?yaya rajio čičan "you heard the radio"
(b) wan ne taro n. čan "I saw taro"

4. In embedding the embedding sentence is signalled by ta embedding marker and a phonological change of the case marker.
The embedding process will take place, when the V of the embedding sentence contains the feature [+EMB], the appropriate phonological changes will be provided by the later phonological rules.

4.1 The Embedding Rule

\[
\begin{array}{ccccccccccc}
S & I & X & MOD & V & X & NOM & CM & V & [\text{+EMB}] & NP & X \\
1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 & 9 & 10 \\
\end{array}
\]

S. C. (a) insert embedding marker isi between 7 and 8.
(b) delete 8.
(c) 6 will go through a phonological change later.

Examples: (a) wan ne ya ga utaiši n. can "I saw you singing"
(b) wan ne tara ga katato. ŋi "I heard taro talking"
(c) ?ya ya wan ga nacuši "you are hearing me" cico. n "cry"

5.1 Conjunction. In this treatment we are adopting the approach known as "derived conjunction" (Lakoff and Peters, 1966; Ross, 1967). For a sentence like

wan tu tara ya ?ya n can "I and taro saw you" (5-a)

we like to say that the deep structure underlying (5-a) comes from the generating coordinated sentences in base rule,

\[
S \rightarrow S \quad S \quad S^* 
\]

and is, roughly:

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{CONJ} \\
\downarrow \\
tu \quad \text{wan ne ?ya n.can} \quad \text{taro ya ?ya n.can} \\
\end{array}
\]

where a deep structure such as (5-b) is modified to produce a surface structure such as (5-a).
5.2 The relevant rules and schemata, arranged in order of application, should be:

(a) Conjunction Spreading
(b) Copying and Erasing
(c) Initial Conjunction Deletion

5.3 Conjunction Spreading. This schema has the form essentially proposed in Lakoff and Peters (1966):

\[
\text{CONJ} \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{A} \\ [+X] \end{array} \quad \text{A} \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{A} \\ \vdots \end{array} \quad \text{A} \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{CONJ} \\ [+X] \end{array} \quad \text{A} \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{A} \\ [+X] \end{array}
\]

where \([+X] = [+AND], [+BUT], [+OR]\).

Some examples of application of the schema are:

\[
\text{CONJ} \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{S} \\ [+AND] \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{tu} \\ \text{?ya ya wan n.\text{\c{c}an}} \quad \text{taro ya wan n.\text{\c{c}an}} \end{array}
\]

\[
\begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} \text{CONJ} \\ [+AND] \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} \text{tu} \\ \text{?ya ya wan n.\text{\c{c}an}} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{taro ya wan n.\text{\c{c}an}} \end{array} \end{array}
\]

(ultimately: ?ya tu taro ya wan n.\text{\c{c}an} "you and taro saw me").
5.31 Conj-spreading rule:

\[
\text{S. I. CONJ } S_1 S_2 S_3 \ldots S_N
\]

\[
\text{S.C. insert 1 between } n \text{ and } n+1, \text{ where } N > n > 2.
\]

6. Copying and Erasing. The copying and erasing rule has the effect of change in schema (6-a) and (6-b).
6.1 The copying and erasing rule operate in three steps:

(i) copy $S_j$ from right to left, everything identical as in $S_i$, up to and include lastly encountered formative which is not in $S_j$.

(ii) erase the remaining part then copy CONJ.

(iii) erase the portion has been copied in $S_j$ from right to left.
then copy the remaining part, also the initial CONJ.

6.2 The initial conjunction deletion rule is a obligatory one which has the form:

S. I. X CONJ X
1 2 3
S. C. delete 2

Condition: 2 is the first daughter of a non-immediately dominating constituent.

The condition of this rule assures that only an initial conjunction is deleted. This rule in combination with a "pruning" rule operate to change (6-c) to (6-d):

(6-c)

\[
S \\
\quad \text{CONJ} \quad S_i \\
\quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \text{[+AND]} \\
\quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \text{tu} \quad \text{wan?ya ga} \\
\quad \text{S} \\
\quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \text{CONJ} \\
\quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \text{[+AND]} \\
\quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \text{tu} \\
\quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \text{taro ga utao.} \; \text{si} \; \text{n.} \; \text{can} \\
\]

(6-d)

\[
S \\
\quad \text{CONJ} \\
\quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \text{tu} \\
\quad \text{S} \\
\quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \text{taro ga utao.} \; \text{si} \; \text{n.} \; \text{can} \\
\quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \text{wan?ya ga} \\
\]

7. Sample sentences

1. wan ne ?ya n.\text{can}  
   I saw you.

2. wan ne taro n.\text{can}  
   I saw Taro.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Sentence (Okinawan)</th>
<th>English Translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>wan ne rajio n.čan</td>
<td>I saw the radio.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>ñya ya wan n.čan</td>
<td>You saw me.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>?ya ya nugana n.čan</td>
<td>You saw something.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>taro ya nugana n.čan</td>
<td>Taro saw something.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>wan ne nugana čičan</td>
<td>I heard something.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>?ya ya rajio čičan</td>
<td>You heard the radio.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>?ya ya uša čičan</td>
<td>You heard a song.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>taro ya uša čičan</td>
<td>Taro heard a song.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>?ya ya utatan</td>
<td>You sang.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>taro ya waratan</td>
<td>Taro laughed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td>taro ya katatan</td>
<td>Taro talked.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>wan ne načan</td>
<td>I cried.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.</td>
<td>wan ne ?ya n.čun</td>
<td>I (will) see you.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.</td>
<td>wan ne nugana čičun</td>
<td>I (will) hear something.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.</td>
<td>?ya ya utain</td>
<td>You (will) sing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18.</td>
<td>taro ya warain</td>
<td>Taro (will) laugh.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19.</td>
<td>taro ya katatin</td>
<td>Taro (will) talk.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20.</td>
<td>wan ne načun</td>
<td>I (will) cry.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21.</td>
<td>wan ne ?ya n.čo.n</td>
<td>I'm seeing you.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22.</td>
<td>wan ne nugana čičo.n</td>
<td>I'm hearing something.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23.</td>
<td>?ya ya utato.n</td>
<td>You are singing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24.</td>
<td>taro ya warato.n</td>
<td>Taro is laughing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25.</td>
<td>taro ya katato.n</td>
<td>Taro is talking.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26.</td>
<td>wan ne načo.n</td>
<td>I'm crying.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27.</td>
<td>wan ne ?ya ga utaiši n.čan</td>
<td>I saw you sing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28.</td>
<td>wan ne taro ga waraiši n.čan</td>
<td>I saw Taro laugh.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29.</td>
<td>wan ne taro ga kaiši čičan</td>
<td>I heard Taro talk.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30.</td>
<td>?ya ya wan ga načo.ši n.čan</td>
<td>You saw me crying.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31.</td>
<td>wan ne ?ya ga utato.ši n.čan</td>
<td>I saw you singing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32.</td>
<td>wan ne taro ga warato.ši n.čan</td>
<td>I saw Taro laughing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33.</td>
<td>wan ne taro ga kaiši čičan</td>
<td>I heard Taro talking.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34.</td>
<td>?ya ya wan ga načo.ši čičan</td>
<td>You heard me crying.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35.</td>
<td>wan ne ?ya ga utaiši n.čun</td>
<td>I (will) see you sing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36.</td>
<td>wan ne ?ya ga utato.ši n.čun</td>
<td>I (will) see you singing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37.</td>
<td>?ya ya wan ga načuši čičo.n</td>
<td>You're hearing me cry.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38.</td>
<td>?ya ya wan ga načo.ši čičo.n</td>
<td>You're hearing me crying.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39.</td>
<td>wan ne ?ya tu taro n.čan</td>
<td>I saw Taro and you.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40.</td>
<td>taro tu wan ne ?ya n.čan</td>
<td>Taro and I saw you.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41.</td>
<td>wan tu taro ya ?ya n.čan</td>
<td>I and Taro saw you.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42.</td>
<td>?ya tu taro ya wan n.čan</td>
<td>You and Taro saw me.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43.</td>
<td>taro tu wan ne utain</td>
<td>Taro and I (will) sing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44.</td>
<td>wan tu ?ya ya utain</td>
<td>I and you will sing.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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