

## A Description of Nominal Phrases in Paranan

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### Abstract

Paranan belongs to the Northeastern Luzon language family and is spoken by around 16,000 people most of whom live in the coastal municipality of Palanan in Isabela Province. Despite the number of speakers, the language is one of the less documented languages in the Philippines. This paper addresses this gap by describing the structure of nominal phrases in Paranan. Using a corpus of 113,000 words from written and spoken Paranan texts, the paper describes the nominal marking system and structure of nominals in Paranan. Paranan has two primary nominal markers: determiners and demonstratives. Pluralization in Paranan is marked by the use of the plural marker *hidi*, which may either be postnominal or prenominal. Besides gender, properties of common nouns, and borrowed nouns, Paranan has at least seven types of derived nouns. Other aspects of Paranan grammar warrant further investigation.

**Keywords:** *Paranan, nominal phrases, Philippine languages Northeastern Luzon language family*

**ISO 639-3 language codes:** prf

Paranan (also *Palanan* or *Palanenyoy*) is one of the languages of the northeastern part of northern Luzon in the Philippines. It enjoys Level 4 or Educational status in the Expanded Graded Intergenerational Disruption Scale (EGIDS), which means that it 'is in vigorous use, with standardization and literature being sustained through a widespread system of institutionally supported education' (Lewis, Simons, & Fennig, 2016).

Ethnologue claims that Paranan is similar to Pahanan Agta, while Casiguran Agta and Kasiguranin share 83% and 82% intelligibility with it, respectively (Lewis, Simons, & Fennig, 2016). There are about 16,000 speakers of Paranan most of whom live in the coastal municipality of Palanan in the province of Isabela. There are, however, speakers of the language along the entire east coast of Isabela province, between Divicalan bay and Dinapigue town and inland to San Mariano.

Paranan was previously categorized under the Northern Cordilleran subgroup; however, Robinson and Lobel (2013) argued, based on evidence on historical phonology, functors, and lexicon, that Paranan, along with Dupanangan Agta, Pahanan Agta, Casiguran Agta, Nagtipunan Agta, and Dinapigue Agta, belongs to the Northeastern Luzon language family, a primary subgrouping of the Northern Luzon (Cordilleran) languages.

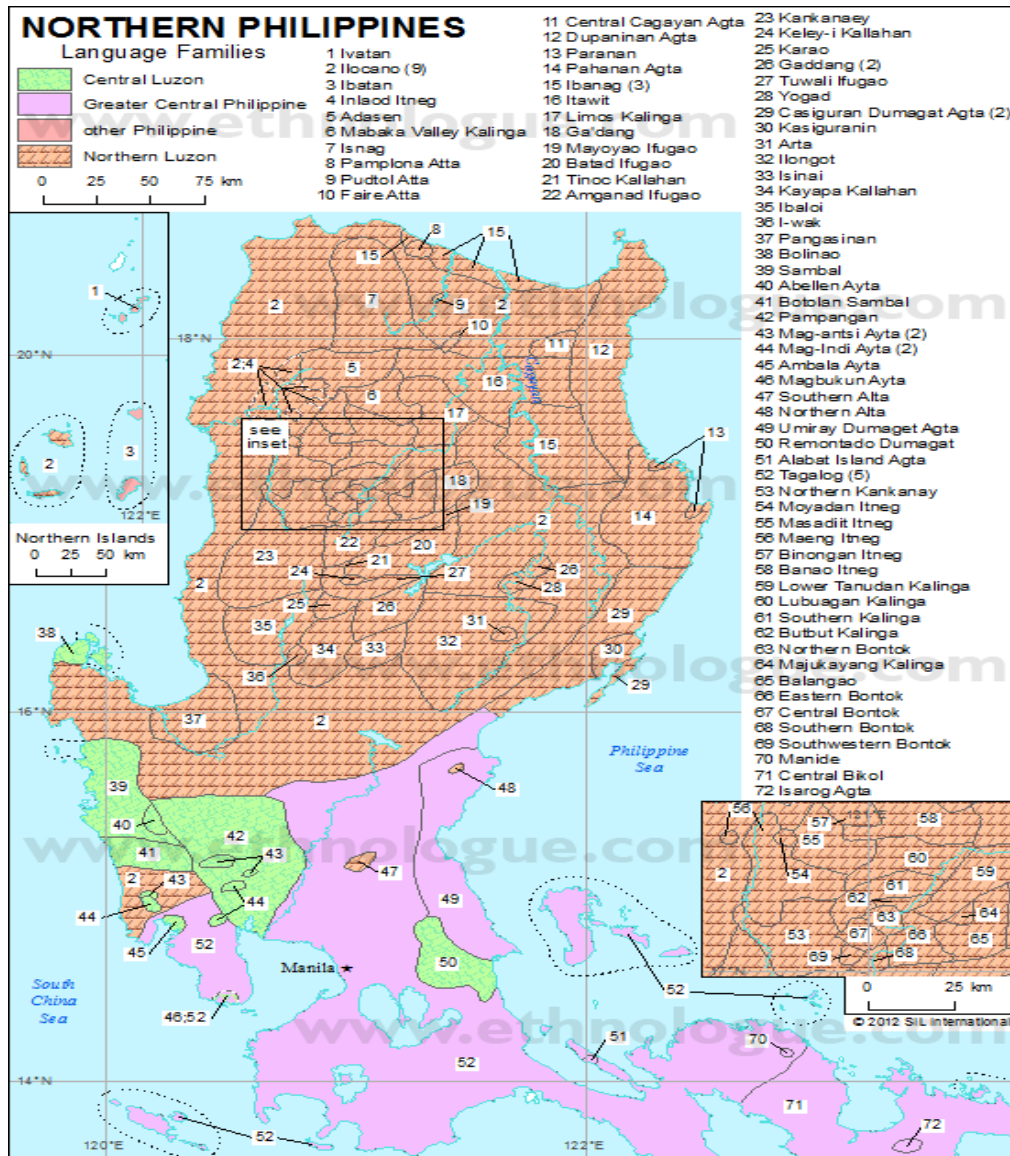


Figure 1. Language Map of the Northern Philippines Language Family (Lewis, Simon, & Fennig, 2016).



Figure 2: Northeastern Luzon language family<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>This language tree is based on Robinson and Lobel (2013), who argue for the existence of a Northeastern Luzon subgrouping under the Cordilleran group of languages.

This paper explores the structure of noun phrases in Paranan. The data used in this paper come from a 113,000-word corpus of written and spoken Paranan texts. The written texts are mostly religious and literary texts, whereas the spoken texts come from five informants who speak the language. In this paper, analysis includes the structure of nominals and the nominal marking system. The analysis commences with the constituent order of noun phrases in Paranan, followed by nominal markers, number of nouns, gender of nouns, and morphological formations of nouns.

### Constituent Order

NPs are characterized as phrases having a noun or pronoun as their heads. Wimbish (1989) explains that the minimum component of an Ilocano NP is a determiner and a head noun. He adds that NPs may also include quantifiers, modifiers, and either a relative clause or an embedded clause. Apparently, this holds true for Paranan NPs, too. Since NPs may have more than two constituents, it is therefore appropriate to describe the order of constituents of an NP.

Basically, there are two types of markers that introduce NPs in Paranan: determiners and demonstratives.

- 1) **en** babbi  
DET woman  
'a woman'
- 2) **iyad** tolay  
DEM person  
'this person'

However, when an NP is used as a vocative, no determiner is needed before the head noun, as in (3) and (4).

- 3) **Babbi**, siko i salang ni bilay=id.  
woman ABS.2s DET light OBL house=PAR  
'Woman, you are the light of the house.'
- 4) **Nanay**, siko i inspirasyon ku=id.  
mother ABS.2s DET inspiration GEN.1s=PAR  
'Mother, you are my inspiration.'

In addition, when an NP is used as a response to a question, no nominal marker is needed. Hence, the head noun is the sole constituent in a predicate as in (5) and (6). Note that *id* which encliticizes with the pronominals functions as question particles

- 5) Anya gustu mu=id  
what like ERG.2s=PAR  
'What do you like?'
- Sida.**  
'Viand.'

- 6) Anya binali na=id  
 what bought ERG.3s=PAR  
 ‘What did s/he buy?’

**Asukar!**  
 ‘Sugar!’

A nominal marker also introduces a modifier before the head noun, with the addition of a ligature (LIG) to connect the modifier to its head noun. In Paranan, there are two forms of ligature: *nga* and *a*. Unlike Tagalog where *ng* is used as a ligature for items that end in vowels, Paranan has no *ng* ligature. In (9), the two items, *a* and *nga*, are used interchangeably, as in (7) and (8).

- 7) en maganas a babbi  
 DET beautiful LIG girl  
 ‘a beautiful girl’

7a) en maganas nga babbi  
 DET beautiful LIG girl  
 ‘a beautiful girl’

- 8) iyud magkasarub nga lappaw  
 DEM fragrant LIG flower  
 ‘that fragrant flower’

8a) iyud magkasarub a lappaw  
 DEM fragrant LIG flower  
 ‘that fragrant flower’

- 9) en Amerikanu nga maistu  
 DET American LIG teacher  
 ‘the American teacher’

but not

9a) \*en Amerikanung maistu  
 DET American=LIG teacher  
 ‘the American teacher’

Alternatively, the head noun may appear right after the nominal marker whereas the modifier appears after. In this construction, the relativizer *nga* is used to connect the head noun to its modifier, as in (7b) and (8b). Hence, the process of relativization is done by connecting the modifier to the noun using the relativizer (REL) *nga*:

7b) en babbi nga maganas  
 DET girl REL beautiful  
 ‘a girl who is beautiful’

- 8b) iyud lappaw **nga** magkasarub  
 DEM flower REL fragrant  
 ‘that flower which is fragrant’

Finally, nominal markers take the initial position in nominalized clauses. Note that the translation in English does not bear any counterpart of either a determiner or a demonstrative. In most Philippine languages, a nominal marker is an obligatory constituent, unlike English where some nouns allow for the absence of a determiner, as in (10a).

- 10) **en** pag-kansyon na  
 DET NMZR-song GEN.3s  
 ‘his/her (way of) singing’

- 10a) **Ang** gatas ay masustansiya.  
 DET milk TL nutritious  
 ‘Milk is nutritious.’

\*Gatas ay masustansiya

In the above example, *gatas* ‘milk’ requires an obligatory nominal marker when used either as subject or object. In its English counterpart, however, ‘milk’ does not need a determiner.

- 11) **en** pag-sayaw di  
 DET NMZR-dance GEN.3p  
 ‘their (way of) dancing’

- 12) **en** k<in>agi na  
 DET PERF-say ERG.3s  
 ‘what s/he said’

- 13) **en** <in>angngayan mu  
 DET PERF-go ERG.2s  
 ‘where you went (to)’

- 14) **en** pag-sayaw ku  
 DET PERF-dance ERG.1s  
 ‘how I danced’

The two types of core nominal markers in Paranan will be dealt with simultaneously: the determiners and the demonstratives.

## Nominal Markers

### Determiners

Dita (2011a) explains that most Philippine language researchers claim to have found only one definite marker in every language. For example, Tagalog has *ang* (Schachter & Otañes 1972), Kapampangan has *ing* (Gonzalez, 1970) and Ibanag has *i* (Dita, 2011b). In Paranan, this definite marker is the determiner *en*. Paranan determiners encode number (singular and plural), case (core and oblique), and distinguish between personal and non-personal.

Table 1

#### *Summary of Paranan Determiners*

Non-Personal (common noun) Articles		
	Core	Oblique
Singular	en	ti/ten
Plural	en – hidi	ti/ten - hidi
Personal Articles		
Singular	ni/ti	kan
Plural	de	kande

**Number of determiners.** Paranan determiners encode the number of the nominal they refer to. NPs that are generally singular in meaning are introduced by the determiner *en*; whereas, NPs that are plural in meaning are introduced, still, by the determiner *en* and is post-modified by the plurality marker *hidi*.

**The determiner *en*.** Reid (2002) claims that the determiners of Cordilleran languages can introduce a single word noun, a noun phrase, a relativized clause, a verb-like item, or an adjective one. The determiner *en* in Paranan seems to share this characteristic with other Cordilleran languages in that it is versatile, too. Thus, the symbol DET is used throughout this study.

- 15) **en**            tolay  
 DET            person  
 ‘the/a person’
- 16) **en**            maistu  
 DET            male.teacher  
 ‘the/a teacher’
- 17) **en**            Amerikano    a        bisita  
 DET            American    LIG    visitor  
 ‘an American visitor’

- 18) **en** matapang a sundalu  
 DET brave LIG soldier  
 ‘a brave soldier’
- 19) **en** mabait a tolay  
 DET kind LIG person  
 ‘a kind person’
- 20) **en** tolay a todu a barkada  
 DET person REL many LIG friends  
 ‘a person who has many friends’

Like in Ibanag (Dita, 2011a), abstract nouns in Paranan have obligatory determiners. Note that this does not hold true in English.

- 21) **en** **biyag** ay padipalonguan  
 ABS life TL race  
 ‘Life is a race.’

The determiner *en* is also used to refer to the Supreme Being as exemplified in (22). In some cases, the determiner *en* is replaced by the honorific term *Panginoon*. This is connected to the nominal with the ligature *a* to form the honorific phrase *Panginoon a Diyos*, as in (23). At times, the determiner still precedes the honorific phrase as seen in (25).

- 22) Puriyán **en** **Diyos** a ked dilanget...  
 Praise ABS God LIG EXI heaven (Lucas 2:14)  
 ‘Praise God in the highest heaven.’ (Luke 2:14)
- 23) Puriyán tam **en** **Panginoon** a **Diyos** ni Israel!  
 praise ERG.1pi ABS Lord LIG God OBL Israel (Lucas 1:68)  
 ‘(Let us) Praise the Lord God of Israel!’ (Luke 1:68)

**The *en* – *hidi* determiner.** The particle *hidi* encodes plurality in Paranan. This Paranan plural marker has distinct characteristics unique to the language. Unlike Tagalog (Schachter & Otones, 1972) and similar to Ibanag (Dita, 2011b), it is postnominal. It appears after the noun it refers to.

- 24) **en** toldu **hidi** ni Kristo  
 DET teaching PLU PERS Christ  
 ‘the teachings of Christ’
- 25) **en** libru **hidi** ten bilay  
 DET book PLU LOC house  
 ‘the books in the house’

Note that the Tagalog plural marker *mga* is always prenominal, as in:

ang	mga	turo	ni	Kristo
DET	PLU	teaching	PERS	Christ

‘the teachings of Christ’

ang	mga	libro	sa	bahay
DET	PLU	book	LOC	house

‘the books in the house’

One unique characteristic of the particle *hidi* in Paranan is that it may also take prenominal position, as in (28) and (29):

26)	en	magkatam’is	<b>hidi</b>	a	kendi
	DET	sweet	PLU	LIG	candy

‘The sweet candies’

27)	en	magkasarub	<b>hidi</b>	a	bulaklak
	DET	fragrant	PLU	LIG	flower

‘The fragrant flowers’

The plurality marker *hidi* is prepositive, if an adjective modifies the nominal that *hidi* marks for plurality. In such case, *hidi* appears after the adjective, still in prepositive position.

Unlike other Philippine languages, e.g., Ilocano, the determiner *en* does not signal plurality of NP in Paranan. Hence, plurality in Paranan is not morphologically marked but is lexically marked. Contrast Paranan with Ilocano in the following examples:

28)	<b>en</b>	<b>anak hidi</b>	ten	luwas
	DET	child PLU	OBL	outside

‘the children outside’

<b>dagiti</b>	<b>ubbing</b>	diay	ruwar
DET.PLU	child	OBL	outside

‘the children outside’

29)	<b>en</b>	<b>tolay hidi</b>	a	magkabuli
	DET	person PLU	LIG	liar

‘people who are liar’

<b>dagiti</b>	<b>tattau</b>	nga	ulbud
DET.PLU	people	LIG	liar

‘people who are liar’

Note, however, that the plurality marker *hidi* has a homomorph – the third person plural absolutive *hidi*. The example below contrasts the two.



- 30) Ne-tan ku **hidi** kuman ten mangga hidi  
 PERF-see ERG.1s ABS.3p eating OBL mango PLU.  
 ‘I saw them eating mangoes.’

**Case of determiners.** There are two cases of determiners distinguished here: the core and the oblique. Dita (2011b) maintains that the distinction between core and oblique case lies in its replaceability. She further posits that core arguments that are in full noun phrases, can be replaced by the ergative or the absolutive pronominal. The oblique, on the other hand, lacks this feature. This cannot be replaced by any pronominal, enclitic or not.

**Core nominal markers.** Core determiners introduce core arguments in a clause. As earlier mentioned, there are two types of core nominal markers: determiners and demonstratives. Two types are distinguished here: the definite and the indefinite.

Intransitive clauses take one core argument. If this is a full noun phrase, it is introduced by a determiner; otherwise, it utilizes an absolutive pronominal.

- 31) *Nag-getnud* **en** bikas.  
 PERF-sit ABS old.woman  
 ‘The old woman sat down.’

- 32) *Nag-getnud* **siya**.  
 PERF-sit ABS.3s  
 ‘She sat down.’

- 33) G<umm>inan **en** **anak hidi**.  
 PERF-run ABS child PLU  
 ‘The children ran.’

- 34) G<umm>inan **hidi**.  
 PERF-run ABS.3p  
 ‘They ran.’

Transitive constructions, on the other hand, take two core arguments: one is the agent and the other is the patient. If these two core arguments co-occur with each other, the personal determiner *ni* introduces the agent and the personal determiner *ti* introduces the patient. If the pronominal counterpart is used, the agent is represented by an ergative and the patient by an absolutive. The examples below illustrate how the pronominals are replaced by the core arguments bearing the determiners.

- 35) *Ne-tan* **na** **siya**  
 PERF-see ERG.3s ABS.3s  
 ‘She saw her.’

- 36) *Ne-tan* **na** **ti** Geraldine.  
 PERF-see ERG.3s ABS Geraldine  
 ‘She saw Geraldine.’

- 37) *Ne-tan*     **ni**     Ana **siya**.  
 PERF-see    ERG   Ana   ABS.3s  
 ‘Ana saw her.’
- 38) *Ne-tan*             **ni**         Ana **ti**     Geraldine.  
 PERF-see             ERG     Ana   ABS   Geraldine  
 ‘Ana saw Geraldine.’
- 39) *In-ammuan*         **na**         **siya**.  
 PERF-kiss            ERG.3s   ABS.3s  
 ‘He kissed her.’
- 40) *In-ammuan*         **na**             **ti**     Maria.  
 PERF-kiss            ERG.3s     ABS   Maria  
 ‘He kissed Maria.’
- 41) *In-ammuan*         **ni**         Ramon **siya**.  
 PERF-kiss            ERG   Ramon   ABS.3s  
 ‘Ramon kissed her.’
- 42) *In-ammuan*         **ni**         Ramon **si**     Maria.  
 PERF-kiss            ERG   Ramon   ABS   Maria  
 ‘Ramon kissed Maria.’

If the core arguments are indefinite nouns, the agent is introduced by an indefinite determiner *nen* and the patient by the determiner *en*.

- 43) *In-ammuan*         **nen**             lallaki **en**     babbi.  
 PERF-kiss            DET (IND)   boy   ABS   girl.  
 ‘A boy kissed the girl.’

If the action is indefinite, the verb is encoded entirely in a morphologically different manner. In the following example, the actor is introduced by the definite determiner *ti* (referring to Pedro). Note that the supposed receiver of the action is introduced by an oblique determiner, which is a homomorph of the oblique personal determiner *ti* referring to *babbi* ‘girl’. Hence, this construction is an intransitive.

- 44) *Nangammu*         **ti**         babbi hidi **ti**     Pedro.  
 kissed                OBL   girl   PLU   ABS   Pedro.  
 ‘Pedro kissed (at some) girls.’

**Oblique markers.** This sub-section describes the use of oblique markers *ti* and *ten* Paranan. Note, however, that *ti* in Paranan is also a definite personal pronoun used to refer to the patient in a transitive construction or to the actor in an intransitive construction that conveys an indefinite action. This is exemplified in (46) in which both the oblique marker *ti* and the personal determiner *ti* were used.

Dita (2011b) posits that one feature of Philippine-type languages is that there is no direct counterpart for prepositions. These preposition-like items are instead called obliques and are classified as either nominal markers or pronominals. This section discusses the functions of the oblique non-personal nominal markers *ti* and *ten*.

For one, locative nouns, which may be generic in nature, are introduced by *ti*.

- 45) Tehud a istorya a kimmalat **ti** banuwan nen Palanan.  
 EXI ABS story REL spread OBL town OBL Palanan.  
 ‘There was a story that spread in the town of Palanan.’
- 46) Nalukag en tolay hidi **ti** Palanan.  
 PERF-woke ABS person PLU OBL Palanan.  
 ‘The people of Palanan woke up...’
- 47) Magpasalamat=ak dikomu Ama a Panginoon  
 thank=ERG.1s OBL.2s father LIG God  
 dilanget sakay **ti** luta=iday. (Lucas 10:21)  
 heaven and OBL earth=PAR.  
 ‘I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth...’ (Luke 10:21)

In intransitive constructions, the theme (the entity in motion) is introduced by the oblique *ti*.

- 48) *Na*-mali **ti** Maria ti kendi.  
 PERF-buy ABS Maria OBL candy.  
 ‘Maria bought (a) candy.’
- 49) *Naka*-ket=ak **ti** adaw.  
 PERF-see=ABS.1s OBL monkey.  
 ‘I saw (a) monkey.’
- 50) En talung ay awan magbunga **ti** kamatis.  
 ABS eggplant TL NEG bear OBL tomato.  
 ‘An eggplant will not bear (a) tomato.’
- 51) *In*-atdenan=ak na **ti** kanan.  
 PERF-give=ABS.1s ERG.3s OBL rice.  
 ‘S/he gave me rice.’

Temporal phrases are also case marked by the oblique *ti*.

- 52) Bumisit=ak dikodi niilaw **ti** maaga.  
 visit=ABS.1s OBL.3p tomorrow OBL early.  
 ‘I will visit their place early tomorrow.’

- 53) Mát dug siya ti gibi sakay umikat ti aldew... (Marcos 4:27)  
 sleep ABS.3s OBL night LK awake OBL day  
 ‘Night and day, (whether) he sleeps or gets up...’ (Mark 4:27)

Nominals that undergo a particular state or condition encoded by an adjective are also introduced by the oblique *ten*.

- 54) Maluwang **ten** anak en damit hidi.  
 loose OBL child ABS cloth PLU  
 ‘The clothes are loose on the child.’
- 55) Maganas **ten** dalaga en buhuk na.  
 nice OBL lady ABS hair GEN.3s  
 ‘The hair of the lady is nice on her.’
- 56) Masikip **ten** ina ku en palda na.  
 tight OBL mother GEN.1s ABS skirt GEN.3s  
 ‘The skirt is tight on my mother.’

Benefactive phrases are likewise encoded by the oblique *ten* and, like other Philippine-type languages, the benefactive marker *para* ‘for’ can still co-occur with the oblique *ten*.

- 57) En bábbi a ikasal ay **para ten** lállaki a ikasal. (Juan 3:29)  
 ABS woman REL wed LK for OBL man REL wed  
 ‘The bride belongs to the bridegroom.’ (John 3:29)
- 58) En kahariyan dilanget ay kona ten essa  
 ABS kingdom heaven TL ABS.3s OBL one  
 a hari a *nag*-handa **para ten** kasal  
 LIG king LIG PERF-prepared for OBL wedding  
 nen anak na a lállaki (Mateo 22:2)  
 OBL child GEN.3s LIG male  
 ‘The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son.’  
 (Matthew 22:2)

### Demonstratives

Demonstratives can both function as nominal markers and pronominals. The discussion of demonstratives in Paranan follows her position that ‘demonstratives behave as pronominals if they can function as sole constituents in a predicate clause’ such that an NP does not precede the demonstrative. Otherwise, the demonstrative functions as a nominal marker.

There are two types of demonstratives that can function as nominal marker: the spatial and the temporal. As for the spatial, three demonstratives are distinguished according to their degree of space: the proximal, the medial, and the distal.

## Spatial demonstratives

Table 2

*Summary of Paranan Spatial Demonstratives*

	Proximal	Medial	Distal
Singular	iyad	iyan	iyud
Plural	iyad atanan	iyan atanan	iyud atanan

**Proximal.** Rubino (1997) explains proximal space as those that refer to entities located within the physical and mental realm of the speaker.

- 59) **Iyad** a asu en k<in>umman ten sida ten lamesaan.  
 PROX LIG dog DET PERF-eat OBL fish OBL table  
 ‘This dog is the one that ate the fish on the table.’
- 60) **Iyad atanan** en prutas a gustu ku kanan.  
 PROX all DET fruit REL like ERG.1s eat  
 ‘These are all the fruits that I want to eat.’

As with the proximal demonstrative *yaw* in Ibanag, *iyad* in Paranan can also be used to refer to a subject previously mentioned by the speaker. The referent may not be reconstructed within the sentence or even before the said utterance.

- 61) **Iyad** en problema a umad ku masanig.  
 PROX ABS problem LIG dislike ERG.1s hear  
 ‘This problem is what I don’t want to hear.’
- 62) **Iyad** a relasyon i inspirasyon ku id.  
 PROX LIG relationship ABS inspiration GEN.1s PAR  
 ‘This relationship is my inspiration.’

**Medial.** Medial space encodes proximity to the addressee. Thus, these demonstratives often co-occur with the second person pronominals.

- 63) **Iyan** a sapatos ay maganas ti basset mu.  
 MED LIG shoe TL nice OBL feet GEN.2s  
 ‘That shoe is nice on your feet.’
- 64) Hadya mu inalap **iyán** a kakanan mu  
 where ERG.2s get MED LIG eating ERG.2s  
 ‘Where did you get that one you are eating?’

- 65) **Iyan** i kakanan mu=en ay lutu ni ina ku.  
 MED ABS eat ERG.2s=PAR TL cook OBL mother GEN.1s  
 ‘That which you are eating was cooked by my mother.’

**Distal.** The referent of distal space, on the other hand, is neither within the realm of the speaker nor the addressee. Because of its nature, the third person pronominals are usually associated with the distal space (Dita, 2011b).

- 66) **Iyud** a damit di ay maganas.  
 DIST LIG clothes GEN.3p TL beautiful.  
 ‘Those clothes of theirs are beautiful.’
- 67) Ti banuwan=id a **iyud** ay tehud a essa  
 OBL town=PAR LIG DIST TL EXI LIG one  
 a bábbi a makasalanan. (Lucas 7:37)  
 LIGwoman LIG sinful.  
 ‘In that town, there was a woman who was sinful.’ (Luke 7:37)

**Temporal demonstrative.** Rubino (1997) identifies two types of temporal demonstratives in Ilocano: the recent past and the remote past. These temporal demonstratives are used to indicate referents that are not apparent in the speech event. Such referent is most likely to have happened in the past. Hence, the recent and the remote past are identified. In Paranan, *iyud* seems to serve the purpose of both recent and remote past demonstrative.

**Recent past.** Recent past demonstratives are used if the referent has been mentioned earlier in the discourse. Most likely, the referent is living and is known by both the speaker and the addressee. In Paranan, this is encoded by the temporal demonstrative *iyud*.

- 68) **Iyud** a tolay i magbinyagid ti Banal Ispiritu. (Juan 1:33)  
 REC LIG man ABS baptize=PAR OBL holy spirit.  
 ‘This is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ (John 1:33)
- 69) **Iyud** en ka-sadat mu nemmamaya  
 REC ABS COM-sit GEN.2s a.while.ago  
 ay katipan ku ten hayskul.  
 TL boyfriend GEN.1s OBL high.school  
 ‘The one on your side this morning was my boyfriend back in high school.’

**Remote past.** The remote past, on the other hand, is usually used to refer to someone who has not been seen for a long time or to the deceased. The referent could also be things that do not exist anymore.

- 70) Awan ku malilimunan **iyud** a atanan a sakripisyu ku para dikomu  
 NEG ERG.1s forget REM LIG all LIG sacrifices GEN.1s for OBL.2s  
 ‘I couldn’t forget all those sacrifices I had for you.’

- 71) Naala-ala nen disepulus na hidi **iyud** a kinagi na (Juan 2:22)  
 recall OBL disciple GEN.3s PLU REM LIG PERF-say LIG  
 ‘His disciples recalled what he had said.’ (John 2:22)

### Number of Nouns

Plurality in Paranan is marked by adding the plural marker *hidi* after the noun it refers to, as in (72-74).

- 72) en tolay **hidi**  
 DET person PLU  
 ‘The people’
- 73) en maistu **hidi**  
 DET teacher PLU  
 ‘The teachers’
- 74) en kamatis **hidi**  
 DET tomato PLU  
 ‘The tomatoes’

Note that when *hidi* is removed in the preceding NPs, the number of the noun becomes singular. However, unlike Tagalog, where the plurality marker *mga* always precedes the noun it refers to (e.g., *mga hayop* ‘animals’), *hidi* in Paranan may either be prenominal (75) or postnominal (76).

- 75) en maganas **hidi** a **babbi**  
 DET beautiful PLU LIG girl  
 ‘The beautiful girls’
- 76) en **babbi** **hidi**  
 DET girl PLU  
 ‘The girls’

Note that in (75) the plurality marker *hidi* is prenominal, before the noun or noun phrase it refers to, since an adjective, besides the determiner *en*, also comes before the noun described. In such cases, *hidi* appears after the adjective before the nominal. The pre-nominal position of the plurality marker *hidi* is further exemplified in (77-79)

- 77) en magkabegsak **hidi** a **lallaki**  
 DET strong PLU LIG boy  
 ‘the strong boys’
- 78) en magkatam’is **hidi** a **kendi**  
 DET sweet PLU LIG candy  
 ‘the sweet candies’

- 79) en            magkasarub    **hidi**    **a**        **bulaklak**  
 DET            fragrant        PLU    LIG    flower  
 ‘the fragrant flowers’

It should be noted, however, that like the plurality marker *ira* in Ibanag (Dita, 2011), *hidi* in Paranan is also used as third person plural pronoun, as in (80).

- 80) Tehud        **hidi**        a        annam        a        anak  
 EXI            ERG.3p LIG six                    LIG children  
 ‘They have six children.’

### Gender of Nouns

Paranan nouns which are gender-specific are usually loan words. In many Philippine languages which are heavy in Spanish loan words, such as Ilocano (Rubino, 1997) and Ibanag (Dita, 2011a), the masculine gender ends with *o* while the female gender with *a*. In Paranan however, the masculine gender ends with *u*.

Table 3

#### *Gender of Nouns*

Masculine	Gloss	Feminine	Gloss
maistu	‘male teacher’	maestra	‘female teacher’
basureru	‘garbage man’	basurera	‘garbage woman’
kusineru	‘male cook’	kusinera	‘female cook’
santu	‘male saint’	santa	‘female saint’
tinderu	‘male vendor’	tindera	‘female vendor’
milyunaryu	‘male millionaire’	milyunarya	‘female millionaire’

When the gender is not encoded by the lexical item, a phrase modifier *a lallaki* ‘who is male’ or *a babbi* ‘who is female’ is used to encode masculinity or femininity, respectively.

pensan a lallaki	-	‘cousin who is male’
pensan a babbi	-	‘cousin who is female’
kapatkaka a lallaki	-	‘male sibling’
kapatkaka a babbi	-	‘female sibling’
apu a lallaki	-	‘grandson’
apu a babbi	-	‘granddaughter’



## Morphological Formations

There are various affixes in Paranan that derive nouns from other lexical categories. Nouns are classified further as bare and derived.

### Bare Nouns

Bare nouns refer to unaffixed lexical items that semantically refer to names of people, things, places, or objects. Bare nouns are further classified into proper and common.

**Proper nouns.** Proper nouns are either personal names of people or terms that refer to people. Under this category are two sub-types which can all be used as vocatives: the personal nouns and kinship terms.

**Personal pronouns.** Personal nouns refer to the specific names of particular individuals. These nouns can be used as vocatives, as in (81), or as the head of a personal NP. When used as the latter, personal nouns are accompanied with a personal determiner, *ti* (82) or *ni* or their plural counterpart *de* (83).

- 81) **Serapio**, dyan ka la mawanan ti pag'asa  
 Serapio NEG ABS.2s PAR lose OBL hope  
 'Serapio, do not lose hope.'

- 82) **Ti Ana** ay ked dibilay mi.  
 ABS Ana TL EXI house GEN.1pe  
 'Ana is in our house.'

- 83) **De Ana at Maria** ay ked dibilay mi.  
 ABS Ana and Maria TL EXI house GEN.1pe  
 'Ana and Maria are in our house.'

**Kinship terms.** Kinship terms are also regarded as personal nouns. Often, they appear in genitive form and are preceded by a personal determiner.

ama	-	father
ina	-	mother
angkal	-	uncle
anti	-	auntie
manugang	-	parent-in-law
kabinga	-	husband/wife
lakay	-	male elder (old man)
bikas	-	female elder (old woman)

- 84) Kaguman ku en **kabinga** ku nemmadimang.  
 Companion ERG.1s ABS spouse GEN.1s morning  
 'I was with my husband/wife this morning.'

**Common nouns.** Unaffixed nouns that are categorized as common fall under this broad category. Unlike proper nouns, which are specific, common nouns refer to more general terms. Nouns that belong to this class are further subdivided below.

**Concrete inanimate nouns.** These nouns include landscape terms, instruments, item for wear, among others. Table 4 shows a few examples of this class.

Table 4

*List of Concrete Inanimate Nouns*

Root	Gloss	Root	Gloss
apoy	'fire'	banuwan	'town'
asok	'smoke'	dimadimang	'morning'
paras	'wind'	apon	'afternoon'
dinom	'water'	gibi	'evening'
langet	'sky'	bilay	'house'
bunduk	'mountain'	bintana	'window'
ilog	'river'	tabu	'water pitcher'
aldew	'sun'	penggan	'plate'
uden	'rain'	sidak	'viand'
kilat	'lightning'	damit	'clothe'
kaddur	'thunder'	asukar	'sugar'

**Body-part nouns.** Paranan terms used to refer to body parts appear to native terms. Some examples are presented in Table 5. Sentence (85) highlights a few body-part nouns in Paranan.

Table 5

*Body-part Nouns*

Root	Gloss	Root	Gloss
buhuk	'hair'	basset	'foot'
mata	'eyes'	lima	'hand'
rupa	'face'	guramat	'fingers'
ngipan	'tooth'	kili-kili	'armpit'
bibig	'lips'	abaga	'shoulder'
kiray	'eyebrow'	pusu	'heart'
timid	'chin'	tulang	'bone'
addung	'nose'	atay	'liver'
kurimatmat	'eyelash'	tiyan	'stomach'
ulu	'head'	bangbang	'ear'
padingel	'cheek'	muding	'forehead'
kuku	'nails'	balat	'skin'

- 85) *In-ugasan* ni Maria en **lima** na at **basset** na  
 PERF-wash PERS Maria ABS hands GEN.1s LK feet GEN.1s  
 saka p<in>unasan na en **rupa** at **butoy** na ti  
 CONJ PERF-wash ERG.1s ABS face LK legs ERG.1s OBL  
 mabisa a damit.  
 wet LIG cloth.  
 ‘Maria washed her hands and feet then wiped her face and legs with a wet towel.’

**Animate non-human nouns.** Also, the terms referring to animals and insects belong to the class of non-human common nouns. Table 6 shows a list of some nouns belonging to this group.

Table 6

*Concrete Non-human Nouns*

Root	Gloss	Root	Gloss
babuy	‘pig’	bibi	‘duck’
asu	‘dog’	lamok	‘mosquito’
kambing	‘goat’	langaw	‘housefly’
baka	‘cow’	urad	‘worm’
pusa	‘cat’	biklat	‘snake’
kabayu	‘horse’	tukak	‘frog’
dappug	‘carabao’	dagga	‘turtle’
kuyang	‘rat’	ipas	‘cockroach’
adaw	‘monkey’	ibun	‘bird’

**Derived Nouns**

Like Ibanag (Dita, 2011a), Paranan has various derivational affixes for nouns. There are two primary ways of nominalization in Paranan: by affixation and by putting determiners before the nominalized item.

The following section focuses on the different derivational affixes that nominalize a root, whether a base form of a verb, or even another noun in Paranan.

**Abstract nouns.** An abstract noun is a noun whose meaning is an abstract concept. Paranan abstract nouns may be formed by adding the set of circumfix *ka-* and *-an* to the root. The circumfix is usually used with bare adjectives. The derived abstract noun thus refers to the state denoted by the root.

Table 7

*Abstract ka- -an Nouns*

Root	Gloss	Abstract Noun	Gloss
saya	'happy'	kasayaan	'happiness'
iba	'different'	kaibaan	'difference'
alistu	'fast'	kaalistuhan	'speed'
lungkut	'sad'	kalungkutan	'sadness'
runung	'knowledgeable'	karunungan	'knowledge'
tuwa	'delightful'	katuwaan	'delight'
ligtas	'safe'	kaligtasan	'safety'

Note, however, that the circumfix uses the nominalizer *ta-* instead of *ka-* in true 'tarud' – truth 'tatarudan.' This may be indicative of other ways of forming abstract nouns in Paranan other than the *ka-* -*an* circumfix, and thus warrant further investigation.

- 86) en            **tatarudan**    at        **kasayaan**  
 ABS        truth            LK        happiness  
 'truth and happiness'

**Locative nouns.** As is with Ibanag (Dita, 2011a), the suffix *-an* is also probably the most versatile locative nominalizer in Paranan. This suffix, along with various prefixes, when attached to the base word, refers to a place associated by the action encoded by the root word.

The first set of circumfix is the nominalizer *pag-* and the locative *-an* as in Table 8.

Table 8

*Locative pag- -an Nouns*

Root	Gloss	Locative Noun	Gloss
katdug	'sleep'	pagkatdugan	'place for sleeping'
ugas	'wash'	pagugasan	'place for washing'
karera	'race'	pagkareraan	'place for racing'
sakay	'ride'	pagsakayan	'place for riding'
giling	'grind'	paggilingan	'place for grinding'
lutu	'cook'	paglutuan	'place for cooking'
dasal	'pray'	pagdasalan	'place for praying'
digus	'bathe'	pagdigusan	'place for taking a bath'

- 87) Hadya    i        **pagdigusan**            tam        id?  
 where    ABS    LOC-bathing-LOC    GEN.2pi    PAR  
 'Where are we going to take a bath?'

The second way of deriving locative nouns is through the circumfix *ka-* *-an*. The derived noun refers to a place in which the root word is of excessive quantity, which is supposed to be the patient or the theme referred to.

Table 9

*Locative ka- -an Nouns*

Root	Gloss	Locative Noun	Gloss
lamon	‘grass’	kalamonan	‘grassy place’
kayu	‘tree’	kakayuan	‘forest’
ubas	‘grape’	kaubasan	‘grape plantation’/ ‘vineyard’
batu	‘stone’	kabatuan	‘stony place’
baybay	‘sand’	kabaybayan	‘sandy place’
asu	‘dog’	kaasuan	‘dog farm’/‘place full of dogs’
pinya	‘pineapple’	kapinyaan	‘pineapple farm/ plantation’
tolay	‘person’	katolayan	‘crowdy place’

- 88) G<umm>inan hidi ten **kakayuan**.  
 PERF-ran ABS.3p OBL LOC-tree-LOC  
 ‘They ran to the woods.’

**Comitative nouns.** Dita (2011a) defines comitative nouns as nouns referring to individuals in whose company something is done. In Paranan, these nouns are formed by adding the prefix *ka-* with the root, which in turn, refers to the shared entity. The basis of association could be: (a) an activity; (b) a place, occupation, or origin; (c) a quality; (d) group membership; (e) spatial relation. Examples are presented in Table 10.

Table 10

*Comitative Nouns*

Root	Gloss	Comitative Noun	Gloss
a. uron	‘speak’	kauron	‘someone spoken with’
ayam	‘play’	kaayanm	‘playmate’
b. eskwela	‘school’	kaeskwela	‘schoolmate’
opisina	‘office’	kaopisina	‘officemate’
c. basset	‘foot’	kabasset	‘of the same feet size’
bozes	‘voice’	kaboses	‘of the same voice quality’
d. partidu	‘party’ (political)	kapartidu	‘running mate in an election’
relihiyon	‘religion’	karelihiyon	‘of the same religious sect’
e. sadat	‘side’	kasadat	‘seated beside’
guman	‘company’	kaguman	‘companion’

- 89) ***Ka-opisina*** ku iyud en ***ka-uron*** ku.  
 COM-party GEN.1s DEM ABS COM-speak GEN.1s  
 ‘The one I was speaking with is my officemate.’

**Reciprocal nouns.** Reciprocal nouns refer to a construction expressing the action or state of being of two individuals or entities to each other (Dita, 2011a). When the prefix *mag-* is attached to a nominal referring to a person, it expresses kinship, either by consanguinity or affinity. In Paranan, however, the prefix *mat-* is used in some instances instead of *mag-* to express reciprocity. Note that the relationship expressed in the derivations presented in Table 11 could either be from the same generation or from older and younger generations.

Table 11

*Reciprocal Nouns*

Root	Gloss	Reciprocal Noun	Gloss
ama	‘father’	matama	‘father and child’
ina	‘mother’	matina	‘mother and child’
pensan	‘cousin’	magpensan	‘cousins’
kabinga	‘spouse’	magkabinga	‘husband and wife’
apu	‘grandparent’	mag’apu	‘grandparent and grandson’
barkada	‘friend’	magbarkada	‘friends’
manugang	‘parent-in-law’	magmanugang	‘parent-in-law and child-in-law’
katipan	‘boyfriend/ girlfriend’	magkatipan	‘boyfriend and girlfriend’
kapitbahay	‘neighbor’	magkapitbahay	‘neighbors’

- 90) ***Mag-barkada*** en ***magpensan*** hidi.  
 RECI.friend ABS RECI.cousin PLU  
 ‘The cousins are friends.’

When the initial syllable of the root is reduplicated, it signals reciprocity that is more than two.

- 91) ***Mag-ba-barkada*** atanan nen tolay hidi hitud.  
 RECI-R-friend all OBL person PLU there.  
 ‘The people there are all friends.’

**Origin nouns.** The prefix *taga-* encodes origin of different nature. This nominal prefix is shared by a number of Philippine languages, including Tagalog and other Central Philippine languages (cf. Rubino, 1997; Schachter & Otañes, 1972). First, it designates the place of origin of a person. In this case, the specific name of place is attached to the prefix. This means that the person hails from this place. Some examples are presented in Table 12.

Table 12

*Origin-Location Nouns*

Origin Nouns	Meaning
taga-Isabela	‘someone from Isabela’
taga-America	‘someone from America’
taga-Palanan	‘someone from Palanan’
taga-Jerusalem	‘someone from Jerusalem’

- 92) Magkabait en **taga-Palanan** hidi.  
 kind ABS ORI-Palanan PLU  
 ‘The people of Palanan are kind.’

Second, the prefix *taga-* designates the location of a person. It means that he or she lives or comes from the place or such a location. Note that the locative nouns in this case may not be a specific name of place. Some examples are shown in Table 13.

Table 13

*Origin Nouns*

Root	Gloss	Origin Nouns	Meaning
prubinsya	‘province’	taga-prubinsya	‘from the province’
banuwan	‘town’	taga-banuwan	‘from the town’
disunu	‘upper floor’	taga-disunu	‘from the upper floor’
dibabbi	‘down’	taga-dibabbi	‘from a lower place’
mundu	‘physical world’	taga-mundu	‘from the physical world’
haud	‘there’ (distant)	taga-haud	‘from a distant place’
baryu	‘barrio’	taga-baryu	‘from the barrio’

- 93) Maggeleng en **taga-banuwan** at **taga-baryu** hidi ti  
 watch ABS ORI.town LK ORI.barrio PLU OBL  
 sayawan ten karsada bilang bahagi nen piyesta.  
 dance LOC road as part OBL fiesta  
 ‘Those from the town and those from the barrio will watch the dance performances in the road which are part of the fiesta.’

**Instigator nouns.** The prefix *taga-* derives instigator nouns. If the prefix is attached to the base form of a verb, it means that a person is designated or employed to perform the action encoded by the base word. Note that the same morpheme derives instigator nouns in Tagalog. Note, further, that the difference between the origin prefix *taga-* and the instigator prefix *taga-*

lies in the form of the derived noun, the latter does not use a hyphen to conjoin the prefix and the base word. Some examples are listed in Table 14.

Table 14

*Instigator Nouns*

Root	Gloss	Instigator Nouns	Gloss
lutu	‘to cook’	tagalutu	‘cook’
serbi	‘to serve’	tagaserbi	‘servant’
bantay	‘to guard’	tagabantay	‘guard’
kansyon	‘to sing’	tagakansyon	‘singer’
toldu	‘to teach’	tagatoldu	‘teacher’
sunud	‘to follow’	tagasunud	‘follower’
tawid	‘to bring’	tagatawid	‘one who brings something’
pirma	‘to sign’	tagapirma	‘signer’
payu	‘to advise’	tagapayu	‘adviser’

- 94) Nakauron ku en **taga-munisipyo** a **taga-pirma**  
 spoke ERG.1s ABS ORI-municipal hall LIG INS-sign  
 ti dokumento hidi.  
 OBL document PLU  
 ‘I spoke with the document signer from the municipal hall.’

In some instances, the instigator prefix *taga-* is followed by another nominalizer *pag-* to conjoin with the base word. The derived nominal also means a person designated or employed to perform the action encoded by the base word.

Table 15

*Instigator tagapag- Nouns*

Root	Gloss	Instigator Nouns	Gloss
serbi	‘to serve’	tagapagserbi	‘servant’
toldu	‘to teach’	tagapagtoldu	‘teacher’
ligtas	‘to save’	tagapagligtas	‘savior’

**Instrumental nouns.** Instrumental nominals refer to objects used for a particular function. In Paranan, this is encoded by the prefix *pag-* that conjoins with the base word.



Table 16

*Instrumental Nouns*

Root	Gloss	Instrumental Nouns	Gloss
sungkit	‘pick’	pagsungkit	‘pole for picking fruit’
bura	‘erase’	pagbura	‘eraser’
lutu	‘cook’	paglutu	‘used for cooking’
digus	‘bathe’	pagdigus	‘used for bathing’
kansyon	‘sing’	pagkansyon	‘used for singing’
sulat	‘write’	pagsulat	‘used for writing’

- 95) Awan=ak pa=di ti **pag-sulat** at **pag-bura**.  
 NEG=GEN.1s EXI=still OBL INST-write LK INST-erase.  
 ‘I still don’t have pen and eraser.’

**Borrowed nouns.** Like other Philippine-type languages, Paranan is also influenced by other languages that came in contact with it. The corpus shows many lexical items borrowed primarily from Tagalog and Spanish. These are widely used in either spoken or written registers. Some borrowed nouns are shown in Table 17.

Table 17

*Borrowed Nouns*

Borrowed Noun	Gloss	Borrowed Noun	Gloss
propeta	‘prophet’	mahistrado	‘magistrate’
gubernador	‘governor’	baryu	‘barrio’
prubinsya	‘province’	piyesta	‘fiesta’
ispiritu	‘spirit’	paraiso	‘paradise’
ingrata	‘ingrate’	disepulus	‘disciples’
eksaktu	‘exact’	apostol	‘apostle’

- 96) Kinagi ni Jesus ten **disepulus** hidi ni Juan...  
 said ABS Jesus OBL disciple PLU ERG John...  
 ‘Jesus said to the disciples of John...’

## Conclusion

This paper attempted to describe the structure of Paranan nominal phrases. Specifically, the aims of this paper are two-fold: first, this paper explored the syntax of Paranan nominal markers and, second, this paper explored the structure of nouns in Paranan.

As is with other Philippine type-languages, the two most common nominal markers used in Paranan are the determiners and the demonstratives. This paper distinguished core from oblique cases of both personal and non-personal determiners. Additionally, the different properties of these nominal markers are discussed including the constituent order, the number, the definiteness, and their various functions in sentences.

Pluralization in Paranan is marked by the plural marker *hidi*. This plural marker is versatile in that it may either be prepositive or postpositive. Contact with other languages such as Tagalog, Ilocano and Spanish also influenced the language a lot as evidenced by the lexical borrowings found in the corpus.

Besides the gender and properties of common nouns, this paper also explored nominalization through derivation. Paranan is a morphologically rich language in that various affixes derive nouns from other nouns, adjectives and verbs. Derived nouns explored in this paper consist of the following: abstract, locative, comitative, reciprocal, origin, instigator, and instrumental nouns. Various examples are given to show the derivation processes. Also, accompanying utterances are provided to illustrate the syntactic properties of these nouns.

This paper attempted to explore the grammar of Paranan, which is a relatively less documented language of the Cordilleran language family. It probed one important lexical category in Paranan, that is, nouns. Hence, other aspects of the grammar of Paranan such as its pronominal system warrant further investigation. Also, the structure of Paranan adjectives and verbs warrants further investigation.

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**Appendix**

1	-	1 <sup>st</sup> person
2	-	2 <sup>nd</sup> person
3	-	3 <sup>rd</sup> person
ABS	-	absolutive
ASSO	-	association
BEN	-	benefactive
COM	-	comitative
COMP	-	complementizer
DEF	-	definite
DEM	-	demonstrative
DET	-	determiner
DIS	-	distal
ERG	-	ergative
EXI	-	existential
INS	-	instigator
INST	-	instrument
GEN	-	genitive
LIG	-	ligature
LK	-	linker
LOC	-	locative
MED	-	medial
NEG	-	negative
NMZR	-	nominalizer
OBL	-	oblique
PAR	-	particle
PERF	-	perfective
PERS	-	personal
PLU	-	plural marker
PROX	-	proximal
R	-	reduplication
REC	-	recent
RECI	-	reciprocal
REL	-	relativizer
REM	-	remote
TL	-	topic linker
p	-	plural
s	-	singular