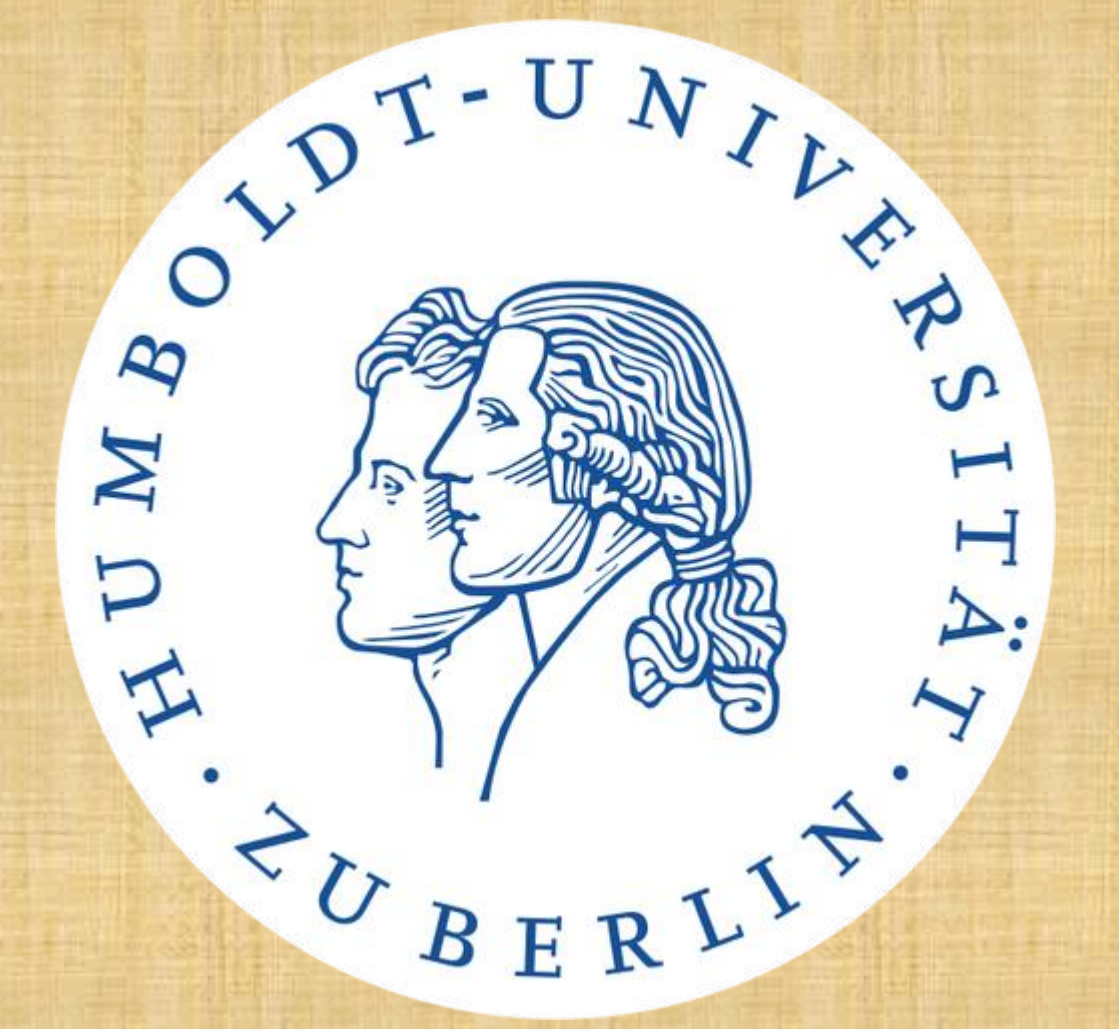


Active vs. Change-of-State vs. Stative – Semantic Distinctions in Intransitive Verbal Predicates in K'iche'



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Introduction

Danziger (1996, 2024) finds (lexical) semantic differences between Active and Stative intransitive verb predicates in Mopan. This difference results in a Intransitive Split and two distinct sets of markers. She define the following types of Predicates related to aspect and energy input:

Activity: Energy always required in order to continue

Change-of-State: Energy required in order to continue, if IPFV, or to cease, if non-IPFV

Stative: Energy always required in order to cease

H1: A lexical semantic distinction between Activity vs. Stative intransitive verbal predicates exists cryptotypically in K'iche'.

If confirmed using respective formal markers, K'iche' can be seen as associated with Agentive Languages (Can Pixabaj 2017, Maldonado 2017).

Fig. 1: Results from Danziger (1996) concerning Set A & Set B Markers in Mopan /Yucatecan Branch)

Predicate Type	Activity e.g. 'walk, run, jump, spit, yell ...'	Change-of-State e.g. 'come, go, enter, exit, fall, die, melt, dry out ...'	State e.g. 'hungry, red, human, round I ...'
Imperfective	Set A Possessor	Set A Possessor	Set B Absolute
Non-imperfective	Set A Possessor Innovation: No surviving 'antipassive' morphology (Danziger 1996)	Set B Absolute	Set B Absolute

Conclusions

- The results show a mix of set A and set B personal marker of Predicate Types Active vs. Change-of-State vs. Stative in intransitive verbal predicates that are clause-final and have the Incomplete/habitual marker k-/ka-.
- Splits do occur with both Sets of Markers
- A translation and glossed versions of sentences by a native speaker is needed to confirm the results

Methods

- Mixed-Methods Approach: quantitative corpus analysis followed by a qualitative examination of markers

Data

- Non-natural, digitalized XML-TEI version of Popol Wuj (narratives of the Maya-people)
- Computational extraction of relevant sentences using python
- In-depth analysis of markers

```
<l n="221">Are nab'e xetik'e wi,</l>
<l n="222">chiri' xepoq wi,</l>
<l n="223">xek'iritaj wi,</l>
<l n="224">xemi'alanik,</l>
<l n="225">xek'ajolanik chuwi <ns ana="JAQAWITZ_JUYUB'">Jakawitz</ns>...
<l n="226">Kekikot chik ta xkich'ako ronojel amaq',</l>
<l n="227">chiri' ch'akatajinaq wi chuwi <ns ana="JAQAWITZ_JUYUB'">juyub'...
<l n="228">K'eje k'ut xkib'an ri xkich'aq na amaq',</l>
<l n="229"><space quantity="31" unit="chars" />ronojel amaq'.</l>
<l n="230">K'ate k'ut xkub'e kik'ux.</l>
<l n="231">Xetzijon chi re kik'ajol,</l>
<l n="232">xnaqajoj</l>
<l n="233">kekamoq.</l>
```

Fig. 2: An extract from the XML TEI used

Results

- 408 sentences including "-oq" found (using regex `/\b\w*oq\w*\b/`) & 49 sentences including "-oq" independent status marker for intransitive predicates and k- (/ _V) or ka- (/ _C)
- Quantitative Results show that both Set A and Set B Marker are used as well as Splits occur in their marking. However, glossing is needed to validate this Classification.

	Verb	Translation of ste	Verb Type (A/ k- / ka- ?)	Set A / Set B	Imperativ?	Split
"k'akatz'ininoq,"	inin	~ be silent	Stative	ka-	B (a-)	no
"k'akachamamoq,"	chama	~ fat / fatten	Stative / Chai	ka-	B (a-)	no
Kixsik'inoq!					yes	
K'eje ta k'ut chitoq'ob'aj wi nuwach!	chitik	~ strut (walk postu)	Active	k-	A(k-)	yes
K'ate k'ut ta xsik'in uloq ri	uloq (Hilfsve)	~ come	Change-of-sik-	A (u-)		no

Fig. 4: In-depth Data Annotation & Analysis Results of first 5 sentences

Predicate Type	Activity (exp. "chitik" - to strut, "uloq" - to come, "wa'kantik" - to take a walk)	Change-of-State (exp. "chama" - to fatten, "k'am" - to bring, "eyawarik" - to become annoyed,)	Stative (exp. "tzolq'omij -ib" - to be upset, "tz'i'arik" - to be uncertain)
Incomplete/habitual k- (/ _V) ~ k- (/ _C) of a total of 49 sentences	Set A Marker: 8 Set B Marker: 29 Uncertain: 12	Set A Marker: 15 Set B Marker: 8 Uncertain: 23	Set A Marker: 10 Set B Marker: 29 Uncertain: 10
	Splits: Uncertain	Splits: Uncertain	Splits: Uncertain

Fig. 3: Results of Intransitive verbal predicates in clause.final position with a dependant Status suffix -oq and a incomplete/habitual marker k-/ka-

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