

## Western Subanon Morphology

### 1 Introduction

Western Subanon [ISO 639-3: suc] is an Austronesian language spoken on the island of Mindanao in the Philippines. It belongs to a small subfamily of eight Subanen languages (Lobel 2013: 303ff.), which have mostly not been studied in depth. The data from this report come from nine weeks of elicitation sessions conducted at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa campus, with Sharon Estioca, a native speaker of the language.

While bound nominal morphology is somewhat limited, the language exhibits a rich system of verbal affixation, including a variety of prefixes, infixes, circumfixes, and suffixes. The related language of Northern Subanen—the only one in the family to have a detailed reference grammar—has been analyzed as having 97 verbal affixes (Daguman 2013: 101). If Western Subanon comes anywhere close to the scope of verbal morphology in Northern Subanen, then the language is likely to have many more affixes than have thus far been discerned.

The following is a preliminary account of the bound affixes of Western Subanon, their grammatical meaning and function, and their allomorphic distribution. The analysis offered here assumes a 'Philippine-type' voice (or focus) system, and affixes pertaining to morphosyntactic alignment are thus identified in these terms.

(Following this paper is a list of affixes, roughly in the order in which they appear below.)

### 2 Nominal morphology

Nouns are not inflected for grammatical case. There are, however, a few bound affixes that are relevant for nominal forms.

#### 2.1 Pluralization

One rather frequent nominal affix is the plural suffix *-anan*. It does not have any other allomorphs, and can attach to any word-final segment without undergoing any phonological alterations. Thus it can follow consonants:

gayam	'dog'	gayam-anan	'dogs'
koding	'cat'	koding-anan	'cats'
saging	'banana'	saging-anan	'bananas'
niug	'coconut'	niug-anan	'coconuts'
gabi	'taro'	gabi-anan	'taros'

Following glides:

babuy	'pig'	babuy-anan	'pigs'
baloy	'house'	baloy-anan	'houses'

bangkoy	'corpse'	bangkoy-anan	'corpses'
dikaloy	'coconut shell'	dikaloy-anan	'coconut shells'
galuw	'wing'	galuw-anan	'wings'
gotow	'man'	gotow-anan	'men'

and vowels.

kayu	'tree'	kayu-anan	'trees'
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There are at least two irregular noun plurals that, in addition to the *-anan* suffix, change their stem (or receive an additional prefix?) in the plural form. The two noun forms below are both kinship terms (or, more generally, refer to people):

bata'	'child'	gombata'-anan	'children'
gilug	'sibling'	pigilug-anan	'siblings'

The word *bolokanan* 'table', though it appears to contain the *-anan* plural suffix, is, however, more likely composed of *bolo-* [?], *kan* 'eat' and *-an* [Loc].

## 2.2 Free pronouns and bound pronominal forms

For reference, provided below are charts of Western Subanon pronouns, as they appear both free and as bound enclitics.

Table 1 - Personal pronouns

Person	FOC – full form	FOC “og” – clitic form	OBL “nog” – clitic form	OBL “sog” – “at,” “to” etc., directional
1SG	akon	=u	=ku / =u	dia-nakon
1PL.EXCL	ami	=ami	=nami	dia-nami
1PL.INCL	ita	=ita	=ta	dia-nita
2SG informal	ika	=ka / =a	=mu	dia-nika
2SG formal	ika	=ika	=nika	dia-nika
2PL	amu	=amu	=niu	dia-nu
3SG	ion	=ion	=non	dia-non

3PL	ilan	=ilan	=nilan	dia-nilan
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Table 2 - Demonstrative pronouns

Distance	FOC – full form	FOC “og” – short form	OBL “nog” – short form	LOG “sog” – “at,” “to” etc., directional
Near speaker	koni	ini	nini	dini
Near addressee	koyon	-	nion	dion
Far from speaker and addressee	kioyo	-	-	dioyo
Not visible	kitu'	itu'	nitu'	ditu'

Table 3 - Personal name markers

Personal name markers	FOC “og”	OBL “nog”	LOC “sog”
SG	si	ni	dia-ni
PL	silo'	nilo'	dia-ni nilo'

### 2.3 Possession

As is the case with verbal agreement markers (see below), it is not entirely certain the extent to which possessive markers are bound morphemes. They are (mostly) identical to free pronominal forms, and could be analyzed as separate lexemes or clitics. Nevertheless, there is at least one phonologically conditioned morphological alternation (in the first person singular). The forms for the possessive markers are as follows:

1SG	=u / =ku (after -n)
1PL.INCL	=ta
1PL.EXCL	=nami
2SG.FORM	=nika
2SG.FAM	=mu
2PL	=niu
3SG	=non
3PL	=nilan

The first person singular form =*u* has the allomorph =*ku*, occurring after *n*. (Note that this allomorphy only applies to the possessive 1<sub>SG</sub> form. Cf. *og libun u* 'I am a woman' vs. *libung ku* 'my wife'.) In rapid speech, the *n* then assimilates to *ng* before *k*. Interestingly, this allomorph is restricted to this particular environment: words ending in other nasals (including *ng*) do not trigger =*ku*, as exemplified below.

The possessive marker =*u* appears after obstruents:

komot	'hand'	komot= <i>u</i>	'my hand'
basak	'mud'	basak= <i>u</i>	'my mud'
bata'	'child'	bata'= <i>u</i>	'my child'
pongoklas	'ointment'	pongoklas= <i>u</i>	'my ointment'

The possessive marker =*u* appears after glides and vowels:

baloy	'house'	baloy= <i>u</i>	'my house'
tene	'guts'	tene= <i>u</i>	'my guts'
ponu	'turtle'	ponu= <i>u</i>	'my turtle'

The possessive marker =*u* appears after bilabial and velar nasals:

gayam	'dog'	gayam= <i>u</i>	'my dog'
koding	'cat'	koding= <i>u</i>	'my cat'

The possessive marker =*ku* appears after the alveolar nasal, *n*:

gayam-anan	'dogs'	gayamanan= <i>ku</i>	'my dogs'
binalan	'farm'	binalan= <i>ku</i>	'my farms'
tindaan	'store'	tindaan= <i>ku</i>	'my store'

As the last example illustrates, this morphophonological rule applies to loan words as well (*tindaan* < (ultimately) Spanish *tienda*; cf. also *tinda* in Tagalog).

(A similar alternation applies to 2<sub>SG</sub> =*a*, which is realized =*ka* after *n*, although this occurs only as a focused--not possessive--pronominal clitic.)

Aside from the first singular form, the other possessive forms do not exhibit allomorphy, except perhaps for degemination. Thus *gayam-anan* 'dogs' + *-non* 3<sub>SG.POSS</sub> may become *gayamananon*, as opposed to the expected *gayamanannon*. The same process applies to the 2<sub>SG.FORM</sub> form =*nika*.

## 2.4 Agentive prefix

The derivational prefix *polong-* can derive agent nouns from base forms.

apuy	'fire'	polong-apuy	'cook' (n.)
igal	'dance'	polong-igal	'dancer'
inum	'drink'	polong-inum	'drunkard'
ugdit	'bite'	polong-ugdit	'biter'
lompad	'jump'	polong-lompad	'jumper'
languy	'swim'	polong-languy	'swimmer'
dapi	'slap'	polong-dapi	'slapper'
dagang	'sell'	polong-dagang	'salesperson'

The allomorph *polom-* appears before bilabials (which are then assimilated and deleted).

bogoy	'give'	polomogoy	'giver'
basta	'read'	polomasta	'reader'
binalam	'farm'	polominalam	'farmer'
bobat	'sing'	polomobat	'singer'
bulung	'medicine'	polomulung	'doctor'
bunu'	'kill'	polomunu'	'murderer'
ponek	'climb'	polomonek	'climber'
bodil	'shoot'	polomodil	'hunter who uses guns'

The allomorph *polon-* appears before voiceless alveolars, *t* and *s* (which are assimilated and deleted).

sumbung	'tattle'	polonumbung	'tattletale'
soda'	'fish'	polonoda'	'fisherman'
soksut	'tease'	polongoksut	'teaser'
tigayam	'hunt with dogs'	polonigayam	'hunter who uses dogs'
tiguakol	'whistling'	poloniguakol	'whistler'

Preceding velars, the allomorph *polong-* appears, with the deletion of the original velar.

kokop	'hug'	polongokop	'hugger'
gugdit	'bite'	polongugdit	'biter'

There are, however, some unexplained forms, such as *polongokbit* 'manager' from *bokbit* 'manage' (instead of the expected form *polomokbit*), and *polongokdak* 'clothes-washer' from *dokdak* 'wash clothes.' It may be possible that these forms originated from *polon+bokbit* and *polon+dokdak*, respectively, but that the *n* harmonized in place with the following *k* of the root, becoming *ng*.

## 2.5 Locational circumfix

Location nouns may be derived by the circumfix *pog- -an*.

inang	'work'	pog-inang-an	'workplace'
dek	'dock' (v.)	pog-dek-an	'dock' (n.)
dagang	'sell'	pog-dogang-an	'store'

The vowel alternation in this last example warrants explanation. There is an *a~o* alternation in some forms, *o* when not stressed, *a* when stressed, which comes historically from a schwa that merged with these sounds, *a* and *o*, under these conditions, and so is no longer distinguishable from *a* or *o*. The forms with this alternation simply must be marked in the lexicon.

Before voiceless segments, there is assimilation, producing the allomorph *pok- -an*.

tidu	'from'	pok-tidu-an	'source'
tamuy	'worship'	pok-tomuy-an	'church'
kokop	'hug'	pokokop-an	'place of hugging'

The last example also shows degemination (*k+k > k*).

Also, since *-an* seems to be a locative suffix, it is possible that the affix above is not a circumfix at all, but rather the combination of the suffix *-an* with the prefix *pog-*, which would require further study as a separate morpheme.

## 2.5 Nominalizer suffix

The suffix *-an* can be used to derive an abstract noun from a verbal root.

sudi'	'despise'	sudi'-an	'contempt'
pinglow	'be sad'	pinglow-an	'sadness'

## 3 Verbal morphology

Verbs in Western Subanon are highly inflected, and verbal affixes are largely fusional, a single morpheme expressing multiple grammatical or semantic meanings. A general trend throughout many verbal prefixes is that the vowel *i* occurs in realis forms, whereas the vowel *o* occurs in the irrealis equivalents.

### 3.1 Pronominal clitics

The morphemes indexing (what in nominative-accusative languages are typically considered) subjects are perhaps best analyzed as clitics. They are similar to the putative possessive clitics mentioned above (but cf. *ion* vs. =*non* [3SG] and *ilan* vs. =*nilan* [3PL]), and exhibit the same allomorphy in the case of the 1SG FORM (i.e., =*ku* instead of =*u*, but only for patient-focused verbs ending in /n/).

### 3.2 Agent focus

When the NP associated with the agent of an action is in focus (i.e., marked by the determiner *og* if it is a common noun and *si* if it is a personal name), the verb is marked with one of a few sets of affixation, probably representing at least three separate conjugation classes: <*um*> AF verbs, *mog*- AF verbs, and *mog*- AF verbs.

One conjugation class is infixed with *-um-* after the first consonant. In realis mood, the infix *-in-* appears either before or after *-um-*, and in irrealis mood, there is no further affixation. Another conjugation class prefixed with *mig-* for realis forms and *mog-* for irrealis. Alternatively, these forms could be potentially analyzed as /*m-i-g-*/ and /*m-o-g-*/, where *i* is 'realis' and *o* 'irrealis', *m*- is 'AF', and *g-* is a formative whose function remains to be determined'. (Focused elements are underlined.)

- (1) s<in><um>ulat      nog      sulat      og      lokole u  
 <REAL><AF>write      OBL      letter      FOC      friend 1SG  
 'My friend is writing a letter.' Or, 'My friend wrote a letter.'
- (2) l<um>anguy      og      bata'      koyon      bombus  
 <AF>swim      FOC      child      DEM      later  
 "That child will swim later."
- (3) mig-basta      ita  
 AF-read      1PL.INCL  
 'We read.'
- (4) mog-basta      ita  
 AF.IRR-read      1PL.INCL  
 'We will read.'
- (5) mig-bogoy      si      molia diani      Uan      nog      niug  
 AF-give      FOC      Maria BEN      Juan      OBL      coconut  
 'Maria gave the coconut to Juan.'
- (6) mog-bogoy      si      molia diani      uan      nog      niug  
 AF.IRR-give      FOC      Maria BEN      Juan      OBL      coconut  
 'Maria will give the coconut to Juan.'

Before voiceless consonants, the *mog-* / *mig-* prefixes are realized by the allomorphs *mik-* and *mok-*.

(7) mik-pong-languy      og      gom-bata'-anan      koyon  
 AF-PL-swim                  FOC      PL-child-PL                  DEM  
 'The children are swimming.'

(8) mok-pong-languy      og      gom-bata'anan      koyon  
 AF.IRR-PL-swim                  FOC      PL-child-PL                  DEM  
 'The children will swim.'

(9) mik-pasok      nog      baloy og      gotow      koyon  
 AF-build                  OBL      house FOC      man                  DEM  
 'The man built a house.'

Before velar consonants, these are realized by the allomorphs *miglo-* and *moglo-*.

(10) miglo-kilat  
 AF-lightning  
 'There was lightning.'

(11) moglo-kilat  
 AF.IRR-lightning  
 'There will be lightning.'

(12) miglo-golun  
 AF-talk  
 'talked'

(13) moglo-golun  
 AF.IRR-talk  
 'will talk'

(14) moglo-kukut  
 AF.IRR-dig  
 'will dig'

An additional allomorph of *mog-* may be *mong-*<sub>1</sub>, which occurs before nasals, such as *mongmina* 'mine' and *mongnanap* 'crawl'. There are few examples of this allomorph, which may be partially explained by the scarcity of stems beginning with /ng-/ and /n-/ in the corpus.



Another conjugation class for Agent Focus is *mong*-<sub>2</sub>. Unlike in the case of the *mog*- allomorph *mong*-<sub>1</sub> mentioned above, when the *mong*-<sub>2</sub> prefix is applied, nasal substitution occurs. The resulting allomorphs of *mong*-<sub>2</sub> are *mom*- and *mon*-. The corresponding realis forms of these are *ming*-<sub>2</sub>, *mim*-, and *min*-.

(15) min-umolom                    og    libun                    koyon  
 AF-wear.a.necklace    FOC    woman                    DEM  
 'The woman is wearing a necklace.' (cf. *sumolom* 'necklace')

(16) og    ginang=ta                    mon-ulat  
 FOC    work=1PL.INCL                    AF.IRR-write  
 'Our work is to write' (cf. *sulat* 'write')

(17) mon-akow=ita  
 AF.IRR-steal-1PL.INCL  
 'We will steal.' (cf. *dakow* 'steal')

(18) min-akow=ita                    nog    gayam  
 AF-steal=1PL.INCL                    OBL    dog  
 'We stole a dog.' (cf. *dakow* 'steal')

(19) mom-onek=u  
 AF.IRR-climb=1S  
 'I climb.' (cf. *ponek* 'climb')

(20) mim-onek=u  
 AF-climb=1S  
 'I climbed.' (cf. *ponek* 'climb')

(21) ming-ayu                    og    bata'    sog    lotinan  
 AF-collect.firewood    FOC    tinan    LOC    bush  
 'The child collected firewood from the bush.' (cf. *kayu* 'wood')

(22) ming-igal    si    molia  
 AF-dance    FOC    Maria  
 'Maria danced.'

(23) mong-udit    og    gayam                    koyon  
 AF.IRR-bite    FOC    dog                    DEM  
 'The dog bites.'

As mentioned above, the exact nature of the difference *mog-* and *-um-* type affixation is currently unclear. It seems likely that these two sets of affixes represent verb conjugation classes, where most verbs tend to appear with one affix set or the other. The two agent focus affixes also appear to have corresponding theme focus forms: *mog-* verbs in theme focus are marked with *pog-* in other focus types, while *-um-* verbs are marked with *-on* in theme focus and *-an* in beneficiary/location focus and with *-in-* for realis mood. Thus, it appears that some verbs take marking from Affix Set 1 (AS1) (*-um-*, *-on*, *-an*, *-in-*), while other verbs are marked with Affix Set 2 (AS2) (*mog-*, *mig-*, *pog-*).

However, some verbs roots can appear with either affix set with a difference in meaning. These differences are summarized in Table 4 below.

Table 4 - Summary of observed differences in affix sets thus far

	AS1 ( <i>-um-</i> type)	AS2 ( <i>mog-</i> type)
Directionality	Buy (toward?)	Sell (away?)
Habitual	Once, or habitual	Habitual, or once
Narrative context or interrupted action (TF)	No	Yes

In terms of directionality (a proposed contrast in related languages for the affix sets), only a single lexical item could be found: *saluy* 'buy/sell.'

- (24) s<in><um>aluy                      u      nog      gubikayu  
 <REAL><AF>buy                      1SG    OBL    cassava  
 'I bought cassava.'
- (25) mik-saluy      u      nog      bogas    sog      polopanad,    kona'    sog      polonoda'  
 AF-sell            1SG    OBL    rice    LOC    teacher      not    LOC    fisherman  
 'I sold rice to the teacher, not to the fisherman.'
- (26) s<um>aluy      og      gamerikanu    koyon    nog      bogas    sog      gotow              koyon  
 <AF>buy            FOC    American    DET    OBL    rice    LOC    person            DET  
 'That American is going to buy rice from that person.'
- (27) mok-saluy      og      gotow              koyon    nog      bogas  
 AF-sell            FOC    person            DET    OBL    rice  
 'The person is going to sell some of the rice.' (e.g., 2 bags of 10 total)

For habitual meaning, AS1 forms tended to denote a single, definite action, although it could be used in the habitual meaning with an adverb(?) such as *alu'alu'*. Similarly, AS2 forms tended to be habitual.

- (28) *mog-labu'*      *u*      *nog*      *sulat*  
 AF.IRR-send      1SG      OBL      letter  
 'I'm going to send letters.' (every day, habitually)
- (29) *I<um>abu'*                      *u*      *nog*      *sulat*      *sog*      *sobadu*  
 <AF>send                              1SG      OBL      letter      LOC      Saturday  
 'I'm going to send a letter on Saturday.'

Thus far, these findings are consistent with the patterns found in related languages (see Table 5 below).

Table 5 - Summary of analyses of affix sets in related Philippine languages

	<b>Set 1 (-um- type)</b>	<b>Set 2 (mog- type)</b>
<b>Tagalog</b> (Ramos 1971; Schachter & Otones 1972; Lobel 2004)	Casual Involuntary Less transitive Internal	Deliberate Comprehensive Transitive External Reciprocal
<b>Old Bikol</b> (Lobel 2004)	Nonreflexive Centripedal Singular Singulative Punctual General	Reflexive Centrifugal Dual, plural, or reciprocal Distribute Durative Special circumstance
<b>Sindangan Subanen</b> (Arms 1996)	Punctual	Durative
<b>Siocon Subanon</b> (Hall 1969)	Allative	Ablative

In addition to the *mog-* and *-um-* type verbs, it is possible that there are other conjugation classes. Another potential class for agent focus is *mong-*.

### 3.3 Theme focus

When the NP associated with the theme (patient) of an action is in focus, it is marked by *og* (as opposed to the marker *nog*) if it is a common noun, or *si* (as opposed to the marker *ni*) if it is a personal name. In theme focus, AS1 verbs are marked only by *-in-* in realis mood and by *-on* in irrealis mood.

- (30) <in>imung ni Uan og bolangoy koyon  
 <REAL>make OBL Juan FOC boat DET  
 'Juan made that boat.'
- (31) k<in>an ni Uan og saging kitu'  
 <REAL>eat OBL Juan FOC banana DET  
 'Juan is eating this banana.'
- (32) bogoy-on ni Molia diani Uan og niug koyon  
 give-TF OBL Maria LOC Juan FOC coconut DET  
 'Maria will give Uan that coconut.'

AS2 verbs are prefixed with *pig-* for realis forms and *pog-...-on* for irrealis.

- (33) olo og pig-badas=mu nog langow koyon  
 what FOC TF-hit=2SG OBL housefly DEM  
 'What did you hit (into) the housefly?'
- (34) onda' pog-dopi'-oy ni uli' si molia  
 NEG TF.IRR-smack-INS OBL Uli FOC Maria  
 'Uli is not smacking Maria (with something).'

The suffix *-oy* in the example above may serve an instrumental function.

Before voiceless (non-velar) consonants, these are realized by the allomorphs *pik-* and *pok-*.

- (35) pik-pasok nog gotow koyon og baloy koyon  
 TF-build OBL man DEM FOC house DEM  
 'The man built a house.'
- (36) pok-tonud-on nog gina' og bata'=non  
 TF.IRR-awaken-TF OBL mother FOC child=3SG.POSS  
 The mother wakes up her child.'

Before vowels, these are realized by the allomorphs *ping-* and *pong-*.

- (37) ping-inum nog gom-bata'-anan koyon og tubig koyon  
 TF-drink OBL PL-child-PL DEM FOC water DEM  
 'The children drank the water.'

### 3.4 Location/Goal focus

A third type of focus marker is used when the NP in focus refers to the location of the action, a beneficiary, or a goal. Here, instead of being marked with the locative marker *sog* for common nouns or the benefactive marker *diani* for personal names, these NPs are marked with the focus markers *og* or *si*. In these cases, the suffix *-an* appears on the verb. AS2 verbs are additionally prefixed with *pog-* for irrealis mood and *pig-* in realis mood. AS1 verbs express realis mood with infixation (*-in-*).

- (38) b<in>unu'                    ni    molia si    uan    sog    baloy koyon  
 <REAL>kill                    OBL   Maria FOC   Juan   LOC   house   DEM  
 'Maria killed Juan in the house.'
- (39) og    baloy koyon og    b<in>unu'-an            ni    molia diani uan  
 FOC   house   DEM   FOC   <REAL>kill-LF            OBL   Maria   LOC   Juan  
 'Maria killed Juan in the house.'
- (40) b<in>ogoy    ni    molia og    niug            diani uan  
 <REAL>kill    OBL   Maria FOC   coconut            LOC   Juan  
 'Maria gave the coconut to Juan.'
- (41) b<in>ogoy-an            si    uan    ni    molia nog    niug  
 <REAL>kill-LF            FOC   Juan   OBL   Maria   OBL   coconut  
 'Maria gave/is giving the coconut to Juan.'
- (42) <in>imung-an            ni    uan    nog    bolangoy    og    gilug=non  
 <REAL>make-LF            OBL   Juan   OBL   boat            FOC   sibling=3SG.POSS  
 Juan made a boat for his sibling.
- (43) pig-imung-an            ni    Uan    nog    bolangoy    og    pigilugan    non  
 REAL-make-LF            OBL   Juan   OBL   boat            FOC   siblings       3SG  
 'Juan made a boat for his siblings.'
- (44) alu'alu'            pog-ojit-an            ku            ika            nog    libru  
 usually            IRR-bring-LF            1SG            2SG            OBL   book  
 'I usually bring a book for you.' (habitual and still true presently)

### 3.5 The infixes <in> and <um>

The above examples also illustrate the infix (or, as in the last example, prefix) <in>. Along with <um> this is a common affix. The full range of their functions, however, is not yet understood. They may either appear individually or in combination; in case where both occur, <in> precedes <um>.

- (45) d<in>ako=ta n og gayam  
steal=1PL.INCL OBL dog  
'We stole the dog.'
- (46) k<um>an si uan nog saging koyon  
eat FOC Juan OBL banana DEM  
'Juan will eat the banana.'
- (47) k<in><um>an=ilan na  
eat-3PL already  
'They already ate.'
- (48) l<in><um>anguy og bata' koyon  
swim FOC child DEM  
'The child is swimming.'
- (49) l<in><um>ompad og bata' koyon  
jump FOC child DEM  
'The child jumped.'
- (50) s<in><um>ulat nog sulat og lokole=u  
write OBL writing FOC friend=1sg.poss  
'My friend is writing a letter.'

### 3.6 Stative prefix

Stative verbs are formed by adding the prefix *mo-* to a root.

dalag	'yellow'	mo-dalag	'be yellow'
dikpol	'thick(ness)'	mo-dikpol	'be thick'
dolom	'dark'	mo-dolom	'be dark'
nanam	'taste'	mo-nanam	'be tasty'
tigdown	'cold'	mo-tigdown	'be cold'

Before bilabials, the consonant and vowel of the prefix metathesize, producing the allomorph *om-*.

pet	'bitter(ness)'	om-pet	'be bitter'
pula	'red'	om-pula	'be red'
bogat	'heft'	om-bogat	'be heavy'

There is also the prefix *mi-*, which also has the capacity to create a stative verb. It does not seem to be a (phonologically conditioned) allomorph of *mo-*, since there is no obvious

distribution between the two forms. Instead the *mi-* forms may have a semantic difference, such as a perfective aspect. Furthermore, the *mi-* prefix does not metathesize before bilabials. The allomorph *m-* occurs before vowels.

ludak	'rotten(ness)'	miludak	'be rotten'	
panas	'fever'	mipanas	'be feverish'	
mala	'dry (ground)'	mimala	'be dry'	
basa'	'wet(ness)'	mibasa'	'be wet'	
init	'warm'	minit	'be warm'	(cf. ginit 'warmth')
itom	'black'	mitom	'be black'	(cf. gitom 'blackness')

The last two examples also illustrate that, regardless of their underlying forms, nouns cannot contain initial surface vowels. Instead they receive a prothetic *g*, likely derived historically from the focus marker *og*. Also, alternatively, the *mi-* prefix may serve an inchoative aspectual function, creating forms such as *miludak* 'rotted', *mipanas* 'beset with fever', *mimala* 'dried', and so forth.

### 3.7 Causative

A causative construction can be formed by adding the prefix *pi-* (realis) or *po-* (irrealis) to a stem. The allomorph *p-* occurs before vowels.

(51) pi-sogow=u                      og    bata'    koyon  
       CAUS-cry=1SG                  FOC    child    DEM  
       'I made the baby cry.'

(52) pi-tigdown=u                    og    ponganon  
       CAUS-be.cold=1SG              FOC    food  
       'I made the food cold.'

(53) p-init=u                          og    ponganon  
       CAUS-be.warm=1SG              FOC    food  
       'I made the food warm.'

(54) po-sogow-on=ku                    og    bata'    koyon  
       CAUS.IRR-CRY-TF=1SG FOC    child    DEM  
       'I will make the baby cry.'

(55) po-tigdown=mu  
       CAUS.IRR-be.cold=2SG  
       'Make it cold!'

(56) po-polok=mu

CAUS.IRR-short=2SG

'Make it short!'

- (57) po-lota'-on=ku          mok-sogow    og    batu'    koyon  
CAUS.IRR-stop-TF=1SG    AF.IRR-cry          FOC    child    DEM  
'I will make the baby stop crying.'

### 3.8 Abilitative

The prefix *moko-*, when added to a verb, can be used to express ability.

- (58) moko-panow    si          uli'  
ABIL-walk          FOC          Uli  
'Uli can walk.'

- (59) ondi'    moko-panow    si          uli'  
NEG    ABIL-walk          FOC          Uli  
'Uli cannot walk.'

- (60) moko-lala=u          nog    tongkalang  
ABIL-weave=1SG          OBL    basket  
'I can weave a basket.'

### 3.9 Perfect (?)

There may be a prefix *miko-* to express that an action has occurred at an earlier time relative to the present. This may be further analyzable as containing *m-* 'AF' and *i* 'realis'.

- (61) miko-kan=ilan  
PF-eat=PL  
'They have eaten.'

### 3.10 Pluralization

The plurality (or collective nature) of an argument can sometimes be reflected by verbal morphology. It is not yet clear what triggers agreement in number, as no correlation has been found between plural morphology and either focus, thematic roles, grammatical relations, animacy, definiteness, or anything else. The simplest examples (illustrated below), involve sentences with only one argument. Here, when plural, the verb takes the prefix *mikpog-* (realis) or *mokpog-* (irrealis). These exhibit the allomorphs *mikpok-* and *mokpok-* before voiceless consonants, and the allomorph *mikpong-* and *mokpong-* before vowels.

- (62) mig-bobat          si          uli'



- AF-sing            FOC    Uli  
'Uli sang.'
- (63) mikpog-bobat            og    gotow-anan    koyon  
PL-sing                      FOC    man-PL        DEM  
'The men sang.'
- (64) mi-labu'            og    niug            koyon  
AF-fall                  FOC    coconut        DEM  
'The coconut fell.'
- (65) mikpog-labu' og    niug-anan    koyon  
PL-fall                  FOC    coconut-PL    DEM  
'The coconuts fell.'
- (66) mikpok-pula og    bayu'~bayu'=niu  
PL-be.red              FOC    ~face=2PL.POSS  
'Your faces are red.'
- (67) mokpok-pula og    bayu'~bayu'=niu  
PL.IRR-be.red        FOC    ~face=2PL.POSS  
'Your faces will be red.'
- (68) ming-igal        si    molia  
AF-dance              FOC    Maria  
'Maria danced.'
- (69) mikpong-igal og    gotow-anan    koyon  
PL-dance              FOC    man-PL        DEM  
'The men danced.'

#### 4 Conclusion

The verbal morphology of Western Subanon is complex indeed. It is hoped that more research will elucidate some of the more tentative analyses above, as well as reveal other morphological forms and processes that have not yet been discovered.

Affixes:

1SG	=u ~ =ku
1PL inclusive	=ita ~ =ta
1PL exclusive	=ami
2SG formal	=nika

2s familiar	=mu
2PL	=niu
3SG	=non ~ =ion
3PL	=ilan
plural	-anan
agentive	polong- ~ polom- ~ polon-
locational	pog- -an ~ pok- -an ~ pong- -an
agent focus	mig- ~ mik- ~ ming- ~ min- ~ miglo-
AF.IRR	mog ~ mok- ~ mong- ~ mon- ~ moglo-
theme focus	pig- ~ pik- ~ ping
TF.IRR	pog- ~ pok- ~ pong-
location focus	-an
nominalizer	-an
<in> infix?	<in>
<um> infix?	<um>
theme focus infinitive	-oy
theme focus irrealis	-on
stative 1	mo- ~ om-
stative 2	mi- ~ m-
causative	pi- ~ p-
CAUS.IRR	po- ~ p-
abilitative	moko-
perfect?	miko-
plural agreement	mikpog- ~ mikpok- ~ mikpong-
PL.IRR	mokpog- ~ mokpok- ~ mokpong-
recent past	ko- -oy (pa)
k-	?

#### Abbreviations:

1	first person
2	second person
3	third person
ABL	abilitative
AF	agent focus
BEN	benefactive
CAUS	causative
DEM	demonstrative
EXCL	exclusive
INCL	inclusive
INS	instrumental
IRR	irrealis
FAM	familiar

FOC	focus
FORM	formal
LF	location/goal focus
LOC	locative
NEG	negation
OBL	oblique
PL	plural
POSS	possessive
REAL	realis
SG	singular
TF	theme focus

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