



1.0 There are two systems of subject agreement markers that occur with the verb stem in standard Albanian, and a form from one or the other appears in every Albanian sentence. For both systems, the forms vary relative to the person and number of the grammatical subject for the different tenses and aspects of the different moods.

These two systems have traditionally been referred to as the active and non-active or medio-passive. Given these two systems exclusively, verbs in Albanian could logically be divided into three classes:

- 1) a. verbs that appear only with forms from the active system;
- b. verbs that appear only with forms from the non-active system;
- c. verbs that appear with forms from both systems.

If all the verbs could be classified solely by (1a) and (1b), the phenomenon could be accounted for lexically. The entry for each verb would simply specify which system the verb would draw its forms from. In reality, however, there are a large number of verbs in each of these classes, and by far the majority fall into (1c).

Given this observation, a question immediately arises: does the occurrence of an active or a non-active form for a verb in class (1c) depend on the construction in which it occurs, or are the two systems in free variation for these verbs? The answer, as the names of the two systems suggest, is that they are not in free variation. Their distribution is summarized below.

1.1. A form from the active system generally occurs when the verb appears in a transitive clause.<sup>1</sup>

- 2) a. Agimi puth Dritën çdo ditë.  
 N kiss Ac every day  
 3sPr Act  
 'Agim kisses Drita every day'
- b. Petriti e goditi murin me një shkop.<sup>2</sup>  
 N Cl strike wall-the with a stick  
 3sAc 3sPDAc Ac  
 'Petrit struck the wall with a stick'
- c. Faiku hante fasule kur ishte i vogël.<sup>3</sup>  
 N eat beans when be young  
 3sPIAct Ac 3sPIAct  
 'Faik ate beans when he was young'

A form from this system often occurs when the verb is in an intransitive clause.<sup>4</sup>

- 3) a. Arrita këtë mëngjes nga Korca.  
arrive this morning from  
1sPDAct Ac  
'I arrived this morning from Korca'
- b. Aeroplani i Hoxhës<sup>5</sup> ka fluturuar në Tiranë.  
N G have fly to  
3sPrAct Prt  
'Hoxha's airplane has flown to Tirana'
- c. Faria shkoi shpejt në shtëpi.  
N go quickly to house  
3sPDAct  
'Faria went home quickly'

Note that in (3a) there is no overt subject. This is because in Albanian, as in many other languages, subjects that have been identified in the discourse or that can otherwise be identified by the context often do not appear.

The active system exhibits slightly different endings for verbs depending on their conjugational class. Verbs in Albanian can be divided into at least three different classes with a number of irregular verbs in addition. For purposes of illustration here, conjugations of only the two most common classes will be presented. These are mostly verbs whose first person singular present indicative form ends in a consonant, represented by hap 'open',<sup>6</sup> and those whose first person singular present indicative form ends in -j, represented by laj 'I wash'. The more common forms of the indicative mood are presented below for each.<sup>7</sup>

<u>laj</u> 'I wash'		<u>hap</u> 'I open'	
		Present	
laj	'I wash'	hap	'I open'
lan	'you(s) wash'	hap	'you(s) open'
lan	'he washes'	hap	'he opens'
lajmë	'we wash'	hapim	'we open'
lani	'you(p) wash'	hapni	'you(p) open'
lajnë	'they wash'	hapin	'they open'

(Note: since the paradigms that follow will all be given in the order first, second, third singular; first, second, third plural, full glosses will not be provided)

Endings: -j/ø, -n/ø, -n/ø, -jmë/-im, -ni, -jnë/-in<sup>8</sup>

		Past Indefinite	
laja	'I washed'	hapja	'I opened'
laje		hapje	
lante		hapte	
lanim		hapinim	
lanit		hapnit	
lanin		hapnin	

Endings: -ja, -je, -nte/-te, -nim, -nit, -nin



## Past Definite<sup>9</sup>

lava 'I washed'

lave

lau

lamě

latë

laně

End:

hapa 'I opened'

hape

hapi

hapēm

hapët

hapën

Endings: -va/-a, -ve/-e, -u/-i,<sup>10</sup> -më/-ëm, -të/-ët  
-në/-ën

## Present Perfect

kam larë 'I have washed'

ke larë

ka larë

kemi larë

keni larë

kanë larë

kam hapur 'I have opened'

ke hapur

ka hapur

kemi hapur

keni hapur

kanë hapur

(Note: the auxiliary kam is literally 'I have').

Participial endings are: -rě, -ur, -r, and -ně

## Past Indefinite Perfect

kisha, kishē, kishite, kishim, kishit, kishin larē/  
hapur 'I had (etc.) washed/opened'

### Past Definite Perfect

pata, pate, pati, patëm, patët, patën larë/hapur  
'I had (etc.) washed/opened'

(Note: the past definite of kam is suppletive (stem=pat-), as is the participle patur)

1.2. Forms from the non-active system occur in several constructions, including passive, reflexive, and reciprocal. In addition, they appear in non-passive intransitive clauses for certain verbs, though we will not be concerned with these for the present.

- 4) a. Ushtarët në fortesën rrethohen.  
 soldiers-the in fortress-the surround  
 N 3pPrNAct  
 'The soldiers in the fortress are surrounded'
- b. Agimi u godit<sup>11</sup> në kurriz prej armikut.  
 N strike in back by enemy-the  
 3sPDNAct  
 'Agim was struck in the back by the enemy'
- c. Kjo pikturë u bë prej një artisti të madh.  
 this do a great  
 N 3sPDNAct  
 'This picture was done by a great artist'

- d. Kjo veturë është<sup>12</sup> larë tri herë.  
 this car be wash three times  
 N 3sPrAct Prt  
 'This car has been washed three times'
- 5) a. I burgosuri<sup>13</sup> lahet dy herë në javë.  
 prisoner-the wash two times in week  
 N 3sPrNAct  
 'The prisoner is washed twice a week'  
 'The prisoner washes himself twice a week'
- b. Burrat nga Vlora pëlqehen shumë.  
 men-the from like much  
 N 3pPrNAct  
 'The men from Vlora are liked a lot'  
 'The men from Vlora like each other a lot'
- c. Prostitutat u veshen përpara darkës.  
 N dress before dinner-the  
 3pPDNAct  
 'The prostitutes were dressed before dinner'  
 'The prostitutes dressed themselves before dinner'
- d. Shihemi në pasqyrë.  
 see in mirror  
 1sPrNAct  
 'We are seen in the mirror'  
 'We see ourselves in the mirror'  
 'We see each other in the mirror'

The examples in (4) are clearly passive. As the sentences in (5) illustrate, however, a clause containing a verb with non-active morphology can be ambiguous with passive, reflexive, and (if the subject is plural) reciprocal readings, though one or more of these readings may be unfelicitous for unknown reasons.<sup>14</sup>

The non-active conjugation of the verb la 'I wash' in the more common tenses and aspects of the indicative mood is given below.

#### Present

lahem 'I am washed' 'I wash myself'  
 lahes  
 lahet  
 lahem 'we are washed' 'we wash ourselves/each other'  
 laheni  
 lahen

Endings: -em, -esh, -et, -emi, -eni, -en

(Note: the -h- that occurs between the stem and the ending of la is characteristic of all vowel stem verbs. It is absent in consonant stems, e.g. hapet 'it is opened' 'it opens itself'. This is true for the past indefinite forms as well.)



## Past Indefinite

lahesha 'I was washed' 'I washed myself'

laheshe

lahej

laheshim 'we were washed' 'we washed ourselves/  
each other'

laheshit

laheshin

Endings: -esha, -eshe, -ej, -eshim, -eshit, -eshin

## Past Definite

u lava 'I was washed' 'I washed myself'

u lave

u la

u lamë 'we were washed' 'we washed ourselves/  
each other'

u latë

u lanë

Endings: the same as the active forms, except for the third person singular which has no ending. Each form is preceded by the clitic u.

## Present Perfect

jam larë 'I have been washed' 'I have washed myself'

je larë

është larë

jemi larë

jeni larë

janë larë

(Note: the auxiliary jam is literally 'I am')

Participial endings are the same as for the active system.

## Past Indefinite Perfect

isha, ishe, ishte, ishim, ishit, ishin larë 'I had been (etc.) washed' 'I had (etc.) washed myself'

## Past Definite Perfect

qeshë, qe, qe, qemë, qetë, qenë larë 'I had been (etc.) washed' 'I had (etc.) washed myself'

(Note: the past definite of jam is suppletive (stem=qe-) as is the participle qenë)

The present and past indefinite forms of a verb in the non-active system are marked with endings which historically are derived from the verb jam 'I am'.<sup>15</sup> The non-active forms in the past definite by contrast are identical to the corresponding active forms preceded by the clitic u in all cases except the third person singular which has a zero ending.<sup>16</sup> This u is also a component of the non-active forms of the imperative, optative, and admirative moods, as well as several non-finite constructions.

## Compare:

- Imperative: *lani* 'wash (p)'; *lahuni* 'wash yourselves'  
'be (p) washed'
- Admirative: *laka* 'he washes'; *u laka* 'he washes himself'  
'he is washed' (expresses surprise)
- Optative: *pafsha* 'may I see'; *u pafsha* 'may I be seen'  
'may I see myself' (expresses desire)
- Infinitive: *për të larë* 'to wash'; *për t'u larë* 'to be washed'  
'to wash oneself'
- Privative: *pa larë* 'without washing'; *pa u lare* 'without being washed'  
'without washing oneself'
- Gerundive: *duke larë* 'while washing'; *duke u lare*  
'while being washed' 'while washing oneself'

The non-active forms of perfect constructions are characterized by the presence of a form of the auxiliary jam 'I am' plus the participle, in contrast to the active versions which appear with a form of the auxiliary kam 'I have'.

To summarize up to this point, we have seen that Albanian has two systems of verb morphology: active, which occurs in transitive and intransitive clauses, and non-active, which has been shown to occur in passive, reflexive, and reciprocal clauses. The paradigms for common tenses and aspects of the indicative mood have been given for both systems, and it has been noted that the non-active system is composed of three distinct types of morphology. These types are distributed along the lines of tense and aspect in the following way: (1) suffixed forms distinct from the active system for the present and past indefinite; (2) the clitic u preceding the active form for the past definite; (3) forms of the auxiliary jam 'I am' plus the participle for the perfect constructions.

Now that the basics have been presented, it is time to make a slight terminological change. The term "non-active" has been used up to this point to refer to one of the two systems. Non-active can be interpreted as implying that the subject is not an actor, but in reflexive and reciprocal sentences such as those in (5), the subject is the actor. Another traditional term, "medio-passive," is no better, because the term does not cover the full range of constructions in which we will see the forms from this system occurring. To avoid any misdirection which the traditional terminology might lead to, the non-active system will hereafter be referred to by the neutral term "neapolitan," since like the ice cream it comes in three varieties.



The data presented in (4) and (5) leads to one central question:

- 6) How can a grammar of Albanian best account for the fact that passives, reflexives, and reciprocals have exactly the same verbal morphology for any given tense or aspect?

The remainder of this paper will be concerned with providing an answer to (6).

1.3. Albanian syntax has not been studied, except on a fragmentary basis,<sup>17</sup> within the framework of standard transformational grammar or any of its offshoots. In particular, the recent theoretical literature is lacking in any discussion of the distribution of the active and neapolitan systems described in the opening section. The distribution has been noted, however, in a number of general descriptive works, such as those by Pekmezi (1908), Lambertz (1948), and Çamaj (1969), in a structuralist grammar by Newmark (1957), and most recently it is discussed in some detail in the morphology edited by Domi (1976).

Without going into the details of how each of these grammars characterizes the phenomenon under discussion, it is sufficient to note that, while all of them give a reasonably accurate description of the distribution of the morphology according to the reading of the sentence (i.e., actives occur with active morphology; passives and certain reflexives and reciprocals occur with neapolitan morphology), none of them attempt to account for it. That is, none of them provide a principled basis for why this particular distribution occurs instead of other logically possible ones such as the following.

- 7) a. Actives, reflexives, and reciprocals occur with active morphology; only passives occur with neapolitan.  
 b. Actives and reflexives occur with active morphology; passives and reciprocals occur with neapolitan.  
 c. Actives and passives occur with active morphology; reflexives and reciprocals occur with neapolitan.

The list in (7) could be extended to include other possibilities as well, but the point is clear enough, and this leads us back to the question that ended the last section: why do passives, reflexives, and reciprocals get the same morphology? None of these other distribution does occur,<sup>18</sup> and an adequate grammar should explicitly say why. Such a grammar would include a statement that specifies the conditions under which one or the other system occurs. It is a common failing of the previous grammars that they



could not provide a unified account of the distribution because they only recognize explicitly the surface structure of a sentence (if they are concerned with structure at all) as a linguistically significant level. As a consequence, they miss two potential generalizations. First, they have no syntactic devices available to formally and explicitly relate active and neapolitan forms of the same verb to a single lexical entry (though the dictionary does this implicitly). Second, they are unable to lay out a common ground for passives, reflexives, and reciprocals to account for the fact that these share a set of conjugational forms that are distinct from those of active sentences.

One of the goals of any modern linguistic theory is to provide a framework for capturing linguistic generalizations in an explicit way. Transformational grammar, for example, from its inception provided a formal means of expressing the relationship between active and passive sentences with the same verb by deriving the passive form from the corresponding active through a transformational rule. It is assumed in this paper that the fact that passives, reflexives and reciprocals share a common morphological system is not an accidental or coincidental fact. It is a generalization about Albanian that must be accounted for in some way. In answer to the question posed in (6), it is claimed that passives, reflexives, and reciprocals share a set of morphological markers because of some aspect common to the structure of all three constructions.

2.0. The framework in which we propose to provide a unified account of the distribution of the active and neapolitan systems in Albanian is that of a relational grammar; specifically, the framework of Perlmutter and Postal (1977) will be utilized, with minor additions which will be introduced as they come up in later sections.

Relational grammar has an advantage over previous theories that depended on linear ordering in that it provides a unified framework for stating the universal characterization of a structure as well as a language particular instantiation of it. Further, the relational network (RN) of a clause provides us with structural information about that clause, and different processes in the language will be sensitive to certain pieces of this information. For example, it is quite common among languages for verb agreement to be stated in terms of final 1-hood, as in English:

- 8) A finite verb agrees in person and number with the final 1.

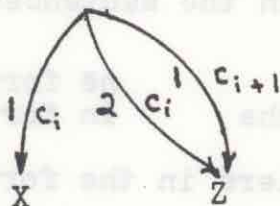
There are a number of processes in Albanian which can be shown to depend on the information provided by the RN of a clause (information such as the grammatical relations borne by the nominals and the levels at which these relations hold) for their statement. In the following section, it will be proposed that information contained in the RN's of passive, reflexive, and reciprocal clauses can be appealed to in stating the distribution of the forms of the active and neapolitan systems.

2.1. The passive was the first structure to be formally given a universal characterization in relational grammar. In Perlmutter and Postal (1977) it is defined in the following manner.

- 9) (their (39)) If (i) the RN for a clause Q has a nominal  $N_a$  that bears the 2-relation in a stratum in which some nominal bears the 1-relation, and (ii) if  $N_a$  bears the 1-relation in the following stratum, then Q is a passive clause.<sup>20</sup>

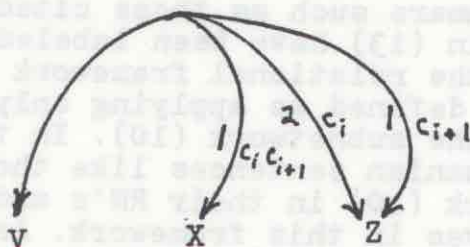
From the characterization of passive in (9), it follows that any clause that contains a subpart of the form in (10) is a passive.

10)



The notation in (10) shows clearly what happens to nominal Z, but the relation of nominal X at the first level in which Z bears the 1-relation is not defined by the characterization in (9). Rather, its relation follows from two independent hypothesized universals of language: the Stratal Uniqueness Law and the Chomeur Law. Informally, the Stratal Uniqueness Law states that only one dependent of a clause may bear a given relation at a given level. Thus, under this law, it is impossible for nominal X to continue to bear the 1-relation at the level at which Z first bears it, precisely because Z does bear it. The Stratal Uniqueness Law thus prohibits an RN of the form (11).

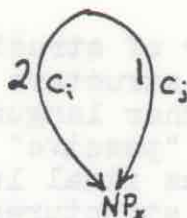
11)





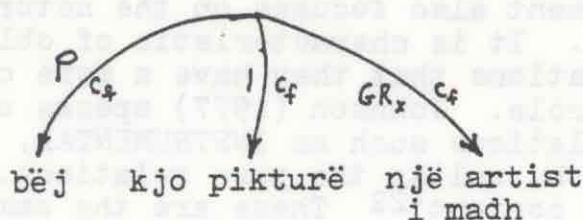


14)



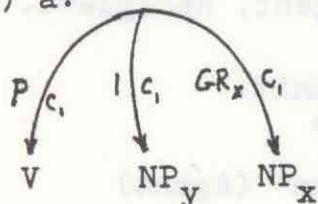
There is evidence in Albanian that the nominative nominal in passive clauses is a final 1, and that the object of the preposition prej 'by', the logical subject, is a final non-term of some sort. As these conclusions are not particularly controversial, the arguments will not be presented here.<sup>21</sup> Under these assumptions, the final level ( $c_f$ ) of a passive sentence like (13c) would be the simplified subnetwork below (where  $GR_x$  is some non-term relation).

15)

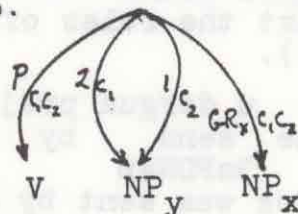


Given the final level in (15), there are three basic possibilities for the RN of the Albanian passive.

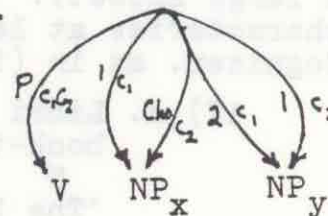
16) a.



b.



c.



All three structures in (16) account for the data above. The distinction between (16a) and the other two lies primarily in the fact that it is monostratal, i.e., there is only a single coordinate in (16a), while both (16b) and (16c) contain two distinct coordinates. (16a) and (16b) have in common that the "by" phrase is an initial oblique of some sort (represented by  $GR_x$ ), rather than an initial 1 as in (16c).

While all three structures in (16) are consistent with the data in Albanian, there are at least two arguments external to Albanian that support (16c) as the correct structure for sentences like those in (13). The first argument is simply that (16c) conforms to the universal characterization in (9) while the other two alternatives do not. It is clear from the glosses that the sentences in (13) function as passives in Albanian, as opposed to being simple topicalizations or whatever else one might propose. Since one of the major goals of any universal



grammar is to limit the number of structures possible for human language, and since the structure in (16c) has been independently motivated for other languages which have rules or processes serving the same "passive" function that are sensitive to initial as well as final levels (Perlmutter and Postal, 1977), unless the structures in (16a) and (16b) can also be shown to be necessary for some other language, (16c) should be selected on the grounds that it allows one to maintain a simpler universal grammar. Specifically, the presence of the oblique grammatical relation  $GR_x$  in (16a) and (16b) that corresponds to chomeur in (16c) must be independently motivated for these structures, either in some other language or in some other construction internal to Albanian.

The second argument also focuses on the nature of the oblique relation  $GR_x$ . It is characteristic of oblique, as opposed to term, relations that they have a more or less consistent semantic role. Johnson (1977) speaks of "'im-pure' grammatical relations such as INSTRUMENTAL, LOCATIVE, and BENEFACTIVE, which, unlike the pure relations, have independent semantic content"<sup>22</sup> These are the same as the "oblique" relations of Perlmutter and Postal (to appear a). Crucially, the relation  $GR_x$  must have exactly the same set of possible semantic roles as the relation 1 (or at least a large subset). This means that for Albanian it must characterize at least the roles of Agent, Recipient, and Cognizer, as in (17).

- 17) a. Libri u dergua prej Janit.  
       book-the send by Ab  
       N 3sPDNep  
       'The book was sent by John' (Agent)
- b. Libri u pranua prej Janit.  
       N receive  
       3sPDNep  
       'The book was received by John' (Recipient)
- c. Ngjarja u besua prej kapedanit.  
       story-the believe captain-the  
       N 3sPDNep Ab  
       'The story was believed by the captain' (Cognizer)

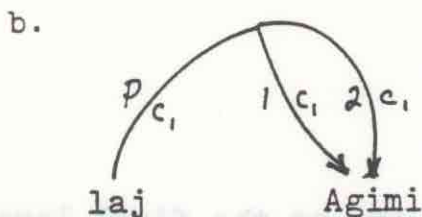
Under the claim that all other oblique relations have a more or less consistent semantic role, assuming (17a) or (17b) as the RN for the Albanian passive requires positing an oblique grammatical relation that is different in kind from all other oblique relations.

2.2.1. In the preceding section, it was claimed that Albanian passive structures include the subnetwork (10) in their RN's. It was argued that, for a given verb,

having the same initial relations in active and passive clauses resulted in (1) the Albanian passive adhering to the universal characterization, and (2) eliminating the need to posit an otherwise unmotivated oblique relation with a variable semantic role. In this section it will be shown further that adopting the universal characterization of passive makes it possible to account for the fact that passive, reflexive, and reciprocal clauses share a common system of verb morphology. This will provide the strongest argument in favor of the structure in (16c).<sup>23</sup>

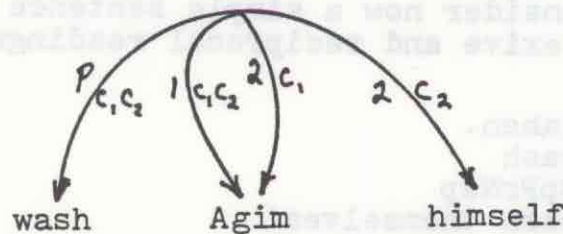
Perlmutter and Postal (to appear b) claim that "Ordinary reflexive structures, those usually discussed in terms of 'coreference,' involve RN's in which a single nominal heads two neighboring arcs. Since these are both initial stratum arcs, neither is due to advancement."<sup>24</sup> The term "neighboring arc" in the passage above is applied to an arc which has the same tail as another arc. Two arcs are neighbors, then, if they are in the RN of the same clause. Under this analysis, the initial stratum of the RN underlying the reflexive reading of a neapolitan sentence such as (18a) is (18b).

- 18) a. Agimi lahet.  
       N      wash  
             3sPrNep  
       'Agim washes himself'



The 1 and 2-arcs in (18b) are said to be "parallel," since they have not only the same tail, but a common head as well. The head of two or more parallel arcs (like Agimi in (18b)) is said to be "multi-attached" to its clause node. Under Perlmutter and Postal's analysis, a language with pronominal reflexives, like English, would resolve multi-attachment in a sentence like (18a) by having a reflexive pronoun head the 2-arc at the final level.

19)

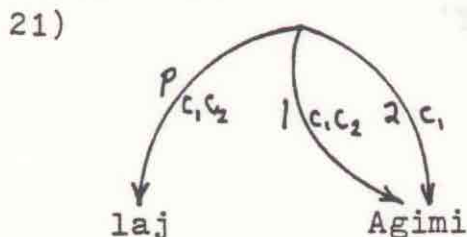




The data which has been presented for neapolitan reflexives does not support the existence of such a final level for Albanian. There is nothing in the current language to suggest that neapolitan morphology marks a level where there are two separate elements heading the final 1 and 2-arcs, as in (19). Since a structure like (19) is not motivated for neapolitan reflexives, there are two alternatives. The first would be to adopt (18b) as the final structure for a sentence like (18a). The prediction entailed by such a proposal is that the nominal Agimi should behave both like a final 1 and a final 2. Thus, it should receive both nominative and accusative case marking and should obligatorily occur with an accusative clitic, since it is a final 2 in preverbal position,<sup>25</sup> as in (20).

- 20) \*Agimin e lahet.  
       N/Ac Cl wash  
       3sAc 3sPrNep  
       'Agim washes himself'

As a comparison of (18a) and (20) shows, however, Agimi only acts like a final 1. It does not take the accusative case marking, nor does it take a clitic copy. This leads to the second alternative, which would be to have no final 2, but only a final 1, as in (21).



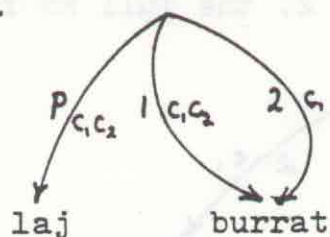
In (21), Agimi heads only a 1-arc at the final level, so the sentence is a surface intransitive. Consequently, Agimi receives only nominative case marking and does not trigger the clitic copying rule, yielding the grammatical sentence (18a). Since the RN in (21) makes the correct predictions for Albanian reflexives like (18a), it will be adopted without further discussion.

Up to this point, reflexives and reciprocals have been treated as separate phenomena, since they clearly have distinct readings. Consider now a simple sentence like (22) which has both reflexive and reciprocal readings (as well as passive).

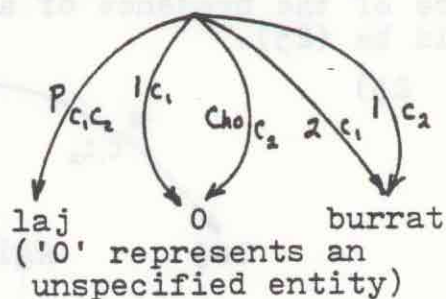
- 22) Burrat lahen.  
       men-the wash  
       N 3pPrNep  
       'The men wash themselves'  
       'The men wash each other'  
       'The men are washed'

It is claimed that these three readings may be characterized by just two RN's in this framework.

23) a.



b.



(23a) is the RN for both the reflexive and reciprocal readings, while (23b) is the RN for the passive reading. The reason (23a) can be used to represent both reflexive and reciprocal readings lies in the nature of RN's, at least at their present stage of sophistication. The distinction between reflexive and reciprocal readings involves the way the entities represented by a plural nominal are paired with one another, and this is separate from the issue of what grammatical relations that nominal bears and at what levels it bears them. This does not rule out the possibility that the RN for a reciprocal could contain additional information distinguishing it from that of a reflexive. The claim here is simply that both the reflexive and reciprocal RN's for (22) must contain the information carried in (23a). The reflexive-reciprocal distinction is irrelevant to the problem under discussion, that of accounting for the distribution of active and neapolitan morphology in Albanian on the basis of the RN's of the various constructions. Consequently, reflexive-reciprocal will be treated as a single construction with a single RN, that of (23a), throughout the remainder of this discussion.

2.2.2. Let us call the approach in 2.2.1 the "multi-attachment" approach and contrast it now with the more traditional "coreference" approach. Within a relational framework, coreference could be stated in the same way as in the transformational framework. For example, using an analog of a standard transformational approach, two nominals could be marked as coreferent at the initial level. Within an RN, this information could be represented as indices on the coreferent nominals, as in (24), which represents the initial stratum for (18a).

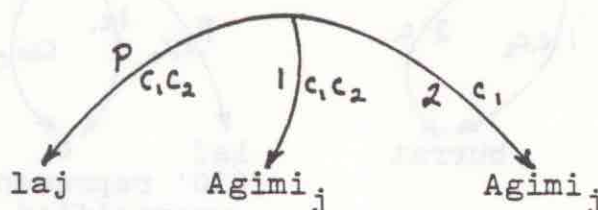
24)





Under this approach, taking into account the fact that the neapolitan reflexive-reciprocal does not show evidence of the presence of a final 2, the full RN for (18a) would be (25).

25)

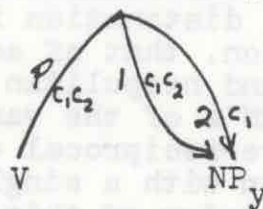
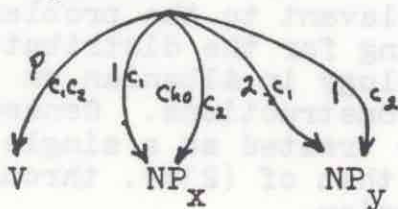


This approach involves at least two complications the multi-attachment approach does not: (1) the positing of some theoretical device for marking coreference, and (2) the positing of a lexical item that does not appear overtly. More crucially, as will be made apparent below, this approach would complicate considerably the statement of the generalization uniting the reflexive-reciprocal construction with passive. Since this approach offers no advantages to compensate for these disadvantages, it will be rejected in favor of the multi-attachment approach.<sup>26</sup>

2.3. In 2.1 and 2.2, the structures in (26) were proposed as the RN's for the Albanian passive and reflexive-reciprocal constructions.

26) a (passive)

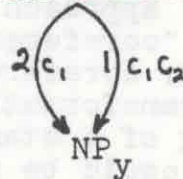
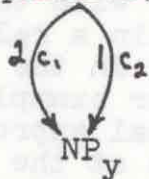
b. (reflexive-reciprocal)



Now consider just the subnetworks in (27).

27) a. (passive)

b. (reflexive-reciprocal)



In both (27a) and (27b), the final 1 also heads a 2-arc. It is claimed that this common aspect accounts for the fact that they share the system of neapolitan morphology. In other words, the appearance of jam as the perfect auxiliary, the presence of the u clitic in the past definite, and the occurrence of the -em and -esha sets of endings in the present and past indefinite can be accounted for in these constructions with the following generalization.

- 28) In the RN of an Albanian clause, if there is a nominal that heads both a 1-arc and a 2-arc, then the verb occurs with a form from the neapolitan system; otherwise, the verb occurs with a form from the active system.<sup>27</sup>

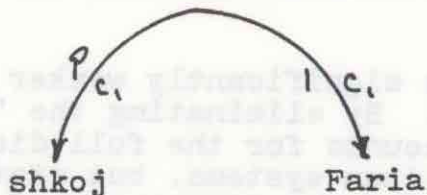
The generalization in (28) as it stands predicts that not only passive and reflexive-reciprocal clauses, but any clause with an RN containing a nominal heading both a 1-arc and a 2-arc will occur with a neapolitan verb form, and conversely, that any clause with a neapolitan verb form will have an RN containing a nominal heading both a 1-arc and a 2-arc. In the next section, we will examine some intransitive sentences that are neither passive nor reflexive-reciprocal, yet contain neapolitan verb forms, and it will be shown that these sentences also follow the generalization in (28).

3. Recall from Section 1.1 that intransitives can occur with active morphology, as in (3), repeated here as (29).

- 29) a. Arrita këtë mëngjes nga Korça.  
arrive this morning from  
1sPDAct Ac  
'I arrived this morning from Korca'
- b. Aeroplani i Hoxhës ka fluturuar në Tiranë.  
N G have fly to  
3sPrAct Prt  
'Hoxha's airplane has flown to Tirana'
- c. Faria shkoi shpejt në shtëpi.  
N go quickly to house  
3sPDAct  
'Faria went home quickly'

The occurrence of an active form of the verb in these sentences is predicted by the generalization in (28), under the assumption that the RN of these sentences is monostratal, as in (30) (a partial RN for (29c)).

30)



Consider now the following intransitive sentences where the verb occurs in a neapolitan form.

- 31) a. Dita ngryset.  
day-the darken  
N 3sPrNep  
'The day grows dark'



- b. Mollat        varen    në pemët.  
 apples-the hang    on trees-the  
       N                3pPrNep  
 'The apples hang on the trees'
- c. Dielli       digjet sipër.  
 sun-the burn    above  
       N                3sPrNep  
 'The sun burns above'
- d. Dega         u thye    gjatë stuhisë.  
 branch-the break during storm-the  
       N                3sPDNep  
 'The branch broke during the storm'

These sentences cannot be passive because no agent is implied. They are ungrammatical with any prej ('by') phrase and do not have transitive versions (at least not with the same basic meanings they have in (31)). They cannot be reflexive-reciprocal either for the same reason. For example, in (31a) the day does not darken itself, nor does someone make it dark. In (31b), the apples do not hang themselves or each other on the tree, nor does someone hang them. Semantically, the verbs in the sentences in (31) have a single argument. It might be proposed then, that the RN underlying these sentences is (30), the same as for other initially intransitive sentences, like those in (29). This leads to a problem, however. Recall from the generalization in (28) that any clause containing a neapolitan verb form must have a nominal heading both a 1-arc and a 2-arc in its RN. As the sole nominal in (30) heads only a 1-arc, the sentences in (31) under this analysis would be exceptions to that generalization, which would predict them instead to occur with active morphology. Positing (30) as the RN underlying the sentences in (31) therefore requires a revision of the generalization in (28).

- 32) If the RN of a clause in Albanian contains a nominal heading both a 1-arc and a 2-arc, then the verb occurs with a form from the neapolitan system.

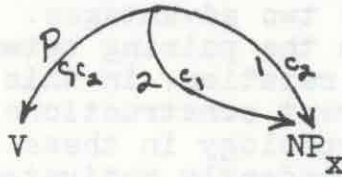
Notice that (32) is significantly weaker than (28) in its predictive power. By eliminating the "otherwise" clause, it no longer accounts for the full distribution of the active and neapolitan systems, but states a condition that only accounts for the occurrence of neapolitan forms in a certain class of constructions that includes passive and reflexive-reciprocal.

Instead of blindly assuming (30) as the RN for these sentences and adopting the revised generalization in (32),

it might be asked: is there any motivated approach to the problem which suggests that (30) is not the correct RN for the sentences in (31) and that (28) is still a valid generalization?

There is indeed an alternative approach which would allow the stronger generalization in (28) to be preserved. Consider the RN in (33).

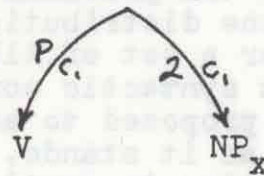
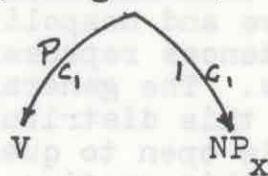
33)



In (33), the sole nominal  $NP_x$  heads an initial 2-arc as well as a final 1-arc. RN's such as those in (33) have been motivated for other languages in Perlmutter (1978) and Perlmutter and Postal (to appear a) based on the Unaccusative Hypothesis proposed in those works. The Unaccusative Hypothesis states that RN's may contain intransitive strata in which there is a 2, but no 1, calling these "unaccusative." It contrasts these with the more familiar intransitive strata in which there is a 1, but no 2, labeling these "unergative." At the initial level, an intransitive clause may be of either type, as illustrated in (34).

34) a. (unergative)

b. (unaccusative)



Perlmutter (1978) provided lists of predicates divided into several semantic classes which were claimed cross-linguistically to determine initially unaccusative strata. Among these predicates were those whose sole argument was semantically a Patient (as in (31a), (31c), and (31d)), as well as statives (as in (31b)). While the claim that the set of predicates determining initially unaccusative strata is invariant from language to language is undoubtedly too strong (Williamson, 1979; Perlmutter, to appear a), it is still possible to maintain the claim that there is a lot of overlap from language to language, and that some predicates may indeed be universally unaccusative.

Under this approach, then, the intransitives in (29) would have (34a) as their initial stratum, while those in (31) would have (34b).



It is proposed that in Albanian a subset of the predicates described in Perlmutter (1978) determine initially unaccusative strata, namely just that subset of intransitives that occur with neapolitan morphology. This includes (1) all verbs whose sole argument is semantically a Patient and (2) certain stative verbs, such as varem 'I hang'.<sup>28</sup>

Adopting the Unaccusative Hypothesis for Albanian and consequently allowing RN's like (33) in the grammar for sentences like those in (31) has two advantages. First, it makes it possible to maintain the pairing between semantic role and initial grammatical relation, in this case Patient-2, for a given verb in different constructions. Second, it enables the neapolitan morphology in these sentences to be accounted for by the independently motivated generalization in (28).

The case for the unaccusative analysis of the sentences in (31) could be strengthened considerably if syntactic arguments could be found for the initial 2-hood of the final 1 in those examples. Such evidence has been uncovered for Italian in Perlmutter (to appear a) in which a generalization similar to (28) has been proposed to account for the distribution of the auxiliaries avere 'have' and essere 'be'. So far, no such evidence has been uncovered in Albanian.

4.0. In the previous sections, data has been presented showing the distribution of active and neapolitan verb forms over a set of Albanian sentences representing several different syntactic constructions. The generalization in (28) was proposed to account for this distribution. This analysis as it stands, however, is open to question from one direction in particular. In this section, a set of possible counterexamples to (68) involving pronominal reflexives and reciprocals will be discussed. Some additional data will be presented bearing on this issue.

4.1. A problem for (28) is that, under the multi-attachment analysis, it predicts that all reflexive and reciprocal clauses where the underlying subject and direct object have the same referent will occur with the verb in a neapolitan form. However, besides the neapolitan reflexive and reciprocal sentences presented in earlier sections, there are also reflexive and reciprocal sentences involving pronominal forms, and these occur with active morphology. Compare, for example, the (a) and (b) variants in (35) and (36).

35) a. Agimi lahet.

N wash  
3sPrNep

'Agim washes himself'

b. Agimi lan veten.

N wash self  
3sPrAct Ac

'Agim washes himself'

36) a. Gratë u lanë.

women-the wash  
N 3pPDNep

'The women washed themselves/one another'

b. Gratë lanë njera-tjetrën.

N 3pPDAct one another  
Ac

'The women washed one another'

In (35b) the accusative form of the reflexive pronoun vete 'self' occurs, and in (36b) the accusative form of the reciprocal pronoun njeri-tjetri 'one another' occurs. In both cases, the verb is in the active form.

Pronominal reflexives and reciprocals are not limited to the accusative case. For example, they can occur in the dative case as indirect objects. Also, they can occur in the accusative case as the objects of prepositions.<sup>29</sup>

37) a. Faiku i flet vetes.

N Cl talk self  
3sD 3sPrAct D

'Faik talks to himself'

b. Ata i flasin njeri-tjetrit.

they Cl talk one another  
N 3pD 3pPrAct D

'They talk to one another'

38) a. Mezi bën punë për veten.

N make work for Ac  
3sPrAct Ac

'Mezi makes work for himself'

b. Ata bëjnë punë për njeri-tjetrin.

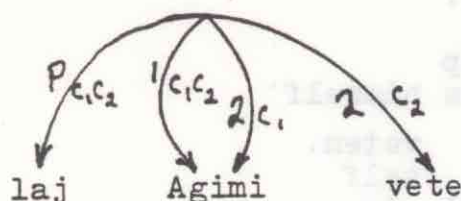
N 3pPrAct Ac Ac

'They make work for one another'

Under the assumption that all the sentences in (35)-(38) involve multi-attachment at the initial level, all except (35a) and (36a) would have the multi-attachment resolved as in (39) (for (35b)).



39)



This approach would result in (35b) and (36b) being exceptions to (28), since the final 1's in these sentences would also head 2-arcs, yet the verb would occur in an active form. One way around this would be to change (28) so that it would only allow neapolitan morphology to occur in clauses that are intransitive at the final level. Since (35b) and (36b) are surface transitives (with pronominal direct objects), they would correctly be predicted to occur with active morphology. The revised generalization would be (40).

- 40) If the RN of an Albanian clause contains (a) an intransitive final stratum and (b) a nominal heading both a 1-arc and a 2-arc, then the verb occurs in a neapolitan form; otherwise, the verb occurs in an active form.

The addition of the ad hoc intransitivity condition yields a slightly more complicated generalization than (28). To account for the active morphology in (35b) and (36b), it must specifically mention that neapolitan morphology only occurs in finally intransitive clauses.

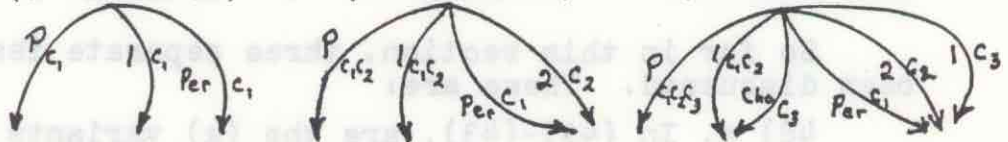
4.2. There is some data in Albanian that bears on the issue presented above, suggesting that the multi-attachment approach may be incorrect for pronominal reflexives and reciprocals in Albanian. Consider the following triplets of sentences.

- 41) a. Gjeneralët endërrojnë për fitorin.  
 generals-the dream for victory-the  
 N 3pPrAct Ac  
 'The generals dream of the victory'
- b. Gjeneralët endërrojnë fitorin.  
 'The generals dream of the victory'
- c. Fitari endërrohet (prej gjeneralëve).  
 N 3sPrNep by  
 'The victory was dreamed of (by the generals)'
- 42) a. Tregtari lakmon për pasurinë.  
 merchant-the hunger wealth-the  
 N 3sPrAct Ac  
 'The merchant hungers for wealth'
- b. Tregtari lakmon pasurinë.  
 'The merchant hungers for wealth'

- c. Pasuri lakmohet (prej tregtarit).  
 N 3sPrNep by  
 'Wealth is hungered for (by the merchant)'
- 43) a. Gratë çajnë për burrat.  
 women-the cry men-the  
 N 3pPrAct Ac  
 'The women lament the men'
- b. Gratë çajnë burrat.  
 'The women lament the men'
- c. Burrat çahen (prej grave).  
 N 3pPrNep  
 'The men are lamented (by the women)'<sup>30</sup>

It is possible to analyze the (b) and (c) variants as not being transitive at the initial level, but rather involving an oblique → 2 advancement, where the underlying oblique relation marked in the (a) variants with the preposition për has a semantic value of "about X" or "concerning X." We will call this relation "Per" for expository purposes. Under the advancement analysis, all three variants would have the same initial stratum. In the (a) variants, the Per does not advance, and the initial stratum is also the final stratum. In the (b) variants, the Per advances to 2 and the RN is bistratal. In the (c) variants, there is Per to 2 advancement followed by passive, and the RN is tristratal. The RN's for each of these constructions are presented in (44).

- 44) a. (a variants) b. (b variants) c. (c variants)



Besides the advancement analysis proposed for sentences like the (b) and (c) variants in (41)-(43), it would of course be possible to analyze verbs like endërroj 'I dream', lakmoj 'I hunger', and çaj 'I cry' as having two possible initial structures, one with the relation Per and one with a direct object. However, there is additional evidence that appears to argue in favor of the advancement analysis. Consider the following examples.

- 45) a. Burri dhe gruaja u lakmuan.  
 man-the and woman-the hunger  
 N N 3pPDNep  
 'The man and the woman are hungered for'  
 \*'The man and the woman hungered for one another'
- b. Burri dhe gruaja lakmuan njeri-tjetrin.  
 3pPDAct Ac  
 'The man and the woman hungered for one another'



- 46) a. Miqtë endërrohen.  
 friends-the dream  
 N 3pPrNep  
 'The friends are dreamt of' (by someone)  
 \*'The friends dream of themselves'  
 \*'The friends dream of one another'
- b. Miqtë endërrojnë veten.  
 3pPrAct Ac  
 'The friends dream of themselves'
- c. Miqtë endërrojnë njeri-tjetrin.  
 'The friends dream of one another'
- 47) a. Gratë çahen.  
 women-the cry  
 N 3pPrNep  
 'The women are lamented'  
 \*'The women lament themselves'  
 \*'The women lament one another'
- b. Gratë çajnë veten.  
 3pPrAct  
 'The women lament themselves'
- c. Gratë çajnë njëra-tjetrën.  
 'The women lament one another'

Crucially, in each case, the (a) variants with neapolitan morphology cannot have a reflexive or reciprocal reading, while the (b) variant with active morphology and the pronominal reflexive and reciprocal can. How is this to be accounted for?

So far in this section, three separate issues have been discussed. These are:

- 48) a. In (41)-(43), are the (a) variants syntactically related to the (b) and (c) variants (i.e., do they have the same initial stratum)?
- b. Can the generalization in (28) be maintained, or must the weaker version in (40) be assumed?
- c. How can the impossibility of the reflexive and reciprocal readings of (45a), (46a), and (47a) be accounted for?

It is possible to resolve all three issues by assuming the generalizations in (49) and (50).

- 49) Per→2 Advancement. The grammar of Albanian allows RN's of the form (44b) and (44c).

- 50) Multi-attachment Constraint. If two arcs are parallel at the same level, they must (a) be a 1-arc and a 2-arc and (b) be parallel at the initial level.

From (50) it follows that pronominal reflexives and reciprocals, which in many cases involve nominals that do not head both an initial 1 and 2-arc, must come from some source other than multi-attachment, perhaps from distinct coreferent nominals (see 2.2.2). Assuming the generalizations in (49) and (50) gives the following results.

- 51) a. The (a), (b), and (c) variants in (41)-(43) have the same initial stratum, thus, they are syntactically related (from (49)).
- b. The generalization in (28) is maintained, since the examples with pronominal reflexives and reciprocals do not involve a nominal heading both an initial 1 and 2-arc (from (50)).
- c. The impossibility of reflexive and reciprocal readings in (45a), (46a), and (47a) is accounted for because these sentences involve Per $\rightarrow$ 2 advancement and so multi-attachment is not allowed (from (49) and (50)).

The proposals made in (49) and (50) are rather tentative at this point. Additional research into Albanian syntax, particularly in the realm of other revaluations to 2, should provide further evidence for or against the proposal in (50). Should (50) prove to be correct, it would mean that multi-attachment is more restricted than Perlmutter and Postal (to appear b) originally claimed.

In conclusion, what has been shown in this paper is that with a limited set of theoretical devices--the basic relational grammar framework of Perlmutter and Postal (1977) including the notion of chomeur, plus the notions of multi-attachment and unaccusative stratum--a phenomenon that has previously resisted a unified account can be captured with a single generalization like (28). By using these theoretical devices in the solution of a novel problem in Albanian, this analysis provides further evidence for their necessity in universal grammar.

#### NOTES

I am indebted to David Perlmutter, Leonard Newmark, and Sandra Chung for comments and criticisms on an earlier draft of this paper. Any errors or omissions are mine alone.

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The grammatical judgments in this study are courtesy of Peter Prifti, a speaker of the Korça variety of the Tosk dialect. Tosk (southern Albanian) provides the base for the modern standard language, which includes elements of Geg (northern Albanian) as well.

The following abbreviations are used in the examples.

Ab	ablative	PI	past indefinite
Ac	accusative	Pr	present
Act	active	Prt	participle
Cl	clitic	p	plural
D	dative	Rf	reflexive
G	genitive	s	singular
N	nominative	1	first person
NAct	non-active	2	second person
Nep	neapolitan	3	third person
PD	past definite		

<sup>1</sup>The only underlyingly transitive clauses that do not always occur with the verb in an active form are reflexive and reciprocal ones. Such clauses sometimes exhibit active morphology with the accusative pronouns veten (vetveten) 'self' or njeri-tjetrin 'one another' as direct objects (see 4.1), but they may also simply occur with non-active morphology (see 1.2). It will be argued in 3.2 that those which occur with non-active morphology are superficially intransitive.

<sup>2</sup>Clitic doubling occurs, usually preceding the verb, for direct and indirect objects in Albanian. Clitic doubling is a process by which a pronominal copy of a nominal, agreeing in person, number, and case with it, appears adjacent to the verb. Indirect objects obligatorily have this copy, while direct objects usually have a copy if definite and usually don't if indefinite, though if the direct object is in preverbal position, the clitic is obligatory regardless of definiteness. If the direct or indirect object is a pronoun, often only the clitic appears.

Albanian nouns are inflected for definiteness; that is, what corresponds to the definite article in English occurs as an ending on the noun, rather than as a separate word. Proper nouns in Albanian generally occur in a definite form, e.g., for Agimi in (2a), the final i is the definite ending.

<sup>3</sup>A large number of adjectives in Albanian appear with a preposed article or "particle of concord" as it is sometimes called, e.g., the i in i vogël 'young' in (2c). This article changes form in agreement with the noun the adjective modifies.

<sup>4</sup>Besides passives, which are discussed in 1.2, there are a large number of verbs which appear in other types of intransitive clauses with non-active morphology. These cases will be discussed in later sections.

<sup>5</sup>The genitive construction in Albanian consists of a noun form identical to the dative and a preposed article which behaves exactly like that of the adjective (see fn. 3).

<sup>6</sup>The citation form for verbs in Albanian is the first person singular of the indicative mood.

<sup>7</sup>There are also a couple of rare perfect constructions which will not concern us here. Besides the indicative, there are several other moods in Albanian according to the traditional grammars: imperative, subjunctive, admirative (expressing surprise), and optative (expressing desire). Some grammars list a few others.

<sup>8</sup>It is also possible to analyze the -i as part of the stem.

<sup>9</sup>The stems of the past definite and participle sometimes differ from that shared by the present and past indefinite, e.g., ha 'I eat'(Pr), haja 'I ate'(PI), hëngra 'I ate'(PD), ngrënë 'eaten'(Prt).

<sup>10</sup>-i occurs in the third person singular after certain vowels as well, e.g., shkoi 'he went'(PD).

<sup>11</sup>The u clitic is part of the non-active system. It is discussed later in this section.

<sup>12</sup>Jam 'I am' is the auxiliary for the perfect forms in the non-active system. It will be discussed later in this section.

<sup>13</sup>i burgosuri 'the prisoner' appears with a preposed article because it is actually a substantivized form of the deverbial adjective i burgosur 'imprisoned'.

<sup>14</sup>The informant stated for example that the readings 'The men from Vlora like themselves' for (4b) and 'The prostitutes dressed each other before dinner' for (4c) were questionable readings for those sentences, presumably for pragmatic or possibly cultural reasons.

<sup>15</sup>Even today, the close resemblance to the forms of jam is apparent if one compares the subjunctive forms of jam with these suffixes.

(Pr)	subjunctive	non-active ending
të	jem	-em
të	jesh	-esh
të	jetë	-et
të	jemi	-emi
të	jeni	-eni
të	jenë	-en



(PI)	<u>subjunctive</u>	<u>non-active ending</u>
	të isha	-esha
	të ishe	-eshe
	të ishte	-ej
	të ishim	-eshim
	të ishit	-eshit
	të ishin	-eshin

The subjunctive of jam was chosen over the indicative for this comparison because it shows the relationship to the present endings more clearly, since the present indicative is less regular.

<sup>16</sup>Pekmezi (1908) states that this u is derived from Proto Indo-European (s)ve- and is therefore related to the Latin and Slavic reflexives, suus and svoji, respectively.

<sup>17</sup>There have been a couple of articles concerning relativization, as well as one on clitic copying by Kazazis and Pentheroudakis (1976), but no other theoretical syntactic work to my knowledge.

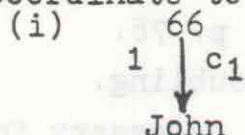
<sup>18</sup>This is not entirely true. Reflexives and reciprocals can also occur as direct object pronominal forms with active morphology on the verb. These will be discussed in 4.1.

<sup>19</sup>For those unfamiliar with the relational grammar framework under discussion, the following brief description should prove helpful.

The structure of a clause in this framework is represented by a single entity called a relational network (RN). An RN consists of a set of arcs, with each arc defined by three types of primitives: nodes (terminal and non-terminal), relational signs, and coordinates. Terminal nodes represent substantive linguistic elements such as lexical items and morphophonemic forms of morphemes, while non-terminal nodes represent more abstract entities such as phrases and clauses. The relational signs (R-signs) represent grammatical relations between elements, and for the present we will only be concerned with those that relate to simple clauses: 1 for subject, 2 for direct object, 3 for indirect object (these are called the "term" relations), and P for predicate. There are in addition "non-term" relations, which include obliques such as Instrument, Locative, etc., as well as the retirement relations, such as Chomeur (see 2.1). The coordinates represent the distinct levels at which relations hold: c<sub>1</sub> for the initial level, c<sub>2</sub> for the next level, etc.

An arc is generally represented by a downward pointing arrow with either a terminal or non-terminal node at its head, and a non-terminal or "governor" node at its tail.

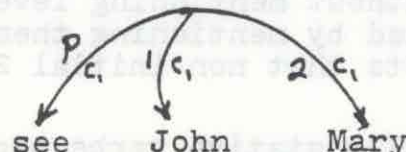
By convention, the R-sign generally appears to the left and the coordinate to the right of the arrow, as in (i).



The arc in (i) states that in clause 66 (this number is arbitrary) the nominal John bears the subject relation at the initial level. Consider now a full sentence.

(ii) a. John sees Mary.

b.



The RN in (ii b) indicates that John is the subject, Mary is the direct object, and see is the predicate at the initial (and only) level. Note that the tail node in (ii b) is not specified. Since the diagram makes it clear that the three arcs have a common tail, and since it is the only tail node in the RN, by convention in such cases it is generally not overtly specified, and we will adhere to that convention throughout this paper.

For a more detailed discussion of the relational grammar framework, see Perlmutter and Postal (1977) and Perlmutter (to appear b).

<sup>20</sup>Perlmutter and Postal (1977), p. 39.

<sup>21</sup>The nominative nominal in passive clauses, like the subject in active clauses, governs verb agreement, takes the nominative case marking, can be the antecedent of a pronominal reflexive but not the target, and can float the intensifier vetë 'self', as in

iii) Unë vetë e pashë Agimin dje.  
       I self Cl see Ac yesterday  
       N 3sAc 1sPDAct  
       'I myself saw Agim yesterday'

iv) Unë e pashë Agimin dje vetë.  
       'I saw Agim myself yesterday'  
       \*'I saw Agim himself yesterday'

v) Agimi u pa dje vetë.  
       3sPDNep  
       'Agim himself was seen yesterday'

As (iv) shows, final direct objects cannot float vetë, while final subjects can.

The object of the preposition prej does not govern verb agreement, nor does it take nominative case marking. It cannot serve as the antecedent for a pronominal reflexive, nor can it float the intensifier vetë.

<sup>22</sup>Johnson (1977), p. 153.



<sup>23</sup>Note, however, that the structure in (16b) will also conform to the generalization.

<sup>24</sup>Perlmutter and Postal (to appear b) p. 78.

<sup>25</sup>See fn. 2, for the rule of clitic doubling.

<sup>26</sup>A coreference approach may still be necessary for pronominal reflexives and reciprocals, however. See 4.2.

<sup>27</sup>All the examples that have been discussed so far have involved a nominal heading both an initial 2-arc and a final 1-arc. Since the more general statement in (28) accounts for the data without mentioning levels, there seems to be nothing gained by mentioning them. In fact, data in Section 4 suggests that non-initial 2's may undergo passive.

<sup>28</sup>Not all semantically stative verbs occur with neapolitan morphology, e.g., ekzistoj 'I exist' among others always occurs in an active form.

<sup>29</sup>Reflexive and reciprocal pronouns can also occur as the objects of prepositions governing the nominative, dative, or ablative case.

<sup>30</sup>There are at least three other verbs that govern the për construction: mësoj 'I teach', bisedoj 'I converse', and shpresoj 'I hope'.

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