Te Puna Aurei LearnFest 2023

Māori and Pacific language data in linguistics classes

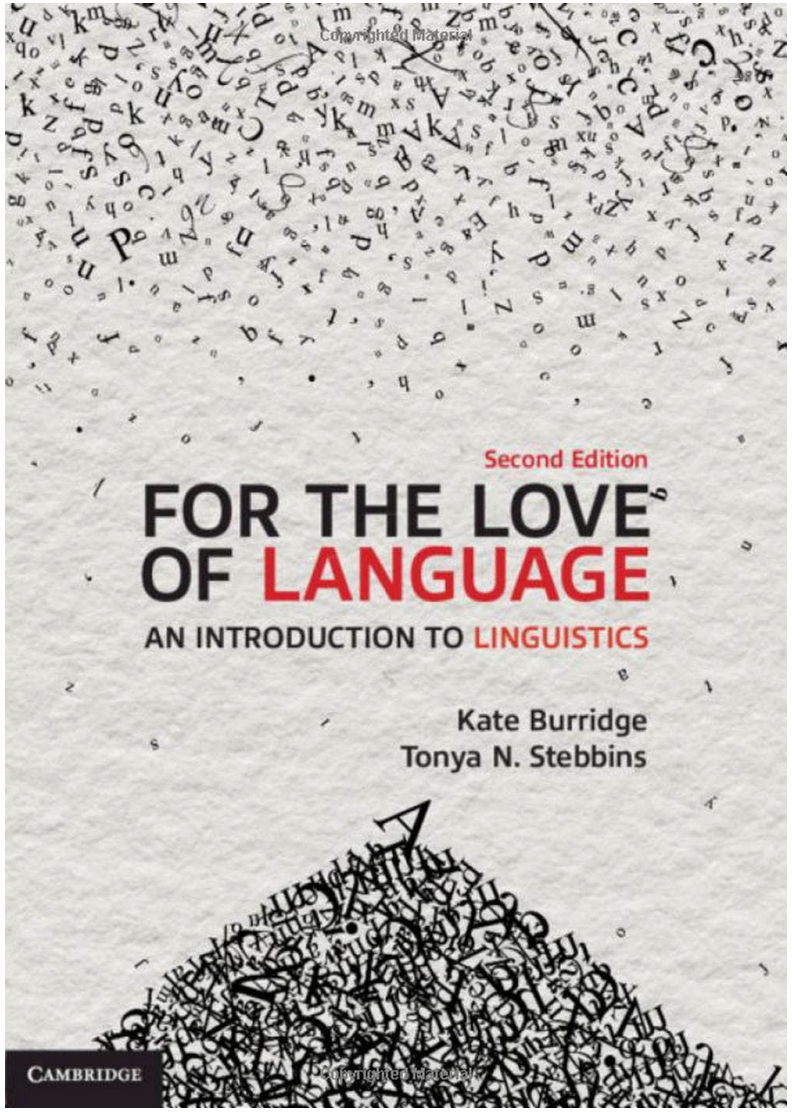
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Indigenous languages of the Pacific	
Austronesian languages	1200+
Oceanic languages	450+
Polynesian languages	36
Te reo Māori in Aotearoa	1

Austronesian languages are distributed from Taiwan, Hawai‘i (north) to Madagascar (west) to Rapa Nui/Easter Island (east) and Aotearoa (south)


NORTH
PACIFIC
OCEAN
Hawaii
NEAR OCEANIA
Bismarck
Archipelago
Papua
REMOTE OCEANIA
SOUTH
AMERICA
Samoa
Vanuatu
Fiji
Tahiti
Tonga
New
Caledonia
AUSTRALIA
Rapa Nui
(Easter Is.)
TASMAN
SEA
SOUTH
PACIFIC
OCEAN
New
Zealand



For the love of language (Burridge & Stebbins 2020)

What do we learn about te reo Māori from Burridge & Stebbins?

- New Zealand English uses words from Māori for names of places, people, organisations, words relating to sociocultural concepts and objects, names of flora and fauna [Yes]

- BUT… *kiwi* is not a loan word from Māori used in New Zealand English [???] (p. 29)

- *kai-* is a prefix that expresses a person who performs an action [Yes]
  - *ako* ‘teach’ and *kaiako* ‘teacher’ [Yes]
  - *mahi* ‘work’ and *kaimahi* ‘worker’ [Yes]
  - *kārero* ‘speak’ and *kaikārero* ‘speaker’ [???] (p. 121)





New materials for teaching: A work in progress

Teaching the category of NUMBER SINGULAR & PLURAL (after Harlow 2015)

t- for possession of singular entities		
10	**t**ōku pōtae	‘my hat’
11	ōku pōtae	‘my hats’
12	**t**ōku hū	‘my shoe’
13	ōku hū	‘my shoes’

t- for singular demonstrative determiners		
7	**t**ēnei tūru	‘this chair’
8	ēnei tūru	‘these chair**s**’
18	**t**ēnei waea pūkoro	‘this phone’
19	ēnei waea pūkoro	‘these phone**s**’

- Prefixes & Suffixes
- *t-ēnei, ēnei* | *hat, hat-s*

	Māori	English
Singular	*t-*	*-Ø*
Plural	*Ø-*	*-s*

- ‘nothing’ as meaningful

Teaching Reduplication (Data from Keegan 1996)

Simplex	Gloss	Reduplicated	Gloss
hopu	‘catch’	hopu~hopu	‘catch one after another’
pātai	‘question’	pātai~tai	‘question frequently’
pātuki	‘strike, knock’	pātuki~tuki	‘strike or knock repeatedly’
takahuri	‘roll, turn’	takahuri~huri	‘keep on turning round, roll over and over’
epa	‘pelt’	epa~epa	‘pelt continuously’
patō	‘knock’	patō~tō	‘knock repeatedly’

Function

repetition of an action

Forms

complete: *hopu* → *hopu~hopu*

partial: *pātai* → *pātai~tai*

Reduplication (Keegan 1996)

Simplex	Gloss	Reduplicated	Gloss
hopu	‘catch’	hopu**hopu**	‘catch one after another’
pātai	‘question’	pātai**tai**	‘question frequently’
pātuki	‘strike, knock’	pātuki**tuki**	‘strike or knock repeatedly’
takahuri	‘roll, turn’	takahuri**huri**	‘keep on turning round, roll over and over’
epa	‘pelt’	epa**epa**	‘pelt continuously’

- Forms

  CVCV (~hopu)

  CVV (~tai)

  VCV (~epa)



- Abstracting to a single CV template

  ~(C)V(C)V

Neverver (Malekula Island, Vanuatu)

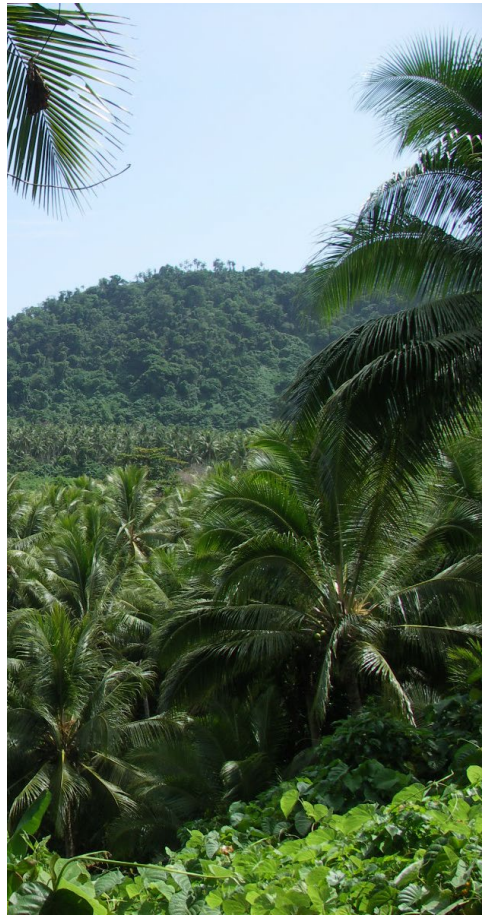
Emlina Simo







Limap village



Reduplication in Neverver (after Barbour 2012)

xit	‘see something’	**xit**-xit	‘look’
gav	‘rake something’	**gav**-gav	‘do raking’
vul	‘buy something’	**vul**-vul	‘go shopping’

- Reduplication changes a transitive verb into an intransitive verb

tur	‘stand up’	**tur**-tur	‘stand’
vor	‘sit down’	**vor**-vor	‘sit’
jing	‘lie down’	**jing**-jing	‘be lying down’

- Reduplication changes an active verb involving movement, into a stative verb, with no movement

bit	‘err’	ni-**bit**-bit-ian	‘wrong-doing, evil’
jal	‘be ill’	ni-**jal**-jal-ian	‘epidemic’
sien	‘think, consider’	ni-**si**-sien-ian	‘thought, decision’

- Reduplication changes a verb into a noun, along with a prefix ni- and suffix -ian

Symmetrical Standard Negation in Neverver (Vanuatu Field Research)

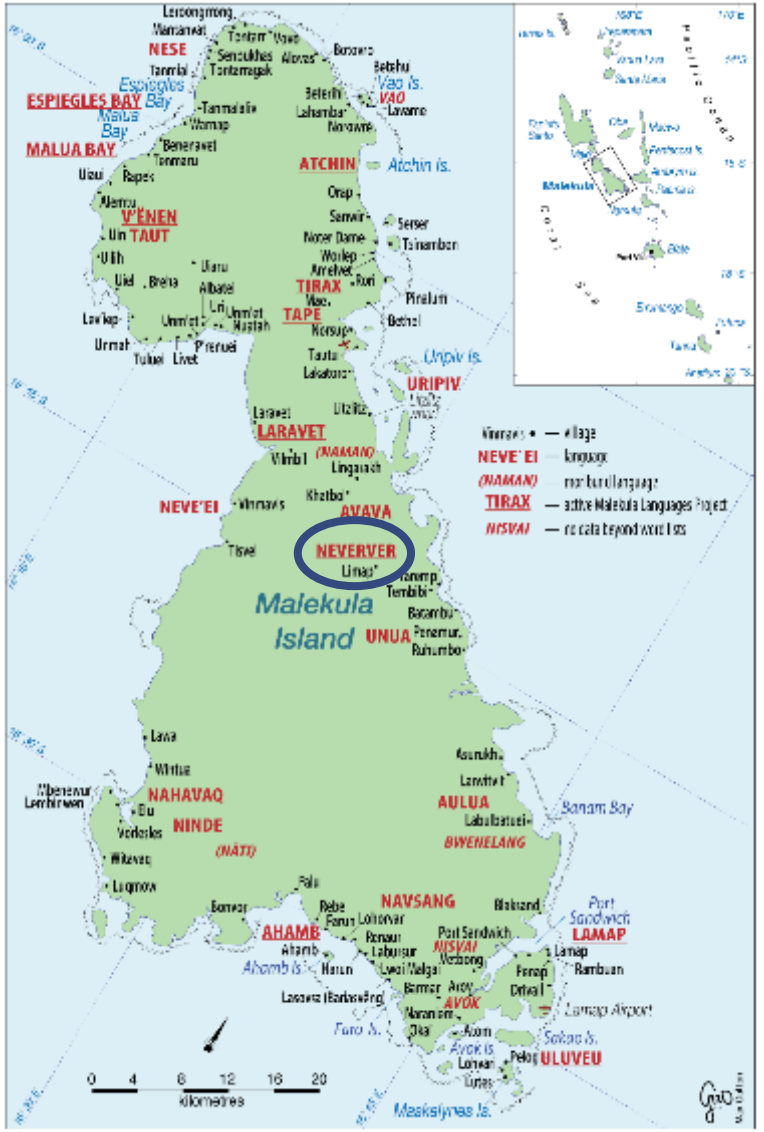
Mang i-vu. ‘The man went.’
Mang i-vu si. ‘The man didn’t go’

Asymmetrical Standard Negation in Māori

I haere a Hōne. ‘Hōne went.’

Kāore a Hōne i haere. ‘Hōne didn’t go’

(Not this: ~~***Kāore i haere a Hōne***~~.)



Some interim reflections

- There is a lack of accurate published teaching materials presenting language data from te reo Māori and other Pacific languages
- Māori and Pacific language data can demonstrate important concepts and categories in linguistics
- Māori and Pacific language data *might* be more interesting and relevant to Māori and Pacific students of language
- Any newly developed materials need to be carefully checked, ideally by speakers and language specialists who can identify and eliminate errors



References

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- Wessels, Kanauhea, Beau Stowers & Julie Barbour (2023 *in press*). Katoa: a descriptive, comparative and historical analysis. *Te Reo: Journal of the Linguistic Society of New Zealand.*
- Image of Kiwi from: https://www.rawpixel.com/search/kiwi%20bird?page=1&path=_topics&sort=curated

A problematic task (2nd edn.)

Complete the following pronoun paradigm and explain the inclusive exclusive distinction. Note that the shaded areas in the table cannot be filled. Can you explain why? (p.141-42)

a) *Ka haere au*. 'I will go.'
b) *Ka haere koe*. 'You will go.'
c) *Ka haere tāua*. 'You and I will go.'
d) *Ka haere māua*. 'We two will go.'
e) *Ka haere tātou*. 'We all, including you, will go.'
f) *Ka haere mātou*. 'We all are going, but not you.'

	Singular	**Dual**	**Plural**
First Person			
Inclusive			
Exclusive			
Second Person			
Third person			

	Singular	**Dual**	**Plural**
First Person	au		
Inclusive		tāua	tātou
Exclusive		māua	mātou
Second Person	koe		
Third person			

A problematic task (1st edn.)

- Complete the following pronoun paradigm and explain the inclusive exclusive distinction. Note that the shaded areas in the table cannot be filled. Can you explain why? (p.141-42)

	Singular	**Dual**	**Plural**
First Person	au		
Inclusive		tāua	tātou
Exclusive		māua	mātou
Second Person	koe	kōrua	koutou
Third person	?	rāua	rātou

a) *Ka haere au.* 'I will go.'
b) *Ka haere koe.* 'You will go.'
c) *Ka haere tāua.* 'You and I will go.'
d) *Ka haere māua.* 'We two will go.'
e) *Ka haere tātou.* 'We all, including you, will go.'
f) *Ka haere mātou.* 'We all are going, but not you.'
g) *Ka haere kōrua. 'You two will go.'*
h) *Ka haere koutou.* 'You all will go.'
i) *Ka haere rāua.* 'Those two will go.'
j) *Ka haere rātou.* 'They will all go.'

A problematic task (1st edn.)

- Complete the following pronoun paradigm and explain the inclusive exclusive distinction. Note that the shaded areas in the table cannot be filled. Can you explain why? (p.141-42)

	Singular		**Dual**	**Plural**
1st	au	Inclusive	tāua	tātou
		Exclusive	māua	mātou
2nd	koe		kōrua	koutou
3rd	?		rāua	rātou

a) *Ka haere au.* 'I will go.'
b) *Ka haere koe.* 'You will go.'
c) *Ka haere tāua.* 'You and I will go.'
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