

Typology Summary

Typological classes of languages we have discussed this semester

- Subject prominent / Topic prominent
- Configurational / Non-configurational languages
- SVO / VSO / SOV / etc.
- Head-initial / Head final (and similar distinctions, such as prepositional/postpositional)
- Case-marking
 - Languages with Case determined by thematic roles / pragmatic roles
 - Nominative-accusative / ergative / three-way
 - Mixed ergative (and other cases of differential marking)
- Subject-related
 - Nominative-accusative (“uniform subject”)
 - Syntactically ergative / Morphologically ergative
 - Philippine-type
 - Active
- Relative clauses
 - Externally-headed / Internally headed
 - Gap , Relative pronoun / Resumptive pronoun
 - Accessibility to relativization (and other *wh* constructions)

Conclusions about the nature of syntax

- Distinct “dimensions” of representation
 - Structure
 - Grammatical functions
 - Case / Agreement
 - etc.
- Conflicting constraints with language-specific ranking
- Hierarchies
 - Alignment of prominence hierarchies
 - Markedness