

## Analysis of X-COMP in Periphrastic Causative Constructions: The Case of the Duri Dialect in the Massenrempulu Language

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### ABSTRACT

Periphrastic causative constructions elucidate the causal relationship between two actions inside a single event. The periphrastic causative construction includes X-COMP in the subordinate sentence. This research on X-COMP in the Massenrempulu language employs a descriptive methodology. Data sources derive from written and spoken speech, particularly those featuring the X-COMP form. Data gathering was executed using reading, note-taking, and interviewing methodologies. The employed data analysis method is qualitative descriptive analysis. The causal periphrasis structure in the Duri dialect of the Massenrempulu language is constituted by the verbs *kuanni* and *mangkabua*. X-COMP in the causal periphrastic construction of the Massenrempulu language has traits similar to X-COMP in other global languages. The attributes of X-COMP in the Massenrempulu language are contingent upon the subject or object of the principal clause and the existence of the verb that constitutes the causal construction within the principal clause

**Keywords:** *Causative; X-COMP; Language; Massenrempulu; Periphrastic.*

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### INTRODUCTION

The Duri dialect of Massenrempulu is one of the languages spoken by the inhabitants of Enrekang Regency, South Sulawesi. It is part of the Austronesian family and is essential for communication and local culture. In this region, the majority of individuals from both the lowlands and highlands communicate in Duri. Massenrempulu comprises three primary dialects: Duri, Enrekang, and Maiwa. Although speakers of these dialects exhibit lexical and phonological variations, mutual intelligibility is maintained. The substantial number of speakers and its prevalence in daily life, including oral literature such as folk songs, tales, and customs, render the Duri dialect highly prominent (Sikki et al., 1997).

The Duri language is intrinsically connected to the local culture; for example, oral literature conveys the customs and histories of the Massenrempulu people. The culture fortifies the cultural identity of the local community through traditions transmitted over generations, however the utilization of the language is increasingly threatened by modernity and social change, particularly among the youth.

The Massenrempulu language, particularly the Duri dialect, is being systematically examined in terms of phonology, morphology, and syntax to document and preserve its linguistic heritage as required. The preservation of the Duri language and its connections with other dialects in South Sulawesi is crucial for this initiative (Hanafie et al., 1983). Massenrempulu language has not received much attention from linguists. That causes many parts of the Massenrempulu language that have not been studied by linguists. One part of Massenrempulu language that has not been studied is about open arguments in periphrastic causative constructions.

A periphrastic causative construction is a type of causative construction that use two or more words or phrases to convey a cause-and-effect link in an action. In this construction, the agent (causer) and the effect (causee) are articulated by distinct causal verbs or phrases. These expressions frequently include causative verbs such as make, order, or force in Indonesian, indicating that an action is performed at the behest or influence of another party.

In Indonesian, instances of periphrastic causal formulations are exemplified in sentences such as “*dia menyuruh adiknya mencuci piring*”. In this sentence, the verb “*menyuruh*” functions as a causal marker, indicating that the action of washing the dishes is performed by “*adik*” at the behest of “*dia*”. In contrast to morphological causal constructions that employ affixes (such the prefixes *meN-* or *di-*), periphrastic formulations are more apparent as they utilize two verbs with distinct functions: one to denote causation (*menyuruh*) and another for the activity being caused (*mencuci*) (Alwi, 2019).

Periphrastic causal constructs play a substantial pragmatic role in language, enabling a speaker to illustrate the social or hierarchical link between a causer and a causee. Besides their 'conventional' use, these expressions frequently convey several meanings, encompassing force, permission, and teaching (Romadhan et al., 2023). These constructions stem from the explicit character of their meaning representation and their reflection of participant connections in interaction, presenting significant opportunities for cross-linguistic syntactic and pragmatic analysis. The particular participant argument associated with a principal sentence argument is effective in periphrastic causal constructs. This specific argument is termed X-COMP (Kaplan & Bresnan, 1981).

The concept of X-COMP originated from generative grammar ideas rooted in Government and Binding, incorporated inside the Minimalist framework, and conceptualized through Head-Driven Phrase Structure Grammar (HPSG). These ideas propose that X-COMP constitutes a type of complement clause lacking an independent subject. It thus relies on the subject of the regulating term. X-COMP is a complement clause that necessitates its subject to coincide with the subject of the associated predicate (Romadhan, 2019).

In Indonesian, X-COMP frequently occurs in specific forms with predicate verbs like “*mau*,” “*coba*,” or “*berusaha*” in Indonesian syntactic analysis. In the sentence “*Dia mencoba [menyelesaikan tugasnya]*,” the clause “*menyelesaikan tugasnya*” functions as an X-COMP, as it lacks an independent subject and instead relies on the subject “*dia*”

from the main clause to provide completion. In English, it resembles a statement such as “She attempted [to resolve the issue].”

X-COMP possesses several significant attributes. Firstly, it is non-autonomous, as it cannot exist independently without the parent clause. Secondly, the predicate in X-COMP is typically in the infinitive form, analogous to the English construction employing "to" + verb or a base verb in Indonesian. The subject of an X-COMP is frequently assumed (pro-drop), as it directly pertains to the subject in the main clause, although not being explicitly articulated in the clause.

The primary role of X-COMP is to enhance or elucidate the significance of the principal predicate. Main predicates are typically semantically intricate, necessitating supplementary phrases to convey a comprehensive meaning. For instance, in Indonesian “*Dia memutuskan [untuk belajar lebih giat],*” the verb “*memutuskan*” necessitates the sentence “*belajar lebih giat*” to elucidate the meaning of his decision.

In this instance, the X-COMP functions as a crucial component of the primary predicate. In the instruction of linguistics and language analysis, comprehending X-COMP elucidates the distinction between bound complement clauses and free complement clauses (Romadhan & Sari, 2021). This is crucial for elucidating grammatical structures in diverse languages, including Indonesian, English, and other languages with intricate complement building patterns. The examination of X-COMP further advances cross-linguistic syntax theory by investigating universal tendencies in the creation of complement clauses.

This study presents a research gap relative to prior investigations. The research completed by Nengsi (2024) presents a contrastive examination of the analytic causative in the Massenrempulu and Indonesian languages. The study just examines the distinctions in analytic causative constructions between Massenrempulu and Indonesian, neglecting the reasoning pertinent to causative constructions. This study analyzes the explicit justifications found in periphrastic or analytic causal constructions. This research is novel as it identifies new aspects for the study of analytic causal structures.

The researcher selected the title "Open Argument in Periphrastic Causative Constructions of the Massenrempulu Language, Duri Dialect" due to the absence of study explicitly addressing open arguments in the periphrastic causative constructions of this language and dialect. This study identifies multiple research titles pertinent to its theme. These studies exhibit both parallels and differences compared to the ongoing study. The subsequent studies are pertinent to this research.

A study by Budiarta (2015) titled “Causative Construction of Kemak Language” Budiarta's (2015) research revealed that the analytic causative construction in Kemak language is formed by the causative verb tau 'make' combined with predicates consisting of intransitive verbs, transitive verbs, and adjectives. In addition to the analytic causative construction formed with the causative verb tau 'make', the Kemak language also employs the causative verb laka 'ask to', which can only precede intransitive and transitive verbs. The analytic causative in the Kemak language exhibits an alternating pattern with intransitive and transitive verb predicates. The distinction

between the research undertaken by Budiarta (2015) and this study lies in the research object and focus. Budiarta's (2015) research exclusively addresses analytic causative verb forms and investigates the Kemak language, whereas this study explores the occurrence of X-COMP in periphrastic causative formations, focusing on the Massenrempulu language.

Secondly, a study by Saragih (2022) titled "Causative Construction of Toba Language and Mandailing Language: A Study of Language Typology" was done. Saragih's (2022) research revealed that the causal structure in both the Batak Toba and Mandailing languages is same. Both languages possess lexical causatives, morphological causatives, and analytic causatives. Lexical causatives in BT and BM languages encompass subtype (2), a distinct verb subtype, and subtype (3), which involves a different verb in the formation of a causative construction. Both languages acknowledge direct and indirect causatives. The research by Saragih (2022) differs from this study in the selection of papers, theories, and languages utilized as research subjects. The study by Saragih (2022) analyzes the causative structures in Toba and Mandailing languages, specifically lexical causative, analytic causative, and morphological causative, through the lens of language typology theory, with a particular emphasis on the X-COMP form found in periphrastic causative constructions. The subsequent distinction is that Saragih's research (2022) selected the Toba and Mandailing languages as its subjects, whereas this research opted for the Massenrempulu language as its focus.

Third, a study undertaken by Subiyanto (2023) named "Causative Morphology in Gorontalo Language." Subiyanto's (2023) research identified multiple affixes that signify the presence of a morphological causal structure. This affix comprises prefixes, suffixes, and infixes. The prefix category includes *ma-*, *mopohu-*, *lo-*, *mopi-*, *hemo-*, *moqo-*, and *hemopo-*. The suffix *-lo* belongs to the group of suffixes, while the infix *-il-* is classified as an infix. The study by Subiyanto (2023) differs from this investigation. The distinction resides in the choice of studies and language as the subject of examination. Subiyanto's (2023) research investigates the morphological causative form, which includes causative-forming affixes, while our study only concentrates on the X-COMP form inside periphrastic causative constructions. The subsequent distinction is in the choice of linguistic elements. Subiyanto (2023) selected the Gorontalo language as the research object, whereas this study focuses on the Massenrempulu language.

## **METHOD**

This research uses the descriptive-qualitative method, which aims to describe the Open arguments in periphrastic causative constructions of Massenrempulu language. The source of the research data comes from the utterances spoken by native speakers of Masseurempulu language. The data is in the form of active and passive sentences in spoken form without using secondary sources such as dictionaries. The data collection technique includes recording, listening, and recording methods to ensure the

authenticity of the data. The speech of native speakers is used as material to evaluate the grammaticality and acceptability of the data through the elicitation technique, which is a linguistic method that aims to validate the results of the analysis with direct respondents (Creswell, 2010).

The steps in this study began with data collection through recording, listening and recording methods. The data source is taken directly from the speech of native speakers of Massenrempulu language, which serves as the main data for this research. The focus of the data is on active and passive sentences spoken in an oral context without the use of written sources such as dictionaries (Fathonah & Romadhan, 2021; Selia & Romadhan, 2023). After collecting the data, the researcher used the elicitation technique to verify the grammaticality and acceptability of the data by involving native speakers as sources. This technique ensures that the results of the analysis are consistent with the grammatical patterns that apply in the Massenrempulu language (Mahsun, 2017).

The data analysis stage was carried out using the AGIH method, which uses the direct element separation technique as the first step (Sudaryanto, 2018). This technique allows the systematic separation of the elements of the sentence structure so that the X-COMP in causative construction patterns can be clearly identified. After that, the researcher applied the insertion technique as a follow-up technique to analyze specific elements in the sentence structure. By employing this approach, the study aims to clearly illustrate the grammatical characteristics of Massenrempulu while also offering a comprehensive explanation of the Open arguments in periphrastic causative constructions of Massenrempulu language.

## FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

This section will examine the periphrastic causative structure and open complement form in the Massenrempulu language. Periphrastic causal expressions in Massenrempulu exhibit distinctions relative to other languages. The open complement in periphrastic causal expressions in the Massenrempulu language contributes novel insights to this inquiry. The discourse concerning periphrastic causal constructions and the occurrence of overt complements in the Massenrempulu language will be discussed as follows.

### *Periphrastic Causative Construction*

Analytic causatives consist of causatives that are constructed through the combination of two predicates employing distinct verbs to convey the notion of causation. In the Massenrempulu language, periphrastic causative constructions are created using two verbs: *kuanni* and *mangkabua*. The two verbs presented here constitute the fundamental components of the periphrastic causative construction within the Massenrempulu language. This can be demonstrated in the following manner.

1. *Indoure male*  
Aunt leave  
“Aunt leaves”

2. *Kakak mangkiring doi*  
Brother send money  
“Brother sends money”
3. *Ambekure kuanni indoure male*  
Uncle tell aunt leave  
“Uncle tells aunt to leave”
4. *Nenebaine kuanni kakak mangkiring doi*  
Grandmother tell brother send money  
“Grandmother tells brother sends money”

According to the data, constructions (1) and (2) exemplify intransitive and transitive verb sentence structures, respectively. In the first data point, the construction of intransitive verb sentences comprises a singular core argument, specifically the subject. The predicate in a sentence constructed with an intransitive verb consists of an intransitive verb that does not necessitate an object. In data number (1), the constituent *indoure* serves as the sole argument in the subject position. Conversely, the predicate in data number (1) is filled by the constituent *male*. The *indoure* argument serves as the sole argument within the intransitive verb construction, as the predicate requires merely one argument to fulfill the sentence structure.

In data number (2), the construction of the transitive verb sentence comprises two fundamental arguments, specifically the subject and the object. The predicate in a transitive verb sentence construction consists of a transitive verb that necessitates an object. In data number (2), the subject is represented by the constituent *kakak* as the primary core argument, while the secondary argument, specifically the object function, is occupied by the *doi* argument. Conversely, the predicate in data number (2) is filled by the constituent *mangkiring*. The argument of *kakak* is not the sole argument in the transitive verb construction, as the predicate requires an additional argument to fulfill the sentence structure, specifically the object represented by the constituent *doi*.

In contrast to data point (3) and data point (4), which exemplify periphrastic causative constructions. Data number (3) exemplifies a periphrastic causative construction, wherein the main clause is succeeded by an intransitive verb serving as the predicate in the embedded clause. The principal clause in data number (3) comprises a singular main predicate accompanied by two essential arguments. The primary predicate within the principal clause of data number (3) is represented by the constituent *kuanni*. Conversely, the primary core argument within the main clause that serves as the subject is represented by the constituent *ambekure*. The second fundamental argument serving as the object is held by the constituent *indoure*. Within the embedded clause, the constituent *indoure* serves as the subject, thereby assuming a dual role: it functions as the object of the main sentence while simultaneously acting as the subject of the embedded sentence. Within the embedded clause, the primary predicate is occupied by the *male* constituent. The embedded clause in data number (3) functions as an intransitive clause, as it requires solely a subject to complete the sentence.

In data number (4), we observe a periphrastic causative construction. Data number (4) exemplifies a periphrastic causative construction, wherein the main clause is succeeded by a transitive verb functioning as the predicate within the embedded clause. The principal clause in data number (4) comprises a singular main predicate accompanied by two essential arguments. The principal predicate within the primary clause of data number (4) is filled by the constituent *kuanni*, while the embedded clause is represented by the constituent *mangkiring*. Conversely, the primary argument in the main clause that serves as the subject is represented by the constituent *nenebaine*. The second fundamental argument serving as the object is held by the

constituent *kakak*. Within the embedded clause, the constituent *kakak* serves as the subject, thereby assuming a dual role as both the object of the main sentence and the subject of the embedded sentence. Within the embedded clause, the principal predicate is represented by the constituent *mangkiring*, which possesses a secondary argument that serves as an object, occupied by the constituent *doi* in the embedded sentence.

Additionally, the second verb that constitutes the forming element of the periphrastic causative structure is *mangkabua*. The *mangkabua* constituent serves the same job and function as the *kuanni* constituent. This can be demonstrated by the following sample sentence.

5. *Indo metawa*  
Mother laugh  
“Mother laughs”
  
6. *Adik mamma*  
Brother sleep  
“Brother sleeps”
  
7. *Kakak mangkabua indo metawa*  
Brother make mother laugh  
“Brother makes mother laughs”
  
8. *Indo mangkabua adik mamma*  
Mother make brother sleep  
“Mother makes brother sleeps”

According to the data, numbers (5) and (6) exemplify intransitive and transitive verb sentence constructions, respectively. In data number (5), the construction of intransitive verb sentences is characterized by a singular core argument, specifically the subject. An intransitive verb serves as the predicate in a sentence construction that does not necessitate an object. In data number (5), the subject is represented solely by the constituent *indo* as the singular argument. Conversely, the predicate in data number (5) is filled by the constituent *metawa*. The *indo* argument represents the sole argument in the intransitive verb construction, as the predicate requires merely one argument to fulfill the sentence structure.

In data number (6), the formulation of a phrase with an intransitive verb comprises a single core argument, specifically the subject. The predicate in a transitive verb sentence consists of a transitive verb that does not necessitate an object. In data number (6), the topic is represented by the constituent *adik* as the sole core argument. Conversely, the predicate in data number (6) is occupied by the element *mamma*. The argument of the *adik* is the sole argument in the intransitive verb formation, as the predicate requires only one argument to complete the sentence structure.

In contrast to data number (7) and data number (8), which exemplify periphrastic causative constructions. Data number (7) exemplifies a periphrastic causative construction, wherein the main clause is succeeded by an intransitive verb serving as the predicate in the embedded clause. The principal clause in data number (7) comprises a singular main predicate accompanied by two essential arguments. The principal predicate in the primary clause of data number (7) is held by the constituent *mangkabua*. Conversely, the primary argument in the main clause that serves as the subject is represented by the constituent *kakak*. The second fundamental argument serving as the object is engaged by the constituent *indo*. Within the embedded clause, the constituent *indo* serves as the subject, thereby fulfilling a dual role as both the object of the main sentence and the subject of the embedded sentence. Within the

embedded clause, the principal predicate is occupied by the constituent *metawa*. The embedded clause in data number (7) functions as an intransitive clause, as it requires solely a subject to complete the sentence.

Data number (8) exemplifies a periphrastic causative construction, featuring a main clause succeeded by an intransitive verb serving as the predicate within the embedded clause. The principal clause in data number (8) comprises a singular main predicate accompanied by two essential arguments. The primary predicate in the principal clause of data number (8) is held by the constituent *mangkabua*. Conversely, the primary core argument within the main clause that serves as the subject is held by the constituent *indo*. The second fundamental argument serving as the object is held by the constituent *adik*. In the embedded clause, the constituent *adik* serves as the subject, thereby fulfilling a dual role as both the object of the main sentence and the subject of the embedded sentence. Within the embedded clause, the principal predicate is occupied by the constituent *mamma*. The embedded clause in data number (8) functions as an intransitive clause, as it requires only a subject to fulfill the sentence's structure.

#### ***X-COMP in Periphrastic Causative Construction***

The periphrastic causative construction in the Massenrempulu language contains an open argument. The argument presented is referred to as X-COMP. X-COMP represents a complement clause that requires its subject to align with the subject of the corresponding predicate. The evidence for the existence of X-COMP within the periphrastic causative construction of the Massenrempulu language can be expressed as follows.

9. *Indo mangkabua adik cumadokko*  
 Mother make brother sit down  
 "Mother makes brother sit down"
  
10. *Adik kuanni indo nalli utan*  
 Brother command mother buy vegetable  
 "Brother commands mother to buy vegetable"

Data number (9) shows a periphrastic causal construction, featuring a main sentence succeeded by an intransitive verb as the predicate in the subordinate clause. The principal clause in data number (9) comprises one primary predicate and two essential arguments. The principal predicate in the primary clause of data number (9) is represented by the constituent *mangkabua*. Conversely, the primary argument in the main clause serving as the subject is held by the constituent *indo*. The second core argument serving as the object is occupied by the constituent *adik*. The main predicate embedded clause is populated by the constituent *keedeh*. The embedded clause in data number (9) is an intransitive clause as it necessitates only a subject to complete the sentence. Clause number (9) illustrates the open argument function or X-COMP. The X-COMP function is observed with the embedded clause in data number (9). The sentence "*Indo mangkabua adik [ij] keedeh*" features an X-COMP open complement structure denoted by *[ij]*. Sentence number (9) satisfies the criteria for the inclusion of X-COMP.

In sentence (9), the existence of X-COMP is defined by its reliance on the subject or object of the main clause, along with the inclusion of a term that functions as a causal verb. In sentence (9), X-COMP relies on the main sentence object, which concurrently serves as the subject of the embedded sentence, specifically younger brother. In phrase (9), the existence of X-COMP is indicated by the inclusion of the causal verb *mangkabua*, thereby allowing X-COMP to open arguments.

A similar occurrence transpires in sentence (10). Data number (10) exemplifies a periphrastic causative formulation, featuring a main sentence followed by a transitive verb as the predicate in the embedded clause. The principal clause in data number (10) comprises one

primary predicate and three essential arguments. The principal predicate in the main sentence of data number (10) is represented by the constituent *kuanni*. Conversely, the primary argument in the main clause serving as the subject is represented by the constituent *adik*. The second principal argument serving as an object is filled by the constituent *indo*. The primary predicate embedded clause is populated by the constituent *nalli*. The embed clause in data number (10) is a transitive clause, necessitating both a subject and an object to complete the sentence. The subject of the embedded clause is "indo," and the object of the clause is "utan." Clause number (10) illustrates the open argument function or X-COMP. The X-COMP function is observed with the embedded clause in data number (10). The line "*Adik kuanni indo [ij] nalli utan*" features an X-COMP open complement structure denoted by *[ij]*. Sentence number (10) satisfies the criteria for the inclusion of X-COMP.

In sentence (10), the existence of X-COMP is defined by its reliance on the subject or object of the main clause, along with the inclusion of a term that functions as a causal verb. In sentence (10), X-COMP is contingent upon the main sentence object, which concurrently serves as the subject of the nested sentence, specifically *indo*. In phrase (10), the presence of X-COMP is indicated by the occurrence of the causative word *kuanni*, so facilitating the existence of the open argument of X-COMP. From the examples in sentences (9) and (10), it can be inferred that the X-COMP form in the Massenrempulu language exhibits two characteristics: its dependence on the subject or object of the main clause and the inclusion of a causative verb in the main clause, which facilitates the presentation of X-COMP in the embedded clause.

## CONCLUSION

The research undertaken has yielded numerous conclusions derived from its examination. The causal periphrastic structure in the Duri dialect of the Massenrempulu language is constituted by the verbs *kuanni* and *mangkabua*. The verbs exhibit variations in the causative periphrastic form of the Massenrempulu language. The *kuanni* predicate functions as a periphrastic causal structure, capable of being followed by both transitive and intransitive verb-predicated clauses as X-COMP. Conversely, the predicate *mangkabua*, as a type of periphrastic causative construction, may solely be succeeded by sentences containing intransitive verb predicates as X-COMPs.

Secondly, X-COMP in periphrastic causal formulations of the Massenrempulu language has properties identical to those of X-COMP in other global languages. The properties of X-COMP in the Massenrempulu language are contingent upon the subject or object of the main sentence and the existence of causative construction-forming verbs within the main clause.

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