

## Assignment on Bejar & Massam (1999)

24.951, Fall 2003, Oct 17

**Due Date: Oct 31**

This assignment deals with Bejar & Massam (1999), and how their ideas integrate with the discussion on case in class. Read the paper carefully before you start answering.

Note: The questions are very specific and demand concise answers. **The assignment must not exceed 5 pages!**

- (1) Discuss whether B&M's proposal can (be extended to) account for Marantz's "Ergative case generalization" [6] and the "morphology-bound version" of Burzio's generalization as presented by Marantz (see, e.g., [31] in Handout dated 10/15/03).
- (2) Discuss whether B&M's proposal can (be extended to) account for the Japanese and Icelandic data [11,15-16] that Marantz presents as evidence against the Case-Filter ("Case-drives-movement") framework.
- (3) Single out one specific aspect of B&M's data that is most problematic to Marantz's proposal regarding the morphological realization of case. Illustrate with one piece of data from B&M's paper and state the nature of the challenge.
- (4) Unlike Korean, no language examined by B&M exhibits case-stacking. The possibility remains, therefore, that the A-chains they consider all bear a single case. Single out the specific features of the data in B&M's paper that nonetheless support MCC (Multiple Case Checking); i.e., what aspects of the data are particularly problematic for an MCC-denier.
- (5) Suppose that case-stacking in Korean genuinely falls under MCC (contra B&M's fn. 2). What problems does it raise for B&M's analysis, and for the typology in [19]? How can the analysis/typology be modified to accommodate Korean? Note: Some modifications may be consistent with B&M's analysis, others not. Be explicit about the implications of whatever you propose.
- (6) Similarly, suppose that Farsi and Tongan, discussed by Yoon (1996, ex. 37, 38), are genuine cases of MCC. What problems do they raise for B&M, and how can the system be modified to accommodate these languages.