

Final Project

DUE in my mailbox 24 July 2009.

Read Comrie (1979). (You may skip §2.3 pp. 230–237).

Comrie considers Chukchee to have mixed ergative/nominative-accusative syntax. On the other hand, Falk (2006) refers to Chukchee as “syntactically ergative,” with no qualifications. (In fact, the theory of Falk 2006 does not allow for languages to be partially ergative in their syntax.) In a short paper (2–4 pages) explain how Falk’s position can (or cannot) be reconciled with the facts presented by Comrie.

References

- Comrie, Bernard (1979) “Degrees of Ergativity: Some Chukchee Evidence.” in Frans Plank, ed., *Ergativity: Towards a Theory of Grammatical Relations*. New York: Academic Press. 219–40.
- Falk, Yehuda N. (2006) *Subjects and Universal Grammar: An Explanatory Theory*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.