CASE

In *Case*, Mark Baker develops a unified theory of how the morphological case marking of noun phrases is determined by syntactic structure. Designed to work well for languages of all alignment types – accusative, ergative, tripartite, marked nominative, or marked absolutive – this theory has been developed and tested against unrelated languages of each type, and more than twenty non-Indo-European languages are considered in depth.

While affirming that case can be assigned to noun phrases by function words under agreement, the theory also develops in detail a second mode of case assignment: so-called dependent case.

Suitable for academic researchers and students, the book employs formal-generative concepts, yet remains clear and accessible for a general linguistics readership.

MARK BAKER is a Distinguished Professor in the Department of Linguistics at Rutgers University.

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Case: Its Principles and its Parameters

CASE: ITS PRINCIPLES AND ITS PARAMETERS

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Abbreviations and conventions

In this book, I cite examples from a large number of languages, many of them from other sources. This presents challenges for effective and truthful glossing. For the most part, I have tried to make the glosses of examples more uniform when I thought I could do this with reasonable accuracy, so as to make it easier to compare examples that should be compared. In some cases, this just means changing AP to APPL for applicative. But in other cases it may affect points in a theory-laden way: for example, I might use "absolutive" where my source uses "nominative" in describing an ergative language, or "dative" where the source uses "allative" for a case I believe to be structural. Reader beware. Where I did not feel I could change the gloss with tolerable accuracy, or where no relevant point of comparison is at stake, I have followed the original source, occasionally suppressing minor details (e.g. the different grades of verb stems in Choctaw).

Agreement morphemes are glossed by a complex symbol that begins with a number indicating the person of the agreed-with phrase (1, 2, or 3), then has a lower-case letter indicating the number or gender of the agreed-with phrase (s, singular; d, dual; p, plural; m, masculine; f, feminine; n, neuter), and then a capital letter indicating the grammatical function or case of the agreed-with phrase (S, subject; O, object; P, possessor; A, absolutive; D, dative; E, ergative). Thus, 1pS means first person plural subject agreement, 3mO means third masculine (singular) object agreement, and so on. Sometimes one member of this triple is missing when the corresponding category is not marked – for example, when the agreement indicates person but not number, or vice versa. In Choctaw, I follow Broadwell (2006) in using I, II, and III rather than S, O, P, for reasons mentioned in the text. Please note also that WP, XP (as in, e.g., SpecXP – see below), YP, and ZP are variables, and can stand for TP, vP, VP, etc., and range over phrases of any category.

Other abbreviations used in the glosses of linguistic examples are as follows.

ABL	ablative case
ABS	absolutive case
ACC	accusative case
ACCEL	accelerative aspect
ADESS	adessive case
ADMON	admonitive
ADV	adverbial
AF	affirmative
AG	agentive (nominalizer)
AOR	aorist tense/participle
APPL	applicative
ASP	aspect
AUX	auxiliary
CAUS	causative
CIS	cislocative
COM	comitative case
COMPL	completive
COP	copula
CORE	"core" (unmarked) case (Tukang Besi)
CVSIM	simultaneous converb
DAT	dative case
DEC	declarative
DEF	definite
DEM	demonstrative
DEP	dependent
DIS	distal
DIST	distributive
DPAST	distant past
DS	different subject
DU	dual number
ERG	ergative case
EV	event nominal
EX	exclusive
F	feminine gender
FOC	focus
FUT	future tense
GEN	genitive case
GER	gerund

HAB	habitual tense/aspect
HON	honorific
ILLAT	illative case
IMPER	imperative
IMPF	imperfective aspect
IN	inclusive
IND	indicative mood
INEL	inelative case
INESS	inessive case
INF	infinitive
INST	instrumental case
INTR	intransitive
IR	irrealis mood
ITER	iterative
LAT	lative case
LCA	Linear Correspondence Axiom
LK	linker
LOC	locative case
LV	light verb
M	masculine gender
MABS	marked absolutive case
MED	medial (Ika)
MID	middle
MNOM	marked nominative case
N	neuter
NEG	negative
NOM	nominative case
NOML	nominalizer
NPST	nonpast tense
OBJ	object
OBL	oblique case
PART	partitive case
PASS	passive voice
PAST	past tense (different kinds)
PERI	peripheral participant (Ika)
PL	plural number
PN	proper noun
PNI	pseudo-noun incorporation
POSS	possessive

PRES	present tense
PRF	perfective aspect
PROG	progressive
PRT	particle (especially 2nd position evidential clitic in Shipibo)
PTPL	(past) participle
Q	question particle
REAL	realis mood
REC	reciprocal
REF	point of reference (Ika)
REFL	reflexive
REL	relative
SG	singular number
SIM	simultaneous
SS	same subject
ST	stative
SUF	suffix
TNS	tense (unspecified)
TOP	topic
TR	transitive
UNM	unmarked case (Chamorro)
VBZR	verbalizer
VN	verbal noun
WIT	witness (Ika)

The following are abbreviations of the names of grammatical categories:

A, AP	adjective, adjective phrase
C, CP	complementizer, complementizer phrase
D, DP	determiner, determiner phrase
N, NP	noun, noun phrase
P, PP	adposition (preposition or postposition), adpositional phrase
SpecXP	Specifier of XP
T, TP	tense head, tense phrase
v, vP	light verb (abstract verbal element, assigner of external argument)
V, VP	verb, verb phrase

Other abbreviations used in the text include:

B&V	Baker and Vinokurova (2010)
CDAP	Case Dependency of Agreement Parameter
CQ	Cuzco Quechua

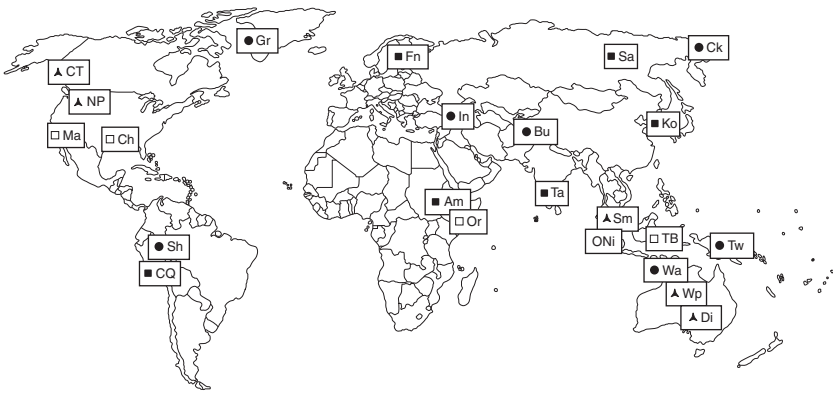
CT	Coast Tsimshian
DM	Distributed Morphology
DOC	double object construction
DOM	differential object marking
EPP	"Extended Projection Principle" feature (triggers the movement of a phrase to the category that bears it)
IE	Indo-European
L&M	Lefebvre and Muysken (1988)
LF	"Logical Form"
P&P	Polinsky and Potsdam (2012)
PF	phonological form
VSO, SOV, etc.	Verb-subject-object word order; subject-object-verb order, etc.
WALS	*The world atlas of language structures*

Finally, the following are some conventions used in presenting examples:

*X	The example is ungrammatical.
(X)	The example has the same grammatical status with or without X included.
(*X)	The example is good without X, but bad when it is included.

In some cases, an agreement morpheme and the NP that it agrees with are both italicized.

Map of principal languages investigated and their case systems



Map of Principal Languages Investigated and their Case Systems

Accusative Languages (■)
CQ Cuzco Quecha
Fn Finnish
Am Amharic
Ta Tamil
Sa Sakha
Ko Korean

Ergative Languages (●)
Sh Shipibo
Gr Greenlandic (West)
In Ingush
Bu Burushaski
Wa Wardaman
Ck Chukchi
Tw Tewa

Tripartite Languages (⅄)
CT Coast Tsimshian
NP Nez Perce
Sm Semelai
Wp Warlpiri
Di Diyari

Marked Nominative (□)
Ma Maricopa
Ch Choctaw
Or Oromo
TB Tukang Besi

Marked Absolutive(○)
Ni Nias