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## Similarity and equality demonstratives in Kambaata

#### Yvonne Treis

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#### 1. Introduction

Afro-Asiatic > Cushitic > East Cushitic > Highland East Cushitic (HEC)



South of Ethiopia; immediate neighbours: speakers of other HEC languages (Hadiyya, Alaaba) and Ometo languages of the Omotic family (Wolaitta, Dawro)

Number of speakers: 615,000 (2007 Ethiopian census)

Database: narratives, conversational data and elicited data, yearly fieldtrips 2002-2007 and 2016; in addition: written corpus (schoolbook texts, Gospel of John, Little Prince etc.)

## 2. Typological profile

- Morphological type: agglutinating-fusional; strictly suffixing
- Head- and dependent-marking: elaborate case system; subject agreement on verbs
- Constituent order: consistently head-final
- Open word classes: nouns, adjectives, verbs, ideophones, interjections; closed word classes: pronouns, numerals & quantifiers, demonstratives; very few conjunctions and adverbs

Nouns: GENDER: feminine vs. masculine; CASE: see 2 example declensions below

		dum-á (masculine)	gat-í-ta (feminine)
		'back room'	'backyard'
Accusative	ACC	dum-á	gat-í-ta
Nominative	NOM	dúm-u	gát-i-t
Genitive	GEN	dum-í	gat-é
Dative	DAT	dum-íi(-ha)	gat-ée(-ha)
Ablative	ABL	dum-íichch	gat-éechch
Instrumental/Comitative/Perlative	ICP	dum-íin	gat-éen
Locative	LOC	dum-áan	gat-éen
Oblique/Vocative	OBL	dúm-a	gát-e

Table 1. Case paradigms of a masculine and a feminine noun.

**Adjectives**: case/gender agreement with head noun; CASE (as modifiers): nominative, accusative, oblique; GENDER: feminine, masculine; as NP-head: full case-marking potential

**Verbs**: fully finite main clause verbs vs. various types of dependent clause verbs, marked inflectionally for subject agreement, mood, aspect, subordination, switch reference

## 3. Comparison

- Comparison of relative superiority (comparative)
- Comparison of absolute superiority (superlative)
- Comparison of similarity (similative)
- Comparison of equality (equative)

#### 3.1. Comparison of relative superiority

- Source schema (Heine 1997) / Separative comparative (Stassen 1985): 'C is P from S'
- In predicative comparative constructions: Comparee (C) = nominative subject, Standard (S) = ablative-marked adjunct, Parameter (P) = adjective, property verb, property ideophone, no comparative degree marked on P (see lit. translation)
- (1) Bóq {Makkeeb-éechch} qeráa'rr-u-a
  PN.mNOM PN-fABL long-mPRED-mCOP2
  'Boqe is taller than Makkeebe (lit. Boqe is tall {from Makkeebe}).' (K89: 2.79)
- (2) Buttu'll-a-sí hagár-u {garad-d-a-sí=hann-íichch} cubs-fGEN-DEF colour-mNOM adult-PL1-fGEN-DEF=NMZ2-mABL

gambáll y-áano black.IDEO say-3mIPV

'The colour of the (civet) cubs is darker than that of the adults (lit. The colour of the cubs is dark {from that of the adults}).'

(K89: 6.56)

## 3.2. Comparison of absolute superiority

- Source schema: **'C is P from all (S)'**(Absolute Comparison Superlative in Gorshenin's (2012) typology) (3)
- Location schema: 'C is P among S' (see Type S[cope] in Gorshenin's (2012) typology) (4)
- (3) {*Hór-aa=r-iichchi-n*} abbishsh all-mOBL=NMZp-mABL-N exceed.3mPCO

kichche'-ishsh-o-'ée-hu m-á agújj-ee-he? be\_sad-CAUS-3mPVO-1sO.REL.VV-mNOM what-mACC seem-3mPVE-2sO 'Which incidence do you think has made me saddest? (lit. {From all things}, the one that has made me very sad seems (to be) what to you?)' (K89: 6.124)

(4) {*Haqq-áan*} *fárr-u tontóon-a-a*, wood-mLOC bad-mNOM plant\_species-mPRED-mCOP2

{cii'-áan} fárr-u hagas-óo-t, birds-fLOC bad-mNOM wattled\_ibis-mACC.VV-COP3

{mann-áan} fárr-u ebal-óo-t

people-mLOC bad-mNOM PN-mACC.VV-COP3

(Context: Speaker A mentions the creeper *tontoona* in a conversation, which makes Speaker B recite a mock poem) 'The worst tree is the [smelly] *tontoona*-creeper, the worst bird is the wattled ibis, [and] the worst person is So-and-so.' [overheard]

## 4. Comparison of similarity

- Comparee: any syntactic function/semantic role in the clause
- Standard: genitive-marked
- Standard marker: enclitic =*g* < \*noun meaning 'manner', marked for ACC/OBL case (if adjunct) (5)-(6) or PRED (if predicate) (7); NB: =*g* no longer used as an independent noun but still used as a fully productive manner nominaliser with full case-marking potential (see (8) below))
- (5) {Xabar-i=g-a} binn y-i ashes-mGEN=G-mACC/OBL disperse.IDEO say-2sIMP (Curse) 'May you be dispersed {like ashes}!' [AN2016-02-19\_002]
- (6) Án {qurxummeem-á=g-a} waachch-ú dand-eemmí=da
  1sNOM fish-fGEN=G-mACC/OBL swim-mACC be\_able-1sPVE.REL=COND

  m-á ih-áno
  what-mACC be-3mIPV
  (Wish) 'If only I could swim {like fish}!' (lit. 'What would be if I was able to swim
  like a fish?')

  [TD2016-02-11\_001]
- (7) Aní-i kii-haa=g-anka
  1sNOM-ADD 2sGEN-mCOP2=G-mPRED<N>
  'Me, too, I do/am like you.' [Elicited]

Excursus on the function =g: The enclitic can be attached to any type of modifier phrase and thus generates nominalised phrases that are translatable as 'manner/way of [(pro)noun]' (8), '[adjective] manner/way', or 'manner/way that [relative clause]'. The resulting manner phrases can assume any syntactic function and any semantic role in the clause. Ex. (8) contains two manner-nominalised phrases, the subject noun phrase  $Sabir-\acute{o}=g-u$  'Sabiro's way' and the ablative-marked adverbial noun phrase  $Shaameeb-\acute{i}=g\acute{i}ichch$  'from/than Shaameebo's way'.

(8) {Shaameeb-i=g-iichch} {Sabir-ó=g-u} wóyy-a-a
PN-mGEN=G-mABL PN-mGEN=G-mNOM better-mPRED-mCOP2
'Shaameebo's way (of doing things) is better than Sabiro's way (lit. {From Sabiro's way}, {Shameebo's way} is better).' [Elicited]

## 5. Comparison of equality

- Manner schema: 'C is P (in) S's manner' (cf. similative construction)
- Amount schema: 'C is P (to) S's amount/extent'
- Constructions differ with regard to frequency as well as origin, multifunctionality and degree of grammaticalisation of standard marker
  - o Manner schema more frequent than amount schema
  - o Manner morpheme =g highly multifunctional (cf. Treis in press): manner nominaliser, similative standard marker, marker of complement, temporal, purpose clauses etc.; =g is phonologically enclitic, case-marked but not used as an independent noun
  - O Amount schema: standard marker qax-á 'amount' used as an independent noun

Manner and amount schema are syntactically parallel: Comparee = nominative subject; Standard Phrase = genitive modifier plus 'manner' (ACC/OBL) or 'amount/extent' (ACC), adjunct to parameter; Parameter = adjective, property verb/ideophone

## 5.1. Equative construction with =g 'manner'

(9) Án {tees-ó caf-í  $doo'll-\acute{o}=\mathbf{g}-a$ 1sNOM now-fGEN swamp-mGEN type\_of\_bird-fGEN=G-mACC/OBL ih-áam-ba'a dan-aam-ita m-íi v-itóo'u beauty-AAM-fACC what-mDAT be-1sIPV-NEG say-3fPVO "Why am I not beautiful like/as beautiful {as that flamingo}?" she said."

[TD2016-02-11\_001]

- (10)  $\{Zoobb-\acute{e}e=\mathbf{g}-a\}$ xalig-á ik-kumbóochch lions-mGEN=G-mACC/ACC strong-mACC be-2sNREL.ABL urr-ú-' kad-dókkoont frontyard-fACC-1sPOSS step-2sPREV 'Unless you are strong like/as strong {as lions}, don't dare to step into my front (K89: 6.124; corrected by DW)
- (11) Riyéen-u {haarr-i  $oddishsh-\dot{a}=\mathbf{g}-a$ al-éen-ta-nne rayon-mNOM silk-mGEN clothes-fGEN=G-mACC/OBL body-mLOC-L-1pPOSS laaf-áno-ba'a be soft-3mIPV-NEG 'Rayon is not soft like/as soft {as silk clothes} on our body.' (K89: 6.45)

### 5.2. Equative construction with qax-á 'extent'

yard!'

- Less common equative construction
- Especially for measurable equality (size, amount)
- Expression of non-measurable equality only in elicited *qax-á*-constructions, as in (13)
- (12)  $\bar{A}'\dot{\bar{a}}'\bar{a}$ Caakkís-u {Da'llis-ó  $qax-\acute{a}$  $^{1}$ geráa'rr-u-a-ba'a no PN-mNOM PN-mGEN extent-mACC tall-mPRED-mCOP2-NEG 'No, Caakkiso isn't as tall {as Da'lliso}.' [DW\_Dialogue\_2014-12-10]
- (13) Siggis-í-i bíishsh-a-ta {isé  $qax-\acute{a}$ PN-fNOM-ADD 3fGEN extent-mACC red-fPRED-fCOP2 'Siggise, too, is as light-skinned (lit. red) {as she (is)}.' [Elicited]
  - If parameter <u>not</u> overtly expressed: implicit parameter <u>always</u> size or amount<sup>2</sup>
- (14) Kubóos-u hikkánni-a aáx-a DDEM1mNOM water pot-mNOM IDEM2mGEN-mCOP2 extent-mPRED 'This water-pot is as (implicit parameter: big) as that one.' [Elicited]

A native speaker noted that Da'llis-\(\delta\) qax-\(\delta\) could here be replaced by Da'llis\(\delta=g-a\) without any apparent change in meaning.

Note that size/amount polysemy is also observed in the adjectives  $qah-\dot{u}(-ta)$  'small (size); little (amount)' and abb-á(-ta) 'big; much'.

(15) Kan boos-í wó'-u qakkíchch-u-a

DDEM1mOBL water\_pot-mGEN water-mNOM tiny-mPRED-mCOP2

ka[n] isí=biihú-u kánni-anka

DDEM1mOBL 3mGEN=NMZ1.mNOM-ADD IDEM1mGEN-mCOP2<N>

qáx-a

extent-mPRED

'The water in this pot is very little, and the one in this (one) here is as (implicit parameter: much/little) as the (first).'

Qax-á 'extent' is an independent masculine noun with full case-marking potential (Table 2).

ACC	qax-á
NOM	qáx-u
GEN	qax-í
DAT	qax-íi(-ha) ~ qax-ée(-ha)
ABL	qax-íichch ~ qax-éechch
ICP	qax-íin
LOC	qax-áan
OBL	qáx-a
PRED (with COP2)	qáx-a

Table 2. Case paradigms of qax-á (m.) 'extent'

Polysemous noun *qax-á*: 'amount, quantity, number' (16), 'volume, contents', 'size, height, length, circumference', '(spatial) distance, limit', and '(temporal) distance, period of time, while' (17).

- (16) Kánn qax-íichch m-á aass-áan-ke-la?
  DDEM1.mOBL amount-mABL what-mACC give-1sIPV-2sO-MIT
  'What can I give you from this amount? (i.e. It is too small to share.)' [Elicited]
- (17) Halaalis-amm-óochch zakk-íin gah-ú qax-á cut throat-PASS-3mPVO.REL.ABL after-mICP small-mACC while-mACC egérr fóol-u-s fúlli-yan reh-ee'iichch (...) wait.3mPCO soul-mNOM-3mPOSS leave.3mPCO-DS die-3mPVE.REL.ABL 'After (the bull's) throat has been cut, one waits a little while, and when the soul has left (the bull) and it has died [...]. [TH\_Tä2003-09-26]
- (18) Gaaz-í hír-at ammóo abbís-s barg-itán fuel-mGEN price-fNOM but exceed-3fPCO add-3fICO

gal-táyyoo=bikkíiha zabb-i-sí hir-atí-i
spand time\_3fPROG\_REL\_PRAS\_medicine\_mGEN\_DEE price\_fNOM\_ADI

spend\_time-3fPROG.REL=REAS medicine-mGEN-DEF price-fNOM-ADD

hikkanní qax-ánka le'-áyyoo'u IDEM2m.GEN degree-mACC<N> grow-3fPROG

'Because the price of fuel is rising, the price of medicine is rising at the (same) rate as that one (= the fuel).' (K89: 7.155)

## 6. Similarity and equality demonstratives

## 6.1. Similative demonstrative manner pronoun hittita 'like this' and its variants

Hittíta 'like this'

- deictic element expressing similarity in manner
- used adverbially in a verb phrase (19)-(20) or predicatively (21)
- looks formally like a feminine accusative noun (*hitt-ita*) but no other case/gender form possible
- formally related to feminine medial demonstrative modifier ('that'): ACC *hitta*, NOM *hitt*, OBL *hitta* ~ *hittánn* (NB: Kambaata has a 4-degree/dimension demonstrative system: proximal, medial, distal, contrastive)
- hittita largely synonymous with
  - o *hittigúta* 'like this' (which contains manner morpheme =g) (20)
  - o adverbial form of *hitt y* 'do (intr.) like this' / *hitt a'* 'do (tr.) like this' (23) [demonstrative ideophone]
- hittita, hittig'uta, h'utty-/a'- form a triplet with interrogative pronouns hattita/hattig'uta 'how?' and the interrogative ideophone h'atty-/a'- 'do (intr./tr.) how?'

## Exophoric use

- (19) **Hitt-íta** qumucc-ít uurr-iteentíi m-íihaa-t?
  like\_this-fACC squat-2sPCO stand-2sPVE.REL.NMZ.VV.mNOM what-fDAT.VV-COP3

  (Context: The tired horse just stopped on the road, let its ears hang down and rested. A fox came along and asked:) 'Why are you squatting (here) **like this**?' (K89: 6.123)
- (20) *Hitt-íta* ~ *hittig-úta* ass-í fann-óomm like\_this-fACC like\_this-fACC do-1sPCO open-1sPVO
  'I opened it **like this**.' (Exophoric: Speaker shows how he did it.)

  [DW2016-09-21]

#### Endophoric [anaphoric] use

- (21) (...) hanaqal-i=g-u ikkodáa hittíg-u-ta-ba'a type\_of\_food-mGEN=G-mNOM however like\_this-fPRED-fCOP2-NEG

  '(...) but the preparation (lit. way) of hanqalú is not like this [= as mentioned earlier in the text].' [TH\_Hanaqalu2007]
- (22) Tah-ichch-u dángo {hitt-íta afuu'll-ít zug-gáni-yan} fly-SG-mNOM suddenly like\_this-fACC sit-3fPCO lie\_in\_ambush-3fICO-DS waall-ó=da [...] come-3mPVO.REL=COND (Context: Speaker describes how a chameleon lies in ambush.) 'When a fly comes suddenly while she (= the chameleon) is lying in ambush like this, [...]'
- (23) **Hítt a'-í** ke'-ó=hann-iichch zakk-iin, [...] like\_this do-3mPCO get\_up-3mPVO.REL=NMZ2m-mABL after-mICP (Context: The horse lied down like the fox had advised him.) 'After he (= the horse) had done like this, [...].'

Catephoric use [introducing direct speech]

(24) [...] qamál-ch-ut maccoocc-itán egér-t hitt-íta y-itóo'u: "\_" monkey-SG-fNOM hear-3fICO stay-3fPCO like\_this-fACC say-3fPVO '[...] The monkey listened and (then) said like this (i.e. as follows): "..." (K89: 4.77)

#### Influence of the "emphatic" -n-morpheme on the meaning of manner deitics

The manner deictics are often combined with a morpheme -n. The functions of this (often pragmatically determined) ubiquitous morpheme are still a mystery to me. In the description of related languages, it is labelled an "emphatic" morpheme. The addition of -n to manner deictics trigger the following regular changes in meaning:

- hittita 'like this' +  $\langle n \rangle = hittinta$  'simply, without doing anything, without any use, without having been finished' [German  $einfach\ so$ ] (25)
- *hittigúta* 'like this' + <*n*> = *hittigúnta* 'also, too, and' [Dt. *sowie*], very common discourse particle (~ equally frequent as German *also*) (26)
- *hittínta* and *hittigúnta* are <u>not</u> synonymous (while the manner deictics without -*n*, *hittíta* and *hittigúta* are synonymous, see above)
- (25) Kú'nn! xuud-daantí=g-anka minu-sí-i
  PTV.DEM1m see-2fIPV.REL=G-mACC<N> house-m.NOM-DEF-ACC
  hitt-ínta uurr-ée=g-anka beet-u-'í-i
  like\_this-fACC<N> stand-3mPVE.REL=G-mACC<N> child-mNOM-1sPOSS-ADD
  ammóo mesel-aakk-áta aag-is-ú'nna-n yóo'u
  but girl-PL2-fACC enter-CAUS-3mNCO-N COP1.3
  'Here we go! As you see, the house is not yet finished (lit. is standing like this = simply,
  without any use), and my son is not yet married.' [Text\_unreal\_sit]
- (26) Lal-í maal-á beess-áammi-a. Hittig-únta
  cattle-mGEN meat-mACC cover-1sIPV.REL-mCOP2 like\_this-fACC<N>
  gid-iichchí-i wól-o daaf-iichchí-i ka'mmam-áan-sa
  cold-mABL-ADD other-mOBL danger-mABL-ADD protect[.REC]-1sIPV-3pO
  (A leather skin speaking in a story:) 'I cover the cattle's flesh. And I protect them [= the cattle] from cold and other dangers.' (K89: 3.47)

## 6.2. Similative demonstrative quality modifiers hittigoon-á(ta) and hittigaam-ú/-íta 'such'

Hittigoon-á(ta) and hittigaa-ú/-íta 'such'

- quality deictics, express similarity between the target of the demonstration and the referent of the demonstrative phrase
- used as modifier of a head noun (28) (case/gender agreement), or:
- used without head noun if head noun understood from the context (27)

- used as a predicate in the same way as other adjectival modifiers (cf. German *Er ist so.*) [example still to be added]
- so far no meaning difference known between hittigoon-á(ta) and hittigaam-ú/-íta
- interesting formal relation: directly derived from the similative demonstrative pronoun *hittig-úta* 'like this'
  - o stem *hittig* 'like this' plus adjectival derivation *-oon* plus adjectival case/gender morphology > *hittig-oon-á(ta)* 'such (m/f)'
  - o stem *hittig* 'like this' plus adjectival (proprietive) derivation *-aam* plus adjectival case/gender morphology > *hittig-aam-ú/-ita* 'such (m/f)'

(K89: 4.41 [correction DW])

- corresponding interrogative forms: *hattigoon-á(ta)* and *hattigaam-ú/íta* 'of which type, kind?'
- (27) Shaameeb-ii sas-lokk-áam-u xaraphéez-u yóo-si-a
  PN-mDAT three-leg-PROP-mNOM table-mNOM COP1.3-3mO.REL-mCOP2

  Ansheeb-iihá-a hittigáam-unku / hittigóon-unku yóo-si-a
  PN-mDAT-ADD such-mNOM<N> COP1.3-3mO.REL-mCOP2

  'Shaameebo has a three-legged table.' 'Ansheebo has such (a table), too.'

  [DW2016-09-21]
- (28) Hannó hittigáam-u / hittigóon-u háww-u yoo-sí
  please such-mNOM problem-mNOM COP1.3-3mO.REL

  man-ch-í=tannée xuundáamm
  men-SG-mGEN=about look.1pIPV

  'Let us look at a person who has such a problem [= problem to speak in public, as

Not to be confused with (see next section):

described earlier in the text].'

(29) Hannó kánk-u háww-u yoo-sí
please this\_much-NOM problem-mNOM COP1.3-3mO.REL

man-ch-i=tannée xuundáamm

men-SG-mGEN=about look.1pIPV

'Let us look at a person who has an **equally difficult** problem/serious problem/problem
of the same dimension.' [DW2016-09-21]

### 6.3. Equative demonstrative modifier *kank-á(ta)* 'this many, this much'

Kank-á(ta)

- See ex. (29) above
- degree deictic and quantity deictic
- used as modifier of a head noun (case/gender agreement) (30)
- unknown if used without head noun if head noun understood from the context (to be explored)
- used predicatively in the same way as other adjectival modifiers of the language
- used as adverbial modifier of adjectives (32) and verbs (33) (invariantly mACC)

- paraphrased as *ka qax-á* /DDEM1mACC amount-mACC/ 'this amount' in a monolingual Kambaata dictionary (Alemu 2016) but as the examples below show, this paraphrase is not an adequate paraphrase of *kanká(-ta)* in all its uses
- not always used deictically (see ex. 34ff below)

#### **Deictic use**

Use as modifier in NP (quantity deictic) (exophoric and endophoric)

- (30) Án **kank-á** buur-ú ass-áamm 1sNOM this\_much-mACC butter-mACC give-1sIPV
  - (a) Exophoric use (speaker indicates amount with his/her hands): 'I give **this much** butter.' (b) Use as a placeholder for a quantitative expression: 'I give **so-and-so much** butter.' [EK2016-02-23, meaning (b) in the recording]
- (31) **Kánk-ata** haraarim-áan kaas-amm-ó bún-u this\_much-fOBL width-fLOC plant-PASS-3mPVO.REL coffee-mNOM bobir-is-aqq-iihá-a ih-ano-sí arriichch-ó wind-CAUS1-MID-mDAT-ADD be\_enough-3mIPV-3mO.REL sun.SG-fGEN

caakk-á daqq-iihá-a dand-áno light-mACC find.MID-mDAT-ADD be able-3mIPV

Endophoric use: (Context: One digs rows at a distance of five span.) 'Coffee (plants) that are planted at **such** a distance (lit. width) can receive air and enough sunlight.'

Adverbial use as degree deictic (exophoric)

- (32) **Kank-á** maqaam-ú hakkánn-e maax-áammi-la? that\_much-mACC strong-mACC where-mOBL hide-1sIPV-MIT 'Where can I hide **such** a big/strong (leopard as you are)?' (K4: 76)
- (33) *M-iihaa-t* **kank-á** kichche'-áyyoontii?
  what-mDAT.VV-COP3 that\_much-mACC be\_sad-2fPROG.NMZ.VV.mNOM
  (Context: The woodcutter stood at the bank of the river and cried, a water spirit called Meerkure appeared and asked him:) "Why are you **so** sad?" (NJ 4.16)

Adverbial use as degree deictic (endophoric)

(34) Anshéeb lam-ú meetir-á qeráa'rr-u-a.
PN.mNOM two-mACC meter-mACC tall-mPRED-mCOP2
Shaameeb-i-sí-i kank-ánka qeráa'rr-u-a.

PN-mNOM-DEF-ADD this much-mACC<N> long-mPRED-mCOP2

[or:] hikkann-i qax-ánka ...
DDEM2m-mGEN amount-mACC<N>

'Ansheebo is two meters tall.'

'Shaameebo, too, is **that/as** tall / (or:) tall to that extent.' [DW2016-09-21]

Át kank-á (35)y-itaantí maqáam-u-a-ba'a qax-á 2sNOM this\_much-mACC say-2sIPV.REL extent-mACC strong-mPRED-mCOP2-NEG (Context: Snake claims that it is stronger than the finger of the king. The Little Prince doubts that and says:) 'You are not that strong, as (strong) as you said.' [Qakkichchu Laaha: §17]

## Non-deictic use: 'very (much/long)'

In many contexts,  $kank-\dot{a}(ta)$  is not deictic, it rather has expresses an heightened (absolute) degree and is then best translated with 'very'. [To be explored: How cross-linguistically common is it for degree and quantity deictics to be used non-deictically?]

#### Quantitative modifier in NP:

- (36)Yam-óo kánk-at gén-it yóo-si-ba'a harm-fNOM COP1.3-3mO-NEG mice-mNOM this much-fNOM 'Mice are not that/not very harmful (lit. Mice, there is not this much harm to them).' (Meaning: They are a bit harmful, but not much.) (K89: 3.32)
- (37)Án kank-á dooll-á ki'nne'éen barg-ámm he'-áni-yan [...] 1sNOM this\_much-mACC time-mACC 2pICP add-PASS.1mPCO live-1sICO-DS 'I have lived together with you for such a long/for a very long time [but yet you haven't recognized me].' (John 14, 9)

## Degree adverbial:

Gíir-at

- (38)Kank-á abb-is-áno-ba'a this\_much-mACC be\_big-CAUS-3mIPV-NEG (Context: I asked someone: "Do the Alaaba people celebrate the *masaala*-holiday?" – The person answered:) 'They don't celebrate it that much/very much.' [Overheard]
- (39)Án he'-aammí=b-eechch-u kank-ánka 1sNOM live-1sIPV.REL=PLACE-SG-mNOM this\_much-mACC<N> cúlu ass-úmb-u-a do-3mNREL-mPRED-mCOP2 beautiful 'The place where I live is not **very** (lit. this much) attractive.' [Qakkichchu Laaha: §15]

### Non-deictic <u>negative</u> use: 'not very (much/long)'

katam-í

- Negation by inference [!] when used as predicate
- Negation not overtly expressed (unlike in ex. (37)-(39))

mann-íi

(40)fire-fNOM town-mGEN people-mDAT give-3fIPV.REL use-fNOM kánk-aa-n-ta this much-fPRED-N-fCOP2 (From a right/wrong exercise in a schoolbook:) 'Fire is not that useful/only little useful for townspeople.' (K89: 4.56)

aass-itáa

tám-it

Possible re-phrase of (36):

- (41) Yam-ée gén-it kánk-aa-n-ta
  mice-mGEN harm-fNOM this\_much-fPRED-N-fCOP2

  'The damage (caused by) mice is not that much.' [DW2016-09-21]
- (42) Wáag-u-s kánk-aa-n-ka
  price-mNOM-DEF this\_much-mPRED-N-mCOP2

  'The price is not that high.' [DW2016-09-21]

# 6.4. Equative demonstrative modifier hibank- $\acute{a}(ta)$ / habank- $\acute{a}(ta)$ / hiwank- $\acute{a}(ta)$ 'this many, this much'

- seems functionally equivalent to *kanká(-ta)*: used as modifier in the noun phrase (43) and used adverbially
- but: only few examples in the database
- meaning and phonological variation still to be explored further
- (43) Án ammóo j-eechch-ú-s hibank-á gizz-á 1sNOM but time-SG-fACC-DEF this\_much-mACC money-mACC haat-íi dand-im-há' íkke **INACT** pay-mDAT be\_able-3mNIPV-NEG (Preceding sentence in the dialogue: The amount of money that he requested for the land lease was three-fold higher than he had asked for the same plot in the years before.) 'But I was not able to pay that much money by then.' [DW Dialogue 2015-02-04]

#### 7. Conclusion

Unlike German (*so*), Kambaata spread the tasks of a deictic degree modifier, quality modifier and manner modifiers (at least) across three types of demonstratives (some of which have formally closely related synonyms).

- Verbal manner: *hittita* and formally related synonyms (*hittigúta*, *hitt y-/a'-*) (§6.1) used as adverbial manner modifiers of verbs or as predicates
  - o Form: verbal manner deictics are based on the (feminine) medial demonstrative; one of the verbal manner deictics,  $hittig\acute{u}ta$ , contains (historically) the manner morpheme =g
  - o Non-deictic use: In combination with the ubiquitous (albeit still unanalysed) "emphatic" -*n*-morpheme the verbal manner pronouns are used non-deictically (*hittinta* 'simply, without any use ...' and *hittigúnta* 'likeweise, and')
- Nominal quality: *hittigoon-á(ta)* and *hittigaam-ú/-íta* (§6.2), used as nominal modifier, as head of a noun phrase if referent understood from the context, or as a predicate (similar to English *such*)
  - o Form: nominal quality deictics are derived (in a transparent way) from one of the verbal manner deictics, namely *hittigúta*

- Adjectival degree: *kank-á(ta)* used as a **degree** modifier, i.e. adverbial modifier to an adjective or property verb/ideophone (§6.3), but also used as a nominal quantity/extent modifier
  - O Non-deictic use: kank-á(ta) is not used deictic in all contexts but it is also used to express a (non-deictic) high degree (elative degree, 'very') or a (non-deictic) high quantity ('much'); in its non-deictic use it often occurs in negative contexts, if there is no overt negation, kanká(-ta) can be negative by inference
  - o Form: The degree deictic seems formally related to the (masculine) proximal demonstrative

Kambaata has a four-degree/dimension demonstrative system (proximal, medial, distal, contrastive). These deictic dimensions are neutralized in the manner, quality, degree demonstratives.

#### **Abbreviations**

AAM proprietive ABL ablative

ADD additive ('also', 'and')

CAUS causative
COND conditional
COP1 yoo-copula
COP2 ha-/ta-copula
COP3 VV-t-copula

DAT dative

DDEM demonstrative adjective

DEF definite

DS different subject

f feminine

G multifunctional =g-morpheme

(source meaning: 'manner')

GEN genitive

ICO imperfective converb

ICP instrumental-comitative-perlative

IDEM demonstrative pronoun

IMP imperative
INACT inactual
IPV imperfective
LOC locative
m masculine
MID middle
MIT mitigative

N pragmatically determined morpheme

(function as yet unclear)

NCO negative converb

NEG negation

NIPV non-imperfective

NMZ.VV nominalisation marked by a long vowel

NMZ1 nominalisation with =bii(-ta/-ha) NMZ2 nominalisation with =hann/=tann

NMZp nominalisation with =r

NOM nominative NREL negative relative

O object
OBL oblique
p plural
PASS passive

PCO perfective converb
PL1 plurative with -*C*-áta
PL2 plurative with -aakk-áta

PN proper noun POSS possessive PRED predicative PREV preventive PROG progressive PVE e-perfective

PVO *o*-perfective (perfect)

REL relative s singular SG singulative

VV vowel lengthening

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