

# Similarity and equality demonstratives in Kambaata Yvonne Treis

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# Similarity and equality demonstratives in Kambaata

Yvonne Treis

(LLACAN, CNRS - INALCO - Université Sorbonne Paris Cité)

## 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

|                                   |     | <i>dum-á</i> (masculine)              | gat-í-ta (feminine) |
|-----------------------------------|-----|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
|                                   |     | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | 0                   |
|                                   |     | '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)

'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-íichchi-n*} *abbíshsh* all-mOBL=NMZp-mABL-N exceed.3mPCO

kichche'-ishsh-o-'ée-hum-áagújj-ee-he?be\_sad-CAUS-3mPVO-1sO.REL.VV-mNOMwhat-mACCseem-3mPVE-2sO'Which incidence do you think has made me saddest? (lit. {From all things}, the onethat 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))</li>
- (5) {Xabar-i=g-a} binn y-iashes-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 lsNOM 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) Ani-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-ó=g-u* 'Sabiro's way' and the ablative-marked adverbial noun phrase *Shaameeb-í=gíichch* 'from/than Shaameebo's way'.

(8) {Shaameeb-i=g-iichch} {Sabir-o=g-u} woyy-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
  - 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
  - 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  $doo'll-\phi=\mathbf{g}-a$ 1sNOM now-fGEN swamp-mGEN type\_of\_bird-fGEN=G-mACC/OBL ih-áam-ba'a dan-aam-íta 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) { $Zoobb-\acute{e}e=g-a$ } 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 yard!' (K89: 6.124; corrected by DW) (11) Rivéen-u {haarr-í 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'

- Less common equative construction
- Especially for <u>measurable</u> equality (size, amount)
- Expression of non-measurable equality only in elicited *qax-á*-constructions, as in (13)
- (12)  $\bar{A}\dot{a}\dot{a}$  Caakkis-u { $Da'llis-\dot{o}$  **qax-á**}<sup>1</sup> qeráa'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 {isé qax-á} bíishsh-a-ta
  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>
- Kubóos-uhikkánni-aqáx-aDDEM1mNOMwater\_pot-mNOMIDEM2mGEN-mCOP2extent-mPRED'This water-pot is as (implicit parameter: big) as that one.'[Elicited]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Note that size/amount polysemy is also observed in the adjectives  $qah-\dot{u}(-ta)$  'small (size); little (amount)' and  $abb-\dot{a}(-ta)$  'big; much'.

(15) Kan boos-i wó'-u qakkichch-u-a DDEM1mOBL water\_pot-mGEN water-mNOM tiny-mPRED-mCOP2 ka[n] isi=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 qah-ú qax-á cut throat-PASS-3mPVO.REL.ABL after-mICP small-mACC while-mACC egérr fóol-u-s fúlli-yan *reh-ee'íichch* (...) 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 exceed-3fPCO add-3fICO fuel-mGEN price-fNOM but zabb-i-sí gal-táyyoo=bikkíiha hir-atí-i 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* ~ *hittán* ~ *hittánn* (NB: Kambaata has a 4-degree/dimension demonstrative system: proximal, medial, distal, contrastive)
- hittita largely synonymous with
  - *hittigúta* 'like this' (which contains manner morpheme =g) (20)
  - adverbial form of *hitt y* 'do (intr.) like this' / *hitt a*'- 'do (tr.) like this' (23) [demonstrative ideophone]
- *hittita, hittigúta, hítt y- / a'-* form a triplet with interrogative pronouns *hattita / hattigúta* 'how?' and the interrogative ideophone *hátt y- / 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**, [...]'

[TD2016-02-11\_001]

(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, [...].' (K89: 6.123-131)

#### 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' + < n > = 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 vóo'u girl-PL2-fACC enter-CAUS-3mNCO-N COP1.3 but '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'
  - 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/-íta* 'such (m/f)'
- corresponding interrogative forms: *hattigoon-á(ta)* and *hattigaam-ú/íta* 'of which type, kind?'
- (27) Shaameeb-íi 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 described earlier in the text].' (K89: 4.41 [correction DW])

Not to be confused with (see next section):

(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-agg-iihá-a ih-ano-sí arriichch-ó wind-CAUS1-MID-mDAT-ADD be\_enough-3mIPV-3mO.REL sun.SG-fGEN caakk-á dagg-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.' [K89: 8.95]

Adverbial use as degree deictic (exophoric)

- (32) Kank-á hakkánn-e maax-áammi-la? maqaam-ú that much-mACC strong-mACC where-mOBL hide-1sIPV-MIT 'Where can I hide such a big/strong (leopard as you are)?' (K4: 76)
- kank-á M-íihaa-t kichche'-áyyoontii? (33) 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) | <i>Anshéeb</i><br>PN.mNOM | <i>lam-ú</i><br>two-mACC | <i>meetir-á</i><br>C meter-mACC     | <i>qeráa 'rr-u-a</i> .<br>tall-mPRED-1 |  |
|------|---------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--|
|      | Shaameeb-i-s<br>PN-mNOM-I |                          | <i>kank-ánka</i><br>this_much-mACC< | N>                                     | <i>qeráa 'rr-u-a</i> .<br>long-mPRED-mCOP2 |
|      | [or:]                     |                          | <i>hikkann-í</i><br>DDEM2m-mGEN     | <i>qax-ánka</i><br>amount-mAC          | <br>C <n></n>                              |
|      | <b>'Ansheebo</b> is       | two meters t             | all '                               |  |  |

Ansheebo is two meters tall.

'Shaameebo, too, is **that/as** tall / (or:) tall to that extent.' [DW2016-09-21] (35) Át kank-á y-itaantí qax-á maqáam-u-a-ba'a
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,  $kank \cdot \dot{a}(ta)$  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 mice-mNOM this\_much-fNOM harm-fNOM COP1.3-3mO-NEG
  '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:

(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'-aammi=b-eechch-u kank-ánka
1sNOM live-1sIPV.REL=PLACE-SG-mNOM this\_much-mACC<N>
cúlu ass-úmb-u-a
beautiful do-3mNREL-mPRED-mCOP2
'The place where I live is not very (lit. this much) attractive.' [Qakkichchu Laaha: §15]

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

- Negation by inference [!] when used as predicate
- Negation not overtly expressed (unlike in ex. (37)-(39))
- (40) Gíir-at katam-í mann-íi aass-itáa tám-it 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)

#### Possible re-phrase of (36):

| (41) | <i>Yam-ée</i><br>mice-mGEN | 0               | <i>kánk-aa-n-ta</i><br>this_much-fPRED-N-fCOP2 |                |
|------|----------------------------|-----------------|--|----------------|
|      | 'The damage                | (caused by) m   | ice is not that much.'                         | [DW2016-09-21] |
| (42) | price-mNOM                 | _               | <i>a-n-ka</i><br>ach-mPRED-N-mCOP2             |                |
|      | 'The price is 1            | not that high.' |  | [DW2016-09-21] |

# 6.4. Equative demonstrative modifier *hibank-á(ta) / habank-á(ta) / hiwank-á(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) | time-SG-fACC-DEF                         |               | 0 |
|------|--|---------------|---|
|      | <i>dand-im-bá'</i><br>be_able-3mNIPV-NEG | íkke<br>INACT |   |

(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, hítt y-/a'-*) (§6.1) used as adverbial manner modifiers of verbs or as predicates
  - Form: verbal manner deictics are based on the (feminine) medial demonstrative; one of the verbal manner deictics, *hittigúta*, contains (historically) the manner morpheme =g
  - 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*)
  - 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
  - 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
  - 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         | <i>ha-/ta</i> -copula             |
| COP2<br>COP3 | VV- <i>t</i> -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                        |
| Ν            | pragmatically determined morpheme |
|              | (function as yet unclear)         |
| NCO          | negative converb                  |
| NEG          | negation                          |
| NIPV         | non-imperfective                  |
|              |                                   |

|        | nominalization montrad by a long yoursal  |
|--------|---|
| NMZ.VV | <i>J B</i>                                |
| NMZ1   | nominalisation with = <i>bii(-ta/-ha)</i> |
| NMZ2   | nominalisation with =hann/=tann           |
| NMZp   | nominalisation with $=r$                  |
| NOM    | nominative                                |
| NREL   | negative relative                         |
| 0      | object                                    |
| OBL    | oblique                                   |
| р      | plural                                    |
| PASS   | passive                                   |
| PCO    | perfective converb                        |
| PL1    | plurative with – <i>C</i> -áta            |
| PL2    | plurative with – <i>aakk-áta</i>          |
| PN     | proper noun                               |
| POSS   | possessive                                |
| PRED   | predicative                               |
| PREV   | preventive                                |
| PROG   | progressive                               |
| PVE    | <i>e</i> -perfective                      |
| PVO    | <i>o</i> -perfective (perfect)            |
| REL    | relative                                  |
| S      | singular                                  |
| SG     | singulative                               |
| VV     | vowel lengthening                         |
|        |   |

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