

# **Motion Expressions in Kathmandu Newar:**

## **Distinctive coding of deixis and path**

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# Purpose of the Study

To clarify **two features** of motion expressions in Kathmandu Newar,

- ▶ high frequency of *deixis* coding in “head” position
- ▶ high frequency of *non-deictic path* coding in “non-head” position

based on the data of a cross-linguistic experimental study entitled “NINJAL -(Kobe) Project of Motion Event Descriptions”

# Today's Talk

- 1. Background information: Typology by Talmy (1991, 2000) and Kathmandu Newar**
- 2. Outline of video experiment A**
- 3. Self-agentive/caused-motion expressions in video experiment A**
- 4. Video experiment B: Focus on deixis**
- 5. Theoretical issues: Deixis and non-deictic path**
- 6. Conclusion**

# 1. Background information :

## Typology by Talmy (1991, 2000) and Kathmandu Newar

**Talmy (1991, 2000):** Encoding of “Path” elements

“Path” elements: **Vector (FROM/TO)**, **Conformation (IN/OUT)**  
and **Deixis (COME/GO)**

His proposal: “verb-framed” languages vs.  
“satellite-framed” languages

**Kathmandu Newar**

(1) *rām ci:khā-gu chē-e du-hā̃: wana.*

Ram small-ADN house-LOC in-ADD go.NFD

“Ram went into a small house.”

→ **A “verb-framed” language?**

# 1. Background information :

## Typology by Talmy (1991, 2000) and Kathmandu Newar

In Kathmandu Newar, **deictic verbs** almost always occupy **the head (main verb) position**. In contrast, elements of **Vector and Conformation** appear **in the head-external position**. Deixis behaves differently than Vector and Conformation (non-deictic path).

(2) *rām*    *pali-i*    *tha-hā*: *wa-la*.  
Ram    roof-LOC    up-ADD    come-NFD  
“Ram came up to the roof.”

We need a closer look to the position and frequency of **Deixis/Conformation/Vector** coding.

→ Experimental investigation (A, B)

## 2. Outline of video experiment A

- ◆ **Typologies of M/P/D coding in self-agentive motion expressions and Mns/P/D coding in caused motion expressions:**

**(M: manner, P: path, D: deixis, Mns: means)**

**Specifically, positions and frequencies of these semantic elements are investigated.**

- ◆ **Newar Data collection**

**Time: February 2012**

**Sites: Kathmandu and Patan**

**(a neighboring city to Kathmandu)**

**Consultants: 24 Newar speakers**

## 2. Outline of video experiment A

- ◆ 52 video clips

- 30 clips → self-agentive motion events  
(**walking, running, skipping**)

- 18 clips → caused motion events  
(**kicking a ball, carrying a chair,  
putting a book in a bag, calling a friend**)

- 4 clips → others (subjective motion, etc.)

- ◆ A video sample

### 3. Self-agentive/caused-motion expressions in video experiment A

#### 3-1 Self-agentive motion expressions

- ▶ Deictic verbs: **wane** (to go), **waye** (to come)
- ▶ Non-deictic Path elements: six bound morphemes  
**du-** (in), **pi-** (out), **tha-** (up), **kwa-** (down),  
**nhya:-** (front), **li-** (back)

◆ Scenes: walking, running, and skipping

⟨walking⟩

(3) *ji-mha pāsā sata :l-e du-ne du-hā : wala.*

1sg-NMLZ friend rest.house-LOC in -LOC in-ADD come.NFD

“My friend came into the rest-house.”



### 3. Self-agentive/caused-motion expressions in video experiment A

#### 3-1 Self-agentive motion expressions

⟨running⟩

(4) *ji-mha* *pāsā* *sāikal* *du'-gu* *thās-e*  
1sg-ADN friend bicycle exist.ST-ADN place-LOC

*bwā'e* *wana.*

running go.NFD

“My friend went running to the place where  
the bicycle is put.”

### 3. Self-agentive/caused-motion expressions in video experiment A

#### 3-1 Self-agentive motion expressions

〈Skipping〉

(5) *jimi* *pāsā* *tĩː-tĩː* *nhuyāː*

1sg.GEN friend jumping-jumping step.NF

*swāni-i* *twātha-lāː* *tha-hāː* *wana.*

stairs-LOC step.board-ABL up-SUF go.NFD

“My friend skipped up the stairs.”

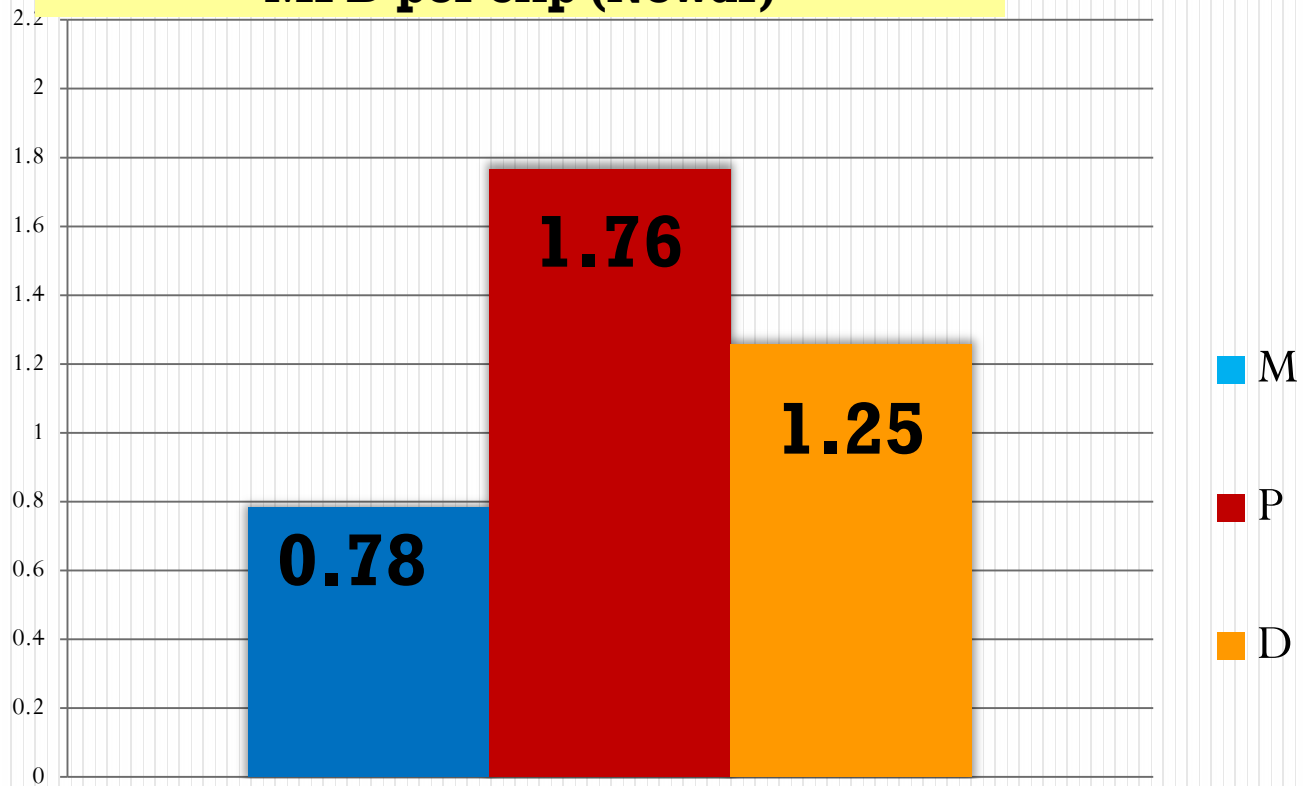
(lit. My friend went upward the stairs, jumping.)

# 3.1 Self-agentive motion expressions:

Averaged time of references for MPD per clip

**Manner 0.78, Path 1.76, Deixis 1.25**

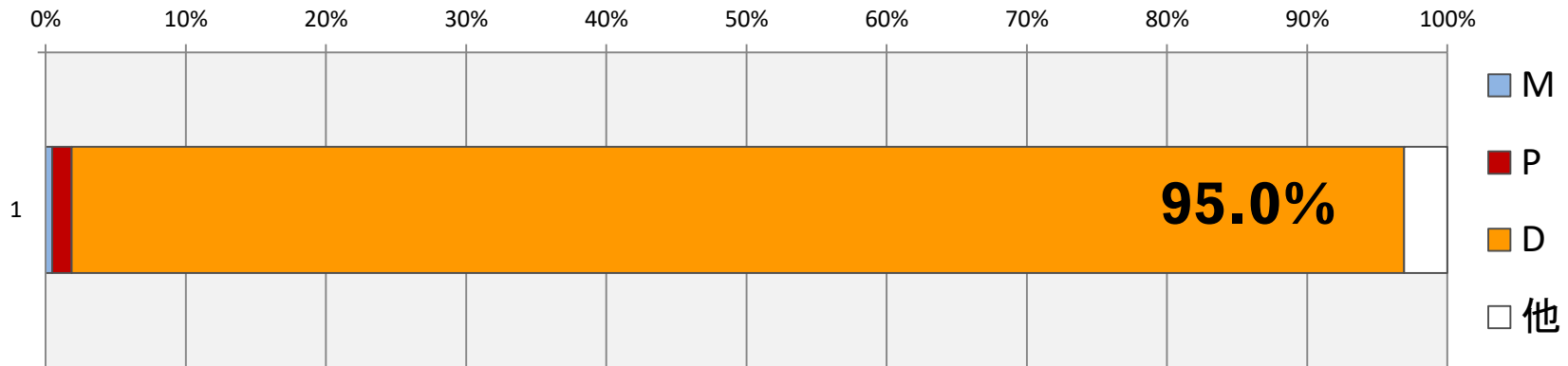
**Graph 1: Averaged time of references for MPD per clip (Newar)**



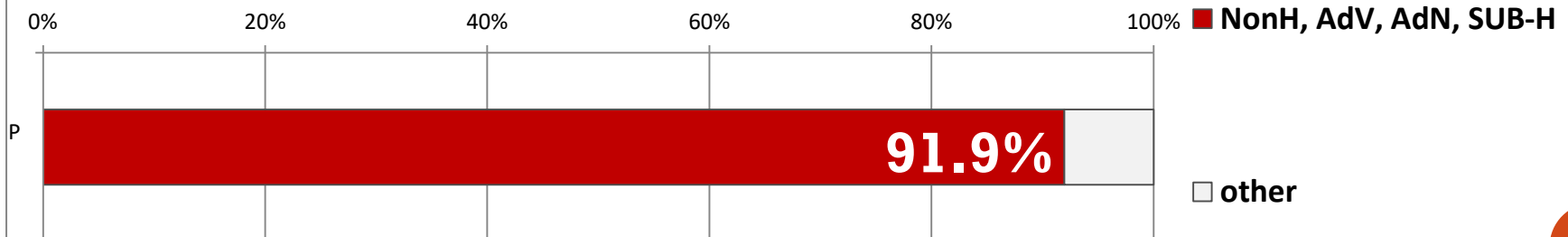
# 3.1 Self-agentive motion expressions:

*deixis* in head position 95%, *path* in head-external 91.9%

Graph 2: MPD coding in the head position



Graph 3: Ratio of head-external coding of non-deictic Path



# **3. Self-agentive/caused-motion expressions in video experiment A**

## **3-2 Caused motion expressions**

**Many languages have deictic verbs in self-agentive motion expressions, but do not in caused motion expressions.**

**Just a few languages have **deictic causative verbs** (co-motional type).**

### 3. Self-agentive/caused-motion expressions in video experiment A

#### 3.2 Caused motion expressions: Deixis coding

**Table 1: Languages that have deictic causative verbs**

	<b>Co-motional (take)</b>	<b>Co-motional (bring)</b>	<b><i>Ballistic</i> (to make s/b go)</b>
English	take	bring	—
Hungarian	viz	hoz	—
Kupsapiny	sut, kwooru	sut-u, kwooru	—
Newar	ye~ke	haye	chwaye
Sidaama	ma-ss-	abb	ha'r-i-s (human object)

# 3. Self-agentive/caused-motion expressions in video experiment A

## 3-2 Caused motion expressions

**Kathmandu Newar has  
three lexical deictic causative verbs**

**chwaye** (to make sb/sth go, ballistic)

**yē'ke** (to accompany sb/sth, co-motional)

**haye** (to accompany sb/sth to speaker's  
position, co-motional)

- ◆ **Four subtypes of the caused motion are investigated.**  
kicking(ballistic type), carrying (co-motional type),  
putting(controlled type), calling (indirect causation)

# 3. Self-agentive/caused-motion expressions in video experiment A

## 3.2 Caused motion expressions

⟨kicking⟩

(6) *jimi* *pāsā* : *pa* :*khā* *puika*

1sg.GEN friend.ERG fence over.ADV

*bhakū* :*gwārā* *thwānā* *chwala*.

ball kick.CM go.CAUS.NFD

“My friend kicked a ball over the fence.”

(lit. My friend made a ball go over the fence, kicking.)

⟨carrying⟩

(7) *ji-mha* *pāsā* *meca* *jwanā* : *sata* :*l-e*

1sg-ADN friend chair hold.NF rest.house-LOC

*dune* *hala*.

in come.CAUS.NFD

“My friend brought a chair into the rest-house.”



# 3. Self-agentive/caused-motion expressions in video experiment A

## 3.2 Caused motion expressions

〈putting〉

(8) *jimi pāsā' mijā'-mha pāsā-yā-gu mhicā-e*

1sg.GEN friend boy-AND friend-GEN-ADN bag-LOC

*kitāb tala.*

book put.NFD

“My friend put a book into the male friend’s bag.”

〈calling〉

(9) *dune cwā'-mha pāsā' māriyā-yāta sa'tu'-gulī',*

inside stay.ST-AND friend.ERG Maria-DAT call.ST-because

*wa du-hā' wana.*

3sg.ABS in-SUF go.NFD

“As the friend who was inside called Maria, she went in.”

# 3. Self-agentive/caused-motion expressions in video experiment A

## 3.2 Caused motion expressions

👉 **Deictic causative verbs are used in “ballistic” type (kicking) and “co-motional” type (carrying).**

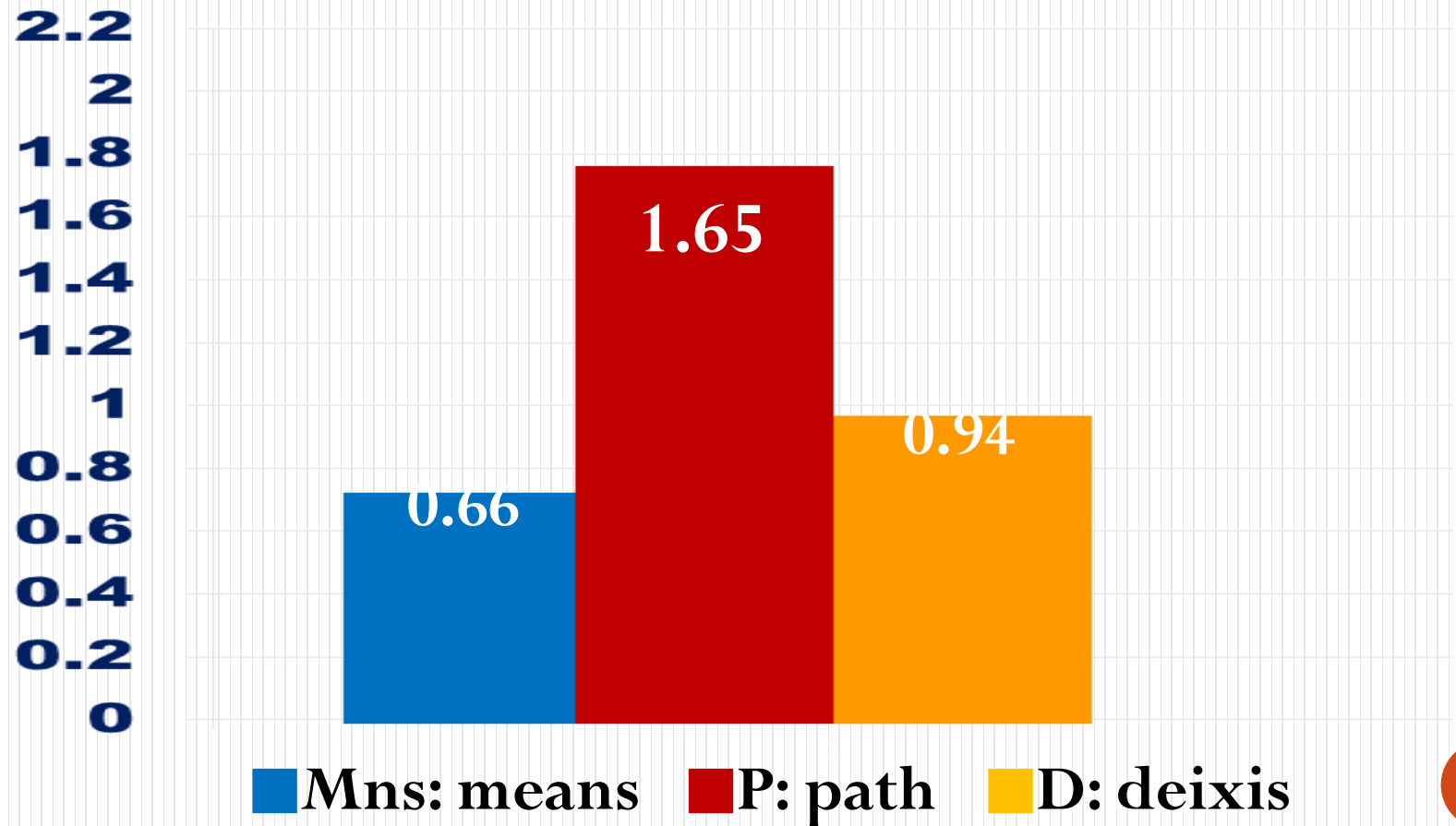
**In contrast, deictic causative verbs are *not* used in “controlled” type (putting).**

**“Indirect causation” type (calling) uses *wane* (go) as in (9) in the previous page.**

# 3. Self-agentive/caused-motion expressions in video experiment A

## 3.2 Caused motion expressions: Deixis coding

Graph 4: Averaged time of references for Mns/P/D

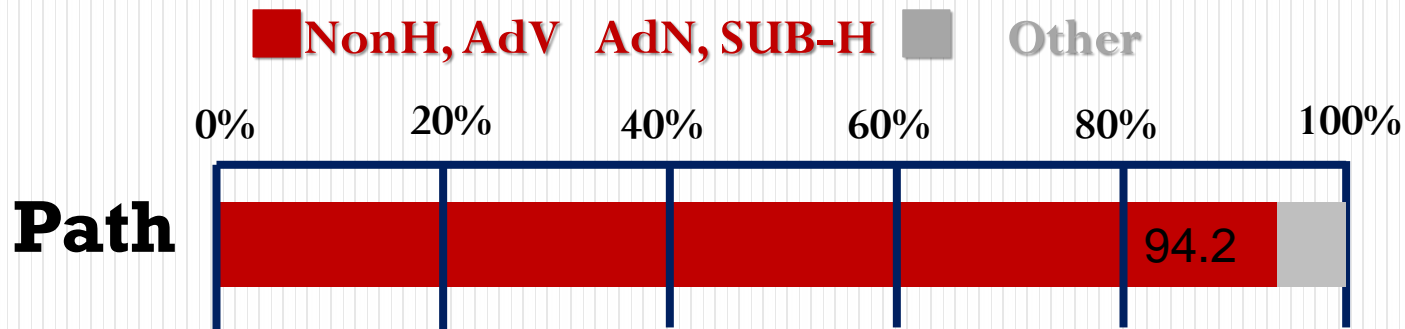


### 3. Self-agentive/caused-motion expressions in video experiment A

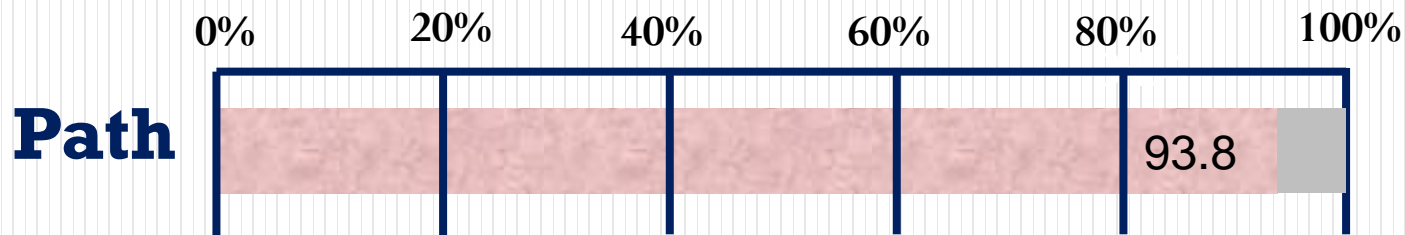
3.2 Caused motion expressions:

## Ratio of Head-External Coding of Path

Graph 5: **Newar** Head-External coding of Path in caused motion



Graph 6: **Newar**: Adv & AdN coding of Path in caused motion



### 3. Self-agentive/caused-motion expressions in video experiment A

#### 3.2 Caused motion expressions: Deixis coding

**Table 1: Languages that have deictic causative verbs**  
(same version shown in Page 14)

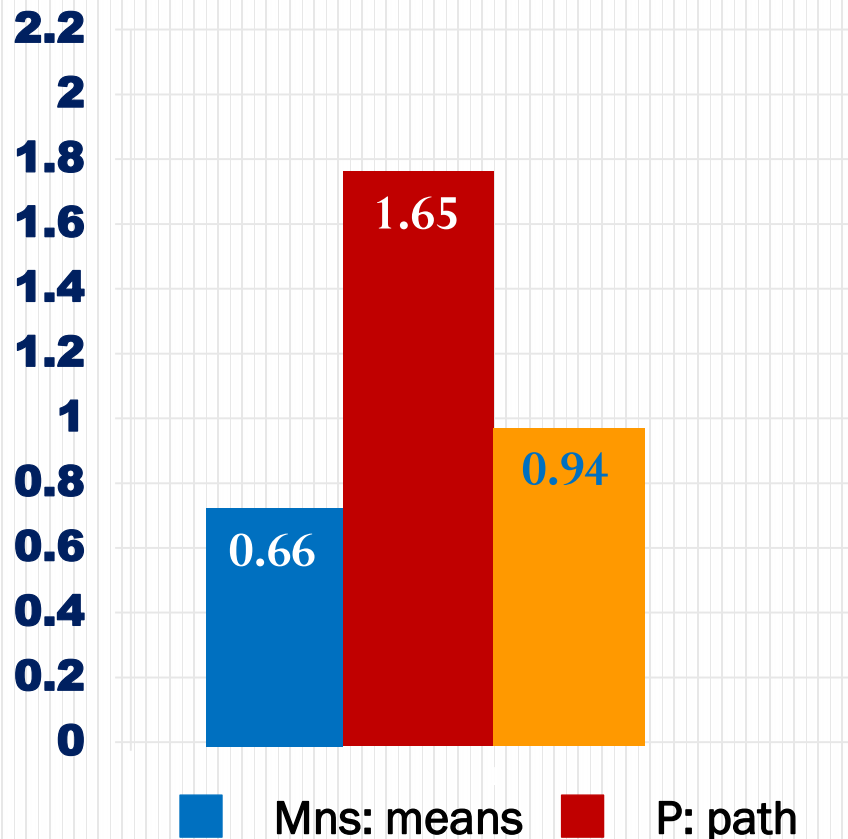
	<b>Co-motional (take)</b>	<b>Co-motional (bring)</b>	<b><i>Ballistic</i> (to make s/b go)</b>
English	take	bring	—
Hungarian	viz	hoz	—
Kupsapiny	sut, kwooru	sut-u, kwooru	—
Newar	ye~ke	haye	chwaye
Sidaama	ma-ss-	abb	ha'r-i-s (human object)

### 3.2 Caused motion expressions: Deixis coding Newar vs. Sidaama

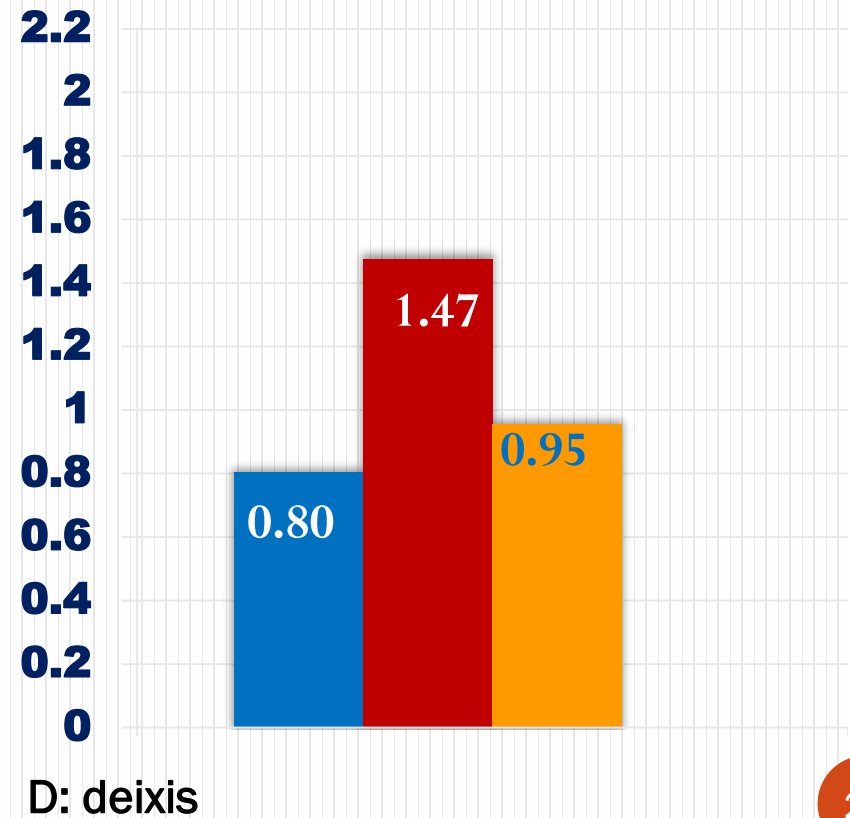
Sidaama data by Kazuhiro KAWACHI

*Averaged time of references of MnsPD per Clip*

Graph 4: Newar



Graph 8: Sidaama

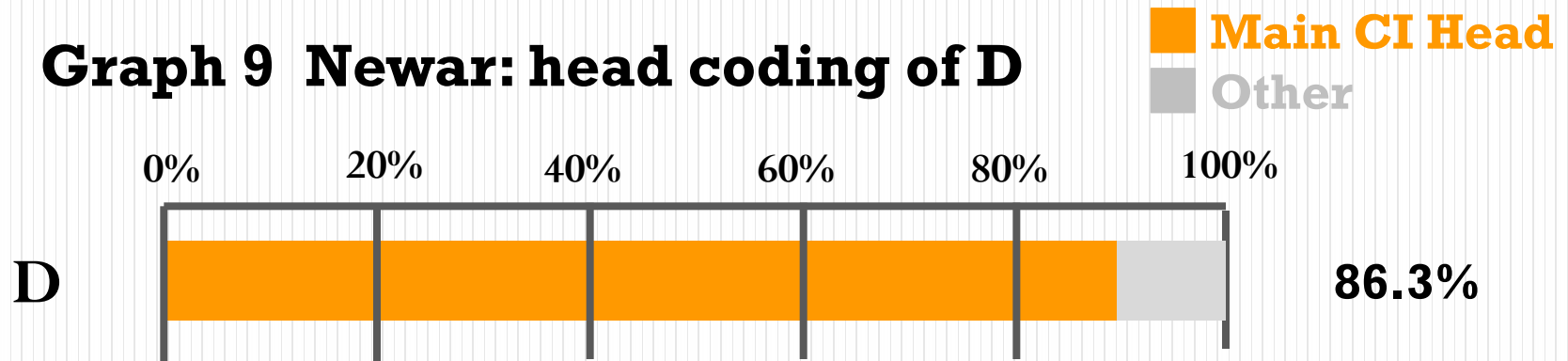


### 3.2 Caused motion event descriptions: Deixis coding

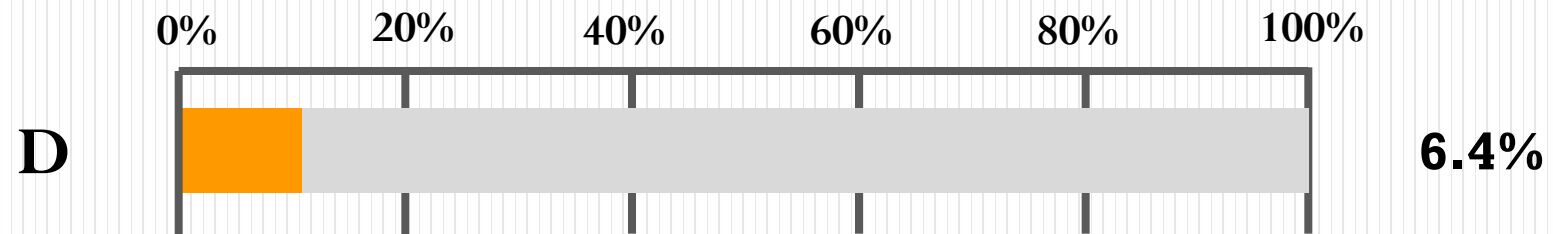
#### Ratio of head coding of D

#### Newar vs. Sidaama

**Graph 9 Newar: head coding of D**



**Graph 10 Sidaama: head coding of D**



### 3. Self-agentive/caused-motion expressions in video experiment A

#### 3.2 Caused motion expressions: Deixis coding

##### Section summary (3.2):

**In the caused motion expressions of Kathmandu Newar, *deixis* is coded in the head position and *non-deictic path* is coded in the non-head position.**

**This is same as self-agentive expressions.**

**It is necessary to distinguish deictic path from non-deictic path. We need a further investigation focusing on the actual usage of deixis. → Video experiment B**



## 4. Video experiment B: Focus on deixis

### ◆ Elaboration of deixis coding in self-motion events

scene setting: walking on the open space, entering/exiting  
pavilion, descending stairs/ ascending steps

**Deixis** { toward the speaker,  
away from the speaker,  
neutral

We count frequency of **wane** (go) and **waye** (come) in these cases, paying a special attention to the choice in the “neutral” angle.

### ◆ Newar Data collection

**Time:** March 2018

**Site:** Patan (a neighboring city to Kathmandu)

**Consultants:** 14 Newar speakers

**54 video clips**

### ◆ Sample video

## 4. Video experiment B: Focus on deixis

The ratio of *wane* (go)/*waye* (come) in the “neutral” angle **varies** in accordance with purpose.

Example (neutral): walking open space

(10) a. *mha-ma-syu:-mha manu sī:gwa: du thās-e*

body-NEG-know.ST-ADN person wooden.stool exist.ST place-LOC

*nyāsi wan-a.*

walking go-NFD

“The person I don’t know went to the wooden stool.”

b. *mha-ma-syu:-mha manu wayā: jholā kā-la*

body-NEG-know.ST-ADN person come.NF bag pick.up-NFD.

“The person I don’t know came and picked up the bag.”

c. *pāsā lāchi-i wayā, misā: biu-gu jholā kāla.*

friend open.space-LOC come.NF girl.ERG give.ST-ADN bag receive

“A friend came to the open space, and received a bag that another girl gave.”

## 4. Video experiment B: Focus on deixis

### Increase of *waye* (come) in “neutral” angle

Table 2: Distribution of *waye/wane* in the walking in plaza

			Waye (come)	Wane (go)
<b>This way</b>	Nonsmiling	B8-00	14	0
	Smiling	B8-00	14	0
	Pick a bag	B8-00	13	0
	Receive a bag	B8-00	13	0
<b>Neutral</b>	Nonsmiling	B8-00	0	14
	Smiling	B8-00	3	11
	Pick a bag	B8-00	6	5
	Receive a bag	B8-00	7	6
<b>That way</b>	Nonsmiling	B8-00	0	14
	Smiling	B8-00	0	14
	Pick a bag	B8-00	1	12
	Receive a bag	B8-00	0	10

## **4. Video experiment B: Focus on deixis**

### **Increase of *way* (come) in “neutral” angle**

**Increase of *way* (come) assignment in “neutral” angle is influenced by various semantic factors. “Purpose” is one of such factors.**

**What is deixis and what is the factor to choose *way*?**

**Speaker’s position and the moving object**

**Space sharing: walking-down the stairs**

**entering into an enclosed space**

**Visibility, Focus area, Purpose ...**

**Analysis of experiment B just started and is going on. However, we can say the following, based on the result of experiment A.**

## **5.Theoretical issues: Deixis and non-deictic path**

### **Typology of motion expressions:**

- ▶ **Talmy 1991, 2000 Binary typology  
satellite framed languages vs. verb-framed languages**
- ▶ **Slobin 2004 Trinary typology (a third type to Talmy's  
framework) Equipollently-framed languages**
- ▶ **Croft et al. 2010 Construction types**

**However, the frameworks above do not touch separation of deixis from non-deictic path.**

- ◆ **Newer data in the experimental study require the separation of *deixis* from non-deictic.**

# 6. Conclusion

**Kathmandu Newar has**

***deixis coding* in 'head' position and  
*non-deictic path coding* in 'non-head' position  
both in self-agentive motion expressions and caused  
motion expressions.**

**Conceptualization of motion events in Kathmandu Newar**

- **Speaker's point of view in 'head' position**

**For the Newar data, a new approach is needed,  
in which *deictic path* is separated from *non-  
deictic path* as attempted in this experimental  
study (Matsumoto 2017, 2018).**

**Thank you.**

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