

## **Imperfective marking in Sisaali and Gurene (joint work with Johannes Mursell)**

This talk discusses the imperfective marking in two Mabilia languages Sisaali and Gurene and what they can tell us about theories of successive-cyclic movement. In both languages, the imperfective marker takes on a special form if material inside the VP (objects or adverbials) undergoes A-bar movement (wh-movement or focus movement) to the sentence-initial position. If there is no A-bar movement or if the subject undergoes A-bar movement, the default imperfective marker is chosen. Additionally, in the Tumulung dialect of Sisaali, the form depends on the linearly preceding element: A pronominal subject or a focus marker are followed by a special kind of imperfective marker, while non-pronominal subjects trigger the default marker. We claim that the imperfective marking can be seen as a reflex of successive-cyclic movement if vP is a phase. We discuss the data with respect to two formal theories of successive-cyclic movement, Lahne (2009) & Georgi (2014), and conclude that Lahne (2009) provides a more straightforward analysis of the Mabilia data.