

# Internal Movement in Tidorenese Transitive Sentence Based On the Minimalist Program

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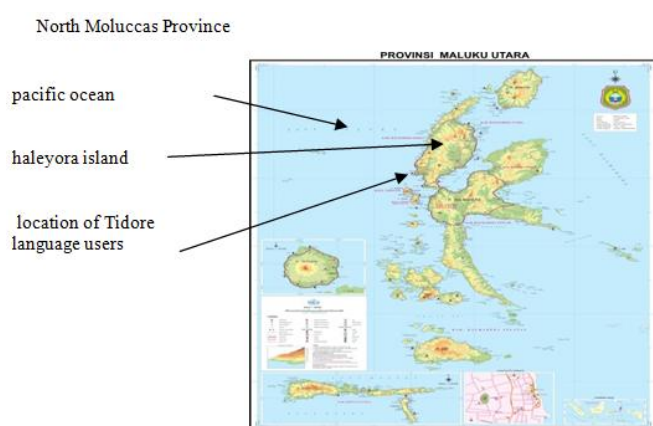
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**Abstract:** *The goal of this study is to analyze and describe the movement that makes up the derivation converge in the Tidorenese transitive sentence. The Minimalist Program is used to analyze the internal movement. Feature checking is the form of internal movement. The Minimalist relies on feature checking to account for the movement of verb in this study. Uninterpretable feature will eliminate after the minimalist checking in order that derivation becomes converged.*

**Keywords:** Program, Internal Movement, Tidorenese Transitive Sentence

## 1. Introduction

The name of Tidore can refer to the island, language, and people. It depends on context. In this study, Tidore word refers to a local language that is spoken by a group of community in the Northern Moluccas of Indonesian Republic. There are many islands in North Moluccas. The biggest one is Halmeyora island and now called Halmahera. It is located in the lips of South Pacific Ocean. Tidore island is small, it is near Halmeyora. Tidore native people can also be called Tidore tribe and they use their native language called Tidore language to communicate each other in their daily life. According to Fokaya et.al. (2014) that 58.178 speakers use Tidore language spreading in all Tidore archipelago area. Tidorenese is a part of nonAustronesia language family. It has a little inflection that fuses on lexical element for instance; on a verb, adjective, noun etc. Location of Tidore language which is used by the community of Tidore tribe can be shown on the map as following:



Furthermore, Tidore is an isolating language. Morphemes occur as the words in isolation like the national language, namely Indonesian and as well international language as the English; for instance in Indonesian *Saya makan pisang*. The sentence can be translated into English *I eat banana*, and translated into Tidorenese *Fangare tooyo koi*. Regarding these sentences, the morphemes occur separately. However, Tidorenese has bound morphemes as prefixes marker glue aligning with their verbs *yoohe* = *laugh*, *wooyo* = *eat*, *mootu* = *sleep*. So, *yo-*, *wo-*, *mo-* are

the forms of inflections attach to the verbs. That inflection should be related to the noun subject.

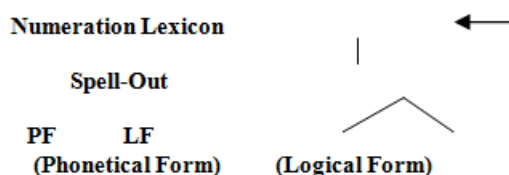
Tidore language had ever been described by writers who paid attention to linguistics. Joost and Cheryl Pikkert (1994) wrote 'Tidore Indonesian and English Dictionary' and 'A First Look at Tidore Phonology'. Kakerissa et.al.(1997) determined the properties of syntactic structure of Tidorenese by using structural approach. Meriam van Staden (2008) wrote an article entitled 'The Body and Its Parts in Tidore, a Papuan Language of Eastern Indonesia'. Meriam described some kinds of possessive prefixes which are applied in Tidore sentences. Suddin (2008) has described the noun phrase of Tidorenese by using transformational generative grammar.

In this study, researcher delineates the verb movement based on the minimalis program in the Tidorenese transitive sentence. The minimalist program is the generative grammar theory which is developed from government and binding (GB). Chomsky (1992) had an opinion that the minimalist program had a derivation and economic principle in the syntactic structure. In addition, the minimalist program could explain the relationship between syntactic and morphology, discuss the derivation of sentence structure efficiently, and have an adequacy explanatory to describe the human language (Martine, 2011:38). The sentences could be analyzed by computational operation system of minimalist, namely movement and derivation operation. Based on the introduction above, this research has a question; how can the minimalist program accomplish the phi-feature checking in Tidorenese transitive sentence?

## 2. The Minimalist Program Grammar

A minimalist grammar consists of lexicon and computational system. The former contains familiar lexical entries. The computational system comprises with structure building machinery (merge and move) and principles of derivational economy. Numeration is a set of lexical items used for this purpose, although it is also found in some local economy models. It consists of lexical items, each associated with a counter that indicates how many instances of that lexical item are present. Every time, an item is taken from the numeration, the counter is

reduced by one. At the end of a derivation, the numeration must be empty. All counters must be reduced to zero. Spell-Out is an operation that splits a structural description. It sends part of information to phonological form and part to logical form. Ideally, spell out applies freely and without restriction. If it applies at the wrong point or send the wrong information to one of the interfaces, the derivation crashes. Spell out is not a level of representation that the grammar can refer to. There are two syntactic levels of representations in the minimalist, namely logical form and phonological form. Logical form is the level of representation that interfaces with conceptual intentional system. Besides, phonological form is the interface with the articulatory perceptual system. The diagram of Chomsky's minimalist program 1995 can be shown below.



Observing the diagram above shown, minimalist derivation can be triggered from numeration. The numeration is taken from the elements of lexical. The lexical elements are at the numeration selected and merged in order to be a larger category. Then, the movement is carried out. The object of movement is to assign (check) a feature that is born by lexical elements. When the derivation reaches to spell-out, it will be sent by spell-out to the phonological form and logical form.

### 3. Sentence

Sentence is a unit of language or words which derive from purely human mental. Since, the sentence is a cluster of words, Bhatta (1991:7-8) gave a cluster of verb such as 'cooking occur'. A sentence such as 'cooking occur' consists of two verbs, namely 'cooking' and 'occur' form a sentence by functioning as the subject and predicate respectively. The former 'cooking' is to be construed as the subject, whereas the later 'occur' is to be construed as the predicate. Another, cluster of nominal and a verb such as 'Caitra cooks rice grains'. The 'Caitra' word is the subject nominal, 'rice grains' is the nominal phrase as an object, and 'cooks' is a verb. They form a sentence by functioning as the subject, object, and predicate respectively.

A sentence is the internal, mental entities, which has an abstract form (Adger, 2002:2). This definition is very philosophical. The utterances that we utter derive from the thought or idea. The utterance can be caught by human sense, but a sentence is the abstract idea of utterance. Furthermore, a sentence which its predicate constitutes a transitive verb, it can be called transitive sentence. Traditionally, transitive verb can be followed by an object (Chaer, 2003:249). For instance, 'John kicks a ball'. The subject is filled by 'John' as a noun category. Transitive verb is the 'kicks' and 'a ball' is a noun phrase as an

object. Verhaar (2004:186, 187) said that most of transitive verb has two valences in the languages.

### 4. Methodology

This research is the synchronic or descriptive research and implemented in municipality of Tidore archipelago during three months, based on the license given by administrator of Tidore municipality. The lists of linguistic data and recorder are used as the tool of the research to obtain the informan utterance. All sentences of informan utterances are to be a population and especially the transitive sentences are taken as sample of this research. Observation method is used to collect the data. Wray at.al (1998:186) said that collection data by using the observation method cannot be manipulated. The minimalist approach is used to analyze the data in this research.

### 5. Discussion

The internal movement is a purpose to check features which are born by lexical items. In the internal movement, the lexical elements are not needed to move, since it is done in order to make the features agreement one each other only. In this section, the movement analysis can be described. The treatment of movement is in order to check features. Chonsky (1995: 253 dan 262) said that the movement was done by the account of morphological, when some features were checked. Regarding to that idea, an internal movement is the form of features checking without moving the lexical elements in the tree diagram.

The mechanism of features checking under the treatment of the agree, namely an operation which can build a relation between two elements in the syntactic structure through the feature value. The other words, agree operation can build the agreement relationships between two elements. Obviously, two elements are in the different domain.

Concerning the agreement, one element can be called *probe*, namely an element contains an uninterpretable feature. While, another element is called *goal*, namely an element contains an interpretable feature or harmony feature which is required by the probe. Nayudu (2008:100) said that probea head which has an uninterpretable feature, while goal is a constituent which is related to an interpretable feature. The probe seeks a goal to match in aninterpretable  $\phi$  (phi-feature in the c-command domain. The strong feature is the element variation of one language and formal feature may be strong, also may be weak (Chomsky, 1995:232).

The formal feature includes  $\phi$ -feature (phi-feature) and  $\phi$ -feature may be strong and may also be weak. The strong feature is equivalent to uninterpretable feature. Chomsky (1995:280) gave an idea that uninterpretable feature could be deleted. This treatment is suitable with the *Full Interpretable Principle*. That principle says that the elements contain uninterpretable features; they are examined and deleted before getting penetration into interface level. Limitation of Full Interpretation Principle (FIP) is a need or requirement belongs to interface

representation to receive the sentences that consists of any legitimation elements (Veenstra, 1998:14).

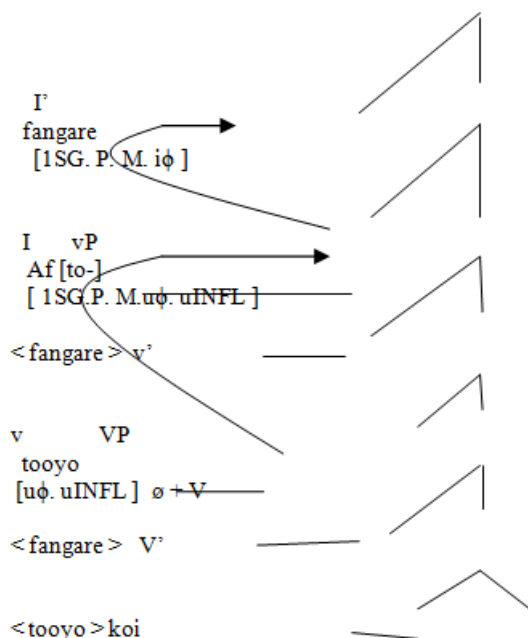
Based on the description above, the analysis is focused on the grammatical identity relationships between verb and noun or pronoun subject only. In addition, the feature analysis is focused on uninterpretable phi-feature and interpretable phi-feature which is carried by lexical elements, especially verbs, subjects, and functional categories in the Tidorese..

### Movement before spell-out

1fangare to- oyo koi  
 I (Affix) eat banana  
 I eat banana

The structure below of A1 tree diagram represents the number 1 sentence.

Diagram A1  
 IP



In sentence 1, subject pronoun *fangare* = *I* (masculine) ascend from specifier of verb phrase VP through the specifier of the light verb phrase vp to the top position below the inflectional phrase IP. The next step, the light verb includes the functional category, as a head, and assigns a strong affix which is related to the verb V. Therefore, the item of *tooyo* = *eat* as a head V have to ascend from the original position combining with the light verb.

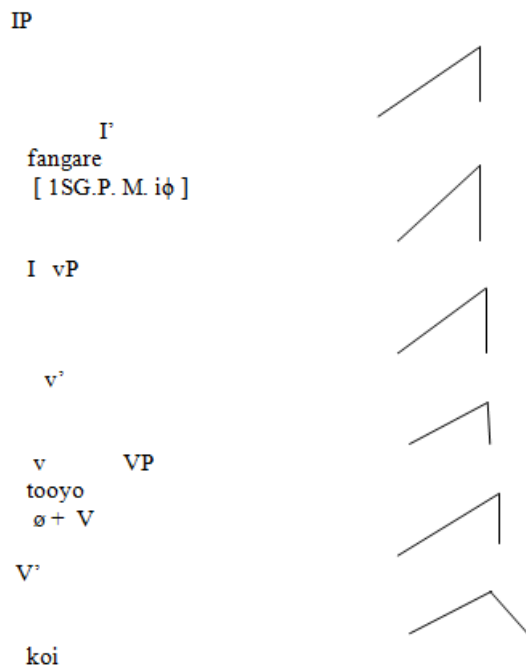
Furthermore, verb matches in light verb, both together bear the uninterpretable inflection feature (uINFL) and uninterpretable phi-φ (uφ) feature. Then, uINFL feature and uφ feature can be deleted in the domain of a light verb head. The next step, the verb continues going up and matches in the inflection head. Even though, the inflection head includes the functional category and it has no an element. However, it bears a φfeature value and can also be inserted by the affix. Matching verb in the inflection

head, the inflection [I] bears uINFL feature and uφ feature in which has values, namely the first singular, person, and masculine. The inflection head [I] which contains uINFL and uφ features can be deleted in the domain of I under the I' (inflection-bar). The next, the verb comes up in the specifier top of subject pronoun to match in item of *fangare*. The thematic pronoun *fangare* bears the interpretable phi-feature (iφ) which has value features, for instance 1SG P.M. (the first singular, Person, Masculine). The interpretable phi-feature is carried by *fangare* item that it cannot be deleted.

Obviously, the inflection head has a prefix *to-* which derives from the light verb. The *fangare* pronoun subject gets agree relation with I and v (inflection and light verb). I and v bear an uninterpretable phi-features which get relationships with the subject. So, spell pronunciation is *fangare* [to]oyo koi. It is impossible we pronounce *fangare* [yo-] or [fo-]oyo koi. The *fangare* as the subject agrees with the *to-* inflection which fuses to the verb *oyo*.

**The movement after spell-out** can be meant that spell-out has already been conveyed to the result of its checking to phonetical form (PF) and to logical form (LF). The meaning should be interpreted by LF with account of semantics and the sound should be interpreted by PF with account of phonology and morphology. If the one of that sound or the meaning undergoes a deviation, for instance the default in inflection agreement and the deletion of uninterpretable phi-features are not done. So, the PF or LF cannot return back to the spell-out to process that deviation. Therefore, the derivation is *unconvergence*. In the other hand, if LF examines its meaning and PF examines its pronunciation perceptively. Then, the result of the examination did not find any deviations, in this case, the derivation to be convergence.

The syntactic tree diagram below, it is the form of the output or the result of the construction derivation process of the Tidorese transitive sentence. The elements only bear the interpretable phi-feature value and V category which remains survive at the PF and LF. The grammatical trait structure of that sentence in 1b below diagram tree is satisfaction. Therefore, derivation becomes convergence. The structure of the A2 tree diagram below displays the out-put of the movement operation **after spell-out**.



Movement before spell-out

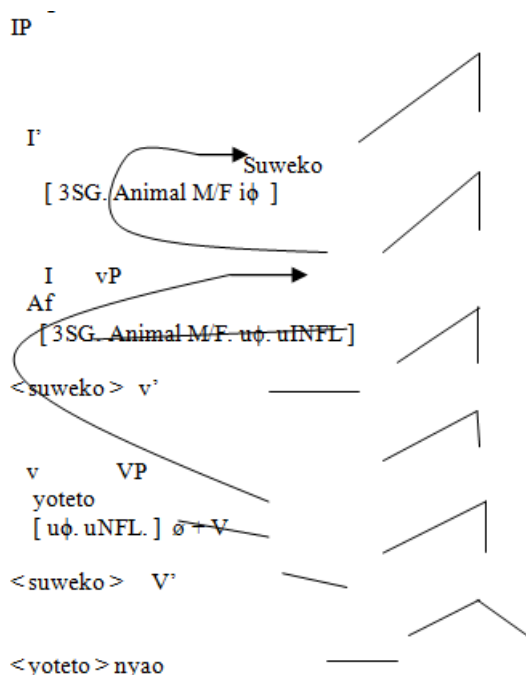
2 suweko yo- teto nyao

stork Affix . eat fish

Stork eats fish

The structure below of B1 tree diagram represents the number 2 sentence.

Diagram B1

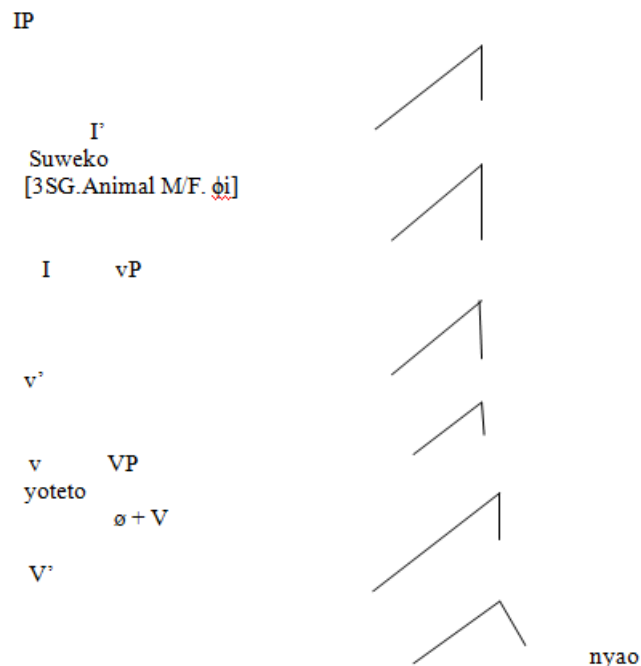


Regarding to the above B1 diagram tree structure, the main verb matches in light verb, both together bear the uninterpretable inflection feature (uINFL) and uninterpretable phi-φ (uφ) feature. Then, uINFL feature and uφ feature can be deleted in the domain of a light verb head. The next step, the main verb comes up and matches in the inflection head. Matching verb in the inflection head, the inflection [I] bears uINFL feature and uφ feature in which has values, namely the third singular, person,

ormay be masculine or feminine (M/F). The inflection head [I] contains uINFL dan uφ features. They are deleted in the domain of I under the I' (inflection-bar). Besides, the more elements in certain domain are also deleted. The next, the verb comes up in the specifier top of subject pronoun to match in item of *suweko*. The thematic pronoun *suweko* bears the interpretable phi-feature (iφ) which has value features, for instance 3SG, Animal, M/F (the third singular, animal, masculine/feminine). The interpretable phi-feature is carried by *suweko* item, it cannot be deleted.

The structure of the B2 tree diagram below displays the out-put of the movement operation **after spell-out**.

Diagram B2



Movement before spell-out

3. fajaru to- uto tamate

I Affix grow tomato

I grow the tomato

The structure below of C1 tree diagram represents the construction of sentence number 3 above.

Diagram C1

IP

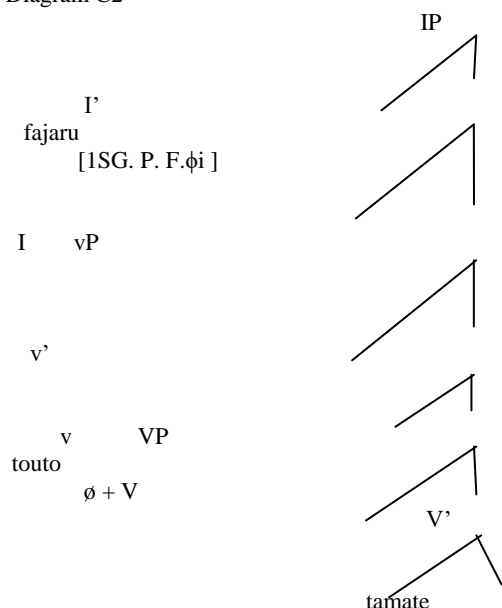
In the C1 diagram tree structure above, the verb *touto* = *grow* matches in light verb, both together bear the uninterpretable inflection feature (uINFL) and uninterpretable phi-φ (uφ) feature. Then, uINFL feature and uφ feature can be deleted in the domain of a light verb head. The following step, the verb comes up and matches in the inflection head. Matching verb in the inflection head, the inflection [I] bears uINFL feature and uφ feature in which has values, namely the first singular, person, feminine F. The inflection head I which contains uINFL and uφ features. They are deleted in the domain of I under the I' (inflection-bar). Besides, the more elements in certain domain are also deleted. Then, the verb comes up in the specifier top of subject pronoun to match in item of *fajaru*. The thematic pronoun *fajaru* bears the interpretable phi-feature (iφ) which has value features for instance, the



third singular, person, feminine (1SG.P.F). The interpretable phi-feature is carried by *fajaru* item, it cannot be deleted.

The structure of the C2 tree diagram below displays the out-put of the movement operation **after spell-out**.

Diagram C2

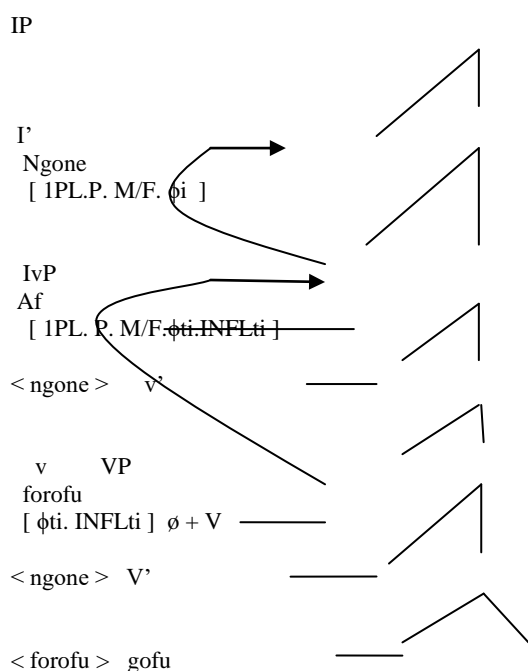


### Movement before spell-out

4. *ngone fo- rofu gofu* .  
 we Affix extract grass  
 We extract the grass

The structure below of D1 tree diagram represents the construction of sentence number 4 above.

Diagram D1

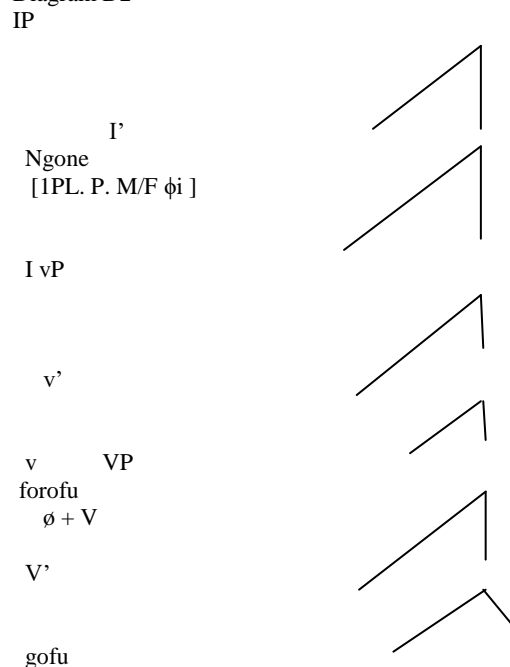


The D1 diagram tree structure above, the verb *forofu* = *extract* matches in light verb, both together bear the uninterpretable inflection feature (uINFL) and

uninterpretable phi- $\phi$  ( $u\phi$ ) feature. The next, uINFL feature and  $u\phi$  feature can be deleted in the domain of a light verb head. Then, the verb comes up and matches in the inflection head. After matching, the inflection I bears uINFL feature and  $u\phi$  feature in which has values, like the first plural, person, may be masculine M or feminine F. The inflection head I which contains uINFL and  $u\phi$  features. They are deleted in the domain of I under the I' (inflection-bar). Besides, the more elements in certain domain are also deleted. Then, the verb comes up in the specifier top of subject pronoun to match in item of *ngone* = *we*. The thematic pronoun *ngone* bears the interpretable phi-feature ( $i\phi$ ) which has value features. For instance, the third plural, person, may be masculine or feminine (1SG.P.M/F). The interpretable phi-feature is carried by *ngone* = *we M/F* item, it cannot be deleted.

The structure of the D2 tree diagram below displays the out-put of the movement operation **after spell-out**.

Diagram D2



### 6. Conclusion

The result of phi-feature checking shows that the elements in the head of light verb like *tooyo*, *yoteto*, *toute*, and *forofu* that have the inflection. Those elements bear the uninterpretable phi-feature and uninterpretable inflection. The heads of inflection are the functional categories that have the prefix affixes like *to-*, *yo-* and *fo-*. These affixes are derived from the verb elements and they can be called strong affixes. The heads of inflection also bear the equal uninterpretable phi-feature and uninterpretable inflection.

The thematic noun and pronoun namely *fangare*, *suweko*, *fajaru*, and *ngone* elements bear the interpretable phi-feature which have values. For instance. (The first singular, person, masculine, feminine), (the first plural, person, masculine/feminine), and (the third singular, animal, masculine/feminine). The thematic interpretable phi-features value agrees to the head of inflectional

uninterpretable phi-features value and uninterpretable phi-features value of the verb elements in the light verb heads. The verb elements have a relationships grammatical trait to subjects thematic in the Tidorenes transitive sentence. It can be seen that the verb elements receive the inflections from subjects thematic.

All the derivation is convergence. This case can be seen in the out-put of the movement operation after spell-out. The minimalist program is successful to accomplish the feature checking in Tidorenes transitive sentences.

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