Transitivity and Pronominal Clitic Order in Kapampangan[*]

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In Kapampangan, pronominal marking is almost always obligatory, and the order of clitic pronounss is strictly the ergative followed by the absolutive, when both pronouns are present. This paper discusses some issues of transitivity associated with pronominal marking. Clauses with two core arguments show various degrees of transitivity. There are constructions with two core arguments whose predicates are semantically far from transitive (expressing 'relations', not 'actions'), and thus low in transitivity. This paper gives an analysis of such 'low transitivity' predicates. Low transitivity predicates also show a kind of 'mismatch' between morphology and semantics, and this paper gives some examples of the mismatch from other languages. Finally, some implications of fixed clitic order in Kapampangan are suggested.