

## **Typing Relative Clauses in Dagbani (Mabia)**

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### **Abstract**

Mabia languages exhibit a complex relative clause (RC) syntax, which has received some attention in the literature. In these languages, RCs are generally head internal and exhibit two structural asymmetries between relativization of subjects and non-subjects: (i) Whereas a non-subject term may be relativized in situ or ex situ, i.e. in default position or fronted within the RC, a subject cannot be relativized in situ. (ii) Non-subject relativization requires the presence of an overt C following the subject. What all RCs seem to have in common is the obligatory dislocation of the subject.

In this talk, we provide a syntactic account for these asymmetries based on feature inheritance and anti-locality, in which obligatory subject movement serves to type the clause as a relative clause.