

Table of contents

 <https://doi.org/10.1075/slcs.19.toc>

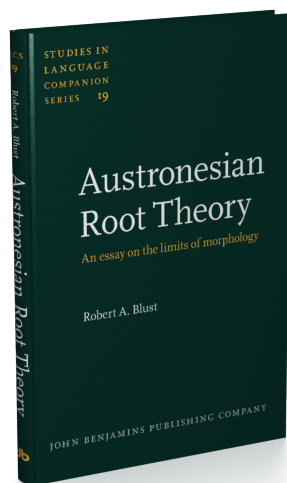
Pages viii–ix of

Austronesian Root Theory: An essay on the limits of morphology

Robert Blust

[Studies in Language Companion Series, 19]

1988. xi, 190 pp.



© John Benjamins Publishing Company

This electronic file may not be altered in any way. For any reuse of this material written permission should be obtained from the publishers or through the Copyright Clearance Center (for USA: www.copyright.com).

For further information, please contact rights@benjamins.nl or consult our website at benjamins.com/rights

CONTENTS

Preface	vi
Tables and Figures	x
Abbreviations used in the text	xi
INTRODUCTION	xii
1. On "root theory"	1
2. The morpheme: two operational definitions	3
3. A synoptic history of Austronesian root theory	6
4. A critique of Brandstetter's theory of the root	10
4.1. Control of chance	10
4.2. Failure to recognize regular sound change	11
4.3. Use of cognates to establish a root	11
4.4. Overgeneralization	12
4.5. Arbitrariness of "root variation"	13
4.6. The non-argument for word-base formatives	13
5. Austronesian root theory revisited	15
5.1. The empirical reality of the root	17
5.1.1. Establishing the root by synchronic comparison	17
5.1.2. Establishing the root by diachronic comparison	21
5.1.3. Establishing the root by paradigmatic contrast	27
5.1.4. The issue of statistical controls	27
5.2. The characteristics of the root	29
5.2.1. Phonological characteristics of the root	29
5.2.2. Semantic characteristics of the root	33
5.2.3. Distributional characteristics of the root	34
5.2.4. Root variation	37
5.3. The root in linguistic comparison: asset or liability?	46
5.4. The psychological reality of the root	50
5.5. The origin of roots	53
6. Related matters	55
6.1. Initial consonant symbolism	55
6.2. Medial consonant symbolism	57
6.3. Final consonant symbolism	58
6.4. Gestalt symbolism	59
6.5. McCune's analysis of Bahasa Indonesia	61
7. Implications for general linguistic theory	65
8. Appendices	69
8.1. Appendix 1	76
8.2. Appendix 2	83

8.3. Appendix 3 165

NOTES 171

REFERENCES 174

INDEX 184