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| Nota di contenuto | Manifestations of ergativity in Amazonia / Francesc Queixalos and Spike Gildea --PART I. Well-established systems: Morphological ergativity: Ergativity in the Mayoruna branch of the Panoan family / David W. Fleck -- Ergativity in Shipibo-Konibo, a Panoan language of the Ucayali / Pilar M. Valenzuela -- How ergative is Cavinena? / Antoine Guillaume -- The ergativity effect in Kuikuoro (Southern Carib, Brazil) / Bruna Franchetto -- Nominative-absolutive: Counter-universal split ergativity in Je and Cariban / Spike Gildea and Flavia de Castro Alves -- PART II. Recent diachronic innovations: Syntactic ergativity: Ergativity in Trumai / Raquel Guirardello-Damian -- Grammatical relations in Katukina-Kanamari / Francesc Queixalos -- The intransitive basis of Movima clause structure / Katharina Haude. |
| Sommario/riassunto | This volume presents a typological/theoretical introduction plus eight papers about ergative alignment in 16 Amazonian languages. All are written by linguists with years of fieldwork and comparative experience in the region, all describe details of the synchronic systems, and several also provide diachronic insight into the evolution of these systems. The five papers in Part I focus on languages from four larger families with |

ergative patterns primarily in morphology. The typological contribution is in detailed consideration of unusual splits, changes in ergative patterns, and parallels between ergative main clauses and nominalizations. The three papers in Part II discuss genetically isolated languages. Two present dominant ergative patterns in both morphology and syntax, the other a syntactic inverse system that is predominantly ergative in discourse. In each, the authors demonstrate that identification of traditional grammatical relations is problematic. These data will figure in all future typological and theoretical debates about grammatical relations.
