A Comprehensive Diachronic Grammar of Modern ULTRAFRENCH

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Contents

1 Phonology and Evolution from Modern Pseudo-French

	Labial	Coronal	Palatal	Velar	Glottal
Stop	b, bʱ	d			
Nasal		n			
Fricative	ɸ β, ʋ̃	s z, θ ð	ç ɕ ʑ	x χ	h
Fric. (ʁ-coloured)	βʁ	sʁ zʁ ɮ̃ʁ	ɕʁ ʑʁ		
Trill				ʀ	
Approximant			ɥ ɥ̃, ɲ̊	ɯ̽ ɯ̽̃	
Lateral Fricative		ɮ̃	ʎ̝̃		

	Front	Back
Close	i ĩ ĩ̞ i̯	u ũ ũ̞ u̯
Near-close	ʏ ʏ̃ ʏ̞̃ ʏ̯	
Close-mid	e ẽ ẽ̞ e̯	o o̯
Mid	ə ə̯	
Open-mid	ɛ ɛ̃ ɛ̞̃ ɛ̯	ɔ̃ ɔ̞̃
Near-open	ɐ ɐ̯	
Open		ɑ̃ ɑ̞̃

Legend
$\tilde{V}$ = nasalised vowel, $\tilde{\tilde{V}}$ = nasal vowel, V = any vowel (or, in conjunction with $\tilde{V}$/$\tilde{\tilde{V}}$, oral vowel)
N = nasal consonant, $\tilde{C}$ = nasalised consonant (e.g. /ɯ̽̃/, but not true nasals), C = any consonant.

Preliminary Changes

1.

1.
2. g, w > ɯ̽ ⟨r⟩
3. œ, œ̃, ø > y, ỹ, ỹ
4. ɔ > o
5. u > v / _o
6. y > j / _(#)V
7. V_α> ∅ / _#V_α
8. lj, lɥ > ʎ
9. j > ɥ ⟨y'⟩
10. ɯ̽ > ɥ / _i
11. ʁʁ > ʀ
12. sʁ, ʃʁ, zʁ, ʒʁ > sʁ, ʃʁ, zʁ, ʒʁ
13. vʁ > vʁ
14. ʁ > ɯ̽
15. C > ∅ / #_C
16. C > ∅ / C_#
17. k > x ⟨c'h⟩
18. ʃ, ʃʁ, ʒ, ʒʁ > ɕ, ɕʁ, ʑ, ʑʁ
19. nt > nθ
20. t > ḍ [d] ('hard /d/')
21. p > ḅ [b] ('hard /b/')
22. f, v, vʁ > ɸ ⟨f⟩, β ⟨b'h⟩, βʁ ⟨v́⟩

Great Nasal Shift

1.

16.
17. $\tilde{V}$l > ɯ̽̃ ⟨w⟩
18. V > $\tilde{\tilde{V}}$ / [NC̃ɥɯ̽]_N#
19. V, $\tilde{V}$ > $\tilde{V}$, $\tilde{\tilde{V}}$ / _[NC̃ɥɯ̽], [NC̃ɥɯ̽]_
20. ə, ə̃, ɑ, ɑ̃, o, õ > ɛ, ɛ̃, ɑ, ɑ̃, ɔ, ɔ̃
21. N, $\tilde{C}$ > ∅ / V_#
22. ɲ, ŋ > n
23. V, $\tilde{V}$ > ∅ / N _ N
24. m, l, ʎ > ʋ̃ ⟨v⟩, ɮ̃ ⟨l⟩, $\tilde{\lambda}$ ⟨l̓⟩
25. ɮ̃ɯ̽, ɯ̽ɮ̃ > ɮ̃ʁ ⟨ɬ⟩

Intervocalic Lenition (/ V_V is implied)

1.

22.
23. x, s, z > h
24. ɕ, ɮ̃, $\tilde{\lambda}$ > ɲ̊ ⟨ç̇⟩, ɥ̃, ɯ̽̃
25. nθ > n
26. d, ḍ, b, ḅ > ð ⟨d'h⟩, θ ⟨t'h⟩, β, bʱ ⟨bh⟩
27. ɸ > β / V_V

Late Changes

1.

26.
27. C[+stop, -alveolar]C_α> C_α
28. C[+stop]C_α[+stop] > C_α
29. h > ∅ / hV_
30. ə > ∅ / C_C
31. V[-nasalised, -nasal] > ə̯ / _#

1.1 Pronunciation, Allophony, and Stress

There is not a lot of allophony in UF, save that /x/ is realised as [χ] around back vowels and [ɕ] elsewhere, e.g. *c'húr* /xũuɥ/ 'to shrink' is pronounced [χũ˞ʏ]. Furthermore, /h/ is [ç] before variants of /i/ and /y/, and [h] elsewhere.

The vast majority PF words are stressed on the last syllable of the root, e.g. *ad'hór* 'to love' /aˈðɔ̃ɯɥ/, but *b'had'hóré* 'you (PL) love' /βaˈðɔ̃.ɯɥɛ̃/. The stress is not indicated in writing, neither in actual texts, nor in this grammar or in dictionaries. The main exception to this are names, which are generally stressed on the first syllable, and receive secondary stress on the last syllable,[1] e.g. *Daúvníc'h* /ˈdɔ̃ʊ̃ˌnĩx/.

The only exception to this rule are certain particles and irregular verbs, some of which have irregular stress; for instance, the forms of *eḍ* 'to be' are all stressed on the first syllable. Any such words that deviate from the norm will be pointed out in this grammar and in dictionaries.

Oral vowels before the stressed syllable are often somewhat muted or reduced, albeit still audible, and stressed vowels are lengthened if they are nasalised, e.g. the pronunciation of *ad'hór*, which we just transcribed as /aˈðɔ̃ɯɥ/, is actually closer to [ɐ̯ˈðɔ̃ʏ˞]. Word-final voiceless 'e' is always /ə̯/.

Oral vowels have a nasalised and nasal counterpart. /i/, /y/—which is actually [ʏ]—and /u/ do not vary in quality when nasalised. /a/ is normally [ɐ], but becomes [ɑ] when nasalised or nasal. Similarly, /e/ becomes [ɛ], and /o/ becomes [ɔ]. Note that nasalised [ẽ] exists, but it's rare. The quality never changes when going from nasalised to nasal. The schwa has no nasal(lised) counterpart. Lastly, oral vowel also have voiceless counterparts, whose quality is the same as that of the base vowel.

Furthermore, as indicated in that same example, word-final /ɯɥ/ is often realised as velarisation of the preceding vowel; the same, however, is not the case for /ũɥ/. Initial /ɯ/ is sometimes elided after words that end with /ɯɥ/, particularly in particles (e.g. *rvá* 'alas').

Lenition causes the changes marked above as 'Intervocalic Lenition' to be applied to a consonant; furthermore, ʁ-coloured consonants are replaced with their regular counterparts, and *h* disappears completely.

1.2 Orthography

The spelling of most UF sounds is indicated above; the less exotic consonants are spelt as one might expect. That is, /b, d, n, ɸ, s, z, h/ are spelt ⟨b, d, n, f, s, z, h⟩, respectively.

Several fricatives are spelt with an apostrophe followed by a 'h', viz. /x/ ⟨c'h⟩, /θ/ ⟨t'h⟩, /ð/ ⟨d'h⟩, and /β/ ⟨b'h⟩. Conventional letters are used for rather unconventional sounds, mostly for diachronic reasons: /l/ does not exist in UF, so ⟨l⟩ is either /l̃/ or /l̥̃/, ⟨v⟩ is /ʋ̃/, ⟨j⟩ is /ʒ̃/, ⟨r⟩ is /ɯɥ/, ⟨w⟩ is /ũɥ/. The vowel /y/ is spelt ⟨y⟩, and its consonantal equivalent /ɥ/ as well as nasalised /ɥ̃/ are spelt with an apostrophe, that is ⟨y'⟩ and ⟨ý'⟩. The ʁ-fricated fricatives /βˠ, l̃ˠ, sˠ, ɕˠ, zˠ, ʒ̃ˠ/ are spelt ⟨ý, ł, ś, ç, j, ź⟩, respectively.

Double consonant letters indicate a lengthened consonant; these are rare, but they can occur in any position. The only exception to this is ⟨rr⟩, which is not /ɯː/, but rather /ʁ/. UF does not have phonemic vowel length (though recall that phonetic lengthening occurs in some situations), so a double vowel letter is always pronounced as two separate vowels.

The vowels are mostly spelt as one might expect; nasalised vowels are indicated by an acute, and nasal vowels by a circumflex. The variants of /i, y, u, a, e/ are spelt with ⟨i, y, u, a, e⟩ as their base letters. Nasal /ẽ/ and /ɛ̃/ as well as Schwa are indicated by adding a dot below the ⟨e⟩; the vowel /o/ is spelt ⟨au⟩ or ⟨o⟩ for diachronic reasons;[2] in the case of ⟨au⟩, the acute and circumflex are added to the ⟨u⟩. The diphthong /au/ is spelt ⟨äu⟩, ⟨aü⟩, or with accents on both vowels. Oral /ɛ/ is rare and is spelt

[1] That is, unless the name ends in an obvious suffix, in which case the last syllable before any such suffixes receives secondary stress; however, this is generally quite rare.

[2] As is always the case in cases like this, hypercorrection is frequent, and ⟨au⟩ is often preferred word-initially, even if the PF root was spelt with ⟨o⟩. In general, UF speakers seem to prefer ⟨au⟩ over ⟨o⟩, except word-finally and after ⟨w⟩, except that in verb affixes, *au* is quite common word-finally. The sequence ⟨wau⟩ does not exist in UF.

⟨è⟩. Word-initially and word-finally, a grave instead indicates that the vowel is voiceless. Word-final voiceless /e/ is always /e̥/, but confusingly, it is also just spelt ⟨e⟩, since ⟨è⟩ is already /ɛ/.[3]

The 'hard' voiced *ḅ*, *ḍ* which are pronounced exactly like their regular counterparts, are normally also spelt ⟨b⟩ and ⟨d⟩. However, the dot is commonly used in dictionaries and grammatical material to distinguish between the two as they differ from one another in how they are lenited. Furthemore, a dot below or above a letter is commonly to indicate a variety of different things, depending on the letter:

- a dot below in *ḅ*, *ḍ* indicates that they are the 'hard' variants of the letter, which are pronounced the same, but lenited differently;
- a dot below in *l̤* indicates that it is palatal /l̪̃/ instead of alveolar /l̪̰̃/;
- a dot below in *ẹ* indicates that it is a schwa;
- a dot below nasalised *ẹ́*, *ê̤* indicates that they are /ẽ/, /ɛ̃/ instead of /ɛ̃/, /ɛ̰̃/;
- a dot above in *ċ* indicates that it is lenited /ʝ̊/.

Thus, in non-grammatical writing, the following are indistinguishable:

- *l* can be palatal /l̪̃/ or alveolar /l̪̰̃/;
- *e* can be a schwa, or /e/;
- *é*, *ê* can be /ɛ̃/, /ɛ̰̃/ or /ẽ/, /ɛ̰̃/;
- *ç* can be /ɕ/ or /ʝ̊/.

Elided initial /ɯ/ is indicated by omitting the *r* in writing and attaching the word to the previous one with a hyphen, e.g. *-vá* 'alas'.

2 Accidence

2.1 Verbal Morphology

Verbs in UF are inflected for person, number, tense, aspect, mood, and voice. Verbal inflexion is mainly done by means of concatenating a vast set of prefixes onto a verb, with the occasional suffix and circumfix making its appearance. This chapter details these affixes, their meanings, uses, forms, and restrictions.

2.1.1 Active/Passive Affixes

UF has a set of active/subject as well as passive/object prefixes which can be used on their own or in combination with one another, though at most one active and one passive prefix may be combined with a verb.[4] Table 1 below lists those prefixes, two of which are actually circumfixes.

[3] Thus, a word-final ⟨e⟩ can be /e/, such as in *vvaúríhe* /ṽːɔ̃ɯɪ̈ʔhe/ 'to remember', or /e̥/, such as in *dale* /dal̪̰̃e̥/ 'table'. As a rule of thumb, it is usually /e/ at the end of verb stems—but not verb forms in general—and /e̥/ elsewhere. Fortunately they are differentiated by a dot below in dictionaries: *vvaúríhe* and *ḍalẹ*.

[4] Irrespective of whether they are personal or infinitive prefixes. For instance, it would also be illegal to combine e.g. the active infinitive prefix with the first person active singular prefix.

Active	Sg	Pl
1st	*j-*	*aú-/r-/w- -(y')ó*
2nd	*ḍ(ẹ)-*	*b'h(y)- -(y')é*
3rd m	*l(ẹ)-*	*l(ẹ)-*
3rd f	*ll(a)-*	*ll(ẹ)-*
3rd n	*s-*	*l(a)-*
Infinitive	*d(ẹ)-*	
Participle	*-â*	

Passive	Sg	Pl
1st	*v-*	*aú-/r-/w-*
2nd	*ḍ(ẹ)-*	*b'h(y)-*
3rd m	*y'-*	*lý-*
3rd f	*y'-*	*lý-*
3rd n	*sy-*	*lý-*
Infinitive	*à-/h-*	
Participle	*â-*	

Table 1: Active (left) and passive (right) verbal affixes.

A great degree of syncretism can be observed in the third-person forms. The gender distinction in the 3SG that diachronically resulted from gendered personal pronouns is almost non-existent in the plural; the reason for this development is that those forms are derived from the old dative form, which lacked this distinction altogether.

The ACT 1PL, 2PL forms are only distinguished from their passive counterparts by the presence of additional suffixes in the former. The 3SG N in the active and passive is derived from the PF demonstrative **ce* and its variants; the 3PL N is derived from the other 3PL forms.

Usage Notes

1PL The 1PL prefix varies if there is a vowel following it: if it is any vowel that is not a variant of 'o', the prefix is realised as *r-* instead, e.g. *ad'hór* 'love' to *rad'hóró* 'we love'. If the vowel a variant of 'o', the prefix is realised as *w-* instead, e.g. *aub'heír* 'obey' to *wob'heíró* 'we obey'.[5] Note that this also leads to a change in spelling: stem-initial ⟨au⟩ is changed to ⟨o⟩.

1,2 PL The *y'* in the suffix parts of the 1PL, 2PL ACT are dropped if the verb ends with a consonant, e.g. *ad'hór* to *b'hád'hóré*, or if it ends with a vowel that is a variant of 'o' in the case of the 1PL and 'e' in the case of the 2PL, in which cases the vowels are contracted and a level of nasalisation is added, e.g. *vvaúríhe* 'to remember' to *b'hyvvaúríhé* 'you (PL) remember' (not **b'hyvvaúríhy'é*). In all other cases, the *y'* is retained, e.g. *aúvvaúríhey'ó* 'we remember'.

INF The INF PASS prefix *à-* coalesces with any vowel following it: it becomes *á* if it is followed by a non-nasal variant of 'a', e.g. *ad'hór* to *ád'hór* 'to be loved'; *â* if it is followed by a nasal variant of 'a', e.g. *ánvé* 'give life to' to *ânvé* 'to be animated'; and *h-* if it is followed by any other vowel, e.g. *aub'heír* to *haub'heír* 'to be obeyed'.

PART The participle affixes are commonly used to form adjectives since the vast majority of adjectives in UF are actually 'adjective verbs' with a meaning of 'to be X'. The participle can be used to convert such a verb back into a regular adjective, e.g. *lár* 'to be wide' to *lárâ* 'wide'. Like the passive infinitive affix, the participle affixes coalesce with vowels and always form a maximally nasal vowel, e.g. *vvaúríhe* 'to remember' forms *vvaúríhê* 'remembering', and *ad'hór* forms *âd'hór* 'being loved'.

-ẹ- The parenthesised vowels are used if the prefix is followed by a consonant, e.g. *dír* 'say' to *llẹdír* 'they (F) say' and *b'hydíré* 'you (PL) say', but *ad'hór* to *llad'hór* 'they (F) love' and *b'had'hóré* 'you (PL) love'. The prefixes *aú-* and *à-* retain their main forms if followed by a consonant, e.g. *dír* 'say' to *aúdíró* 'We say' and *àdír* 'to be said'.

-y- The exception to this is that 2PL *b'h(y)-* drops the *y* if followed by a glide, e.g. *y'ír* 'to hear' to *b'hy'íré* 'you (PL) hear' (not **b'hyy'íré*).

[5] Diachronically, the base form of this prefix is **o-*, whence e.g. **oad'hóró* > *rad'hóró* and **oob'heíró* > *wob'heíró*.

Combining Prefixes
When multiple prefixes are used together, active prefixes precede passive prefixes, except that infinitive and participle prefixes always come first, e.g. *ad'hór* 'love' to *jvad'hór* 'I love myself' (not **vjad'hór*) and *b'hy'ad'hóré* 'you (PL) love him/her', but *dẹvad'hór* 'to love me' and *àb'had'hóré* 'to be loved by you (PL)'. Recall that at most one infinitive prefix and at most one participle affix may be used.

Example Paradigms
By way of illustration, consider the paradigm of the verb *ad'hór* as shown in Table 2 below. Since this word starts with a vowel, the parenthesised vowels in Table 1 above are not used. Furthermore, since it starts with a non-nasal 'a'-like vowel, the *aú-* prefix is realised as *r-* and the *à-* prefix coalesces with the initial 'a' of the stem to form *á*.

Active	Sg	Pl
1st	*jad'hór*	*rad'hóró*
2nd	*ḍad'hór*	*b'had'hóré*
3rd m	*lad'hór*	*lad'hór*
3rd f	*llad'hór*	*llad'hór*
3rd n	*sad'hór*	*lad'hór*
Infinitive	*dad'hór*	
Participle	*ad'hórâ*	

Passive	Sg	Pl
1st	*vad'hór*	*rad'hór*
2nd	*ḍad'hór*	*b'had'hór*
3rd m	*y'ad'hór*	*lýad'hór*
3rd f	*y'ad'hór*	*lýad'hór*
3rd n	*ý'ad'hór*	*lýad'hór*
Infinitive	*ád'hór*	
Participle	*âd'hór*	

Table 2: Paradigm of the Verb *ad'hór*.

For comparison, the paradigm of the verb *vvaúríhe* 'remember' is shown in Table 3 below. Since it starts with a consonant, the parenthesised vowels in Table 1 are used, and any prefixes that end with a vowel remain unchanged.

Active	Sg	Pl
1st	*jvvaúríhe*	*aúvvaúríhey'ó*
2nd	*ḍẹvvaúríhe*	*b'hyvvóríhé*
3rd m	*lẹvvaúríhe*	*lẹvvaúríhe*
3rd f	*llavvaúríhe*	*llẹvvaúríhe*
3rd n	*ý'vvaúríhe*	*lavvaúríhe*
Infinitive	*dẹvvaúríhe*	
Participle	*vvaúríhê*	

Passive	Sg	Pl
1st	*vvvaúríhe*	*aúvvaúríhe*
2nd	*ḍẹvvaúríhe*	*b'hyvvaúríhe*
3rd m	*y'vvaúríhe*	*lývvaúríhe*
3rd f	*y'vvaúríhe*	*lývvaúríhe*
3rd n	*ý'vvaúríhe*	*lývvaúríhe*
Infinitive	*àvvaúríhe*	
Participle	*âvvaúríhe*	

Table 3: Paradigm of the Verb *vvaúríhe*.

2.2 Tense and Aspect Marking

Tense in PF is marked by additional sets of affixes that are appended to the verb in addition to the active/passive affixes. There are two broad groups of such affixes: suffixes, which are appended to the end of the verb and replace the ACT 1PL, 2PL suffixes in those persons, as well as circumfixes and prefixes, which are inserted before the active/passive markers and replace the replace the ACT 1PL, 2PL suffixes in some cases.

2.2.1 Suffixed Tenses

The present anterior and preterite are formed by appending a set of suffixes to the verb. Table 4 below lists the suffixes for those tenses. The present anterior has a perfect or perfective aspect, while the

preterite has an imperfective aspect. The former is commonly used to describe events that are completed or extend to the present—particularly events that occurred recently, hence the name—while the latter is used to describe events that are ongoing or habitual.

Present Anterior	Sg	Pl
1st	*-ᴸé*	*-ᴸâ*
2nd	*-ᴸá*	*-ᴸáḍ*
3rd	*-ᴸá*	*-ᴸér*
Infinitive	*-á*	
Participle	*-ér*	

Preterite	Sg	Pl
1st	*-ᴸá*	*-y'aû*
2nd	*-ᴸé*	*-y'ẹ́*
3rd m	*-ᴸé*	*-ᴸé*
Infinitive	*-é*	
Participle	*-ár*	

Table 4: Present Anterior and Preterite Affixes.

Neither tense distinguishes gender in the third person. All suffixes, except for the infinitive and 1PL, 2PL PRET, lenite any consonant *before* them, e.g. *ḅárḍáḍ* 'to be willing' to *jḅárḍát'hé* 'I was willing' but *deḅárḍáḍá* 'to have been willing'.

Diachronically, the 1SG PRET is an interesting case; in EUF, it was originally **-é*, but it later changed to *-á* to distinguish it from the 2SG, 3SG PRES ANT. The remaining forms—save the infinitives, which are derived from the tenses' definite endings by analogy—originated from the PF simple past tenses.

The table below lists the example paradigm of the verb *ad'hór* in the present anterior and preterite tenses. Observe that there is no difference between the 1PL, 2PL active and passive.

The participle suffixes coalesce with present participle affixes to form *êr* in the present anterior and *âr* in the preterite, where applicable, e.g. present *ad'hórâ* 'loving' becomes *ad'hórêr* 'having loved'.

In both tenses, the suffixes coalesce with vowels before them, replacing them and nasalising them if they are already nasal, e.g. *jvvaúríé* 'I remembered'.

Active	Sg	Pl
1st	*jad'hóré*	*rad'hórâ*
2nd	*ḍad'hórá*	*b'had'hóráḍ*
3rd m	*lad'hórá*	*lad'hórér*
3rd f	*llad'hórá*	*llad'hórér*
3rd n	*ỷad'hórá*	*lad'hórér*
Infinitive	*dad'hórá*	
Participle	*ad'hórêr*	

Passive	Sg	Pl
1st	*vad'hóré*	*rad'hórâ*
2nd	*ḍad'hórá*	*b'had'hóráḍ*
3rd m	*y'ad'hórá*	*lýad'hórér*
3rd f	*y'ad'hórá*	*lýad'hórér*
3rd n	*ỷad'hórá*	*lýad'hórér*
Infinitive	*ád'hórá*	
Participle	*âd'hórér*	

Table 5: Present Anterior Paradigm of the Verb *ad'hór*.

Active	Sg	Pl
1st	*jad'hórá*	*rad'hóry'aû*
2nd	*ḍad'hóré*	*b'had'hóry'ẹ́*
3rd m	*lad'hóré*	*lad'hóré*
3rd f	*llad'hóré*	*llad'hóré*
3rd n	*ỷad'hóré*	*lad'hóré*
Infinitive	*dad'hóré*	
Participle	*ad'hórâr*	

Passive	Sg	Pl
1st	*vad'hórá*	*rad'hóry'aû*
2nd	*ḍad'hóré*	*b'had'hóry'ẹ́*
3rd m	*y'ad'hóré*	*lýad'hóré*
3rd f	*y'ad'hóré*	*lýad'hóré*
3rd n	*ỷad'hóré*	*lýad'hóré*
Infinitive	*ád'hóré*	
Participle	*âd'hórár*	

Table 6: Preterite Paradigm of the Verb *ad'hór*.

2.2.2 Future I

The future tenses, that is, the Future, Future Anterior (a tense similar to the future perfect), as well as the Conditional, are formed by adding prefixes to the present forms. The prefix is the same in all

persons and numbers, except that there is a separate prefix for the infinitive.

In the Future, much to the UF learner's dismay, this prefix can go in two separate positions: either before the person marker(s) or inbetween the person marker(s) and the stem. The former case is more common in speech, while the later is more literary and strongly preferred in writing and poetry as well as in formal speech. But even in informal speech, the Future I alone will still not be enough to get by, as the Conditional, a *very* common tense, is formed using the Future II.

First, let us examine the former, simpler case, commonly called the Future I. The prefix is *aú-* if the verb form after it starts with a consonant (except glides), *aúr-* in all other cases; e.g. *aújaḋ'hór* 'I shall love', but *aúrýaḋ'hór* 'it will love'. In the infinitive passive, it contracts with the initial *à-* or *á-* to *áu* or *aû*, e.g. *aûḋ'hór* 'to be about to be loved'.[6] No contraction happens if the infinitive starts with *â*, e.g. *aúrânvé* 'to be about to be animated'. Since there is little point in writing a table for just the prefixes, Table 7 instead shows the Future I paradigm of the verb *aḋ'hór*.

Active	Sg	Pl
1st	*aújaḋ'hór*	*aúraḋ'hóró*
2nd	*aúḍaḋ'hór*	*aúb'haḋ'hóré*
3rd m	*aúlaḋ'hór*	*aúlaḋ'hór*
3rd f	*aúllaḋ'hór*	*aúllaḋ'hór*
3rd n	*aúrýaḋ'hór*	*aúlaḋ'hór*
Infinitive	*aúdaḋ'hór*	
Participle	*aúraḋ'hórâ*	

Passive	Sg	Pl
1st	*aúvaḋ'hór*	*aúraḋ'hór*
2nd	*aúḍaḋ'hór*	*aúb'haḋ'hór*
3rd m	*aúryaḋ'hór*	*aúlýaḋ'hór*
3rd f	*aúryaḋ'hór*	*aúlýaḋ'hór*
3rd n	*aúrýaḋ'hór*	*aúlýaḋ'hór*
Infinitive	*aûḋ'hór*	
Participle	*aúrâḋ'hór*	

Table 7: Future I Paradigm of the Verb *aḋ'hór*.

2.2.3 Future II

The Future I paradigm is fairly straight-forward; unfortunately, the Future II is a lot worse: not only do the affixes vary a lot more, but they are different depending on whether verb form following them starts with a vowel or a consonant.[7] The vocalic and consonantal Future II affixes are shown in Tables 8 and 9 below, respectively.

The diachrony of these forms is somewhat unclear—especially that of the participles. It would appear, however, that they result from a coalescence of the personal pronouns with forms of some auxiliary (likely PF *avoir* and *aller*) as well as the PF future. It appears that the 2SG is derived from the formal PF 2PL pronoun, which is in line with the fact that the Future II is generally considered more formal than the almost colloquial Future I. The *ý* in the 2PL ACT seems to be the result of metathesis.

Active	Sg	Pl
1st	*b'h- -(ę)*	*náý'- -aú*
2nd	*ḍír- -(ę)*	*b'haý'- -(r)ę́*
3rd m	*ł- -(ę)*	*lb'h- -aú*
3rd f	*èł- -(ę)*	*lb'h- -aú*
3rd n	*aúł- -(ę)*	*lb'h- -aú*
Infinitive	*d- -è*	
Participle	*-ŷr*	

Passive	Sg	Pl
1st	*v- -é*	*náý'-*
2nd	*ḍír-*	*b'haý'-*
3rd m	*l-*	*lb'h- -(r)e*
3rd f	*l-*	*lb'h- -(r)e*
3rd n	*s-*	*lb'h- -(r)e*
Infinitive	*h-*	
Participle	*á- -ýr*	

Table 8: Vocalic Future II Affixes.

[6] This form has no direct equivalent in English and is fairly hard to translate on its own.

[7] This is not a problem in the Future I, since the prefix is never adjacent to the stem.

Active	Sg	Pl
1st	*jaú- -ę́*	*aúnraû- -aú*
2nd	*b'há- -(ę)*	*váu- -e*
3rd m	*aúr- -(ę)*	*laú- -aú*
3rd f	*aúr- -(ę)*	*laú- -aú*
3rd n	*aúr- -(ę)*	*laú- -aú*
Infinitive	*dę- -è*	
Participle	*-(r)ŷ*	

Passive	Sg	Pl
1st	*vaú- -é*	*naú-*
2nd	*ḍá-*	*b'haú-*
3rd m	*y'aúr-*	*laú- -(r)e*
3rd f	*y'aúr-*	*laú- -(r)e*
3rd n	*saúr-*	*laú- -(r)e*
Infinitive	*haú-*	
Participle	*á- -(r)ý*	

Table 9: Consonantal Future II Affixes.

Future Stem

Many verbs have a different future stem that is used in all future tenses (except the Future I); for example, the future stem of *vvaúríhe* 'to remember', is *vvaúríźe*; thus, we have *jvvaúríhe* 'to remember' but *jaúvvaúríźę́* 'I shall remember'. Note also that these forms already include the active/passive affixes, which is why it's *jaúvvaúríźę́* and not **jaújvvaúríźę́* or **jjaúvvaúríźę́*. As in the present, the dictionary form of the future stem is a verbal noun; thus, *vvaúríźe* roughly means 'the act of being about to remember'.[8]

The future stem usually ends with a vowel, which is dropped if any future suffix or a suffix that starts with a vowel is added, e.g. *laúvvaúríźaú* 'they will remember', not **laúvvaúríźeaú*. Note that in the case of future suffixes, even those that start with a consonant cause the vowel to be dropped. The only exception to this is the suffix *-ę*, which is dropped instead, e.g. *aúrvvaúríźe* 'she will remember', not **aúrvvaúríźę*.

Some future stems are nasalising, which is the case if the final vowel is a nasal vowel; in such cases, the vowel is still dropped if a suffix is added, but if that suffix starts with a vowel, nasalisation is applied to it, e.g. in the case of *dír*, whose future stem is *dírę́*, we have *aúnraûdíraû* 'we shall say': the *-aú* suffix is merges with the nasalisation of the final vowel to become *aû*. The Future II *-ę* desinence becomes *-ę́* for such verbs, e.g. *aúrdírę́* 'he will say', and 1SG FUT PASS vocalic *-é* becomes *-ê*.

***r-* Dropping**

Initial *r* in Future II suffixes is dropped if the last consonant before the final vowel of the future stem is *w*, or an ʁ-coloured consonant such as *ź*, e.g. *laúvvaúríźe* 'they will be remembered', not **laúvvaúríźre*. If the last consonant of the future stem is *r*, since any following vowel (whether nasalised or not) is deleted when a Future II suffix is added, the final *r* of the stem and the initial *-r* of the Future II suffixes that have one coalesce to *rr*, e.g. *b'hayʼad'hórérre* 'you (PL) will love'.

Affix Stacking

Note that when more than one affix is used, at most one can be a future affix, e.g. *jaúsyvvaúríźę́* 'I shall remember it' and not **jaúsaúrvvaúríźę́*. Generally, the active prefix will be the future affix, but it is possible to use the passive future affixes instead for emphasis e.g. *jy'aúrvvaúríźe* roughly 'him, I shall remember'; often, this is also used to aid in establishing a contrast to some other part of the sentence that does not have this inversion.

Since some of the passive future affixes also have suffix parts—unlike the present affixes, where the passive forms are all prefixes—we can end up with multiple suffixes in addition to multiple prefixes, in which case active prefixes, instead of simply preceding the passive ones, can be thought of as effectively 'wrapping' them, e.g. *aúlaúvvaúríźey'ó* 'we shall remember them', which contains *laúvvaúríźe* 'they will be remembered'.

Finally, as always, infinitive prefixes come first. If combined with other affixes, it will generally be the future affix, e.g. *haúlývvaúríźe* roughly 'to be about to remember them' but, as with passive

[8] As noted before, infinitive and gerund forms of future tenses are difficult to translate into English.

affixes, variations are possible for emphasis or contrastive power, e.g. *dęlaúvvaúríźe*, which puts more emphasis on 'them'.

Examples
Table 10 below shows the complete (vocalic) Future II paradigm of the verb *ad'hór* 'to love', and Table 11 the complete (consonantal) Future II paradigm of II *vvaúríhe* 'to remember'; recall that the future stems of these verbs are *ad'hórérę́* and *vvaúríźe*.

Active	Sg	Pl
1st	*b'had'hórérę́*	*náý'ad'hóréraû*
2nd	*ḍírad'hórérę́*	*b'haý'ad'hórérrę́*
3rd m	*ład'hórérę́*	*lb'had'hóréraû*
3rd f	*èład'hórérę́*	*lb'had'hóréraû*
3rd n	*aúład'hórérę́*	*lb'had'hóréraû*
Infinitive	*dad'hóréré*	
Participle	*ad'hórérŷr*	

Passive	Sg	Pl
1st	*vad'hórérę̂*	*náý'ad'hórérę́*
2nd	*ḍírad'hórérę́*	*b'haý'ad'hórérę́*
3rd m	*lad'hórérę́*	*lb'had'hórérre*
3rd f	*lad'hórérę́*	*lb'had'hórérre*
3rd n	*sad'hórérę́*	*lb'had'hórérre*
Infinitive	*had'hórérę́*	
Participle	*ád'hórérýr*	

Table 10: Vocalic Future II Paradigm of *ad'hór*.

Active	Sg	Pl
1st	*jaúvvaúríźę́*	*aúnraûvvaúríźaú*
2nd	*b'hávvaúríźę*	*váúvvaúríźe*
3rd m	*aúrvvaúríźę*	*laúvvaúríźaú*
3rd f	*aúrvvaúríźę*	*laúvvaúríźaú*
3rd n	*aúrvvaúríźę*	*laúvvaúríźaú*
Infinitive	*dęvvaúríźè*	
Infinitive	*vvaúríźŷ*	

Passive	Sg	Pl
1st	*vaúvvaúríźé*	*naúvvaúríźe*
2nd	*ḍávvaúríźe*	*b'haúvvaúríźe*
3rd m	*y'aúrvvaúríźe*	*laúvvaúríźe*
3rd f	*y'aúrvvaúríźe*	*laúvvaúríźe*
3rd n	*saúrvvaúríźe*	*laúvvaúríźe*
Infinitive	*haúvvaúríźe*	
Infinitive	*ávvaúríźý*	

Table 11: Consonantal Future II Paradigm of *vvaúríhe*.

2.2.4 Future Anterior

The Future Anterior tense is formed by combining the Future II and the Present Anterior affixes. The PRES ANT suffixes are applied after the FUT II affixes. The vocalic and consonantal affixes are shown in Tables 12 and 13.

Active	Sg	Pl
1st	*b'h- -^{L}é*	*náý'- -aúrâ*
2nd	*ḍír- -^{L}á*	*b'haý'- -(r)ę̂ḍ*
3rd m	*ł- -^{L}á*	*lb'h- -aûr*
3rd f	*èł- -^{L}á*	*lb'h- -aûr*
3rd n	*aúł- -^{L}á*	*lb'h- -aûr*
Infinitive	*d- -á*	
Participle	*-ŷrér*	

Passive	Sg	Pl
1st	*v- -^{L}ê*	*náý'- -^{L}â*
2nd	*ḍír- -^{L}á*	*b'haý'- -^{L}áḍ*
3rd m	*l- -^{L}á*	*lb'h- -(r)ér*
3rd f	*l- -^{L}á*	*lb'h- -(r)ér*
3rd n	*s- -^{L}á*	*lb'h- -(r)ér*
Infinitive	*h- -á*	
Participle	*á- -ýrér*	

Table 12: Vocalic Future Anterior Affixes.

Active	Sg	Pl
1st	*jaú- -ᴸ ę̂*	*aúnraû- -aúrâ*
2nd	*b'há- -ᴸá*	*váu- -ę́ḍ*
3rd m	*aúr- -ᴸá*	*laú- -aûr*
3rd f	*aúr- -ᴸá*	*laú- -aûr*
3rd n	*aúr- -ᴸá*	*laú- -aûr*
Infinitive	*dę- -á*	
Participle	*-(r)ŷr*	

Passive	Sg	Pl
1st	*vaú- -ᴸê*	*naú- -ᴸâ*
2nd	*ḍá- -ᴸá*	*b'haú- -ᴸáḍ*
3rd m	*y'aúr- -ᴸá*	*laú- -(r)ér*
3rd f	*y'aúr- -ᴸá*	*laú- -(r)ér*
3rd n	*saúr- -ᴸá*	*laú- -(r)ér*
Infinitive	*haú- -á*	
Participle	*á- -(r)ýr*	

Table 13: Consonantal Future Anterior Affixes.

Note that again, nasalised stems add another level of nasalisation, and vowel-dropping still applies, but this time, there is no *-ę* dropping, since none of the affixes end with *ę* anymore.

Coalescence
All vowel suffixes coalesce with the final vowel of the stem; if the suffix vowel is nasal, a level of nasalisation is added, e.g. *aúrvvaúrízá* 'he will have remembered' from the future stem *vvaúríze*. Note also that the *ź* is lenited to *z*; the quality of the suffix vowel overrides that of the stem vowel. *r* contraction still happens as in the Future II.

Tables 14 and 15 below show the paradigm of the verbs *ad'hór* 'to love' and *vvaúríhe* 'to remember' in the Future Anterior tense. Note that both the rules for the Future Anterior tense as well as the Present Anterior tense apply here.

Active	Sg	Pl
1st	*b'had'hórérę̂*	*náý'ad'hóréraûrâ*
2nd	*ḍíraḍ'hórérą̂*	*b'haý'ad'hórérrę̂ḍ*
3rd m	*łaḍ'hórérą̂*	*lb'haḍ'hóréraûr*
3rd f	*èłaḍ'hórérą̂*	*lb'haḍ'hóréraûr*
3rd n	*aúłaḍ'hórérą̂*	*lb'haḍ'hóréraûr*
Infinitive	*daḍ'hórérâ*	
Participle	*aḍ'hórérŷrér*	

Passive	Sg	Pl
1st	*vaḍ'hórérę̂*	*náý'aḍ'hórérą̂*
2nd	*ḍíraḍ'hórérą̂*	*b'haý'aḍ'hórérą̂ḍ*
3rd m	*laḍ'hórérą̂*	*lb'haḍ'hórérrér*
3rd f	*laḍ'hórérą̂*	*lb'haḍ'hórérrér*
3rd n	*saḍ'hórérą̂*	*lb'haḍ'hórérrér*
Infinitive	*haḍ'hórérą̂*	
Participle	*áḍ'hórérýrér*	

Table 14: Vocalic Future Anterior Paradigm of *ad'hór*.

Active	Sg	Pl
1st	*jaúvvaúrízę̂*	*aúnraûvvaúríźaúrâ*
2nd	*b'hávvaúrízá*	*váúvvaúríźę́ḍ*
3rd m	*aúrvvaúrízá*	*laúvvaúríźaûr*
3rd f	*aúrvvaúrízá*	*laúvvaúríźaûr*
3rd n	*aúrvvaúrízá*	*laúvvaúríźaûr*
Infinitive	*dęvvaúríźá*	
Infinitive	*vvaúríźŷr*	

Passive	Sg	Pl
1st	*vaúvvaúrízê*	*naúvvaúrízâ*
2nd	*ḍávvaúrízá*	*b'haúvvaúríźáḍ*
3rd m	*y'aúrvvaúrízá*	*laúvvaúríźér*
3rd f	*y'aúrvvaúrízá*	*laúvvaúríźér*
3rd n	*saúrvvaúrízá*	*laúvvaúríźér*
Infinitive	*haúvvaúríze*	
Infinitive	*ávvaúríźý*	

Table 15: Consonantal Future Anterior Paradigm of *vvaúríhe*.

2.2.5 Conditional I and II

The Conditional tenses are fairly simple—so long as you know the Future II and Future Anterior, that is. Both Conditionals are formed by adding the *-ss(a)-* infix between the Future II stem and any suffixes. As always, the vowel is omitted if the suffix after the infix starts with a vowel. For instance, Table 16

below shows the consonantal Conditional II paradigm vor *vvaúríhe* 'to be able to'. Note that the *ss* in this form are *never* lenited:

Active	Sg	Pl
1st	*jaúvvaúríźessę̂*	*aúnraûvvaúríźessaúrâ*
2nd	*b'hávvaúríźessá*	*ṿaúvvaúríźesséḍ*
3rd m	*aúrvvaúríźessá*	*laúvvaúríźessaûr*
3rd f	*aúrvvaúríźessá*	*laúvvaúríźessaûr*
3rd n	*aúrvvaúríźessá*	*laúvvaúríźessaûr*
Inf	*dẹvvaúríźessá*	
Inf	*vvaúríźessŷr*	

Passive	Sg	Pl
1st	*vaúvvaúríźessê*	*naúvvaúríźessâ*
2nd	*ḍávvaúríźessá*	*b'haúvvaúríźesságḍ*
3rd m	*y'aúrvvaúríźessá*	*laúvvaúríźessrér*
3rd f	*y'aúrvvaúríźessá*	*laúvvaúríźessrér*
3rd n	*saúrvvaúríźessá*	*laúvvaúríźessrér*
Inf	*haúvvaúríźesse*	
Inf	*ávvaúríźessý*	

Table 16: Consonantal Conditional II Paradigm of *vvaúríhe*.

2.3 Miscellaneous Tenses

2.3.1 The Gnomic

The gnomic tense is marked by the infix *-j(ú)-* after the stem: *ad'hór* 'to love' to *rad'hórjô* 'We love (for ever)'. The *ú* is omitted if the infix is followed by the vowel, in which case it causes nasalisation.

2.4 Subjunctive

The UF subjunctive forms are fortunately fairly simple: they use the same affixes as the present, past, and future forms, except that each verb has a different subjunctive stem as well as a future subjunctive stem; the subjunctive stem is typically formed by adding an *-s* to the end of the corresponding indicative stem, e.g. *ad'hór* 'to love' to *ad'hórs*; thus we have, e.g. *jad'hórs* 'I would love', and *rád'hórsó* 'We would love.'

2.5 Irregular Verbs

2.5.1 The Conjugation of *eḍ* 'to be'

Present	Sg	Pl
1st	*vy'í*	*aúsó*
2nd	*ḍe*	*b'heḍ*
3rd m	*le*	*lẹsó*
3rd f	*lle*	*llẹsó*
3rd n	*s*	*lasó*
Infinitive	*éḍ*	

Pres. Ant.	Sg	Pl
1st	*vẹ*	*aúfý*
2nd	*ḍyf*	*b'hu*
3rd m	*leb'h*	*lẹfýr*
3rd f	*lle'bh*	*llẹfýr*
3rd n	*seb'h*	*lafýr*
Infinitive	*éfyḍ*	

Preterite	Sg	Pl
1st	*vet'h*	*weḍy'ó*
2nd	*ḍet'h*	*b'heḍy'é*
3rd m	*let'h*	*let'he*
3rd f	*llet'h*	*llet'he*
3rd n	*set'h*	*laet'h*
Infinitive	*ét'hẹd*	

Table 17: Paradigm of the verb *eḍ*.

The etymology of these forms is mostly from a gradual simplification of coalesced forms of the personal pronouns with the PF copula. To compensate for the fact that PF lacks certain forms that are present in UF, some of the forms were coined by analogy. For instance, the PRES ANT INF *éfyḍ* is derived from the PRES ANT stem **fy* and the PRES INF *éḍ*, and the same is true for the PRET INF *ét'hẹd*.

For obvious reasons, the copula lacks passive forms. At the same time, the first person forms are manifestly derived from the first person passive pronoun, for unknown reasons.

Unlike nearly every other word in the language, all forms of the copula are summarily stressed on the first syllable.

2.6 Noun Morphology

UF has 4 declensions. A definite and indefinite vocalic declension, and a definite and indefinite consonantal declension. As their names might suggest, the former two are used for nouns that start with a vowel, and the latter two for nouns that start with a consonant. UF has no morphologically separate articles; rather, the old PF articles have been incorporated into the declensions. Furthermore, UF no longer has a gender distinction in nouns.

2.6.1 Declension

The table below shows the affixes of the definite and indefinite declensions. The declensions are mostly identical, except that, as with the conjugation of verbs, the consonantal prefixes often end in a vowel (marked below with parentheses), which are not present in the vocalic declension.

Definite	Sg	Pl
Absolutive	*∅*	*l-*
Nominative	*lá-*^{L}	*lé-*^{L}
Vocative	*∅-*^{L}	*∅-*^{L}
Partitive	*dy-*^{L}	*dẹ-*^{L}
Accusative	*i-*^{L}	*sý-*^{L}
Genitive	*á-*^{L}	*abh-*^{L}
Inessive	*dwá-*	*dwé-*
Ablative	*rê(d)-*	*rês-*
Considerative	*słá-*	*słé-*
Instrumental	*b'hel-*	*b'he-*
...		

Indefinite	Sg	Pl
Absolutive	*∅-*^{N}	*∅-*^{L}
Nominative	*ŷn-*^{N}	*ý-*^{L}
Vocative	/	/
Partitive	*dŷn-*^{N}	*dý-*^{L}
Accusative	*s-*^{L}	*s-*
Genitive	*sý-*^{N}	*sý-*^{L}
Inessive	*dáhŷn-*	*dáhŷ-*
Ablative	*rêdýn-*	*rêdý-*
Considerative	*sý'óýn-*	*sý'óý-*
Instrumental	*b'hehý(n)-*	*b'heh-*

Table 18: UF Declension.

Most of these forms cause lenition in the initial consonant of the noun, e.g. *ḍalẹ* 'table' to DEF ACC SG *s'thalẹ*; this lenition is blocked in the INDEF ACC PL due to the presence of a hypercorrected 's' in PF **ces*, e.g. *s'ḍalẹ* 'the tables (ACC)' (not *s'thalẹ*, which is the singular), as well as in less commonly used forms such as the DEF inessive *dwáḍalẹ* 'on the table'.

The INDEF NOM SG *ŷn-* prefix and some other forms nasalise nouns; as a reminder, this means that in nouns starting with *ḍ*, the *ḍ* is deleted, e.g. *ŷnalẹ* 'a table'; it causes nasalisation in words that start with a vowel e.g. *ehyó* 'shield' to *ŷnéhyó* 'a shield'. The indefinite vocative does not exist, as that would make little sense. As lenition, nasalisation too is blocked in rarer forms, e.g. INDEF inessive *dáhŷnḍalẹ* 'on a table'.

The absolutive case is used for the predicate noun of predicative sentences, e.g. *Aúsó ḍe ráhó* 'We are all fish'.

The considerative case can be translated as 'according to', or 'in the opinion of', and is used to express the opinion of the speaker or point out something as an opinion, belief, or hypothesis of someone or something.

The *d* in the DEF ABL SG is omitted if the noun starts with a consonant, e.g. *rêḍalẹ* 'from the table'; be careful especially with words that start with *s*, whose ABL SG is often mistaken for a plural, e.g. *rêsol* 'from the floor', but *rêssol* 'from the floors'.

The diachrony of these forms is mostly from the PF definite and indefinite pronouns, though some forms, such as the accusative, are borrowed from demonstratives instead (DEF from PF **celui* and INDEF from PF **ce*); the definite partitive forms are from the PF partitive article, and the indefinite forms are formed with an additional *d-* by analogy to the definite forms. The locative cases are combinations of the articles and PF prepositions. The ablative is from PF **loin de* 'away from'. The diachrony of the genitive singular is unclear.

Definite	Sg	Pl
Nominative	*lát'halę*	*lét'halę*
Vocative	*t'halę*	*t'halę*
Partitive	*dyt'halę*	*dęt'halę*
Accusative	*it'halę*	*sýt'halę*
...		
Inessive	*dwáḍalę*	*dwéḍalę*

Indefinite	Sg	Pl
Nominative	*ŷnalę*	*ýt'halę*
Vocative	/	/
Partitive	*dŷnalę*	*dýt'halę*
Accusative	*st'halę*	*sḍalę*
Inessive	*dáhŷnḍalę*	*dáhýḍalę*

Table 19: Consonantal declension of *ḍalę*.

3 Syntax

UF syntax is unfortunately complicated in what morphological constructs are used in what situations, and the rules are not always clear. The following is a list of the most common constructions.

3.1 Independent Clauses

The UF independent clause typically consists of a finite verb together with a subject perhaps several objects. The verb is conjugated to agree with the subject in person, number, and gender in some cases.

Rab'hadó iárb.
r-ab'haḍ-ó *i-árb*
1PL.ACT-fell-1PL.ACT ACC.DEF.SG-tree
'We are felling the tree.'

The unmarked tense in UF is the present tense, which can generally be translated as either a present or present continuous tense in English. For general truths and facts, the gnomic tense is generally used instead.

Rab'hadjô sárb.
r-ab'haḍ-jô *s-árb*
1PL.ACT-fell-GNOMIC\1PL.ACT ACC.INDEF.PL-tree
'We fell trees.'

The object is incorporated into the verb if it is a personal pronoun, in which case there are rules for the order in which these affixes occur (see Section 2.1).

Lerab'hat'há.
lę-r-ab'ha\t'há.
3SGM.ACT-1PL.PASS-fell\3SG.PRES.ANT
'He felled us.'

Word order is rather lax due to the presence of case marking, and any constituent can be fronted for emphasis, but the default word order is SVO or SOV.

B'hehýnáç aúlýab'hat'hâ.
b'hehýn-áç *aú-lý-ab'ha\t'hâ.*
INSTR.SG.INDEF-axe 1PL.ACT-3PL.PASS-fell\1PL.PRES.ANT
'With an axe, we have felled them.'

3.2 Negated Clauses

Negation is expressed using the particle *asý'ýâ* 'not', which is often appended to verbs as *'sý'ýâ*. By default, the particle is placed right after the verb:

Aúlýab'hat'hâ'sý'ýâ b'hehýnáç.
aú-lý-ab'ha\t'hâ-'sý'ýâ *b'hehýn-áç.*
1PL.ACT-3PL.PASS-fell\1PL.PRES.ANT-not INSTR.SG.INDEF-axe
'We have not felled them with an axe.'

In case of a fronted constituent, the particle is placed after that constituent:

B'hehýnáç asý'ýâ aúlýab'hat'hâ.
b'hehýn-áç *asý'ýâ* *aú-lý-ab'ha\t'hâ.*
INSTR.SG.INDEF-axe not 1PL.ACT-3PL.PASS-fell\1PL.PRES.ANT
'It is not with an axe that we have felled them.'

Note that it is not valid to both front a constituent and not move the negation. For example, the following sentence sounds very awkward and no UF speaker would ever say or write this, save perhaps to sound extremely ironic. ʑ̵ãṽɛ̃

****B'hehýnáç aúlýab'hat'hâ'sý'ýâ.***
b'hehýn-áç *aú-lý-ab'ha\t'hâ-sý'ýâ.*
INSTR.SG.INDEF-axe 1PL.ACT-3PL.PASS-fell\1PL.PRES.ANT-not
Roughly: 'With an axe, we have not-felled them.'

UF makes frequent use of double negation in conjunction with words that create a negative context such as *jávé* 'never', *y'ê* 'nothing', or *rávâ* 'seldom'. Typically, the negation particle is then appended to those words, e.g.:

Rávâ'sý'ýâ st'halę jaçt'hé.
Rávâ-'sý'ýâ *s\t'halę* *j-açt'h\é*
seldom-not ACC.SG.INDEF\table 1SG.ACT-buy\3SG.PRES.ANT
'Rarely have I ever bought a table.'

Still, if a fronted constituent is present, the negation particle is placed after that constituent:

St'halę'sý'ýâ rávâ jaçt'hé.
s\t'halę-'sý'ýâ *rávâ* *j-açt'h\é*
ACC.SG.INDEF\table-not seldom 1SG.ACT-buy\3SG.PRES.ANT
'A table I have bought rarely.'

4 Examples

4.0.1 Simple Glossing Example

Çár-vá, sráhó dwávaût'há daçt'heá?
Çár *-vá* *s-ráhó* *dwá-vaût'há* *ḍ-açt'he-á*
ˈʲ̊ɲãːˠ̃ ṽã ˌsɯãˈhɔ̃ dɯąˌṽɔ̃ˈθã daˌ̥ʲˈθe.ã
Charles.VOC PARTICLE INDEF.ACC-fish DEF.INESS-mountain 2SG.ACT-buy-PRES.ANT.2SG
'Charles, you bought a fish on the mountain?'

4.0.2 I Don't Think This Warrants Explaining

Słérá de c'hóný áb'hásy'ô, ráy'ê y'aúhý dís dyb'hóy'e sab'héy'. Ez lé-el lalebet'he z'ihór bet'hê rêsol daudé.

słé-rá *ḍę* *c'hóný* *áb'hásy'ô* *ráy'ê* *y'aúhý* *ḍ-ís*
CONS.PL.DEF-law all well.known GEN.SG.DEF\aviation way there.is.no INF.ACT-SUBJ\can

dy-b'hóy'ẹ	*s-ab'héy'*	*ez*	*lé-el*	*la-lẹ-bet'hẹ*	*z'*
PART.SG.DEF-to.fly	ACC.SG.INDEF-bee	its	NOM.PL.DEF-wing	3PL.ACT-COMP-be.small	its

ihór	*bet'hê*	*rê-sol*	*ḍ-auḍé*
ACC.SG.DEF\body	be.small\PART.ACT	ABL.SG.DEF-soil	INF.ACT-obtain

'According to all known laws of aviation, there is no way a bee should be able to fly. Its wings are too small to get its fat little body off the ground. The bee, of course, flies anyway because bees don't care what humans think is impossible.'

Literal translation: 'According to all known laws of aviation, there is no way that a bee should be capable of flight. Its wings are too small for its little body to obtain [distance] from the ground.

5 Dictionary

ab'haḍ *v.* [PF *abattre*] FUT *ab'haḍrẹ́*. To cut down, butcher, fell, knock down, shoot down.
ab'hásy'ô *n.* [PF *aviation*] Aviation.
ab'héy' *n.* [PF *abeille*] Bee.
aç *n.* [PF *hache*] Axe, hatchet.
açt'he *v. tr.* [PF *acheter*] To buy.
ad'hór *v. tr.* [PF *adore*] FUT *ad'hóréṛẹ́*. To love, adore.
ánvé *v. tr.* [PF *animer*] To bring to life, animate.
árb *n.* [PF *arbre*] Tree.
asý'ýâ *particle* [*pas absolument*] Not, no..
aub'heír *v. (in)tr.* [PF *obéir*] To obey.
auḍé *v.* [PF *obtenir*] FUT *auḍy'édrẹ́*. To obtain, get, acquire. +ABL To gain purchase on or height or distance from.
aúfý → *eḍ.*
aúsó → *eḍ.*
ḅáł *v.* [PF *parler*] FUT *báléṛẹ́*. To speak, talk, say.
ḅárḍáḍ *v.* [PF *partante*] (+ ACI) To be interested in, willing to, ready to, prepared for.
ḅẹt'hẹ *v.* [PF *petit*] To be small, little.
b'heḍ → *eḍ.*
b'heḍy'é → *eḍ.*
b'hóy'ẹ *v.* [PF *voler*] To fly. Flight.
b'hu → *eḍ.*
Çár *n. male given name, equivalent to English 'Kyle' or 'Charles'.*
c'hes *part.* [PF *qu'est-ce que*] *interrogative particle.*
c'hóný *adj.* [PF *connu*] Known, familiar, well-known.
c'hór *n.* [PF *corps*] Body.
c'húr *v.* [PF *court*] To shrink, reduce in size, narrow.
c'hýr *n.* [PF *corps*] Heart.
ḍalẹ *n.* [PF *tableau*] Table.
Daúvníc'h *n. male or female given name, equivalent to English 'Dominic'.*
ḍẹ *adj.* [PF *tout*] All, every, whole, entire.
ḍe → *eḍ.*
ḍèr *v.* [PF *taire*] FUT *ḍéṛẹ́*. To silence, shut up.
ḍet'h → *eḍ.*
dír *v. tr.* [PF *dire*] FUT *díṛẹ́*. To say, tell.
ḍyf → *eḍ.*
ebhẹ *v.* [PF *épais*] Thick.
éḍ → *eḍ.*
eḍrrá *v.* [PF *étroit*] Pointy.
eḍ *v. irreg.* [PF *être*] *active only*. **PRES:** SG *vy'í*, *ḍe*, *le*, *lle*, *s*; PL *aúsó*, *b'heḍ*, *lẹsó*, *llẹsó*, *lasó*; INF *éḍ*. **PRES ANT:** SG *vẹ*, *ḍyf*, *leb'h*, *lleb'h*, *seb'h*; PL *aúfý*, *b'hu*, *lẹfýr*, *lleḍýr*, *lafýr*; INF *éfyḍ*. **PRET:** SG *vet'h*, *ḍet'h*, *let'h*, *llet'h*, *set'h*; PL *weḍy'ó*, *b'heḍy'é*, *let'he*, *llet'he*, *laet'h*; INF *ét'hẹd*. To be.
Eḍy'ê *n. male given name, equivalent to English 'Stephen'.*
éfyḍ → *eḍ.*
ehyó *n.* [PF *écusson*] Shield.
el *n.* [PF *ailles*] Wing, blade, fin..
ét'hẹd → *eḍ.*
ez- *pron.* [PF *ses*] Its, her, his..
Já *n. male or female given name, equivalent to English 'John' or 'Joan'.*
Láç *n. female given name, equivalent to English 'Bianca'.*
laet'h → *eḍ.*
lafýr → *eḍ.*
lár *v.* [PF *large*] Wide, broad.
lasó → *eḍ.*
laú *v.* [PF *long*] Long.
leb'h → *eḍ.*
le → *eḍ.*
lẹfýr → *eḍ.*
lẹsó → *eḍ.*
let'h → *eḍ.*
let'he → *eḍ.*
lleb'h → *eḍ.*
lle → *eḍ.*
llẹfýr → *eḍ.*
llẹsó → *eḍ.*
llet'h → *eḍ.*
llet'he → *eḍ.*
lúr *v.* [PF *lourd*] Bulky, oversized, heavy.
ráhó *n.* [PF *poisson*] Fish.
rá *n.* [PF *loi*] Law, rule, regulation.
rá *v.* [PF *grand*] Big, large, great.
ráy'ê *n.* [PF *moyen*] Way, means, method. *ráy'ê y'aúhý* + ACI There is no way, that...
ráy'é *v.* [PF *noyer*] To drown.
ráý'ẹ *v.* [PF *râler*] To complain, grumble.
rvá *interj.* [*of unknown origin*] *after words that end with 'r', this is spelt '-vá' instead.* Alas, woe, oh. *Exclamation of distress, surprise, sadness, or regret.*
seb'h → *eḍ.*
s → *eḍ.*
set'h → *eḍ.*
sol *n.* [PF *sol*] Ground, floor, earth, soil.
'sý'ýâ → *asý'ýâ.*

ub'hrá *v.* [PF *pouvoir*] FUT *úrę́*, SUBJ ís. To be able to, can. +PART Capable of ...
vá → *rvá*.
vaût'há *n.* [PF *montagne*] Mountain.
vę → *eḍ*.
vet'h → *eḍ*.
vvaúríhe *v. (in)tr.* [PF *mémoriser*] FUT *vvaúríźe*. To remember.
vy'í → *eḍ*.
weḍy'ó → *eḍ*.
y'aúhý *inconj., postpos.* [PF *il n'y a aucun*] There is no, there are no, there is none.
ý'aúhý *inconj., postpos.* [PF *il y a aucun*] There is, there are.
y'ír *v. (in)tr.* [PF *ouïr*] To hear, understand, listen.