

A note on the transcription of lexical tones in Alexis Michaud's Yongning Na STEDT deposit (version 1, 2011). The table includes both monosyllables and disyllables.

The complexities of the tone system make it necessary to use two nonstandard symbols:

- (i) the pound symbol # stands for the last syllable of the lexical word: thus #H is a High tone that can only be realized *after* the last syllable of the word to which it is lexically attached. This tone therefore does not surface when a word is spoken in isolation.
- (ii) the dollar symbol \$ stands for the end of the phonological phrase. Thus H\$ is a High tone that is realized before the end of the phonological phrase (i.e. on its last syllable).

tone pattern in isolation	tone pattern when followed by the copula	proposed phonemic analysis: underlying tone (= lexical tone)	transcription in the database	underlying tone different from tone in isolation? (y/n)
LM	L + M	LM	bɣɿ	
M	M + L	M	bɣɿ	
M	L + LM	L	bɣɿ	y
M	M + H	#H	bɣɿ	y
MH	M + H	MH#	bɣɿ	
M.M	M.M + L	M	bɣɿkɿ	
M.M	M.M + H	#H	bɣɿkɿ#	y
M.MH	M.M + H	MH#	bɣɿkɿ	
M.H	M.M + H	H\$	bɣɿkɿ\$	y
L.LM	L.L + M	L	bɣɿkɿ	y
M.L	M.L + L	L#	bɣɿkɿ	
L.MH	L.M + H	L + MH#	bɣɿkɿ	
L.M	L.M + H	L + #H	bɣɿkɿ	y
L.M	L.M + L	LM	bɣɿkɿ	
L.M	L.M + L	LML	bɣɿkɿ	y
M.H	M.H + L	H#	bɣɿkɿ	

Details on the tone system are provided in Michaud 2008, with a minor corrective in Michaud and Latami Dashi (forthcoming): confirmation of the existence of a distinct LML tonal category for disyllables.

References:

- Michaud, Alexis. 2008. "Phonemic and tonal analysis of Yongning Na." *Cahiers de linguistique - Asie Orientale* 37 (2): 159-196. Preprint freely available online from <http://halshs.archives-ouvertes.fr/halshs-00358610/>
- Michaud, Alexis, and Latami Dashi. Forthcoming. A description of endangered phonemic oppositions in Mosuo (Yongning Na). In *Proceedings of the Academic Session on Issues of Language Endangerment, 16th Int. Conf. of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences (ICAES 2009)*, ed. T. De Graaf and Xu Shixuan. Kunming, China. Preprint freely available online from <http://halshs.archives-ouvertes.fr/halshs-00512028/>