



[illegible]

uruwi

α^hϕ.αn^φ-debc-delbe^ρ flεlc^θ

A complete grammar

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0.1 | Introduction

1 | Phonology and orthography

1.1 | Phoneme inventory

Middle Rymakonian underwent several sound changes from Lek-Tsaro, in the following order:

$s \rightarrow \text{ɬ}$	$(\blacklozenge\{w, j, u, y\})$	<i>NB this is a whistled sibilant.</i>
$\eta \rightarrow \text{j}\eta$	$(\square\blacklozenge)$	
$\theta x \rightarrow \theta$	$\neg(\blacklozenge\square)[x = \emptyset]$	
$C_1[+fr] \rightarrow C_1[+v]$	$(V_1\blacklozenge V_2)$	
$\text{ɹ} \rightarrow \text{z}$	$(V_1\blacklozenge V_2)$	
$\{x, u\} \rightarrow \text{ɥ}$		
$V_1[+r] \rightarrow V_1[-r]$		
$k \rightarrow c$	$(\blacklozenge i)$	
$t \rightarrow \text{tʃ}$	$(\blacklozenge i)$	
$r \rightarrow \text{r}$		

Thus Middle Rymakonian has the following phoneme inventory:

Table 1.1: The consonants of Middle Rymakonian.

	Bilabial	Dental	Alveolar	Palatal	Velar	Glottal
Nasal	m		n	j	ŋ	
Plosive	p b		t d	c ɟ	k g	ʔ
Fricative	f v	θ ð	s z	ʃ ʒ	x ɣ	
(coarticulated)	fx vɣ	θx ðɣ		fʃ vʒ		
(whistled)			ɬ ʣ			
Affricate			ts	tʃ		
Lateral fricative			ɬ ɮ			
Approximant			ɹ	j	w	
Lateral approximant			l			
Tap			r			

Table 1.2: The vowels of Middle Rymakonian.

	Front	Central	Back
High	i	ɤ	u
Mid	ɛ		ʌ
Low		a	

In addition to consonants and vowels, Middle Rymakonian has rod signals, represented by numbers. Rod A is blue and held by one's dominant hand and B is red and held by one's non-dominant hand. Rod signals can occur only at the end of words.

1. Rod A is raised to one's chest, while B is pointed down.
2. Rods A and B are crossed in the front.
3. Rod B is raised upwards in front of the nondominant arm, while rod A is lowered.
4. Rod A is pointed sideways near one's nondominant arm, while rod B is lowered.
5. Rods A and B are extended to the sides.
6. Rods A and B are extended, facing forward.
7. Rod A is raised forward, while B is pointed to the side.
8. Rod B is raised forward, while A is pointed to the side.
9. Rod A is raised besides one's head, while Rod B is extended toward the side of the dominant hand. This rod signal does not exist alone, but rather as a transition to the seventh or eighth rod signal.

In addition, the fourth rod signal has a “halfway” form where Rod A is retracted away from the nondominant arm.

Lowering both rods is interpreted as an absence of a rod signal.

If the use of rods are unavailable, the numerals of the positions may be pronounced.

1.2 | Hacmisation

As using IPA is quite wieldly, we shall use the following hacmisation, with superscript letters to indicate phonemes not found in Arka.

Rod signs are represented by the hacm digits <1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 Δ> attached to the end of the verbs they encompass. Halfway rod signals are represented by a subscript digit: <9_h>. Transitions from the ninth rod signal are written <L⁹ L^Δ>. Proper words are preceded by a backslash <\>.

Note that the hacmisation is slightly different from Lek-Tsaro's use of hacm. Lek-Tsaro's <h s> are now written using <1^h 1^s>, for instance.

1.3 | Phonotactics

As opposed to Lek-Tsaro, which uses syllables, Middle Rymakonian uses *phonoruns*. The following *defined categories* are used:

These are converted into *actual categories* as follows:

Table 1.3: The consonants of Middle Rymakonian.

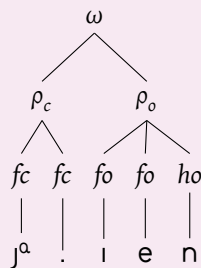
	Bilabial	Dental	Alveolar	Palatal	Velar	Glottal
Nasal	ɖ		n	nʲ	nʷ	
Plosive	d b		ɾ ɳ	ɟ ɲ	ɣ ɸ	.
Fricative	ɸ u	j ^a z ^u	j z	ɬ s	ɣ ^l ɸ ^s	
(coarticulated)	ɸ ^h u ^h	j ^h z ^h		ɸ ^l u ^s		
(whistled)			j ^o z ^o			
Affricate			ɟ	ɟ		
Lateral fricative			ɬ ^l s ^l			
Approximant			ɹ	ɻ	o	
Lateral approximant			ɭ			
Tap			ɾ			

Table 1.4: The vowels of Middle Rymakonian.

	Front	Central	Back
High	ɕ	ɜ	ə
Mid	e		ɔ
Low		ɪ	

- Full-open and full-closed phonemes are always realised as open and closed, respectively.
- Half-open phonemes are open unless the previous phoneme is full-closed.
- Half-closed phonemes are closed unless the previous phoneme is full-open.
- Neutral phonemes that do not occur word-initially inherit the actual category of the phoneme before it.
- Neutral phonemes that occur word-initially are closed.

A *phonorun*, then, is a maximal sequence of phonemes that are either all open or all closed within a word. For instance, take $\langle j^a . i e n \rangle$ < $\times j^h i . e n$ >:



Note that two phonemes in the word were metathesised when it was derived from Lek-Tsaro. In general, a word with n spoken phonemes cannot have more than $\lceil n/2 \rceil$ phonoruns. Therefore, the following changes are executed in order until an application of one rule reduces the number of phonoruns to an acceptable number, after which the other rules are not executed:

Table 1.5: Categories of phonemes.

Category	Phonemes
Full-open	ɪ e ɔ ə u z ^u z z ^o s φ ^s s ^l ɥ o ʔ ɿ
Half-open	ɜ μ ɪ ɒ n n ^u n ^φ ɳ ɭ ^q
Neutral	j j ^o ɭ ^l u ^h z ^h u ^s ɭ
Half-closed	ɑ ɭ ɭ ^l ɾ Δ ɭ ^Δ
Full-closed	j ^Δ ɑ ^h j ^h ɑ ^l d b ɾ ɳ ɭ ^u ɳ ^u ɳ ^φ ɳ ^l ɳ ^Δ ɳ ^Δ

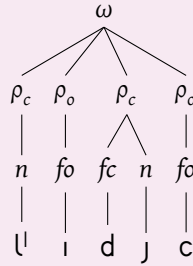
$$\begin{aligned}
X_1[do]X_2[dc]R[do] &\rightarrow X_2X_1R \\
X_1[dc]X_2[do]R[dc] &\rightarrow X_2X_1R \\
X_1[dc]X_2[do]?X_3[do] &\rightarrow X_1?X_2X_3 \\
X_1[do]?X_2[do]X_3[dc] &\rightarrow X_1X_2?X_3 \\
X_1[op \geq 0]X_2[dc]X_3[do]X_4[op \leq 0] &\rightarrow X_1X_3X_2X_4 \quad [X_1.op + X_3.op - X_2.op - X_4.op \geq 6] \\
X_1[op \leq 0]X_2[do]X_3[dc]X_4[op \geq 0] &\rightarrow X_1X_3X_2X_4 \quad [X_2.op + X_4.op - X_1.op - X_3.op \geq 6] \\
X_1[do]X_2[dc]X_3[do] &\rightarrow X_1X_3X_2 \quad \text{for ever} \\
X_1[dc]X_2[do]X_3[dc] &\rightarrow X_2X_1X_3 \quad \text{for ever}
\end{aligned}$$

where R means a rod signal, X represents a spoken phoneme and op stands for *openness* (full-open = 2, neutral = 0, full-closed = -2). do is short for $op > 0$, and dc is short for $op < 0$. (The same rule can occur multiple times within a word, although such invocations may not intersect each other.)

All of the rules above move from right to left and do not occur across compound boundaries. The last two rules are executed in parallel in a loop until the number of phonoruns is reduced to an acceptable number or both rules converge to a fixed point. This process will hereafter be called *phonorun reduction*.

In the example above, $\langle xj^{\Delta}i.en \rangle$ had $4 > \lceil 5/2 \rceil$ phonoruns, so the third rule was applied. This changed the word into $\langle j^{\Delta}.ien \rangle$, which has $2 \leq \lceil 5/2 \rceil$ phonoruns.

An example where phonorun reduction does not result in a word with few enough phonoruns is $\langle l^l idjc \rangle$ *soup*, which has the starting phonoruns



Obviously, the first four rules do not match anywhere in the word. The sixth rule seems promising because it matches the pattern at $\langle l^l idj- \rangle$, but the required sum is $0 + 2 + 2 + 0 < 6$, so this rule does not match. In addition, the last two rules do not match, and we encounter a fixed point. In such cases, the anomaly is allowed to pass.

The dictionary lists forms of roots *before* the phonorun reduction happens, because affixes can radically affect which phonemes are switched.

1.3.1 | Prosody

The time taken to utter a phonorun is given by the model:

$$t_o = K \cdot (1 + v \cdot \alpha + c \cdot \beta) \quad (\text{phonorun is open}) \quad (1.1)$$

$$t_c = K \cdot \eta \cdot (\gamma + v \cdot \alpha + c \cdot \beta) \quad (\text{phonorun is closed}) \quad (1.2)$$

where K is a constant varying from person to person, v is the number of vowels and c is the number of consonants in the run. α, β, γ and η are also constants such that $\beta < \alpha$, and both γ and η are less than 1. In other words:

- There is a fixed cost for starting a new phonorun. This cost is less for closed phonoruns than open.
- Closed phonoruns are faster to say than open runs with the same number of consonants and vowels.
- Closed phonoruns are also more length-dependent than open runs.
- It takes less time to utter consonants than vowels.

An estimate of the constants for the standard dialect would be $\alpha = 0.37, \beta = 0.46, \gamma = 0.82$ and $\eta = 0.61$.

1.4 | Vowel harmony

Middle Rymakonian inherits vowel harmony from Lek-Tsaro. Thus $\langle \text{c e} \rangle$ are front vowels, $\langle \text{ə ɔ} \rangle$ are back vowels and $\langle \text{i ɜ} \rangle$ are neutral. Most roots with neither front nor back vowels act as if they had front vowels, though some might behave as if they had back vowels. Many affixes will change depending on which vowels are present.

If by some odd chance a word has both front and back vowels, then the rightmost vowel (before phonorun reduction) takes precedence.

1.5 | Rod signal sandhi

The following rules influence rod signals depending on the previous rod signal (of the current or previous word):

- $\langle \emptyset \rangle$ is realised as $\langle \text{J} \rangle$ after $\langle \emptyset \rangle$ or $\langle \text{ŋ} \rangle$.
- $\langle \text{ŋ} \rangle$ is realised as $\langle \text{L}^{\text{ŋ}} \rangle$ after $\langle \text{ŋ} \rangle$ or $\langle \text{L}^{\text{ŋ}} \rangle$.
- $\langle \Delta \rangle$ is realised as $\langle \text{L}^{\Delta} \rangle$ after $\langle \Delta \rangle$ or $\langle \text{L}^{\Delta} \rangle$.

Rod sandhi does not affect the orthography or phonorun reduction.

2 | Syntax

2.1 | Basic word order

The basic word order is VSO. Descriptors follow what they modify.

However, unlike Lek-Tsaro, Middle Rymakonian has oblique arguments. As these were historically formed from a preclause, all obliques precede V. Likewise, any arguments with conjunctions also precede V. Such arguments that were formed from a clause will be called *historically clausal arguments* (HCAs).

Usually, oblique arguments are prepared by prepositions and fall after what they modify (unless the antecedent is V), but if an oblique argument is a conjunctive phrase or governs an HCA, it uses a postposition instead and precedes its antecedent.

2.2 | Questions

In all questions, the intonation of the second word of the last clause is lowered considerably.

Binary questions have the interrogative polarity marker and no change to syntax.

In wh-questions, the wh-word is pulled to the front (i. e. before the verb). This requires case marking for the wh-word:

ʃezcn ʁeəʒɲɪ dɔʒ
who-ACC speak-FAR.PAST-Q PR.FAR
Whom did you speak to?

This applies only to questions, not interrogative-mood clauses that act as relative clauses:

ʁeəʒɲɪ dɔ ʃel, ɥɪf ʁɔ.
speak-FAR.PAST-Q PR.FAR who, see-NEAR.PAST PR.ANAPH_OBJ
I saw the person whom you talked to.

2.3 | Multiple clauses

A sentence might have multiple clauses. Each clause in a sentence follows the basic VSO order, and clauses are separated with commas.

3 | Nouns

Nouns are declined for number, case and definiteness.

3.1 | Number

Countable nouns come in two numbers: *dual* and *non-dual*.

There are two different conceptualisations of the dual number. Some dialects use the dual number to refer to all cases with two objects (we say that they have the *unpaired dual*); others use it only to refer to objects in pairs (these lack the unpaired dual). In general, dialects without the unpaired dual are more prevalent in cities, as well as northern regions.

Each countable noun has an *inherent number*. A noun whose number agrees with its inherent number receives no marking; a mismatch causes the noun to receive a special affix.

3.2 | Case

In a clause with both the subject and object directly expressed in that order, both the subject and object are declined in the nominative case (and their roles are inferred through word order). In a clause where only one is present, or where both are expressed in the opposite order, the subject will receive the nominative case and the object will receive the accusative case.

3.3 | Noun classes

There are three overarching groups of noun classes.

1. Countable
 - (a) Sentient – such as humans, AIs, deities.
 - (b) Non-sentient – anything else.
2. Measurable
 - (a) Measure – all measurable nouns, especially units of measurement.
3. Uncountable
 - (a) Edible – edible (to humans).

- (b) Inedible – inedible (to humans).
- (c) Abstract – abstract ideas.

3.4 | Definiteness

The definite form of a noun is formed regularly by reduplicating the first syllable (without the coda): <DIZI> “a person” becomes <DIDIZI> “the person”.

3.5 | Declension table

Here, the inflected forms of words are shown both before and after phonorun reduction to illustrate the pattern. The declension patterns for each class is shown, both for roots ending with consonants and those ending with vowels.

Note that noun declensions for countable classes respect vowel harmony. For nouns with back vowels, replace the front vowels with the back vowels of the same height and rounding, and vice versa. (Noun declensions for measurable and uncountable classes do not respect vowel harmony.)

3.5.1 | Countable classes

Table 3.1: Declensions for countable nouns.

	Direct #	Inverse #
Sentient: <xDIZI> “person”		
Nominative	DIZI (DIZI)	DIZI (DIZI)
Accusative	DIZIn (DIZIn)	DIZInIl (DIZInIl)
Sentient: <xj ⁰ .en> “magician”		
Nominative	j ⁰ .en (j ⁰ .en)	j ⁰ .el (j ⁰ .el)
Accusative	j ⁰ .ezcn (j ⁰ .ezcn)	j ⁰ .epcl (j ⁰ .epcl)
(Note that the final consonant is preserved only in the direct nominative form.)		
Non-sentient: <xD3n ⁰ ɔ> “rabbit”		
Nominative	D3n ⁰ ɔ (D3n ⁰ ɔ)	D3n ⁰ ɔ.ə (D3n ⁰ ɔ.ə)
Accusative	D3n ⁰ ɔD (D3n ⁰ ɔD)	D3n ⁰ ɔuə (D3n ⁰ ɔuə)
Non-sentient: <x.cDen> “house”		
Nominative	.cDen (.cDen)	.cDe.c (.cDec.)
Accusative	.cDezCD (.cDezCD)	.cDeɲcuc (.cDeɲcuc)

3.5.2 | Measurable and uncountable classes

Table 3.2: Declensions for measurable and uncountable nouns.

	Direct
Measure: <xμ3D3> “day (continuous)”	
Nominative	μ3D3 (μ3D3)
Accusative	μ3D3n (μ3D3n)
Measure: <xDeI> “volume” (in expressions such as <xDeI–ɥ3ɔ> “cupful”)	
Nominative	DeI (DeI)

	Direct
Accusative	de ^z cn (de ^z cn)
Edible: <xfe _μ .c> “beef”	
Nominative	fe _μ .c (fe _μ .c)
Accusative	fe _μ .cn (fe _μ .cn)
Edible: <xɔɪn> “rice”	
Nominative	ɔɪn (ɔɪn)
Accusative	ɔɪncn (ɔɪncn)
Inedible: <xpəɔ> “gold”	
Nominative	pəɔ (pəɔ)
Accusative	pəɔbe (pəɔbe)
Inedible: <xɪɔɪj> “stone”	
Nominative	ɪɔɪj (ɪɔɪj)
Accusative	ɪɔɪjde (ɪɔɪjde)
Abstract: <xə ^h əɔ> “empathy”	
Nominative	ə ^h əɔ (ə ^h əɔ)
Accusative	ə ^h əɔcn ^ʰ (ə ^h əɔcn ^ʰ)
Abstract: <xɸɔj> “[the number] five”	
Nominative	ɸɔj (ɸɔj)
Accusative	ɸczcn ^ʰ (ɸczcn ^ʰ)
Here, the final consonant is voiced if it is a fricative.	

(NB: be sure to change any <ɪ> and <ɸ> into <ɪ^{ʰʰ}

3.6 | Pronouns

Personal pronouns are not divided into first, second and third persons as in most languages. Instead, they fall into six categories that exhibit different behaviour depending on whether they occur as the first non-oblique noun in the clause or elsewhere (second noun, verb inflection, oblique):

Table 3.3: Pronoun persons and their functions.

Person	Role in first position	Role elsewhere
Near	The speaker.	The first non-oblique argument of the clause. The person with which the first argument is conversing. An entity that is neither the speaker, the listener nor the first argument.
Far	The listener.	
Other	A third entity.	
Generic	A generic entity (akin to “one”).	
Anaphoric Subject	The subject of the previous clause. Also used on the verb when an oblique or conjunction is present.	
Anaphoric Object	The object of the previous clause.	

In wh-questions, the wh-word assumes the second position and the other argument becomes the first.

If a clause has no explicit arguments, the first argument is understood to be the subject.

Table 3.4: Personal pronouns (before phonorun reduction).

	Nominative		Accusative	
	Non-dual	Dual	Non-dual	Dual
Near	fi	aczc	fin	aczen
Far	dc	bpi	dcn	bpin
Other	nc	lizc	ncn	lizen
Anaph. Sub.	pi	n ⁴ cpc	pin	n ⁴ cpen
Anaph. Obj.	pc	n ⁴ apc	pcn	n ⁴ apcn
Generic	.ə		.ən	

3.6.1 | Last-clause pronouns

The anaphoric pronoun <ebj> (accusative: <bezen>) is grammatically an other pronoun, and it refers to the previous clause said. Likewise, <bdecj> (accusative: <bdecn>) refers to the clause before the previous one. All of these pronouns should undergo phonorun reduction inside a compound.

3.7 | Compounding

Nouns can be compounded together in a head-initial manner. When that happens, only the leftmost noun is the one to be declined.

del-μɜɟɔ-ɑ¹ɜμə-φcɟ
 volume-cup-water-five
 five cupfuls of water

Note that pronouns can modify other nouns, in which personal possession is indicated:

del-μɜɟɔ-ɑ¹ɜμə-φcɟ-fi
 volume-cup-water-five-PR.NEAR.ND
 (arg1)'s five cupfuls of water

Descriptors can also compound on nouns. Unlike in Lek-Tsaro, this is the only way to have descriptors modify nouns.

ɖɪzɪ-lfəi
 ɖɪzɪ-ləfi
 person-old
 old people

3.8 | Possession

“X’s Y” is translated as <Y=ɖɪ X> (plus phonorun reduction). The possessive construction is also used to create appositives. (Note the head-marking!)

Observe that possession marks the head, and <-Dɪ> is a clitic, not an affix, as in the following example:

D3D3ŋ^əɔ̃-a^lʒpə-Dɪ j^h.ien
 D3D3ŋ^əɔ̃-a^lʒpə-Dɪ j^h.ien
 DEF~rabbit-water=GEN magician
 the magician's water rabbit

This construction is also used when compounding would otherwise be used, but the dependent is larger than a single noun or descriptor:

ŋɥɪzɪDɪ ɪ.lle an ɪj
 cat=GEN 4096 and two
 4098 cats

4 | Verbs

Verbs are conjugated for person of the subject, tense, polarity and tellicity, in two paradigms. Conjugation respects vowel harmony. In addition, a final <-j> or <-z> in the stem of a first- or second-conjugation verb becomes whistled in the generic form.

The dictionary lists the stem of the verb and the conjugation scheme used.

Table 4.1: Person-tense conjugations for first-conjugation verbs, using <ɖil-> “(S) eats (O)”, before and after phonorun reduction.

	Nonpast	Past
Near	ɖilɪn (ɖilɪn)	ɖilɪf (ɖilɪf)
Far	ɖilɪn (ɖilɪn)	ɖilɜj (ɖilɜj)
Other	ɖilɪ (ɖilɪ)	ɖilɜ (ɖilɜ)
Anaph. Sub.	ɖile (ɖile)	ɖilel (ɖilel)
Anaph. Obj.	ɖilc.e (ɖil.ce)	ɖilc.el (ɖil.cel)
Generic	ɖilc (ɖilc)	ɖilc (ɖilc)

Table 4.2: Person-tense conjugations for second-conjugation verbs, using <nən-> “(S) kills (O), (O) dies”, before and after phonorun reduction.

	Nonpast	Past
Near	nənɪn (nənɪn)	nənɪf (nənɪf)
Far	nənɪn (nənɪn)	nənɜj (nənɜj)
Other	nənɪ (nənɪ)	nənɜ (nənɜ)
Anaph. Sub.	nənɔ (nənɔ)	nənɛl (nənɛl)
Anaph. Obj.	nənə.ɔ (nənə.ɔ)	nənə.ɔl (nənə.ɔl)
Generic	nənə (nənə)	nənə (nənə)

Notes:

- The polarity-tellicity suffix is added after the person-tense ending.
- “Negative atelic” means something akin to “unsuccessfully tried to avoid doing X”.
- The interrogative polarity, in addition to marking questions, is used to mark clauses that may or may not be true but are referred to later in the sentence.
- As an exception, the generic form of <y-> is <yə>.

Table 4.3: Person-tense conjugations for third-conjugation verbs, using <µeu-> “(S) spreads (O)”, before and after phonorun reduction.

	Nonpast	Past
Near	µeucn (µeucn)	µeucf (µeucf)
Far	µeuin (µeuin)	µeu3j (µeu3j)
Other	µeui (µeui)	µeu3 (µeu3)
Anaph. Sub.	µeue (µeue)	µeuel (µeuel)
Anaph. Obj.	µeuc.e (µeuc.e)	µeuc.el (µeuc.el)
Generic	µeu3 (µeu3)	µeu3 (µeu3)

Table 4.4: Polarity-telicity suffixes for verbs (before phonorun reduction). The interrogative affix can also follow a negative affix.

	Positive	Negative	Interrogative
Telic	-·	-f ⁴ e / -ᵛ	-ᵛᵛ
Atelic	-DC / -Də	-ᵛ	-ᵛ3

Some examples:

ᵈᵒᵒᵒ ᵒᵒᵒᵒ ᵒᵒᵒᵒ.
eat-NEAR.NONPAST fish flower
Fish eat flowers.

ᵈᵒᵒᵒ ᵒᵒᵒᵒ ᵒᵒᵒᵒ, ᵈᵒᵒᵒ ᵒᵒᵒᵒ ᵒᵒ.
eat-NEAR.NONPAST fish flower, eat-NEAR.NONPAST cat PR.ANAPH_SUB
Fish eat flowers, and cats eat fish.

ᵈᵒᵒᵒ ᵒᵒᵒᵒ ᵒᵒᵒᵒ, ᵒᵒᵒ ᵒᵒᵒᵒᵒᵒ.
ᵈᵒᵒᵒ ᵒᵒᵒᵒ ᵒᵒᵒᵒ, ᵒᵒᵒ ᵒᵒᵒᵒᵒᵒ.
eat-NEAR.NONPAST fish flower, eat-ANAPH_SUB.NONPAST grass-ACC
Fish eat flowers, and they eat grass.
(Grass is inedible to humans, but edible to fish.)

ᵈᵒᵒᵒᵒᵒᵒ ᵒᵒᵒᵒ ᵒᵒᵒᵒ.
ᵈᵒᵒᵒᵒᵒᵒ ᵒᵒᵒᵒ ᵒᵒᵒᵒ.
eat-NEAR.NONPAST-NEG flower fish
Flowers don’t eat fish.

ᵈᵒᵒᵒ ᵒᵒ ᵒᵒᵒᵒᵒᵒᵒᵒ, ᵒᵒᵒᵒ ᵒᵒ ᵒᵒᵒ.
ᵈᵒᵒᵒ ᵒᵒ ᵒᵒᵒᵒᵒᵒᵒᵒ, ᵒᵒᵒᵒ ᵒᵒ ᵒᵒᵒ.
carry-NEAR.NONPAST PR.OTHER DEF~book, worry-NEAR.NONPAST PR.NEAR
PR.LAST_CLAUSE
He has the book; that worries me.
or: That he has the book worries me.

ᵈᵒᵒᵒᵒᵒ ᵒᵒ ᵒᵒᵒᵒᵒᵒᵒᵒ, ᵒᵒᵒᵒ ᵒᵒ ᵒᵒᵒ.
ᵈᵒᵒᵒᵒᵒ ᵒᵒ ᵒᵒᵒᵒᵒᵒᵒᵒ, ᵒᵒᵒᵒ ᵒᵒ ᵒᵒᵒ.
carry-NEAR.NONPAST-Q PR.OTHER DEF~book, worry-NEAR.NONPAST PR.NEAR.INT

PR.LAST_CLAUSE

He might have the book; that worries me.

or: That he might have the book worries me.

4.1 | Aspect

Verbs can also be marked for aspect, either using a rod sign directly on the verb, or a particle with a rod sign, placed anywhere between the verb it modifies and the next verb.

Table 4.5: Aspect markers. Those with hyphens are attached to verb. Those without hyphens are placed as separate particles anywhere after the verb.

Aspect name	Marking	Meaning
Imperfect	–ɿ	An action that is currently going on. Also used to distinguish static actions as opposed to dynamic (e. g. <i>wear</i> as opposed to <i>put on</i>).
Interrupted	ɿʔcɿ	An action that was interrupted.
Perfect	–ɿ	An action that has already finished. Changes present tense to immediate past. Also used to distinguish dynamic actions as opposed to static (e. g. <i>put on</i> as opposed to <i>wear</i>).
Gnomic	–ɿ	A general truth or aphorism, or an action done habitually.
Gnomic dubitative	ɿʔcɿ	A general truth or aphorism that the speaker considers to be false.
Deontic necessity	–ɿ	An action that the speaker insists on happening.
Deontic recommendation	–ɿ	An action that the speaker recommends that happens.
Epistemic necessity	ɿəɸɿ	An action that the speaker infers is happening. (<i>Situational necessitative and potential moods are grouped with their epistemic versions.</i>)
Deontic potential	–ɿ	An action that the speaker permits to occur.
Epistemic potential	ɿəɸɿ	An action that the speaker infers that might happen.
Unexpected	–ɿ	An action that is unexpected (akin to using “but”).
Comparative	deɿ	Indicates an action of greater intensity than what was described in the previous clause.
Nonexclusive subject	ɿʔcɿ	Indicates that the subject comprises not only of what is explicitly mentioned, but also other things.

Aspect name	Marking	Meaning
Nonexclusive object	c^{uo}	Indicates that the object comprises not only of what is explicitly mentioned, but also other things.
Nonexclusive argument	c^{uo}	Combination of both nonexclusive subject and nonexclusive object.
Temporal universal	$-L^q$	The statement is always true (“never true” when negative).
Temporal non-universal	$j^o L^q$	The statement is not always true (“sometimes true” when negative).
Spatial universal	$-L^\Delta$	The statement is true (false) everywhere.
Spatial non-universal	$j^o L^\Delta$	The statement is false (true) somewhere.

An attached rod signal reverts $\langle j^a z^u \rangle$ to $\langle j^h z^h \rangle$, respectively, and might affect phonorun reduction.

An example:

$\text{f}^{\text{ilil}}\text{f}^{\text{dc1}} \text{fi } nc, \text{lcnc.elf } d3n^{\text{u}}\text{iu}\text{a}-\mu.$
 $\text{f}^{\text{ilil}}\text{f}^{\text{dc1}} \text{fi } nc, \text{lcnc.elf } d3n^{\text{u}}\text{iu}\text{a}-\mu.$
 fight-NEAR,PAST-ATELIC-IMPERFECT PR.NEAR PR.OTHER, shoot-ANAPH_OBJ.PAST-
 UNEXPECTED knee-INV.ACC-PR.ANAPH_SUB
 I tried to fight them, but they shot my knee.

4.1.1 | Simultaneous temporal and spatial aspects

A verb may be modified by both temporal and spatial aspects, in which case their mutual order is significant:

Table 4.6: Behaviour when both temporal and spatial markers exist, where t is a time variable and \vec{x} is a space variable.

Marking	Definition	Equivalent
$-L^\Delta q$	$\forall t \forall \vec{x} : P(t, \vec{x})$	$\forall t \forall \vec{x} : P(t, \vec{x})$
$-L^\Delta j^o L^q$	$\neg \forall t \forall \vec{x} : P(t, \vec{x})$	$\exists t \exists \vec{x} : \neg P(t, \vec{x})$
$j^o L^\Delta q$	$\forall t \neg \forall \vec{x} : P(t, \vec{x})$	$\forall t \exists \vec{x} : \neg P(t, \vec{x})$
$j^o L^\Delta j^o L^q$	$\neg \forall t \neg \forall \vec{x} : P(t, \vec{x})$	$\exists t \forall \vec{x} : P(t, \vec{x})$
$-L^q \Delta$	$\forall \vec{x} \forall t : P(t, \vec{x})$	$\forall \vec{x} \forall t : P(t, \vec{x})$
$-L^q j^o L^\Delta$	$\neg \forall \vec{x} \forall t : P(t, \vec{x})$	$\exists \vec{x} \exists t : \neg P(t, \vec{x})$
$j^o L^q \Delta$	$\forall \vec{x} \neg \forall t : P(t, \vec{x})$	$\forall \vec{x} \exists t : \neg P(t, \vec{x})$
$j^o L^q j^o L^\Delta$	$\neg \forall \vec{x} \neg \forall t : P(t, \vec{x})$	$\exists \vec{x} \forall t : P(t, \vec{x})$

4.2 | Historically clausal arguments

Historically clausal arguments (HCAs) are arguments of a sentence that are derived from clausal constructions. They include obliques and conjunctions. HCAs precede V.

An HCA that modifies a verb causes it to be conjugated in the anaphoric subject person.

4.2.1 | Obliques

An oblique expresses a relation between the verb of a sentence or some argument thereof.

An oblique phrase that modifies a verb falls before it. An oblique phrase that modifies either S or O pulls it before the verb as well.

If the argument of the oblique phrase is not an HCA, then it uses a preposition and follows its antecedent (unless it is the main verb). If the argument is an HCA, then the phrase uses a postposition and precedes its antecedent.

Consider the preposition <ɪn> *in, on, at (location)* (from Lek-Tsaro <ɪn> (S) *is at* (O)). The sentence *Ryze is hiding from me in the tree* would be translated as:

ɪn ʃuɔl neɹae1 ɪn ʔɜze
in tree hide-ANAPH.SUB.NONPAST-IMPERFECT PR.NEAR.ACC Ryze

Now say that we want to translate *Ryze is hiding from me in the tree with fruit*. *With* would be translated as <ɖɹ> (from Lek-Tsaro <ɖɹɔn> *hold, carry*, which also begets <ɹɹ>), but now we have nested obliques, which means we need to use <ɪn> as a postposition:

ʃuɔl ɹɹ ʔɜze ɪn neɹae1 ɪn ʔɜze
tree with fruit in-POST hide-ANAPH.SUB.NONPAST-IMPERFECT PR.NEAR.ACC Ryze

Deriving a postposition from a preposition is done *after* phonorun reduction. Prepositions that end with a closed phonorun receive <-ɪ>, and those that end with an open phonorun receive <-z>.

The prefix <ɪ- > negates an adposition.

4.2.2 | Conjunctions

Conjunctions are derived from verbs as well; for instance, <an> *and* is derived from Lek-Tsaro <acn> *join*. However, in Middle Rymakonian, conjunctions are infixes:

ʔɜze an ʋɪzɪl ɖɪl ʃɛɹ..
ʔɜze an ʋɪzɪl ɖɪl ʃɛɹ.c.
Ryze and Tazyl eat-ANAPH.SUB.NONPAST beef

(Note that as long as S still precedes O, no case marking is needed.)

Unlike Lek-Tsaro's approach, this approach works well with more complex sentences:

ʔɜze an ʋɪzɪl ʃɛɹ. an ɭɪɖɔ ɖɪl.
ʔɜze an ʋɪzɪl ʃɛɹ.c an ɭɪɖɔ ɖɪl.
Ryze and Tazyl beef and soup eat-ANAPH.SUB.NONPAST

An entire conjunctive phrase can be modified by treating the conjunction as a nominal antecedent:

ɳɥɪzɪ an-ɭɪɖɔ ɖɜɳɔ
ɳɥɪzɪ an-ɭɪɖɔ ɖɜɳɔ

cat and-old rabbit
old cats and rabbits

4.3 | Connectors

(This section will refer to section 2.11 of $\backslash\psi\text{bl} \supset \alpha\text{lo} /(\alpha'\backslash\text{nn}^\Phi\text{lo}$ extensively.)

Middle Rymakonian uses connectors to express relationships between clauses. In Middle Rymakonian, connectors do not occupy an indexed position in the clause; however, they tend to be placed near items that should receive less emphasis than others. Two connectors cannot occur consecutively unless the number of connectors is more than one plus the number of other words.

A connector is composed of three parts:

- The *type* (see table 4.7) specifies the semantic role of the connector.
- The *sequence identifier* (hereafter *seqid*) disambiguates the use of multiple connectors of the same *type* within a sentence. This is an arbitrary continuation of the last phonorun of the *type*.
- The *parity* allows the reuse of *seqids* within a *type*. This is $\langle -\text{f} \rangle$ or $\langle -\text{l} \rangle$ if the *type* ends with a closed phonorun, and $\langle -\text{i} \rangle$ or $\langle -\text{z} \rangle$ if it ends with an open phonorun.

Unlike most parts of speech, a complete connector, composed of the three parts above, does not undergo phonorun reduction.

Connectors *x* and *y* are part of the same *set S* iff all of the following conditions hold:

- *x* and *y* are identical (i. e. all three parts are the same between *x* and *y*)
- they belong to clauses α and β , respectively (NB: it is possible that $\alpha = \beta$)
- there are no clauses between α and β that has a connector with the same *type* and *seqid* but a different *parity* from *x* or *y*

Note that “belonging to the same connector set” is an equivalence relation.

Table 4.7: Connector types.

Name	Arity	Middle Rymakonian	Explanation
Ordinary	<i>n</i>	lJ–	Covers both the sequential and parallel connectors of Jbl.
Analogous	2	ld–	“For the same reason α is true, β is also true.” Also used as an “and” without stating any order.
Subversive	2	lQ–	“ α but β .”
Augmentative	<i>n</i>	o ψ^S –	Later statements apply to a greater extent than earlier statements.
Explanatory	<i>n</i>	CD–	“ θ_1 causes θ_2 causes θ_3 etc.”
Conditional	2	CJ–	“If α , then β .”

Clauses of a connector set are joined by the relation of the connector used therein:

דויל ל'רדע ר'צזז יעי.
 דויל ל'רדע ר'צזז יעי.
 eat-NEAR.PAST fish flower ORDINARY-⟨e⟩-0
 The fish ate the flower.

 יעי נדדדל ר'רעזע ר'טזל.
 ORDINARY-⟨e⟩-0 dance-NEAR.PAST child tree
 Then the child danced around the tree.

 יעי דילל ל'ל'רדע.
 eat-ANAPH_SUB.PAST ORDINARY-⟨e⟩-0 DEF~fish-ACC
 Then the child ate the fish.

 דעלדלל פ'פ'נ' יעז דו.
 דעלדלל פ'פ'נ' יעז דו.
 imitate-NEAR.PAST-IMP frog ORDINARY-⟨e⟩-1 PR.FAR
 At another time, a frog was imitating me. (...)

4.4 | Comparatives

The comparative is a function $\text{cmp} : A \times A \times (A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}) \times (A \times A \rightarrow \{0, 1\}) \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$, where $\text{cmp}(a, b, f, \sqsupset) = f(a) \sqsupset f(b)$.

Consider the following sentences:

Fish eat flowers more than cats.
 More fish eat flowers than cats.

Semantically, they can be translated to:

$$\text{cmp}(\text{fish}, \text{cats}, a \mapsto (\# \text{ of flowers eaten by } a), >) \quad (4.1)$$

$$\text{cmp}(\text{fish}, \text{cats}, a \mapsto (\# \text{ of } a \text{ that eat flowers}), >) \quad (4.2)$$

The heart of comparatives in Middle Rymakonian is the quadrivalent verb $\langle \text{ר'צזז } a \text{ } b \text{ } f \text{ } \sqsupset \rangle$. Thus:

דוילל ר'צזז-י'ר'נ, ר'צזז ל'רדע נ'פ'זי פ'נ נעל.
 eat-GENERIC-Q flower-ACC-how_many, CMP-NEAR fish cat PR.ANAPH_OBJ >
 Fish eat more flowers than cats.

 דוילל .א-י'ר'נ ר'צזז, ר'צזז ל'רדע נ'פ'זי פ'נ נעל.
 eat-GENERIC-Q PR.GENERIC-how_many flower, CMP-NEAR fish cat PR.ANAPH_SUB >
 More fish eat flowers than cats.

Note that we place a clause whose argument is the generic pronoun before the comparative clause. From the dozan-clause, we refer to the function using the anaphoric pronoun referring to the position of the return value.

Table 4.8: Comparators in Middle Rymakonian.

□	Comparator
>	nef
<	αɔl
=	fen ^ɸ
≥	fʏl
≤	ɔɕj
≠	.ɜj
≈	pej
≫	α ^h e
≪	ɔɪn

4.5 | Ditransitive-like constructions

In English, some verbs such as *give* take two objects: the item being given and the recipient of the item. Because of Middle Rymakonian's heritage, this is translated into a compound statement:

ʃɪɸɪf ʃɪ ʎɪɕɪʎɪɕɔɪn, nebel ʎɜʒen.
 ʃɪɸɪf ʃɪ ʎɪɕɪʎɪɕɔɪn, nebel ʎɜʒen.
 lose-NEAR.PAST PR.NEAR DEF~book, give_to-ANAPH.SUB.PAST Ryze-ACC
 I gave the book to Ryze.

4.6 | Transitivity

Verbs that are used intransitively (i. e. have no object passed at this time) can be turned into a causative form with the prefix <ɸɕ->:

ʃɪɕɪɕɪf ɔpeɔɪn^ɸe.
 fall-NEAR.PAST DEF~coin
 The coins fell.

ʃɪ ɕɸɪɕɪɕɪɕɪf ɔpeɔɪn^ɸe.
 ʃɪ ɸɕɪɕɪɕɪɕɪf ɔpeɔɪn^ɸe.
 PR.NEAR TRANS-fall-OTHER.PAST DEF~coin
 I dropped the coins.

Due to historical sound changes:

- An initial fricative or lateral fricative followed by a vowel is voiced.
- An initial <ɸ> followed by a vowel turns into <ɜ>.
- A word that started with <n^ɸ> in Lek-Tsaro but <n^ɸ> in Middle Rymakonian has the initial consonant revert to <n^ɸ>.

Note that the word order changes to SVO. (In this case, HCAs fall before S.) In addition, the verb is conjugated for its object, rather than the subject as expected. If

the following clause uses an anaphoric subject, it refers to the object of the current clause.

Moreover, the verb does not need to be one that can never take an object. In the above example, <ṛṛṛṛṛṛ> means “(S) falls on (O)”. However, if the verb in question is taking an object, it cannot be transitivised directly and a more roundabout way is required:

ṛṛṛṛṛṛ ṁṁṁṁṁṁṁ ṁṁṁṁ.

fall-NEAR.PAST DEF~coin grass

The coins fell on the grass.

ṁṁ ṁṁṁṁṁṁ ṁṁṁṁṁṁṁ, ṛṛṛṛṛṛ ṁṁṁṁṁṁ.

ṁṁ ṁṁṁṁṁṁ ṁṁṁṁṁṁṁ, ṛṛṛṛṛṛ ṁṁṁṁṁṁ.

PR.NEAR TRANS-fall-OTHER.PAST DEF~coin, fall-ANAPH_SUB.PAST grass-ACC

I dropped the coins; they fell on grass.

or: I dropped the coins on grass.

4.7 | The copula

The copula <j-> (v3) can take a noun as an object, in which case it can mean identity or membership. (Location is expressed with <l-> (v1) “be at”.) With no object at all, it is used to denote existence.

It can also accept a descriptor, in which case the descriptor is attached before <jcn> in the dictionary form. (This precedes phonorun reduction but forms a compounding boundary.)

5 | Descriptors

Descriptors act as adjectives or adverbs. They follow what they modify, and are inflected for the verbal person of their antecedents.

Modifying nouns is done through compounding, but there are special forms for modifying verbs. These are separate words.

Table 5.1: Descriptor declensions, using the descriptors <ᵐᵉḍḍ-> “large” and <ᵐᵉḍ-> “old”.

Person	Declined form	
<i>Nouns</i>	ᵐᵉḍḍᵐ (ᵐᵉḍḍᵐ)	ᵐᵉḍᵐ (ᵐᵉḍᵐ)
Near	ᵐᵉḍḍᵐᵐ (ᵐᵉḍḍᵐᵐ)	ᵐᵉḍᵐᵐ (ᵐᵉḍᵐᵐ)
Far	ᵐᵉḍḍᵐᵐᵐ (ᵐᵉḍḍᵐᵐᵐ)	ᵐᵉḍᵐᵐᵐ (ᵐᵉḍᵐᵐᵐ)
Other	ᵐᵉḍḍᵐᵐᵐᵐ (ᵐᵉḍḍᵐᵐᵐᵐ)	ᵐᵉḍᵐᵐᵐᵐ (ᵐᵉḍᵐᵐᵐᵐ)
Anaph. Sub.	ᵐᵉḍḍᵐᵐᵐᵐᵐ (ᵐᵉḍḍᵐᵐᵐᵐᵐ)	ᵐᵉḍᵐᵐᵐᵐᵐ (ᵐᵉḍᵐᵐᵐᵐᵐ)
Anaph. Obj.	ᵐᵉḍḍᵐᵐᵐᵐᵐᵐ (ᵐᵉḍḍᵐᵐᵐᵐᵐᵐ)	ᵐᵉḍᵐᵐᵐᵐᵐᵐ (ᵐᵉḍᵐᵐᵐᵐᵐᵐ)
Generic	ᵐᵉḍḍᵐᵐᵐᵐᵐᵐᵐ (ᵐᵉḍḍᵐᵐᵐᵐᵐᵐᵐᵐ)	ᵐᵉḍᵐᵐᵐᵐᵐᵐᵐᵐ (ᵐᵉḍᵐᵐᵐᵐᵐᵐᵐᵐᵐ)

Note that a final <-j> or <-z> in a stem becomes whistled in the generic form.

6 | Tree mode

Anaphoric referents in a linked-list sentence are sometimes insufficient for expressing complex sentence structures. While the easiest method of resolving this issue is using definite nouns, Middle Rymakonian also provides a mode where sentences are not linked lists of clauses, but rather (binary) trees.

6.1 | Activation

Tree mode is enabled automatically when the treeing particle $\langle n^4i^9 \rangle$ is used, and disabled at the end of a sentence.

6.2 | Branch-switching

The aforementioned particle $\langle n^4i^9 \rangle$ marks the beginning of the right branch of the tree. The right branch is ended by the particle $\langle n^4i^{\Delta} \rangle$, which causes the next clause to join the left and right branches.

(N. B. $\langle n^4i^9 \rangle$ and $\langle n^4i^{\Delta} \rangle$ can occur only between clauses. If the particles are represented by left and right brackets, respectively, then the brackets should match.)

6.3 | Anaphoric pronouns in joiner clauses

In clauses that join two branches, anaphoric pronouns require marking whether the antecedent occurs in the left predecessor $\langle n^4i^9 \rangle$ or the right predecessor $\langle n^4i^{\Delta} \rangle$. This is done by marking the pronoun with $\langle -^9 \rangle$ or $\langle -^{\Delta} \rangle$.

Likewise, verbs can be modified with $\langle -^9 \rangle$ or $\langle -^{\Delta} \rangle$ to indicate which branch the subject came from.

6.4 | Errors

The following are ungrammatical:

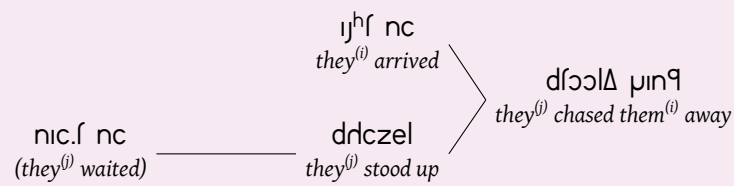
- Using the particle $\langle n^4i^{\Delta} \rangle$ or the branched anaphoric pronouns when tree mode is disabled
- Using the particle $\langle n^4i^{\Delta} \rangle$ other than to close a corresponding $\langle n^4i^9 \rangle$
- Using the unbranched anaphoric pronouns in clauses with two predecessors

- Using the branched anaphoric pronouns in clauses with one predecessor
- Starting a new branch with <ᵐᵃᵐᵃ> when the current branch is empty

6.5 | Example

ᵐᵃᵐᵃ ᵐᵃ, ᵐᵃᵐᵃ ᵐᵃᵐᵃ ᵐᵃ, ᵐᵃᵐᵃᵐᵃ, ᵐᵃᵐᵃ ᵐᵃᵐᵃᵐᵃ ᵐᵃᵐᵃ.
 ᵐᵃᵐᵃ ᵐᵃ, ᵐᵃᵐᵃ ᵐᵃᵐᵃ ᵐᵃ, ᵐᵃᵐᵃᵐᵃ, ᵐᵃᵐᵃ ᵐᵃᵐᵃᵐᵃ ᵐᵃᵐᵃ.
 go-NEAR.PAST PR.OTHER, BRANCH wait-NEAR.PAST PR.OTHER, stand_up-
 ANAPH_SUB.PAST,JOIN chase-ANAPH_SUB.PAST-RIGHT PR.ANAPH_SUB.ACC-LEFT
 When they⁽ⁱ⁾ arrived, they⁽ⁱ⁾ stood up and chased them⁽ⁱ⁾ away.

The resulting tree is shown below:



7 | Numerals

Unlike Lek-Tsaro, which used a downright unusual numbering system, Middle Rymakonian uses base 16 consistently.

7.1 | Irregular numerals

Here are the numerals that do not follow the usual pattern, before phonorun reduction:

Table 7.1: Irregular numerals.

base 10	base 16	word
0	0	μ3D
1	1	a3l
2	J	fiJ
3	?	Ω ⁴ on
4	0	a ⁴ μ
5	†	φCJ
6	?	Dye
7	9	βCJ
8	Δ	dən
9	L	l ¹ ed
10	F	b3n ⁹
11	7	nə
12	£	le
13	#	j ^a cd
14	A	yin
15	V	f ⁴ el
16	10	.μ
17	11	l ¹ el
18	1J	l ¹ ela3l
19	1?	l ¹ elfiJ
33	J1	aDil
34	JJ	Dil
119	99	Dlβ
256	100	f ⁴ l ¹ a3
323	10?	l ¹ izifin

8 | Derivational morphology

The following methods are used to derive related terms from existing ones.

8.1 | Abstraction

Abstraction is a derivation that takes a non-abstract noun and returns the abstract noun representing the concept of the argument. Before pronoun reduction, this formation appends $\langle -ne \rangle$ or $\langle -n \rangle$ to the noun. In addition, any final fricatives or lateral fricatives after a vowel are voiced, and a final $\langle \mu \rangle$ after a vowel is changed to $\langle z \rangle$.

Examples:

- $\langle l^l \mu c n \rangle$ *book* \rightarrow $\langle l^l \mu c n e \rangle$ *literature*
- $\langle l^l \nu \rangle$ *cart* \rightarrow $\langle l^l \nu n \rangle$ (\rightarrow $\langle l^l \nu n \rangle$) *transportation*
- $\langle \nu c \mu \rangle$ *hand* \rightarrow $\langle \nu c z n e \rangle$ *technique*

8.2 | Dematuration

Dematuration is a derivation that takes a noun and returns a noun of the same class that represents an immature form of the argument (not necessarily a diminutive). $\langle l^l c - \rangle$ or $\langle f \theta - \rangle$ are prepended to nouns that begin in $\langle j \rangle$, $\langle l \rangle$ or $\langle j^o \rangle$, or $\langle j c - \rangle$ or $\langle j \theta - \rangle$ otherwise. In addition, an initial fricative or lateral fricative before a vowel is voiced, and an initial $\langle \mu \rangle$ before a vowel is changed to $\langle z \rangle$.

Examples:

- $\langle \nu \nu \nu \rangle$ *person* \rightarrow $\langle j c \nu \nu \nu \rangle$ *child*
- $\langle l^l \nu z \theta \rangle$ *fruit* \rightarrow $\langle j \theta l^l \nu z \theta \rangle$ (\rightarrow $\langle j \theta l^l \nu z \theta \rangle$) *unripe fruit*
- $\langle j e r l i c n \rangle$ *essay* \rightarrow $\langle l^l c z e r l i c n \rangle$ *draft*

8.3 | Verb-to-noun conversions

To derive a noun from a verb, an affix is added to the verb stem:

Table 8.1: Conversion affixes.

Name	Affix
Agent	–en ^ϕ / –ɔn ^ϕ
Patient	–ed / –ɔd
Location	–eɥ / –ɔɥ
Instrument	–ɪʃ
Causer	–en ^ɥ d / –ɔɸd

Then the resulting word is declined as an abstract noun, and phonorun reduction happens. After phonorun reductions, the order of phonoruns is reversed, such that the last phonorun becomes the first, for instance. Finally, the final phonorun is continued by appending <–c> or <–ɿ>.

The following words are derived from <nəb–> (v2) *to steal*:

- Agent: <nəbɔn^ϕ> → <ɔn^ϕbnəc> *thief*
- Patient: <nəbɔd> → <nəɔbd> → <bdnəɔc> *stolen goods*
- Location: <nəbɔɥ> → <ɔɥbnəc> *site of theft*
- Instrument: <nəbɪʃ> → <nəɪbɪʃ> → <bɪʃnəɪc> *tools used for theft*
- Causer: <nəbɔɸd> → <nəɔbɸd> → <bɸdnəɔc> *person or factor that caused the theft*

Occasionally, a word derived by this method might become lexicalised. In that case, it moves to the noun class of best semantic fit and its declension is regularised (based on the nominative form).

8.4 | Verb-to-verb conversions

The main productive verb-to-verb conversion is the *immediate reversal*, which is expressed with an infix <–ɪDZ–> or <–dɜn–> immediately before the ending, depending on whether the last phonorun of the stem (before phonorun reduction) is open or closed, respectively. This conversion is often associated with the lack of volition.

- <nəD–> *sleep* → <nəDɪDZ–> *be woken up forcibly* (→ <ɸcnəDɪDZ–> *wake someone up forcibly*)
- <Dez–> *ride, board* → <DezɪDZ–> *be forcefully ejected from a ride* (→ <ɸcDezɪDZ–> *eject someone from a ride*)
- <nəɸa–> *hide* → <nəɸadɜn–> *be uncovered* (→ <ɸcnəɸadɜn–> *uncover something*)

9 | Names

Names fall into two grammatical categories:

- *Nominal names* act as nouns. They are usually single words.
- *Clausal names* are entire clauses. These names usually refer to places, although a few people have clausal names. In extreme cases, such a name can span multiple clauses.
- *Station names* are used for places where a medium of transportation stops to exchange passengers according to a regular schedule (e. g. a train station or a bus stop). These are verbs.

9.1 | Nominal names

These names act as nouns, and they are preceded by a backslash <\>. If the name spans multiple words (as common in foreign names), spaces are escaped by backslashes. No distinction is made between native and foreign names.

Only personal names can stand on their own, and even then, only given or full names. Other names must modify a common noun describing the nature of what is named, in the integral number without definiteness.

Table 9.1: Some examples of nominal names.

Name	Type
\p3ze	Personal (native)
\iz3l	Personal (native)
\pedcn	Personal (foreign)
dpepe-\oil.c	Place (foreign)

Native names will usually respect vowel harmony. Children of parents who work in professions demanding physical labour (e. g. bricklaying) will usually have names with back vowels. In contrast, those born to parents of professions that do not demand physical strength (e. g. computer programming) will usually bear names with front vowels.

In addition, native names tend to undergo sound changes from Lek-Tsaro to Middle Rymakonian, but foreign names given when Lek-Tsaro was still spoken retain Lek-Tsaro forms, but with the following vowel replacements (and, of course, orthographic changes) – see table 9.2.

Table 9.2: Lek-Tsaro to Middle Rymakonian correspondences for foreign names.

Middle Rymakonian	From these vowels in Lek-Tsaro
ɪ	ɪ ɔ ^e
e	e e ^ɔ ɔ ^ɔ
c	c c ^a
ɔ	ɔ ə ^ɔ
ə	ə ^c ə

In phonorun reduction, foreign names are not affected by metathesis.

9.2 | Clausal names

These names comprise of one or more clauses. Due to the nature of clausal names, they are all considered native. However, almost all except the newest clausal names are frozen and might not be valid clauses in Middle Rymakonian; usually, they are Lek-Tsaro clauses with the vowel replacements outlined in table 9.2.

Most of these names refer to places; personal clausal names are almost always nicknames or such. Orthographically, they are put into square brackets <[]>.

Clausal names are used by saying them as their own clauses, then using an anaphoric pronoun to backreference the entity described by the name in question. The type of anaphoric pronoun used varies from name to name. It might be the anaphoric subject pronoun, the object pronoun or the last-clause pronoun.

We call the *referent* the subject, the object or the verb of the last clause, respectively depending on the type of anaphoric pronoun used to refer to the name. If the referent is a noun, it must be declined in the integral number without definiteness.

Here, as common in maps and such, the referent will be capitalised. However, other contexts that make the type of anaphoric pronoun to use clear do not use this type of capitalisation.

Table 9.3: Some examples of clausal names.

Name	Type	Literal meaning
[AEX4€ dɪɪɪɪ (ɔaɔɪ)]	Place	The trees covered the ground
[Dəɪɪ ɸXEDDE ɲɔɪ-\\lenɲe]	Place	The city remembers the Šedri (Šedrý) star
[ac ɲɪfə-Dɪ jɔɪ jəɲ j ^h i.en-Dɪ jɔɪ ɲɪne, ɸoejɔ.eɪ ɸXEDDEɪ]	Place	The city was founded by the warrior of the sun and the wizard of the moon
[Dezi \\ʃETɔF jɔɪ-\\el]	Personal	Gulto takes care of 17 foxes

An example of usage:

[Dəɪɪ dɲede ɲɔɪ-\\lenɲe], n.ɲ bɪnen-.cɲɲɪ j^he dɪDɪZɪ ɲɪ.
 (name), in_time year-next go-ANAPH_SUB DEF~person PR.ANAPH_SUB
 He will go to Muta Pröme Ryk-Šedrý next year.

9.3 | Station names

These names describe places where a medium of transportation stops to exchange passengers according to a regular schedule (e. g. a train station or a bus stop). Station names are (usually first- or second-conjugation) verbs whose base meaning is (S) *goes to \$station via \$transportation*. They are marked with a per cent sign <%> before the name.

Unlike with other verbs, the immediate reversal does not necessarily suggest a lack of volition. The reversal of a station name, rather, simply means (S) *goes from \$station*.

The other derivations have the following meanings:

Table 9.4: Derivations of station names.

	(base)	Immediate reversal
(base verb)	(S) goes to \$station	(S) goes from \$station
Agent	A passenger going to \$station	A passenger going from \$station
Patient	(undefined)	
Location	The \$path to \$station	The \$path from \$station
Instrument	The \$transportation going to \$station	The \$transportation going from \$station
Causer	The driver of said \$transportation	

In addition, the aspect marker <–J> changes the meaning from (S) *goes from \$station* to (S) *boards the \$transportation to \$station*. Similarly, combining both the immediate reversal infix and the perfect aspect marker yields (S) *boards the \$transportation from \$station*.

There are several ways a station name can be derived:

- From a nominal name: if it does not end in a verbal affix, then one is attached: e. g. <ɖɥɛɛ–\oɪɪ.c> → <%oɪɪ.–> (v3).
- From a clausal name wherein the referent is S or O: Let C be the nonreferent among S and O (or empty if none). Then the station name comes from a compound of C-V: <[ɖəfɪ ɸɤɛɛ ɥɪ]–\leɲɥɛ> → <%ɥɪ]–\leɲɥɛ–ɖəf–> (v2). (In a name with multiple clauses, ignore those that do not contain the referent.)
- From a clausal name with V as the referent: If neither S nor O exists, let C be empty. If S xor O is a “common word”, then let C be the one that is not common. Otherwise, let C be S. Then the station name comes from a compound of C-V: <[AEɤɤɛ dɪɪɪɪ ɪɔɔɔ]> → <%dɪɪɪɪ–neɲɔ–> (v3).

9.3.1 | Common words

“Common words”, in the context of deriving station names, include:

- Numerals
- Sentient nouns that are neither personal names nor modified by <=ɖɪ>
- <dɪɪɪɪ> *ground*, <ɪɔɔɔ> *tree*, <ɪɪɪɪ> *stone* or <ɪɪɪɪ> *river*, as well as their Lek-Tsaro equivalents in frozen names, not modified by any nominal names (but names for a specific kind of tree, etc., e. g. <ɪɪɪɪ> *birch* are not common words)

10 | Calendar

Domain II, which contains *Rymako*, has a day that is 26.99410 hours long. Other figures are given in terms of local days:

Table 10.1: Astronomical measures for Domain II.

Period	Length in local days
Local (synodic) day	1.00000
Sidereal day	0.99699
Tropical year (l_y)	301.94714
Sidereal year	302.03719
Synodic month (l_m)	30.80152
Sidereal month	27.95032

10.1 | Tides

In Domain II, the offset of the sea level due to the tide can be modeled by the following equations:

$$y = y_s + y_m \quad (10.1)$$

$$y_s = A_s \cdot (1 + A_{sa} \cdot \cos(\tau \cdot t)) \cdot \cos(2 \cdot \tau \cdot t) \quad (10.2)$$

$$y_m = A_m \cdot \left(1 + A_{ma} \cdot \cos\left(\frac{\tau \cdot t}{l_m}\right)\right) \cdot \cos\left(\frac{2 \cdot \tau \cdot (1 - l_m) \cdot t}{l_m}\right) \quad (10.3)$$

where:

$$\tau = 2 \cdot \pi$$

$$A_s \approx 0.675$$

$$A_{sa} \approx 0.0532$$

$$A_m \approx 1.267$$

$$A_{ma} \approx 0.176$$

y = offset of sea level in metres

t = time since HAT in local synodic days

An exact solution to $dy/dt = 0$ is not known to exist. However, the solutions to this equation can be found numerically. Consult Section ?? for a Sage program to do so.

As the calendar used by Middle Rymakonian uses the high and low tides to count time, it is not synchronised even with days. The basic unit of time in the calendar is the *tidal day* $\langle \mu 3 \mathfrak{D} 3 \rangle$ (l_t) – the amount of time between a high tide and the second high tide thereafter, which is, on average, 1.03356 local synodic days, but can vary considerably. Thus:

$$l_m/l_t \approx 29.80148 \quad (10.4)$$

$$\approx 4053/136 \quad (10.5)$$

$$l_y/l_m \approx 9.80299 \quad (10.6)$$

$$\approx 7215/736 \quad (10.7)$$

This suggests that:

1. most months will have 30 days, but every 136 months, 27 months will have only 29.
2. most years will have 10 months, but every 736 years, 145 years will have only 9.

10.2 | Months

Months follow a 136-month cycle wherein the $5n + 2$ -numbered months (zero-indexed, $n \in \mathbb{N}$) have 29 days and the other months have 30.

The names of months, on the other hand, are determined from their positions relative to the first month of the year:

Table 10.2: The months of the year.

#	Name
0	ææbæ
1	μ3.εδ
2	ριφσλ
3	δζζγι
4	λδεζιδ
5	ςσδζς
6	η⁴ζζες
7	λσβσλι
8	βσδσλ
9*	.cζεζι

10.3 | Days within a month

Tidal days have their own names, as follow:

Romanisation

In this text, the romanisation is used only to transcribe names into English. Whenever possible, the hacmisation should be used.

Table 4: The consonants of Middle Rymakonian.

	Bilabial	Dental	Alveolar	Palatal	Velar	Glottal
Nasal	m		n	ɲ	ŋ	
Plosive	p b		t d	tʃ dʃ	k g	ʔ
Fricative	f v	θ ð	s z	ʃ ʒ	h ɦ	
(coarticulated)	fh vɦ	ɸh ðɦ		fʃ vʒ		
(whistled)			ʂ ʐ			
Affricate			c	č		
Lateral fricative			ɬ ɮ			
Approximant			r	j	w	
Lateral approximant			l			
Tap			ɾ			

Table 5: The vowels of Middle Rymakonian.

	Front	Central	Back
High	i	y	u
Mid	e		o
Low		a	

The digraphs <fh vɦ ɸh ðɦ fʃ vʒ ts tʃ> correspond to coarticulated consonants and affricates. An apostrophe can be placed between the two letters if this is not desired.

Rod signs are represented by the Arabic digits <1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8> attached to the end of the verbs they encompass. Halfway rod signals are represented by subscript digits <₄>. Transitions from the ninth rod signal are written <⁹⁷ ⁹⁸>. Proper words are preceded by a backslash <\>.

<ɲ> should be capitalised as <Ŋ> only if one can depend on the majuscule glyph appearing like an N with a hook. Otherwise, it should be spelled <Ng>.

A | List of glossing abbreviations

An asterisk indicates that this value is unmarked.

Abbr	Definition
<i>Case</i>	
NOM*	Nominative
ACC	Accusative
GEN	Genitive (this is a clitic and not a case <i>per se</i>)
<i>Number</i>	
DIR*	Direct
INV	Inverse
ND*	Nondual
DU	Dual
<i>Person</i>	
NEAR	Near
FAR	Far
OTHER	Other
ANAPH_SUB	Anaphoric subject
ANAPH_OBJ	Anaphoric object
GENERIC	Generic
<i>Definiteness</i>	
INDEF*	Indefinite
DEF	Definite
<i>Tense</i>	
NONPAST*	Nonpast
PAST	Past
<i>Tellicity</i>	
TELIC*	Telic
ATELIC	Atelic
<i>Polarity</i>	
POS*	Positive
NEG	Negative
Q	Interrogative
<i>Aspect and connector type names are not abbreviated.</i>	
<i>Connector parity</i>	
0	Even
1	Odd
<i>Comparisons</i>	

Abbr	Definition
CMP	Comparative
<i>Comparators are glossed using their respective operator symbols.</i>	
<i>Transitivisation</i>	
TRANS	Transitivised
<i>Tree mode</i>	
BRANCH	Create a new branch (<ᵐᵢᵑ>)
JOIN	Join two branches (<ᵐᵢΔ>)
LEFT	Refer to left branch (<-ᵑ>)
RIGHT	Refer to right branch (<-Δ>)

B | Dictionary

An entry looks like this:

ᄁᄁᄁ– v1 (S) eats (O)

From left to right:

1. The entry – the Middle Rymakonian term listed.
2. The part of speech of the corresponding entry:
 - *n* – a noun
 - *-d-* – inherently dual
 - *-sent* – sentient noun
 - *-nonsent* – nonsentient noun
 - *-meas* – measure noun
 - *-edib* – edible noun
 - *-ined* – inedible noun
 - *-abst* – abstract noun
 - *v1, v2, v3* – first-, second- and third- conjugation verbs
 - *desc* – a descriptor
 - *pp* – a preposition
 - *-(b)* – this entry has only neutral vowels but acts as if it had back vowels
 - *-(ŋ)* – this entry came from a word that started with <ŋ⁰–> and thus certain prefixes will revert it back
3. The definition – the gloss for the corresponding entry.
 - (S) – subject
 - (O) – direct object
4. If applicable, any special grammatical or semantic notes for this term.
5. Optionally, examples of usage.

| .

.c)jμ– *desc* new, next

.cna- desc hot
 .cden nnonsent house

| ʃ

ʃrlezc nsent child (young person)
 ʃmɪn^ɸ nnonsent cloud
 ʃɪφ- v1 lose an object
 ʃɔɔɔ nnonsent tree
 ʃɔɔɪɪ nnonsent bed
 ʃɔɔɔɔ nnonsent bedroom
 ʃɔlə nedib ice
 ʃɔləʃ nedib frost
 ʃeɪ.c nedib beef

| ʃ

ʃɪzɔɔ nnonsent river
 ʃɪɪɪ- v1 (S) fights (O)
 ʃɪɪɪ- v3 (S) falls on (O)
 ʃɪɪɪ- v3 (O) breaks (S)
 ʃɪɪɪ nnonsent flower
 ʃɪɪ nsent who?

| ʃ

ʃɪɔɔ- desc handsome, beautiful
 ʃɪɔɔ^h- v1 (S) follows (O)
 ʃɪɔɔ nnonsent fruit

| ʃ

ʃɪɔɔ nnonsent window
 ʃɪ pp in, on, at (location)
 ʃɪɪ- v1 (S) lives in (O)
 ʃɪɪ nnonsent stairs
 ʃɪɪ nmeas 1/23 of a tidal day
 ʃɪɪ nnonsent moon
 ʃɪɪ nined stone
 ʃɪɪ- desc entire, complete
 ʃɪɪ^s nnonsent tooth
 ʃɪɪ- desc old

| ʃ

ʃɪɔɔ nnonsent book
 ʃɪɪ nnonsent leaf
 ʃɪɪɪ nnonsent spark
 ʃɪɪ nnonsent cart

| ʃ

ʃɪɪ- v1 (S) shoots an arrow to (O)

| ʃ

ʃɪɪ nedib soup
 ʃɪɪ nnonsent fish

| ʃ

ʃ- v3 copula
 ʃɪ nnonsent fox
 ʃɪɪɪ nabst dawn, wee hours
 ʃɪɪ nnonsent land, country
 ʃɪɪ- v1 (S) is worried by (O)
 ʃɪɪɪ nsent essay

| ʃ

ʃɪɪ.en nsent magician
 ʃɪɪ- v3 (S) creates, makes (O)
 ʃɪɪ nabst how many?

| ʃ

ʃ^h pp toward
 ʃ^h- v1 (S) goes toward (O)
 ʃ^h pp written by

| n

n.ɪ pp in, on, at (time)
 n.ɪ pp through
 nɪɪ nnonsent cat
 nɪɪ- v3 (S) waits for/until (O), temporal verb, if
 nɪɪ- v3 (S) covers, spans (O)
 nɪɪ nnonsent face
 nɪɪ nnonsent birch

ncd- v3 (S) dances around (O)
 neuc *nined* fire
 neb- v1 (S) gives something to (O)
 nepa- v3 (S) hides from (O)
 nen- v2 (S) kills (O), (O) dies
 neb- v2 steal

n⁴

n⁴cz- v1(*η*) (S) thinks, ponders about (O)

α

αnι| *nnon*sent stick, rod
 αpen⁴e *nnon*sent coin
 α3λεφ^s1 *nnon*sent key
 αc.c| *nabst* centre, origin
 αc|n pp according to
 αcze *nabst* light
 αczelιnc *nabst* moonlight
 αeo- v3 jump

α^l

α^l- v3 do what?
 α^l3pα *nedib* potable water

α^h

α^hαdα *nabst* empathy

δ

δ| pp far away from
 δ3n⁴α *nnon*sent rabbit
 δzιδμ *nsent* nobleman, gentleman
 δil- v1 (S) eats (O)
 δin *nedib* rice
 δiz1 *nsent* person
 δc|ι *desc* far
 δcnι *nnon*sent border, boundary
 δcp *ndnon*sent hand
 δczne *nabst* technique
 δαf- v2 (S) produces, makes (O)
 δαn⁴ *nnon*sent head
 δelιn *nmeas* hour
 δenf- v1 begin, start

δed- v3 err, miss
 δebu- v1 (S) resembles (O)
 δez- v3 (S) raises, takes care of, tends to (O)
 δez- v1 (S) boards, rides (O)
 δel *nmeas* volume
 δell- v3 (S) imitates (O)
 δαlαn⁴ *nsent* servant

Ω

Ωnαφ *nnon*sent wall
 Ωcl^l- v1 (S) hits, strikes (O)
 Ωcz- v2 comparative verb
 Ωed- v1 (S) sleeps
 Ωed- v1 (S) sleeps
 Ωαzα *nnon*sent pathway, street, road

φ

φ^lcl- v3 (S) lowers their own (O)
 φpιl- v1 (S) raises their own (O)
 φpαn⁴ *nnon*sent frog

d

d3n⁴ι *ndnon*sent(*b*) knee
 dφc| *nabst* ability, potential, possibility
 dηif|pιn⁴ *nnon*sent mist, fog
 dηil^lι *nabst* ground, floor
 dηcz- v1 stand, get up
 dμ pp with (comitative)
 dμ- v3 hold, carry, instrumental verb
 dμu- v1 (S) passes (O)
 dμede *nnon*sent city
 dīfμ- v1 (S) sits at (O)
 dīpα *nnon*sent pecan
 dαf- v2 (S) chases away (O), (O) flees from (S)

b

bine *nmeas* year
 beφ^sι *nedib* sea

| 4

4- v1 (S) sees (O), because, (S) illuminates (O)

| 5

53) *nonsent* star
 51d *pp* with (colour) hair
 53) *nabst* nighttime
 53) *nonsent* cup
 5n *pp* with (instrumental)

5u *pp* in front of
 53b3 *nmeas* (tidal) day (contin-

51f *nined* grass
 51- v1 (S) climbs, rises in (O)

51d) *nonsent* hair

5eu- v3 (S) spreads (O)

5ea- v3 (S) speaks to (O), (S) asks (O)

5ell) *nonsent* place

5elluc.c) *nonsent* hometown, home village, (figurative) Rymako

5ef) *nined* gold