???

Tíməh, the language of Lą́gų

M.M.N.H.

A Grammar

Dedicated to my haters

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1 | Introduction

1.1 | External History

The Timah language (t^2 ím \rightarrow h [t^2 ím \rightarrow h]; lit. <u>language, speech</u>) is a constructed language (*conlang*) made by me, Mareck (M.M.N.H.). Its primary goal is simply to be documented entirely in \LaTeX (*LaTeX*).

Like most of my constructed languages, it tries to focus balancing between the interesting and the naturalistic, in terms of phonology, grammar, etc. Naturalism, however, is not the primary goal. I have therefore given myself the freedom to take liberties in terms of naturalism.

1.2 | Internal History

The Timah language is spoken by the Khokan people (khok²ɔtçòʔe [khok²odzòʔe] lit. many-person). They live on the Lankung Archipelago (lónkon [lấŋguŋ] lit. our-place)

TODO all of this

1.2.1 | People

The Khokan people are a largely matriarchal and polyandrous society. The practice of polyandry, wherein a woman may take multiple spouses, is due to limited land and natural resources.

Large communities (consisting of several family clans governed by a single clan) are on or around the more mountainous island centers, where terrace-farming is practiced. On the flatter shores, there are smaller communities (consisting of only a few family clans with no single governing clan).

TODO expand this

1.2.2 | Place

The Lankung Archipelago consists of five main islands and hundreds of smaller islands surrounding the main islands. The main islands are mainly flat, with mountainous centers and forested areas. TODO expand this

1.2.3 | Beliefs & Practices

TODO expand this

1.2.3.1 | Magic

TODO expand this

1.2.4 | Dialects

There are four main dialects of Timah. They are, from northmost to southmost, the *Cliff, Far Lake, Near Lake*, and *Shore* dialects. The Near Lake dialect is the prestige dialect, and is the one

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described here. The Far Lake and Shore dialects are fairly similar to the Near Lake dialect; the Cliff dialect is the most divergent.

2.1 | Consonants

	Labial	Alveolar	Palatal	Velar	Glottal	Placeless
Nasal	m	n				N
Plosive		th t t?	$tc^h tc tc^?$	$k^h\;k\;k^?$?	
Fricative		$s^h s s^?$			h	
Approximant	w	1	j			

Figure 2.1: Consonant Phonemes

- /n th t t?/ are dental; /sh s s? l/ are alveolar.
- /tch tc tc²/ are alveolo-palatal; /j/ is palatal.
- /h/ is articulated with true frication of the glottis, i.e., it is not a voiceless glottal approximant.
- /N/ is a nasal coda archiphoneme, i.e., not an uvular nasal¹.
- The aspirated obstruents $/t^h tc^h k^h s^h/$ may be accompanied by slight breathy-voice on the following vowel.
- The glottalized obstruents /t² tç² k² s²/ are articulated with laryngeal tension, and may be accompanied by slight creaky-voice on the following vowel.

2.1.1 | Consonant Allophony

- /m n/ surface as the implosives [6 d] word-initally.
- The coda archiphoneme /n/ surfaces as [n n n] before alveolar, (alveolo-)palatal, and velar plosives, respectively. It surfaces as nasalization of the preceding vowel before all other consonants. It surfaces as [n] word-finally after non-back vowels, and as $[\widehat{n}]$ word-finally after the back vowels /o n/ and before the labio-velars $[\widehat{kp}]$ $[\widehat{kp}]$.
- The aspirated obstruents /t^h tç^h k^h s^h/ are deäspirated to [t tç k s] intervocalically and after /w j N/.
- The tenuis obstruents /t tc k s/ are voiced to [d dz g z] intervocalically and after /w j N/.
- $/k^h$ / surfaces as [x] before [a]. This does not occur after /N/.
- The velars /k² k kh/ surface as labio-velars [kp² kp kph] before the back vowels /o ɔ/. [kp] is voiced to [gb] and [kph] is deäspirated to [kp] intervocalically and after /w j n/.

¹Yes, I say /ən 'uvjələ'/. Deal with it.

- /n/ is palatalized to [n] before [i] word-medially.
- The sibilants $/s^h$ s s^2 / are palatalized to $[\varsigma^h \varsigma \varsigma^2]$ before [i]. $[\varsigma]$ is voiced to [z] and $[\varsigma^h]$ is deaspirated to $[\varsigma]$ intervocalically and after /w j N/.
- /l/ surfaces as [r] intervocalically and after /w j N/.
- /w/ surfaces as [v] before [i].

2.1.2 | Dialectal Variations of Consonants

- In some^[which?] dialects, the glottalized plosives /t² tç² k² s²/ may surface as ejectives [t' tç' k' (t)s'] or geminates [tt ttç kk ss-tts].
- In some [which?] dialects, the alveolo-palatals /tçh tç tç²/ may surface as alveolar affricates [tsh ts ts²], true palatals [ch c c²], or as non-affricated alveolo-palatals [th t t²].
- In some [which?] dialects, the lateral [1] has merged with either /j/ or /n/.
- Depending on dialect [which ones?] and idiolect, the glottal fricative /h/ may variously surface as any of [x χ ħ h].
- Depending on dialect^[which ones?] and idiolect, the lateral /l/ may variously surface as any of [r x l t l Ď ţ z].
- In the Shore dialect, /w/ surfaces as $[\psi^{\beta}]$, i.e., it has lip compression instead of protrusion.

2.2 | Vowels

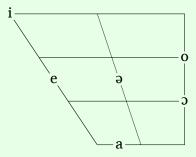


Figure 2.2: Vowel Phonemes

- All vowels may occur as long or short (see § 2.6.1)
- /e/ is true mid $[e]^2$.
- /a/ is near-front [a] (i.e., not central [ä]).

2.2.1 | Vowel Allophony

- · All vowels are nasalized before nasal consonants.
- /i/ surfaces as [i] after the velars /kh k k²/ and before coda [ŋ].
- /o ɔ/ raise to $[u\ 0]^2$ word-finally in open syllables, after the velars $/k^h\ k\ k^2\ w/$, and before coda $[\eta]$.
- /a/ surfaces as [æ-ε] after the palatals /tc^h tc tc² j/ and before coda /j/.

2.2.2 | Dialectal Variations of Vowels

- Some [which?] dialects have merged the back vowels /o o/ into true mid [o].
- Some [which?] dialects have merged the front vowels /i e/ into [i-1].
- In the Shore dialect, the back vowels /o σ / (and their allophones) surface as $[\gamma^{\beta} \Lambda^{\beta}]$, i.e., they have lip compression instead of protrusion.

2.3 | Phonological Processes

2.3.1 | Stress

Stress placement in Timah is phonologically determined and is not phonemic.

Stress occurs on the left-most live syllable, wherein a syllable ending in a sonorant /n w j/ or long vowel are grouped as *live* and those ending in /? h/ are grouped as *dead*.

Open syllables (i.e., syllables with a short vowel and no coda) are superseded by live syllables but take precedence over dead syllables in terms of stress hierarchy.

Clitics are ignored by stress placement.

2.3.2 | Vowel Harmony

Timah displays vowel harmony based on tongue root position.

Vowels are divided into two classes: + ATR and - ATR, traditionally grouped as *light* and *heavy* vowels.

Figure 2.3: Vowel Harmony

Vowel harmony is very pervasive; harmony spreads rightwards from a stressed vowel until it is terminated.

Vowel harmony is terminated after dead syllables (i.e., syllables ending in $\ / \ 2 h / \ 2$

²[e o] will be transcribed as [e o] for the sake of brevity.



Figure 2.4: Harmony Spread

2.3.3 | Obstruent Weakening

Initial obstruents in compound words (including verbs with incorporated nouns, see § 8.6.2), here represented by $\omega_1\omega_2$, may undergo weakening. If an obstruent is present initially in ω_2 , it undergoes one of the following mutations.

Figure 2.5: Obstruent Weakening

2.4 | Obstruent Contraction

In non-initial sequences of P_1VP_2V , wherein P_1VP_2V , wherein P_2VP_2V , wherein P_2VP_2V is contracted to P_2VP_2V . This does not apply within roots (but can occur at root boundaries e.g., after inflection and in compounds), and applies after obstruent weakening.

 P^h represents the aspirated obstruents /t^h tç^h k^h s^h h/, P represents the tenuis obstruents /t tç k ?³/, and P² represents the glottalized obstruents /t² tç² k² s² ?³/. The glottals /? h/ only affect contraction when they occur as P_2 .

Figure 2.6: Obstruent Contraction

The specific place and manner of articulation of P_3 is dependent on an hierarchy of the obstruents in the positions P_1 and P_2 , i.e., obstruents lower in the hierarchy assimilate to those higher in the hierarchy.

$$k^* > t c^* > t^* > s^* > ?, h$$

Figure 2.7: Obstruent Hierarchy

 $^{^3}$ /?/ is classed as tenuis when it is either P_1 or P_2 , and as both tenuis and glottalized when it is P_3

If there is a tone associated with the elided vowel, it and all tones left of it are shifted one syllable leftward until a toneless syllable (see § 2.5.1).

2.4.1 | Degemination

Timah does not allow gemination of consonants, even across word boundaries. When a coda /? h w j/ precede a word with an identical onset, the onset is elided and the coda takes its place. This occurs on the phonetic level.

```
ki?əj jə́/ki?əj jə́/
[ki?əj ə́]
my boat
```

2.5 | Tone

Timah has two distinct tonemes: *high* and *low*, as well as the option of being unmarked for tone. Tonally unmarked syllables are phonetically realized identically to the low tone, but unlike low tone, it can be affected by various tonological processes such as *tone mobility* and *tone association*.

2.5.1 | Tone Mobility

Tones in Timah may move from their inherent position to a different surface position.

2.5.1.1 | Leftward Tone Shift

At the end of a Prosodic Unit (PU), all tones are shifted one syllable leftward until a toneless syllable, leaving the final syllable toneless. Unlike tone association, tone shift is not blocked by dead syllables.

TODO(?) more tone mobility



Figure 2.8: Leftward Tone Shift

2.5.2 | Tone Association

Tone association is the process in which the tone of a given syllable may spread to the preceding toneless syllable under certain circumstances. This applies after tone mobility.

Floating tones follow similar rules, but can associate in either direction.

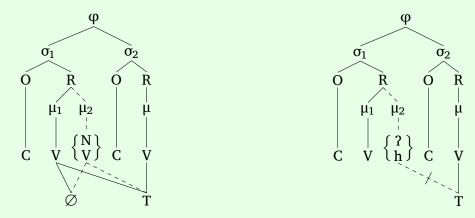


Figure 2.9: Tone Association

2.6 | Phonotactics

2.6.1 | Syllable Structure

$CV(T)(V^4(T)|H|S)$ $H = \{?,h\}$ $S = \{N,w,j\}$ $T = \{ó, ò\}$

Figure 2.10: Syllable Structure

2.6.1.1 | Restraints

These phonotactic restraints govern allomorphy.

- The nasal coda /n/ cannot precede a nasal /m n/.
- The glottal codae /? h/ cannot precede another glottal /? h/.
- The glottal coda /h/ cannot precede a sonorant /m n w l j/.
- The glides /w j/ cannot precede another glide /w j/.
- The glide /w/ cannot follow /o ɔ/.
- The glide /j/ cannot follow /i e/.

In roots, the following coda reductions occur if the former rules are violated. The coda is deleted and lengthens the preceding vowel (if short). It may also apply tone to the long vowel.

⁴Long vowel morae must be homorganic in vowel quality, but not necessarily in tone.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} ? & & & & & & & & \\ h & \rightarrow & & & & & & \\ \textbf{N} \ \textbf{W} \ \textbf{j} & & & & & & & \\ \end{array}$$

Figure 2.11: Coda Reduction

3 | Prosody

3.1 | Isochrony

Timah is a moraically-timed language, i.e., the duration of every mora is approximately equal. Nuclei and live codae both count as one mora; onsets and dead codae do not contribute to mora count (see § 2.3.1).

3.2 | Prosodic Hierarchy

Prosodic units can be separated into a hierarchy of sub-units. TODO all of this

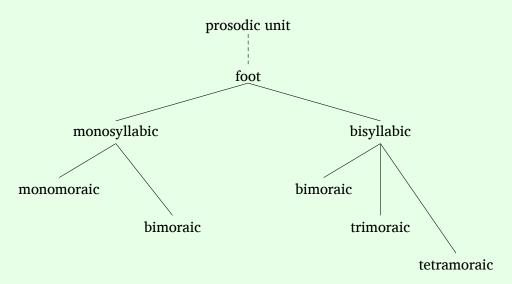


Figure 3.1: Prosodic Hierarchy

3.3 | Intonation

TODO all of this

4 | Orthography

The Timah language uses the *Loma* script (lɔ́ma [lɔ́mà] lit. smooth-word), a defective abugida that was borrowed from a neighboring language Maryu (Timah májlə [bájrò]). It was originally written on the large, durable leaves of the s²ə́lə́w ([s²ə́rə́w]) plant, which contributes to the script's curled aesthetic.

TODO native, script, other adaptations; tone markers

4.1 | Other Scripts

4.1.1 | Latin

	Labial	Alveolar	Palatal	Velar	Glottal	Placeless
Nasal	<m></m>	<n></n>				<ृ>6
Plosive		⟨th d t⟩	⟨ch j c⟩	⟨kh g k⟩	$\langle \dot{p} \rangle_{e}$	
Fricative		⟨sh x s⟩			⟨h⟩	
Approximant	<w></w>	<1>	<y></y>			

Figure 4.1: Romanization (Consonants)

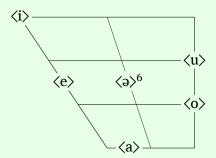


Figure 4.2: Latin (Vowels)

Vowels are marked with $\langle \circ \rangle$ for high tone, $\langle \circ \rangle$ for low tone, and unmarked for toneless.

 $^{^6/}N$? ə/ may alternatively be romanized as $\langle n$ ' $v \rangle$, respectively.

4 | Orthography 18

4.1.2 | Tibetan

	Labial	Alveolar	Palatal	Velar	Glottal	Placeless
Nasal	⟨₹/>	<ব>				$\langle \mathfrak{G} \rangle^7$
Plosive		<8 5 5>	⟨ಹ ह ᢐ⟩	([고 피 피>	⟨¬, ¬, ¬,	
Fricative		⟨₽ ₹ ₹\>			<5, ७४३> ⁷	
Approximant	<শ্ব, শ্ব> ⁷	⟨₹⟩	<ખ, ખ્> ⁷			

Figure 4.3: Tibetan (Consonants)

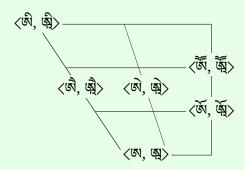


Figure 4.4: Tibetan (Vowels)⁷

Tone is not marked.

4.1.3 | Mkhedruli

	Labial	Alveolar	Palatal	Velar	Glottal	Placeless
Nasal	<9>	⟨δ⟩				< _e >
Plosive		<თ დ უ>	<b &="" 9="">	<6 8 B>	<g></g>	
Fricative		<ß % Ն>			⟨₹⟩	
Approximant	<3>	〈 რ〉	⟨0⟩			

Figure 4.5: Mkhedruli (Consonants)

 $^{^{7}}$ \langle is a filler letter. In slots with two elements, the second element is the coda form for consonants, and the long form for vowels.

4 | Orthography

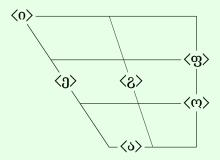


Figure 4.6: Mkhedruli (Vowels)

Vowels are marked with $\langle g \rangle$ for high tone, $\langle g \rangle$ for low tone, and unmarked for toneless.

4.1.4 | Hacm

	Labial	Alveolar	Palatal	Velar	Glottal	Placeless
Nasal	<	⟨n⟩				⟨ °
Plosive		⟨l ^h α l⟩	⟨lʰ y l⟩	⟨1 ^h φ 1⟩		
Fricative		⟨jʰlj⟩			<h></h>	
Approximant	<o></o>	<1>	<s></s>			

Figure 4.7: Hacm (Consonants)

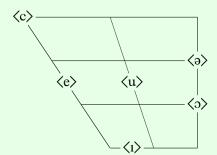


Figure 4.8: Hacm (Vowels)

Vowels are marked with $\langle \circ \rangle$ for high tone, $\langle \circ \rangle$ for low tone, and unmarked for toneless.

5 | Syntax

5.1 | Sentence Structure & Word Order

Word order in Timah is primarily *subject-object-peripheral-verb* in independent clauses, and secondarily *verb-initial head-final* in dependent clauses. Only the verb must be present. In copular phrases (*see § 8.9*), the word order is always *subject-copula-attribute*, wherein the *attribute* is what is being associated with the subject of the copular phrase.

The *subject* is the argument that performs the verb; the verb may grammatically agree with the subject's *person*, *probability*, and *integrity*. It consists of one or more noun phrase(s).

The (direct) *object* is the argument that the verb is directly performed upon; the verb may agree with the salience, or level of affectedness, of the object. It, like the subject, consists of one or more noun phrase(s).

The *peripheral*, or indirect/oblique object, is the argument that the verb is indirectly performed upon. It is usually marked with a *postposition* (see § 7.4) or oblique case (see § 7.3.2) and consists of noun or postpositional phrase(s).

The *verb* is the action that is performed within a clause. It consists of one or more *verb phrase(s)*. Some verbs may not take a subject or object (*see § 8.3*).

Dependents are placed before their head unless noted otherwise.

5.1.1 | Dependent Clauses

Dependent clauses in Timah are introduced by one of three clausal conjunctions (a subset of *verbal conjunctions*, see § 11.1) or a *relative pronoun* (see § 7.2.3). They are placed before the head of a dependent clause

They take *verb-initial head-final* word order, wherein the verb is placed initially and the head of the dependent argument is placed finally, with the background argument (i.e., the argument of the dependent clause that is not the head) placed medially. Thus, the word order of a dependent clause may be either *verb-object-peripheral-subject* or *verb-subject-peripheral-object*. In the former, the subject is the head; in the latter, the object is the head.

All dependent clauses are deranked (see § 8.6).

Relative clauses are placed before their head noun; only the subject and object may be relativized, and must take the same role in the relative clause as in the main clause.

nəj introduces basic dependent clause
ten introduces causal dependent clause
motó introduces consecutive dependent clause

The difference between using the conjunction $n \ni j$ as a relativizer and using a relative pronoun is that of *clausal restriction*. With unrestrictive clauses, $n \ni j$ is used as a relativizer. With restrictive clauses, one of the relative pronouns (*see § 7.2.3*) is used as a relativizer.

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5.2 | Alignment

The morphosyntactic alignment in Timah is a type of dually-split-ergative that is dependent of factors of *perfectiveness*, *valency*, and *volition*.

Perfectiveness describes the completeness of the verb, valency describes the number of arguments of the verb (in this case, a split between one or more than one), and volition describes the degree of control or intent concerning the verb (which is directly related to volitional classes, see § 8.4). In terms of alignment, these factors are binary, i.e., [perfective|non-perfective], [monovalent|multivalent], [volitional|non-volitional].

The *ergative-absolutive* alignment is used obligatorily in multivalent clauses wherein the subject is specified as perfective.

The *active-stative* alignment is used obligatorily in monovalent clauses wherein the subject is specified as perfective and non-volitional as well as in monovalent clauses wherein the subject is specified only as non-perfective.

Either alignment is possible when the subject in multivalent clauses is specified as non-perfective, as well as in monovalent clauses wherein the subject is specified as both perfective and non-volitional. Which alignment is used is pragmatically determined (*see § 15.1*).

			ErgAbs.	Either	ActStat.
	Pfv.	Vol.		×	
Mono.	1) / .	Nvol.			×
wiono.	Npfv.	Vol.			×
	112)7.	Nvol.			×
	Pfv.	Vol.	×		
Multi.	1,77.	Nvol.	×		
1714111.	Npfv.	Vol.		×	
	ייין	Nvol.		×	

Figure 5.1: Alignment

Timah is secundative, with the *theme* (object that is directed toward the recipient) of a trivalent verb (i.e., a polyvalent verb that takes three arguments, *see § 8.3*) acting as the peripheral and being marked by a postposition (*see § 7.4*), and the recipient acting as the object.

5.3 | Repeat Argument Dropping

In ergative-absolutive statements, a repeated absolutive argument can be dropped. In active-stative statements, a repeated subject can be dropped. Switching grammatical voice (*see § 8.6.3*) allows the opposing argument to be dropped.

5.4 | Clitics

What are termed *clitics* in Timah are actually phrasal affixes, i.e., they are affixes that attach to the initial or final component of their phrase. These are glossed and referred to as clitics, but may also be called *gruppenflexion* or the aforementioned phrasal affixes.

6 | Lexical Categories & Properties

6.1 | Lexical Categories & Roots

There is largely no lexical noun-verb distinction in Timah, i.e., most content words can act either as a noun or as a verb. The exceptions are the closed classes of *true nouns* and *true verbs*, collectively called *limitives* (see §§ 7.1 and 8.1). These contrast with *formatives*, which consist of content words that can act as either a noun or a verb.

6.2 | Integrity

Grammatical class, or *integrity*, in Timah is divided by compositional integrity, or completeness of the item. The *complete* class is further divided by animacy. Animacy distinction may not always occur in inflections.

Complete	item is viewed in its entirety; item is sufficient, complete, whole; CMPLT
Animate	living, mobile, heat, abstract; ANIM
Inanimate	non-living, immobile, cold, concrete; INAN
Incomplete	item is viewed partially; as deficient, incomplete, condensed; NCMPLT

Generally, these refer to the compositional integrity within the context of the situation.

6.3 | Probability

Grammatical number in Timah is divided not by amount, but *probability*, i.e., if the amount is likely or unlikely to change.

Stable	the amount is not likely to change; STBL
Unstable	the amount is likely to change; NSTBL
Panstable	it is unknown if the amount is likely or unlikely to change; PNSTBL

Generally, these refer to the probability to change within the context of the situation.

7 | Nouns

7.1 | True Nouns

True nouns consist of a set of nouns that cannot be used as verbs. See App. A for a list of true nouns. Some true nouns are used as classifiers in tandem with a numeral (*see Ch. 12*) to describe a noun.

7.2 | Pronouns

Pronouns are a subset of true nouns that take the function of another noun or noun phrase.

7.2.1 | Personal

Personal pronouns decline for probability, person, animacy (in 3rd person), case, and integrity.

			Agt.	Pat.	Erg.	Assoc.	Loc.
Stbl.	1		lə	ləhi	ján	s ^h aj	t¢ ^h ò
	2		nó	nə	nò		nə
	3	Anim.	tá?	táhi	tçàn	kéh	té
		Inan.	h	an	τφαιν		
	1		to	tò	t²	áw	já
Nstbl.	2		noó	noó nóò néj		ıéj	tçə
143606	3	Anim.	t²ó?	t²óhi	t¢ ^h on	kèè	k^h əw
	J	Inan.	t ^h	ON	τφ ΟΙ	Rec	K OW
(a) Complete							

	Agt.	Pat.	Erg.	Assoc.	Loc.		
		ke	tà?	tçà	ləj		
2	nóó	náw	nəw		no		
3	sə́sá	seh		s²əw			
(b) Incomplete							

Figure 7.1: Personal Pronouns

The *animate-inanimate* distinction in $3^{\rm rd}$ person pronouns can also be used as a *proximate-obviate* distinction.

TODO expand; example sentences

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7.2.2 | Possessive

Possessive pronouns decline for person (of the possessor), integrity, and animacy (of the possessed). They indicate ownership and relation. They are placed after their head noun.

	Con	Incomplete	
	Animate	Inanimate	Incomplete
1	lớn	já	sèn
2	ná	náj	wan
3	tás	tçəá	kaá

Figure 7.2: Possessive Pronouns

7.2.3 | Relative/Interrogative

Relative/interrogative pronouns decline for integrity, probability, and domain. They are used to introduce relative clauses and to mark specific characteristics of a question.

		Personal	Location	Proportion	Manner	Reason
Complete	Stbl.	?əsè	k ^h ànaj	clis	sáj	s ^h èh
Complete	Nstbl.	tansà	\mathbf{k}^{h} inhə	3113	saj	5 611
Incomplete		?ehi	kéhe	sa?ií	səmɔ́ɔ	s ^h ɔjna

Figure 7.3: Relative/Interrogative Pronouns

7.2.4 | Demonstrative

Demonstrative pronouns decline for number, proximality, laterality, and deictic position. They express spatial and temporal position relative to the speaker (*see § 15.2.1*). Demonstratives of *proportion* and *manner* express to what extent and in what way, respectively.

They may modify a noun or pronoun, or stand on their own. They are placed after the noun they are modifying.

		Ante	rior	Posterior				
		Sinister	Dexter	1 0000101				
	Prox.	tàá	kò	мст		Anterior	Posterior	Indefinite
Stbl.	Med.	sáwhe	kàme?	jéhə	Prox.	s ^h à	kə?	nəj
	Dist.	k²i	.tò	Jeno	Med.	tòhe	?ankí	mále
	Prox.	tçaà	?akə	wón	Dist.	sawa	Tanki	IIIÐIC
Nstbl.	Med.	?it¢³a	kèho	míí		(b) I	ncomplete	
	Dist.	te!	kí	11111				

(a) Complete

		Complete	Incomplete
Prop.	Prox.	já	likòn
rop.	Dist.	jín	IIKON
Man.	Prox.	wój	misən
	Dist.	kàn	IIIISSIN

(c) Proportion & Manner

Figure 7.4: Demonstrative Pronouns

The laterally-neutral distal demonstratives $k^2it\hat{\mathfrak{d}}$ and tekí may be compounded with a medial or proximal sinister demonstrative (that matches in integrity) to form laterally-neutral medial and proximal demonstratives.

(1) tàák²itò tàá- k²itò DEM.ANT.SIN.PROX.STBL- DEM.ANT.DIST.STBL this (in front of me)

Proximal	able to be seen and heard by speaker; PROX
Medial	able to be seen by speaker and/or seen and heard by listener; MED
Distal	able to be seen by speaker; may be indistinct or non-visible; DIST
Anterior	in front of the speaker; associated with the past; ANT
Sinister	to the left of the speaker; associated with volitional events; SIN
Dexter	to the right of the speaker; associated with non-volitional events; DEX
Posterior	behind the speaker; associated with the future; POST

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7.3 | Declensions



Figure 7.5: Declension Slots

7.3.1 | Noun Classes

Noun classes in Timah are separated into the groups *complete* and *incomplete*, which are associated with semantic wholeness or entirety of the noun (*see § 6.2*).

The *complete* group is further divided into the classes *animate* and *inanimate*. The *panstable* number is generally associated with mass nouns.

	Con	Incomplete	
	Animate	Inanimate	meompiete
Stbl.	Ø-	kaw-, kɔ-	
Nstbl.	tə-	jé-	wí-
Pnstbl.	na(n)-	Ø-	

Figure 7.6: Noun Classes

7.3.2 | Cases

Agentive	In active-stative clauses (see § 5.2), this marks the subject of a multivalent verb (see § 8.3) or the subject of a volitional monovalent verb. In ergative-absolutive clauses, this marks the object of a multivalent verb or the subject of a monovalent verb; AGT
Patientive	In active-stative clauses, this marks the object of a multivalent verb or the subject of a non-volitional monovalent verb; PAT
Ergative	In ergative-absolutive clauses, this marks the subject of a multivalent verb. This can also be used as an inalienable genitive; ERG
Associative	This marks genitive and genitive-like relations, which can be further clarified using postpositions; ASSOC
Locative	This marks physical and/or temporal location and movement that can be further clarified using postpositions; LOC

	Complete	Incomplete		Complete	Incomplete
Agt.	-Ø	-N-(Ć)	Agt.	-Ø	-té
Pat.	-h	-h-(◌́)	Pat.	-si	-sén
Erg.	-?	-ho	Erg.	-k²i	-k ^h o
Assoc.	-wɔ	-110	Assoc.	-kɔ	-K U
Loc.	-t¢ó	-je	Loc.	-t¢ó	-se
	(a) Oper	1		(b) Close	d

Figure 7.7: Cases

The associative and locative cases, collectively called *peripheral cases*, may be accompanied by a postposition (see § 7.4). In isolation, the associative takes the meaning of an alienable genitive (in contrast to the ergative, which may have an inalienable genitive meaning) and the locative takes on the meaning of a general locative or temporal (i.e., marking place or time).

7.3.3 | Article Enclitics

Articles in Timah decline for referentiality, visibility, and probability. They attach as enclitics to the final element of their head noun phrase.

Referential describes a specific instance of the class comprised of the given entity, while *non-referential* describes any instance of the class comprised of the given entity.

	Referential		Non-referential		
	Visible	Non-visible	Visible	Non-visible	
Stbl.	=mɔ́ɔ	=han	$=s^{2}i$	=t ² é?	
Nstbl.	= k ²ə	=mé	$=k^{h}\partial N$	=t çáá	
Pnstbl.	=já		$=\mathbf{k}^{\mathbf{h}}$		

Figure 7.8: Article Enclitics

7.4 | Postpositions

There are two types of postpositions in Timah: those of *association* and those of *location*. These types are directly related to the *associative* and *locative* noun cases, as the Postpositional Object must take the respective case of its postposition.

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Associative Postpositions

```
lí
         accompaniment/use; basic theme of trivalent verb
  k²e
        lack of accompaniment/use; negatory theme of trivalent verb
\mathbf{k}^{h}ono
        intent of benefit/purpose; beneficial/purposive theme of trivalent verb
    sì
        intent of reference/relation
  t¢é
        state of being
  k^h \hat{o}
        change of state
  kéh
         similarity/comparison
 t²ɔka
        causation
```

Locative Postpositions

```
tí
        movement toward
   s<sup>h</sup>ì
        movement away from
   mí
        movement onto
 tcòo
        movement under
 t<sup>h</sup>ìsé
        movement into
 sii?i
        movement out of
        beginning of movement/time
 tçoli
  ?an
        end of movement/time
kan?ɔ
        movement through, by way of, adjacent to
 so?a
        in front of/below/before
        behind/above/after
 sàkə
see?á
        between, amidst, within
sothe |
        surrounding, around, encompassing
```

7.5 | Noun Reduplication & Quantification

Many nouns (including pronouns) may optionally be fully reduplicated and attached to their root to indicate plurality or intensity. Reduplication to mark plurality is never used when a numeral is used to quantify the root noun.

```
(2) tçɔʔi
tçɔʔi
person
```

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```
a person
```

(3) tçò?itçò?i

tçò?i ~tçò?i person ~person people

In some nouns, full reduplication may also be used to derive mass nouns.

(4) hòn

hòn

dog

a dog

(5) hònhòn

hòn ~hòn

dog ~dog

a pack of dogs

Plural reduplication can be used in conjunction with integrity in order to quantify the arguments of a verb. Marking an argument as both plural and complete indicates that all participants performed the action together. Marking an argument as both plural and incomplete indicates that each of the participants performed the action separately.

(6) ketehketeh télajkála

 \emptyset - keteh ~keteh - \emptyset t δ = laj- kála - \emptyset CMPLT.ANIM.STBL- child ~child -AGT.CMPLT 3.stbl.cmplt.anim.agt= PFV.REAL- fish -AV the children all went fishing (collectively)

(7) wíketehketehté sálajkála

```
wí- keteh -keteh -té sá= laj- kála -\emptyset

NCMPLT- child -child -AGT.NCMPLT 3.ncmplt.agt= PFV.REAL- fish -AV

the children each went fishing (individually)
```

8.1 | True Verbs

True verbs consist of a set of verbs that cannot be used as nouns. See App. B for a list of true verbs. Some true verbs can be used in tandem with other verbs to form a *serial verb construction* ($see \S 8.8$).

8.2 | Verbal Negation

Verbs are negated by appending a negatory particle (see § 11.3) before the negated verb. As negatory (and affirmatory) particles inherently indicate evidentiality, evidential modality (see § 8.6.8) is dropped.

8.3 | Valency Classes

There are four main valency classes in Timah: avalent, monovalent, ambivalent, and polyvalent.

Avalent	zero arguments; AVAL
Monovalent	zero or one arguments; MVAL
Ambivalent	one or two arguments; BVAL
Subvalent	one or two arguments, see § 8.3.1; SVAL
Polyvalent	two or more arguments; PVAL

Ambivalent and polyvalent verbs that take exactly two arguments are grouped as *divalent*, polyvalent verbs that take exactly three arguments are grouped as *trivalent*, and ambivalent and polyvalent verbs that take two or more arguments are grouped as *multivalent*. These terms (*divalent*, *trivalent*, *multivalent*) are used only in analysis and metagrouping.

Copulae (see § 8.9) are considered monovalent.

8.3.1 | Subvalency & Salience

Some verbs are classed as *subvalent*. Although these verbs may take up to two arguments, the argument that would prototypically be the object is demoted to the peripheral argument, called the *subvalent peripheral*. This demotion is motivated by the property of *salience*, or how much the object is affected by the subject. Verbs with less salient objects will tend to be subvalent.

The subvalent peripheral is put in the locative case (see § 7.3.2) and takes the postposition tí. When negated, the postposition s^hì is used instead. There is no verbal agreement for the subvalent peripheral.

Colloquially, a subvalent peripheral may be inflected as an object (i.e., as if the verb *were not* subvalent) to express that the object *was* affected. Likewise, the object of an ambivalent verb may be inflected as a subvalent peripheral (i.e., as if the verb *were* subvalent) to express that the object *was not* affected.

```
*tçò?ihmóɔ lətéhkhajtè
     *Ø-
                         t¢ò?i
                                 -h
                                              =mɔ́ɔ
                                                            lə=
                                                                          téh=
     *CMPLT.ANIM.STBL- person -CMPLT.PAT =REF.VIS.STBL 1.STBL.AGT= 3.STBL.ANIM.PAT=
                 k⁴ajtè -Ø
     NPFV.REAL- see
                        -AV
     *I see the person (collog. and the person was affected)
(9) t¢ò?it¢ó tímóɔ ləkhajtè
                                                                                 Ø-
     Ø-
                               -t¢ó
                                            tí
                                                    =mɔ́ɔ
                                                                   lə=
                        tc>?i
     CMPLT.ANIM.STBL- person -CMPLT.LOC toward = REF.VIS.STBL 1.STBL.AGT= NPFV.REAL-
     k<sup>h</sup>ajtè -∅
     see
           -AV
     I see (toward) the person
```

8.4 | Volitional Classes

Verbs are inherently classed as either *volitional* or *non-volitional*. These classes determine the case of the subject in monovalent verbs in active-stative-aligned clauses. They denote inherent intent of the agent, regardless of the situational intent. They directly affect alignment (*see § 5.2*).

```
Volitional denote an action that is intentionally performed by the subject; VOL

Non-volitional denote an action that is accidentally performed by the subject; NVOL
```

8.5 | Verbal Reduplication

Reduplication is more prominent in verbs than in nouns. Full reduplication of the root can optionally be used to indicate greater intensity, but partial reduplication is used in verbal paradigms.

TODO example sentences

 $|R_{i}^{-}|$ indicates full reduplication of the initial syllable, and $|R_{f}|$ indicates full reduplication of the final syllable.

8.6 | Conjugations

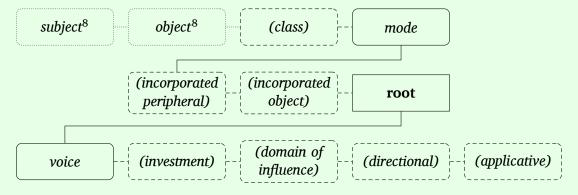


Figure 8.1: Conjugation Slots

In dependent clauses, verbs are *deranked*—they take a more limited inflection template.



Figure 8.2: Deranked Conjugation Slots

Copulae also take more limited inflection.



Figure 8.3: Copular Conjugation Slots

8.6.1 | Pronominal Proclitics

Pronominal proclitics are obligatorily appended to verb phrases and must agree with their respective argument. Pronouns are dropped when pronominal proclitics are present.

			Agt.	Pat.	Erg.					
	1		lə=	le(h)=	jớ(N)=					
Stbl.	2		nó=	no=	nò=			Agt.	Pat.	Erg.
	3	Anim.	tá=	té(h)=		_	_			
					t¢à(n)=		1	ká=	tà(?)=	tà(?)=
		Inan.	ha(n)=				2	ná (á)	7 0111 7 0	20
	1		to=	tò=	t²áw=, t²́́́́́́ =		_	n၁ဴ=(ဴ)	nəw=, no=	no=
	_		10		•		3	sá=	se(h)=	kí(n)=
NIc+h1	2		n၁=(ဴ)	ná=(`)	néj=, ní=	_				
Nstbl.		Anim	+36	+34(P)			(b) Incomplete			
	3	Anim.	$t^2 \acute{o} =$	t²á(h)=	$tc^ho(N)=$					
		Inan.	$=(N)c^{h}t$							
(a) Complete										

Figure 8.4: Pronominal Proclitics

8.6.2 | Noun Incorporation

In certain verbs, object and peripheral nouns may be *incorporated*, or attached to, the verb. The incorporated noun may be phonologically reduced or even undergo suppletion. They are always placed directly before the verb root.

When an object noun is incorporated, the meaning of the phrase becomes more general, e.g., he chops the tree (a specific tree) vs. he chops trees (as a profession, in general). Furthermore, an incorporated noun is never in focus, allowing other parts of the statement to be emphasized.

Likewise, incorporated peripheral nouns are never in focus, but do not necessarily generalize the phrase. Incorporation of peripheral nouns, especially instruments, is common.

⁸Subject and object/attribute slots are optional when the corresponding argument is not present.

Additionally, the incorporated noun may optionally be marked with a noun class prefix (*see § 7.3.1*). If it is a peripheral object, it may take an associative or locative case marker. The incorporated noun is not marked for anything else.

TODO example sentences

8.6.3 | Voice

The verbal voices in Timah are symmetric, i.e., they do not alter the valency of the verb, only the arguments' roles.

```
    -Ø Actor Voice; AV
    -tá Undergoer Voice; UV
    -mótè Correlative Voice; CV
```

The *correlative* voice indicates that both the agent and patient are in some way related; it is often used for reflexive constructs, but can also be used for reciprocal constructs.

(10) ləmólámótè

```
lə= mólá -mótè
1.STBL.AGT.CMPLT= wash -CV
I wash myself
```

(11) lələmólámótè

```
lə= nólá -mótè
1.STBL.AGT.CMPLT= 1.STBL.AGT.CMPLT= wash -CV
we wash ourselves
```

(12) kákámólámótè

```
ká= ká= mólá -mótè
1.AGT.NCMPLT= 1.AGT.NCMPLT= wash -CV
we wash each other
```

8.6.4 | Investment

The property of *investment* indicates that the subject has or does not have some sort of interest or stake pertaining to the action, e.g., give (uninvested) vs. loan (invested).

```
-Ø uninvested
-tçà invested; INV
```

8.6.5 | Domain of Influence

The *domain of influence* describes the area in which the object is able to be affected by the subject. With certain verbs this is fairly straightforward, e.g., sensory verbs—the domain of influence describes the area in which the subject can sense the object.

Verbs conjugate via suffixes for the presence of the object inside or outside the domain of influence of the subject.

```
ó-N, -ná? inside the domain of influence; ∈DOI
-lóò outside the domain of influence; ∉DOI
```

Only multivalent verbs in either the actor or undergoer voices may be marked for domain of influence, i.e., avalent and monovalent verbs, and verbs in the correlative voice may not take domain of influence marking.

When verbs in which the object is understood to be inherently inside or outside the domain of influence take domain of influence marking, it indicates the success or failure of the verb.

(13) hònmóo jéntélaj?análóò

```
\oslash- hòn -\oslash =m50 ján= tá= CMPLT.ANIM.STBL- dog -CMPLT.AGT =REF.VIS.STBL 1.STBL.ERG= 3.STBL.ANIM.AGT= laj- ?aná -\oslash -lóò PFV.REAL- hit -AV -\notinDOI I (tried to) hit the dog (and failed)
```

When pertaining to abstract concepts, the domain of influence instead describes the perceived attainability of the object (i.e., the subjective probability of it being able to enter the domain of influence).

(14) hònsis²i lətéhənən

```
\oslash - hòn -si = s²i lə = té = CMPLT.ANIM.STBL- dog -CMPLT.PAT = NREF.VIS.STBL 1.STBL.AGT = 3.STBL.ANIM.PAT = hɔnɔ́ - \oslash -n want -AV -\in DOI
```

I want a dog (and believe this to be attainable)

(15) hònsis²i lətéhənólóò

```
\oslash- hòn -si = s²i lə = té = CMPLT.ANIM.STBL- dog -CMPLT.PAT = NREF.VIS.STBL 1.STBL.AGT = 3.STBL.ANIM.PAT = hɔnɔ´-\oslash-lɔʻɔ` want -AV -\notinDOI I want a dog (and believe this to be unattainable)
```

1 Want a dog (and believe this to be unattainable)

8.6.6 | Expressive Moods

There are five moods in Timah that are independent from basic moods. These are called *expressive moods*, and are placed at the beginning of a clause. They are considered *irrealis*.

TODO example sentences

t¢ś	Imperative; commands, wishes, desires; IMP
s^ha	Interrogative; questions, requests; INT
təj	Polar Interrogative ; yes/no questions; tag questions; POL
kì	Precative; polite requests and commands; PREC
t²́ón	Suggestive; suggestions, admonitions, warnings; SUG

8.6.7 | Mood & Aspect

Mood and *aspect* (collectively called *mode*) are optionally marked using fused mood-aspect prefixes. All moods (expressive, basic, and evidential) are collectively called *modals*.

	Imperfective	Habitual	Perfective	Experiential	Iterative	
Realis	Ø-	k ² a(?)-	laj-, le-	jíhi-	$R_{i}^{-}k^{2}a(?)$ -	
Affirmative	~R _f	$k^{?}a(?)-\sqrt{R_{f}}$	laj- $\sqrt{R_f}$, le- $\sqrt{R_f}$	jíhi- $\sqrt{R_f}$	$R_i \sim k^2 a(?) - \sqrt{R_f}$	
Irrealis	tɔ(?)-	tew-, tə-	haj-, he-	já-	R _i ~tew-, R _i ~tə-	
Conditional	?o-		né(h)-	Ja	rq tew-, rq to	
Hypothetical	tàj-, tè-		k ^h à-		R _i ~tàj-, R _i ~tè-	

Figure 8.5: Aspect & Mood

The *realis* and *affirmative* moods are classed as *realis*, while the *irrealis*, *conditional*, and *hypothetical* moods are classed as *irrealis*.

Mood

Realis	event is known to be real; REAL
Affirmative	event is emphasized as being real; AFF
Irrealis	event is unknown or unreal; IRR
Conditional	event is dependent upon other events; COND
Hypothetical	event is unknown or unreal, but possible; HYP

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Aspect

Imperfective	event is incomplete; NPFV
Habitual	event is repeated across multiple timeframes; HAB
Perfective	event is complete; PFV
Experiential	event is experienced; EXP
Iterative	event is repeated within the same timeframe; ITER

8.6.7.1 | Conditionals

Conditionals are formed by using a statement in the conditional mood (the *consequence*) in tandem with a statement in another mood (the *condition*). The statements are always separated by a conjunction (see § 8.6), and may be in either order depending on topic and focus (see § 15.1).

Implicative	REAL + ten; basic factual conditional
Emphatic Implicative	AFF + ten; the consequence is emphasized
Counterfactual	IRR + motó; the condition is considered unlikely
Predictive	HYP + motó; the condition is considered likely

8.6.8 | Evidential Moods

Timah optionally marks four levels of evidentiality (as well as a *quotative*), which express how the information was gathered. Evidentiality markers are placed before their head verb. They are considered *realis*.

TODO example sentences

$k^h e k^h i$	Witness; knows of event directly; WIT
séson	Evidential Inferential; knows of event via evidence; EVID
tɔnke	Anecdotal Inferential; knows of event via prior experience(s); ANEC
móho	Reportative; knows of event indirectly; REP
?aj	Quotative; marks quoted speech, dialogue; can be used with other evidentials; QUOT

8.6.9 | Directional Specifiers & Applicatives

The *venitive* and *andative* suffixes, collectively called *directional specifiers*, are commonly used with verbs of movement, such as $w \ne move$, walk, $s^h \ni carry$, give/take, and others. These are placed directly after the verb root.

TODO example sentences

```
-tí Venitive; motion toward, with; VEN
shì Andative; motion away from, against; AND
```

Applicatives are valency-increasing operations that switch the syntactic position of the peripheral with that of the object. They are formed by appending an applicative suffix to the verb, which can be used in tandem with the venitive and andative markers in order to specify direction or efficiency. These are placed directly after the verb root and, if present, the directional specifier.

TODO example sentences

-lí	Relational; accompaniment; REL
$\hbox{-}k^h\grave{o} N$	Beneficial ; intent of benefit/purpose or reference/relation; BEN
-t²ɔʔ	Causal; causation, final causation; CAUS
-kéh	Complemental; similarity/comparison, state of being; COMP
-t¢ò	Locational ; abolsute physical or temporal location and movement; LOCL
-sò?	Positional; relative physical or temporal location and movement; POSL

The applicatives -lí and - k^h òn may be used to invert the secundative construction (*see § 5.1*), making it indirective. This allows the theme to be relativized (*see § 5.1.1*).

Further specifications can be made by supplementing the applicative suffix with a postposition (see § 7.4) placed after the object.

8.7 | Verbal Classifiers

Verbal classifiers are used with certain verbs to describe characteristics of the object, specifically integrity and *category*. It is most often used with verbs of handling.

TODO example sentences

	Complete		Incomplete
	Animate	Inanimate	Incomplete
Standing	?i-	tàj-, tè	sahi-
Sitting	maa-	m, te	mií-
Lying	t¢è-	tí(n)-	11111
Generic	k²áj-, k²í-		?ɔj-, ?ə-

Figure 8.6: Verbal Classifiers

Standing	entity is taller than it is wide; STA
Sitting	entity is as tall as it is wide; SIT
Lying	entity is wider than it is tall; LNG
Generic	unspecified category; GEN

8.8 | Serial Verb Constructions

A *serial verb construction* (SVC) in Timah is a verb phrase that contains two or more verbs that, within the context of their clause, share the same inflections and one or more arguments. They may be *continuous* (the constituent verbs are placed adjacent to each other) or *discontinuous* (the constituent verbs are separated by an argument.)

Continuous SVCs obligatorily share the same subject and object, while *discontinuous* SVCs only obligatorily share the same subject (i.e they may take different objects).

TODO expand on specific SVCs

8.8.1 | Perceptive

Perceptive SVCs are always discontinuous, and express sensory interaction.

8.8.2 | Directive

Directive SVCs may be either continuous or discontinuous, and express movement or position.

8.8.3 | Capacitive

Capacitive SVCs are always continuous, and express ability, attitude, or causality.

8.9 | Copulae

Timah *copulae* are a subset of true verbs that are used to connect arguments.

Copulae only inflect for person and mood/aspect (*see §§ 8.6.1 and 8.6.7*), and the constituent arguments within a copular phrase (i.e., the subject and attribute) both take the (unmarked) agentive case (the attribute is marked like the object in copular person agreement).

As noted in § 5.1, all copular phrases have *Subject-Copula-Attribute* word order. Copulae are always considered monovalent, although pronominal proclitics agree identically as in multivalent verbs (i.e., the attribute is treated as the object in terms of agreement).

Copulae are divided into three classes: essential (ESSNT), existential (EXIST), and referential (REF). These are further divided into the subclasses assertive (ASSRT), negative (NEG), and revelatory (REV).

The essential copulae express nominal and descriptive predication. The existential copulae express locational, existential, and possessive predication. The referential copulae, while traditionally classed as such due to how they pattern, do not act like the other two classes of copula. They may either refer to the inherent action of the subject or, if present, to the directly preceding verb. Additionally, referential copulae cannot refer to preceding copulae.

The assertive subclass expresses the basic form of the copula. The negatory subclass negates the copula. The revelatory subclass expresses surprise, doubt, and/or interest, and suppletes the assertive form of a copula when any irrealis modal is present (see §§ 8.6.6 to 8.6.8).

	Essential	Existential	Referential
Assertive	kew	nén	t ^h èh
Negatory	kəlé	néjé	t ^h àné
Revelatory	?owó	təjə	?əjtça

Figure 8.7: Copulae

9 | Descriptives

There are twelve descriptives (which function as adjectives, adverbs, or independently as formatives) in Timah. They are placed before their head. All descriptives may optionally be fully reduplicated to indicate greater intensity.

t¢ ^h àné	good, positive; full
sìnkà	bad, negative; empty
semó?	fast; loud; hard, rough
15	slow; quiet; soft, smooth
$k^h \supset k^? \supset$	big, strong; many
t¢ ^h i	small, weak; few
SON	short, wide; feminine
?in	long, narrow; masculine
t¢ós ^h a	white, light; fresh, new
káj	warm (color); hot, dry
sòtçe	cool (color); cold, wet
t ^h awsá	black, dark; stale, old

Order of descriptives is as listed from top to bottom, i.e., *quality-agility-magnitude-length-color*.

9.1 | Dyadic Color Terms

In addition to the four main color terms, there exists a set of terms that describe the transition from one color to another, called *dyadic color terms*.

		A			
		white	warm	cool	black
	white	×	két¢óh	sòt¢²áh	sʰátçʰá
Ω	warm	t¢ókʰáj	×	sòk²áj	sóké
20	cool	tçósè	két¢³è	×	t ^h ósòh
	black	t¢át ^h á	két¢á	sàt¢ʰéw	×

Figure 9.1: Dyadic Color Terms

9 Descriptives 41

9.2 | Comparison

Comparative constructions are formed by appending a postposition after the descriptive in a copular clause. The recipient of comparison is placed after the subject, i.e., *Subject-Recipient-Copula-Attribute*.

```
s<sup>h</sup>ì positive comparison
míh equative comparison
tí negative comparison
```

(16) ketehmóɔ tçò?itçó s^hìmóɔ tókew tçós^ha

```
\oslash- keteh -\oslash = m50 \oslash- tç\Imi ANIM.STBL.CMPLT- child -AGT.CMPLT = REF.VIS.SG ANIM.STBL.CMPLT- person -t\wp6 s^h1 = m50 t\wp5 t\wp6 3.STBL.ANIM.AGT.CMPLT= COP.ESSNT.ASSRT new the child is younger than the man
```

Superlative constructions are formed by appending *séè* <u>all</u>, <u>every</u> before the recipient, or using it in place of the recipient. Excessive constructions are formed by omitting the recipient entirely.

```
(17) ketehmɔ́ɔ séè (tçɔ̂ʔitçó) sʰì(mɔ́ɔ) tə́kew tçósʰa

∅- keteh -∅ =mɔ́ɔ séè (∅- tçɔ̂ʔi

ANIM.STBL.CMPLT- child -AGT.CMPLT =REF.VIS.SG all (ANIM.STBL.CMPLT- person

-tçó) sʰì =(mɔ́ɔ) tə́= kew tçósʰa

-LOC.CMPLT) ABL =(REF.VIS.SG) 3.STBL.ANIM.AGT.CMPLT= COP.ESSNT.ASSRT new

the child is the youngest of all (men)
```

(18) ketehmóo s^hì tókew tçós^ha

```
\oslash- keteh -\oslash = m50 s<sup>h</sup>ì t5= ANIM.STBL.CMPLT- child -AGT.CMPLT = REF.VIS.SG ABL 3.STBL.ANIM.AGT.CMPLT= kew tçós<sup>h</sup>a COP.ESSNT.ASSRT new the child is very/too young
```

10 | Word Formation

Word formation in Timah is achieved through the processes of derivation and compounding.

10.1 | Derivation

Derivation is possible by appending a descriptive onto a noun or verb as a prefix. Additionally, there exists a small closed class of various derivational affixes, as well as specific processes that utilize sound symbolism.

Prefixes		Suffixes	
tòj-, tè-	opposite, reverse	-t¢²á	attempt, try
t¢hà(?)-	person, profession	-tàj	product, result
lə(h)-(ဴ)	place; time	(ဴ)-litɔဴ	container, captivity, portation
kósó-	homorganic group/mass	-k²áʔe	tool, instrument
k ^h e-	heterorganic group/mass	(`)-s²00	abstraction, mass
t¢á(n)-(`)	prevent, stop, interrupt	-t¢ì	animals, inedible plants
sáj-, sé-	pretend, mimic, falsify	-mitàn	edible plants, food
sóo-	cause, source	-kosée	pejorative, derogatory
?ikè-	expected accompaniment	-t¢ì	previous, former
		(´)-nə	eventual, later

10.1.1 | Sound Symbolism

Sound symbolism can also be used as a means of derivation, using processes of alteration.

Magnitude is associated with the process of *strength alteration*, wherein certain consonants are classed as either *strong* or *weak*. Strong forms are associated with greater magnitude, while weak forms are associated with lesser magnitude.

Strong		Weak
t*	\leftrightarrow	s*
t¢*	\rightarrow	J
k*	\leftrightarrow	t¢*
?	\leftrightarrow	h

Figure 10.2: Magnitude

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Movement is associated with the process of *nasal alteration*, wherein certain consonants are classed as either *oral* or *nasal*. Oral forms are associated with slower movement, while nasal forms are associated with faster movement.

Oral		Nasal
w	\leftrightarrow	m
1	\leftrightarrow	n
j	\rightarrow	11
-w, -j ⁹	\rightarrow	-N ⁹
್ರ	\leftarrow	-14

Figure 10.3: Movement

10.2 | Compounding

Compounding in Timah is divided into coördinating and subordinating compounding.

10.2.1 | Coördinating

In coördinating compounds, the elements are equal and may be in any order. These are formed by appending one word onto another.

10.2.2 | Subordinating

In subordinating compounds, elements are order-dependent; each element is a subset of the following element. These are formed by appending the reduced form (if present) of a word before the word by which it is subordinated.

⁹These are the coda phonemes /w j N/.

11 | Function Words

11.1 | Conjunctions

There are two groups of conjunctions in Timah: *nominal* and *verbal*. *Nominal* conjunctions connect nouns, noun phrases, and descriptives; *verbal* conjunctions connect verbs and verb phrases, and can be used to introduce clauses.

Nominal

ní	presents non-contrast
?ika	presents contrast
teh	presents alternative

Verbal

nəj	presents non-contrast; introduces basic (dependent) clause
,	
ten	presents rationale, causality; introduces causal (dependent) clause
motó	presents consequence; introduces consecutive (dependent) clause
?ihi	presents contrast
kàh	presents alternative

11.2 | Satellite Conjunctions

Conjunctions may be used initially or finally in a statement as discourse markers.

ní	indicates weak affirmation of the statement
?ika	inquires weak affirmation of the listener's experience
teh	indicates surprise, doubt, or interest toward the statement
nəj	indicates strong affirmation and/or discourse-completion of the statement
ten	indicates agreement with the listener
motó	inquires strong affirmation of the listener's experience
?ihi	inquires contrast of the listener's experience to the speaker's statement
kàh	requests more information from the listener

11 | Function Words 45

11.3 | Affirmatory & Negatory

Affirmatory and negatory particles in Timah are used to affirm and negate statements, e.g., when answering a polar question. Various levels of evidentiality are expressed in them.

Affirmatory

sén	Affirmatory-Basic; affirms with no regard to evidence
s ^h è	Affirmatory-Witness; affirms via visual evidence
$\acute{c}^{h}\grave{c}$	Affirmatory-Sensory; affirms via non-visual evidence
s²ó	Affirmatory-Evidential; affirms via direct evidence
t¢²én	Affirmatory-Anecdotal; affirms via prior experience(s)
jón	Affirmatory-Reportative; affirms via indirect evidence

Negatory

káj	Negatory-Basic; negates with no regard to evidence
k ^h àj	Negatory-Sensory; negates via sensory/direct evidence
sáj	Negatory-Inferential; negates via direct evidence/prior experience(s)
wáj	Negatory-Reportative; negates via indirect evidence

12 | Numerals

Timah uses a base-60 numeral system. This is not a pure base-60 system orthographically, as it uses base-12 as a sub-base to construct the constituent numeric symbols. There is no overt difference between cardinal and ordinal numbers.

0	?i	12	tçíha	24	sín	36	sekó	48	t ^h àse
1	t ^h è	13	t¢³əə	25	kon	37	hino	49	s ^h ii
2	nin	14	ná?ah	26	?əəha	38	s^h àə	50	s²óo
3	kə	15	s^ha	27	t ^h aà	39	tè	51	kʰàj
4	$\mathbf{k}^{\mathrm{h}}\mathbf{\hat{i}}$	16	s^h oh	28	tòo	40	k²ò?	52	lś?en
5	t¢ ^h ajá	17	$k^{\text{h}}e\acute{e}$	29	tçən	41	sómán	53	t ^h òn
6	soo	18	jo	30	s^h ìh	42	hasʰè	54	tçəh
7	sáh	19	tàn?a	31	s²ə	43	kè	55	sò
8	?ɔsə	20	t¢ ^h à	32	nój	44	k^ho	56	taloh
9	$\mathbf{k}^{\mathrm{h}}\mathbf{i}\mathbf{i}$	21	tək³o	33	sàtçíí	45	lato	<i>57</i>	jíli
10	t¢é	22	?ət¢³ó	34	satça?	46	tçəh	58	t ^h ò
11	láha	23	tɔkʰo	35	t¢ ^h on	47	$\operatorname{siit}^{\operatorname{h}}$	59	hent ^h e

Figure 12.1: Numerals

12.1 | Higher & Lower Numerals

Higher numerals in Timah are formed by using a positional numbering system, wherein each consecutive slot n contains a numeral x and indicates 60nx.

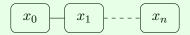


Figure 12.2: Higher Numerals

12.1.1 | Numeric Distributors

Numeric distributors may also be used to form higher numerals as well as *lower numerals*. They multiply or divide the numeral they are appended to by a set value.

		1
-nii	2× -jih	2÷
-k³́́́́	$3 imes$ - $k^{ m h}\grave{a}$	3÷
-kì	4 × -té	4÷
-t¢é	$5 \times$ -sì	5÷
-s²o	6× -hɔ	6÷

12 | Numerals 47

Numerals may be added and subtracted using the postpositions lí and $k^{2}e$, respectively.

13 | Register & Kinship Terms

13.1 | Register

Register terms in Timah are used to describe the social relationship between people using the three properties of *status*, *age*, and *formality*.

	Inferior			Equivalent			Superior		
	Younger	Equal	Elder	Younger	Equal	Elder	Younger	Equal	Elder
Formal	tèhah		waj	kát¢ ^h è	s ^h ò	s^h əw	lét¢a?	jó?oh	sako
Polite	loj	t¢ ^h aw	tçoo	sáhkəh	3 0	wo?ɔ	k ^h emé	mii?í	sako
Familiar	13)	t¢ ^h ɔs ^h ə	to?a	k ^h a	l	tʰìiʔɔj	t ^h ìt¢	ÍN	t ^h è
Pejorative	kəj			ket¢ ^h ò			k ^h èle		

Figure 13.1: Register Terms

These terms can also be used to describe familial relations. Status corresponds to the position of kin in relation to one's generation, i.e., *inferior* corresponds to kin below one's generation, *equivalent* to kin within one's generation, and *superior* to kin above one's generation. Age corresponds to relative age, while formality corresponds to relative social status.

14 | Ideophones

14.1 | Ideophonemes

There exists a set of phonemes in Timah that can appear only in ideophones. These are called *ideophonemes*, and they cannot cluster (i.e., codae /? h N w j/ may not precede them). Basic consonants can appear in ideophones, but ideophones are restricted to a reduced vowel inventory.

						Dental	Alveolar	Lateral
	Labial	Alveolar	Dorsal	,	Tenuis	1	!	
Nasal	^m b	ⁿ d	$^{\eta}g$ \sim η	1	Aspirate	h	! h	$\ ^{\mathbf{h}}$
Liquid	В В		$\mathring{B}_{\sim} \chi \ \text{B-R}$	1	Nasal	ŋ	n i	υ∥
(a) Pulmonic				(Glottal	$\mathfrak{p} _{\mathfrak{F}}$	υ i ,	\mathfrak{d}_3
						(b) Non-	pulmonic	

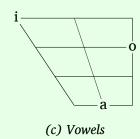


Figure 14.1: Ideophonemes

Additionally, the syllabic nasals /m n n/m also appear, but only in isolation.

14.2 | Ideophones

There are three types of ideophones in Timah: *phonomimes*, *phenomimes*, and *psychomimes*. See App. D for a list of ideophones.

Phonomimes	imitate sounds directly; PHON
Phenomimes	imitate sounds associated with tangible states and conditions; PHEN
Psychomimes	imitate sounds associated with intangible states and conditions; PSYCH

15 | Semantics & Pragmatics

15.1 | **Topic & Focus**

Topic and focus are important elements of discourse in Timah. Under certain circumstances (see § 5.2), the presence of explicit topic-fronting and/or focus-marking can change which alignment is used. Variably-aligned statements default to the active-stative alignment, but take the ergative-absolutive alignment when the speaker wishes to emphasize or topicalize the subject.

In general, the topic marks known or old information, while the focus marks unknown or new information.

15.1.1 | Topic & Focus Marking

The *topic* of a clause can be explicitly marked by changing the alignment of a variably-aligned clause to ergative-absolutive. In invariably-aligned clauses, the topic is explicitly marked by fronting the topicalized argument.

The topic strongly correlates to the subject of the clause, but this is not always the case. If the speaker wishes to emphasize the object, the arguments must be switched and the verb put into the undergoer voice (see § 8.6.3).

The *focus* of a clause can be explicitly marked by appending one of three *focus markers* before the head of the phrase containing the focus.

TODO example sentences, expand on topic/focus stuff

	focuses the entire phrase
tàá	focuses the head of the phrase
kò	focuses the dependents of the phrase

The specific focus will always be intonationally emphasized.

15.2 | **Deixis**

15.2.1 | Spatial/Temporal Deixis & Domains

The deictic space of Timah is divided into three main domains: *anterior-sinister*, *anterior-dexter*, and *posterior*.

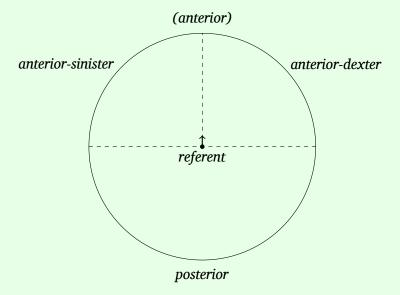


Figure 15.1: Deictic Space

16 | Speech Registers

There exists many special *speech registers* in Timah. While identical in grammar, these registers differ in lexicon content and size.

Nuptial Registers	used by people who are or have been in an intimate relationship
Internal Subregister	used when speaking directly to one's intimate partner
External Subregister	used by people who are or have been in a relationship, with no regard to the status of the listener
Avoidance Subregister	used when speaking to and around one's previous intimate partners
Foreign Registers	used when around foreigners, i.e., non-Khokan people
Positive Subregister	used when speaking to foreigners that are considered favorable by the speaker
Negative Subregister	used when speaking to foreigners that are considered hostile by the speaker
Vital Registers	used when hunting, gathering, and/or observing certain animals or plants
Shallow Subregister	used when hunting and observing inherently terrestrial animals
Deep Subregister	used when hunting and observing inherently aerial and/or aquatic animals
Passive Subregister	used when gathering plants and collecting spoils
TODO all of this	

Appendices

Within these dictionary appendices, entries are notated as word (reduced form): (inherent inflections/classes) definition. Arguments in parentheses do not appear for all entries.

Entries followed by a superscript *NI NX NA FP FN VS VD VP* correspond to the nuptial internal, nuptial external, nuptial avoidance, foreign positive, foreign negative, vital shallow, vital deep, and vital passive registers, respectively (*see Ch. 13*).

TODO all of this

A | True Nouns

- tçò?i (tç²è) : (ANIM) n. person, human, humanoid creature ‡ cl. people, all humanoids
- kon: (INAN, PNSTBL) *n.* place, location, area ‡ *cl.* places, locations
- ketch (k²eh), tçatih^{FP}: (ANIM) *n.* baby, offspring; child, young person ‡ *cl.* young (of an animal), offspring
- sisì (s²iì): (ANIM, PNSTBL) *n*. water, air; liquid, fluid; motion, movement ‡ *cl*. all fluids
- neh: (INAN) *n.* rock, stone, solid; immobility, inactivity ‡ *cl.* rocks, stones, natural solids; hard body parts e.g., shells, bone, teeth, nails
- tçì : (ANIM) *n.* animal, creature, beast ‡ *cl.* all wild terrestrial animals excluding insects
- tçasí : (INAN) *n*. tree, plant; foliage, vegetation ‡ *cl*. all non-edible plants

- sóósa : (INAN) *n*. container, vessel, receptacle ‡ *cl*. all containers; all foods that can contain other food
- k^2 67e: (INAN) n. tool, instrument, weapon \ddagger cl. all tools, instruments, weapons; functional body parts e.g., appendages, sensory organs
- thìló: (ANIM) n. body; flesh, meat (living); physical form; body language, behavior
- thè?: (INAN) n. corpse; flesh, meat (dead/raw); death ‡ cl. soft body parts e.g., flesh, hair, skin; all animal-derived foods
- k^hàtí : (ANIM) *n*. flesh, meat (cooked); meal, feast
- j\u00e4h\u00e3: (INAN) n. fruit; edible plant; the flesh of a fruit; flower \u00e4 cl. all plant-derived foods; all flowers

B | True Verbs

- wớ : (VOL, BVAL) n. move, walk, come/go
 - ► mɔ́: (VOL, BVAL) run, move quickly
- shoj: (VOL, PVAL) n. carry, give/take
- niwi : (VOL, BVAL) n. consume, eat, drink
- tçɔ́j : (VOL, PVAL) n. speak, write, communicate
- k^hajtè : (VOL, SVAL) *n*. hear, see, directly sense; read, understand

- hasì : (VOL, SVAL) *n*. smell, taste, indirectly sense
- jékɔ : (VOL, BVAL) n. feel, sense; know
- se?mɔ́: (VOL, PVAL) n. make, cause, do
- kho: (NVOL, AVAL) n. occur, happen, exist
- hɔnɔ́: (VOL, BVAL) n. want, desire, wish

C | Dictionary

m

- míshoh: (ANIM) *n.* aversion, repulsion, disgust ‡ (NVOL, BVAL) *v.* be averse, repulsed, disgusted
- melə (mii): (INAN) *n*. bread; food made from grain; grain ‡ (VOL, MVAL) *v*. prepare/eat bread; prepare grain
- mólá: (INAN) n. wave, gust; flow, movement, direction ‡ (VOL, BVAL) v. make wet; wash, clean; push, move

$\mid n \mid$

- níjò: (ANIM) n. awareness of something dangerous, premonition; warning, caution, advice; omen, prophecy; foresight ‡ (VOL, BVAL) v. warn, caution, advise; prophesize, foresee, predict
- nótçè : (INAN) n. solid food ‡ (VOL, MVAL) v. prepare solid food
- nómɔ (nón) : (ANIM) n. tooth; bite ‡ (VOL, BVAL) v. bite, chew

$|t^h, t, t^?$

- tha?wá (tháw): (ANIM) n. yak, cow, dzo; wisdom, strength, power; work, effort ‡ (VOL, BVAL) v. be a yak, cow, dzo; be wise, strong, powerful; (do) work, put effort into
- tətçìn (tç²ìn) : (ANIM) n. eye, pair of eyes; sight ‡ (NVOL, SVAL) ν . see, visually sense

• tç^hàs²ah (tç^hà?) : (INAN) *n*. that which is contained; injury ‡ (VOL, BVAL) *v*. contain (within); incapacitate, debilitate

- tçii: (INAN) n. sand, dust, gravel, grain; sugarcane, sugar, sweetness ‡ (VOL, BVAL) v. separate, crumble; be particulate, granular; be sweet
- tçóhkhð (tçoh) : (INAN) n. milk, fat ‡ (NVOL, MVAL) v. be/have/drink milk; be fat

$$| k^h, k, k^?$$

- $k^h \hat{\partial}$: (ANIM) n. breast; fat ‡ (VOL, BVAL) ν . produce milk; nurture, care (for)
- k^h òo : (ANIM) n. fingers, hand, arm ‡ (VOL, BVAL) ν . touch, interact (with)
- ki?əj (k²ii): (INAN) *n*. boat, method of travel; transportation; trade, commerce; goods, cargo, something to be transported ‡ (VOL, PVAL) *v*. travel (by boat); transport; trade (goods)
- kətóhi $^{\rm FP}$: (INAN) $\it n$. any grain, cereal or pulse; bread \ddagger (VOL, MVAL) $\it v$. grow/harvest grain
- kála (kóɔ) : (ANIM) *n*. fish; conspiracy, scheme ‡ (VOL, MVAL) *v*. fish, go fishing; conspire, scheme
- k^2 ètç²è (ján), ján^{NI} : (ANIM) n. friend, spouse; expected accompaniment; friendship, relationship ‡ (VOL, BVAL) ν . accompany; be in a relationship

C | Dictionary 56

| ?

• ?elśw (lóo): (ANIM) *n*. squamate reptile, lizard, snake; tail; self-amputation (of an appendage) ‡ (VOL, BVAL) *v*. be a squamate reptile, lizard, snake; have/move/be a tail; self-amputate (an appendage)

- ?əhee: (INAN) *n*. cold food; raw food; something to be made cold ‡ (VOL, MVAL) *v*. prepare cold food; cool, make cold
- ?aná: (INAN) n. injury, damage; sickness; immobility, laziness; rope ‡ (VOL, BVAL) v. injure, damage; make immobile; be lazy; tie (up), bind, restrain
- ?anko: (INAN) n. bed, place of rest; sleep, rest; dream, hallucination ‡ (VOL, MVAL) v. sleep, rest; dream, hallucinate

$\mid S^h, S, S^?$

- sènáj (sáj) : (ANIM) *n.* bear; fear ‡ (NVOL, MVAL) *v.* be a bear; be afraid
- set²o?: (ANIM) *n.* river, moving body of water; narrow portion of material, strip ‡ (VOL, BVAL) *v.* travel by river, moving body of water; make into narrow portions, strips
- sələn: (ANIM) *n*. intestines, that which is digested ‡ (NVOL, BVAL) *v*. digest, break down (naturally); dissolve
- s²ələ́w: (INAN) n. saraw plant, a squat wide-leafed plant used as material on which to write; the leaf of the saraw plant; any material on which one writes ‡ (VOL, MVAL) v. harvest (the leaves of) a saraw plant; write
- sóo : (INAN) *n*. excrement, waste ‡ (NVOL, MVAL) *v*. excrete, produce waste
- sɔ̀jsi: (ANIM) *n*. hot food; cooked food; something to be made warm ‡ (VOL, MVAL) *v*. prepare hot food; heat, make warm

| h

- hàlóo: (INAN) *n.* root; source, origin, cause; stability ‡ (NVOL, BVAL) *v.* be a source, origin; cause; be stable; stabilize
- hòn: (ANIM) *n.* dog, wolf, canine; any domesticated animal ‡ (NVOL, BVAL) *v.* be a dog; domesticate

W

- win : (ANIM, PNSTBL) *n*. rain, precipitation ‡ (NVOL, AVAL) *v*. rain, precipitate; fall, come down, descend
- mínwo: (ANIM) n. bird; flight; gossip ‡ (VOL, MVAL) v. be a bird; fly; gossip
- wítç^hə: (INAN) *n*. weakness, laziness ‡ (NVOL, MVAL) *v*. be weak, lazy
- wíini (wíi): (ANIM) *n*. cat; cleverness, wit ‡ (NVOL, MVAL) *v*. be a cat; be clever, witty
- wíkən (wén): (ANIM) *n*. mouth, opening, orifice ‡ (VOL, BVAL) *v*. hold in one's mouth, suck; fellate
- wówkho (wó?): (INAN) *n*. that which is broken; breakage, damage, injury ‡ (NVOL, BVAL) *v*. break, damage, injure; be broken, damage, injured
- wónəj (wój) : (INAN) *n*. small amount; poverty ‡ (NVOL, MVAL) *v*. have few; be poor
- wolòh: (INAN) *n.* snow, ice, frost, cold water ‡ (NVOL, AVAL) *v.* snow, hail, rain coldly

| 1

- let^hitça (litç^ha) : (ANIM) *n*. liquid food ‡ (VOL, MVAL) *v*. prepare liquid food
- ləneh: (INAN) *n*. mountain, collection of rock/stone ‡ (VOL, BVAL) *v*. be/climb a mountain; stop, prevent

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- lɔtç²ó: (ANIM) *n*. rain ceremony ‡ (VOL, MVAL) *v*. perform a rain ceremony
- lónlə (lón): (INAN) *n*. dumpling, dough; smallness, roundness; cuteness ‡ (VOL, MVAL) *ν*. have/eat/prepare/be (a) dumpling(s), dough; be small and round; be cute

| j

• jon : (INAN) n. cave, dwelling; quiet, silence \ddagger (VOL, MVAL) ν . live in a cave; be quiet, silent

D | Ideophones