???

Tíməh, the language of Shaygų

M.M.N.H.

A descriptive 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.). It may be further classified as an artistic language (*artlang*). Its primary goal is simply to be documented entirely in $\mathbb{F}_{T}X$ (*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 (khok²ɔtçò?e [kphòkp²òtçò?è] lit. many-person). They live on the Saykung Archipelago (shajkon [shæjgbuŋm] 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 Saykung 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

- $/n t^h t t^2$ are dental $[\underline{n} t^h t t^2]^1$; $/s^h s s^2 l$ 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 nasal²
- the glottalized obstruents $/t^2$ tc^2 k^2 s^2 / are articulated with laryngeal tension, and may be accompanied by slight creaky-voice on the following vowel

2.1.1 | Consonant allophony

- the clusters /?m ?n/ surface as the implosives [6 d] word-initially and as clusters [76 ?d] intervocalically
- the alveolar nasal /n/ surfaces as alveolo-palatal [n,] before [i]
- the coda archiphoneme /n/ surfaces as [n n, ŋ] before alveolar, alveolo-palatal, and velar plosives, respectively; it surfaces as nasalization of the preceding vowel before all other consonants; it surfaces as [ŋ] word-finally after non-back vowels, and as [ŋm] word-finally after the back vowels /o σ and before the labio-velars [kp² kp kph]
- the alveolar plosives $/t^h$ t t^2 / surface as trills $[r, r, r^2]$ before [i]. This does not occur after /N/ nor in clusters
- the aspirated plosives $/t^h$ $t c^h k^h / surface$ as fricatives $[\theta \ c \ x]$ before /a/. This does not occur after /N/ nor in clusters

 $^{^{1}}$ [n th t t] (and, when applicable, their allophones) are transcribed as [n th t t] (i.e., without the dental bridge diacritic) for aesthetic reasons

²yes, I say /ən 'uvjələ^{-/}; deal with it

• the aspirated obstruents $/t^h$ $t \! \! c^h k^h s^h /$ are deäspirated to [t $t \! \! c k s$] intervocalically and after $/m \ n \ w \ j \ N /$

- the tenuis obstruents /t tc k s/ are voiced to [d dz g z] intervocalically and after /m n w j 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/
- the sibilants $/s^h$ s s^2 / are palatalized to $[c^h$ c^h c^h] before [i]. [c] is voiced to [c] and [c] is deaspirated to [c] intervocalically and after /w j N/
- the labiovelar /w/ surfaces as labiodental [v] before [i]
- the liquid /l/ surfaces as a tap [r] intervocalically and after /w j N/
- the clusters (see § 2.3.1.1) /hm hn hw hl hj/ surface as voiceless sonorants [m n w-φ l-l j-c]⁴; /hw/ surfaces as [v] before [i]; the sonorants also surface as voiceless when clustered with the aspirated plosives /th tch kh/

2.1.2 | Dialectal variations of consonants

- in some [which?] dialects, the alveolo-palatals /tgh tg tg²/ surface as alveolar affricates [tsh ts ts²], true palatals [ch c c²], or non-affricated alveolo-palatals [th t t²]
- in some [which?] dialects, the glottalized plosives /t² tç² k² s²/ surface as ejectives [t' tç' k' (t)s'] or geminates [tt ttç kk ss-tts]
- depending on dialect [which ones?] and idiolect, the glottal fricative /h/ may variously surface as any of [x- χ ħ ĥ]
- in some [which?] dialects, the liquid [1] has merged with either /j/ or /n/
- in the Shore dialect, /w/ surfaces as $[w]^{\beta}$, i.e., it has lip compression instead of protrusion

2.2 | Vowels

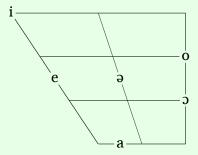


Figure 2.2: Vowel phonemes

⁴although often articulated with varying frication, the voiceless approximants are transcribed as $[\psi \ | \]]$ for aesthetic reasons

- all vowels may occur as long or short (see § 2.3.1)
- all vowels may occur with high tone /\(\delta/\), low tone /\(\delta/\), or as toneless (see § 2.5)
- /e/ is true mid [e]⁴
- /a/ is near-front [a] (i.e., not central [ä])

2.2.1 | Vowel allophony

- · all vowels are nasalized before nasal consonants
- /i/ backs to [i] after the velars and glottal /kh k k² h/ and before coda [ŋ h]
- /a/ fronts to [æ-ε] after the palatals /tch tc tc² j/ and before coda /j/
- /o ɔ/ raise to $[u\ 0]^4$ word-finally in open syllables, after the velars $/k^h\ k\ k^2\ w/$, and before coda $[\eta]$

2.2.2 | Dialectal variations of vowels

- some [which?] dialects merge the front vowels /i e/ into [i~I]
- some [which?] dialects merge the central vowels /ə a/ into [a]
- some^[which?] dialects merge the back vowels /o ɔ/ into true mid [o]
- in the Shore dialect, the back vowels /o $_{0}$ / (and their allophones) surface as [$_{\gamma}^{\beta}$ $_{\alpha}^{\beta}$], i.e., they have lip compression instead of protrusion

2.3 | Phonotactics

2.3.1 | Word profile

The profile of the phonological word is as follows:

$$\# \left[\underset{\omega}{\overset{\mathbf{C}}{\varnothing}} \left[\underset{\sigma}{\overset{\mathbf{C}}{\otimes}} \left[V_{1}^{\mathsf{T}} V_{2}^{\mathsf{T}} \right] \underset{\varnothing}{\overset{\mathbf{F}}{\varnothing}} \right] \# \right]$$

Figure 2.3: Word profile

Wherein:

- ω represents the phonological word
- σ represents a syllable

 $^{^{4}}$ [e o] are transcribed as [e o] for aesthetic reasons

- C represents any consonant except /n/
- V_1^T represents a nucleic vowel and tone $/\circ$ $\acute{\circ}$ /
- F represents a coda consonant /n? h w j/
- V₂^T represents a long vowel mora, which must be homorganic to the nucleic vowel in vowel quality but not necessarily in tone
- Ø represents nothing, i.e., optionally, the slot may be empty

2.3.1.1 | Consonant clusters

Only the following consonant clusters (in black) are allowed:

							(C_1						
		m	n	t^h	t	t?	t¢ ^h	tç	t¢?	\mathbf{k}^{h}	k	k²	?	h
	m	m	n	$t^h m \\$	tm	t²m	tc^hm	tçm	tç?m	$k^{\rm h} m $	km	$k^{2}m$?m	hm
	n	m	n	nt^h	nt	nt?	ntc^h	ntç	ntç?	$\mathbf{k}^{\mathrm{h}}\mathbf{n}$	kn	k^2n	?n	hn
	t^h	mt^h	nt^h	t^h	t^h	t	tç ^h	tç ^h	tç	$k^{\rm h}t^{\rm h}$	$k^{\rm h}t^{\rm h}$	kt	t	t^h
	t	mt	nt	t^{h}	t?	t?	tç ^h	t¢?	t¢?	$k^{\rm h}t^{\rm h}$	kt	$k^{2}t^{2}$	t?	t^{h}
	t?	mt²	nt?	t	t?	t?	tç	t¢?	t¢?	kt	k^2t^2	$k^{2}t^{2}$	t?	t
	t¢ ^h	mtc^h	ntc^h	t¢ ^h	t¢ ^h	tç	tç ^h	tç ^h	tç	$k^{\rm h} t \! c^{\rm h}$	$k^h t \! c^h$	ktç	tç	tç ^h
	tç	mtç	ntç	t¢ ^h	tç?	tç?	tç ^h	t¢?	t¢?	$k^{\rm h} t \! c^{\rm h}$	ktç	$k^{?}tc^{?}$	tç?	tç ^h
	t¢?	mtç?	ntç?	tç	t¢?	t¢?	tç	t¢?	t¢?	ktç	$k^{?}tc^{?}$	$k^? t \! c^?$	tç?	tç h
	\mathbf{k}^{h}	mk^h	nk^h	$t^{\rm h}k^{\rm h}$	$t^{h}k^{h} \\$	tk	$t\!c^{\scriptscriptstyle h}k^{\scriptscriptstyle h}$	$t\!c\!\!\!c^h k^h$	tçk	\mathbf{k}^{h}	\mathbf{k}^{h}	k	k	\mathbf{k}^{h}
C_2	k	mk	nk	$t^h k^h$	tk	t²k²	$t c^h k^h$	tçk	tc^2k^2	$\mathbf{k}^{\mathbf{h}}$	\mathbf{k}^{2}	k?	k?	\mathbf{k}^{h}
	k?	mk?	nk?	tk	t²k²	t^2k^2	tçk	tc^2k^2	$t c^{?} k^{?} \\$	k	\mathbf{k}^{2}	k?	k?	k
	?	?m	?n	t	t?	t?	tç	tç?	t¢?	k	\mathbf{k}^{2}	k?	?	h
	s^h	mt^h	nt^h	t^{h}	t^h	t	tç ^h	tç ^h	tç	\mathbf{k}^{h}	\mathbf{k}^{h}	k	S	S^h
	S	mt	nt	t^h	t?	t?	tç ^h	tç?	t¢?	$\mathbf{k}^{\mathbf{h}}$	\mathbf{k}^{2}	k?	s?	S^h
	s?	mt²	nt?	t	t?	t?	tç	t¢?	t¢?	k	\mathbf{k}^{2}	\mathbf{k}^{2}	$s^{?}$	S
	h	m	n	t^{h}	t^h	t	tç ^h	tç ^h	tç	\mathbf{k}^{h}	\mathbf{k}^{h}	k	?	h
	w	m	nw	$t^hw\\$	tw	$t^{2}w$	$t c^h w$	tçw	$tc^{2}w$	$k^{h} w$	kw	k^2w	?w	hw
	1	ml	n	t^{h}	t	t?	tç ^h	tç	tç?	$\mathbf{k}^{\mathrm{h}}\mathbf{l}$	kl	k²l	?1	hl
	j	mj	n	t¢ ^h	tç	t¢?	t¢ ^h	tç	t¢?	t¢ ^h	tç	tç?	?j	hj

Figure 2.4: Consonant clusters⁵

Clusters may only occur word-initially. If a prefix or proclitic is prepended to a word that begins with a cluster, the C_1 of the cluster migrates to the beginning of the word. In fig. 2.4, entries in blue denote the result of C_1 -migration (i.e., cluster resolution); i.e., if C_1 forms an illegal cluster after migration, the illegal cluster is resolved by returning the corresponding entry.

⁵cells are unmerged for the purpose of clarity

2.3.1.2 | Restraints

These phonotactic restraints govern allomorphy.

- the coda nasal /n/ cannot precede a nasal /m n/
- the coda glottals /? h/ cannot precede another glottal /? h/
- the coda glottal /h/ cannot precede a sonorant /m n w l j/.
- The glides /w j/ cannot precede another glide /w j/
- the coda glide /w/ cannot follow /o o/
- the coda 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.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 7 & & & & & & & \\
 h & & & & & & & & \\
 N & W & J & & & & & & \\
\end{array}$$

Figure 2.5: Coda reductions

2.4 | Phonological processes

There are three types of phonological processes: basic, active, and dormant processes.

Basic processes occur on the phonetic level. *Active* processes are highly productive and often morphophonological in nature. In contrast, *dormant* processes only occur in set environments, e.g., certain affixes.

2.4.1 | Basic processes

2.4.1.1 | Stress

Stress placement 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.

2.4.1.2 | Degemination

Gemination of consonants is not allowed, 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.

```
s<sup>2</sup>áw wíini
/s<sup>2</sup>áw wíini/
```

some cats

2.4.2 | Active processes

2.4.2.1 | Vowel harmony

Vowel harmony is based on tongue root position.

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

Figure 2.6: Vowel harmony

Vowel harmony is very pervasive; within a word, harmony spreads rightward from a stressed vowel until it is terminated.

Vowel harmony is terminated after dead syllables (i.e., syllables ending in /? h/, represented in fig. 2.7 by $\sigma_{\dot{\tau}}$).



Figure 2.7: Harmony spread

2.4.2.2 | Obstruent weakening

Initial obstruents in compound words (including verbs with incorporated nouns, see § 9.6.2), 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:

$$\begin{array}{cccccccc} t^{?} & t^{h} & & t \\ tc^{?} & tc^{h} & & tc \\ k^{?} & k^{h} & \rightarrow & k \\ s^{?} & s^{h} & & s \\ 2 & & h & \end{array}$$

Figure 2.8: Obstruent weakening

2.4.2.3 | Obstruent contraction

Sequences of $P_1^*VP_2^*V$, wherein P^* represents any obstruent and V represents any vowel, the sequence $P_1^*VP_2^*$ is contracted to P_3^* if the following conditions are met:

- · non-initial
- P₁*V is unstressed
- after obstruent weakening (see § 2.4.2.2)
- at a morpheme boundary

In fig. 2.9, P^h represents the aspirated obstruents $/t^h$ $t k^h$ s^h h/, P represents the tenuis obstruents /t t k $R^6/$, and R^7 represents the glottalized obstruents $/t^7$ R^7 R^7

P_1^*		\mathtt{P}_2^*		P_3^*
P ^h , P		P ^h , P		\mathbf{P}^{h}
P^{h}	+	$P^{?}$	\rightarrow	P
P, P [?]	'	P, P [?]	,	$\mathbf{P}^{?}$
$\mathbf{P}^{?}$		\mathbf{P}^{h}		P

Figure 2.9: Obstruent contraction

The specific place and manner of articulation of P_3^* is dependent on a 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.

$$k^{\star} \quad > \quad t c^{\star} \quad > \quad t^{\star} \quad > \quad s^{\star} \quad > \quad \mbox{?, } h$$

Figure 2.10: Obstruent hierarchy

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 § 2.5.3).

2.4.3 | Dormant processes

2.4.3.1 | Nasal harmony

In certain environments, the approximants /w l j/may alternate with the nasals /m n/. This is marked by a subscript n.

Oral		Nasal
w		m
1	\rightarrow	n
j		11

Figure 2.11: Nasal harmony

 $^{^6}$ /?/ is classed as tenuis when it is either P_1^* or P_2^* , and as both tenuis and glottalized when it is P_3^*

Nasal harmony is regressive, i.e., it moves right-to-left within a word. Nasal forms are triggered by the nasals /m n N/. Nasal harmony is blocked by the non-glottal obstruents /t^h t t^2 tc^h tc tc² k k k t^2 s s s²/.

2.4.3.2 | Palatal harmony

In certain environments, the alveolars $/t^h$ t t^2 l/ may alternate with the palatals $/t c^h$ t c^2 j/. This is marked by a subscript y.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
Alv. & Pal. \\
t^* & & tc^* \\
1 & i
\end{array}$$

Figure 2.12: Palatal harmony

Palatal harmony is progressive, i.e., it moves left-to-right within a word. Palatal forms are triggered by the palatals $/\mathfrak{t}_s^h \mathfrak{t}_s \mathfrak{t}_s^p \mathfrak{t}_s^p$

2.4.3.3 | Phonation harmony

In certain environments, the non-glottal obstruents $/t^h$ t t^2 t p^h the p^h harmonize in phonation, i.e., they align in the qualities of being aspirated, tenuis, or glottalized. This is marked by a subscript p.



Figure 2.13: Phonation harmony

Phonation harmony is progressive. Aspirated forms are triggered by the aspirated obstruents $/t^h \ k^h \ s^h \ h/$; tenuis forms are triggered by tenuis obstruents $/t \ k \ s/$; glottalized forms are triggered by the glottalized obstruents $/t^2 \ k^2 \ s^2 \ 2/$.

2.5 | Tone

There are 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 may be affected by various tonological processes such as *tone mobility* and *tone association*.

2.5.1 | Depression

The high tone /6/ surfaces as mid [5] when preceded by another high tone (with no regard to intervening segments). This occurs on the phonetic level.

```
sóósa, mólá, hèló?ló
```

/sóósə, mólɨ, həlóʔló/
[sóōzə, móɾə, həɾóʔlū]
container, wave/wash, late winter

2.5.2 | **Polarity**

Certain affixes (notated as ¬AFFIX or AFFIX¬, the affix being the target) may take the inverse tone of the immediately preceding or following tone-bearing mora (the trigger) under the following conditions:

- if the trigger has a high tone, the target takes a low tone
- if the trigger has a low tone, the target takes a low tone
- otherwise, the target takes its default tone

Tonal inversion applies to the entire affix.

2.5.3 | Mobility

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

2.5.3.1 | 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 ($see \S 2.5.4$), tone shift is not blocked by dead syllables. This also occurs when a tonic vowel is elided by obstruent contraction ($see \S 2.4.2.3$).



Figure 2.14: Leftward tone shift

2.5.3.2 | Rightward tone movement

If the stressed syllable of a word contains a toneless vowel, the nearest tone leftward of the stressed syllable moves to the stressed toneless vowel. If the stressed syllable contains a toneless long vowel, the two nearest tones leftward move to the stressed toneless long vowel.



Figure 2.15: Rightward tone movement

2.5.4 | Tone association

Tone association is the process in which the tone of the second syllable of a given foot (see § 3.2) may spread to the preceding toneless syllable within the foot. This applies after tone mobility. In fig. 2.16, S represents a sonorant /N w j/ and G represents a glottal /2 h/.

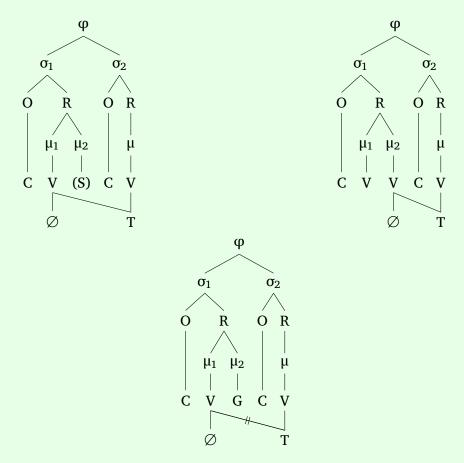


Figure 2.16: Tone association

2.5.5 | Floating tones

Floating tones occur on certain affixes (notated as ´-AFFIX or AFFIX-´, wherein ´ may be high ´ or low `) and after obstruent contraction (if the elided vowel is tonic, *see § 2.4.2.3*). Floating tones associate in the direction in which they shift and are not limited by intervening segments.

3 | Prosody

3.1 | Isochrony

Isochrony is moraically-timed, 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 § 2.4.1.1*).

3.2 | Prosodic hierarchy

Prosodic units may be separated into a hierarchy of sub-units. In fig. 3.1, ϕ represents a prosodic foot, σ represents a syllable, and μ represents a mora. Superscript numbers represent the amount of that to which they are superscript.

The *metrical foot*, or just *foot*, is an important unit. TODO all of this



Figure 3.1: Prosodic hierarchy

3.3 | Intonation

TODO all of this

4 | Orthography

The Timah language uses the *Lhoma* script (hlóma [lɔma] lit. smooth-word), a defective abugida that was borrowed from a neighboring language Maryu (máájo [máājò]). It was originally written on the large, durable leaves of the saraw (s²ələ́w [s²əɾə́w]) plant, which contributes to the script's curled aesthetic.

TODO native, script, other adaptations

4.1 | Other scripts

4.1.1 | Latin

	Labial	Alveolar	Palatal	Velar	Glottal	Placeless
Nasal	(m)	(n)				(े) ₈
Plosive		(th d t)	⟨ch j c⟩	(kh g k)	$\langle\dot{ m h} angle_8$	
Fricative		(sh x s)			(h)	
Approximant	(w)	(1)	(y)			

Figure 4.1: Latin (consonants)

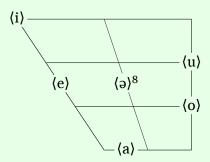


Figure 4.2: Latin (vowels)

Vowels are marked with (\(\delta \) for high tone, (\(\delta \)) for low tone, and unmarked for toneless.

⁸/N ? ə/ may alternatively be romanized as (n 'v), respectively

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4.1.2 | Tibetan

	Labial	Alveolar	Palatal	Velar	Glottal	Placeless
Nasal	(전)	(ব)				\langle গেঁ $ angle^9$
Plosive		(8 5 5)	(ಹ ₹ ঽ)	(पि यो गो)	(ন, ন্) ⁹	
Fricative		(₽ ₹ Ŋ)			(5, জঃ) ⁹	
Approximant	(딱, 펓) ⁹	⟨ ≭⟩	(ષ, ષ્) ⁹		·	

Figure 4.3: Tibetan (consonants)

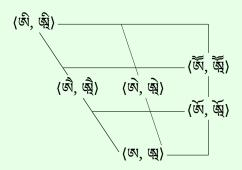


Figure 4.4: Tibetan (vowels)⁹

Tone is not marked.

4.1.3 | Mkhedruli

	Labial	Alveolar	Palatal	Velar	Glottal	Placeless
Nasal	(6)	(6)				(°€)
Plosive		(თ დ უ)	(B g &)	(ქგკ)	(g)	
Fricative		(β % Ն)			(8)	
Approximant	(3)	(რ)	(Ω)			

Figure 4.5: Mkhedruli (consonants)

 $^{^{9}}$ (1 SV) is a filler letter; in slots with two elements, the second element is the coda form for consonants, and the long form for vowels

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Figure 4.6: Mkhedruli (vowels)

Vowels are marked with (g) for high tone, (g) for low tone, and unmarked for toneless.

4.1.4 | Hacm

	Labial	Alveolar	Palatal	Velar	Glottal	Placeless
Nasal	(a)	(n)				(○ ⁿ)
Plosive		(l ^h α l)	(lh s l)	(1 ^h φ1)	(h)	
Fricative		(j ^h lj)			(p)	
Approximant	(o)	(1)	(y)			

Figure 4.7: Hacm (consonants)



Figure 4.8: Hacm (vowels)

Vowels are marked with (\(\cdot \) for high tone, (\(\cdot \)) for low tone, and unmarked for toneless.

5 | Syntax

5.1 | Sentence profile & word order

Basic sentence profile is as follows:



Figure 5.1: Basic sentence profile

Wherein the *arguments I-III* indirectly correspond to *subject*, *object*, and *peripheral*; the order of these arguments is dependent on the *empathy hierarchy*.

The *topic* is the entity under discussion, see § 6.1.

The *subject* is the argument that performs the verb.

The (*direct*) *object* is the argument upon which the verb is directly performed.

The *peripheral*, or indirect/oblique object, is the argument upon which the verb is indirectly performed. It is marked with the *associative* case (see § 8.5.3), which may be supplemented with a *postposition* (see § 8.6).

The *verb* is the action that is performed within a clause, and is obligatory. Some verbs may not take a subject or object (*see § 9.3*). A verb must agree with its subject and object (*see § 9.6.1*), if present.

Word order is *direct-inverse*, and is largely dependent on the *empathy hierarchy* in independent and replete dependent clauses (*see § 5.1.1*).

The empathy hierarchy is based on both person (see \S 8.4) and integrity (see \S 8.2).

$$1^{st} > 2^{nd} > 3^{rd} > Cmplt.$$
 Anim. $> Cmplt.$ Inan. $> Ncmplt.$

Figure 5.2: Empathy hierarchy

If the arguments of a clause differ in rank in the empathy hierarchy, the higher-ranked argument is always placed first. If the arguments are the same in rank, the most proximate argument is placed first; otherwise, argument placement defaults to *subject-object-peripheral-verb*.

The empathy hierarchy does not apply to copular clauses (see § 9.7).



Figure 5.3: Copular sentence profile

The *attribute* is that which is being associated with the subject of the copular phrase. Dependents are placed before their head unless noted otherwise.

5.1.1 | Dependent clauses

Dependent clauses are divided into two types, partial and replete dependent clauses. They are introduced by one of three clausal conjunctions (a subset of verbal conjunctions see § 12.1). All dependent clauses are placed before their head and are deranked (see § 9.6).

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

Partial dependent clauses consist of both relative and adverbial clauses (i.e., they are not differentiated). They are dually-headed, wherein the head occurs both within the clause as well as outside.



Figure 5.4: Partial dependent clause profile

Only *agentive* (see § 8.5.3) arguments may be relativized, and the head must be the agentive argument in both the partial dependent clause and the independent clause within which it is.

TODO example sentences

The head of a *restrictive* partial dependent clause (i.e., one that delimits that which it modifies) is always marked as *referential* (see § 8.5.4); the head of a *non-restrictive* partial dependent clause (i.e., one that does *not* delimit that which it modifies) is always marked as *non-referential*.

Replete dependent clauses consist of content clauses. Word order is the same as in independent clauses, with mandatory introduction by a clausal conjunction. Colloquially, the clausal conjunction may be dropped in replete dependent clauses.

TODO example sentences

5.2 | Alignment

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

Perfectiveness describes the completeness of the verb (see § 9.6.6), valency describes the number of arguments of the verb (see § 9.3), and volition describes the degree of control or intent concerning the verb (see § 9.4).

The *ergative-absolutive* alignment is used in perfective clauses; the *active-stative* alignment is used in imperfective clauses.

Within imperfective clauses, monovalent may mark the subject as either *agentive* or *patientive*, depending on volition. In volitional clauses, the subject is marked as *agentive*; in non-volitional clauses, the subject is marked as *patientive*.

In fig. 5.5, S represents the subject of a monovalent verb, A represents the subject of a multivalent verb, O represents the object of a multivalent verb.

		Mval.	Mtval.
Pfv.		S=O	=ABS, A=ERG
Npfv.	Vol.	S=AGT	A=AGT, O=PAT
	Nvol.	S=PAT	n Adi, O-FAI

Figure 5.5: Alignment

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The secundative construction is dominant, wherein the *theme* (object that is directed toward the recipient) of a trivalent verb (i.e., a polyvalent verb that takes three arguments, *see* § 9.3) is the peripheral marked by the *associative* case (*see* § 8.5.3), and the recipient is the object.

TODO example sentences

5.3 | Pivot

In multiple statements with a repeated argument, the repeated argument must be the *agentive* argument (see § 8.5.3).

TODO example sentences

5.4 | Clitics

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

6 | Pragmatics

6.1 | Topic

Topic is an important element of discourse. Generally, the topic consists of known or old information, and often overlaps with the subject.

The topic of a clause is explicitly marked by left-dislocating the topical argument. They also take a reduced inflection template ($see \S 8.5$).

```
(1) mel \ni leht \ni mís^h oh

\varnothing- mel \ni = \varnothing leh = t \ni = \varnothing- mís^h oh

STBL.CMPLT.INAN- bread = NREF.VIS.STBL 1.AGT = 3.PAT.CMPLT = NPFV.REAL- detest - <math>\varnothing

-AV.DIR

bread, I detest it
```

Contrastive topics are topics that introduce a new question-under-discussion. They are marked by placing the nominal contrastive conjunction ?ika before the entity.

```
(2) ?ika melə lehtəmishoh
?ika Ø- melə = Ø leh = tə́ = Ø-
but.NML STBL.CMPLT.INAN- bread =NREF.VIS.STBL 1.AGT = 3.PAT.CMPLT = NPFV.REAL-
mishoh - Ø
detest -AV.DIR
as for bread, I detest it
```

6.2 | Questions

All *questions*, i.e., interrogative statements, are syntactically identical to declarative statements; they are not overtly marked morphologically.

Basic questions may be accompanied by an *interrogative pronoun* (*see § 8.4.2*), which replaces the argument to which it refers; they are otherwise unmarked.

TODO example sentences

Polar questions are marked by placing a basic affirmatory or negatory particle (see § 12.3) at the end of the statement. The selection of affirmatory or negatory depends on the expected answer.

TODO example sentences

6.3 | Commands & requests

Commands and requests, i.e., imperative statements, are formed by using either the necessitive or desiderative modals. The necessitive is used for statements in which the target is obligated to perform the action by necessity (within the situation); the desiderative is used for statements in which the target is obligated to perform the action by the solicitation of the speaker.

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Generally, the necessitive corresponds to formal commands and requests, while the desiderative corresponds to polite commands and requests; this is not always the case.

TODO example sentences

7 | Lexical categories & stems

7.1 | Lexical categories

There is largely no lexical noun-verb distinction, i.e., most content words may act either as a noun or as a verb. The exceptions are the closed classes of *nominal limitives*, or true nouns, and *verbal limitives*, or true verbs (*see §§ 8.1 and 9.1*). These are grouped together as *limitives*, and contrast with *formatives*, which consist of content words that may act as either a noun or a verb.

There are also *descriptives*, which are used to describe words and phrases, and various *particles*, or function words.

7.2 | Stems & perspective

Roots are divided into two word forms, or *stems*. This division is based on *perspective*, which is the distinction between *concrete* and *abstract*. This distinction functions inversely, i.e., each root is, by default, unmarked as either being concrete or abstract (the *intrinsic* state); marking inverts this (i.e., to the *extrinsic* state). Some formatives may be both concrete and abstract depending on nominal or verbal function. Pronouns and copulae do not alternate stems.

```
Concrete tangible, physical, actual, real; CONC

Abstract intangible, cognitive, conceptual, unreal; ABSTR
```

Alternation of stems functions derivationally as well as morphologically, i.e., some inflections are dependent on stem alternation.

Perspective is marked by applying the following processes in consecutive order until one succeeds:

- internal metathesis (see fig. 7.1); this applies to the first syllable and proceeds rightward until success; C_1 of C_1C_2 initial clusters is ignored (until cluster resolution)
- external metathesis; $[{}_1^{\sigma}C_1...][{}_2^{\sigma}C_2...] \rightarrow [{}_1^{\sigma}C_2...][{}_2^{\sigma}C_1...]$ / #_, i.e., the onsets of the syllables within a foot are metathesized; this fails if C_1 and C_2 are identical; C_1 cannot be a cluster
- suffixial reduplication of the initial syllable, i.e., $|\neg \sigma_i|$; reduplicated clusters are resolved, else truncated to C_2

Cluster resolution and coda reductions (see §§ 2.3.1.1 and 2.3.1.2) apply after these processes.

Intrinsic	Extrinsic
C{N ¹⁰ ,w,j}V	$CV\{n,w,j\}$
$CV\{n,w,j\}$	$C\{n,w,j\}V$
$P{h,?}V$	PV{h,?}
PV{h,?}	$\rightarrow \qquad P\{^{\rm h},^{\rm ?}\}V$
$\{m,n\}V\{?,h,w,j\}$	(?,h,w,j}Vn
${7,h,w,j}V_N$	$nV{?,h,w,j}$
$\{w,j\}V\{?,h\}$	${?,h}V{w,j}$
$\{?,h\}V\{w,j\}$	${w,j}V{?,h}$

Figure 7.1: Internal metathesis

¹⁰the nasals /m n/

8.1 | Nominal limitives

Nominal limitives consist of a set of content words that cannot be used as verbs. See App. A for a list. Some nominal limitives are used as classifiers to describe a noun, often in tandem with a numeral (see Ch. 13), a quantifier (see § 12.4), and sometimes a descriptive (see Ch. 10).

8.2 | Integrity

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

Complete	entity is viewed in its entirety; as sufficient, complete, whole; CMPLT
Animate	living, mobile, warm; more prominent; ANIM
Inanimate	non-living, immobile, cold; less prominent; INAN
Incomplete	entity is viewed partially; as deficient, incomplete, condensed; NCMPLT

Generally, these refer to the compositional integrity within the context of the situation. With concrete stems, integrity refers to physical composition; with abstract stems, it refers to conceptual composition.

8.3 | Probability

Probability expresses the likeliness to change in amount of an entity.

Stable	the amount is not likely to change; STBL
Unstable	the amount is likely to change; NSTBL
Panstable	probability to change is unknown; generally associated with mass nouns; PNSTBL

With concrete stems, probability refers to the likeliness to change within the context of the situation; with abstract stems, it refers to the likeliness to change of the entity in general.

8.4 | Pronouns

Pronouns are a subset of nominal limitives that take the function of another noun or noun phrase.

8.4.1 | Personal

Personal pronouns inflect for person, integrity (in the 3rd person), and case.

Personal pronouns are *absolutely-sequenced* (in contrast to *relatively-sequenced*, which encode person relative to oneself). That to which a pronoun refers is dependent on the order in which conversation is initiated. 1st refers to the initial speaker(s), 2nd to the initial listener(s), and 3rd to the non-initial participant(s) and/or non-participating referent(s).

While these may overlap with their relatively-sequenced counterparts, this is not always the case. Take the following conversation:

(3) ləhi meləlehtəmishoh

```
ləhi \varnothing- melə -\varnothing = \varnothing leh= t\acute{a}= 1.AGT CMPLT.INAN.STBL- bread -PAT.CMPLT =NREF.VIS.STBL 1.AGT= 3.PAT.CMPLT= \varnothing- míshoh -\varnothing NPFV.REAL- detest -AV.DIR I detest bread
```

To which the listener might reply:

(4) lehtəjá teh

```
lə= təjá teh
1.AGT= REF.REV SURPRISE
you do?!
```

In both cases, the person in (1) is referred to using agreement for 1.AGT (la=).

			Pat.	Agt.	Erg.	Assoc.
1 st			lə	ləhi	ján	s ^h aj
2 nd			nó	no táhi		nò
	d Cmplt.	Anim.	tá?	táhi	tçàn	kéh
3^{rd}		Inan.	han		ιφαιν	KCII
	Ncmplt.		sá	he	1	kín

Figure 8.1: Personal pronouns

The *ergative* and *associative* personal pronouns may be used possessively by prepending one to the object of possession (i.e., as a prefix). The ergative generally denotes inalienable possession; the associative generally denotes alienable possession (*see § 8.5.3*). They are sometimes apppended (i.e., as suffixes).

Alienability

Alienable the entity cannot be separated from its possessor, e.g., body parts, family members

Inalienable the entity can be separated from its possessor

(5) jánk^hòo

```
jén- k<sup>h</sup>òo
1.ERG- arm
```

my arm

(6) s^hajmelə s^haj- melə 1.ASC- bread <u>my bread</u>

The *animate-inanimate* distinction in 3rd person pronouns may also be used as a *proximate-obviate* distinction. *Proximate* entities are more prominent, while *obviate* entities are less prominent.

TODO expand; example sentences

8.4.2 | Interrogative

Interrogative pronouns inflect for integrity and *function*. They are used to mark the specific characteristics of a question (see § 6.2).

		Person	Location	Proportion	Manner	Reason
Cmplt.	Anim. Inan.	?əsè tansà	k ^h ònaj	silə	sáj	s ^h èh
Ncn	ıplt.	?ehi	kéhe	sa?ií	səmɔ́ɔ	s ^h ɔjna

Figure 8.2: Interrogative pronouns

Function

	1
Person	person, thing; WH.PRSN
Location	place, time; WH.LOC
Proportion	extent, degree; WH.PROP
Manner	way, method; WH.MAN
Reason	reason, rationale; WH.REAS

8.4.3 | Demonstrative

Demonstrative pronouns inflect for proximality, position, and function. They express spatial and temporal position relative to the speaker.

They may stand independently or be appended to that which they modify.

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	Ant.		Post.	Prop.	Man
	Sin.	Dex.	1 001.	ı rop.	2.23.6
Prox.	tàá	kò	мст	já	wój
Med.	sáwhe	kàme?	jéhə	jín	kàn
Dist.	k²itò		jeno	JIN	KON

Figure 8.3: Demonstrative pronouns

Proximality

Proximal	near the speaker; within short timeframe; PROX
Medial	away from speaker and/or near the listener; within a medial timeframe; MED
Distal	far from all participants; within a distant timeframe; DIST

Position

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

Function

Proportion	to an extent, degree; PROP
Manner	via a way, method; MAN

Thus, the deictic space may be modeled as such:

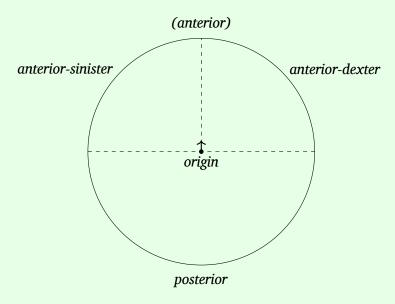


Figure 8.4: Deictic space

The laterally-neutral distal demonstratives $k^2it\hat{i}$ and tekí may be compounded with a medial or proximal sinister demonstrative to form laterally-neutral medial and proximal demonstratives.

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

8.5 | Nominal inflections



Figure 8.5: Nominal inflection template

Topical arguments (see § 6.1) take a reduced inflection template.



Figure 8.6: Topical inflection template

8.5.1 | Structure

Structure describes the appearance of an entity. With concrete stems, it describes the physical appearance of the entity; in abstract stems, it describes the cognitive appearance of the entity.

kɔj-, ka
Handled; entity is used with one's hand; HND

Standing; entity is taller than it is wide; STA

maa_n
Sitting; entity is as tall as it is wide; SIT

tçè
Lying; entity is wider than it is tall; LNG

sàj-, sè
Hollow; entity is hollow; HOL

k²áj-, k²í
Fluid; entity is liquid, gaseous; general category; FLU

TODO example sentences

8.5.2 | Noun classes

Noun classes are separated into the groups complete and incomplete, which are associated with semantic wholeness or entirety of the noun (see § 8.2).

	Cmplt.		Ncmplt.
	Anim.	Inan.	ivenipit.
Stbl.		Ø-	
Nstbl.	tə-	kaw _p -, kɔ _p -	wí _n -
Pnstbl.	na(N)-	Ø-	

Figure 8.7: Noun classes

8.5.3 | Cases

Cases express syntactic roles and relations. Open forms are appended to words that end in an open syllable (i.e., a vowel); closed forms are appended to words that end in a closed syllable (i.e., a non-vowel coda).

	Cmplt.	Ncmplt.			Cmplt.	Ncmplt.
Pat.	-Ø	(ć)-n	Ī	Pat.	-Ø	-né
Agt.		-h	1	Agt.	-si	-sé
Erg.	-7	-h	1	Erg.	-ki	-ho
Asc.	•		1	Asc.	-?ɔ	110
	(a) Ope	en			(b) Close	ed

Figure 8.8: Cases

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Cases

Patientive	in active-stative clauses (see § 5.2), this marks the object of a multivalent verb (see § 9.3) or the subject of a non-volitional monovalent verb. In ergative-absolutive clauses, this marks the object of a multivalent verb or the subject of a monovalent verb; PAT
Agentive	in active-stative clauses, this marks the subject of a multivalent verb or the subject of a volitional monovalent verb; AGT
Ergative	in ergative-absolutive clauses, this marks the subject of a multivalent verb; may also be used as an inalienable genitive; ERG
Associative	marks (alienable) genitive and genitive-like relations, which may be further clarified using postpositions; marks the theme of a trivalent verb; ASC

The *associative* case may be accompanied by a postposition (*see § 8.6*). In isolation, the associative takes the meaning of an alienable genitive (in contrast to the ergative, which may have an inalienable genitive meaning).

TODO example sentences

8.5.4 | Article enclitics

Article enclitics inflect for referentiality, visibility, and probability. They are appended to the final element of their head phrase.

	Ref.		Nref.		
	Vis.	Nvis.	Vis.	Nvis.	
Stbl.	=mɔ́ɔ	=han	= Ø	=t ² é?	
Nstbl.	=mé		= t	çáá	
Pnstbl.	=já		= 1	cc ^h วว	

Figure 8.9: Article enclitics

Referentiality

Referential	a specific instance of the class comprised of the given entity; REF
Non-referential	any instance of the class comprised of the given entity; NREF

Visibility

Visible	entity can be seen; VIS
Non-visible	entity cannot be seen; NVIS

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8.6 | Postpositions

Postpositions further express relationships. The object of a postposition takes the associative case.

```
lí accompaniment/use; with

k²e lack of accompaniment/use; without

kʰɔn intent of benefit/purpose; for

sì intent of reference/relation; about

t¢é? state of being; as

kʰò change of state; causation; to

míh similarity/comparison; like
```

8.7 | Noun reduplication

Many nouns (including pronouns) may be fully reduplicated and attached to their root (i.e., $|-\omega|$) to indicate plurality or intensity. Reduplication to mark plurality is never used when a numeral is used to quantify the root noun.

```
tçò?i
person
a person

(9) tçò?itçò?i
tçò?i -tçò?i
person -person
people
```

(8) tc3?i

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

```
(10) hòn
hòn
dog
a dog

(11) hònhòn
```

hòn -hòn dog -dog a pack of dogs

Plural reduplication may be used in tandem with integrity (see § 8.2) 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.

8 | Nouns 39

(12) ketehketehsi télajkála

 \emptyset - keteh -keteh -si té= laj- kála - \emptyset CMPLT.ANIM.STBL- child -child -AGT.CMPLT 3.AGT.CMPLT= PFV.REAL- fish -AV.DIR the children all went fishing (collectively)

(13) wíketehketehsé halajkála

wí- keteh -keteh -sé ha= laj- kála -Ø NCMPLT- child -child -AGT.NCMPLT 3.NCMPLT= PFV.REAL- fish -AV.DIR the children each went fishing (individually)

9.1 | Verbal limitives

Verbal limitives consist of a set of content words that cannot be used as nouns. See App. B for a list. Some verbal limitives are used as auxiliaries to describe a verb.

9.2 | Verbal negation

Verbs are negated by placing a negatory particle (see § 12.3) before the negated verb. The verb must be in an *irrealis* mode (see § 9.6.6). As negatory (as well as affirmatory) particles inherently indicate evidentiality, the corresponding epistemic modality (see § 9.6.6.1) is dropped (if present).

```
(14) lelajkála
```

```
le= laj- kála -∅
1.AGT= PFV.REAL- fish -AV.DIR
I went fishing
```

(15) lekéj hajkála

```
lə= kəj haj- kala -\emptyset
1.AGT= NEG.BAS PFV.IRR- fish -AV.DIR
I did not go fishing
```

9.3 | Valency classes

There are five main valency classes: avalent, monovalent, ambivalent, subvalent, and polyvalent.

```
Avalent zero arguments; AVAL

Monovalent zero or one arguments; MVAL

Subvalent one or two arguments, see § 9.3.1; SVAL

Ambivalent one or two arguments; BVAL

Polyvalent two or more arguments; PVAL
```

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

Essential and existential copulae ($see \S 9.7$) are considered monovalent, while referential copulae are considered ambivalent.

9.3.1 | Subvalency & salience

(16) *ləhi tçò?imóɔ lehtə́kʰajtè

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*; the subject behaves as if the verb were monovalent. This demotion is motivated by the property of *salience*, or how much the object is affected by the subject. Verbs with less salient objects tend to be subvalent.

The subvalent peripheral is put in the associative case ($see \S 8.5.3$) and takes the postposition si ($see \S 8.6$). There is no verbal agreement for the subvalent peripheral.

Colloquially, the subvalent peripheral may be treated as the object (i.e., as if the verb *were not* subvalent) to express that it *was* strongly affected. Inversely, the object of an ambivalent verb may be treated as the subvalent peripheral (i.e., as if the verb *were* subvalent) to express that it *was not* strongly affected.

```
*ləhi ∅-
                                 tc>?i
                                        -Ø
                                                     =mɔ́ɔ
                                                                   leh=
                                                                            tá=
      *1.AGT CMPLT.ANIM.STBL- person -PAT.CMPLT = REF.VIS.STBL 1.AGT = 3.PAT.CMPLT =
      Ø-
                  k¹ajtè -∅
      NPFV.REAL- see
                         -AV.DIR
      *I see the person (collog. and the person was affected)
(17) ləhi tçò?i? sìmóə ləkhajtè
      ləhi
             Ø-
                                tcò?i -?
                                                    sì =mɔ́ɔ
                                                                      1a=
                                                                              0-
      1.AGT CMPLT.ANIM.STBL- person -CMPLT.ASC for =REF.VIS.STBL 1.AGT = NPFV.REAL-
      k<sup>h</sup>aitè -∅
      see
            -AV.DIR
      I see (for) the person
```

9.4 | Volitional classes

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

```
Volitional denotes an action that is intentionally performed; VOL

Non-volitional denotes an action that is unintentionally performed; NVOL
```

9.5 | Verbal reduplication

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

```
TODO example sentences
```

 $|\sigma_{i^{\sim}}|$ indicates prefixial reduplication of the initial syllable, and $|\sigma_{f}|$ indicates suffixial reduplication of the final syllable.

9.6 | Verbal inflection

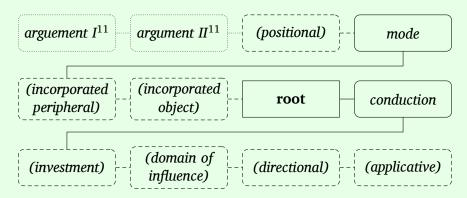


Figure 9.1: Verbal inflection template

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



Figure 9.2: Deranked inflection template

Copulae also take more limited inflection.



Figure 9.3: Copular inflection template

9.6.1 | Pronominal proclitics

Pronominal proclitics are obligatorily prepended to the initial element of their head phrase and must agree with their respective argument. Pronouns are dropped when pronominal proclitics are present.

		Pat.	Agt.
1 st		lə=	le(h)=
2^{nd}		nó=	nə=
3 rd	Cmplt.	tá=	té(h)=
3	Ncmplt.	1	na=

Figure 9.4: Pronominal proclitics

¹¹the placement of arguments in the argument slots (which may convey subject or object) is dependent on the empathy hierarchy (*see § 5.2*); additionally, pronominal proclitics are optional when the corresponding argument is not present

Note that pronominal proclitics only index *agentive* and *patientive* arguments, never *ergative* arguments.

Additionally, there are two pronominal proclitics that fuse 1^{st} and 2^{nd} person arguments. In fig. 9.5, PAT(AGT.

Figure 9.5: Polypersonal pronominal proclitics

9.6.2 | Noun incorporation

In certain verbs, object and peripheral nouns may be *incorporated*, or attached, onto the verb. The incorporated noun may be phonologically reduced or even undergo suppletion. Incorporated nouns are not inflected and are never in focus.

Incorporation may perform one of three functions:

- · semantically-reductive derivation
- allow a more prominent argument to take its (previous) role
- background known or unimportant information

TODO example sentences

9.6.3 | Conduction

The property of *conduction* expresses both *voice* and *bias*. Voices are symmetric, i.e., they do not alter the valency of the verb, only the arguments' roles. *Bias* describes the arguments' roles in relation to their rank in the empathy hierarchy (*see § 5.2*).

	Dir.	Inv.		Dir.	Inv.
AV	-Ø	-j	\overline{AV}	-Ø	-ji
UV	ć- ?	$\neg t \! c \grave{e}_p$	UV	-tá	$\neg t \! \! \! \! \! \! \! \! \! \! \! \! \! \! \! \! \! \! $
RV	-N	ć-j	RV	-ná	-ján
CV	ဴ-	ntè	CV	-m	ιź _n tè
	(a) Op	en		(b) Clos	sed

Figure 9.6: Conduction

Voice

Actor voice	the subject is the agent, the object is the patient; AV
Undergoer voice	the subject is the patient, the object is the agent; UV
Reductive voice	the subject is the agent, the peripheral is the patient; RV
Correlative voice	the agent/patient distinction of the argument(s) is reduced; CV

Bias

```
Direct the subject outranks the object; DIR

Inverse the object outranks the subject; INV
```

The *reductive* voice reduces the valency of a verb by one. Ambivalent verbs reduce to subvalent; it cannot apply to avalent or subvalent verbs.

TODO example sentences

The *correlative* voice is used for reflexive and reciprocal constructs.

(18) le mólámótè

```
le= Ø- mólá -mótè
1.AGT= NPFV.REAL- wash -CV
I wash myself
```

(19) le ləmólámótè

```
le= lə= Ø- mólá -mótè
1.AGT= 1.AGT= NPFV.REAL- wash -CV
we wash ourselves
```

(20) leləmólámótè

```
le= lə= Ø- mólá -mótè
1.AGT= 1.PAT= NPFV.REAL- wash -CV
we wash each other
```

It is also used on stative verbs, i.e., verbs that convey state of being or condition instead of action.

(21) hònmóo táthawsántè

```
\oslash- hòn -\oslash = m50 t5= \oslash- t<sup>h</sup>awsá CMPLT.ANIM.STBL- dog -PAT.CMPLT = REF.VIS.STBL 3.PAT.CMPLT= REAL.NPFV- dark -ntè -CV the dog is dark-colored
```

9.6.4 | Investment

The property of *investment* expresses interest or sympathy of the speaker toward the event, e.g., give (uninvested) vs. <u>loan (invested)</u> (uninvested is the default, unmarked state). With concrete stems, investment indicates an interest in the result of the action; with abstract stems, it indicates an interest in the action itself.

```
-n, -né weakly invested; WK.INVST
-tçà moderately invested; INVST
¬mán strongly invested; STR.INVST
```

TODO example sentences

9.6.5 | Domain of influence

Domain of influence describes the area in which the subject is able to affect the situation. With certain verbs this is fairly straightforward, e.g., sensory verbs—the domain of influence describes the area in which the subject can sense stimuli.

Verbs inflect for the state of being inside or outside the domain of influence.

```
ó-N, -ná? inside the domain of influence; \inDOI -15\hat{\sigma}_n outside the domain of influence; \notinDOI
```

Only multivalent verbs in either the actor or undergoer voices may be marked for domain of influence, i.e., avalent and monovalent verbs.

When verbs in which the situation 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 action.

(22) jén hònmóo télaj?análóò

```
jón \emptyset- hòn -\emptyset = móɔ té= laj- ?aná 1.ERG CMPLT.ANIM.STBL- dog -PAT.CMPLT = REF.VIS.STBL 3.PAT.CMPLT= PFV.REAL- hit -\emptyset -lóò -AV.DIR -\notinDOI I (tried to) hit the dog (and failed)
```

With concrete stems, the domain of influence functions as above; with abstract stems, the domain of influence instead describes the perceived attainability of the situation (i.e., the subjective probability of it being able to enter the domain of influence).

(23) ləhi hònsi lehtəhənən

```
ləhi \varnothing- hòn -si = \varnothing leh= tá= həná 1.AGT CMPLT,ANIM.STBL- dog -PAT.CMPLT =NREF.VIS.STBL 1.AGT= 3.PAT.CMPLT= want -\varnothing -N -AV.DIR -\inDOI
```

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

(24) ləhi hònsi lətéhənólóò

ləhi \varnothing - hòn -si = \varnothing leh= te \circ = hən \circ 1.AGT CMPLT.ANIM.STBL- dog -PAT.CMPLT =NREF.VIS.STBL 1.AGT= 3.PAT.CMPLT= want - \varnothing -l \circ 3 -AV.DIR - \notin DOI

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

9.6.6 | Modals

Mode (which expresses both *mood* and *aspect*) are obligatorily marked on a verb using prefixes. All moods (basic, epistemic, deontic, and dynamic) are collectively called *modals*.

	Imperfective	Habitual	Iterative	Perfective	Experiential
Realis	Ø-	ka(?) _p -	σ_{i} \sim $ka(?)_{p}$ -	laj-, le-	jíhi-
Affirmative	\sim $\sigma_{ m f}$	$k^{?}a_{p}\text{-}\sqrt{\sim}\sigma_{f}$	$\sigma_i{\scriptstyle \sim} k^{\scriptscriptstyle ?} a_p \hbox{-} \sqrt{\scriptstyle \sim} \sigma_f$	laj- $\sqrt{\sigma_f}$, le- $\sqrt{\sigma_f}$	$j\mathbf{\hat{n}}\text{-}\!$
Irrealis	tɔ(?)-	tew _y -, tə _y -	σ_{i} -tew _v -, σ_{i} -tə _v -	haj-, he-	já-
Conditional	?o¬		o ₁ tewy, o ₁ toy	né(h)-	jα-
Hypothetical	tàj-, tè-		$\sigma_{i^{\sim}}$ tàj-, $\sigma_{i^{\sim}}$ tè-	kʰà-	

Figure 9.7: Mode

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

Aspect

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

9.6.6.1 | Epistemic modals

Epistemic modals express forms of knowing. They are placed before their head, and may be stacked.

$k^{\text{h}}ek^{\text{h}}i$	Witness; direct sensory witness, i.e., sight, sound, touch; WIT
sáson	Evidential; indirect sensory witness, i.e., smell, taste, indirect sight, sound; EVID
tənke	Anecdotal; knows of event via prior experience(s); ANEC
hmɔ́ɔ	Reportative; non-firsthand knowledge, i.e., from another source; REP
?in	Assimilative; knowledge is a firmly integrated part of one's perception; ASM
mìwe	Acquirative; knowledge is newly acquired; may express surprise and/or doubt; ACQ
sèə	Esoteric; knowledge is acquired by supernatural or otherworldly means; ESO
?aj	Quotative; marks quoted speech, dialogue; QUOT

TODO example sentences

9.6.6.2 | Deontic modals

Deontic modals express forms of action. They are placed before their head, and may be stacked.

tkəná	Necessitive; necessities, required; commands, requests; NEC
hàná?	Desiderative; desires, wanted; commands, requests; DES
tçá	Commissive; commitments, dedication; COM
tɔ́sʰa	Permissive; permission, approval; PERM
təj	Suggestive; suggestions, proposals; SUG

Both the *necessitive* and *desiderative* modals may be used for commands and requests (see \S 6.3).

TODO example sentences

9.6.6.3 | Dynamic modals

Dynamic modals express capability and willingness. They are placed before their head, and may be stacked.

```
sòòka
           Abilitive; inherent capability; ABL
   tç<sup>2</sup>ose
            Capacitive; situational capability; CAP
 ?léwthà
            Inabilitive; inherent incapability; NABL
tcawmón
            Incapacitive; situational incapability; NCAP
      kìh
            Alacritive; inherent compliance; ALA
   t²k²źn
            Consentive; situational compliance; CNS
   k<sup>h</sup>àwe
            Nonalacritive; inherent noncompliance; NALA
   sajtça
            Nonconsentive; situational noncompliance; NCNS
```

TODO example sentences

9.6.7 | 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 § 9.6). They may occur in either order (i.e., condition-consequence or consequence condition), but condition-consequence is the most common order.

```
Implicative REAL + ten; basic factual conditional

Emphatic AFF + ten; the consequence is emphasized

Counterfactual IRR + motó; the condition is considered unlikely

Predictive HYP + motó; the condition is considered likely
```

TODO example sentences

9.6.8 | Directionals

The *venitive* and *andative* suffixes, collectively called *directionals*, are commonly used with verbs of movement, such as wé move, walk, shoj carry, give/take, and others.

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

TODO example sentences

9.6.9 | Applicatives

Applicatives are argument-affecting 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 may be used in tandem with a directional specifier in order to express direction or efficiency.

```
-lí Comitative; accompaniment, relationship; COM

-khòn Benefactive; intent of benefit/purpose or reference/relation; BEN

-t²ɔ? Causative; causation, final causation; CAUS

-mîî Complementive; similarity/comparison, state of being; CMPL

-tçòy Locative; physical or temporal location and movement; LOC

-tç²e? Adjutative; intent of assistance, utility; ADJ

-tothè Essive; state, manner of the action; ESS
```

TODO example sentences

The *relational* and *beneficial* 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 may be made by using an applicative in tandem with a *positional* (*see* § 9.6.10).

9.6.10 | Positionals

Positionals describe location and motion.

tí-	movement toward; toward
k ^h ì-	movement away from; from
mén-	movement onto; onto
tçàɔ-	movement under; under
tʰìsé-	movement into; into
sii?i-	movement out of; out
kan?ɔ-	movement through, by way of, adjacent to; via
so?a-	in front of/before, below; before
sàkə-	behind/after, above; after
see?á-	between, amidst, within; between
sət ^h e-	surrounding, around, encompassing; around

TODO example sentences

9.7 | Copulae

Copulae are a subset of verbal limitives that are used to connect arguments.

Copulae only inflect for mode ($see \S 9.6.6$) and, if existential, may optionally take a *positional* ($see \S 9.6.10$). The constituent arguments within a copular phrase (i.e., the subject and attribute) both take the (unmarked) patientive case.

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).

As noted in § 5.1, all copular phrases have *subject-copula-attribute* word order. Essential and existential copulae are monovalent; referential copulae are considered ambivalent.

	Essential	Existential	Referential
Assertive	kew	nén	t ^h èh
Negatory	klé	níjé	t ^h àné
Revelatory	?owó		təjá

Figure 9.8: Copulae

The essential copulae express nominal predication (be). The existential copulae express locational, existential, and possessive predication (be at, have). Locational predication may be accompanied by a positional (see § 9.6.10).

The referential copulae, while traditionally classed as such due to how they pattern, do not behave like the other two classes of copula. They are considered ambivalent. When used as monovalent verbs, they may either express the inherent action of the subject or, if present, reference the directly preceding verb ($\underline{\text{do}}$), but cannot reference preceding copulae. When used as divalent verbs, they may be used to form verbs from nouns (e.g., $\underline{\text{do }x}$); they pattern as normal divalent verbs in this situation with regard to word order, case marking, and inflection template.

TODO example sentences

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 §§ 9.6.6 and 9.6.6.1 to 9.6.6.3).

9.8 | Asymmetric copular construction

The *asymmetric copular contruction* expresses inequality between the subject and attribute, i.e., wherein one argument is a subset or superset of the other. It may only be formed using an essential copula and the following rules:

- the superset argument must be in the *incomplete* integrity (see § 8.2)
- the subset argument must be in the complete integrity

TODO example sentence

10 | Descriptives

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

tç ^h àné	good, positive; full
sìnkà	bad, negative; empty
semó?	fast; loud; hard, rough
hló	slow; quiet; soft, smooth
$k^h \ni k^? \ni$	big, strong; many
$t c \!\!\! c^h i$	small, weak; few
NGS	short, wide; feminine
?in	long, narrow; masculine
tçós ^h a	white, light; fresh, new
káj	warm (color); hot, dry
sàtçe	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-capacity-length-color.

10.1 | 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
Ω	white	×	két¢áh	sòtç²áh	s ^h át¢ ^h á
	warm	t¢ók ^h áj	×	sòk²áj	sźké
	cool	tçósè	kétç²à	×	tʰɔ́sɔ̀h
	black	t¢át ^h á	kétçá	sàt¢¹éw	×

Figure 10.1: Dyadic color terms

The *white* and *black* phases may be used to express the transition of a lighter or darker shade, respectively, to or from the paired color term.

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10.2 | Comparison

Comparative constructions are formed by placing a postposition after the *recipient* of comparison in a copular clause (comparatives always use a copula). The placement of the recipient is dependent on the empathy hierarchy (*see § 5.1*).

```
lí
      positive comparison
míh
      equative comparison
k<sup>2</sup>e | negative comparison
(25) ketehmóɔ tcò?i? límóɔ kew tcósha
      Ø-
                          keteh -si
                                                           Ø-
                                                                               tç3?i
                                              =mɔ́ɔ
      ANIM.STBL.CMPLT- child -PAT.CMPLT = REF.VIS.SG ANIM.STBL.CMPLT- person
      -?
                         =mɔ́ɔ
                                      Ø-
                   lí
                                                  kew
                                                                     tcós<sup>h</sup>a
      -ASC.CMPLT with =REF.VIS.SG REAL.NPFV- COP.ESSNT.ASSRT new
      the child is younger than the man
```

Superlative constructions are a subtype of comparatives, and are formed by placing a quantifier (prototypically ni all, every, see § 12.4) before the recipient, or using it in place of the recipient.

```
(26) ketehmóɔ séè (tਫ਼ɔ̂ʔiʔ) lí(móɔ) kew tɕósʰa

Ø- keteh -Ø =móɔ séè (Ø- tɕòʔi

ANIM.STBL.CMPLT- child -PAT.CMPLT =REF.VIS.SG all (ANIM.STBL.CMPLT- person
-ʔ) lí =(móɔ) Ø- kew tɕósʰa

-ASC.CMPLT) with =(REF.VIS.SG) REAL.NPFV- COP.ESSNT.ASSRT new
the child is the youngest of all (men)
```

Excessive constructions are formed by omitting the recipient entirely.

```
(27) ketehmɔ́ɔ lí kew tçósʰa

Ø- keteh -Ø = mɔ́ɔ sʰì Ø- kew

ANIM.STBL.CMPLT- child -PAT.CMPLT = REF.VIS.SG with REAL.NPFV- COP.ESSNT.ASSRT

tçósʰa

new

the child is very/too young
```

11 | Word formation

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

11.1 | Derivation

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

Prefixes		Suffixes	
tòj-, tò-	opposite, reverse	- t ¢²á	attempt, try
t¢hà(?)-	person, profession	-tàj _y	product, result
lə(h)-(ဴ)	place; time	(ဴ)-sɔ́h	container, captivity, portation
kósó _p -	homorganic group/mass	-k²ə́?	tool, instrument
$k^h e_p$ -	heterorganic group/mass	(`)-s²00	abstraction, mass
tçá(n)-(`)	prevent, stop, interrupt	-tçáh	animals, inedible plants
sáj-, sé-	pretend, mimic, falsify	-jə́h _n	edible plants, food
sóo-	cause, source	-k²ée	pejorative, derogatory
?ikà-	expected accompaniment		

11.1.1 | Sound symbolism

Sound symbolism may 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 11.2: Magnitude

11 | Word formation 54

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 ¹²	\rightarrow	-N ¹²
೦೦	\leftrightarrow	-14

Figure 11.3: Movement

11.2 | Compounding

Compounding is divided into coördinating and subordinating compounding.

11.2.1 | Coördinating

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

TODO example

11.2.2 | Subordinating

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

TODO example

 $^{^{12}}$ the coda phonemes /w j $_{
m N}/$

12 | Particles

12.1 | Conjunctions

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

Nominal

```
ní presents non-contrast; and.nml
?ika presents contrast; but.nml
teh presents exclusive alternative; or.nml
```

Verbal

```
nəj presents non-contrast; introduces basic (dependent) clause; and.VRBL
ten presents rationale, causality; introduces causal (dependent) clause; for.VRBL
motó presents consequence; introduces consecutive (dependent) clause; so.VRBL
?ihi presents contrast; but.VRBL
kàh presents exclusive alternative; or.VRBL
```

12.2 | Satellite conjunctions

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

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

12 | Particles 56

12.3 | Affirmatory & negatory

Affirmatory and negatory particles are used to affirm and negate, respectively, 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; AFF.BAS
s ^h è	Affirmatory-witness; affirms via visual evidence; AFF.WIT
$\hat{c}^h\hat{c}$	Affirmatory-sensory ; affirms via non-visual evidence; AFF.SNS
s²ó	Affirmatory-evidential; affirms via direct evidence; AFF.EVID
tç²én	Affirmatory-anecdotal; affirms via prior experience(s); AFF.ANEC
jón	Affirmatory-reportative; affirms via indirect evidence; AFF.REP

Negatory

káj	Negatory-basic; negates with no regard to evidence; NEG.BAS
k ^h àj	Negatory-sensory; negates via sensory/direct evidence; NEG.SNS
sə́j	Negatory-inferential ; negates via direct evidence/prior experience(s); NEG.INF
wáj	Negatory-reportative; negates via indirect evidence; NEG.REP

12.4 | Quantifiers

Quantifiers are particles that indicate or delimit the amount of that which they modify.

```
hi? none, no
?ika only, exclusively
ní all, every
teh some, few
séè many, most
ní?ka countable, finite
séèní uncountable, infinite
```

12.5 | Extension

Extension describes temporal limitation on the axes of locus and restraint. Extension particles are most commonly applied to conjunctions (see § 9.6), but may also apply to content words and

12 | Particles 57

descriptives (see Ch. 10). They are placed before their head and, if present, its modifiers.

	Retro.	Prosp.	Delim.
Antmp.	né	kəsí	təś
Postmp.	liís ^h i	tòje	?ɔjke
Cistmp.	t¢átì	s^h	×

Figure 12.1: Extension

Locus defines the temporal beginning and end.

Locus

Retrospective	beginning is focused; RETRO
Prospective	end is focused; PROSP
Delimitive	both beginning and end are focused; DELIM

Restraint describes the point at which the locus is defined.

Restraint

Antemporal	locus is defined before the point of reference; ANTMP
Postemporal	locus is defined after the point of reference; POSTMP
Cistemporal	locus is defined during the point of reference; CISTMP

When applied to content words and descriptives, extension is used to express the temporal bounds of the entity relative to the time of reference.

The cistemporal retrospective and prospective extensions focus the development and the consequences of the event, respectively.

TODO example sentences

12.5.1 | Use with conjunctions

When applied to conjunctions, extension expresses the temporal relation between the phrases modified by the conjunction.

TODO example sentences

13 | Numerals

Numerals use a base-60 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. All numerals may be used as formatives or descriptives.

0	hi?	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	k ^h òj
4	k^h ì	16	s^h oh	28	tòo	40	k²ò?	52	lź?en
5	t¢ ^h ajá	17	$k^{\scriptscriptstyle h} e\acute{e}$	29	tçən	41	sómán	53	t ^h òn
6	soo	18	jo	30	sʰìh	42	has ^h è	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}^{h} ii	21	tək²o	33	sàtçíí	45	lato	<i>57</i>	jíli
10	tçé	22	?ətç²ó	34	satça?	46	tçəh	58	t ^h ò
11	láha	23	tək ^h o	35	t¢ hon	47	sìit ^h ɔ	59	hent ^h e

Figure 13.1: Numerals

13.1 | Higher & lower numerals

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

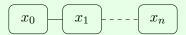


Figure 13.2: Higher numerals

13.1.1 | Numeric distributors

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

		I
-nii	$2 imes$ -jih $_{ m n}$	2÷
-k³́́́́́	$3 imes$ - $k^{ m h}\grave{a}$	3÷
-kì	$oldsymbol{4} imes$ -té $_{ m p}$	4÷
-tçé _y	5× -sì	5÷
-s [?] o	6× -hɔ	6÷

13 | Numerals 59

13.1.2 | Numeric extractors

Numeric extractors may be used to form higher and lower numerals by associating two numeric arguments and returning a value.

$$y x$$
lí $x+y$
 $y x$ k²e $x-y$
 $y x$ kan?ɔ x^y
 $y x$ see?á $\sqrt[y]{x}$

14 | Units of measure

14.1 | Time

14.1.1 | Years

14.1.2 | Seasons

A year is divided into eight main seasons.

móloló	spring
mii?ló	late spring/early summer
tçii?ló	midsummer
kʰàʔoló	late summer/early autumn
lóo?ló	autumn
níjò?ló	late autumn/early winter
wo?òló	midwinter
hèló?ló	late winter/early spring

14.1.3 | Days

14.2 | Space

15 | Register terms & personal names

15.1 | Register terms

Register terms 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	kátç ^h è	s ^h ò	s^h əw	létça?	jó?oh	sako
Polite	loj	t¢ ^h aw	tçoo	sáhkəh	3 0	wo?ɔ	k ^h emé	mii?í	Sako
Familiar	10)	tç ^h əs ^h ə	to?a	$k^{h}a$		tʰìiʔɔj	t ^h ìtçín		$t^h \grave{e}$
Pejorative	kəj		ket¢ ^h ɔ̀			k ^h èle			

Figure 15.1: Register terms

These terms may also be used to describe familial relations.

Status

Inferior	target is lower in social status, generation; INF
Equivalent	target is similar in social status, generation; EQV
Superior	target is higher in social status, generation; SUP

Age

Younger	target is younger in age; YNG
Equal	target is similar in age; EQL
Elder	target is older in age; ELD

Formality

Formal	expresses respect, reverence; FRM
Polite	expresses politeness, courtesy; PLT
Familiar	expresses familiarity, intimacy; FAM
Pejorative	expresses disrespect, contempt; PEJ

15.2 | Personal names

A personal name consists of many elements:

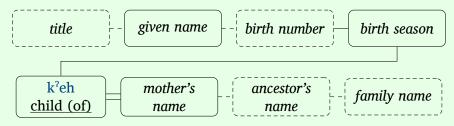


Figure 15.2: Personal name profile

Title	an optional social title, often a register term, profession, or descriptive
Given name	one's given name
Birth number	an optional number corresponding to the birth order of oneself in relation to one's siblings (if one has siblings)
Birth season	the season of one's birth (see § 14.1.2)
Mother's name	one's mother's given name, always preceded by k^2eh
Ancestor's name	an optional ancestor's given name, real or mythical
Family name	an optional word or phrase that describes the family (e.g., a common family profession or a family descriptor)

The elements $(k^2eh \pmod{mother's given name})$ may be repeated an arbitrary amount of times, each consecutive matriarch applying to the previous one.

16 | Ideophones

16.1 | Ideophonemes

There exists a set of phonemes that may occur only in ideophones. These are called *ideophonemes*, and they cannot cluster (i.e., codae /? h N w j/ may not precede them). Basic consonants may occur in ideophones as well.

					Dental	Alveolar	Lateral
	Labial	Alveolar	Dorsal	Tenuis		!	
Nasal	^m b	^{n}d	$^{\eta}g$ \sim η	Aspirated	h	! h	$\ ^{\mathbf{h}}$
Trill	ВВ		å∽X K∽R	Nasalized	ŋ	υ i	ŋ
	(a)	Pulmonic		Glottalized	ŋ ?	υ i 3	\mathfrak{g}_3
					(b) Non-p	ulmonic	

Figure 16.1: Ideophonemes

Another notable feature of ideophones is that they are vocalically underspecified, i.e., ideophone roots consist only of consonants. Vowels may be inserted (respecting phonotactics) in order to convey meaning.

16.2 | Ideophones

There are three types of ideophones: *phonomimes*, *phenomimes*, and *psychomimes*. See App. D for a list of ideophones. Ideophones may function as descriptives or as formatives.

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

Certain patterns of reduplication, vowel insertion, and tone have certain connotations when applied to ideophone roots.

16 | Ideophones 64

Light vowels /i ə o/ light, sharp, soft **Heavy vowels** /e a ɔ/ heavy, blunt, rough Front vowels /i e/ order, uniformity Central vowels /ə a/ natural structure, innate form Back vowels /o o/ chaos, disformity Initial reduplication $|\sigma_{i}|$ reductive, diminutive, negative Final reduplication $|-\sigma_f|$ casual, informal, playful Full reduplication $|-\omega|$ intensive, augmentative, affirmative Lengthening general, associative **Toneless** natural measure, innate size High tone narrow, shallow; thin, tall **Low tone** | *wide, deep; fat, squat*

17 | Speech registers

There exists many special *speech registers*. 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), function, definition»*. The *reduced form* may 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. 15*).

TODO all of this

A | Nominal limitives

- tçò?i (tç²è) : (CONC, ANIM) *n*. person, human, humanoid creature ‡ *cl*. people, all humanoids
- taj : (CONC, ANIM) *n*. person of like gender as oneself ‡ *cl*. like-gendered people, humanoids
- n o o o: (CONC, ANIM) n. person of unlike gender as oneself $\ddagger cl$. unlike-gendered people, humanoids
- kon : (CONC, INAN, PNSTBL) *n.* place, location, area ‡ *cl.* places, locations
- ketch (k²eh), tçatih^{FP}: (CONC, ANIM) *n*. baby, offspring; child, young person ‡ *cl*. young (of an animal), offspring, products
- mowo : (CONC, ANIM) *n*. parent, guardian; elder person ‡ *cl*. parent, producers
- sisì (s²iì): (CONC, ANIM, PNSTBL) *n.* water, air; liquid, fluid; motion, movement ‡ *cl.* all fluids
- neh: (CONC, INAN) n. rock, stone, solid; immobility, inactivity ‡ cl. rocks, stones, natural solids; rigid body parts e.g., shells, bone, teeth, nails

- tçì : (CONC, ANIM) *n.* animal, creature, beast ‡ *cl.* all wild terrestrial animals excluding insects
- tçasí : (CONC, INAN) *n*. tree, plant; foliage, vegetation ‡ *cl*. all non-edible plants
- sóósa : (CONC, INAN) *n.* container, vessel, receptacle ‡ *cl.* all containers; all foods that can contain other food
- k^2 6?e: (CONC, INAN) n. tool, instrument, weapon ‡ cl. all tools, instruments, weapons; functional body parts e.g., appendages, sensory organs
- thìló: (CONC, ANIM) n. body; flesh, meat (living); physical form; body language, behavior
- thè?: (CONC, INAN) *n.* corpse; flesh, meat (dead/raw); death ‡ *cl.* soft body parts e.g., flesh, hair, skin; all animal-derived foods
- k^hàtí : (CONC, ANIM) *n*. flesh, meat (cooked); meal, feast
- j\u00e4ho: (CONC, INAN) *n.* fruit; edible plant; the flesh of a fruit; flower \u00e4 *cl.* all plant-derived foods; all flowers

A | Nominal limitives 67

• ?olowí (?oló) : (ABSTR, ANIM) n. season, the division of a year; time $\ddagger cl$. time, all temporal concepts

• ma: (ABSTR, INAN) *n*. word, symbol, name; writing ‡ *cl*. all symbols, names

B | Verbal limitives

- wớ: (CONC, VOL, MVAL) *n*. move, walk, come/go ‡ *aux*. general movement; action
 - ightarrow m $\acute{ ext{a}}$
- m \acute{a} : (CONC, VOL, MVAL) \emph{n} . run, move quickly; jump, leap $\ddagger \emph{aux}$. fast, spontaneous movement
 - ⊢ wá
- shoj: (CONC, VOL, PVAL) *n*. carry, give/take ‡ *aux*. transportation, causative movement
- niwi : (CONC, VOL, BVAL) *n.* consume, eat, drink
- tçój : (ABSTR, VOL, PVAL) n. speak, write, communicate

- k^h ajtè : (ABSTR, VOL, SVAL) n. hear, see, directly sense; read, understand $\ddagger aux$. direct sensory interaction
- hasì : (ABSTR, VOL, SVAL) *n.* smell, taste, indirectly sense ‡ *aux*. indirect sensory interaction
- jéko : (ABSTR, VOL, BVAL) *n*. feel, sense; know ‡ *aux*. cognitive interaction
- se?mɔ́: (ABSTR, VOL, PVAL) n. make, cause ‡ aux. causation
- k^ho : (ABSTR, NVOL, AVAL) n. occur, happen, exist ‡ aux. state of being
- hɔnɔ́: (ABSTR, VOL, BVAL) n. want, desire, wish

m

- míshoh: (ABSTR, ANIM) *n.* aversion, repulsion, disgust; detestation ‡ (ABSTR, NVOL, BVAL) *v.* be averse, repulsed, disgusted; detest
- melə (mii): (CONC, INAN) n. bread; food made from grain; grain ‡ (CONC, VOL, MVAL) v. prepare/eat bread; prepare grain
- mtóósa (máh): (CONC, INAN) *n.* book, writing; collection of words ‡ (CONC, VOL, BVAL) *v.* read; write
- mólá: (CONC, INAN) *n*. wave, gust; flow, movement, direction ‡ (CONC, VOL, BVAL) *v*. make wet; wash, clean; push, move

l n

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

$| t^h, t, t^2$

• tha?wá (tháw): (CONC, ANIM) n. yak, cow, dzo; wisdom, strength, power; work, effort ‡ (CONC, VOL, BVAL) v. be a yak, cow, dzo; be wise, strong, powerful; (do) work, put effort into

- tkisháj (ti?sé): (CONC, INAN) n. hardness, durability, endurance ‡ (CONC, VOL, BVAL) v. be/make hard, durable, enduring; improve, enhance, fix
- títçikòn (títçì?): (CONC, ANIM) n. master, superior; guide, leader; direction ‡ (ABSTR, VOL, BVAL) v. be a master, be superior; guide, lead, direct
- tɔnlá: (CONC, ANIM) n. voice, sound; song, music ‡ (ABSTR, VOL, MVAL) v. make sound, music; sing
- tətçìn (tç²in) : (CONC, ANIM) n. eye, pair of eyes; sight ‡ (ABSTR, NVOL, SVAL) ν . see, visually sense

- tchàs?ah (tchà?): (CONC, INAN) n. that which is contained; injury ‡ (CONC, VOL, BVAL) v. contain (within); incapacitate, debilitate
- tçii: (CONC, INAN) n. sand, dust, gravel, grain; sugarcane, sugar, sweetness ‡ (ABSTR, VOL, BVAL) v. separate, crumble; be particulate, granular; be sweet
- t¢óhk^hà (t¢oh) : (CONC, INAN) n. milk, fat ‡ (CONC, NVOL, MVAL) v. be/have/drink milk; be fat

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

- $k^h \hat{\partial}$: (CONC, ANIM) n. breast; fat ‡ (CONC, VOL, BVAL) ν . produce milk; nurture, care (for)
- khòo: (CONC, ANIM) n. fingers, hand, arm ‡ (ABSTR, VOL, BVAL) v. touch, interact (with)

C | Formatives 70

- tçki?əj (k²ii): (CONC, INAN) n. boat, method of travel; transportation; trade, commerce; goods, cargo, something to be transported ‡ (ABSTR, VOL, PVAL) v. travel (by boat); transport; trade (goods)
- któhi^{FP} (mii): (CONC, INAN) *n.* any grain, cereal or pulse; bread ‡ (CONC, VOL, MVAL) *v.* grow/harvest grain
- kála (kóɔ): (CONC, ANIM) *n*. fish; conspiracy, scheme ‡ (CONC, VOL, MVAL) *v*. fish, go fishing; conspire, scheme
- k^2 ètç²è (ján), ján^{NI} : (CONC, ANIM) n. friend, spouse; expected accompaniment; friendship, relationship ‡ (ABSTR, VOL, BVAL) ν . accompany; be in a relationship

| ?

- ?elśw (lóo): (CONC, ANIM) n. squamate reptile, lizard, snake; tail; self-amputation (of an appendage) ‡ (CONC, VOL, BVAL) v. be a squamate reptile, lizard, snake; have/move/be a tail; self-amputate (an appendage)
- ?əhee: (CONC, INAN) *n*. cold food; raw food; something to be made cold ‡ (CONC, VOL, MVAL) *v*. prepare cold food; cool, make cold
- ?aná: (CONC, INAN) n. injury, damage; sickness; immobility, laziness; rope ‡ (CONC, VOL, BVAL) v. injure, damage; make immobile; be lazy; tie (up), bind, restrain
- ?anko: (CONC, INAN) *n*. bed, place of rest; sleep, rest; dream, hallucination ‡ (ABSTR, VOL, MVAL) *v*. sleep, rest; dream, hallucinate

$| s^h, s, s^?$

• sènáj (sáj) : (CONC, ANIM) n. bear; fear ‡ (CONC, NVOL, MVAL) v. be a bear; be afraid

- set²o?: (CONC, ANIM) *n*. river, moving body of water; narrow portion of material, strip ‡ (CONC, VOL, BVAL) *v*. travel by river, moving body of water; make into narrow portions, strips
- sələn: (CONC, ANIM) *n*. intestines, that which is digested ‡ (CONC, NVOL, BVAL) *v*. digest, break down (naturally); dissolve
- s²ə́lə́w: (CONC, INAN) n. saraw plant—a squat, durable, wide-leafed plant used as material on which to write; the leaf of the saraw plant; any material on which one writes ‡ (CONC, VOL, MVAL) v. harvest (the leaves of) a saraw plant; write
- sóo : (CONC, INAN) *n.* excrement, waste ‡ (CONC, NVOL, MVAL) *v.* excrete, produce waste
- sòjsi: (CONC, ANIM) *n*. hot food; cooked food; something to be made warm ‡ (CONC, VOL, MVAL) *v*. prepare hot food; heat, make warm

| h

- hmon (hmoo): (ABSTR, ANIM) *n.* thought, mind; memory; heart, center; spirit, soul; personal connection ‡ (ABSTR, NVOL, MVAL) *v.* think, concentrate, focus; remember; personally connect
- hèlóo: (CONC, INAN) *n*. root; source, origin, cause; stability ‡ (ABSTR, NVOL, BVAL) *v*. be a source, origin; cause; be stable; stabilize
- hòn: (CONC, ANIM) *n.* dog, wolf, canine; any domesticated animal ‡ (CONC, NVOL, BVAL) *v.* be a dog; domesticate
- hój (hoj): (CONC, ANIM) *n*. number, numeral; amount, quantity; group, collection ‡ (ABSTR, VOL, BVAL) *v*. count, enumerate, quantify; collect, amass

C | Formatives 71

l w

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

| 1

- lìjók²o (lìjó?): (CONC, INAN) *n.* face, flat surface; table ‡ (CONC, VOL, BVAL) *v.* flatten, make flat; be flat; lay flat
- lethitça (litçha): (CONC, ANIM) n. liquid food ‡ (CONC, VOL, MVAL) v. prepare liquid food
- ləneh : (CONC, INAN) *n*. mountain, collection of rock/stone ‡ (CONC, VOL, BVAL) *v*. be/climb a mountain; stop, prevent
- lɔtç²ś: (CONC, ANIM) *n*. rain ceremony ‡ (CONC, VOL, MVAL) *v*. perform a rain ceremony
- lónlə (lón): (CONC, INAN) n. dumpling, dough; smallness, roundness; cuteness ‡ (CONC, VOL, MVAL) v. have/eat/prepare/be (a) dumpling(s), dough; be small and round; be cute

| j

• jon: (CONC, INAN) *n*. cave, dwelling; quiet, silence ‡ (ABSTR, VOL, MVAL) *v*. live in a cave; be quiet, silent

D | Ideophones