



A PHONOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION OF FALAM

Khar Thuan

Presented to Payap University in Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree of
MASTER OF ARTS IN LINGUISTICS
Faculty of Humanities

PAYAP UNIVERSITY, CHIANG MAI,
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ABSTRACT

Falam belongs to the Central Chin subgroup of the Kuki-Chin languages which is spoken in the Falam area. The name Falam is not from the name of any language group but from the name of the Falam town in years past. Nowadays the name Falam represents the people and the language of those who live in the Falam area.

The main component of this research is a phonological description of Falam. Falam has 31 consonant phonemes and 5 vowel phonemes. Vowel length in closed syllables is contrastive while vowel length in open syllables is predictable. There are eight possible syllable structures. Falam is a tonal language which has four contrastive tones, and has tone alternations.

Falam has complex morphophonemic alternations. Its verb system has two forms called primary and secondary. Regarding morphophonemic alternations, nasal alternations, stop alternations, and final glottalizations in secondary stems are common. Vowel length never increases in secondary stems. Rising tone never occurs in secondary stems. It can be concluded that some markedness in secondary stems decreases while some markedness in secondary stems stays the same.

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บทคัดย่อ

ภาษาฟาลัมเป็นภาษาหนึ่งในกลุ่มย่อยถิ่นกลาง ในกลุ่มภาษาคุค-จีน ซึ่งพูดในบริเวณฟาลัม ฟาลัมไม่ใช่ชื่อภาษากลุ่มใดกลุ่มหนึ่ง แต่เป็นชื่อเมืองที่ใช้กันมานานหลายปี ปัจจุบันนี้ฟาลัมเป็นชื่อที่ครอบคลุมถึงกลุ่มชนและภาษาที่พูดโดยกลุ่มชนที่อาศัยอยู่ในบริเวณที่เรียกว่า ฟาลัม

วัตถุประสงค์หลักของวิทยานิพนธ์ฉบับนี้ คือ การศึกษาระบบเสียงในภาษาฟาลัม ผลการศึกษาพบว่า ภาษาฟาลัมมีพยัญชนะ 29 หน่วยเสียง และสระ 5 หน่วยเสียง พยางค์ตายมีความแตกต่างกันด้านความสั้นยาวของเสียงสระ ขณะที่พยางค์เป็นมีความสั้นยาวของเสียงสระที่สามารถทำนายได้ ในภาษาฟาลัมมีโครงสร้างพยางค์ถึง 8 แบบ และมีวรรณยุกต์ 4 หน่วยเสียง นอกจากนี้ ภาษาฟาลัมยังมีการแปรของเสียงวรรณยุกต์แบบต่าง ๆ อีกด้วย

ภาษาฟาลัมมีการเปลี่ยนรูปแปรของหน่วยคำ (morphophonemic alternations) แบบต่าง ๆ คำกริยาในภาษาฟาลัมมี 2 รูป เรียกว่า กริยาพื้นฐาน (primary verb stem) และกริยารอง (secondary verb stem) เมื่อพิจารณาในแง่การเปลี่ยนรูปแปรของหน่วยคำ พบว่า การเปลี่ยนรูปแปรของเสียงนาสิก (nasals) เสียงกัก (stops) และการบีบเส้นเสียงตอนท้าย (final glottalizations) ในกริยารองเป็นลักษณะที่ปรากฏทั่วไปในภาษาฟาลัม นอกจากนี้ยังพบว่า เสียงสระในกริยารองไม่ได้มีความยาวมากขึ้น ในแง่ของเสียงวรรณยุกต์ พบว่า วรรณยุกต์เสียงขึ้น (rising tone) ไม่เคยปรากฏในกริยารอง จากการศึกษากระบวนการเสียงในภาษาฟาลัม สามารถสรุปได้ว่า ในตำแหน่งของกริยารองมีการบ่งชี้ความชัดเจน (markedness) บางประการลดน้อยลง ขณะที่การบ่งชี้ความชัดเจนบางประการไม่มีการเปลี่ยนแปลง

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

Abbreviations

Abs.	Absolute
C	Consonant
CIE	Contrast in Identical Environment
CNE	Contrast in Non-Influencing Environment
Dim.	Diminutive
Erg.	Ergative
F	Falling tone
FCM	Falam Centenary Magazine
H	High tone
Imp.	Imperative
L	Low tone
Loc	Locative
Neg.	Negation
Nom.	Nominalizer
Part.	Particle
Past.	Past tense
Poss.	Possessive
3Pl.	Third Person Plural
Qp.	Question particle
R	Rising tone
Rfl.	Reflexive
1Sg.	First Person Singular
T	Tone
TB	Tibeto-Burman
V	Vowel
W	Word

Symbols

#__	Word Initial
__#	Word Final
/ /	Phonemic Slashes
[]	Phonetic Brackets
σ	Syllable
(.)	Syllable Boundary

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.0 Introduction

This thesis is a phonological description of Falam. Since Chin languages have rarely been studied by linguists in the past, a deep phonological study of Falam has not yet been done by any researcher. The Chin researchers, U Van Kyi (1992), U Than Bil luai (1993), Stephen Hre Kio (1999) and some other people have done a partial phonological description focusing on segmental phonology. Another deeper study in Chin is that of Andrea Gail Osburne in 1975, focussing on a transformational analysis of tone in the verb system of Zahao, a related Chin language. Because of the limits of the other studies, this thesis will mainly focus on a phonological description. This chapter introduces the origin of Falam and its location; the people; the language classification; a literature review; and the purpose, limitations, and methodology of this study.

1.1 Background information

This section provides brief information of the Chins, the origin of Falam and the people, the location, and the Falam language and its classification.

1.1.1 The Chins

For more information, it would be good to look at a brief background of the Chins before going further to discuss the name Falam and the Falam. Some claim that the term “Chin” is an old Burmese word “Kyaing” which means “fellow, companion, friend” (Luce 1965). But there is no strong source to support this claim that the Burmese called the Chins fellows or companions or friends. Another interpretation of the term “Chin” is that it is a Burmese word used to denote the various hill tribes living in the country between Myanmar and the provinces of Assam and Bengal. In earlier times the name “Chin” was written and pronounced “Khyang”. There is another term “Kuki” for Chin, an Assamese

or Bengali term, applied to various hill tribes, such as the Lusheis, Rangkhols, Thados, etc. The words “Kuki”, used in India, and “Chin”, used in Myanmar, are synonymous and are both used for many of the hill tribes. The name is not used by the tribes themselves, who use titles such as Zo or Yo and Sho (Gierison 1904:509-510). It is true that many of the Chins do not call themselves Chin but have different names such as Lai, Zo, Cho, and so on, even though all Chins have accepted the designation of themselves as Chins by other people. As a whole, the term “Chin” seems to be just the name given by other people to denote that they are hill tribes.

There is a historical background which tells that the Chins are originally from China. U Bawihu (1998:12) mentions in his thesis, “The name ‘Chin’ is not a given name to the people living in the hilly region by the Burmese, its name had already been there long time ago since the third century B.C; and it originated in China which is related to the Chin dynasty in China.” This information tells that the name “Chin” is not just a given name by the Burmese but the name of the people who came to settle in the region of Myanmar centuries ago. G. H. Luce (1965) puts the entry of the Chin into the general region of Myanmar somewhere between the fourth and the middle of the eighth centuries A.D. By looking at the apparent close linguistic relationship among the many Tibeto-Burman languages of Myanmar, Lehman (1965) states that “both hills and plains peoples have moved about within the central region of Southwest China and Southeast Asia over considerable distances for many centuries, and entered Myanmar from the north in 750 A.D.” It would seem that they all settled in the Lushai and Chin Hills some time during the last two centuries. This historical background is more reliable as many researchers have dated their entrance into Myanmar at this time.

Khoi Lam Thang (2000:3) in his paper¹ of Chin languages noted that the Chins entered Myanmar from the North in 800 A.D (Khen Za Sian 1999:322), and 850 A.D (Tuan khaw kham 1999:326). These people arrived in the Chin hills in A.D 1347 (Kip Thian Pau 1993:3, and Khen Za Sian 1999:326) and 1490-1510

¹ Linguistics colloquia series 2000-01, Payap University Linguistics Department, Chiang Mai, Thailand.

(Bawihu 1998:27). The report of the District center of Chin State in 2004 estimated that the total population of Chin state was 503,083. Even though the time of entrance into Chin Hills is not clear, all of this information shows that the name “Chin” is not just a given name by the Burmese but the name of the people who came to settle in the region of Myanmar centuries ago.

1.1.2 The origin of Falam² and the people

Since there is a relationship between the name Falam and Taisun (Tashon), it is necessary to look at the origin of Tashons. The Tashons believe that their original parents stepped out of a solid rock. According to Bertram S. Carey (1932:142), “at Shunkla village there is a large rock³, and out of this the Tashons believe that a man and a woman came, who settled down close by and became the parents of those who are now called the Shunkla tribe proper.” Though the people believe that they are indigenous according to their traditional belief, there is a historical record that the Taisuns are immigrants. The three brothers, Ralthang, Phurhlum, and Thuan Kai came to settle in the Chin Hills from Kalay valley. As they came across hill after hill, Phurhlum and Thuan Kai reached Lailun and they founded Lailun village⁴. Thuan Kai, who founded Lailun, had three sons and the eldest son was named Taisun, and his father let him found a new village, called Taisun⁵ village. The Tashons call themselves Shunkla/Klashun after the name of the village (FCM 1992:10). Bertram S. Carey⁶ (1932:142) records a reliable historical background:

About four generations ago the ancestors of the Shunklas of Falam migrated from Shunkla and founded Klashun, and at the same time another family also quitted the nest and flitted to Saiyo. They had hardly got comfortably settled down before the Haka chief Lien Norn, the great-grandfather of the present Chief Lyen Mo, attacked and destroyed both villages

² Falam is thought to be English corruption of the original word “Fahlam” (U Tial Luai-personal interview; FCM 1992:9).

³ This large rock is called Lailun, which many people believe according to tradition, was the origin of Chins.

⁴ This Lailun village and Shunkla village were the same name of one village founded by Thuankai (near Shunkla there is a large rock, i.e., Lailun).

⁵ This village, which was located near Cinmual ward of the present Falam town, does not exist anymore.

⁶ He was British, an assistant commissioner in Burma, and a political officer in the Chin Hills.

and scattered the inhabitants, who for years lived in settlements as fugitives. However, in the course of time the Shunklas made their peace with the Hakas and returned to found a new village, which is the present Falam village. After the Shunklas had founded Falam they gradually brought all their neighbours, both relatives and aliens, under their control. The Siyins and other northerners call them “palamte” after their capital Falam. We have retained the name by which the tribe was known to the Burmans (Burmese), namely, “Tashon”. This word is the Burmese corruption of “Klashun”, the name of the village immediately west to Falam, which was made the capital of the tribe after it had left the parent village of Shunkla and before the present magnificent capital was founded. This village Klashun, or Tashon, was confiscated and demolished by us in 1892, when we occupied Falam and required materials to build us a post.

Not long after the occupation of the Falam village in March 13, 1892, the British government had decided to build a new camp at the place where the present Falam town is located, about three miles away from the old Falam village. The construction of a new camp was finished at the end of June in the same year and shifted there for security purposes. Later on the British government had given the new post the name “Falam” and the old Falam village was called Taisun village instead. This new camp, Falam, was made the center of regional administration and later it became the capital of the whole area of Falam.

There are twelve different tribes in the Falam Township. They are Laizo, Zahau, Sim, Hualngo, Ngawn, Bualkhua, Tapong, Zaniat, Khualsim, Lente, Hlawnceu, and Taisun. They believed that their forefathers are Ralthang (the forefather of Khualsim), Phurhlum (the forefather of Laizo and Zaniat), and Thuankhai (the forefather of Tashon, Hlawnceu, Zahau, and Sim). These tribal groups have their own dialects. According to Lai⁷ legend (Chawn Kio 2006:31), the forefathers of Lais came to the Chin hills from the Shan country, Kabaw-Kale-Chindwin valleys. Their legends assert that their settlement in Chin Hills was due to the losing of their heritage, not to famine nor the oppression of any ruler. Another possible reason is the war between Shans and Burmese which may have caused political crises or famine. This legend supports that the twelve tribal

⁷ The Falams called themselves Lais. According to Chawn Kio (2006:34) Lai is used to refer to Falam, Hakha, Thantlang, and Matu.

groups in Falam area had migrated from the plains areas centuries ago. There are different beliefs of the route to the settlement of these twelve tribal groups in Falam Township. The forefathers of Hualngo, Ngawn, Bualkhaw, Lente and Tapong may have come to settle from different routes. Under a political leadership as one township, all of these twelve tribes mentioned above are considered as Falams. Thus, the name Falam represents the twelve tribal groups in the Falam township⁸ and the name of the town as well.

According to the Ethnologue (Grimes 2005), there are 100,000 Falams in Myanmar (UBS 1991). This population includes 9,000 Tashon, 16,000 Zanniat, 7,000 Khualshim, 4,000 Lente, 14,400 Zahao, 18,600 Laizao (1983), 31,000 others. The township peace and development council report of 2004 says that the total population of Falam township is 72,110. Falam is also spoken in Bangladesh and India. The total population in all countries is 125,367.

Since the Falams are widely spread around the country it is suggested that there are more than the total population of speakers of the Falam township in the plains area, namely, Kalay township in Sagaing division. Other unaccounted for speakers of Falams are also found in various places over the country and even abroad.

⁸ Personal interview (U Tial Luai) and magazine (Falam Centennial Jubilee 1892-1992)

1.1.3 Location

Geographically, Falam is located in west Myanmar, in the central part of Chin state, as shown in the map of Myanmar in Figure 1 below:



Figure 1. Map of Myanmar showing the location of Falam (Lehman, F.K. 1981)

Also the map in Figure 2. Language map of Falam displays the dialects of the twelve tribal groups in the Falam area.

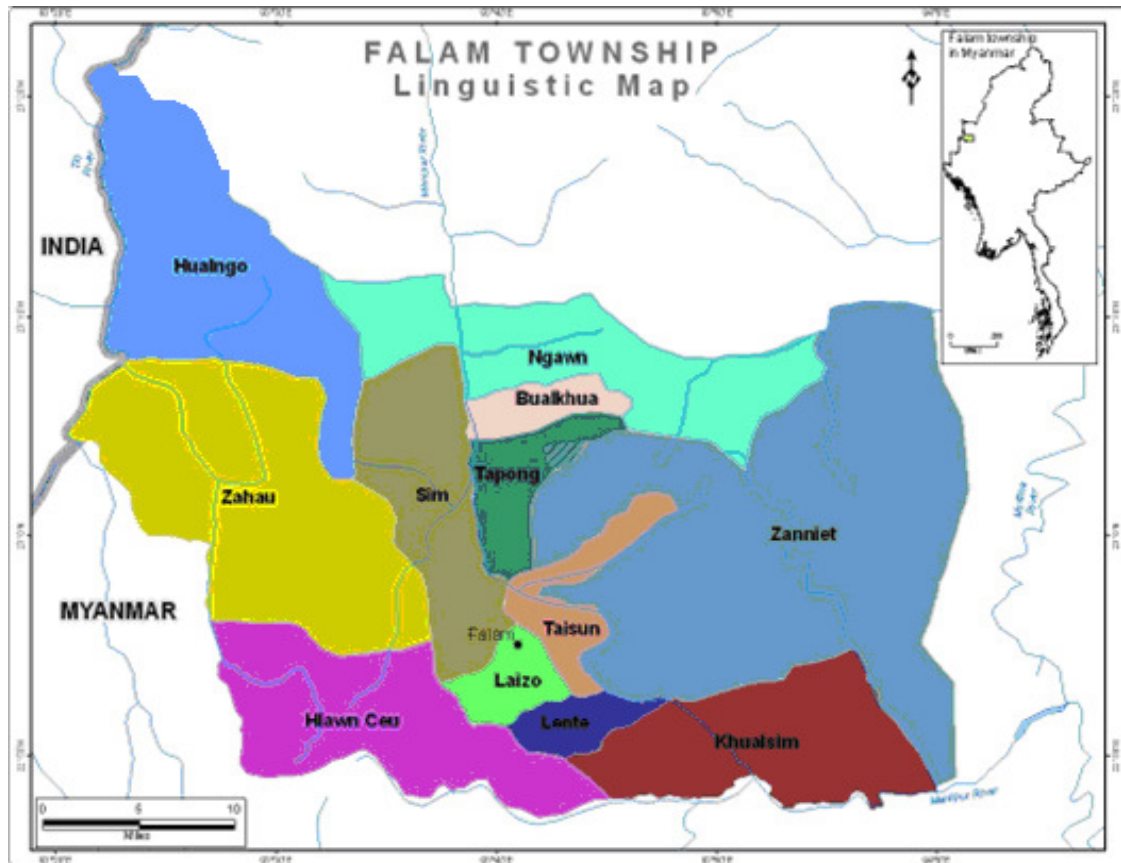


Figure 2. Language map of Falam (Eva Ujlakyova (SIL):2007)

1.2 The Falam language

As already mentioned in the previous section, there are twelve different dialects in the Falam township bearing the names of their tribal groups. Among them, Laizo was used for the official language or the common language of the town since the British colonial period. Evidence for this comes from a resolution made at a conference held in Maymyo in 1924 that one of the twelve dialects in the Falam Township, Laizo language, would be the language to be taught in the primary schools in the Chin Hills. Robert Johnson (1988:459) records, “It did,

however, decide that Laizo Chin was the language to be taught and English the second, with Burmese where desired.” After that time onward Laizo was taught in all primary schools in Falam Township until 1975. Gradually the Laizo language has become the common language for the Falam town and for the whole township. This common language had carried the name Laizo until the 1960s (e.g., “Laizo Bible”, “Laizo dialect”, etc)⁹.

After the 1960s, some Christian leaders proposed to change the name Laizo to Falam¹⁰ so that the language could represent the language of the whole tribal community in the Falam Township. Kyon Bil¹¹, one of the Christian leaders at that time, said that there was no formal meeting to decide the change of the name Laizo to Falam. As time passed on, the use of the name Laizo has diminished and people have been using the name Falam more and more for many years. Presently, Falam has become the lingua franca of the whole tribal community in Falam township and the name Laizo has been completely replaced by the name Falam (e.g., “Falam language”, “Falam Bible”, “Falam Christian songbook”, etc).

1.2.1 Classification of the language

Falam is one of the Kuki-chin languages, descended from the Sino-Tibetan (ST), Tibeto-Burman (TB) group, spoken primarily in and around Falam town in Chin state, Myanmar. Matisoff (2005:9) mentions that:

The Sino-Tibetan is one of the greatest language families in the world comprised of Sinitic (including Chinese, Tai-Kadai, and Hmong-Mien in extended view), and Tibeto-Burman. The Tibeto-Burman languages are the principal languages of the Himalayan region, spoken from Kashmir in the west, across the Himalayan and sub-Himalayan regions of India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Tibet and China, and into Southeast Asia across Burma, Thailand, Laos and Vietnam, including the great rivers such as Yangtze,

⁹ Cope, J.R. 1926. Chin reader in the Laizo dialect.

¹⁰The term “Falam” does not belong to any tribal group but is a geographical name used to represent the language of all the tribal groups in Falam township. Since the language is changing over time the language used in Falam town now has an increasing dialectal difference from Laizo.

¹¹ Personal interview in Yangon (March 2006).

Mekong, Salween, and Irrawaddy. As all the major language families of SEA, TB languages are overwhelmingly verb-final (SOV) in their clause-structure. The first TB group to arrive in what is now Myanmar (formerly called Burma) were probably the Karen. These were followed by the Pyu, and finally by the Burmans, who laid waste the Pyu capital of Sriksetra in the 8th century, ultimately causing the extinction of the Pyu as a people and the disappearance of the Pyu as the TB language family.

This statement of verb-final (SOV) structure supports the claim that Falam is also from the TB language family since it too is SOV. Among TB languages, the Kuki Chin language group is relatively cohesive, both geographically and linguistically, and has been intensively investigated by Shafer, who classifies it as part of Burmic. Benedict likewise links it to Burmese-Lolo¹². However, Bradley (1975:26) suggests that “the Kuki Chin language group may be more appropriate to include as part of the adjacent SAL¹³ or NORTH-EAST INDIA group by looking at their substantial lexical and morphosyntactic similarities. This SAL group has been linked geographically to Matisoff’s (2005:2, 26) Kamarupan¹⁴ group. Linguistically the Kuki-Chin languages are characterised by tones, and extensive verb morphology involving tonal alternations and intensive suffixing with some prefixes. The basic word order is SOV.”

¹² Lolo-Burmese is the TB branch spoken by 5 million speakers in Sichuan, Yunnan, and Guangxi in China.

¹³ This subgroup was named by Burling (1998) from the distinctive etymon for ‘sun’ Sal found in most such languages.

¹⁴ “Kamarupan” (from the Sanskrit word for Assam) is a geographical cover-term for the languages of NE India and W. Burma, the linguistic center of diversification of the TB family (Matisoff 2005:11).

Since the place of the Kuki-Chin language group among TB languages classified by Matisoff and Bradley have no big differences, only Matisoff's language classification will be displayed in Figure 3:

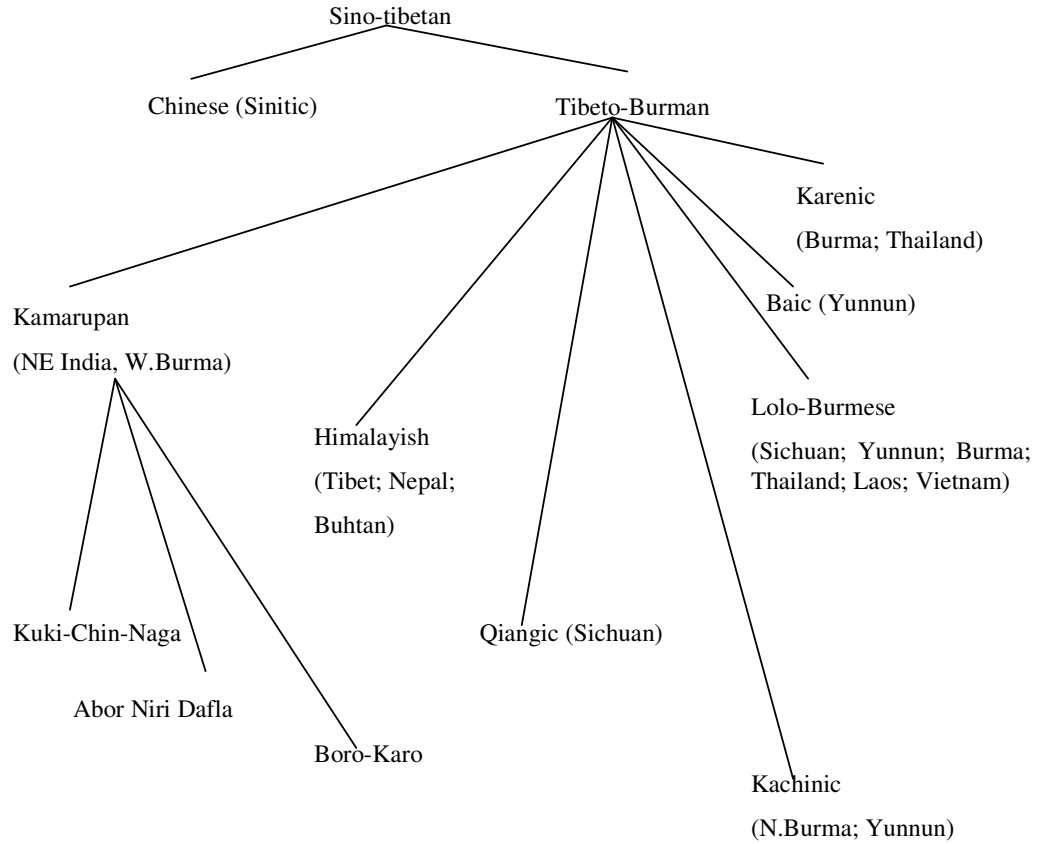


Figure 3. Sub-Groups of Tibeto-Burman (Matisoff, James A. 1991:481)

Within the Kuki-Chin-Naga group, Bradley (1975:4) classifies five main groups comprising Southern Naga, Old Kuki, Meitei, Chin and Other Chin groups. More specifically, he classifies the Chin language group into three groups, Northern Chin, Central Chin, and Southern Chin, giving a more detailed picture of the Chin languages at a lower level as in Figure 4:

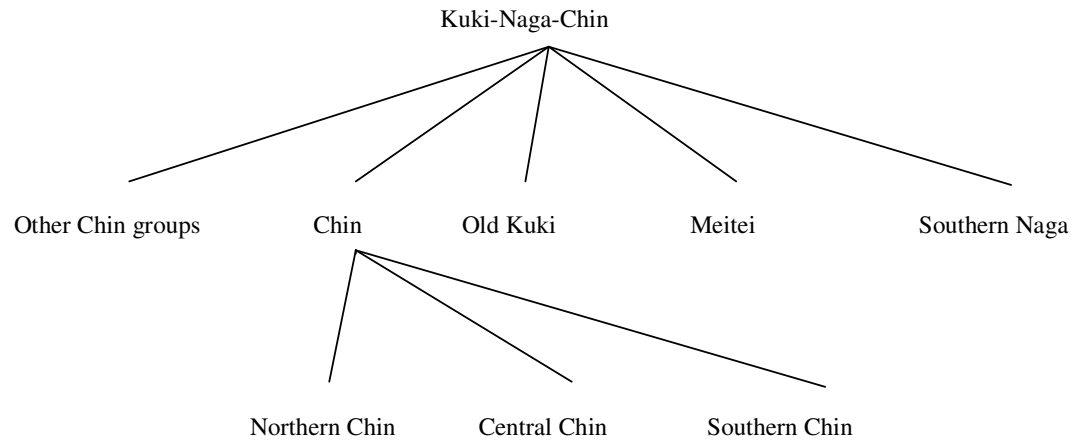


Figure 4. Main tree of Kuki-Chin- Naga including sub-groups of Chin (Bradley, David 1997:28).

Grimes (1996) also classified the Chin language group as: the Northern Chin group consisting of Ralte, Yos, Gangte, Siyin, Paite, Tedim, Thado, and Zome; the Central Chin group consisting of Haka, Baungshe, Thangthlang, Zokhua, Shonshe, Senthang, Tawr, Bawm, Lushai, Darlong, Aimol, Hmal, Mara, Purim, Falam, Zanniat, Tashon, Khualsim, Zahau, Lente, Ngawn, Beite, and Chiru; and the Southern Chin group consisting of Asho, Chinbon, Daai, Zotung, Mun, Khumi, Cho, and Mindat.

Again in Bradley's (1997) Chin language classification, Thado, Siyin, Paite, Vuite, Sukte, and Kamhau belong to Northern Chin group; Hualngo (Mizo), Falam, Laizo, Zahao, Taisun, Ngawn, Zaniat, Hakha, Zophei, Lawtu, Lailen, Senthang, and Tawr belong to Central Chin group; and Zolamnai, Welaung, Matu, M'kang, Ng'men, Nitu, Hngizung, Utpu, Chinbok, and Asho belong to Southern Chin group.

The reason for the different lists between Grimes and Bradley is not known. It might depend on the information they got from their language sources.

1.2.2 Proposed sub-classification of Falam

After looking at all Chin language classifications, this study turns to the internal classification of Falam. The languages that belong to the Falam group were mentioned already in Section 1.2. The classification of the language is based only on the author's own knowledge as a native speaker of Falam because no specific research for language classification has been done yet in the Falam area. In language classification, one important thing that needs to be taken into consideration is that tribes and languages are not always identical but generally languages differ according to tribes. This analysis assumes that the twelve tribal groups in the Falam area have their own dialects and proposes the following classification by looking upon their general differences and similarities as in Figure 5:

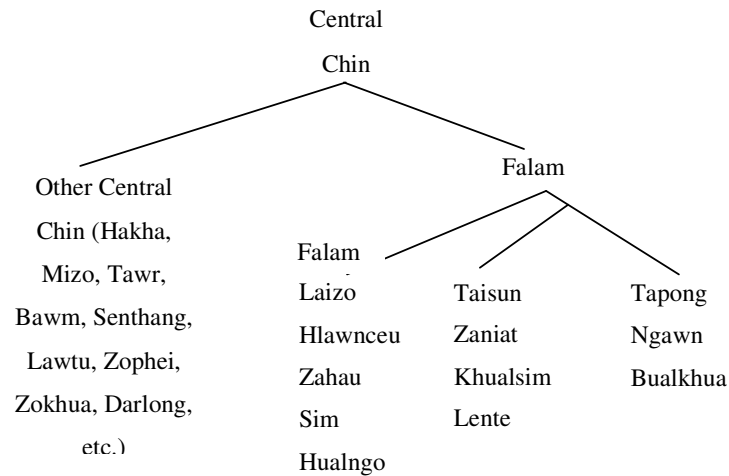


Figure 5. Proposed sub-classification of Falam

As seen in Figure 5, Laizo, Hlawnceu, Sim, Zahau and Hualngo are considered to be one group. Laizo, Hlawnceu, Sim, and Zahau are mutually intelligible. The intelligibility between Hualngo and the other four languages in this group might be low, but they still have a close relationship lexically and structurally. Among Hlawnceu tribes there are some villages which speak a different dialect closer to Hakha (Lai) one of the central Chin languages spoken in Hakha area. But most of the Hlawnceu speak a dialect similar to Laizo, Sim, and Zahau which can be

grouped together as one group. Since Laizo is the dialect chosen to be the common language of the people in the Falam area (nowadays known as the Falam language), this study could be called a description of Laizo dialect. This would be true if it were not for the fact that the language spoken in Falam town has been mixed with other dialects such as Sim, Zahau, and Hlawnceu, closely related to Laizo. Therefore this study is simply called a description of the Falam language.

This analysis proposes that Taisun, Zaniat, Khualsim, and Lente are closely related and classified into one group. Tapong, Bualkhua, and Ngawn are classified as another group. Bualkhua and Ngawn are mutually intelligible. U Kap Tial, in Falam Christian Centenary Magazine (2006:147), states that Bualkhua is one of the tribal groups of Ngawn. The intelligibility between Tapong and Ngawn or Bualkhua is not known clearly, yet this analyst believes that Tapong is appropriate to include in Ngawn and Bualkhua group.

1.3 Literature review

A partial study of some Chin languages has been done by linguists in the past few decades. But the Falam language has rarely been studied by linguists. A little information about linguistic study in Falam is found in *The linguistic tour to Chin Hills* written by G.H. Luce in 1954. In this linguistic tour, some dialects in Falam area were studied as Luce recorded on his short paper. The record says:

At Falam I met many old friends-Mr. Shiah Lwe, Mr. Lian Chin Thang, Mr. Sum Mang the school principal and Mr. Lal Bik the engineer. I shall always gratefully remember them as my first teachers of Chin in the days before the war. My old recordings, alas, were lost when the Japanese looted the University Library. So the work had to be done all over again. Dr. Stern, who is a keen anthropologist as well as linguist, spent a happy week at Lente, studying village conditions as well as the dialect, and made a fine collection of material culture. Dr. Henderson studied with Mr. Shiah Lwe the grammar of the Falam dialect of Taisun (Luce 1954:21)

As a result of their study, the only extant source we can rely on now is a short paper presented by Luce at an ordinary meeting of the Burma Research Society held on the 26 of July, 1956. In his paper, he includes a few general remarks about Chin languages and their relationship in terms of tones, finals, verbs, and

prefixes. Luce proposed four contrastive tones in Falam, such as mid falling, high level, high falling, and rising, but no further information on tone was available. No other helpful material on their studies is available because all data collected in Falam was lost as Luce (1956:22) mentioned in his paper:

When Dr. Stern rejoined us from Lente, we moved on north to Tiddim... We had to cut our luggage down to a minimum--a bedding roll apiece; and while we piled into one jeep, our luggage accompanied by two orderlies followed in another jeep. This led to a disaster which almost wrecked our whole project. Roads in these parts are one long series of hairpin bends. Rounding one of them, one of the bedding rolls must have fallen out without our orderlies noticing it. It was Dr. Henderson's and it contained all her materials laboriously recorded at Falam, which she intended to check at Tonzang...from that day to this nothing more was seen of Dr. Henderson's precious papers.

Some other helpful books on related languages to Falam used in this thesis are Mizo syntax (Lalnunthangi 1993), a descriptive analysis of two texts of Teddim Chin (Henderson 1965), and short papers of the related Chin languages. Besides these, there are some more helpful books, the four orthographical studies written by four different researchers, U Van Gyi (1993), Than Bil Luai (1993), Hre Kio (1999) and Sen Ro Sang (2004).

Among former researchers on Falam, there are no significant differences in their inventory of consonant phonemes but there are different findings of vowel phonemes. Not only the first researcher but also one who develop the Falam orthography, Dr. Cope proposed six different vowels, as mentioned by Bawihu (1998:201) in his thesis under the title of *The Source and Development of the Chin Writings*. The book notes, "the phonetics of the vowels" as shown in Table 1.

	Front	Central	Back
Close	i:		u:
Close-mid	e:		
Open-mid		ə:	ɔ:
Open		a:	

Table 1. Cope's phonetic vowels (Bawihu 1998:201)

This inventory records phonetic vowels but no source is found of phonemic inventory though Cope used six vowels a, e, i, o, u, and aw in his Falam orthography. Another researcher U Van Kyi (1993) listed that there are nine phonetic vowels in Falam. And he also used six vowels a, e, i, u, o, and aw in his Falam orthographical recommendation. Table 2 presents Van Kyi's phonetic vowel inventory:

	Front	Central	Back
Close		ʊ	u:
Close-mid	e:		
Open-mid	ɛ	ə ʌ	ɔ:
Open		a:	ɑ

Table 2. U Van Kyi's phonetic vowels (1993:3)

In terms of tone, Hre Kio (1993:103) mentions in his book of Falam Orthography that there are three contrastive tones in Falam. Than Bil Luai (1993:48) also mentions in his Falam Orthography studies, that there are 7-8 tones in Falam. But the two researchers did not do any further systematic studies on tone but only a hypothesis. A more systematic study on tone was done by U Van Kyi (1993:14) and he provides a brief description consisting of five contrastive tones: the high-level tone, high falling tone, low rising tone, low falling tone, and low-level stop tone. All of these native Falam researchers were mainly focused on

grammatical studies and word combination, not the phonological studies, yet they are helpful for this analysis.

The most helpful source for this study is a dissertation by Andrea Gail Osburne (1975) on *A transformational analysis of tone in the verb system of Zahao (Laizo) Chin*, one of the dialects spoken in the Falam area. The study presents many helpful insights into tone patterns, morphophonemic patterns, and the verb system. She demonstrated three distinctive tones in Zahao: low, high, and rising.

Theoretical studies in this analysis are applied from Burquest (2001), Hyman (1975; 1985), Chen (2000), Yip (2002), Mohanan (1986), Pike (1971;1977), Gudschinsky (1972), Smalley (1964), Philip A. Luelsdorff (1987), and many more. The authors focus on descriptive phonemics and generative phonology which will be applied for describing the morphophonemics and phonological processes.

1.4 Goal of the study

A Falam orthography which was developed by missionaries during the early part of the twentieth century is used extensively today, although it does not represent tone, an essential aspect of the language's phonology. In this traditional orthography, vowel length is indicated only when there is a homograph in a sentence which could make a reader confused. Certain characteristics of the orthography, such as how to represent an alveolar/dental distinction in stops, how to represent vowel length, and where to mark word boundaries are subject to ongoing debate. Introducing tone marks could be the next interesting issue for today and might be for the next generation. All these issues have made people, especially educated leaders, have a strong motivation for orthography review or reform. Therefore, the purpose of this thesis is to propose a phonological description, which will be helpful in reviewing the present orthographical issues.

1.5 Limitations of the study

This study is an initial description of the Falam sound system (phonology). It doesn't examine the relationship between the different varieties which mix

together to produce Falam. It does not attempt an explanation for the variations observed in verb forms.

1.6 Methodology

Most of the data used in this thesis consists of two parts: One is library-based data for theoretical studies and the other one is texts gathered from January through March 2006 in Falam. Five different texts and the SEA 436 wordlists were recorded on tape in Falam. A grammar questionnaire was also used for analysis. Several papers and magazines written in Falam were also collected. Since the author of this thesis is a native speaker of Falam, some data for the study is based on the author's own knowledge. The Falam Holy Bible is also one source of the data used in this thesis.

Wordlists recorded on the first data collection trip were transcribed and converted into a chart of consonants and vowels. A wordlist consisting of 436 words and a supplemental 58 item wordlist were used in this analysis. The texts recorded on tape were also transcribed and interlinearized in a notebook and later entered into a Word document and have been analyzed to be able to see the Falam sound patterns accurately. Syllable structure, segmental distribution, suprasegmental phenomena (tone, stress, and intonation) were analyzed. Praat¹⁵, a computerized program for phonetic analysis was used to identify the pitch contours of the tones. Insights were also gained from reading articles about other related Chin languages and from reviewing Yip's paper (2003) *Phonological markedness and allomorph selection in Zahao* and Osburne's (1975) *Transformational analysis of tone in verb system in Zahao*. Data collected during an additional data collection trip and was re-analyzed with the help of my advisors.

¹⁵ Praat program is developed by Paul Boersma and David Weenink <www.praat.org>.

CHAPTER 2

SEGMENTAL PHONOLOGY

2.0 Introduction

This section describes the segmental phonology of Falam. According to *A dictionary of Linguistics and Phonetics* (Crystal 2003:408), “Segmental phonology analyzes the speech into distinctive units, or phonemes, which have a fairly direct correspondence with phonetic segments.” This section is divided into two main sections: consonants and vowels, including their variations.

2.1 Consonants

The consonant phonemes of Falam are displayed in Table 3:

	Labial	Labio-dental	Dental	Alveolar	Palatal	Velar	Glottal
Voiceless stops	p		$\underset{.}{t}$	t		k	ʔ
Voiceless aspirated stops	p ^h		$\underset{.}{t}^h$	t ^h		k ^h	
Voiced stops	b		$\underset{.}{d}$				
Voiceless nasals	$\underset{.}{m}$			$\underset{.}{n}$		ŋ	
Voiced nasals	m			n		ŋ	
Voiceless fricatives		f		s			h
Voiceless affricate				ts			
Voiceless lateral affricate				tʃ			
Voiceless aspirated lateral affricate				tʃ ^h			
Voiceless flap				$\underset{.}{r}$			
Voiced flap				r			
Voiceless lateral approximant				$\underset{.}{l}$			
Voiced lateral approximant				l			
Glides	w				j		

Table 3. Consonant phonemes

This analysis proposes that there are eleven phonemic oral stops in Falam. The stops have five places of articulation, labial /p, p^h, b/, dental / $\underset{.}{t}$, $\underset{.}{t}^h$, $\underset{.}{d}$ /, alveolar /t,

t^h /, and velar /k, k^h/, and glottal /ʔ/ which will be described thoroughly in Section 3.3.2. All but /ʔ/ have contrasts between aspirated and unaspirated phonemes. A voiceless bilabial stop /p/ and a voiceless dental stop /t/ have voiced contrasts. But a voiceless alveolar /t/ and a voiceless velar /k/ have no contrastive voiced phonemes, /d/ and /g/, which are common in many languages. Unaspirated oral stops are unreleased [p̚, t̚, k̚] when they occur word finally. These unreleased stops are treated as allophones of the phonemes /p, t, k/ respectively as will be seen in Section 2.1.2.1.

A glottal stop /ʔ/ is analysed as a phoneme even though it is restricted to occurring as the final element of a word. In word final position the glottal stop has complete closure and full articulation and is significant. It frequently occurs and demonstrates a number of peculiarities that set it apart from the other consonantal segments. It has a high frequency of occurrence, a substantial number of lexical verb roots have an underlying final glottal stop and it contrasts with other phonemes and with zero (∅) as will be seen in Section 2.1.1.

As a phoneme, a glottal stop has some more restrictions. The realisation of the glottal stop almost always occurs with low tone, an

with long vowels but the glottal can occur only with low tone, sometimes with high tone, and does not allow long vowels), yet in a phonemic analysis it clearly demonstrates a contrastive function as will be shown in Section 2.1.1. On the other hand, there is no consonant deletion rule word-internally while a glottal stop can be deleted word-internally. There is an exceptional occurrence of the glottal stop with high tone. Syllables closed with glottal stop and glottalized syllables can have high tone when they appear in secondary verb stems. Also a conjunction morpheme in Falam is pronounced with high tone as /iʔ⁴⁴/. As mentioned above the glottal stop is very ambiguous and as such it is a good topic for further study.

There are six nasal phonemes in Falam. The nasal phonemes occur in three places of articulation, labial /m, m̥/, alveolar /n, n̥/, and velar /ŋ, ŋ̥/. They are contrastive in voicing. It is observed, however, that the nature of the phonetic realization of the voiceless nasals can be substantially similar with that of the aspirated stops.

There are voiceless fricatives in three places of articulation: labiodental /f/, alveolar /s/, and glottal /h/. There are also voiceless flap /ɾ/ that contrasts with voiced alveolar flap /r/.

There is one voiceless alveolar sibilant (grooved) affricate /ts/. In the case of this affricate, the phoneme /ts/ occurs as a unit even though these two phonemes /t/ and /s/ occur as separate phonemes in elsewhere. There is a voiceless alveolar lateral affricate that has an aspirated contrast /tʃ, tʃ^h/ (see also Section 3.3.1).

Falam has two glides: the palatal /j/ and the labial /w/ (an alternative term for such sounds is semivowel). The palatal /j/ involves an articulation similar to that for the vowel /i/, with the front of the tongue close to the palate; the labial /w/ is similar to /u/, with rounded lips and the back of the tongue raised toward the velum. The two glides are in free variation with voiced fricatives word initially

and they occur significantly in word final positions and they are considered as phonemic consonants /j, w/ in this analysis¹⁶. In addition, transcribing these two phonemes as consonants rather than the vowels /u/ and /i/ agrees with the phonemic realization of free variation between [v] and /w/, and between [z] and /j/ as will be seen in examples (2) and (3).

2.1.1 Consonant contrasts

Evidences for consonant phonemes are provided below:

/p/ : /p^h/

CIE #352 /puan ²¹ / ‘to be shallow’	#285 /p ^h uan ²¹ / ‘to float’
CIE #435 /piat ⁵² / ‘to eat (by animal)’	#291 /p ^h iat ⁵² / ‘to rub’
CNE #139 /pum ²¹ / ‘to be round’	#300 /p ^h un ⁴⁴ / ‘to plant’

/p/ : /b/

CIE #50 /paa ⁴⁴ / ‘mushroom’	#436 /baa ⁴⁴ / ‘ground potato’
CIE #230 /puar ²³ / ‘to be full’	#437 /buar ²³ / ‘to break the law’
CNE #314 /pɛɛl ⁴⁴ / ‘to hunt’	#205 /bɛɛl ²³ / ‘cooking pot’

/t/ : /t^h/

CIE #438 /taŋ ²³ / ‘to resist’	#439 /t ^h aŋ ²³ / ‘to grow’
CIE #439 /tum ⁴⁴ / ‘to get down’	#440 /t ^h um ⁴⁴ / ‘to be lower’
CNE #465 /taaŋ ²³ / ‘chest’	#476 /t ^h aŋ ²¹ / ‘to wake up’

¹⁶ For example: /aw/ is transcribed as VC and will not be considered as a diphthong /ao/, which would be considered VV, though there are also diphthongs in Falam.

/t/ : /tʰ/

CIE #23 /tʰii⁴⁴/ ‘water’

#164 /tʰii⁴⁴/ ‘blood’

CIE #369 /tar²³/ ‘to be old’

#368 /tʰar²³/ ‘to be new’

CIE #441 /tɔŋ²¹/ ‘to confront’

#441 /tʰɔŋ²¹/ ‘to punch’

/tʰ/ : /tʰ/

CIE #200 /tʰii²³/ ‘to sew’

#269 /tʰii²³/ ‘to die’

CIE #201 /tʰim²³/ ‘needle’

#370 /tʰim²³/ ‘to be dark’

/t/ : /t/

CIE #444 /tum⁴⁴/ ‘to play music’

#439 /tum⁴⁴/ ‘to get down’

CIE #271 /taw²³/ ‘to sit’

#445 /taw²³/ ‘seedling’

CNE #196 /taŋ²¹/ ‘to measure’

#226 /tap²¹/ ‘to cry’

/d/ : /t/

CIE # 479 /daw²³/ ‘to fight’

#271 /taw²³/ ‘to sit’

CIE #449 /dɔk²¹/ ‘to leak’

#450 /tɔk²¹/ ‘to point’

/k/ : /kʰ/

CIE #447 /kaw²³/ ‘to call’

#446 /kʰaw²³/ ‘bowl’

CIE #448 /kuŋ²¹/ ‘to be green (fruits)’

#236 /kʰuŋ²¹/ ‘to cough’

CIE #396 /kɔŋ²¹/ ‘to be bald’

#294 /kʰɔŋ²¹/ ‘to bathe’

/p/, /t/, /k/ : /ŋ/

CIE #250 /sak²¹/ ‘to build’

#449 /saŋ²¹/ ‘to be thick’

CIE #197 /but²¹/ ‘to dye (cloth)’

#79 /buŋ²¹/ ‘cooked rice’

CIE #494 /kʰup²¹/ ‘to put upside down’

#236 /kʰuŋ²¹/ ‘to cough’

/ø/ : /ʎ/

CIE #250 /kua²¹/ ‘hold’

#449 /kuaʔ²¹/ ‘to hug’

CNE #48 /rua²³/ ‘bamboo’

#7 /ruaʔ²¹/ ‘rain’

CNE #129 /ṇaa²³/ ‘ear’

#43 /ṇaʔ²¹/ ‘leaf’

/m/ : /ṁ/

CIE #46 /muu⁵²/ ‘seed’

#224 /ṁuu⁵²/ ‘to see’

CNE #90 /mej⁴⁴/ ‘tail’

#178 /nu²¹.ṁej²¹/ ‘widow’

CNE #337 /ma⁴⁴/ ‘to be few’

#409 /ṁin²³/ ‘to be ripe’

/n/ : /ṇ/

CIE #450 /naa²³/ ‘to be sick’

#129 /ṇaa²³/ ‘ear’

CNE #451 /naal⁴⁴/ ‘to be slippery’

#127 /ṇaar²¹/ ‘nose’

/ŋ/ : /ṅ/

CIE #156 /ŋal²³/ ‘shin’

#518 /ṅal²³/ ‘to be stubborn’

CNE #101 /ŋaa⁵²/ ‘fish’

#257 /ṅaak⁵²/ ‘to wait’

CNE #222 /ŋaaj²³/ ‘to hear’

#419 /ṅaaj⁴⁴/ ‘plural marker’

/n/ : /ṅ/

CIE #180 /naaw²³/ ‘brother’

#77 /ṅaaw²³/ ‘gibbon’

CNE #221 /naam⁴⁴/ ‘knife’

#222 /ṅaaj²³/ ‘to hear’

CNE #88 /naa⁴⁴/ ‘buffalo’

#101 /ṅaa⁵²/ ‘fish’

/ṇ/ : /ṅ/

CIE #160 /ṅaak⁵²/ ‘rib’

#257 /ṅaak⁵²/ ‘to wait’

CNE #43 /ṇaʔ²¹/ ‘leaf’

#453 /ṅat²¹.san⁵²/ ‘to trust’

CNE #413 /ṇiit⁵²/ ‘water leech’

#262 /ṅɔɔk⁴⁴/ ‘to snore’

/f/ : /w/

CIE #454 /faar²³/ ‘torch’

#363 /waar²³/ ‘white’

CIE #274 /fɛŋ²¹/ ‘to walk’

#455 /wɛŋ²¹/ ‘to visit patient’

/s/ : /j/

CIE # 343 /saar²³/ ‘to be tall, high’

#138 /jaar²³/ ‘back’

CNE #306 /suar⁴⁴/ ‘to cook’

#456 /juar²³/ ‘to fly’

/s/ : /h/

CIE # 343 /saa²³/ ‘to be hot’

#133 /haa²³/ ‘tooth’

CIE #250 /sak²¹/ ‘to build’

#456 /hak²¹/ ‘to be hard’

/ts/ : /s/

CIE #46 /tsii⁵²/ ‘seed’

457 /sii⁵²/ ‘to be’

CIE #458 /tsaw²³/ ‘to receive’

307 /saw²³/ ‘to boil’

CNE #71 /tsii²¹/ ‘salt’

#265 /sii²³/ ‘medicine’

/tɬ/ : /tɬ^h/

CIE #283 /tɬaa⁵²/ ‘to fall’

#460 /tɬ^haa⁵²/ ‘cause to fall’

CNE #459 /tɬaaj⁴⁴/ ‘to be late’

#95 /tɬ^haa²¹/ ‘wing’

CNE #35 /tɬaar²³/ ‘mountain’

#22 /tɬ^haŋ²¹ .lam⁴⁴/ ‘south’

/tɬ^h/ : /ɭ/

CIE #374 /tɬ^hum²³/ ‘to be sweet’

#479 /ɭum²³/ ‘to be warm’

CNE #481 /tɬ^haa⁵²/ ‘caused to fall’

#358 /ɭaa⁴⁴/ ‘to be far’

/tɬ/ : /ts/

CIE #478 /tɬuŋ⁴⁴/ ‘go towards home’ #463 /tsuŋ⁴⁴/ ‘to pick (over, upon)’

CIE #520 /tɬaan⁴⁴/ ‘to flee’ #521 /tsaan⁴⁴/ ‘to be lost (portion)’

CIE #480 /tɬɔ:ŋ²³/ ‘to travel, to visit’ #464 /tsɔ:ŋ²³/ ‘to imitate’

/tɬ/ : /t/

CIE #35 /tɬaan²³/ ‘mountain’ #465 /taan²³/ ‘chest’

CNE #371 /tɬɛw²³/ ‘to be bright’ #289 /tɛm²³/ ‘to tie’

CNE #27 /tɬak²¹/ ‘mud’ #476 /tap²¹/ ‘to cry’

/l/ : /l̥/

CIE #468 /law²¹/ ‘negation marker’ #472 /l̥aw²¹/ ‘to be lost’

CNE #475 /liam⁴⁴/ ‘to overflow’ #264 /l̥iam²¹/ ‘to hurt’

/ɾ/ : /ɾ̥/

CIE #321 /ruu⁵²/ ‘to steal’ #473 /ɾuu⁵²/ ‘to wear’

CIE #380 /raw²³/ ‘to be dry’ #470 /ɾaw²³/ ‘to scold’

CNE #144 /ril²³/ ‘intestines’ #111 /ɾil²³/ ‘to choose’

/l/ : /ɾ/

CIE #131 /ləj²³/ ‘tongue’ #477 /ɾɛj²³/ ‘to be last long’

CIE #242 /liak⁵²/ ‘to lick’ #471 /ɾiak⁵²/ ‘to sleep at night’

/l̥/ : /ɾ̥/

CIE #467 /luum⁴⁴/ ‘to be round’ #474 /ɾuum⁴⁴/ ‘to be roar’

CIE #41 /liŋ²³/ ‘thorn’ #365 /ɾiŋ²³/ ‘to be green’

CNE #264 /liam²¹/ ‘to be far’ #384 /ɾiam²³/ ‘to be sharp’

ø: /j/

CIE #130 /kaa²³/ ‘mouth’

#469 /kaaj²³/ ‘to climb up’

CIE #133 /haa²³/ ‘tooth’

#59 /haaj²³/ ‘mango’

CNE #423 /laa⁵²/ ‘to take’

#140 /laaj²³/ ‘navel’

ø: /w/

CIE #466 /naa²³/ ‘to be sick’

#180 /naaw²³/ ‘brother, sister’

CNE #382 /saa²³/ ‘to be hot’

#341 /saaw⁴⁴/ ‘to be long’

CNE #152 /kɛɛ²¹/ ‘leg’

#83 /kɛɛw⁵²/ ‘to bite’

2.1.2 Variation of Consonants

There are two types of consonant variation in Falam, namely, allophonic variation¹⁷ and free variation¹⁸.

2.1.2.1 Allophonic variation

Unaspirated stops /p, t, k/ and the unreleased [p̚, t̚, k̚] are in complementary distribution. The unaspirated stops always occur word initially and the unreleased stops always occur word finally. These phones are phonetically similar, and they are called variants or allophones of the same phoneme as in (1):

(1) **Allophonic rule:** /p, t, k/ → [p̚, t̚, k̚]/ __#

/puan/ ‘to shallow’ [tsuap̚] ‘lung’

/kɛɛw/ ‘to bite’ [kɔ̚k̚] ‘to scold’

/tum/ ‘to get down’ [k̚at̚] ‘to be full’

¹⁷ The variation in sound is conditioned by the environment in which the sound occurs.

¹⁸ Phones are not affected by the environment but there is a free choice between one phone and the other.

2.1.2.2 Free variation

There is a phonetic difference between [v] and [w] in word initial positions but these two segments can be substituted for each other without changing the meaning of the word. All syllables beginning with [v] can be pronounced as [w] in connected speech or rapid speech. This condition can be found at the word level, phrase level, and clause level. [z] and [j] also follow the same pattern of [v] and [w]. Therefore, this analysis proposes that [v] and [w] as well as the [z] and [j] are in free variation in Falam. In this variation, /w/ and /j/ have wider distributions, they occur significantly word finally while they are in free variation with [v] and [z] word initially. Therefore, /w/ and /j/ are chosen to be the underlying form to keep the phoneme chart simpler. Examples of free variation are provided in examples (2) and (3):

(2) **Free variation rule** : /w/ ~ [v]/#____

/wək²¹ saa⁵²/ ~ [vək²¹ saa⁵²] ‘pig meat’

wək²¹ saa⁵² na²¹ ɖuɾ⁴⁴ moɔ²¹

pig meat 2S want Qp.

do you want pork?

(3) **Free variation rule** : /j/ ~ [z]/#____

/juan²³/ ~ [zuan²³] ‘to fly’

waa²¹ tɛɛ⁴⁴ pɔɔl²¹ an⁴⁴ juan²³ rɛɛ²¹ raw²¹

bird Pl. 3P fly continuously

Birds are flying.

2.2 Vowels

This analysis proposes that Falam has five single vowel phonemes. The vowel phonemes in Falam are shown in Table 4.

	Front	Central	Back
Close	i		u
Open-mid	ɛ		ɔ
Open		a	

Table 4. Vowel phonemes

There are two front vowels: the close front unrounded vowel /i/ and an open mid front unrounded vowel /ɛ/. The two back vowels are the close back rounded vowel /u/ and an open mid back unrounded vowel /ɔ/. Length is contrastive in Falam (see Section 3.3.4), but long vowels will be regarded as a sequence of two identical vowels (see Section 3.3.3).

There are also two diphthongs in Falam: the front diphthong /ia/ and the back diphthong /ua/. The front diphthong /ia/ is an opening diphthong starting from a close front vowel position to an open central vowel position. Examples of front diphthong are shown in (4):

- (4) /sia⁵²/ ‘to be bad’ /bian²³/ ‘cheek’
 /lian²¹/ ‘to be wealthy’ /jial⁴⁴/ ‘floor’

The back diphthong /ua/ is an opening diphthong starting from a close back rounded vowel position to an open central vowel position. Examples of back diphthongs are shown in (5).

- (5) /kua²¹/ ‘hole’ /rua²³/ ‘bamboo’
 /suaŋ⁴⁴/ ‘to cook’ /tsuaŋ⁵²/ ‘lung’

2.2.1 Vowel contrasts

Evidences for vowel contrasts are provided below.

/i/ : /ɛ/

CIE #482 /t̪il ⁴⁴ / ‘scrotum’	#483 /t̪el ⁴⁴ / ‘to participate’
CIE #484 /ir ²³ / ‘upper throat’	#485 /ɛr ²³ / ‘to make, to mold’
CIE #486 /kir ⁴⁴ / ‘to be curled’	#195 /kɛr ⁴⁴ / ‘clothes’
CNE #259 /tiʔ ²¹ / ‘to be afraid’	#274 /fɛʔ ²¹ / ‘to go’
CNE #487 /sin ⁵² / ‘to apply (blanket)’	#364 /sɛn ²³ / ‘to be red’

/a/ : /ɔ/

CIE #391 /tsak ²¹ / ‘to be strong’	#488 /tsɔk ²¹ / ‘to mingle, to mix’
CIE #377 /t̪ ^h ak ²¹ / ‘to be spicy’	#489 /t̪ ^h ɔk ²¹ / ‘to start’
CIE #196 /taʔ ²¹ / ‘to weave’	#490 /tɔʔ ²¹ / ‘key’

/u/ : /ɔ/

CIE #493 /tuŋ ²³ / ‘to (make) stand upright’	#492 /tɔŋ ²³ / ‘to meet’
CIE #494 /k ^h up ²¹ / ‘to put upside down’	#495 /k ^h ɔp ²¹ / ‘to be enough’
CIE #141 /luŋ ²³ / ‘heart’	#516 /lɔŋ ²³ / ‘to take over’

2.2.2 Allophonic variation of vowels

The high front vowel [e] always occurs before the glide /j/ but it appears as [ɛ] in all other environments as in (6). The two phones are in complementary distribution and are phonetically similar, and they are called variants or allophones of the same phoneme.

(6) **Allophonic rule:** /ɛ/ → [e] / ____ j

/p^hɛr²³/ ‘mat’ → [p^heʝ²³] ‘to go straight forwards’

/kɛɛw⁵²/ ‘to bite’ → [keʝ⁴⁴] ‘I’

/t̪^hɛʔ²¹/ ‘to sprinkle’ → [t̪^heʝ²¹] ‘to hear’

The central vowel /a/ is realized as [ə] when it is short and followed by /w/; therefore, the segment [ə] is analyzed as an allophone of the phoneme /a/ as in (7):

(7) **Allophonic rule:** /a/ → [ə] / ___ w

/laaw⁴⁴/ ‘to be wild’ → [ləw⁴⁴] ‘field, farm’

/t^haaw²³/ ‘to be fat’ → [səw²³] ‘to be boiled’

/kaaw²¹/ ‘to be wide’ → [kəw²³] ‘to call’

The occurrence of [ə] is very limited as in (7) and the phoneme /a/ appears in all other environments like [lan⁵²] ‘to overcome, to jump over’, [tap²¹] ‘to cry’, [haj²³] ‘to be wanted, to be needed’, and [tam⁴⁴] ‘to be many’. In both of these rules a vowel which is not a back vowel becomes raised slightly preceding a semivowel, which in Falam always high.

2.2.4 Nasalization

Nasalized vowels are not phonemic in Falam. Vowels are nasalized when they occur after and between nasal consonants as seen in (8):

(8) V → [+nasal]/ C_[+nasal] ____ C_[+nasal]

[nĩĩ²³] ‘sun’ [mĩĩ⁵²] ‘person’

[ŋãã⁵²] ‘fish’ [mãĩ⁵²] ‘to be free or to be ready’

[ŋũũĩ²³] ‘silver’ [mũũ⁵²] ‘seed’

[ŋĩĩĩ²³] ‘neck’ [nãĩ⁴⁴] ‘you (2s)’

The derivation rule for nasalization can be drawn as below:

Underlying Form: {vaan²¹} ‘sky’ {nii²³} ‘to laugh’

Nasalization Rule: vaan²¹ nĩĩ²³

Surface Form: [vaan²¹] [nĩĩ²³]

CHAPTER 3

SYLLABLE STRUCTURE

3.0 Introduction

This chapter demonstrates Falam syllable structure including internal constituents and the template. Also this chapter presents syllable and word structure, segmental distributions in a syllable, and processes conditioned by syllable structure.

3.1 Internal constituents and template

To present the internal structure of a syllable, Hyman (1975:188) asserts that “the syllable consists of three phonetic parts: (1) the onset, (2) the peak or nucleus, and (3) the coda”. Following this rule Falam monosyllabic words can be displayed as in Figure 6.

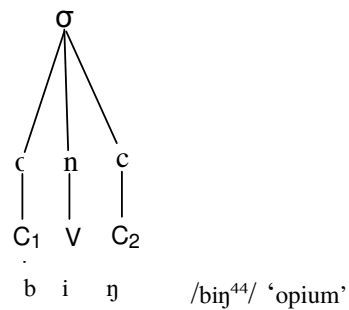


Figure 6. A syllable with coda

For phonological purposes, however, a further sub-grouping is relevant, namely (1) the onset, C₁, and (2) the core or rhyme, consisting the phonetic peak and coda combined, V₁C₂. Besides the CVC template, Burquest (2001:150) states that “every language has a CV syllable which is considered to be universal but since a number of languages do not have a CVC syllable type, the coda position must be a

subordinated syllable position. This, along with some other facts, has given rise to the notion of a syllable rhyme as an intermediate node in syllable structure”. In line with this structure the typical Falam monosyllabic word can be analyzed as in Figure 7.

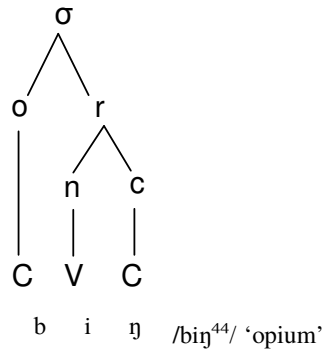


Figure 7. A syllable with rhyme

Based on the syllable structures discussed by the two linguists above, there are a total of nine syllable templates possible in Falam as displayed in Table 5.

Lexeme	Gloss	Syllable Type
/um ⁴⁴ /	‘to exist’	VCT
/uam ²³ /	‘to ferment’	VVCT
/aa ⁴⁴ /	‘to be mad’	VVT
/a ²¹ /	‘his/her,its’	VT
/ka ²¹ /	‘my’	CVT
/kua ²¹ /	‘hole’	CVVT
/kiaŋ ⁴⁴ /	‘to give way’	CVVCT
/kut ²¹ /	‘hand’	CVCT
/dɔlʔ ²¹ /	‘to swallow’	CVCCT

Table 5. Falam syllable templates

As seen in Table 5, Falam has an obligatory syllable type of V_1 , and an optional second vowel after an obligatory vowel $V_1(V_2)^{19}$, and can have up to one optional final consonant accompanied with an optional glottal stop $(C_1)V_1(V_2)(C_2)(C_3)$. The syllable pattern $V_1(V_2)$ can be either long vowel (analysed as two identical vowels) or diphthong as will be seen in Section 3.3.3. The T in Table 5 represents any tone that can occur in a syllable. There are four tones which will be discussed later in Section 4.1. Assuming a $(C_1)V_1(V_2)(C_2)(C_3)$ maximal template, the discussion of syllables will be divided into two types consisting of live syllables and dead syllables.

3.1.1 Live syllable

A live (or “smooth” according to Chen 2002) syllable is defined as any syllable ending with a vowel or a sonorant consonant /m, n, ŋ, l, r, w, j/. Live syllables ending with a vowel can have all four contrastive tones. Mostly, vowel finals in live syllables are usually long as provided in (9), except in connected speech when they often shorten.

(9) /kua ²¹ / ‘hole’	/tuu ²¹ / ‘sheep’
/ɲaa ⁴⁴ / ‘to be far’	/aa ⁴⁴ / ‘to be mad’
/raa ²³ / ‘to come’	/k ^h aa ⁵² / ‘to be bitter’

As an exception, the three syllables (possessive morphemes or subject agreement markers) /a/ ‘her, his, it (or s/he,it)’, /na/ ‘your (or you)’, and /ka/ ‘my (or I)’, which are always attached to following possessed nouns or verbs, have short vowels as already shown in Table 5.

¹⁹ Parentheses indicates an optional. In the syllable template $(C_1)V_1(V_2)(C_2)(C_3)$, C_1 can be any consonant except glottal stop, V_1 and V_2 can be any vowel, C_2 can be an unreleased stop or sonorant, and C_3 can only be a glottal stop which is very limitedly possible after a sonorant (w, j, l, and r).

Live syllables closed with sonorant finals²⁰ can also occur with any tone and can have either long or short nuclei as in (10):

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| (10) /baaŋ ²¹ / ‘to be tired’ | /kum ²¹ / ‘year’ |
| /tlaan ⁴⁴ / ‘to run’ | /law ⁴⁴ / ‘field’ |
| /taar ²³ / ‘to hang up’ | /haj ²³ / ‘to be needed’ |
| /kaan ⁵² / ‘to jump over’ | /rɔl ⁵² / ‘to live alone’ |

3.1.2 Dead syllable

A dead (or “checked” according to Chen 2002) syllable is any syllable closed with an oral stop, including a glottal stop. All of the four contrastive tones may occur with dead syllables but have different occurrence of their nuclei as in (11)-(15).

Dead syllables with low tone always have short nuclei as in (11):²¹

- (11) /tap²¹/ ‘to cry’
 /tsak²¹/ ‘to be strong’
 /t^hat²¹/ ‘to kill’

Like oral stops, a syllable closed by a glottal stop is also analyzed as a dead syllable. This is because the occurrence of the glottal stop in syllable final positions functions similar to oral stops with low tone that does not allow long nucleus. It can have a diphthong but not a long vowel as in (12):

- (12) /tsiaʔ²¹/ ‘to soak, to dip’
 /fɛʔ²¹/ ‘to go’
 /ɖɔlʔ²¹/ ‘to swallow’

²⁰ Among sonorant finals the two glides, /w/ and /j/ are analysed as consonants in this study (see Section 2.1).

²¹ Osburne (1975) found dead syllables with low tone and long nuclei in her Zahao study as in /vaak²¹/ ‘to crawl’, /ŋaak²¹/ ‘to wait’, /nɔk²¹/ ‘to burn, to set a fire’, but these do not occur in Falam.

Dead syllables with high tone always have long nuclei as in (13):

- (13) /ɗɔɔp⁴⁴/ ‘to jump down’
/bɛɛk⁴⁴/ ‘to be muddy’
/kaak⁴⁴/ ‘to separate’

Dead syllables with rising tone also have long nuclei as in (14):

- (14) /k^haat²³/ ‘to be rare, to be bare’
/ɗɔɔk²³/ ‘to drink, to suck’
/siip²³/ ‘to go back, to withdraw’

Dead syllables with falling tone also have long nuclei as in (15):

- (15) /kaap⁵²/ ‘to shoot’
/kɔɔk⁵²/ ‘to scold’
/suut⁵²/ ‘to ask’

Dead syllables with falling tone can have diphthongs as in (16):

- (16) /tsuap⁵²/ ‘lung’
/fiak⁵²/ ‘to be narrow’
/ruat⁵²/ ‘to think’

3.2 Syllable and word structure

In terms of the Falam word structure, it is observed that Falam permits more than one syllable, including disyllables, trisyllables, and quatrissyllables. There is, sometimes, an ambiguity in making syllable boundaries, because of the difficulty in identifying word breaks. Falam is primarily monosyllabic like other Chin languages so there is an almost perfect one-to-one correspondence between the syllable and the morpheme. However, not all words are totally monosyllabic. Sometimes there is a highly complex word structure based on grammatical and semantic considerations. For example, in translating the conjunction word ‘or’

like word in Falam that contains four syllables, i.e., /a²¹.si⁴⁴.law²¹.ləɛ⁵²/ which means ‘if it is not’. This can make people confused whether they are separate words or a word as each syllable has its own meaning. In this case, the meaning is more than a composite of the parts and thus it may be regarded as an independent word. This study demonstrates up to quatrissyllabic words though Falam may have more multi-syllabic words with affixation. The following are examples of word structures taken from the Mainland South East Asia 436 wordlists (MSEA 2002).

A. Monosyllabic word

Most of Falam words are monosyllabic (see also Figure 7) as in (17):

- (17) /kum²¹/ ‘year’
 /m̥ul⁴⁴/ ‘feather’
 /jiŋ²³/ ‘morning’
 /puuk⁵²/ ‘cave’

B. Disyllabic word

Disyllabic words are also found commonly as in Figure 8.

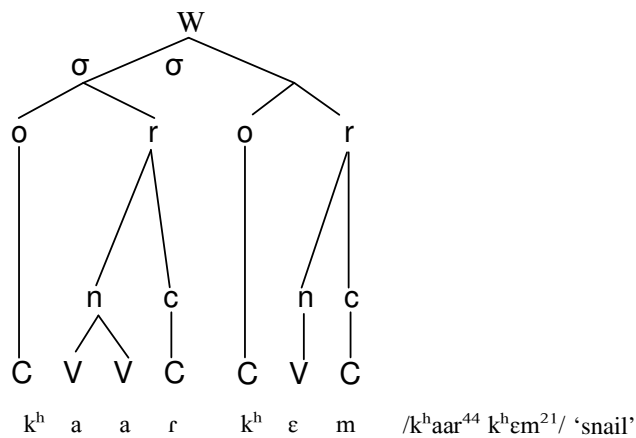


Figure 8. Disyllabic word pattern

More examples are provided in (18):

(18) /boʔ²¹.luŋ⁴⁴/ ‘how many’

/wut²¹.jaam²³/ ‘ashes’

/tuk²¹.wirʔ²¹/ ‘window’

C. Trisyllabic word

The trisyllabic word pattern is rarely found in normal words, but it is common to find trisyllables in names of people; /wan²¹.neɟ²¹.tʰaŋ²³/, for example. The Falam trisyllabic word pattern can be seen as in Figure 9:

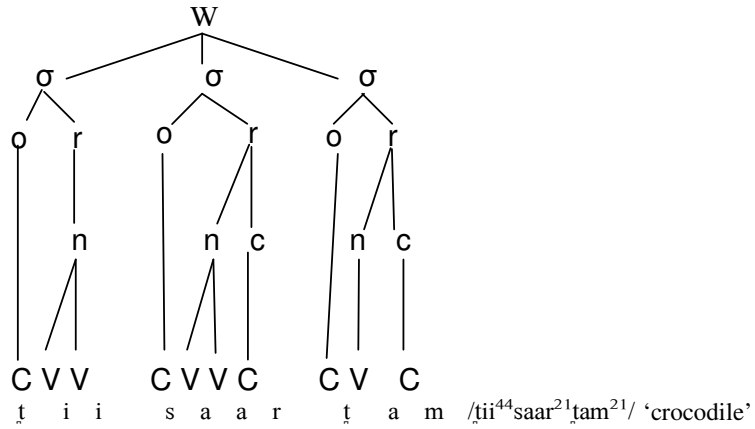


Figure 9. Trisyllabic word pattern

More examples are provided in (19):

(19) /ni⁴⁴.suaʔ²¹.lam⁴⁴/ ‘east’

/ni⁴⁴.tʰaak⁵².lam⁴⁴/ ‘west’

/tʰaŋ²³.kaaj²¹.kuaŋ²³/ ‘scorpion’

D. Quatrisyllabic word

Only a few quatrissyllabic words are found as in Figure 10:

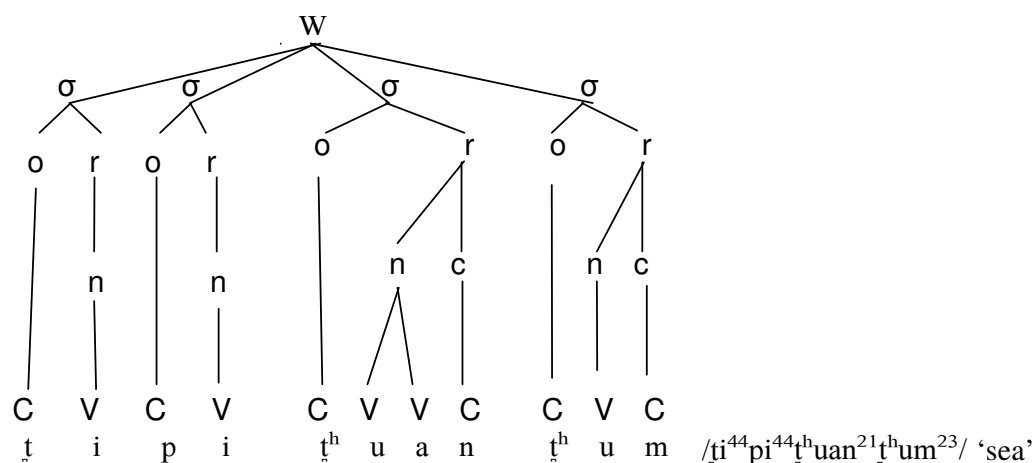


Figure 10. Quatrisyllabic word pattern

More examples are provided in (20):

- (20) /tsuu²¹.tsik⁴⁴.k^haar⁴⁴.bɔɔk²¹/ ‘insect’
 /in⁴⁴.juat⁵².sum²¹.nam⁴⁴/ ‘livestock’

3.3 Segmental distributions in syllable

According to the inventory of consonant and vowel phonemes proposed in Section 2.1 and 2.2 Falam has 29 consonants and 5 vowel phonemes. This section describes segmental distribution patterns of consonant-vowel sequences, ambiguous segments and sequences, vowel-vowel sequences, vowel length distributions, monophthong distribution, and diphthong distribution.

3.3.1 Ambiguous consonant determinations

The phonemes such as /ts/, /tʰ/, and /tʰ/ are interpreted as occupying a single consonant position. This single consonant interpretation is called for because the only unambiguous word-initial onsets in Falam are single consonants. There are no unambiguous clusters like /st/, /kr/, and /pl/ for which an interpretation as a cluster is justified. Therefore, they can best be analyzed as affricates because this keeps the syllable template simpler.

There are very limited consonant final clusters with the following phonemes: /l/, /r/, /w/ or /j/ followed by /ʔ/ as shown in (21):

- (21) /dɔlʔ²¹/ ‘to swallow’
 /tʰlirʔ²¹/ ‘to sprinkle’
 /jawʔ²¹/ ‘to look’
 /ajʔ²¹/ ‘to celebrate’

No other consonant clusters are permitted.

3.3.2 Consonant-vowel distributions

There is no heavy restriction on the co-occurrence of initial consonants with vowels. Almost all consonant phonemes can appear in a syllable initial position with monophthongs as well as with diphthongs except the glottal stop /ʔ/. All syllables which begin with vowels are realized to be preceded by glottal stops but this glottal insertion in word initial positions is not significant and is not treated as phonemic. In syllable final position the unreleased allophones [p̚, t̚, k̚] of stops /p, t, k/, voiced nasals /m, n, ŋ/, voiced lateral approximants /l, r/, glides /w, j/, and glottal stop /ʔ/ occur as displayed in Table 6.

	Labial	Alveolar	Velar	Palatal	Glottal
Glottal stop					ʔ
Voiced Nasals	m	n	ŋ		
Voiced Flap		r			
Voiced Lateral Approximant		l			
Glides	w			j	

Table 6. Final consonant phonemes

3.3.3 Vowel-vowel sequences

Falam vowel sequences are displayed in Table 7. Long vowels will be interpreted as a sequence of two identical vowels in this analysis because a single syllable structure template can accommodate both long vowels and diphthongs while keeping the phoneme inventory simple.

	i	ɛ	a	u	ɔ
i	+		+		
ɛ		+			
a			+		
u			+	+	
ɔ					+

Table 7. Vowel sequences

3.3.4 Vowel length distributions

In Falam, open syllables always have vowel length phonetically, but this is never contrastive, while vowel length is contrastive in closed syllables. Below is evidence for vowel length contrasts in Falam.

/i/ : /ii/

CIE #486 /kir⁴⁴/ ‘to be curled’

#278 /kiir⁴⁴/ ‘to return’

CNE #246 /sim²³/ ‘to tell’

#498 /siim⁴⁴/ ‘late at night, to invade’

CNE #487 /sin⁵²/ ‘to apply (blanket)’

#499 /siin²¹/ ‘to cover’

/ɛ/ : /ɛɛ/

CIE #500 /sem²¹/ ‘to distribute’

#240 /seem²¹/ ‘to blow’

CNE #502 /beɭ⁴⁴/ ‘a piece of’

#205 /beɭ²³/ ‘cooking pot’

CNE #501 /dɛŋ⁵²/ ‘at the bottom of’

#282 /dɛŋ²³/ ‘to throw’

/a/ : /aa/

CIE #372 /baŋ²¹/ ‘to be the same’

#393 /baaŋ²¹/ ‘to be tired’

CIE #505 /jaŋ⁴⁴/ ‘penis’

#504 /jaaŋ⁴⁴/ ‘to run’

CIE #369 /taɾ²³/ ‘to be old’

#503 /taaɾ²³/ ‘to hang’

/u/ : /uu/

CIE #298 /sun²¹/ ‘to stab’

#13 /suun²¹/ ‘noon, day’

CIE #510 /suŋ⁴⁴/ ‘to fail’

#511 /suuŋ⁴⁴/ ‘to pour’

CIE #522 /fuŋ⁴⁴/ ‘stick’

#390 /fuuŋ⁴⁴/ ‘to be slow’

/ɔ/ : /ɔɔ/

CNE #513 /dɔk²¹/ ‘to run, to leak’

#241 /dɔɔk²³/ ‘to suck, to drink’

CNE #492 /tɔŋ²³/ ‘to meet’

#441 /tɔɔŋ²¹/ ‘to confront’

CNE #514 /sɔm⁵²/ ‘to hold up’

#496 /sɔɔm²³/ ‘to invite’

3.3.5 Vowel length constraint

This section discusses vowel length constraint in a syllable. As stated already in Section 3.3.4, Falam has length contrasts in closed syllables, but there is a constraint against long vowels closed with a glottal stop. Long vowels or two identical vowels cannot occur in a glottal final syllables (see also Section 3.3.1) as in (22):

(22) /duʔ/²¹ ‘to want, to love’

/ruʔ²¹/ ‘bone’

/kulʔ²¹/ ‘to surround, to fence’

But diphthongs can occur with a glottal stop final as in (23):

(23) /kuaʔ²¹/ ‘to hug’

/tsiaʔ²¹/ ‘to soak’

/ruaʔ²¹/ ‘rain’

Also vowel length is affected by consonant alternation and verb stem alternation as will be seen in Section 5.5.2.1. A syllable that has a long vowel becomes short when the syllable final is glottalized in secondary stem as in Section 5.2.1.3 or when an oral stop final is alternated to the glottal stop as in Section 5.2.1.2. However, verb stems that have a diphthong with the glottal final can survive without changing their vowel qualities in secondary stems.

3.3.6 Monophthong distributions

Monophthongs can occur word initially, word medially, and word finally.

3.3.7 Diphthong distributions

This analysis proposes that Falam has two diphthongs, /ia/ and /ua/. They can occur word initially, word medially, and word finally like monophthongs. In live syllables, both open and closed, diphthongs occur with the four contrastive tones as in (24).

(24)

/jia ²¹ / ‘habit’	/tuan ²¹ / ‘to be early’
/hua ⁴⁴ / ‘to hate’	/liam ⁴⁴ / ‘to overflow’
/rua ²³ / ‘bamboo’	/biar ²³ / ‘loincloth’
/sia ⁵² / ‘to be bad’	/jiaŋ ⁵² / ‘what’

Diphthong distribution in dead syllables permits only falling tones as shown in (25).

(25)

/ruak ⁵² / ‘corpse’	/riak ⁵² / ‘to stay overnight’
/tsuap ⁵² / ‘lung’	/tsiap ⁵² / ‘to be wet’
/kuat ⁵² / ‘to send’	/siat ⁵² / ‘to destroy, to be ruined’

CHAPTER 4

SUPRASEGMENTAL PHONOLOGY

4.0 Introduction

This chapter describes the suprasegmental phonology. This description has three main parts: tone, stress, and intonation. Section 4.1 describes an auditory analysis of tone, Section 4.2 describes stress, and Section 4.3 describes intonation.

4.1 Tone

To define tone, Pike (1949:3) defines “a tonal language as a language having lexically significant, contrastive, but relative pitch on each syllable”. Burquest (1993:186) also asserts that “languages which make use of differences in pitch to differentiate lexical items are commonly referred to as tone languages.”

Based on the two proposals above, Falam is a tonal language that has contrastive lexical items. Tones associated with syllables spoken in isolation that preserve the most contrasts are considered the underlying tone in Falam following a typical order presented by Chen (2000:49). This analysis proposes that Falam has four contrastive tones, two level tones (low and high) and two contour tones (rising and falling). The four contrastive tones are shown in **Error! Reference source not found.** and Figure 11. Praat, a computerized program for phonetic analysis was used to identify the pitch contours²² of the tones. The frequency of a sound is measured in hertz (Hz) based upon the number of complete cycles of vibration of the vocal cords.

²² Data for this contour analysis comes from a single speaker, and was sorted according to the author’s native speaker intuition.

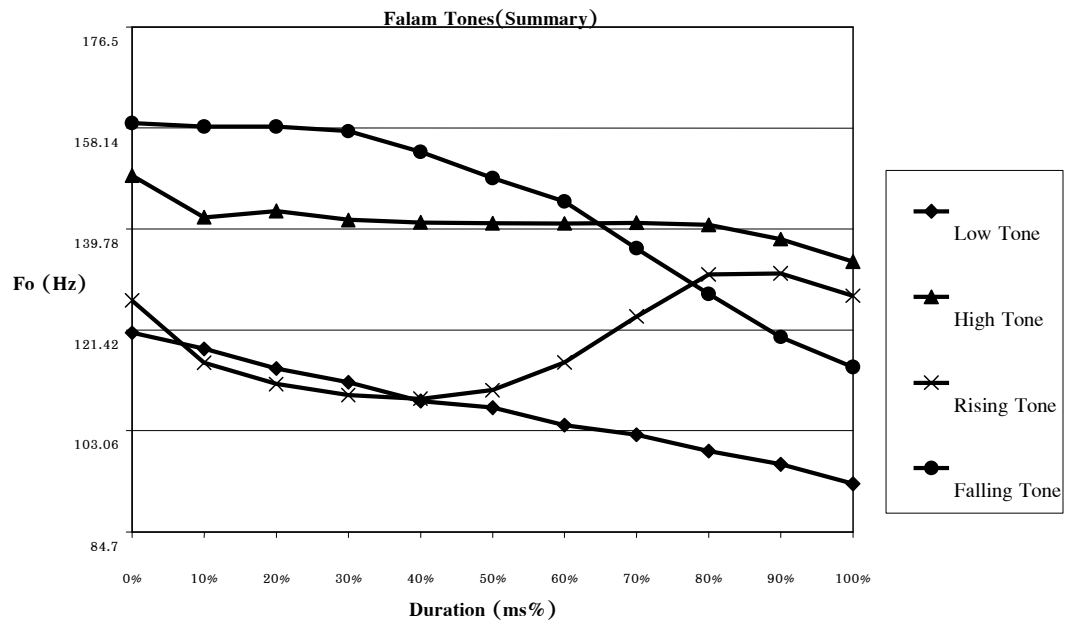


Figure 11. Falam tone contours





Tone 1	Low		[21]
Tone 2	High		[44]
Tone 3	Rising		[323/23]
Tone 4	Falling		[52/42]

Figure 11. Tone summary of Falam

The four contrastive tones will be described as follows:

The symbol 21 represents low tone as in /kum²¹/ ‘year’. Phonetically the low tone starts at low pitch level 2, and falls slightly to level 1 at the end point. Since the duration of the 2 is extends to 70 % this analysis will specify 21 to represent low. This tone can occur in both open and closed syllables.

The tone symbol 44 represents high tone as in /jaaŋ⁴⁴/ ‘light (weight)’. Phonetically the high tone starts at pitch level 4 and slightly falls down to level 3 at its end point. Since the high tone has a quality of high pitch that is almost level, that is 90%, this will be analyzed as 44 phonemically. This tone can occur in both open and closed syllables.

The symbol 23 represents rising tone as in /jiin²³/ ‘morning’. Phonetically it starts from the pitch level 3 and falls to low level 2 and then rises up to the mid level 3, which can be transcribed phonetically as 323. Since the range between the 3 falling to 2 is not wide, [323] will be simplified to 23 to represent rising tone in this analysis. This tone occurs in open and closed syllables.

The symbol 52 represents falling tone as in /k^haa⁵²/ ‘bitter’. This tone falls from the high pitch level 5 to low level 2. This tone can occur in both open and closed syllables. In analyzing falling tone as an underlying tone in Falam, Yip’s footnote (2003:11) on Zahao dialect also included that Falam has a HL (falling) as noted below:

The absence of surface HL in this language is mysterious, especially since the related Falam dialect has HL. Cross-linguistically, HL is more common than LH, yet Zahao has only LH. I must assume undominated HL, but the reasons are unclear. It is possible that Osburne failed to notice the HL, but she carefully notes that H is falling pre-pausally or under emphasis, and yet reports no H/HL contrast.

As seen in Yip’s footnote, this analysis also finds that Falam has a falling tone with sufficient contrast to be a phonemic tone as will be demonstrated in Section 4.1.1. Luce (1954) identifies a high falling tone in his tone studies in Falam even though no further information is available.

Examples from tone descriptions demonstrate that the four lexical tonemes are not restricted to specific syllable types, nor to initial consonant types.

Table 8 below compares the inventory of Falam tone between Luce, Osburne, Van Kyi, and this analysis.

Number	Luce (1956:28)	Osburne (1975:7)	Van Kyi (2003:14)	Kharthuan (2007)
1	Mid falling	Low	Low level stop	Low
2	High	High	High level	High
3	Rising	Rising	Low rising	Rising
4	High falling	-	High falling	Falling
5	-	-	Low falling	-

Table 8. Falam tonal comparison with Luce, Osburne, and Van Kyi

4.1.1 Contrasts

A set of minimal pairs that demonstrates all four tone contrasts in Falam is rarely found. Mostly, each set of tones, and sometimes three tones, can be established with the following minimal pairs.

L /21/

/um²¹/ ‘to take care (child/sick person)’

/law²¹/ ‘negation marker’

H /44/

/um⁴⁴/ ‘to exist’

/law⁴⁴/ ‘farm’

H /44/

/leɟ⁴⁴/ ‘to buy’

/jaan⁴⁴/ ‘light (weigh)’

/naa⁴⁴/ ‘buffalo’

LH /23/

/leɟ²³/ ‘tongue’

/jaan²³/ ‘back’

/naa²³/ ‘to be sick’

L /21/

/baan²¹/ ‘to be tired’

/t^haaw²¹/ ‘fat’

/naa²¹/ ‘work’

LH /23/

/baan²³/ ‘to stop’

/t^haaw²³/ ‘to be fat’

/naa²³/ ‘ear’

LH /23/

/ṇii²³/ ‘to laugh’

/ḍiṇ²³/ ‘to stand’

/sia²³/ ‘mython’

HL /52/

/ṇii⁵²/ ‘loincloth’

/ḍiṇ⁵²/ ‘to be straight’

/sia⁵²/ ‘to be bad’

L /21/

/ṭii²¹/ ‘to say’

/ruun²¹/ ‘to save’

H /44/

/ṭii⁴⁴/ ‘water’

/ruun⁴⁴/ ‘group’

LH /23/

/ṭii²³/ ‘egg’

/ruun²³/ ‘house’

H /44/

/in⁴⁴/ ‘house’

/baw⁴⁴/ ‘to swell’

LH /23/

/in²³/ ‘to drink’

/baw²³/ ‘to exist’

HL /52/

/in⁵²/ ‘ergative marker’

/baw⁵²/ ‘to bark’

L /21/

/paa²¹/ ‘male’

/jaa²¹/ ‘a hundred’

H /44/

/paa⁴⁴/ ‘mushroom’

/jaa⁴⁴/ ‘to be ticklish’

LH /23/

/paa²³/ ‘adverbial
particle’

/jaa²³/ ‘palm’

HL /52/

/paa⁵²/ ‘father’

/jaa⁵²tuum²³/
‘wild goat’

4.1.3 Tone sandhi

According to Burquest (1993:195), “Tone sandhi²² is a morphophonemic alternation among the tone phonemes of a language.” Chen (2000:49) also notes that sandhi occurs because “tones associated with syllables in connected speech tend to merge.” Falam also has a tonemic alternation that requires sandhi rules. This section presents tone sandhi that occurs in rising tone and falling tones. The

²² This term came from Sanskrit (after the usage of the ancient Indian grammarians) *san* ‘together’+ *dhi* ‘put’ (L.Roger 1984:70).

sandhi form of tone will be marked with bold. Level tones (low and high) undergo no sandhi rule, but undergo tone alternations described in Section 5.2.2.

There is a tone sandhi rule which affects rising tone syllables ending with vowels (open syllables). The tone of such syllables is high and the vowel also becomes short in connected speech regardless of the tone of preceding or following syllables as in (26). Rising tone syllables retain their underlying tone in isolation or in sentence final position.

Rule: LH → H / _ T

(26) /t̪ʰii²³/ ‘to die’

a²¹ t̪ʰii²³

1Sg. die

He died.

an⁴⁴ t̪ʰii²³

1Pl. die

They died.

a²¹ t̪ʰi⁴⁴ mɛɛn²³

1Sg. die merely

He merely died.

an⁴⁴ t̪ʰi⁴⁴ mɛɛn²³

1Pl. die merely

They merely died.

a²¹ t̪ʰi⁴⁴ diŋ⁵²

1Sg. die will

He will die.

an⁴⁴ t̪ʰi⁴⁴ diŋ⁵²

1Pl. die will

They will die.

a²¹ t̪ʰi⁴⁴ jaw⁴⁴

1Sg. die Past.

He died already.

an⁴⁴ t̪ʰi⁴⁴ jaw⁴⁴

1Pl. die Past.

They died already.

a²¹ t̪ʰi⁴⁴ law²¹

1Sg. die Neg.

He is not dead.

an⁴⁴ t̪ʰi⁴⁴ law²¹

1Pl. die Neg.

They are not dead.

Rising tone sandhi rule with closed syllables requires the following environments. A rising tone becomes low when it occurs before falling tone or high tone (27):

(27) LH → L/___H (L)

/ɾɔɔl²³/ ‘food’

 $\text{rool}^{21} \quad \text{riŋ}^{44} \quad \text{kan}^{44} \quad \text{ej}^{23}$

food green we eat

We eat green food.

$$\mathbf{r}^{21} \mathbf{s}^{52} \mathbf{k}^{21} \mathbf{e}^{23}$$

food bad I eat

I eat the poor food.

But rising tone with closed syllable stays the same when it occurs before low tone as in (28):

(28) /rɔɔl²³/ ‘food’

$$\mathbf{r}^{23} \mathbf{t}^{21} \mathbf{k}^{21} \mathbf{e}^{23}$$

food good I eat

I eat the good food.

When two syllables of rising tone come together in connected speech, two rules are required; (a) the first to change a rising tone directly following another rising tone into a high tone as in (29) and (b) the second to convert a rising tone into a low tone when it precedes a high tone as in (30). This sandhi pattern is similar to the rule presented in example (27). In this rising tone sandhi, rule (a) must apply before rule (b) and the rules must be applied left to right, especially when three or more syllables are affected, as in (31), (32), and (33).

(29) LH → H/LH__

/fuu²³ tsaan²³/ → [fuu⁴⁴ tsaan²³]

sugar cane segment ‘segment of sugar cane’

(30) LH → L/__ H

/wuuj²³ raan²³/ → [vuuj²¹ raan⁴⁴]

elephant white ‘white elephant’

A reduplicated²³ adjective also undergoes the same pattern in connected speech as in (31):

(31) LH LH → L H

/mɔɔj²³ mɔɔj²³/ → [mɔɔj²¹.mɔɔj⁴⁴]

beautiful beautiful ‘beautiful ones (reduplication)’

/saan²³ saan²³/ → [saan²¹ saan⁴⁴]

high high ‘high ones (reduplication)’

When three syllables of rising tone come together in a phrase, the first two syllables undergo the L H pattern and the third syllable remains unchanged as in (32):

(32) LH LH LH → L H LH

/wuuj²³ raan²³ fiim²³/ → [vuuj²¹.raan⁴⁴.fiim²³]

elephant white clever ‘clever white elephant’

²³ Tones are copied in reduplication except rising tone, /raŋ⁴⁴raŋ⁴⁴/ ‘faster ones’, /nuam²¹nuam²¹/ ‘beautiful ones’, /sia⁵²sia⁵²/ ‘bad ones’, for example.

Thus, derivation to show rule ordering and left to right application can be shown as below:

	/LH	LH	LH/		LH	LH	LH
a.	H			a.	_____		
b.	L			b.	H		
	[L	H	LH]		* LH	H	LH

When four syllables of rising tone string together in a noun phrase, the first two create a low-high and the second two syllables also create the same pattern as well, as in (33):

(33)	LH	LH	LH	LH	→	L	H	L	H
	/wuuj ²³	raaŋ ²³	fiim ²³	biik ²³ /	→	[vuuj ²¹	raaŋ ⁴⁴	fiim²¹	biik ⁴⁴]
	elephant	white	clever	most					‘the most clever white elephant’

/rɔɔl ²³	t ^h ɔɔ ²³	biik ²³	biik ²³ /	→	[rɔɔl ²¹	t ^h ɔɔ ⁴⁴	biik²¹	biik ⁴⁴]
food	good	most	most					‘the best food’

/beel ²³	ɕum ²³	suŋ ²³	in ²³ /	→	[beel ²¹	ɕum ⁴⁴	suŋ²¹	in ⁴⁴]
pot	black	inside	from					‘out of the black pot’

As in (33), applying Chen’s Minimal Rhythmic Units (MRUs) in Mandarin language introduced by Yip (2002:124), long sequences of rising tone can be divided into two groups, (syllableL syllableH) and (syllableL syllableH) (syllable). Falam has a monosyllabic chunk with a preference for MRUs to be three syllables long and no chunk is ever monosyllabic as in Mandarin. When a preference is to be four syllables long, it creates a (syllableL syllableH) (syllableL syllableH) pattern. It is assumed that the sequence of the L H sandhi pattern of

two rising tone syllables is basically derived from the rule that rising tone always becomes low before high tone and falling tone.

There is a tone sandhi rule which affects falling tone syllables with vowel finals (open syllables). The tone of such syllables becomes high (and the vowel shortening) when followed by a low tone syllable as in (34) and becomes low when followed by a high tone as in (35). No tone alternations are found when followed by any other tone syllables. Falling tone syllables retain their underlying rising tone in isolation or in sentence final position.

(34) $HL \rightarrow H / L _ T$

/k^haa⁵²/ ‘to be bitter’

a²¹ **k^haa⁵²**

3Sg. bitter

It is bitter.

a²¹ **k^ha⁴⁴** biik²³

3Sg. bitter most

the most bitter one

a²¹ **k^ha⁴⁴** mii⁵²

3Sg. bitter one

one that is bitter

a²¹ **k^ha⁴⁴** t^hεj⁴⁴

3Sg. bitter may

It may be bitter.

a²¹ **k^ha⁴⁴** law²¹

3Sg. bitter Neg.

It is not bitter.

(35) HL → L/H__ T

/k^haa⁵²/ ‘to be bitter’

an⁴⁴ k^ha^a⁵²

3Pl. bitter

They are bitter.

an⁴⁴ k^ha^a²¹ kaw²³

3Pl. bitter surely

They are surely bitter.

an⁴⁴ k^ha^a²¹ diŋ⁵²

3Pl. bitter will

They will bitter.

an⁴⁴ k^ha^a²¹ t^hej⁴⁴

3Pl. bitter may

They may be bitter.

an⁴⁴ k^ha^a²¹ law²¹

3Pl. bitter Neg.

They are not bitter.

All verbs with falling tone and open syllables follow this pattern, e.g., /pee⁵²/ ‘to give’, /ruu⁵²/ ‘to steal’, /sii⁵²/ ‘to be’.

Falling tone syllables that are closed do not undergo this tone sandhi rule as in (36).

(36) /ɖiŋ⁵²/ ‘to be straight’

a²¹ ɖiŋ⁵² ‘it is straight’

an⁴⁴ ɖiŋ⁵² law²¹

3Pl. straight Neg.

They are not straight.

a²¹ ɖiŋ⁵² law²¹

3Sg. straight Neg.

It is not straight.

A low tone syllable with vowel final has high tone in connected speech regardless of preceding or following syllables as in (37). Its vowel length is shortened when it occurs as the first member of a compound noun.

(37) /paa²¹/ ‘male’

ka²¹ pa⁴⁴ tsan⁴⁴

1Sg. male old

I become an adult.

.

/tʰi²¹/ ‘to do/make, to say’

ka²¹ tʰi⁴⁴ jaw⁴⁴

1Sg. do/make Past

I made already.

kan⁴⁴ pa⁴⁴ tsan⁴⁴

1Pl. male old

We become adult.

kan⁴⁴ tʰi⁴⁴ jaw⁴⁴

1Pl. do/make Past.

We made already.

In the case of low tone sandhi pattern in (37), low tone sandhi is not affected by the tone of the following syllables. Like falling tone, closed syllables with low tone also do not undergo tone sandhi. Tone sandhi rules in Falam are summarized in the table

below.

Tone	Syllable type	Sandhi rule
21	open	44/21__
	closed	-
44	open	-
	closed	-
23	open	a. 44/23__
	closed	b. 21/44__
52	open	21/44__ or 44/21__
	closed	-

Table 9. A summary of tone sandhi

As summarized in Table 9, low tone syllables become high when preceded by a low tone syllable. High tone undergoes no tone sandhi. A rising tone open syllable becomes high when it occurs before any tone syllables. But a rising tone closed syllable becomes low when followed by another rising tone syllable, which itself becomes high. The rising tone has two conditions in this case, the first to convert a rising tone directly following another rising tone into a high tone, and the second to convert a rising tone into a low tone when it precedes a high tone or falling tone. Falling tone open syllables become low when preceded by a high tone syllable and becomes high when preceded by a low tone. Falling tone closed syllables undergo no tone sandhi.

4.1.4 Tonal dissimilation

Among the four contrastive tones, low tone has two kinds of tone dissimilation patterns. The first tone dissimilation occurs when low tone verbs and nouns with live syllables are preceded by other low tone syllables, especially the pronominal markers (or subject agreement markers before a verb) such as /ka²¹/ ‘my (I)’, /na²¹/ ‘your (you)’, and /a²¹/ ‘his/her/its (s/he, it)’, the preceding tone is high as in (38). This occurs whether the following syllable is closed or open. Only low tone allows this tone dissimilation pattern.

- | | | |
|------|---|---|
| (38) | /kɛɛ ²¹ / ‘leg’ | /pum ²¹ / ‘stomach’ |
| | ka ⁴⁴ kɛɛ ²¹ ‘my leg’ | ka ⁴⁴ pum ²¹ ‘my stomach’ |
| | na ⁴⁴ kɛɛ ²¹ ‘your leg’ | na ⁴⁴ pum ²¹ ‘your stomach’ |

/tii²¹/ ‘to say’

ka⁴⁴ tii²¹ ‘I say’

na⁴⁴ tii²¹ ‘you say’

/nej²¹/ ‘to have’

ka⁴⁴ nej²¹ ‘I have’

na⁴⁴ nej²¹ ‘you have’

The second tone dissimilation occurs when low tone verbs and nouns in dead syllables (glottal final as well) are preceded by other low tone syllables, especially the pronominal clitics (or subject agreement markers), the preceding tone stays the same and the second syllable is high as in in (39):

(39) /wɔk²¹/ ‘pig’

ka²¹ wɔk⁴⁴ ‘my pig’

na²¹ wɔk⁴⁴ ‘your pig’

/ruŋ²¹/ ‘bone’

ka²¹ ruŋ⁴⁴ ‘my bone’

na²¹ ruŋ⁴⁴ ‘your bone’

/tap²¹/ ‘to cry’

ka²¹ tap⁴⁴ ‘I cry’

na²¹ tap⁴⁴ ‘you cry’

/fɛŋ²¹/ ‘to go’

ka²¹ fɛŋ⁴⁴ ‘I go’

na²¹ fɛŋ⁴⁴ ‘you go’

In the case of low tone dissimilation, if the first syllable is closed there is no tone dissimilation regardless of whether the second syllable is open or closed (40).

(40) /wɔk²¹/ ‘pig’

wɔk²¹tsak²¹ ‘strong pig’

jaan²¹ wɔk²¹ ‘night pig’

/ruŋ²¹/ ‘bone’

wɔk²¹ ruŋ²¹ ‘pig’s bone’

kiiw²¹ ruŋ²¹ ‘elbow bone’

/fɛŋ²¹/ ‘to go’

rak²¹ fɛŋ²¹ɔ⁵² ‘go ahead’

/tap²¹/ ‘to cry’

run²¹ tap²¹ ‘to come down and cry’

4.1.5 Tone distributions

This section provides tone distributions in a syllable. In Falam a tone occurs on the whole syllable as a unit, of which the vowel is the peak. All four tones can occur with all vowels. The relation between tone and syllable structure is different according to its environment. Syllables retain their underlying tones in isolation. In other places some alternations of tones occur according to their neighboring tone. These alternations and tone sandhi can be seen Sections 4.1.3 and 4.1.4. The following table illustrates tone distributions in a syllable.

Syllable				
Tones	Initial consonants	Open rhyme	Sonorant finals	Stop finals
Low tone	All consonants	Monophthong	m n ŋ r l w j	p t k ?
		Long nucleus	m n ŋ r l w j	- - - -
		Diphthong	m n ŋ r l w j	- - - ?
High tone	All consonants	Monophthong	m n ŋ r l w j	- - -
		Long nucleus	m n ŋ r l w j	p t k
		Diphthong	m n ŋ r l w j	- - -
Rising tone	All consonants	Monophthong	m n ŋ r l w j	- - -
		Long nucleus	m n ŋ r l w j	p t k
		Diphthong	m n ŋ r l w j	- - -
Falling tone	All consonants	Monophthong	m n ŋ r l w j	- - -
		Long nucleus	- - - - w j	p t k
		Diphthong	m n ŋ r l w j	p t k

Table 10. Tone distribution in Falam

As shown in the table above, all consonants are possible with all tones. Monophthongs, long vowels, and diphthongs can occur in the open rhyme of syllables with all tones. Two glides, /w/ and /j/, significantly occur word finally in a syllable and appear word initially in free variation with [v] and [z] respectively as in examples (2) and (3). Low tone never allows final stops and glottal stop with long nucleus as in examples (11) and (12) and allows final glottal stop with diphthong in a syllable (see also(12)). High tone never allows a final stop with monophthongs and diphthongs but allows a final stop with a long

nucleus as shown in example (13). Rising tone allows final stops /p, t, k/ only with a long nucleus and it never allows a glottal stop word-finally as seen in example (14). Falling tone allows no final stops with monophthongs but final stops with long nuclei and diphthong are possible as shown in examples (15) and (16).

4.2 Stress

Bickford (2003:69) defines stress as “syllable that is in some way more prominent than the other in the same word when it is spoken.” Bickford further defines that a stressed syllable usually exhibits at least one or two of the following qualities:

- a. it is loudly,
- b. it is higher in pitch,
- c. it has a longer vowel, or
- d. it uses the full range of vowels in the phonemic inventory.

As defined by Bickford, Falam also has a stress pattern which is hard to distinguish between stress and intonation. Both stress and intonation are meaningful in their context but they are not contrastive. One common stress pattern in Falam is that diphthongs and contrastively long vowels are stressed (, is used for stress marker) as in (41).

- (41) ,luan²³ ‘to flow’
 ,fiim²³ ‘to be wise’
 ,baan²¹ ‘to be tired’
 ,nuam²¹ ‘to be good, to be joyful’
 ,hua⁴⁴ ‘to hate’
 ,jaan⁴⁴ ‘to run’

Stress pattern also occurs when monosyllabic words are attached with nominalizers, /naak⁵²/ and /tuu⁵²/. A nominalized word with two syllables always stresses the second syllable as in (42):

- (42) /duʔ²¹/ ‘to love’ duʔ²¹naak⁵² ‘love’
 /duʔ²¹/ ‘to love’ duʔ²¹tuu⁵² ‘lover’
 /fɛl⁴⁴/ ‘to be honest’ fɛl²¹naak⁵² ‘honesty’
 /lɛj⁴⁴/ ‘to hate’ lɛj⁴⁴tuu⁵² ‘one who buy’

It is proposed that Falam stress pattern always occurs in the last syllable of disyllabic word or trisyllabic word, or even in a final word of connected speech as we will see in the following section.

Another stress pattern common in Falam is attaching a central vowel /a/ before nouns and adjectives in order to mark the prominence of the words as (43):

- (43) a pa²¹ k^hat²¹naak⁵² ‘the first’
 one nom.
- a nuu²¹ a paa²¹ ‘all (including male and female)’
 female male
- a tuum²³ a seen²³ ‘all people (including old and young)’
 big + small
- a nan⁴⁴maʔ²¹ ‘you (angrily speaking)’
 you
- a keɲ⁴⁴maʔ²¹ ‘even me (humbly speaking)’
 I

4.3 Intonation

Bickford (1981:61) states that “intonation is the pitch pattern over an entire utterance and is usually used to indicate emotions, convey thoughts or attitudes, or to distinguish between such things as questions and statements but not to distinguish one word from another”.

Being a tonal language, some pitch patterns of Falam are difficult to clarify with intonation. However, it is certain that Falam has intonation patterns and some of the variants Falam tones possess are related to intonation. An extra high falling pitch is sometimes used for emphasis. An extra high rising tone is also sometimes used for excitement, surprise, and for other exclamatory speeches. Some different usages of intonation are provided in the following examples:

(44) Question word “who?”

HL L

[zəw⁵² ɛɛ²¹]

Simple question

who Part.

HL LH

[zəw⁵² ɛɛ²³]

Surprise

who Part.

(45) Imperative clause “don’t do”.

L L

[tuaɪ²¹ ɲaɪ²¹]

Simple imperative

do not (Imp.)

L L LHL

Graciously speaking

[tuaɪ²¹ ɲaɪ²¹ ɔɔ³⁵²]

do not Imp. .

L L HL
 [tua²¹ la²¹ ɔɔ⁵²] Angry
 do not Imp.

(46) with a question particle “maw”

H L L L
 [na⁴⁴ t^hej²¹ ləw²¹mɔɔ²¹] Simple question
 You know not Part.
 Don't you know?

H L L LH
 [na⁴⁴ t^hej²¹ ləw²¹mɔɔ²³] Graciously speaking
 you know not Part.
 Don't you know?

H L L H
 [na⁴⁴ t^hej²¹ ləw²¹mɔɔ⁴⁴] Angry or unbelieving or surprise
 you know not Part.
 Don't you know?

One common pattern of intonation in Falam is that the vocalic nucleus of the last word of a sentence is often lengthened more than normal to indicate different purposes, such as emphasis, anger, and agreement. The way that people use intonation patterns also depends on a person's style, such as male or female, young or old, etc. Generally speaking, the use of high pitch in a word is mostly in a person's speech of impatience or excitement. In many other cases, intonation is meaningful in its different contexts.

CHAPTER 5

MORPHOPHONEMICS

5.0 Introduction

Burquest (2001:81) states that “when the sounds of morphemes vary as a result of being adjoined to other morphemes, the pattern is referred to as morphophonemics.” Burquest distinguished three types of morphophonemic alternation: phonologically conditioned alternation, lexical alternation, and morphologically conditioned alternation.” In Falam, there may not be a direct correspondence to Burquest’s theories, but there are phonologically conditioned alternations and lexical alternations which will be described in Sections 5.1 and 5.2.

5.1 Phonologically conditioned alternations

Phonologically conditioned alternations in Falam can be divided into two groups: major word classes and minor word classes. The major word classes include the alternations of nouns and verbs. The minor word classes include the alternations of adverbial, possessive, and locative morphemes.

5.1.1 Phonologically conditioned alternations in major word classes

The major word classes in this phonologically conditioned alternations include the alternations of noun stems and primary verb stems.

5.1.1.1 Noun stems

In Falam, any open syllable, whether verb or noun²⁴, is underlyingly (or phonemically) long. There is a process that shortens long vowels. When a common noun syllable that is open becomes the first syllable in a compound word its vowel length becomes short as in (47):

²⁴ Excluding agreement markers (or possessive markers).

(47) /VV/ → /V/__, in a compound word

a. /paa²¹/ ‘male’

paa²¹ + tsan⁴⁴ → **pa²¹**.tsan⁴⁴ ‘a man’

male + old

paa²¹ + fiim²³ → **pa²¹**.fiim²³ ‘a clever-man’

male + clever

b. /ṭii⁴⁴/ ‘water’

ṭii⁴⁴ + waa²³ → **ṭi⁴⁴**.waa²³ ‘river, stream’

water + go

ṭii⁴⁴ + k^huu⁵² → **ṭi⁴⁴**.k^huu⁵² ‘vapor’

water + smoke

c. /fuu²³/ ‘sugar cane’

fuu²³ + tsaan²³ → **fu⁴⁴**.tsaan²³ ‘segment of sugar cane’

Sugar cane+ step

fuu²³ + m̥uan²¹ → **fu⁴⁴**.m̥uan²¹ ‘sugar cane (farm)’

sugar cane+ farm

d. /saa⁵²/ ‘animal or meat’

saa⁵² + wɔm²³ → **sa²¹**.wɔm²³ ‘bear’

animal+ kind

saa⁵² + bɛk²¹ → **sa²¹**.bɛk²¹ ‘rabbit’

animal + kind

As an exception, this rule does not apply for some common nouns such as /naa⁴⁴/ ‘buffalo’, and /tsɔɔ⁴⁴/ ‘cow’ as in (48):

(48) a. /naa⁴⁴/ ‘buffalo’

naa⁴⁴ + saa⁵² → naa⁴⁴.saa⁵² ‘buffalo meat’
buffalo + meat

naa⁴⁴ + pii⁴⁴ → naa⁴⁴.pii⁴⁴ ‘female buffalo’
buffalo + big

b. /tsɔɔ⁴⁴/ ‘cow’

tsɔɔ⁴⁴ + saa⁵² → tsɔɔ⁴⁴.saa⁵² ‘cow meat’
cow + meat

tsɔɔ⁴⁴ + paa²¹ → tsɔɔ⁴⁴.paa²¹ ‘bull’
cow + male

A common noun with a final diphthong also coalescences when it becomes the first syllable of a compound word as in (49):

(49) a. /rua²³/ ‘bamboo’

rua²³ + kuun⁴⁴ → **ɾɔ**⁴⁴.kuun⁴⁴ ‘bamboo tree’
bamboo + tree

kua²¹ ‘hole’

kua²¹ + pii⁴⁴ → **kɔ**²¹.pii⁴⁴ ‘big hole’
hole + big

b. /sia²³/ ‘mithan’

sia²³ + pii⁴⁴ → **sɛ**⁴⁴.pii⁴⁴ ‘mithan (female)’
mithan + big

The following table displays a summary of lexical alternation of noun stem compounds.

Root syllables			Compound syllables		
Tones	Rhyme structure	Examples	Tones	Phonological alternation	Examples
21	CVV (long vowel)	paa ²¹ ‘male’	21	CV (shortening)	pa ²¹ tsaŋ ⁴⁴ ‘man’
	CVV (diphthong)	kua ²¹ ‘hole’		CV (coalescence)	kɔ ²¹ pi ⁴⁴ ‘big hole’
44	CVV (long vowel)	ʔii ⁴⁴ ‘water’	44	CV (shortening)	ʔi ⁴⁴ waa ²³ ‘river, stream’
23	CVV (diphthong)	rua ²³ ‘bamboo’	44	CV (coalescence)	rɔ ⁴⁴ kuuŋ ⁴⁴ ‘bamboo tree’
52	CVV (long vowel)	saa ⁵² ‘animal,’	21	CV (shortening)	sa ²¹ bek ²¹ ‘rabbit’

Table 11. A summary of phonological alternations
in noun stem compounds

As in Table 11, phonologically conditioned alternation of noun stems is limited to common nouns that have an open syllable when they occur as the first syllable of a compound word. The vowel length is shortened to a single vowel and the vowel is coalesced if it is a diphthong. There is no alternation of noun stems for closed syllables.

5.1.1.2 Primary verb stems

A primary verb stem formation has a relationship with grammatical conditions, yet it has a relationship with phonological conditions. This section will turn only on phonologically conditioned alternations. The primary verb stem formation will be demonstrated in Section 5.2. Verbs in open syllables also have shortening of their vowel length values and coalescence of diphthongs in connected speech as in (50). Verbs with high tone have no shortened form.

(50) a. /saa²³/ ‘to be hot’

a²¹ **sa**⁴⁴ tuk⁴⁴

be hot very

It’s very hot.

b. /sii⁵²/ ‘be, it is’

a²¹ **si**⁴⁴ law²¹

we be neg.

No, it is not.

c. /t̥ii²¹/ ‘to say’

a²¹ **t̥i**⁴⁴ law²¹

He say neg.

He didn’t say.

d. /bia⁵²/ ‘to talk, to speak’

ka²¹ **bɛ**⁴⁴ d̥iŋ⁵²

I talk will

I will talk to....

The following table displays a summary of phonologically conditioned alternations of primary verb stems.

Root Syllables			Syllables in connected speech		
Tones	Rhyme structure	Examples	Tones	Phonological alternation	Examples
21	CVV (long vowel)	tii ²¹ ‘to say’	44	CV (shortening)	a ²¹ ti ⁴⁴ law ²¹ He didn’t say.
	CVV (diphthong)	tia ²¹ ‘same side’		no alternation	wuj ²³ tia ²¹ a ²¹ sii ⁵² It is big as an elephant.
44	CVV (long vowel)	paa ⁴⁴ ‘to be thin’	no alternation		a ²¹ paa ⁴⁴ mii ⁵² pɔɔl ²³ The thin ones...
	CVV (diphthong)	hua ⁴⁴ ‘to hate’			an ⁴⁴ hua ⁴⁴ ɔɔ ⁵² They hate each other.
23	CVV (long vowel)	saa ²³ ‘to be hot’	44	CV (shortening)	a ²¹ sa ⁴⁴ law ²¹ It is not hot.
52	CVV (long vowel)	k ^h aa ⁵² ‘to be bitter’	44	CV (shortening)	a ²¹ k ^h a ⁴⁴ paam ⁴⁴ It’s quite bitter.
	CVV (diphthong)	bia ⁵² ‘to talk’		CV (coalescence)	ka ²¹ be ⁴⁴ diŋ ⁵² I will talk to..’

Table 12. A summary of phonologically conditioned alternations in primary verb stems

As shown in Table 12, like noun stems, the phonological alternation of verb stems occurs only with open syllables. The vowel length is shortened and diphthongs are coalesced. This verb stem alternation occurs in primary stem forms in main clause with focus, absolutive, imperative, and declarative when verb finals of these clauses are followed by any syllable in connected speech as in (50). Verbs with closed syllables have no alternate forms of primary stems.

5.1.2 Phonologically conditioned alternations in minor word classes

The minor word classes in phonologically conditioned alternation include the alternations of adverbial, possessive, and locational morphemes.

There are some phonological processes which find their motivation in the notion of syllable structure. This analysis considers the following types of these processes: fortition, linking, deletion, and vowel coalescence.

5.1.2.1 Resyllabification

Minor word classes undergo resyllabification in connected speech, as can be seen in example (52) in which the glides /w/ and /j/ spread to the onset of the following syllable and thereby undergo the rule of conditioned free variation (see Section 2.1.2.2) and may appear as allophones [v] and [z] respectively as in (51):

(51) /law⁴⁴ in²³/ → [law⁴⁴ vin²³]

field from
from the field

/k^huj²³ in²³/ → [k^huj²¹ zin⁴⁴]

where from
where from

In example (51), the second example undergoes rising tone sandhi rule (see Section 4.1.3). In rapid speech the coda the first syllable can be deleted: [la⁴⁴ vin²³]; [k^hu²¹ zin⁴⁴].

5.1.2.3 Deletion

There is another process which has the effect of changing the structure of the syllable itself, that is, deletion²⁵. Falam also has a deletion pattern in which the initial vowel of adverbial, possessive, and locative morphemes.

The adverbial morpheme /in/ is fully pronounced in careful speech, but the segment /i/ of the adverbial morpheme is deleted in connected speech as in (52).

(52) /kan⁴⁴ jaa²¹ tɛɛ⁴⁴ in²³/ → [kan⁴⁴ .jaa²¹ .tɛɛn⁴⁴]

1Pl. all-Dim. Adv.
all of us

²⁵ In most cases of deletion, the motivation is to preserve or restore a syllable or word pattern which is acceptable within the phonotactics of the language (Burquest 1998:169).

/a²¹ si⁴⁴ naa⁴⁴ in²³/ → [a²¹. si⁴⁴. naan⁴⁴]

it be though Adv.

but/however

/ka²¹ pa⁵² t^hɔɔ⁴⁴ in²³/ → [ka²¹. pa⁵². t^hɔɔn⁴⁴]

1Sg. father with Adv.

with my father

As seen in example (52), not only the segment [i] of the adverbial morpheme is deleted but the segment [n] is also combined with the preceding syllable and the tone of an adverbial morpheme is totally lost.

In possessive morpheme deletion the glottal final of the possessive morpheme /iʔ⁴⁴/ is deleted and the remaining segment [i] may optionally becomes a palatal glide final in connected speech as in (53):

(53) /bɔɔj⁵² paa⁵² iʔ⁴⁴ taa²³/ → [bɔɔj⁵² paa⁵² i⁴⁴ taa²³] ~ [bɔɔj⁵² paaj⁴⁴ taa²³]

lord man Poss. thing

the Lord's thing (thing of the Lord)

/ka²¹ nuu⁵² iʔ⁴⁴ taa²³/ → [ka²¹nuu⁵² i⁴⁴ taa²³] ~ [ka²¹nuuj⁴⁴ taa²³]

1S mother Poss. thing

my mother's thing (thing of my mother)

/kej⁵²-maɪ²¹ iʔ⁴⁴ taa²³/ → [kej⁵².maɪ²³ i⁴⁴ taa²³] ~ [kej⁵².maaj²³ taa²³]

I-self Poss. thing

My thing (mine).

The locative morpheme /iʔ⁴⁴/ is fully pronounced in careful speech, but the phoneme /ʔ/ of the locative morpheme is deleted in connected speech as in (54):

(54) /wan²¹ iʔ⁴⁴ sii²¹ in²³/ → [wan²¹. i⁴⁴. siin²³]

heaven Loc. place from

from heaven

/k^huj²³ iʔ⁴⁴ sii²¹ in²³/ → [k^huj²¹.i⁴⁴.siin²³]

where Loc. place from

from where

Sometimes the locative morpheme /iʔ⁴⁴/ and the indicating place morpheme /sii²¹/ in examples (55) can totally be deleted. Thus, the syllable structure becomes simpler as [wan²¹.in²³] ‘from heaven’ and [k^huj²¹.in⁴⁴] ‘from where’ (see rising tone sandhi rule in Section 4.1.3, example 50).

This deletion rule with locative morpheme also occurs when it is preceded by demonstrative pronouns. An initial vowel in the locative morpheme is deleted and loses its syllabic status and the glottal stop is deleted as in (55):

(55) /k^haa⁴⁴ iʔ⁴⁴/ → [k^haaʔ⁴⁴] ‘that’

that Loc.

/tsuu⁴⁴ iʔ⁴⁴/ → [tsuuj⁴⁴] ‘that (abstract matter)’

that Loc.

Slightly different from (55), the final glide /j/ disappears or even the whole morpheme /iʔ⁴⁴/ disappears in a syllable after deletion if the demonstrative syllable has a front high vowel /i/ as in (56):

(56) /hii⁴⁴ iʔ⁴⁴/ → [hii⁴⁴] ‘this’

this Loc.

/k^hii⁴⁴ iʔ⁴⁴/ → [k^hii⁴⁴] ‘there’

there Loc.

It is assumed that the absence of final /j/ in (56) is conditioned by the vowel-like correspondence of the glide /j/ to the vowel /i/.

However, there is also a pattern that allows one to pronounce /iʔ⁴⁴/ different from the deletion rules mentioned as in (53)-(56). This is a glottalization that only affects vowel length as in (57):

- (57) /bɔɔj⁵²paa⁵²iʔ⁴⁴/ → [bɔɔj⁵²pajʔ⁴⁴] ‘of the Lord’
 /ka²¹nuu⁵²iʔ⁴⁴/ → [ka²¹nuiʔ⁴⁴] ‘of my mother’
 /kej⁵²maʔ²¹iʔ⁴⁴/ → [kej⁵².majʔ⁴⁴] ‘of mine’
 /k^haa⁴⁴iʔ⁴⁴/ → [k^hajʔ⁴⁴] ‘that’
 /tsuu⁴⁴iʔ⁴⁴/ → [tsujʔ⁴⁴] ‘that of unseen’
 /hii⁴⁴iʔ⁴⁴/ → [hiʔ⁴⁴] ‘this’
 /k^hii⁴⁴iʔ⁴⁴/ → [k^hiʔ⁴⁴] ‘there’

Examples in (57) might be because of the difference between a careful and normal speech or one dialect to another.

5.1.2.4 Vowel coalescence

Coalescence is a term used to refer to the coming together of linguistic units which were originally distinguishable (Crystal 2003:78) or a pattern of merging two segments to become another distinct segment. This rule is called “vocalic alternations” by Osburne (1975) in her Zahao studies and is also called “a diphthong reduction rule” by Chhangte (1989) in her *Mizo syntax*. The pattern of coalescence occurs when diphthongs are followed by another syllable with a consonantal onset²⁶.

Coalescence rule 1: /ua/ → [ɔ]

This rule occurs when:

- (a) a compound noun is composed of a noun + noun sequence as in (58).

- (58) /rua²³kuuŋ⁴⁴/ → [rɔ⁴⁴.kuuŋ⁴⁴] ‘bamboo tree’
 bamboo tree

²⁶ These coalescence patterns mirror the vowel shortening rules in Sections 5.1.1.1 and 5.1.1.2.

(b) a compound noun is composed of a noun + adjective sequence as in (59).

- (59) /k^hua²³ pii⁴⁴/ → [k^hɔ̌⁴⁴.pii⁴⁴] ‘city’
village big

This coalescence rule also occurs when a primary stem with diphthong /ua/ appears in its secondary stem form (see Section 5.2.1.5). (See also vowel shortening rule in Sections 5.1.1.1 and 5.1.1.2).

Coalescence rule 2: /ia/ → [ɛ]

This rule occurs when:

(a) a compound noun is composed of a noun + adjective sequence as in (60).

- (60) /sia²³ pii⁴⁴/ → [sɛ⁴⁴.pii⁴⁴] ‘female mithan’
mithan big

This coalescence rule also occurs when a primary stem with diphthong /ia/ appears in its secondary stem form (see Section

5.2.1.5 Vowel coalescence). (See also vowel shortening rules in Section 5.1.1.1).

Coalescence rule 3: /aw/ → [ɔ̌]. In his generative phonology, Sanford (1973:55) called this type of rule a coalescence of vowel and consonant. This rule occurs when a negative word is followed by an adverbial particle as in (61). This can be said to be a combination of coalescence and deletion because the /aw/ in a negation word is reduced and the phoneme /i/ in adverbial suffix is deleted.

- (61) /t^hɛj²¹ law²¹ in²³/ → [t^hɛj²¹ lɔ̌n²³] ‘not knowing’
know Neg. Adv.

Besides, this rule mainly occurs when a primary stem with /aw/ appears in its secondary stem form (see Section 5.2.1.5).

5.2 Lexically conditioned alternations

In order to study lexically conditioned alternations, it is necessary to know that Falam verbs have two stems, like other Chin languages such as Zahao (Osburn 1975, Yip 2003), Lai (Hyman and Van Bik 2002), Tiddim (Henderson 1965), Daai (Hartman-So 1989), and K'Cho (Kee Shein Mang 2006). Nouns do not have two stems. This analysis will use the terms “primary” and “secondary” to refer to the two different verb stems. Out of 200 verb stems 115 verb stems (57.5%) have their secondary stem forms. The primary verb stem form is found primarily in topic focus (Osburne 1975), independent (Chhangte 1993) or main clauses and the secondary verb stem form is found in non-focus (Osburne 1975), dependent (Chhangte 1993) or subordinate clauses. In an independent clause, a predicate with an absolutive subject is realized as primary stem as in (62) and a predicate with an ergative subject is realized as secondary stem as in (63) as also described in Lai by Kathol and Vanbik (2002).

- (62) ka²¹ nuu⁵² tsuu⁴⁴ rɔɔl²³ a²¹ **suag**⁴⁴ (primary)
 my-mother-Abs- food-3S- cook
 My mother cooks/is cooking food.

- (63) ka²¹ nuu⁵² in⁵² rɔɔl²³ a⁴⁴ **suan**²¹ (secondary)
 my –mother-Erg.-food-3S-cook
 My mother cooks food.

The relative clause marker /mii⁵²/ other suffixes such as nominalizer /naak⁵²/, causatives /ter²³/, benefactive /sak²¹/, associative /pii²³/ and other compound verb suffixes require the secondary verb stem as in (64):

- (64) m̥uu⁵² (primary) /m̥uʔ²¹ (secondary) ‘to see’
 ka²¹ -**muʔ**⁴⁴ -mii⁵² ‘what I saw’ (relative clause)
 1S-see-one

hua⁴⁴ (primary)/ huat⁵² (primary) ‘to hate’

huat⁵²-ɔɔk⁵²-naak⁵² ‘mutual hatred’ (nominalized verb)
hate-ref-nom.

tlaa⁵² (primary)/tlaak⁵² (secondary) ‘to fall’

tlaak⁵²tɛr²³ ‘cause to fall’ (causative clause)
fall-cause

suaŋ⁴⁴ (primary)/suaŋ²¹ (secondary) ‘to cook’

suaŋ²¹sak²¹ ‘cook for somebody’ (benefactive clause)
cook-for

it²¹ (primary)/ iŋ²¹ (secondary) ‘to sleep’

iŋ²¹.pii²³ ‘sleep along with’ (associative clause)
sleep-with

The secondary verb structures are also found before adverbial particles, /lɛɛ⁵²/ ‘if’, /ŋuu⁴⁴.aŋ²¹/ ‘after’, /lan²¹.aŋ²¹/ ‘before’, /week⁵².in²³/ ‘since’, / ɾaŋ²¹.aŋ⁴⁴/ ‘because’, and /tik.aŋ²¹/ ‘when’ in subordinate clauses, as in (65):

(65) raa²³ (primary) - rat²¹ (secondary) ‘to come’

na²¹-**rat**⁴⁴-law²¹ lɛɛ⁵² ka⁴⁴-t^hin²¹ a²¹-hɛɛŋ⁵²-jɛt²¹-ɗiŋ⁵²
you-come-neg. if my-heart-it-angry-very-fut
If you don’t come, I’ll be very angry.

suaŋ⁴⁴ (primary) - suaŋ²¹ (secondary) ‘to cook’

rɔɔl²³ a⁴⁴-**suaŋ**²¹-lan²¹-aŋ²¹ puan⁴⁴ a²¹ sɔɔp⁵²
food he-cook-before, clothes he-wash
He did laundry before he cooked (dinner).

The secondary verb stem is also found in a passive sentence as in (66):

(66) suan⁴⁴ (primary) - suan²¹ (secondary) ‘to cook’

rɔɔl²³ tsuu⁴⁴ **suan**²¹ a²¹ sii⁵²

food Ab. cook it be

Food is cooked (by someone).

The following table provides a summary of the Falam verb stems, primary and secondary.

Clause Type	Primary Stem	Secondary Stem
Main Clause	Focus	Non-focus
	Clause with absolutive	Clause with ergative
	Imperative clause	Clause with causative
	Declarative clause	Clause with associative
	Clause with Y/N question	Clause with benefactive
		Passive sentence
		Sentence with indirect object
Subordinate clause		Relative clause
		Nominalized clause
		Adverbial clause
		Indirect object

Table 13. Primary and secondary verb stem distribution

The occurrence of these stems is governed by grammatical conditions, yet they are phonologically related; this relationship is not fully researched here as the focus of this thesis is phonological. The two sets of stems are always phonologically related, and regular patterns of alternations are observed. In the Falam verb stems, some stems remain unalternated with only their pitch pattern alternating in the secondary stems. According to this analysis, low tone syllables ending in sonorants alternate when they appear in a secondary stem but other tone syllables ending in sonorants do not alternate. Rising tone syllables with final stops never alternate in secondary stem form. A primary stem with falling tone that has a short nucleus and ends with a sonorant never alternates in secondary stem form.

As the Falam primary and secondary verb stem formation is already stated above, the following section will discuss segmental alternation in secondary stems and

tone alternations in secondary stems. Unlike other Chin languages, Falam has tertiary²⁷ verb stems.

5.2.1 Segmental alternations in secondary verb stems

This section presents segmental alternations in secondary stems including nasal alternation, stop alternation, glottalization, vowel shortening, and vowel coalescence.

5.2.1.1 Nasal alternation

This alternation is between a final velar nasal with the primary stem and an alveolar nasal with the secondary stem. This is called nasal assimilation by Connie Champeon²⁸ (2005:9) in her resolution and data of Falam orthography as in (67). She asserts, “when the root ends in /ŋ/ the ending changes to /n/ when it is followed by a suffix beginning with a nasal (m, n) that requires a rule: /ŋ/→/n/ __m, n.”

²⁷ The tertiary verb stem occurs when there is an indirect object in a subordinate clause. This form normally occurs with verb stems with closed syllables with diphthongs, /ua/ and /ia/, and the diphthongs are coalesced as follows (see also Appendix V):

suaj⁴⁴ (primary) - suan²¹/sɔn⁵² (secondary) ‘to cook’

rɔɔl²³ na⁴⁴ **suan**²¹ law²¹ lɛɛ⁵²

my you cook not if

If you don’t cook food,.....

ka²¹ nuu⁵² rɔɔl²³ na²¹ **sɔn**⁵² law²¹ lɛɛ⁵²

my mother food you cook not if

If you don’t cook food (for my mother),.....

²⁸ Connie Champeon is one of the Bible consultants who have been helping the preparation of Falam writer’s handbook.

(67) tsiinj²³ (primary)- tsiin²¹ (secondary) ‘to grow’

waaj²¹ nim⁴⁴ ka⁴⁴ **tsiin**²¹ mii⁵² a²¹ taw²¹

maize I grow one it springs out

The maize I grow springs out.

waaj²¹ nim⁴⁴ ka⁴⁴ **tsiin**²¹-naak⁵² lej⁴⁴ lung⁴⁴ a⁴⁴ t^haa²¹

maize I grow-nom. soil be good

The soil of the maize I grow is good.

As shown in example (67), Falam may seem to have nasal assimilation in a predictable environment but there are still more examples of complex environments of this nasal alternation that contradict the nasal assimilation rule proposed by Champeon, as in (68):

(68) tsiinj²³(primary) – tsiin²¹ (secondary) ‘to grow’

waaj²¹.nim⁴⁴ nan⁴⁴ **tsiin**²³ moɔ²¹ (primary)

maize you (Pl) grow Qp

Do you grow maize?

waaj²¹ nim⁴⁴ kan⁴⁴ **tsiin**²³ naan⁴⁴ (primary)

maize we grow but

we grow maize but....

waaj²¹ nim⁴⁴ na⁴⁴ **tsiin**²¹ k^hal²¹ lɛɛ⁵² (secondary)

maize you grow even if

even if you grow maize...

waaj²¹ nim⁴⁴ na⁴⁴ **tsiin**²¹ huam²¹ tik⁴⁴ aɪ²¹ (secondary)

maize you grow want time at

when you want to grow maize....

Thus, it can be concluded that Falam has no predictable nasal assimilation pattern but only has stem alternation. More examples of nasal alternation are provided in (69):

(69)	Primary stem	Secondary stem	Gloss
	m̩aŋ ²³	m̩aŋ ²¹	‘to use, to spend’
	siaŋ ²³	siaŋ ²¹	‘to allow’
	jaaŋ ⁴⁴	jaaŋ ²¹	‘to run’
	suaŋ ⁴⁴	suaŋ ²¹	‘to cook’

As seen in (69) this nasal alternation is associated with rising tone and high tone but not low tone and falling tone.

5.2.1.2 Stop alternation

Moira Yip (2003:18), in her *Phonological markedness and allomorph selection in Zahao*, one of the dialects related to Falam, states that “all vowel final primary stems add a final /-t/ in the secondary stem”. Falam also has final addition, although some verb stems, /sii⁵²/ ‘it be’, /t̩ii²¹/ ‘to say’ have no addition of final stops, and /-k/ also appears in secondary stems. These stop alternations are called Epenthesis²⁹ in Osburne’s (1975) analysis of Zahao. Final /-t/ additions are shown in (70):

(70)	Primary stem	Secondary stem	Gloss
	t ^h aa ²¹	t ^h at ²¹	‘to be good’
	tia ²¹	tia ⁵²	‘to put on the same side’
	t ^h ii ²³	t ^h iit ⁵²	‘to sew, to marry’
	raa ²³	rat ²¹	‘to come’
	hua ⁴⁴	huat ⁵²	‘to hate’
	paa ⁴⁴	paat ⁵²	‘to be thin’

²⁹ Burquest (1998) states that epenthesis is most common with vowels, where a vowel is inserted to break up a consonant cluster, specifically by placing the clustering consonants into different syllables.

As seen above, the final /-t/ addition is related to low, high, and rising tones, but the final /-k/ addition is related to falling tone as in (71):

(71)	Primary stem	Secondary stem	Gloss
	wua ⁵²	wuak ⁵²	‘to beat’
	bia ⁵²	biak ⁵²	‘to speak’
	maa ⁵²	maak ⁵²	‘to divorce’
	ruu ⁵²	ruuk ⁵²	‘to steal’
	pεε ⁵²	pεek ⁵²	‘to give’

Also a primary verb with vowel final can instead have a glottal stop in its secondary stem form as in (72):

(72)	Primary stem	Secondary stem	Gloss
	t ^{hi} i ²³	t ^{hi} ʔ ²¹	‘to die’
	ŋi ²³	ŋiʔ ²¹	‘to laugh’
	m ^o uu ⁵²	m ^o uʔ ²¹	‘to see’

The primary verb stems with final stops /p, t, k/ also alternate with a glottal stop in their secondary stem forms as in (73):

(73)	Primary stem	Secondary stem	Gloss
	t ^h at ²¹	t ^h aʔ ²¹	‘to kill’
	t ^h ɔk ²¹	t ^h ɔʔ ²¹	‘to start, to begin’
	kaap ⁵²	kaʔ ²¹	‘to shoot’
	luut ⁵²	luʔ ²¹	‘to enter’
	p ^h iat ⁵²	p ^h iaʔ ²¹	‘to erase, to rub out, to sweep’
	suak ⁵²	suaʔ ²¹	‘to come out’

To say that Falam has final epenthesis means there has to be a consistent rule. But the insertion of final /-t/ or /-k/ or /ʔ/ is not clearly predictable. Looking at all examples, (70), (71), (72), and (73) show that Falam has no consistent epenthesis rule but has only stop alternations. The simplest generalization is that a falling tone syllable with vowel final allows the final /k/ addition, while high and rising adds a final /t/, and low sometimes adds /t/, sometimes /ʔ/. Besides, vowel length in primary stems becomes short when the glottal stop is added or when syllable finals are glottalized in the secondary stem forms. However, primary verb stems with diphthongs can survive without alternating their vowel qualities in secondary stems. The glottal final addition and the final glottalization (see below) in secondary stem occurs with primary verb stems that have low and falling tones.

5.2.1.3 Glottalization

Glottalization is a general term for any articulation involving a simultaneous glottal constriction, especially a glottal stop. In Falam, a primary verb stem with low tone that ends with a sonorant final /w, j, r, l/ is glottalized in its secondary stem form as in (74):

(74)	Primary stem	Secondary stem	Gloss
	daaj ²¹	dajʔ ²¹	‘to be cold’
	kaaw ²¹	kawʔ ²¹	‘to be wide’
	baal ²¹	balʔ ²¹	‘to be dirty’
	taar ²¹	tarʔ ²¹	‘to be trapped, to be stuck’

As seen in (74), glottalization never allows a long nucleus in secondary stem forms. Also glottalization is associated with low tone syllables with non-nasal sonorant finals. Rising tone syllables (/sar²³/ ‘to pick up’), falling tone syllable (/bal⁵²/ ‘to destroy’), and high tone syllable (/lej⁴⁴/ ‘to buy’) are not glottalized in their secondary stem forms.

5.2.1.4 Vowel shortening

As seen already in 5.2.1.2, all of the secondary verb stems affected by glottalization also undergo vowel shortening. Another rule of shortening vowels occurs when a low tone syllable with a nasal final that has a long nucleus in primary stem appears in the secondary stem form as in (75):

(75)	Primary stem	Secondary stem	Gloss
	tsuum ²¹	tsum ⁵²	‘to pound, to beat’
	baaŋ ²¹	baŋ ⁵²	‘to be tired’
	baan ²¹	ban ⁵²	‘to reach’

As seen above, vowel shortening in secondary stem is associated only with low tone because no other tones have any alternations as in (76):

(76)	Primary stem	Secondary stem	Gloss
	tlaaw ²³	tlaaw ²¹	‘to be lost, to drop’
	sɔɔm ²³	sɔɔm ²¹	‘to invite’
	saaw ⁴⁴	saaw ²¹	‘to be long’
	fiiir ⁴⁴	fiiir ²¹	‘to steal, to rob’

5.2.1.5 Vowel coalescence

Primary verb stems with diphthongs, nasal finals and low tones are coalesced in their secondary stem forms as in (77):

(77)	Primary stem	Secondary stem	Gloss
	lian ²¹	lɛn ⁵²	‘to be wealthy’
	nuam ²¹	nɔm ⁵²	‘to enjoy, to have fun’
	fiaŋ ²¹	fɛŋ ⁵²	‘to give way’

As shown above, vowel coalescence rule occurs only with low tone. Other tones with diphthongs never have coalesced forms as in (78):

(78)	Primary stem	Secondary stem	Gloss
	jua ²³	jua ²¹	‘to roll up’
	tuam ⁴⁴	tuam ²¹	‘to scrap’
	suak ⁵²	sua ²¹	‘to get out’

Primary stem					Secondary stem				
Tones	Rhyme structure	Types of nucleus and codas	Examples	Tones	Rhyme structure	Types of nucleus and codas	Phonological alternation	Examples	
Low [21]	VV	long vowel	t ^h aa ²¹ 'to be good'	no alternation	VC	short vowel, stop final	vowel shortening, stop insertion	t ^h at ²¹ 'to be good'	
	VV	diphthong	tia ²¹ 'same side'	Falling [52]	VVC	diphthong	no alternation	tia ⁵² 'same side'	
	V(V)C	short/diphthong, [+nasal] final	jum ²¹ 'to believe'	Falling [52]	VC	short vowel [+nasal final]	vowel shortening /coalescence	jum ⁵² 'to believe'	
	V(V)C	short/long vowel, [+sonorant] final	nej ²¹ 'to have'	no alternation	VC?	short vowel, [+sonorant] + glottal final	vowel shortening, glottalization	nej ²¹ 'to have'	
	VC	short vowel, [+obstruent] final	tsak ²¹ 'to be strong'	no alternation	V?	short vowel, ? final	glottal insertion	tsa ²¹ 'to be strong'	
	V(V)?	short vowel /diphthong, glottal final	fe ²¹ 'to go'	no alternation	V(V)?	short vowel /diphthong	no alternation	fe ²¹ 'to go'	
High [44]	VV	long vowel /diphthong	laa ⁴⁴ 'to be far'	Falling [52]	VVC	long vowel, stop final	stop insertion	laa ⁵² 'to be far'	
	V(V)C	[-sonorant] final	ŋɔɔk ⁴⁴ 'to snore'	Low [21]	V(V)C	long vowel, stop final	no alternation	ŋɔɔk ²¹ 'to snore'	
	V(V)C	short/long vowel, [+sonorant] final	raŋ ⁴⁴ 'to be fast'	Low [21]	V(V)C	short/long vowel, nasal final	nasal alternation	raŋ ²¹ 'to be fast'	
	VC	short vowel, [+son, -nasal] final	tɛl ⁴⁴ 'to participate'	Low [21]	VC	short vowel, [+son, -nasal] final	no alternation	tɛl ²¹ 'to participate'	

Table 14. A summary of morphophonemic alternations in verb stems

Primary stem				Secondary stem				
Rising [23]	VV	long vowel	tʰiɪ ²³ ‘to sew’	Falling [52]	VVC	long vowel, stop final	stop insertion	tʰiɪ ⁵² ‘to sew’
	V(V)C	long vowel sonorant [-]	suup ²³ ‘to reduce’	Low [21]	VVC	no alternation	no alternation	suup ²¹ ‘to reduce’
	V(V)C	[+nasal] final	keŋ ²³ ‘to bring’	Low [21]	V(V)C		nasal alternation	keŋ ²¹ ‘to bring’
	V(V)C [j, w, l, r]		kaw ²³ ‘to call’	No alternation	no alternation	no alternation	no alternation	kaw ²³ ‘to call’
Falling [52]	VV	long vowel /diphthong	kʰaa ⁵² ‘to be bitter’	No alternation	VVC	long vowel /diphthong	stop insertion	kʰaa ⁵² ‘to be bitter’
	VV	long V	ɲuu ⁵² ‘to see’	Low [21]	V?	short vowel, glottal final	glottal insertion, vowel shortening	ɲuʔ ²¹ ‘to see’
	V(V)C	long vowel/diphthong [obstruent] final	waak ⁵² ‘to crawl’	Low [21]	V?	short vowel /diphthong, glottal final	vowel shortening, glottal insertion	waʔ ‘to crawl’
	VVC	long vowel, [obstruent] final	kɔk ⁵² ‘to scold’	no alternation	VVC	long vowel, [obstruent] final	no alternation	kɔk ⁵² ‘to scold’
	VC	short vowel, [+nasal] final	tʃeɪ ⁵² ‘to exchange’	no alternation	VC	short vowel, [+nasal] final	no alternation	tʃeɪ ⁵² ‘to exchange’

Table 14. A summary of morphophonemic alternations in verb stems (cont.)

As shown in Table 14, the following generalization can be summarized. Falam has no predictable nasal assimilation pattern but has nasal alternation. Nasal alternation is associated with rising tone and low tone but not low tone and falling tone as in (69). Falam also has final /-t/ and final /-k/ additions in secondary stems. Final /-t/ addition is related to low, high, and rising tones as (70). Final /-k/ addition is related to falling tone as in (71). Also a primary verb with vowel final can instead have a glottal stop in its secondary stem form as in (72).

In Falam, a primary verb stem that ends with a sonorant final /w, j, r, l/ is glottalized in its secondary stem form. The primary verb stems with final stops /p, t, k/ are also alternated to the glottal stop in their secondary stem forms. Glottalization never occurs with a long nucleus in secondary stem forms but may occur with a diphthong. Also glottalization is associated with low tone syllables with sonorant finals (but not nasals) (74) and with falling tone syllables with stop /p, t, k/ finals as seen in Section 6.2, example (88). Most of vowel shortening rules in secondary verb stems are associated with glottalization (see Section 5.2.1.3). Another rule of shortening vowels occurs when a low tone syllable with a nasal final that has long nucleus appears in the secondary stem form as in (75). Primary verb stems with diphthongs and nasal finals are coalesced in their secondary stem forms. The vowel coalescence rule is related only to low tone as in (77). Besides secondary stem formation, Falam has verb stems that require two forms in their secondary stem forms, the second of which is called “tertiary”³⁰ in this thesis.

³⁰ There are not many stems that have two forms but few. This stem alternation happens to a syllable with a diphthong closed with velar final that has high tone or rising tone. Diphthongs in the syllables are coalesced and velar nasals alternate to alveolar nasals in secondary stem forms (see Appendix V).

CHAPTER 6

TONE ALTERNATIONS

6.0 Introduction

In the previous description of phonologically conditioned alternations in noun stems (Section 5.1.1.1.) and primary verb stems (Section 5.1.1.2), tone and segmental phonological processes were discussed. This section will describe tone alternations in secondary verb stems. Many tones of the primary stems alternate when they appear in secondary stem forms in ways that are not conditioned by their environments.

6.1 Low tone alternation

Low tone verbs with a nasal final consonant have falling tone in their secondary stem form regardless of whether the primary stem nucleus is long or short as in (79).

(79)	Primary stem	Secondary stem	Gloss
	laŋ ²¹	laŋ ⁵²	‘to appear’
	baaŋ ²¹	baŋ ⁵²	‘to be tired’
	jum ²¹	jum ⁵²	‘to believe’
	tsuum ²¹	tsum ⁵²	‘to pound, to beat’

Diphthongs with low tone that are closed with a final nasal in a primary stem have falling tone and diphthongs are coalesced in the secondary stem as in (80):

(80)	Primary stem	Secondary stem	Gloss
	lian ²¹	lɛn ⁵²	‘to be wealthy’
	t ^h uam ²¹	t ^h ɔm ⁵²	‘to dress up’
	fiaŋ ²¹	fɛŋ ⁵²	‘to be clear’

Low tone syllables with vowel finals have falling tone and a final /-t/ in their secondary stem forms as in (81):

(81)	Primary stem	Secondary stem	Gloss
	rii ²¹	riit ⁵²	‘to be drunk’
	ḍḍo ²¹	ḍḍot ⁵²	‘to be jealous’
	paa ²¹	paat ⁵²	‘to be like male’
	nuu ²¹	nuut ⁵²	‘to be like female’
	bεε ²¹	bεet ⁵²	‘to add’

Syllables with sonorant finals /l, r, w, j/ which are low tone in their primary stem forms retain low tone in secondary stems. It can generally be concluded that low tone with nasal finals and vowel finals have falling tone in secondary stem form.

6.2 High tone alternation

High tone primary verbs are low in their secondary stem forms. This occurs in both closed and dead syllables, whether their nuclei are short or long as in (82). There is no vowel alternation or consonant alternation except nasal alternation (see Section 5.2.1.1).

(82)	Primary stem	Secondary stem	Gloss
	ḍaŋ ⁴⁴	dan ²¹	‘to be different’
	ṭel ⁴⁴	ṭel ²¹	‘to participate’
	fii ⁴⁴	fii ²¹	‘to steal, to rob’
	ḍḍop ⁴⁴	ḍḍop ²¹	‘to jump down’

High tone verbs with open syllables have falling tone and a final /-t/ in their secondary stem forms as in (83):

(83)	Primary stem	Secondary stem	Gloss
	jua ⁴⁴	juat ⁵²	‘to domesticate’
	laa ⁴⁴	laat ⁵²	‘to be far’
	nuu ⁴⁴	nuut ⁵²	‘to be late’
	loo ⁴⁴	loot ⁵²	‘to be industrious’

As seen in (82), primary stems with high tone closed syllables have low tone in their secondary stem forms and show nasal alternation. Also a high tone syllable with a vowel final has falling tone and a final /-t/ in its secondary stem form as shown in (83).

6.3 Rising tone alternation

Rising tone verbs with open syllables, especially /i/, /a/, and /u/ finals, have low tone in their secondary stem form as in (84):

(84)	Primary stem	Secondary stem	Gloss
	saa ²³	sat ²¹	‘to be hot’
	puu ²³	put ²¹	‘to carry on a shoulder’
	t ^{hi} ii ²³	t ^{hi} i ²¹	‘to die’

As in (84) rising tone primary stem verbs that are low in secondary stem can also be high, but this alternation in secondary stem is governed by low tone dissimilation rule in Section 4.1.4. A rising tone verb closed by a sonorant or an oral stop in the primary stem has low tone in its secondary stem as in (85):

(85)	Primary stem	Secondary stem	Gloss
	baaŋ ²³	baan ²¹	‘to stop’
	keŋ ²³	ken ²¹	‘to hold, to bring’
	sɔɔm ²³	sɔɔm ²¹	‘to invite’
	sia ²³	sia ²¹	‘to read’,
	ɔɔk ²³	ɔɔk ²¹	‘to drink’
	kaat ²³	kaat ²¹	‘to be barely’

The only segmental alternation occurring in (85) is an alternation of a velar nasal and an alveolar nasal.

Some rising tone verbs with open syllables (e,i, and ɔ finals) have falling tones and a final /-t/ in their secondary stem forms as in (86):

(86)	Primary stem	Secondary stem	Gloss
	rɛɛ ²³	rɛɛt ⁵²	‘to keep’
	fɛɽ ²¹ pii ²³	fɛɽ ²¹ piit ⁵²	‘to go along with’
	saw ²¹ pɔɔ ²³	saw ²¹ pɔɔt ⁵²	‘to be proud’

As shown in the above examples, rising tone is generally low in secondary stem whether the syllable is live or dead. Rising tone syllables with vowel finals /e/ or /ɔ/ have falling tone in their secondary stem forms and a final /t/. Also a rising tone primary stem with front high vowel /i/ final is low or falling unpredictably in secondary stem form as shown in (84) and (86).

6.4 Falling tone alternation

Many falling tone verbs with a primary stem closed with a stop have low tone in their secondary forms with accompanying vowel shortening and glottalization as in (87):

(87)	Primary stem	Secondary stem	Gloss
	ruat ⁵²	ruaɽ ²¹	‘to think’
	riak ⁵²	riaɽ ²¹	‘to stay overnight, to spend the night’
	saat ⁵²	saɽ ²¹	‘to chop, to cut’
	suut ⁵²	suɽ ²¹	‘to ask’

As in (87), falling tone verbs that are low in their secondary stems can also have high tone, but this tone change in secondary stems is governed by a tone

dissimilation rule as in Section 4.1.4. Some falling tone verbs closed with stop finals are the same in both primary and secondary forms. This condition may be affected by their nuclei, such as /i/, /e/, and /ɔ/, as in (88):

(88)	Primary stem	Secondary stem	Gloss
	siit ⁵²	siit ⁵²	‘to kick’
	kɔɔk ⁵²	kɔɔk ⁵²	‘to scold’
	rɛɛt ⁵²	rɛɛt ⁵²	‘to keep’

Falling tone verbs closed with a sonorant or a stop also show no variation in tone. Falling tone verbs with open syllables also have no tone alternation, but there is one open syllable that is low tone in its secondary stem, that is, the word /m̥uu⁵²/ (primary) /m̥uɿ²¹/ (secondary) ‘to see’. The following table illustrates a summary of the Falam tone alternations:

Tone	Primary stem	Secondary stem
1 Low (L)	21	52
2 High (H)	44	21/52
3 Rising (LH)	23	21/52
4 Falling (HL)	52	21

Table 15. A summary of tone alternation

As shown in Table 15, low tone syllables in primary stems alternate into falling tone. Low tone syllables with stop /p, t, k/ finals and sonorant (but not nasal) finals do not alternate their tones in secondary stems.

High tone primary stem syllables with sonorant finals alternate into low tone in secondary stems. High tone syllables with open syllables alternate with falling tone in their secondary stem forms.

Rising tone syllables, both open and closed with sonorants and stops, in primary stems alternate into low tone in secondary stems. Exceptionally, rising tone syllables with vowel finals (ε,i, and ɔ) alternate with falling tone as in (86):

Falling tone syllables with stop /p, t, k/ finals in primary stems alternate with low tone in secondary stems.

CHAPTER 7

CONCLUSION

7.0 Introduction

This chapter consists of two sections: The first section provides a summary of this analysis and the next section provides suggestions for further study.

7.1 Summary

The Chin people originally migrated from China centuries ago and settled around the plain areas, and then moving around the Chin Hills. Falam, the language of the Chin people, is one of the TB language families, Kuki-Chin Sub-group. Falam includes twenty-nine consonant phonemes and five vowel phonemes. Vowel length is contrastive only in closed syllables.

The maximal syllable template of Falam is $(C_1)V_1(V_1)(C_2)(C_3)$ followed by any tone. All consonants can occur word initially, but only ten can occur word finally. There are two diphthongs, /ua/ and /ia/. Monophthongs and diphthongs can occur word initially, word medially, and word finally. There are no consonant clusters except a non-nasal sonorant followed by glottal stop word-finally. Falam word structure consists of one to four syllables, usually one. There are vowel length contrasts. Glottalized syllables are shorter. Long vowels always shorten in glottal rhymes, but diphthongs stay the same. There are no rising or falling tones with glottalized syllables but there are rising and falling tones with stop-final syllables.

The suprasegmental phonology of Falam contains tone, stress, and intonation. The tonal analysis in this thesis is an auditory analysis based on recorded wordlists and text. There are four underlying tones in Falam: low, high, rising, and falling. All consonants can occur with all tones. Tone sandhi also occurs

in Falam with low, rising and falling tones. Of the four phonemic tones, the high tone never undergoes tone sandhi.

There is a relationship between stress and intonation. Stress patterns fall generally upon the second syllable of a compound word consisting of two syllables, and if the word contains more than two syllables, the stress will fall on the last syllable of the word. Being a tonal language, tone is the most fundamental contrastive element in the suprasegmental phonology of Falam. However, intonation is also meaningful in context, often expressing different moods or feelings, such as impatience or excitement.

Falam has morphophonemic alternations. Morphophonemic alternations mostly occur with nouns in compounding, verbs, and some nominal phrases. There are segmental alternations, namely, nasal alternation, stop alternation, final glottalization, and vowel alternation. Two vowel alternation rules are shortening and coalescence. Diphthongs in nouns with open syllables coalesced when they attach to another syllable to create a compound word. Syllables with a diphthong final in verb stems are also coalesced when followed by another syllable. Open syllables which have long vowels become short when they attach to another syllable to create a compound word. Segmental deletion also occurs with functional morphemes, namely, adverbial, locative, and possessive morphemes.

There is lexical alternation of verb stems, primary and secondary. The secondary stems tend to shorten or stay the same, and never lengthen. Segmental shortenings that affect secondary stems generally involve a single change, mostly forced by the impossibility of long vowels in glottalized rhymes. Regarding glottalization, syllables with glottal closure are normally shorter and occur with low tone. It can be concluded that glottalization produces effective vowel shortening. Some nasal syllables also undergo vowel shortening in secondary stem. When a stop is added to an open syllable in secondary stem, many vowels tend to be shorter than their equivalents in open syllables (/raa²³ – rat²¹/ ‘to come’). Some vowels in open and closed syllables are the same length, so that

VV and VVC and both are longer than V and VC as in /paa⁴⁴/(VV) and /paat⁵²/(VVC), which occurs only with high tone syllables.

There are also three tone alternations: one converts rising tone into low tone in secondary stem when the primary stem syllable is closed and converts into high, low, and falling tone when the primary stem syllable is open. The second tonal alternation involves the replacement of a falling tone by low tone in secondary stem and a low tone by falling tone in secondary stem. The third alternation is one that converts a primary stem with a high tone into a secondary stem with low tone when the syllable is closed and converts into secondary stem with a falling tone when the syllable is open. Rising tones are never found in secondary stems. The glottal stop is almost always associated with low tone. Sonorants that are not nasals are also glottalized while final stops and nasals are not glottalized.

The segmental shape of a syllable in some cases has no effect on its tonal behavior while in other cases there is an interdependence of tonal and segmental alternations. In terms of the tonal independency, rising tone always alternates, regardless of its syllable type. To some extent, final /-t/ occurrence in secondary stem is unpredictable for its relation on tone. The most obvious interdependency is that when tone is invariant, the situation requires segmental alternations such as vowel length, final alternations, glottalization, and diphthong coalescence. Low tone syllables which are glottalized in secondary stem are only found if stems do not end in nasals because nasals are never glottalized in Falam. Moreover, rising tone that alternates low and falling, high tone that alternates low, falling tone that alternates low exist only for consonant final stems, and rising tone that alternates high exists only for vowel final stems. Also there is an interaction between tone alternation and vowel shortening because vowel length stays the same when the whole stem is invariant. Finally, some conclusions can be drawn for syllable types in secondary stems: all syllables are closed, vowels are mostly short, many syllables are glottalized, there is no vowel lengthening, low diphthongs /ua, ia/ are often coalesced, rising tone alternates level tone, there is no addition of rising

tones or high tones, level tones (both low and high) and rising tone alternate falling.

7.2 Suggestion for further study

This analysis is an initial phonological description of Falam. A further acoustic study would be very a helpful tool to be able to further understanding the Falam sound system. Phonological studies in other dialects in Falam, such as Laizo, Sim, Zahao, Khualsim, Ngawn, Tapong, and so on would also be good for further study. A phonological comparison would also be helpful so that the similarities and the differences among those dialects can widely be understood by researchers. The status of glottal stop is still not entirely clear. The historical relationship between primary and secondary verb stems deserves clarification, and would result on a clearer picture of a single underlying form of each lexeme. As an extension from this study, it would be valuable to do a revision of the existing orthography by applying this phonological analysis.

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APPENDIX I

WORDLISTS

Number	Gloss	Phonetic transcription	Phonemic transcription
1	sky	va:n ²¹	waan ²¹
2	sun	ni: ²³	nii ²³
3	moon	t ^h a: ²¹ .pi: ⁴⁴	t ^h aa ²¹ .pii ⁴⁴
4	star	a:r ²³ .si: ²¹	aa ²³ .sii ²¹
5	cloud	k ^h ɔ ⁴⁴ .ɖu:r ²³	k ^h ɔ ⁴⁴ .ɖu:r ²³
6	mist	tsum ²¹ .tsi: ²³	tsum ²¹ .tsii ²³
7	rain	rua? ²¹	rua? ²¹
8	rainbow	va:ŋ ⁴⁴ .rəw ²¹	waan ⁴⁴ .raw ²¹
9	lightning	ni:m ²¹ .t ^h a: ⁴⁴	niim ²¹ .t ^h aa ⁴⁴
10	thunder	k ^h ɔ ⁴⁴ .ri: ²¹	k ^h ɔ ⁴⁴ .rii ²¹
11	wind	t ^h i: ²³	t ^h ii ²³
12	night	zan ²¹	jaan ²¹
13	day	su:n ²¹	suun ²¹
14	morning	zi:ŋ ²³	jiiŋ ²³
15	noon	su:n ²¹ .ŋu: ⁴⁴	suun ²¹ .ŋuu ⁴⁴
16	yesterday	ma ²¹ .ni: ²³	ma ²¹ .nii ²³
17	tomorrow	t ^h a:ŋ ⁵² .zi:ŋ ²³	t ^h aaŋ ⁵² .jiiŋ ²³
18	year	kum ²¹	kum ²¹
19	east	ni: ⁴⁴ .sua? ⁴⁴ .lam ⁴⁴	ni: ⁴⁴ .sua? ⁴⁴ .lam ⁴⁴
20	west	ni: ⁴⁴ .t ^h a:k ⁵² .lam ⁴⁴	ni: ⁴⁴ .t ^h aa ⁵² .lam ⁴⁴
21	north	sak ²¹ .lam ⁴⁴	sak ²¹ .lam ⁴⁴
22	south	t ^h aŋ ²¹ .lam ⁴⁴	t ^h aŋ ²¹ .lam ⁴⁴
23	water	t ^h i: ⁴⁴	t ^h ii ⁴⁴
24	river	t ^h i: ⁴⁴ .va: ²³	t ^h i: ⁴⁴ .waa ²³
25	sea	t ^h i: ⁴⁴ .pi: ⁴⁴ .t ^h uan ²¹ .t ^h um ²³	t ^h i: ⁴⁴ .pi: ⁴⁴ .t ^h uan ²¹ .t ^h um ²³
26	earth, soil	lej ⁴⁴ .luŋ ⁴⁴	lej ⁴⁴ .luŋ ⁴⁴
27	mud	tsiar ²¹ .be:k ⁴⁴	tsiar ²¹ .beek ⁴⁴
28	dust	lej ⁴⁴ .vut ²¹	lej ⁴⁴ .wut ²¹
29	stone	luŋ ⁴⁴ .təw ²³	luŋ ⁴⁴ .taw ²³
30	sand	vun ²¹ .ne:l ⁴⁴	wun ²¹ .neel ⁴⁴
31	lime(for betel chew)	t ^h uŋ ⁴⁴	t ^h uŋ ⁴⁴
32	gold	su: ⁴⁴	su: ⁴⁴

33	silver	ɲu:n ²³	ɲuun ²³
34	iron	tʰi:r ⁴⁴	tʰiir ⁴⁴
35	mountain	tla:ŋ ²³	tlaaŋ ²³
36	cave	pu:k ⁵²	puuk ⁵²
	Plants, Food		
37	forest	tu: ²¹	tuu ²¹
38	tree	tʰiŋ ⁴⁴ .ku:ŋ ⁴⁴	tʰiŋ ⁴⁴ .kuuŋ ⁴⁴
39	branch	tʰiŋ ⁴⁴ .ŋe: ²³	tʰiŋ ⁴⁴ .ŋeɛ ²³
40	tree bark	tʰiŋ ⁴⁴ .hɔ:ŋ ²³	tʰiŋ ⁴⁴ .hɔɔŋ ²³
41	thorn	liŋ ²³	liŋ ²³
42	root	tʰiŋ ⁴⁴ .ɾam ⁴⁴	tʰiŋ ⁴⁴ .ɾam ⁴⁴
43	leaf	tʰiŋ ⁴⁴ .naɪ ²¹	tʰiŋ ⁴⁴ .naɪ ²¹
44	flower	paŋ ⁴⁴ .paɾ ²¹	paŋ ⁴⁴ .paɾ ²¹
45	fruit	tʰiŋ ⁴⁴ .tʰeɪ ⁴⁴ .raɪ ²¹	tʰiŋ ⁴⁴ .tʰeɪ ⁴⁴ .raɪ ²¹
46	seed	tsi: ⁵² mu: ⁵²	tsii. ⁵² muu ⁵²
47	grass	ɾam ²¹	ɾam ²¹
48	bamboo	rua ²³	rua ²³
49	bamboo shoot	ɾɔ ⁴⁴ .ku:ŋ ⁴⁴	ɾɔ ⁴⁴ .kuuŋ ⁴⁴
50	mushroom	pa: ⁴⁴	paa ⁴⁴
51	cane/rattan	nuan ⁴⁴ /tlaɪ ²¹	nuan ⁴⁴ /tlaɪ ²¹
52	kapok	pa:ŋ ²¹ .pat ⁴⁴	paan ²¹ .pat ⁴⁴
53	sugarcane	fu: ²³	fuu ²³
54	betelnut	kuam ²¹	kuam ²¹
55	opium	biŋ ⁴⁴	biŋ ⁴⁴
56	liquor	zu: ²³	juu ²³
57	banana(fruit)	ban ²¹ la: ⁴⁴	ban ²¹ laa ⁴⁴
58	papaya(fruit)	ɲu: ⁴⁴ ɲu:n ²¹	ɲuu ⁴⁴ ɲuun ²¹
59	mango(fruit)	haɪ ²³	haaɪ ²³
60	jackfruit (fruit)	kɔ:l ²¹ taɪ ⁵²	kɔɔl ²¹ taat ⁵²
61	coconut(fruit)	uŋ ⁴⁴ .raɪ ²¹	uŋ ⁴⁴ .raɪ ²¹
62	eggplant(fruit)	bɔk ²¹ bɔ:n ²¹	bɔk ²¹ bɔɔn ²¹
63	peanut	mi: ²¹ pɛ: ⁴⁴	mii ²¹ pɛɛ ⁴⁴
64	ginger	tʰi:ŋ ²³	Tʰi:ŋ ²³
65	garlic	la ²¹ sun ⁴⁴	la ²¹ sun ⁴⁴
66	corn	vaj ²¹ .ni:m ⁴⁴	waj ²¹ .niim ⁴⁴
67	red pepper, chili	ɳak ²¹ .pʰɛk ²¹	ɳak ²¹ .pʰɛk ²¹
68	paddy rice	fa:ŋ ²³	faaŋ ²³
69	cooked rice	buɪ ²¹	buɪ ²¹
70	rice husk	fa:ŋ ²¹ .hi: ⁴⁴	faan ²¹ .hii ⁴⁴
71	salt	tsi: ²¹	tsii ²¹

	Animals		
72	animal	ram ²¹ sa: ⁵²	ram ²¹ saa ⁵²
73	tiger	pə: ²¹ .pi: ⁴⁴	Pəɔ ²¹ .pii ⁴⁴
74	bear	sa ²¹ .wəm ²³	sa ²¹ .wəm ²³
75	deer	zək ²¹ .nɛ:ŋ ²³	juk ²¹ .nɛɛŋ ²³
76	monkey	zəŋ ²³	Jəɔŋ ²³
77	gibbon	hu: ²¹ həw ⁵²	huu ²¹ haw ⁵²
78	rabbit	sa ²¹ bək ²¹	sa ²¹ bək ²¹
79	procupine	sa ²¹ p ^h u: ⁴⁴	sa ²¹ p ^h uu ⁴⁴
80	rat	zi:ŋ. ²³ ŋam ²¹	jiiŋ. ²³ ŋam ²¹
81	dog	uj ⁴⁴ .tsəw ⁴⁴	uj ⁴⁴ .tsaw ⁴⁴
82	to bark	bəw ⁵²	baw ⁵²
83	to bite	kɛ:w ⁵²	kɛɛw ⁵²
84	cat	zəɽ ²¹ .tɛ: ⁴⁴	Jəɽ ²¹ .tɛɛ ⁴⁴
85	pig	vək ²¹	wək ²¹
86	cow	tsə: ⁴⁴	tsəɔ ⁴⁴
87	milk	ŋəɔj ⁵²	ŋəɔj ⁵²
88	buffalo	na: ⁴⁴	naa ⁴⁴
89	horn	ki: ⁵²	kii ⁵²
90	tail	mɛj ⁴⁴	mɛj ⁴⁴
91	elephant	vuɔj ²³	wuuj ²³
92	elephant tusk	vuɔj ²³ .həw ²¹	wuuj ²³ .haw ²¹
93	bird	va: ²¹ .tɛ: ⁴⁴	waa ²¹ .tɛɛ ⁴⁴
94	bird's nest	va: ²¹ .tɛ ⁴⁴ .bu: ⁵²	waa ²¹ .tɛ ⁴⁴ .buu ⁵²
95	wing	t ^h a: ²¹	t ^h aa ²¹
96	feather	va: ²¹ .tɛ ⁴⁴ .mʉl ⁴⁴	waa ²¹ .tɛ ⁴⁴ .mʉl ⁴⁴
97	to fly	zam ²³ /zuaŋ ²³	jam ²³ /juaŋ ²³
98	egg	ti: ⁴⁴	tii ⁴⁴
99	chicken	aɽ ²³	aar ²³
100	duck	ram ²¹ .paj ²¹	ram ²¹ .paj ²¹
101	fish	ŋa: ⁵²	ŋaa ⁵²
102	snake	ru:l ²³	ruul ²³
103	house lizard	t ^h im ⁴⁴ . ɬi: ²¹	t ^h im ⁴⁴ . ɬii ²¹
104	turtle	tsum ⁴⁴ .k ^h ɛ:ŋ ²¹	tsum ⁴⁴ .k ^h ɛɛŋ ²¹
105	crocodile	ti: ⁴⁴ .sa:r ²¹ .tam ²¹	tii ⁴⁴ .saar ²¹ .tam ²¹
106	frog	bu ⁴⁴ .tɬak ⁴⁴	bu ⁴⁴ .tɬak ⁴⁴
107	insect	tsu: ²¹ .tsik ⁴⁴ .k ^h a:r ⁴⁴ .bə:k ²¹	tsuu ²¹ .tsik ⁴⁴ .k ^h aar ⁴⁴ .bəɔk ²¹
108	spider	maj ²¹ .məm ⁵²	maj ²¹ .məm ⁵²
109	spider web	maj ²¹ .məm ⁵² ra:ŋ ⁴⁴	maj ²¹ .məm ⁵² raan ⁴⁴
110	louse (head)	ɕik ²¹	ɕik ²¹

111	termite	sun ²¹ .ɸu:l ⁴⁴	sun ²¹ .ɸuul ⁴⁴
112	cockroach	tsuk ²¹ tsu: ²³	tsuk ²¹ tsuu ²³
113	snail	k ^h a:r ⁴⁴ .k ^h em ²¹	k ^h aar ⁴⁴ .k ^h em ²¹
114	mosquito	fik ²¹ .fa: ⁵² /kɔŋ ⁵² .saŋ ²³	fik ²¹ .faa ⁵² /kɔŋ ⁵² .saŋ ²³
115	bee	k ^h uaj ²³	k ^h uaj ²³
116	fly	t ^h əw ²¹ .t ^h ε: ²³	t ^h aw ²¹ .t ^h εε ²³
117	butterfly	p ^h i ²¹ .ɸip ²¹	p ^h i ²¹ .ɸip ²¹
118	scorpion	t ^h aaŋ ²³ kaj ²¹ .kuaŋ ²³	t ^h aaŋ ²³ kaj ²¹ .kuaŋ ²³
	Body		
119	head	lu: ²³	luu ²³
120	face	m̥a:j ⁴⁴	m̥aa:j ⁴⁴
121	brain	t ^h uak ⁵²	t ^h uak ⁵²
122	hair	sam ⁴⁴ /m̥ul ⁴⁴	sam ⁴⁴ /m̥ul ⁴⁴
123	forehead	tsal ²¹	tsal ²¹
124	eyebrow	mit ²¹ .ki:l ²³	mit ²¹ .kiil ²³
125	eye	mit ²¹	mit ²¹
126	eyelid	mit ²¹ .vun ⁴⁴	mit ²¹ .wun ⁴⁴
127	nose	ɲar ²¹	ɲaar ²¹
128	cheek	bian ²³	bian ²³
129	ear	ɲa: ²³	ɲaa ²³
130	mouth	ka: ²³	kaa ²³
131	tongue	lej ²³	lej ²³
132	saliva	tsil ²³	tsiil ²³
133	tooth	ha: ²³	haa ²³
134	gums	ha ⁴⁴ .ni: ⁵²	ha ⁴⁴ .nii ⁵²
135	chin	k ^h a ²¹ .be: ⁵²	k ^h a ²¹ .bee ⁵²
136	beard	m̥u:r ²¹ .m̥ul ⁴⁴	m̥uur ²¹ .m̥ul ⁴⁴
137	to shave (beard)	me:t ⁵²	meet ⁵²
138	back	zaŋ ²³	zaaŋ ²³
139	abdomen	pum ²¹	pum ²¹
140	navel	laj ²³	laj ²³
141	heart	luŋ ²³	luŋ ²³
142	lungs	tsuap ⁵²	tsuap ⁵²
143	liver	t ^h in ²¹	t ^h in ²¹
144	intestines	ril ²³	ril ²³
145	hand	kut ²¹	kut ²¹
146	elbow	ki:w ²¹	kiiw ²¹
147	armpit	zak ²¹	jak ²¹
148	palm	za ⁴⁴ .p ^h ak ⁴⁴	ja ⁴⁴ .p ^h ak ⁴⁴
149	finger	zuŋ ⁴⁴	juŋ ⁴⁴

150	finger nail	tin ⁴⁴	tin ⁴⁴
151	buttocks	to ⁴⁴ .tsor ⁵²	to ⁴⁴ .tsor ⁵²
152	leg	ke: ²¹	kee ²¹
153	thigh	ko:ŋ ⁵²	koŋ ⁵²
154	knee	k ^h u:k ⁵²	k ^h uuk ⁵²
155	calf	p ^h ej ²¹ .u:m ²¹	p ^h ej ²¹ .uum ²¹
156	shin	ŋal ²³	ŋal ²³
157	foot	ke ²¹ .za ⁴⁴ .p ^h ak ⁴⁴	ke ²¹ .ja ⁴⁴ .p ^h ak ⁴⁴
158	heel	ke ²¹ .di:l ²³	ke ²¹ .diil ²³
159	bone	ruŋ ²¹	ruŋ ²¹
160	rib	ŋa:k ⁵²	ŋaak ⁵²
161	flesh	ti ⁵² .sa: ⁵²	ti ⁵² .saa ⁵²
162	fat	t ^h a:w ²¹	t ^h aaw ²¹
163	skin	vun ⁴⁴	jun ⁴⁴
164	blood	t ^h i: ⁴⁴	t ^h ii ⁴⁴
165	sweat	t ^h an ²¹	t ^h an ²¹
166	pus	m̥a ⁴⁴ .ŋa:j ²³	m̥a ⁴⁴ .ŋaaj ²³
167	excrement	ε:k ⁵²	εek ⁵²
168	urine	zun ²¹ /zin ²¹	jun ²¹ /jin ²¹
	People		
169	man	pa ²¹ .tsaŋ ⁴⁴	pa ²¹ .tsaŋ ⁴⁴
170	woman	nu ²¹ .pi ⁴⁴ .nu: ⁵²	nu ²¹ .pi ⁴⁴ .nuu ⁵²
171	person	mi: ⁵²	mii ⁵²
172	father	pa: ⁵²	paa ⁵²
173	mother	nu: ⁵²	nuu ⁵²
174	child	na:w ²¹ ha:k ⁵²	naaw ²¹ haak ⁵²
175	son-in-law	tu ²¹ .pa ²¹	tu ²¹ .pa ²¹
176	husband	pa ²¹ .sal ⁴⁴	pa ²¹ .sal ⁴⁴
177	wife	nu ²¹ .pi: ⁴⁴	nu ²¹ .pii ⁴⁴
178	widow	nu ²¹ .m̥ej ²¹	nu ²¹ .m̥ej ²¹
179a	brother (elder of f)	u: ²³ (pa:)	uu ²³
179b	brother (elder of m)	u: ²³	uu ²³
179c	sister (elder of f)	u: ²³	uu ²³
179d	sister (elder of m)	u: ²³	uu ²³
180a	brother (yngr of f)	na:w ²³	naaw ²³
180b	brother (yngr of m)	na:w ²³	naaw ²³
180c	sister (yngr of f)	na:w ²³	naaw ²³
180d	sister (yngr of m)	na:w ²³	naaw ²³
181	friend	rual ²³	rual ²³
182	name	m̥in ²³	m̥in ²³

	Home		
183	village	k ^h ua ²³	k ^h ua ²³
184	road, path	lam ⁴⁴ .zi:n ²¹	lam ⁴⁴ .jiin ²¹
185	boat	lɔŋ ²¹	lɔŋ ²¹
186	house	in ⁴⁴	in ⁴⁴
187	door	saŋ ⁴⁴ .kar ⁴⁴	saŋ ⁴⁴ .kaa ⁴⁴
188	window	tuk ²¹ .vir ²¹	tuk ²¹ .wir ²¹
189	roof	ɕi ⁴⁴ .p ^h un ²¹	ɕi ⁴⁴ .p ^h un ²¹
190	area uner house	in ⁴⁴ .nuaj ⁵²	in ⁴⁴ .nuaj ⁵²
191	wall of house	p ^h ar ⁵²	p ^h ar ⁵²
192	mat	p ^h er ²³	p ^h er ²³
193	pillow	lu ⁴⁴ .k ^h am ²¹	lu ⁴⁴ .k ^h am ²¹
194	blanket	puan ⁴⁴	puan ⁴⁴
195	clothing	sin ⁵² .fɛn ²¹	sin ⁵² .fɛn ²¹
196	to weave (cloth)	ta ²¹	ta ²¹
197	to dye (cloth)	but ²¹	but ²¹
198	loincloth	biar ²³	biar ²³
199	trousers	bɔŋ ⁴⁴ .bi ²¹ .sa:w ⁴⁴	bɔŋ ⁴⁴ .bi ²¹ .saaw ⁴⁴
200	to sew	t ^h i ²³	t ^h i ²³
201	needle	t ^h im ²³	t ^h im ²³
202	comb	t ^h aj ²¹ .t ^h i ⁴⁴	t ^h aj ²¹ .t ^h i ⁴⁴
203	ring (finger)	zuŋ ⁴⁴ .ɕu:k ⁵²	juŋ ⁴⁴ .ɕuuk ⁵²
204	paper, cord	t ^h sa ⁴⁴ .na ²¹	t ^h sa ⁴⁴ .na ²¹
205	pot (cooking)	bɛ:l ²³	bɛ:l ²³
206	coconutshell ladle	uŋ ⁴⁴ .ra ²¹	uŋ ⁴⁴ .ra ²¹
207	mortar	sum ⁴⁴	sum ⁴⁴
208	pestle	suk ²¹ .lu:m ⁴⁴	suk ²¹ .luum ⁴⁴
209	spoon	ha:j ²¹	haaj ²¹
210	plate	pa ²¹ .ka:n ⁴⁴	pa ²¹ .kaan ⁴⁴
211	firewood	ti ²¹ .t ^h in ⁴⁴	ti ²¹ .t ^h in ⁴⁴
212	fire	mej ⁴⁴ .sa: ²³	mej ⁴⁴ .saa ²³
213	ashes	vut ²¹ .za:m ²³	wut ²¹ .jaam ²³
214	smoke	mej ⁴⁴ .k ^h u: ⁵²	mej ⁴⁴ .k ^h uu ⁵²
215	candle	p ^h a ²¹ .zɔŋ ⁴⁴ dɛm ²¹	p ^h a ²¹ .jɔŋ ⁴⁴ dɛn ²¹
216	drum	k ^h uaŋ ²³	k ^h uaŋ ²³
217	gong	ɕar ²¹ .k ^h uaŋ ⁴⁴	ɕar ²¹ .k ^h uaŋ ⁴⁴
218	bow, crossbow	t ^h al ⁴⁴ .k ^h u:k ⁵²	t ^h al ⁴⁴ .k ^h uuk ⁵²
219	arrow	t ^h al ⁴⁴ .fuŋ ⁴⁴	t ^h al ⁴⁴ .fuŋ ⁴⁴
220	spear	fɛj ⁴⁴	fɛj ⁴⁴
221	knife	na:m ⁴⁴	naam ⁴⁴

	Verbs		
222	to hear	ŋa:j ²³	ŋaaj ²³
223	to smell	ŋi:m ²¹	ŋiim ²¹
224	to see	m̥u: ⁵²	m̥uu ⁵²
225	to wink	mit ²¹ .sin ⁵²	mit ²¹ .sin ⁵²
226	to weep	tap ²¹	tap ²¹
227	to eat	ej ²³	ej ²³
228	to swallow	ɗɔlʔ ²¹	ɗɔlʔ ²¹
229	to be hungry	ril ²¹ .rɔŋ ⁴⁴	ril ²¹ .rɔŋ ⁴⁴
230	to be full	pum ²¹ .puar ²³	pum ²¹ .puar ²³
231	to be thirsty	ti ⁴⁴ .ha:l ⁴⁴	ti ⁴⁴ .haal ⁴⁴
232	to drink	in ²³	in ²³
233	to be drunk	ri: ²¹	rii ²¹
234	to vomit	luak ⁵²	luak ⁵²
235	to spit	p ^h uj ⁵²	p ^h uj ⁵²
236	to cough	k ^h uʔ ²¹	k ^h uʔ ²¹
237	to sneeze	nap ²¹ .ɗɔp ²¹	nap ²¹ .ɗɔp ²¹
238	to yawn	haʔ ²¹ .ham ²¹	haʔ ²¹ .ham ²¹
239	to breathe	t ^h ɔ ²¹ .t ^h ɔ: ²¹	t ^h ɔ ²¹ .t ^h ɔ ²¹
240	to blow	se:m ²¹ /p ^h ɔ: ²¹	seem ²¹ /p ^h ɔ ²¹
241	to suck	zu:k ²¹ /ɗɔ:p ²³	juuk ²¹ /ɗɔɔp ²³
242	to lick	liak ⁵²	liak ⁵²
243	to smile	ni: ²³ /ma:j ⁴⁴ .pan ²³	ni: ²³ /maaj ⁴⁴ .pan ²³
244	to laugh	ŋi: ²³	ŋii ²³
245	to speak	sim ²³ /tɔŋ ⁵²	sim ²³ /tɔŋ ⁵²
246	to tell	sim ²³	sim ²³
247	to shout	a:w ²³	aaw ²³
248	to answer	let ²¹	let ²¹
249	to lie, to fib	bu:m ²³	buum ²³
250	to sing	la ⁴⁴ .sa: ²¹	la ⁴⁴ .saa ²¹
251	to think	ruat ⁵²	ruat ⁵²
252	to know	t ^h ej ²¹	t ^h ej ²¹
253	to forget	ŋilʔ ²¹	ŋilʔ ²¹
254	to choose	ɕil ²³	ɕil ²³
255	to love	ɗuʔ ²¹	ɗuʔ ²¹
256	to hate	hua ⁴⁴	hua ⁴⁴
257	to wait	ŋa:k ⁵²	ŋaak ⁵²
258	to count	sia ²³	sia ²³
259	to be afraid	tiʔ ²¹	tiʔ ²¹
260	to be angry	t ^h in ²¹ .heŋ ⁵²	t ^h in ²¹ .heŋ ⁵²

261	to sleep	it ²¹	it ²¹
262	to snore	ŋɔ:k ⁴⁴	ŋɔɔk ⁴⁴
263	to dream	maŋ ⁴⁴ .man ⁵²	maŋ ⁴⁴ .man ⁵²
264	to hurt	ɭiam ²¹ /tuaŋ ²¹ .mɔŋ ²¹	ɭiam ²¹ /taŋ ²¹ .mɔŋ ²¹
265	medicine	si: ²³	sii ²³
266	to itch	t ^h ak ²¹ (t ^h ak ²¹ . t ^h ak ²¹)	t ^h ak ²¹ (t ^h ak ²¹ . t ^h ak ²¹)
267	to scratch	k ^h ewŋ ²¹ / k ^h ɔjŋ ²¹	k ^h ewŋ ²¹ / k ^h ɔjŋ ²¹
268	to shiver	k ^h ur ²¹	k ^h ur ²¹
269	to die	thi: ²³	thii ²³
270	ghost	tɬa: ³²	tɬaa ³²
271	to sit	təw ²³	taw ²³
272	to stand	ɖiŋ ²³	ɖiŋ ²³
273	to kneel	k ^h uk ⁵² .bil ⁴⁴	k ^h uuk ⁵² .bil ⁴⁴
274	to walk	fɛŋ ²¹	fɛŋ ²¹
275	to crawl	va:k ⁵²	waak ⁵²
276	to come	ra: ²³	raa ²³
277	to enter	lut: ⁵²	luut ⁵²
278	to return	kiir ⁴⁴	kiir ⁴⁴
279	to push	nam ⁴⁴ / tu:l ⁴⁴	nam ⁴⁴ / tuul ⁴⁴
280	to pull	ɖiir ²¹	ɖiir ²¹
281	to kick	si:t ⁵²	siit ⁵²
282	to throw	ɖɛ:ŋ ²³ /ɭɔn ⁵²	ɖɛɛŋ ²³ /ɭɔn ⁵²
283	to fall	tɬa: ⁵²	tɬaa ⁵²
284	to swim	lewŋ ²¹	lewŋ ²¹
285	to float	p ^h uan ²¹	p ^h uan ²¹
286	to sink	pil ²³	pil ²³
287	to flow	luan ²³	luan ²³
288	to give	pɛ: ⁵²	pɛɛ ⁵²
289	to tie	k ^h it ²¹ /tɛɛm ²³ /fɛɛŋ ²³	k ^h it ²¹ /tɛɛm ²³ /fɛɛŋ ²³
290	to wipe	ŋu:l ²³	ŋuul ²³
291	to rub, to scrub	p ^h iat ⁵²	p ^h iat ⁵²
292	to wash	k ^h ɔŋ ²¹	k ^h ɔŋ ²¹
293	to launder	sɔ:p ⁵²	sɔɔp ⁵²
294	to bathe	k ^h ɔŋ ²¹ (tak ²¹ .sa ⁵²)	k ^h ɔŋ ²¹ (tak ²¹ .sa ⁵²)
295	to hit	paŋ ²¹ /k ^h ɔ:ŋ ²³	paŋ ²¹ /k ^h ɔɔŋ ²³
296	to split	t ^h ɛn ²³	t ^h ɛn ²³
297	to cut (hair)	mɛ:t ⁵²	mɛɛt ⁵²
298	to stab	sun ²¹	sun ²¹
399	to grind	ɾial ²³	ɾial ²³
300	to plant	ci:ŋ ²³ /p ^h un ⁴⁴	ciŋ ²³ /p ^h un ⁴⁴

301	to dig	laɿ ²¹	laɿ ²¹
302	to bury (a corpse)	p ^h u:m ²³ /vuɿ ²³	p ^h uum ²³ /wuɿ ²³
303	to winnow (rice)	sɛ:p ²³	sɛɛp ²³
304	to dry (sth.)	p ^h əw ²³	p ^h aw ²³
305	to pound (rice)	ɖɛ:ŋ ²³ /p ^h ɔm ⁵²	ɖɛɛŋ ²³ /p ^h ɔm ⁵²
306	to cook (rice)	suaŋ ⁴⁴	suaŋ ⁴⁴
307	to boil (sth.)	səw ²³	saw ²³
308	to burn	ur ²³ /nɔ:k ⁵²	ur ²³ /nɔ:k ⁵²
309	to extinguish (fire)	mit ²¹ /p ^h alʔ	mit ²¹ /p ^h alʔ
310	to work	tuan ⁴⁴	tuan ⁴⁴
311	to play	lɛk ²¹	lɛk ²¹
312	to dance	la:m ²³	laam ²³
313	to shoot	ka:p ⁵²	kaap ⁵²
314	to hunt	pɛ:l ⁴⁴	pɛɛl ⁴⁴
315	to kill	t ^h at ²¹	t ^h at ²¹
316	to fight	ɖəw ²³	ɖaw ²³
317	to buy	leɿ ⁴⁴	leɿ ⁴⁴
318	to sell	zuar ²³	juar ²³
319	to exchange	t ^h ɛŋ ⁵²	t ^h ɛŋ ⁵²
320	to pay	pɛ: ⁵² /ru:l ²¹	pɛɛ ⁵² /ruul ²¹
321	to steal	fɪr ⁴⁴ /ru: ⁵²	fɪr ⁴⁴ /ruu ⁵²
	Numbers		
322	one (person)	(mi) pa ²¹ .k ^h at ²¹	(mi) pa ²¹ .k ^h at ²¹
323	two (persons)	pa ²¹ .ŋi ²¹	pa ²¹ .ŋi ²¹
324	three (persons)	pa ²¹ .t ^h um ²³	pa ²¹ .t ^h um ²³
325	four (persons)	pa ²¹ .li: ²³	pa ²¹ .lii ²³
326	five (persons)	pa ²¹ .ŋa: ²³	pa ²¹ .ŋaa ²³
327	six (persons)	pa ²¹ .ruk ²¹	pa ²¹ .ruk ²¹
328	seven (persons)	pa ²¹ .sa ²¹ .ri ²¹	pa ²¹ .sa ²¹ .ri ²¹
329	eight (persons)	pa ²¹ .riat ⁵²	pa ²¹ .riat ⁵²
330	nine (persons)	pa ²¹ .kua ⁴⁴	pa ²¹ .kua ⁴⁴
331	ten (persons)	pa ²¹ .ɕa: ²³	pa ²¹ .ɕaa ²³
332	hundred (persons)	za ²¹ .k ^h at ²¹	za ²¹ .k ^h at ²¹
333	thousand (persons)	t ^h ɔ:ŋ ⁴⁴ .k ^h at ²¹	t ^h ɔ:ŋ ⁴⁴ .k ^h at ²¹
334	to be many	tam ⁴⁴	tam ⁴⁴
335	all	za: ²¹ .tɛ: ⁴⁴	jaa ²¹ .tɛɛ ⁴⁴
336	some	ɕɛ:k ⁵² .k ^h at ²¹	ɕɛɛk ⁵² .k ^h at ²¹
337	to be few	mal ⁴⁴ .tɛ ⁴⁴	mal ⁴⁴ .tɛɛ ⁴⁴
338	half a unit	ɕɛ:k ⁵²	ɕɛɛk ⁵²
	Dimensions		

339	to be big	tum ²³	tuum ²³
340	to be small	fa ⁴⁴ .te: ⁴⁴	fa ⁴⁴ .teε ⁴⁴
341	to be long	sa:w ⁴⁴	saaw ⁴⁴
342	to be short (length)	to:j ⁴⁴	toj ⁴⁴
343	to be tall	sa:ŋ ²³	saan ²³
344	to be short (height)	niam ⁴⁴	niam ⁴⁴
354	to be thick	saʔ ²¹	saʔ ²¹
346	to be thin	pa: ⁴⁴	paa ⁴⁴
347	to be fat	t ^h a:w ²³	t ^h aaw ²³
348	to be skinny	to:l ²³	toɔl ²³
349	to be wide, broad	ka:w ²¹	kaaw ²¹
350	to be narrow	fiak ⁵²	fiak ⁵²
351	to be deep	t ^h u:k ⁵²	t ^h uuk ⁵²
352	to be shallow	puan ²¹	puan ²¹
353	to be round	pum ²³ /lu:m ⁴⁴	pum ²³ /lu:m ⁴⁴
354	to be full	k ^h at ²¹	k ^h at ²¹
355	right side	vɔr ²¹ .lam ⁴⁴	wɔr ²¹ .lam ⁴⁴
356	left side	keʔ ²¹ .lam ⁴⁴	keʔ ²¹ .lam ⁴⁴
357	to be straight	diŋ ⁵²	diŋ ⁵²
358	to be far	la: ⁴⁴	laa ⁴⁴
359	to be near	na:j ⁴⁴	naaj ⁴⁴
360	this	hi: ⁴⁴ (hi ⁴⁴)	hii ⁴⁴ (hi ⁴⁴)
361	that	k ^h i: ⁴⁴ (k ^h i ⁴⁴)	k ^h ii ⁴⁴ (k ^h i ⁴⁴)
	Appearance		
362	black	ɖum ²³	ɖum ²³
363	white	ra:ŋ ²³ /va:r ²³	raaŋ ²³ /waar ²³
364	red	sen ²³	sen ²³
365	green	ɕiŋ ²³	ɕiŋ ²³
366	yellow	a:j ²¹ .re: ⁴⁴	aaj ²¹ .reε ⁴⁴
367	to be dirty	ba:l ²¹	baal ²¹
368	to be new	t ^h ar ²³	t ^h ar ²³
369	to be old	tar ²³ /lun ²¹	tar ²³ /lun ²¹
370	to be dark	t ^h im ²³	t ^h im ²³
371	to be bright	tle:w ⁵²	tleew ⁵²
372	to be the same	baŋ ²¹	baŋ ²¹
373	to be different	ɖaŋ ⁴⁴	ɖaŋ ⁴⁴
	Taste/Feel		
374	to be sweet	t ^h um ²³	t ^h um ²³
375	to be sour	t ^h u:r ⁴⁴	t ^h uur ⁴⁴
376	to be bitter	k ^h a: ⁵²	k ^h aa ⁵²

377	to be spicy, hot	t ^h ak ^{˧21}	t ^h ak ²¹
378	to be rotten	tɔ:t ^{˧52} / t ^h u: ⁵²	tɔɔt ^{˧52} / t ^h uu ⁵²
379	to be swell	t ^h iŋ ²³	t ^h iŋ ²³
380	to be dry	tsaɾ ²³ /rəw ²³	tsaar ²³ /raw ²³
381	to be wet	tsiar ⁴⁴ /tsin ⁴⁴	tsiar ⁴⁴ /tsin ⁴⁴
382	to be hot	sa: ²³	saa ²³
383	to be cold	ɖa:ɟ ²¹	ɖaaɟ ²¹
384	to be sharp	ɽiam ²³	ɽiam ²³
385	to be blunt	bi:l ²¹	biil ²¹
386	to be heavy	rit ^{˧21}	rit ²¹
387	to be hard	hak ^{˧21}	hak ²¹
388	to be smooth	na:l ⁴⁴	naal ⁴⁴
	Other qualities		
389	to be fast	raŋ ⁴⁴	raŋ ⁴⁴
390	to be slow	fu:ŋ ⁴⁴	fuuŋ ⁴⁴
391	to be strong	tsak ^{˧21}	tsak ²¹
392	to be weak	ɖɔɾ ²¹	ɖɔɾ ²¹
393	to be tired	ba:ŋ ²¹	baaŋ ²¹
394	to be blind	mit ^{˧21} .tsɔ: ⁵²	mit ²¹ .tsɔɔ ⁵²
395	to be deaf	ŋa ⁴⁴ .seɪ ^{˧52}	ŋa ⁴⁴ .seet ⁵²
396	to be bald	tsal ²¹ .ŋɔl ^{˧21}	tsal ²¹ .ŋɔl ^{˧21}
397	to be naked	tak ^{˧21} .ləŋ ⁵²	tak ²¹ .ləŋ ⁵²
398	to be good	t ^h a: ²¹	t ^h aa ²¹
399	to be bad	sia ⁵²	sia ⁵²
400	to be correct	ɖik ^{˧21}	ɖik ²¹
401	to be wrong	sual ⁴⁴	sual ⁴⁴
	Question Words		
402	when	ziaŋ ⁵² .tik ^{˧21} .aɽ ²¹	jiaŋ ⁵² .tik ²¹ .aɽ ²¹
403	where	k ^h uj ²¹ .aɽ ⁴⁴	k ^h uj ²¹ .aɽ ⁴⁴
404	who	zəw ⁵²	jaw ⁵²
405	what	ziaŋ ⁵²	jiaŋ ⁵²
406	how many	ziaŋ ⁵² .zat ^{˧21}	jiaŋ ⁵² .jat ²¹
407	stream	ti ⁴⁴ .va: ²³	ti ⁴⁴ .waa ²³
408	wet rice field	lej ⁴⁴ .kuaŋ ²³	lej ⁴⁴ .kuaŋ ²³
409	to be ripe	m̥in ²³	m̥in ²³
410	rice seedling	fa:ŋ ²¹ .tsi: ⁵²	faaŋ ²¹ .tsii ⁵²
411	pangolin	sa ²¹ .p ^h u: ⁴⁴	sa ²¹ .p ^h uu ⁴⁴
412	crested	suaŋ ²³	suaŋ ²³
413	water leech	ŋi:t ^{˧52}	ŋiit ⁵²
414	land leech	tsa:ŋ ²¹ .vat ^{˧21}	tsaaŋ ²¹ .wat ²¹

415	earthworm	tsaŋ ⁴⁴ .tse:l ²¹	tsaŋ ⁴⁴ .tse:l ²¹
416	I (1s)	kej ⁴⁴ .maŋ ²¹	kej ⁴⁴ .maŋ ²¹
417	thou (2s)	naŋ ⁴⁴ .maŋ ²¹	naŋ ⁴⁴ .maŋ ²¹
418	he/she/it	a ²¹ .maŋ ⁴⁴	a ²¹ .maŋ ⁴⁴
419	we (1p)	kan ⁴⁴ .maŋ ²¹	kan ⁴⁴ .maŋ ²¹
420	you (2p)	nan ⁴⁴ .maŋ ²¹	nan ⁴⁴ .maŋ ²¹
421	they	an ⁴⁴ .maŋ ²¹	an ⁴⁴ .maŋ ²¹
422	sleeping area	iŋ ²¹ .na:k ⁵² .k ^h a:n ⁴⁴	iŋ ²¹ .na:k ⁵² .k ^h a:n ⁴⁴
423	to take	la: ⁵²	laa ⁵²
424	to disappear	ləw ²¹	law ²¹
425	to split w/a knife	p ^h ɛl ²³	p ^h ɛl ²³
426	to bend	kɔ:ŋ ²¹ /kual ²¹	kɔ:ŋ ²¹ /kual ²¹
427	to lift	k ^h a:ŋ ²³ /tsɔ:ŋ ²³	k ^h a:ŋ ²³ /tsɔ:ŋ ²³
428	to do/make	tuaŋ ²¹	tuaŋ ²¹
429	don't do it	tuaŋ ²¹ .laŋ ²¹	tuaŋ ²¹ .laŋ ²¹
430	half a quantity	ɾɛ:k ⁵²	ɾɛɛk ⁵²
431	to be disgusting	hua ⁴⁴ /niŋ ⁴⁴	hua ⁴⁴ /niŋ ⁴⁴
432	to be warm	lum ²³	lum ²³
433	to be cold	da:ŋ ²¹	daaŋ ²¹
434	to be difficult	har ²³	har ²³
435	to be easy	ɔl ²³	ɔl ²³
436	to loose	ɬɔr ²¹ /ka:ŋ ⁴⁴	ɬɔr ²¹ /ka:ŋ ⁴⁴
	Additional wordlists		
435	onion	piat ⁵² /k ^h a ⁵² .suan ²¹ .sen ²³	piat ⁵² /k ^h a ⁵² .suan ²¹ .sen ²³
436	ground potato	ba: ⁴⁴	baa ⁴⁴
437	to break (law, regulation)	buar ²³ /paŋ ²¹ .bal ⁵²	buar ²³ /paŋ ²¹ .bal ⁵²
438	to take hard	taŋ ²³	taŋ ²³
439	to get down	tum ⁴⁴	tum ⁴⁴
440	to reduce	t ^h um ⁴⁴	t ^h um ⁴⁴
441	to confront	ɬɔ:ŋ ²¹	ɬɔ:ŋ ²¹
442	to punch	t ^h ɔ:ŋ ²¹	t ^h ɔ:ŋ ²¹
443	to play (music)	tum ⁴⁴	tum ⁴⁴
445	to seedling	təw ²³	taw ²³
446	bowel	k ^h əw ²³	k ^h aw ²³
447	to call	kəw ²³	kaw ²³
448	to be green (fruit)	kuŋ ²¹	kuŋ ²¹
449	to leak (water)	ɬɔk ²¹	ɬɔk ²¹
450	to point	ɬɔk ²¹	ɬɔk ²¹
451	to be slippery	na:l ⁴⁴	naal ⁴⁴
452	to kiss	nam ²¹	nam ²¹

453	to trust	ɲat ²¹ .san ⁵² /rin ⁵² .san ⁵²	ɲat ²¹ .san ⁵² /rin ⁵² .san ⁵²
454	torch	far ²³	faar ²³
455	to visit (patient)	veɿ ²¹	weɿ ²¹
456	to fly	zuaŋ ²³	juan ²³
457	to be	si: ⁵²	sii ⁵²
458	to receive (portion)	tsəw ²³	tsaw ²³
459	to be late	tʰa:j ⁴⁴	tʰaaj ⁴⁴
460	to cause to fall	tʰa: ⁵²	tʰaa ⁵²
461	to take	la: ⁵²	laa ⁵²
462	school	tʰəŋ ²¹	tʰəŋ ²¹
463	heaven	van ²¹ tsuŋ ⁴⁴	wan ²¹ tsuŋ ⁴⁴
464	to imitate	tsəŋ ²³	tsəŋ ²³
465	chest	taŋ ²³	taan ²³
466	to be sick	na: ²³	naa ²³
467	to be round	lu:m ⁴⁴	luum ⁴⁴
468	negation marker	ləw ²¹	law ²¹
469	to climb up	ka:j ²³	kaa:j ²³
470	to scold	ɾəw ²³	ɾaw ²³
471	to sleep at night	riak ⁵²	riak ⁵²
472	to be lost	ləw ²¹	law ²¹
473	to wear	ɾu: ⁵²	ɾuu ⁵²
474	to be roar	ɾu:m ⁴⁴	ɾuum ⁴⁴
475	to overflow	liam ⁴⁴	liam ⁴⁴
476	to grow	tʰaŋ ²³	tʰaŋ ²³
477	to last long	reɿ ²³	reɿ ²³
478	to go towards home	tʰuŋ ⁴⁴	tʰuŋ ⁴⁴
479	to fight	ɬəw ²³	ɬaw ²³
480	to travel, to visit	tʰəŋ ²³	tʰəŋ ²³
481	scrotum	til ⁴⁴	til ⁴⁴
482	to participate	tɛl ⁴⁴	tɛl ⁴⁴
483	upper throat	ir ²³	ir ²³
484	to make, to mold	ɛr ²³	ɛr ²³
485	to be curled	kir ⁴⁴	kir ⁴⁴
486	to apply (blanket)	sin ⁵²	sin ⁵²
487	to mingle, to mix	tsək ²¹	tsək ²¹
488	to begin	tʰək ²¹	tʰək ²¹
489	key	ɬəɿ ²¹	ɬəɿ ²¹
490	to help	bə:m ²¹	bəəm ²¹
491	to meet	ɬəŋ ²³	ɬəŋ ²³
492	to make stand upright	tʰuŋ ²³	tʰuŋ ²³

493	to put upside down	k ^h up ²¹	k ^h up ²¹
494	to be enough, to be full of	k ^h ɔp ²¹	k ^h ɔp ²¹
495	to invite	sɔm ²³	sɔm ²³
496	to be needed	tu:l ⁴⁴	tuul ⁴⁴
497	to invade	si:m ⁴⁴	siim ⁴⁴
598	to cover	si:n ²¹	siin ²¹
599	to distribute	sɛm ²¹	sɛm ²¹
500	at the bottom of	ɬɛŋ ⁵²	ɬɛŋ ⁵²
501	a piece of	bɛl ⁴⁴	bɛl ⁴⁴
502	to hang	ta:r ²³	taar ²³
503	to run	za:ŋ ⁴⁴	jaan ⁴⁴
504	penis	zaŋ ⁴⁴	jaŋ ⁴⁴
505	to forbid	k ^h am ²³	k ^h am ²³
506	a gorge	k ^h a:m ²¹	k ^h aam ²¹
507	to buckle a belt	k ^h ap ²¹	k ^h ap ²¹
508	a pan	k ^h a:p ⁵²	k ^h aap ⁵²
509	to fail	suŋ ⁴⁴	suŋ ⁴⁴
510	to pour	su:ŋ ⁴⁴	suuŋ ⁴⁴
511	shoes	bu:t ⁵²	buut ⁵²
512	to hold up	sɔm ⁵²	sɔm ⁵²
513	to be fatty	lɔm ⁵²	lɔm ⁵²
514	to take over	lɔŋ ²³	lɔŋ ²³
515	to praise	lɔ:m ²¹	lɔm ²¹
516	winter	tɪ ^h a ²¹ .taŋ ²³	tɪ ^h a ²¹ .taŋ ²³
517	to be stubborn	ŋal ²³	ŋal ²³
518	plural marker	ŋaj ⁴⁴	ŋaj ⁴⁴
519	to flee	tɬa:n ⁴⁴	tɬaan ⁴⁴
520	to be lost (portion)	tsa:n ⁴⁴	tsaan ⁴⁴

APPENDIX II

SECONDARY VERB STEMS

Number	Gloss	Primary stem	Secondary stem
137	to shave (beard)	meet ⁵²	meɿ ²¹
197	to dye (cloth)	but ²¹	buɿ ²¹
200	to sew	tʰii ²³	tʰit ⁵²
223	to smell	ɲiim ²¹	ɲim ⁵²
224	to see	ɲuu ⁵²	ɲuɿ ²¹
226	to weep	tap ²¹	taɿ ²¹
229	to be hungry	ril ²³ .ɾɔŋ ²³	ril ²³ .ɾɔŋ ²¹
237	to sneeze	ɲap ²¹ .ɖɔp ²¹	ɲap ²¹ .ɖɔɿ ²¹
239	to breathe	tʰɔ ²¹ .tʰɔɔ ²¹	tʰɔ ²¹ .tʰɔɔt ⁵²
240	to blow	sɛɛm ²¹ /pʰɔɔ ²¹	sɛm ⁵² /pʰɔɔt ⁵²
242	to lick	liak ⁵²	liaɿ ²¹
243	to smile	ɲii ²³	ɲiɿ ²¹
244	to laugh	ɲii ²³	ɲiɿ ²¹
248	to answer	let ²¹	leɿ ²¹
250	to sing	la ⁴⁴ .saa ²¹	la ⁴⁴ .sak ²¹
251	to think	ruat ⁵²	ruaɿ ²¹
256	to hate	hua ⁴⁴	huaɿ ⁵²
257	to wait	ɲaak ⁵²	ɲaɿ ²¹
261	to sleep	it ²¹	iɿ ²¹
264	to hurt	ɭiam ²¹	ɭem ⁵²
266	to itch	tʰak ²¹ (tʰak ²¹ .tʰak ²¹)	tʰaɿ ²¹ (tʰak ²¹ .tʰaɿ ²¹)
268	to shiver	kʰur ²¹	kʰurɿ ²¹
269	to die	tʰii ²³	tʰiɿ ²¹
272	to stand	ɖiŋ ²³	ɖin ²¹
275	to crawl	waak ⁵²	waɿ ²¹
276	to come	raa ²³	raɿ ²¹
277	to enter	luut ⁵²	luɿ ²¹
282	to throw	ɖɛɛŋ ²³ /ɭɔŋ ⁵²	ɖɛɛn ²¹
283	to fall	tʰaa ⁵²	tʰaak ⁵²
285	to float	pʰuan ²¹	pʰɔn ⁵²
287	to flow	luan ²³	luan ²¹
288	to give	pɛɛ ⁵²	pɛɛk ⁵²
289	to tie	kʰit ²¹ /ɾɛɛŋ ²³	kʰiɿ ²¹ /ɾɛɛn ²¹

291	to rub, to scrub	p ^h iat ⁵²	p ^h iaŋ ²¹
295	to hit	k ^h ɔŋ ²³	k ^h ɔŋ ²¹
297	to cut (hair)	mɛet ⁵²	mɛŋ ²¹
300	to plant	tsiŋ ²³	tsiin ²¹
301	to dig	laɲ ²¹	laɲ ²¹
306	to cook (rice)	suaŋ ⁴⁴	suaŋ ²¹ /sɔŋ ⁵²
308	to burn	nɔɔk ⁵²	nɔŋ ²¹
309	to extinguish (fire)	mit ²¹	miŋ ²¹
311	to play	lek ²¹	leŋ ²¹
313	to shoot	kaap ⁵²	kaŋ ²¹
315	to kill	t ^h at ²¹	t ^h aŋ ²¹
320	to pay	pɛɛ ⁵² /ruul ²¹	pɛɛk ⁵² /rulŋ ²¹
321	to steal	fiir ⁴⁴ /ruu ⁵²	fiir ²¹ /ruuk ⁵²
340	to be small	fa ⁴⁴ .tɛɛ ⁴⁴	fa ⁴⁴ .tɛɛt ⁵²
343	to be tall	saaj ²³	saan ²¹
346	to be thin	pa ⁴⁴	paat ⁵²
349	to be wide, to be broad	kaaw ²¹	kawŋ ²¹
350	to be narrow	fiak ⁵²	fiat ²¹
351	to be deep	t ^h uuk ⁵²	t ^h uŋ ²¹
352	to be shallow	puan ²¹	pɔŋ ⁵²
354	to be full	k ^h at ²¹	k ^h aŋ ²¹
358	to be far	laa ⁴⁴	laat ⁵²
363	to be white	raaj ²³	ran ²¹
365	to be green	ɽiŋ ²³	ɽin ²¹
367	to be dirty	baal ²¹	balŋ ²¹
373	to be different	ɽaj ⁴⁴	ɽan ²¹
376	to be bitter	k ^h aa ⁵²	k ^h aat ⁵²
377	to be spicy, hot	t ^h ak ²¹	t ^h aŋ ²¹
378	to be rotten	tɔɔt ⁵² /t ^h uu ⁵²	tɔŋ ²¹ /t ^h uut ⁵²
379	to be swell	t ^h iŋ ²³	t ^h in ²¹
382	to be hot	saa ²³	sat ²¹
385	to be blunt	bii ²¹	biŋ ²¹
386	to be heavy	rit ²¹	riŋ ²¹
387	to be hard	hak ²¹	haŋ ²¹
389	to be fast	raj ⁴⁴	ran ²¹
390	to be slow	fuuj ⁴⁴	fuun ²¹
391	to be strong	tsak ²¹	tsaŋ ²¹
392	to be weak	ɽɔr ²¹	ɽɔrŋ ²¹
393	to be tired	baaj ²¹	baŋ ⁵²
394	to be blind	mit ²¹ .tsɔɔ ⁵²	mit ²¹ .tsɔɔt ⁵²

395	to be deaf	ṇa ⁴⁴ .seet ⁵²	ṇa ⁴⁴ .seʔ ²¹
398	to be good	t ^h aa ²¹	t ^h at ²¹
399	to be bad	sia ⁵²	sia ⁵²
423	to take	laa ⁵²	laak ⁵²
424	to disappear	law ²¹	lawʔ ²¹
426	to bend	kɔɔj ²¹ /kual ²¹	kɔɔj ²¹ /kɔlʔ ²¹
431	to disgusting	hua ⁴⁴ /niŋ ⁴⁴	Huat ⁵² /nin ²¹
433	to be cold	ɖaaɣ ²¹	ɖajʔ ²¹
436	to be loose	kaan ⁴⁴	kan ²¹
438	to take hard	tan ²³	tan ²¹
441	to confront	ɖɔɔɣ ²¹	ɖɔɣ ⁵²
442	to punch	t ^h ɔɔɣ ²¹	t ^h ɔɣ ⁵²
447	to call	kaw ²³	kɔʔ ²¹
450	to be sick	naa ²³	nat ²¹
456	to fly	juan ²³	juan ²¹
460	cause to fall	t ^h aa ⁵²	t ^h aak ⁵²
464	to imitate	tsɔɔɣ ²³	tsɔɔn ²¹
471	to sleep at night	riak ⁵²	riaʔ ²¹
472	to be lost	law ²¹	lawʔ ²¹
473	to wear	ɣuu ⁵²	ɣuuk ⁵²
476	to grow	t ^h an ²³	t ^h an ²¹
478	to go towards home	tɬuŋ ⁴⁴	tɬun ²¹
480	to travel, to visit	tɬɔɔɣ ²³	tɬɔɔn ²¹
488	to mingle, to mix	tsɔk ²¹	tsɔʔ ²¹
489	to begin	t ^h ɔk ²¹	t ^h ɔʔ ²¹
491	to help	bɔɔm ²¹	bɔm ⁵²
492	to meet	ɖɔɣ ²³	ɖɔn ²¹
493	to make stand upright	tun ²³	tun ²¹
494	to put upside down	k ^h up ²¹	k ^h uʔ ²¹
495	to be enough, to be full of	k ^h ɔp ²¹	k ^h ɔʔ ²¹
499	to cover	siin ²¹	sin ⁵²
504	to run	jaan ⁴⁴	jaan ²¹
510	to fail	sun ⁴⁴	sun ²¹
511	to pour	suun ⁴⁴	suun ²¹
516	to take over	lon ²³	lon ²¹
513	to run, to leak (water)	ɖɔk ²¹	ɖɔʔ ²¹

APPENDIX III

VERBS THAT ALTERNATE ONLY TONES (NOT SEGMENTS) IN SECONDARY STEMS

Number	Gloss	Primary stem	Secondary stem
222	to hear	ŋaaj ²³	ŋaaj ²¹
227	to eat	ɛj ²³	ɛj ²¹
230	to be full	pum ²¹ .puar ²³	pum ²¹ .puar ²¹
231	to be thirsty	ti ⁴⁴ .haal ⁴⁴	ti ⁴⁴ .haal ²¹
232	to drink	in ²³	in ²¹
247	to shout	aaw ²³	aaw ²¹
249	to lie, to fib	buum ²³	buum ²¹
254	to choose	ɕil ²³	ɕil ²¹
258	to count	sia ²³	sia ²¹
262	to snore	ŋɔɔk ⁴⁴	ŋɔɔk ²¹
271	to sit	taw ²³	taw ²¹
273	to kneel	k ^h uuk ⁵² .bil ⁴⁴	k ^h uuk ⁵² .bil ²¹
278	to return	kiir ⁴⁴	kiir ²¹
279	to push	nam ⁴⁴ /tuul ⁴⁴	nam ²¹ /tuul ²¹
290	to wipe	ŋuul ²³	ŋuul ²¹
296	to split	t ^h en ²³	t ^h en ²¹
298	to stab	sun ²¹	sun ⁵²
299	to grind	ɾial ²³	ɾial ²¹
302	to bury (a corpse)	p ^h uum ²³ /vuuj ²³	p ^h uum ²¹ /vuuj ²¹
303	to winnow (rice)	sɛɛp ²³	sɛɛp ²¹
304	to dry (sth.)	p ^h aw ²³	p ^h aw ²¹
307	to boil (sth.)	saw ²³	saw ²¹
310	to work	tuan ⁴⁴	tuan ²¹
312	to dance	laam ²³	laam ²¹
314	to hunt	pɛɛl ⁴⁴	pɛɛl ²¹
316	to fight	ɖaw ²³	ɖaw ²¹
317	to buy	lej ⁴⁴	lej ²¹
318	to sell	juar ²³	juar ²¹
334	to be many	tam ⁴⁴	tam ²¹
339	to be big	tuum ²³	tuum ²¹
341	to be long	saaw ⁴⁴	saaw ²¹

342	to be short (length)	ṭṭṭj ⁴⁴	ṭṭṭj ²¹
344	to be short (height)	niam ⁴⁴	niam ²¹
347	to be fat	ṭ ^h arw ²³	ṭ ^h aaw ²¹
348	to be skinny	ṭṭṭl ²³	ṭṭṭl ²¹
353	to be round	pum ²³ /ṭuum ⁴⁴	pum ²¹ /ṭu:m ²¹
359	to be near	naaj ⁴⁴	naaj ²¹
362	to be black	ḡum ²³	ḡum ²¹
364	to be red	sen ²³	sen ²¹
368	to be new	ṭ ^h ar ²³	ṭ ^h ar ²¹
369	to be old	ṭar ²³ /ṭun ²¹	ṭar ²¹ /ṭun ⁵²
370	to be dark	ṭ ^h im ²³	ṭ ^h im ²¹
372	to be the same	baṭj ²¹	baṭj ⁵²
374	to be sweet	ṭ ^h um ²³	ṭ ^h um ²¹
375	to be sour	ṭ ^h uur ⁴⁴	ṭ ^h uur ²¹
380	to be dry	tsaar ²³ /raw ²³	tsaar ²¹ /raw ²¹
381	to be wet	tsiar ⁴⁴ /tsiin ⁴⁴	tsiar ²¹ /tsiin ²¹
384	to be sharp	ṭiam ²³	ṭiam ²¹
388	to be smooth	naal ⁴⁴	naal ²¹
401	to be wrong	sual ⁴⁴	sual ²¹
409	to be ripe	ṁin ²³	ṁin ²¹
425	to split w/a knife	p ^h el ²³	p ^h el ²¹
427	to lift	k ^h aaj ²³ /ṭṭṭj ²³	k ^h aaj ²¹ ṭṭṭj ²¹
432	to be warm	ṭum ²³	ṭum ²¹
434	to be difficult	har ²³	har ²¹
435	to be easy	ṭl ²³	ṭl ²¹
437	to break (law, regulation)	buar ²³	buar ²¹
439	to get down	tum ⁴⁴	tum ²¹
440	to reduce	ṭ ^h um ⁴⁴	ṭ ^h um ²¹
443	to play (music)	ṭum ⁴⁴	ṭum ²¹
445	to seedling	taw ²³	taw ²¹
451	to be slippery	naal ⁴⁴	naal ²¹
452	to kiss	ṇam ²¹	ṇam ⁵²
457	to be	sii ⁵²	sii ²¹
458	to receive (portion)	tsaw ²³	tsaw ²¹
459	to be late	ṭṭaaj ⁴⁴	ṭṭaaj ²¹
467	to be round	ṭuum ⁴⁴	ṭuum ²¹
469	to climb up	kaaj ²³	kaaj ²¹
470	to scold	ṭaw ²³	ṭaw ²¹
474	to be roar	ṭuum ⁴⁴	ṭuum ²¹
475	to overflow	liam ⁴⁴	Liam ²¹

477	to last long	rej ²³	rej ²¹
479	to be warm	lum ²³	lum ²¹
483	to participate	tel ⁴⁴	tel ²¹
485	to make, to mold	er ²³	er ²¹
486	to be curled	kir ⁴⁴	kir ²¹
496	to invite	sɔɔm ²³	sɔɔm ²¹
497	to be needed	tuul ⁴⁴	tuul ²¹
498	to invade	siim ⁴⁴	Siim ²¹
500	to distribute	jɛm ²¹	jɛm ⁵²
503	to hang	taar ²³	taar ²¹
518	to be stubborn	ɣal ²³	ɣal ²¹
520	to flee	tlaan ⁴⁴	tlaan ²¹
521	to be lost (portion)	tsaan ⁴⁴	tsaan ²¹

APPENDIX IV

NON ALTERNATING VERBS

Number	Gloss	Primary stem	Secondary stem
82	to bark	baw ⁵²	baw ⁵²
83	to bite	kɛɛw ⁵²	kɛɛw ⁵²
234	to vomit	luak ⁵²	luak ⁵²
235	to spit	p ^h uj ⁵²	p ^h uj ⁵²
241	to suck	juuk ⁵²	juuk ⁵²
255	to love	ɖuɿ ²¹	ɖuɿ ²¹
259	to be afraid	tiɿ ²¹	tiɿ ²¹
260	to be angry	t ^h in ²¹ .hɛɛŋ ⁵²	t ^h in ²¹ .hɛɛŋ ⁵²
263	to dream	maŋ ⁴⁴ .man ⁵²	maŋ ⁴⁴ .man ⁵²
267	to scratch	k ^h ɛwɿ ²¹ / k ^h ɔjɿ ²¹	k ^h ɛwɿ ²¹ / k ^h ɔjɿ ²¹
274	to walk	fɛɿ ²¹	fɛɿ ²¹
281	to kick	siit ⁵²	siit ⁵²
292	to wash	k ^h ɔɿ ²¹	k ^h ɔɿ ²¹
293	to launder	sɔɔp ⁵²	sɔɔp ⁵²
294	to bathe	k ^h ɔɿ ²¹ (tak ²¹ .sa ⁵²)	k ^h ɔɿ ²¹ (tak ²¹ .sa ⁵²)
319	to exchange	t ^h ɛŋ ⁵²	t ^h ɛŋ ⁵²
354	to be thick	saɿ ²¹	saɿ ²¹
357	to be straight	ɖin ⁵²	ɖin ⁵²
371	to be bright	tlɛɛw ⁵²	tlɛɛw ⁵²
400	to be correct	ɖik ²¹	ɖik ²¹
428	to do/make	tuaɿ ²¹	tuaɿ ²¹
448	to be green(fruit)	kuɿ ²¹	kuɿ ²¹
449	to be thick	saɿ ²¹	saɿ ²¹
453	to trust	ŋat ²¹ .san ⁵² /rin ⁵² .san ⁵²	ŋat ²¹ .san ⁵² /rin ⁵² .san ⁵²
501	at the bottom of	ɖɛŋ ⁵²	ɖɛŋ ⁵²
508	to buckle a belt	k ^h ap ²¹	k ^h ap ²¹

APPENDIX V

TERTIARY VERB STEMS

Number	Primary stems	Secondary stems	Tertiary stems	Gloss
1	luan ²³	luan ²³	lon ⁵²	‘to flow’
4	zuan ²³	juan ²³	jon ⁵²	‘to fight, to jump’
5	kian ⁴⁴	kian ²¹	ken ⁵²	‘to give way’
6	sian ²³	sian ²¹	sen ⁵²	‘to let use’
7	suan ⁴⁴	suan ²¹	son ⁵²	‘to cook’

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