

Sampinko /sa.bi.go/

IDEA BOARD

- Lexical voicing (plurality, case, class?) ?
- Gemination caused by /h/ (/k.h/ > /k:/) (ak-han > akkan) ?

1. Phonology

a. Inventory

Consonants	labial	coronal	velar (dorsal)	labiovelar	glottal
plosive	p ⟨p⟩ b ⟨mp⟩	t ⟨t⟩ d ⟨nt⟩	k ⟨k⟩ g ⟨nk⟩	k ^w ⟨q⟩ g ^w ⟨nq⟩	
nasal	m ⟨m⟩	n ⟨n⟩			
fricative	φ ⟨f⟩ β ⟨mf⟩	s ⟨s⟩ z ⟨ns⟩			h ⟨h⟩
approximant		l ⟨l⟩	j ⟨j⟩	w ⟨w⟩	

Vowels	front	back
high	i ⟨i⟩	o ⟨o⟩
low	e ⟨e⟩	ɑ ⟨a⟩

Symbols	*	^		#	b
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NOTE: The letters U, V, Z, B, D, and G are never written for native words (at least with our current orthography).

b. Phonotactics

- Syllable Form: (C)V(C)
- Vowels never interact or create diphthongs
 - « ao » /a.o/
- Labiovelars (/k^w/, /w/) are always syllable initial
- The phoneme /h/ never occurs word-finally
- Gemination is initiated by /h/ following a consonant, as well as doubles consonants
 - akhan /ak.han/ > /ak:an/, ilhos /il.hos/ > [il:os]
 - hakka /hak.ka/ > [hak:a]
- Syllable final /k/ followed by syllable initial /w/ results in /k^w/
 - akwat /ak.wat/ > [a.k^wat]
- The phoneme /s/ can be realized as any coronal fricative, /s/, /ʃ/, /ʂ/, etc.

c. Script

...

2. Morphology

a. Noun Class

Nouns exhibit a three class system, which induces adjective agreement.

Class	Ending	Examples	Translation
Passive (^{PASS})	f,s,l,j (fricatives)	liteos, les	armor, cow
Neutral (^{NEUT})	a,e,i,o (vowels)	pia, opja	stone, spider
Hostile (^{HOST})	p,t,k (plosives)	totonkap, kop	creeper, arrow

N and M are ambiguous endings but follow the same conjugation rules as their class.

b. Number Marking

Nouns are not marked in the singular, and have a suffix in the plural.

Class	Ending	Examples	Translation
Passive (^{PASS})	-hVs	les /les/, leshes /les:es/	cow, cows
Neutral (^{NEUT})	-hV	opja /op.ja/, opjaha /op.ja.ha/	spider, spiders
Hostile (^{HOST})	-hVt	kop /kop/, kophot /kop:ot/	arrow, arrows

c. Noun Case

There are six cases: the nominative (marking for subject), accusative (marking for object), dative (marking for indirect object), genitive/possessive (possession and preposition), instrumental (mark for use and means), and adjectival (for creating compound nouns or to say "like...").

Case	Form	Hostile	Neutral	Passive
(NOM)	-∅	mat /mat/ "hand ^{Sub} "	opja /op.ja/ "spider"	kij /kij/ "furnace"
	-∅	mathat /mat:at/ "hands ^{Sub} "	opjaha /op.ja.ha/ "spiders"	kijhis /kij:is/ "furnaces"
(ACC)	*	matit /ma.tit/ "hand ^{Obj} "	opjai /op.ja.hi/ "spider"	kijhi /kij:i/ "furnace"
	-iC			
	-hi	mathatit /mat:a.tit/	opjahai /op.ja.ha.ni/	kijhishi /kij:is:i/

		“hands ^{Obj} ”	“spiders”	“furnaces”
(DAT)	^ -Vla -la -hal	matala /ma.ta.la/ “to hand”	opjala /op.ja.la/ “to spider”	kijhal /kij:al/ “to furnace”
		mathatala /mat:a.ta.la/ “to hands”	opjahala /op.ja.ha.la/ “to spiders”	kijhishal /kij:is:al/ “to furnaces”
(GEN)	 -m/nCi -ni -m/nCi (-ni after j)	manti /ma.di/ “(of) hand’s”	opjani /op.ja.ni/ “(of) spider’s”	kinji /ki.nji/ “(of) furnace”
		mathanti /mat:a.di/ “(of) hands”	opjahani /op.ja.ha.ni/ “(of) spiders”	kijhinsi /kij:i.zi/ “(of) furnaces”
(INST)	# on/m... he on/m... he on/m... he (m before m,p)	ommathe /om:at:e/ “with/using hand”	onopjahe /o.nop.ja.he/ “with/using spider”	onkijhe /o.gij:e/ “with/using furnace”
		ommathathe /om:at:at:e/ “with/using hands”	onopjahahhe /o.nop.ja.ha.he/ “with/using spiders”	onkijhishe /o.gij:is:e/ “with/using furnaces”
Unconj ugated (ADJ)	f -hoi -toi -toi	mathoi /mat:o.i/ “hand-”	opjatoi /op.ja.to.i/ “spider-”	kijtoi /kij.to.i/ “furnace-”
Adjectives agree with Hostile Nouns by adding “k” to the suffix (“-hoik/toik”), Passive Nouns by adding “ns” to the suffix (“-hoin/toins”). Same goes for all adjectives.				

d. Personal Pronouns

Pronouns are marked for case, class, and person, but not number. (In order of case mentioned above.)

Person	Passive	Neutral	Hostile
1st		sapa sapi sapla sanpi	

	onsaphe saphoi		
2nd	te		tat
	ti		tatit
	tela		tatla
	ntei		tanti
	onthe		ontathe
	tetoi		tatoi
3rd	kos	ke	kat
	koi	ki	kit
	koshal	kela	katla
	konsi	ngei	kanti
	onkoshe	onkhe	onkathe
	kotoi	ketoi	kathoi

e. Changing Noun Class

In order to change the class of a noun, the stem undergoes the following conversion:

Case	Form	Hostile	Neutral	Passive
(HOS) >	-p	pannap /pan:ap/ "person"		kij /kij/ "furnace"
	-t			
	-k	...		kijhis /kij:is/ "furnaces"
(NEUT) >	-a	panna /pan:a/ "person"		kijhi /kij:i/ "furnace"
	-e			
	-i			
	-o	...		kijhishi /kij:is:i/ "furnaces"
(PASS) >	-f	pannaf /pan:aφ/ "to hand"	opjala /op.ja.la/ "to spider"	kijhal /kij:al/ "to furnace"
	-s			
	-l			
	-j	...	opjahala /op.ja.ha.la/ "to spiders"	kijhishal /kij:is:al/ "to furnaces"

...

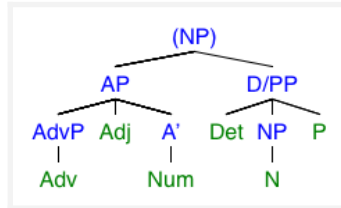
3. Syntax

a. Word Order

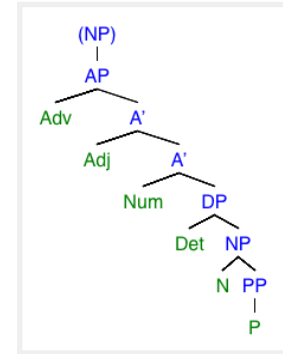
Generally head final, though the verb order is free thanks to the case system.

b. Noun Phrase

L. [(NP) [AP [AdvP [Adv]] [Adj] [A' [Num]]] [D/PP [Det] [NP [N]]] [P



R. [(NP) [AP [Adv] [A' [Adj] [A' [Num]]] [DP [Det] [NP [N]]] [PP [P

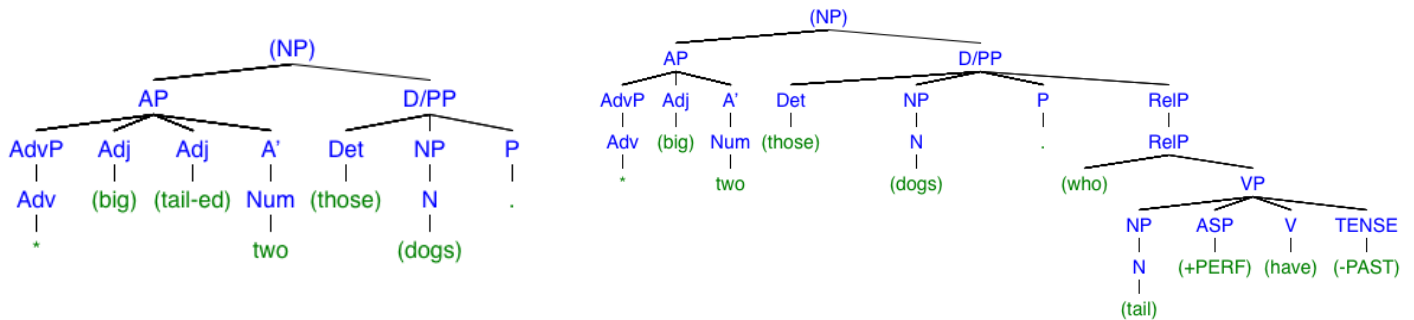


Ex.

English: « those two big dogs with tails »

OurLang: **L.** « [[big] [tailed] [two]] [those] [dogs+CASE?] »

or **R.** « [[big] [two]] [those] [dogs+CASE?] [whoRelPro+NOM] [[tail+ACC] [haveV]]



a. Noun phrase structure:

(relative clause) (postpositional phrase) (adjectives) (numeral) (demonstrative) noun

b. Transforming Verbs into Nouns (Run > Runner)

mo ... (a)t HOS

mo ... is PASS

mo ... isa NEUT

i. Demonstrative Pronouns

ii. Demonstratives

Demonstratives	Proximal		Distal	
	Sampinko	Translation	Sampinko	Translation

Passive (PASS)	bakas	this _{PASS}	dakas	that _{PASS}
Neutral (NEUT)	beko	this _{NEUT}	deko	that _{NEUT}
Hostile (HOST)	bekat	this _{HOST}	dekat	that _{HOST}

iii. Indefinite Pronouns

All indefinite articles are treated as NEUT and agree accordingly

English	ourlang
everybody/everything	sakkan
somebody/something /anybody/anything	tokkan
nobody/nothing	wahan

iv. Postpositional Phrase (+Postpositions)

Postposition follows directly after the Noun it modifies, the noun, in this case, will always be in the genitive.

English: I came **from** my **house**.

OurLang: NP[I^{NOM}] NP[[my^{GEN}] [house^{GEN}] [from]] VP[[ART^{+PERF}] [come] [ART^{+PAST}].

Propositions	
English	Sampinko
on top	
under	
next to	
outside of	
inside of	
infront of	
behind	
to the left of	
to the right of	

with	
without	

c. Adjectival Phrase

i. (Adjectival Noun/Verb Suffix)

Verbs and Nouns are both transformed into Adjectives using the same suffix (-toi/hoi), as adjectives don't naturally occur. (This makes them kinda like participles.)

ii. Adverbs (very, a little, slightly, extremely...)

iii. Numerals (Cardinal, Ordinal, Adjectival)

Cardinal numbers:

The number system is base 64 with a sub-base of 16. There are words for 0-16, 64, and 4096. Within each power of 64, numbers are represented as multiples of 16, plus a remainder, multiplied by the appropriate number of 64's, in that order. For example, 43 translates literally as "two sixteens (and) eleven", 209 is "three 64's, sixteen and one", and 1319 is "sixteen and four (i.e. twenty) 64's, two sixteens and seven".

1		5		9		13	
2		6		10		14	
3		7		11		15	
4		8		12		16	

Powers of 64		ourlang
64 ¹	64	
64 ²	4,096	
64 ³	262,144	

Number	ourlang	Construction	hexadecimal- esque representation
21		16 + 5	15
59		3*16 + 11	3B
146		2*64 + 16 + 2	212
1,319		(16+4)*64 + 2*16 + 7	(G4)27

d. Possession

i. Possessive Pronouns

Possessive pronouns and possessive adjectives are both replaced by using the genitive case.

e. Verb Phrase

i. Tense / Aspect Articles

Verbs have no inflection, instead using tense and aspect articles.

Aspect Tense >	<u>Past</u>	<u>Non-Past</u>
<u>Imperfect</u>	Past Continuous (na ... im)	Future (na ...)
<u>Perfect</u>	Past Perfect (o ... im)	Present Indicative (o ...)

Past Continuous [you] **na** [mineV] **im** pa?

"You were mining?"

Past Perfect [you] **o** [mineV] **im** pa?

"You've mined?"

Future [you] **na** [mineV] pa?

"You are going to mine?"

Present Indicative [you] **o** [mineV] pa?

"You're mining?"

Adverbs

f. The Negative

To form the negative, "wa" is inserted in between any clause in the phrase:

"I didn't see you."

sapa ti o [seeV] im **wa**.

sapa ti **wa** o [seeV] im.

sapa wa ti o [seeV] im.

g. Forming Questions

i. Question Words

Question words are created by placing "dehan" in front of a noun. "dolo" (thing) can be used in place of a noun.

ex.

"What block are you mining?"

you.PASS what block.ACC -PAST.PERF mine

te dehan kealnai o satal

"What (thing) do you see?"

you.PASS what thing.ACC -PAST.PERF see

te dehan dolo o omo

English: "What block are you mining?"

Our lang: you block? mining
 [you] [what/which] [block] [mineV.PRES]?

"Who" substitutes a pronoun in a question sentence. It must declines for case and number according to its hostility. Ex:

"Who is attacking us?"
 who.HOST.NOM 1p.ACC -PAST.PERF attack.
 nat sapi o jantel.

Interrogative pronouns:

English	ourlang	ACC	DAT	GEN	INST
what	dehan				
who _{PASS}	nas	nashas	nashal	nansi	
who _{NEUT}	no	noi	nola	noni	
who _{HOST}	nat	natit	natala	nandi	

ii. Yes / No Questions

Yes/no questions work by using "pa" immediately after the verb

English: "Did you mine that block?"

Our lang: you that block* mine pa
 [you] [that] [block] [mine.V.PAST.PERF] pa?

h. Imperatives

Imperatives are formed by attaching "-ejal" or "-jal" to the end of a verb. "-ejal" is used if the verb ends in a consonant, "-jal" if it ends in a vowel.

Example	
Sapa sapat.	I mine
Sapatejal!	Mine!

4. Corpus

- a. Go gather oak wood so that we can build a large and safe house.
 - i. oak* wood* IMPERATIVE gather ...
 - ii. [oakADJ^{CASE}] [wood^{CASE}] [
- b. They told me that they saw a creeper.
 - i. they me* told theyb (explosive enemy)* see
- c. This is the cave where I saw diamonds.

- i. this_{HOST} cave
- d. I had to kill an Illager and got the “bad omen” status.
- e. If we find iron ore, we can make iron armor and weapons.
- f. Do we have any leather?
 - i. No, but there are cows outside that you can slaughter.
- g. The dog that attacked us belongs to the other nation.
- h. Gold pickaxes can mine faster than wood ones.
- i. Do you want to go chop trees with me?
- j. Where should we build the new farm?
 - i. We should put it by the river.

13 Vocabulary

Vocal is partially generated, with some derivatives.

Sentences to Translate:

- I'm sorry.
 - I.NOM -PAST.PERF apologize
 - Sapa o sikollo.
 - apology.PL
 - Sikolhos.
- What direction is your house?
 - what- way.GEN your home.NOM be
 - Ntehan pomfajni ntei nkal kon?
 - your home what- way.GEN is?
 - Ntei nkal dehan pomfajni kon?
- Do you have any ... I could have?
 - y/n some-N.ACC you.NOM -PAST.PERF have who.CASE? I.NOM -PAST.IMPERF have?
 - Pa noonhe ... te o amfa no. sapa na afha?
- Help me!
 - me.ACC help.IMPER
 - Sapi ajsajal!
- Don't go that way!
 - NEG that.PASS way.GEN go.IMP
 - Wa ntekas pomfajni pofalijal!
- Wait!
 - wait.IMP
 - Atanjaj!
- I don't like you.
- I like you.
- Leave me be.
- I need food.
- I'm low (on health).
- What's your health?

Who is 'Nation One'?

Our names:

- Koli / Lewis
- Sam
- Ntamfint (David)

Our story:

- We come from...
 - a region of red deserts and swamps.
- We are here because...
 - we were sent by our people to establish a new settlement.
- Our relationship with outsiders is...
 - Neutral—attack only when attacked.
- What is significant to us is...
 - clay, bric, terracotta and red sand(stone) are culturally and architecturally significant—clay is metaphorical for creation as a whole; our creation myth: all living things were formed from clay.
 - our language: is originally written on clay tablets and is not privy to paper (yet!)
 - rivers and birch forests are most sacred of places.
 - bees and apiculture, which are sacred to us—representing teamwork, equality and fierce self-preservation.
 - the colors red, orange, and gold.
 - certain foods: honey, pumpkin pie, cake, chicken.

insushoi(k/ns)-[something] = slabby [something] (used in “baby” or small sense; affectionate)

gawijhoi(k/ns)-[something] = big guy [something] (used to specify adult or large things; affectionate)