

Kanánááná

'Good morning'



Tone in the Binumarien noun phrase

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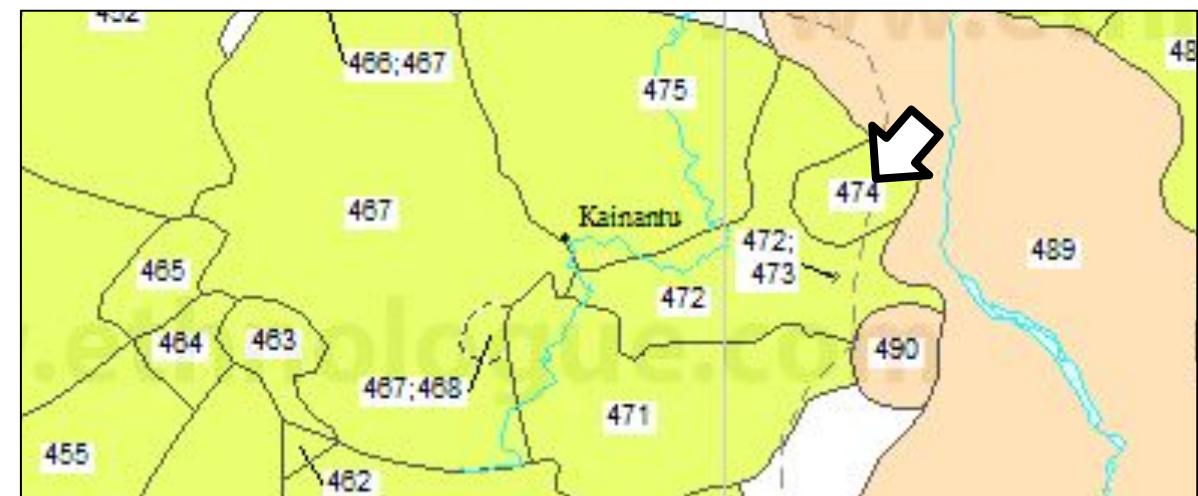
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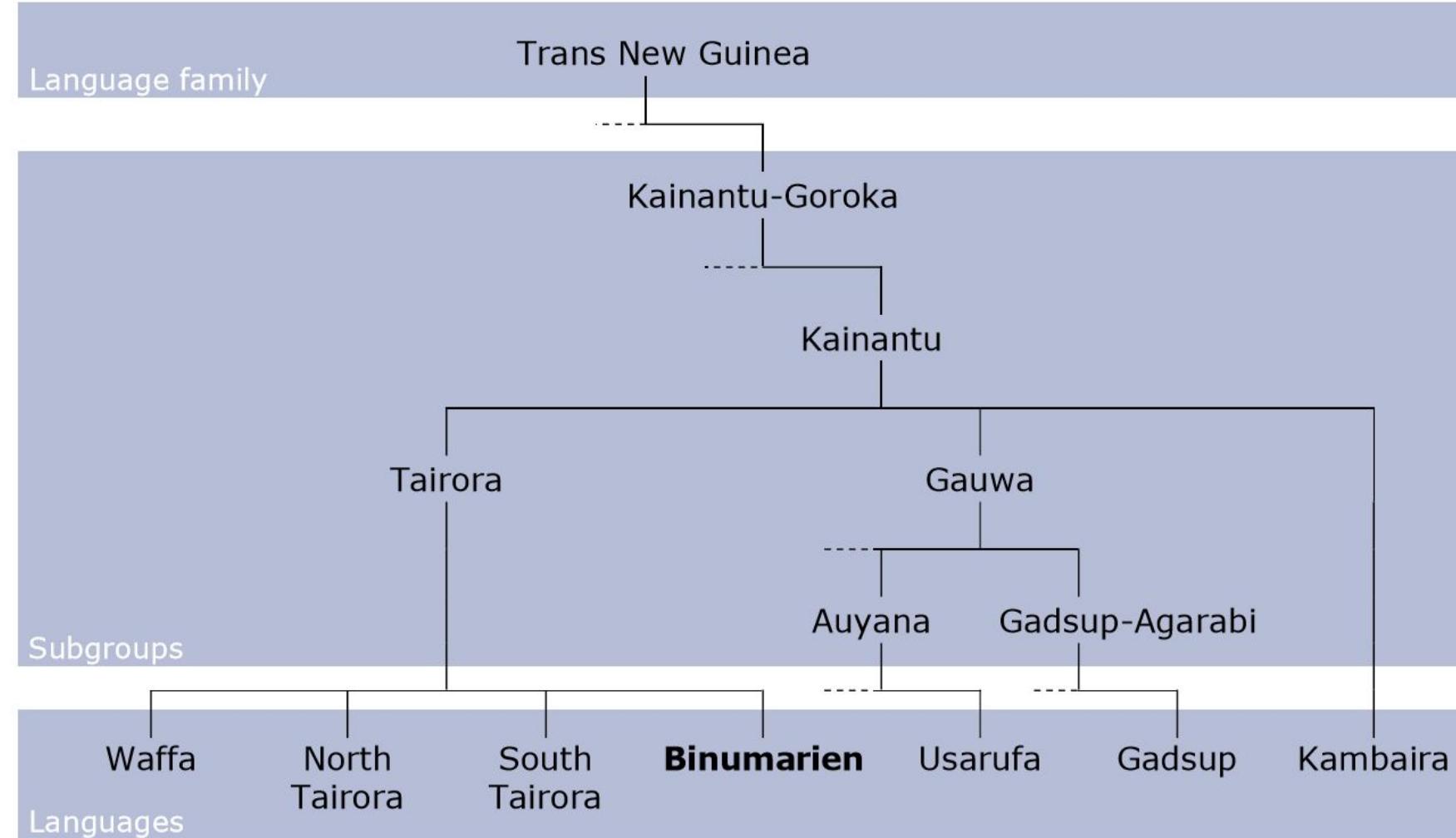


The Binumarien language

- Kainantu District, Eastern Highlands Province, PNG
- 1,200 speakers
- 'Vigorous'
- Whistled language



The Binumarien language



Binumarien phonology

Consonant segments

	labial	coronal	velar	glottal
stops	p	t	k	χ ⟨q⟩
	b	d		
fricatives	ɸ ⟨f⟩	s		
nasals	m	n		
approximants	w	j ⟨y⟩		
Liquids		r ⟨r⟩		

Vowel segments

	front	central	back
close	i i: ⟨ii⟩		u u: ⟨uu⟩
mid	e: ⟨ee⟩		o: ⟨oo⟩
open		a a: ⟨aa⟩	

Binumarien phonology

Syllables

- Consonants only occur in the onset.
- Clusters are prenasalised stops
⟨mb⟩, ⟨nd⟩; long nasals ⟨mm⟩, ⟨nn⟩.

Moras

- Only vowels represent a mora.
- A short vowel represents one mora;
a long vowel represents two moras.

Binumarien examples

innaárúná 'sky'

súani 'sun'

uqooná 'moon'

fasáu 'star'

oonámú 'cloud'

óondándá 'rainbow'

pupúsámú 'hail'

Typology of tone

Property-driven approach with four parameters (Hyman, 2009).

Obligatoriness

At least one /H/ per word.

Chuave (Trans-New Guinea, PNG):

H-H-H, H-H-L, H-L-H, L-H-L, (...)

Culminativity

At most one /H/ per word.

Tinputz (Austronesian, PNG):

L-L-L, L-L-H, L-H-L, (...)

Privativity

/H/ vs /∅/ instead of /H/ vs /L/.

Ekoti (Bantu, Mozambique):

∅-H-∅ > L-H-H

∅-H-∅-∅ > L-H-H-L

Metricality

There is a hierarchy of strong and weak syllables; tone is affected by this metrical hierarchy.

The prosody of noun roots

Each noun has one of the following four tone patterns.

H

áúrú 

'egg'

LH

maqá 

'ground'

HL

sáni 

'stone axe'

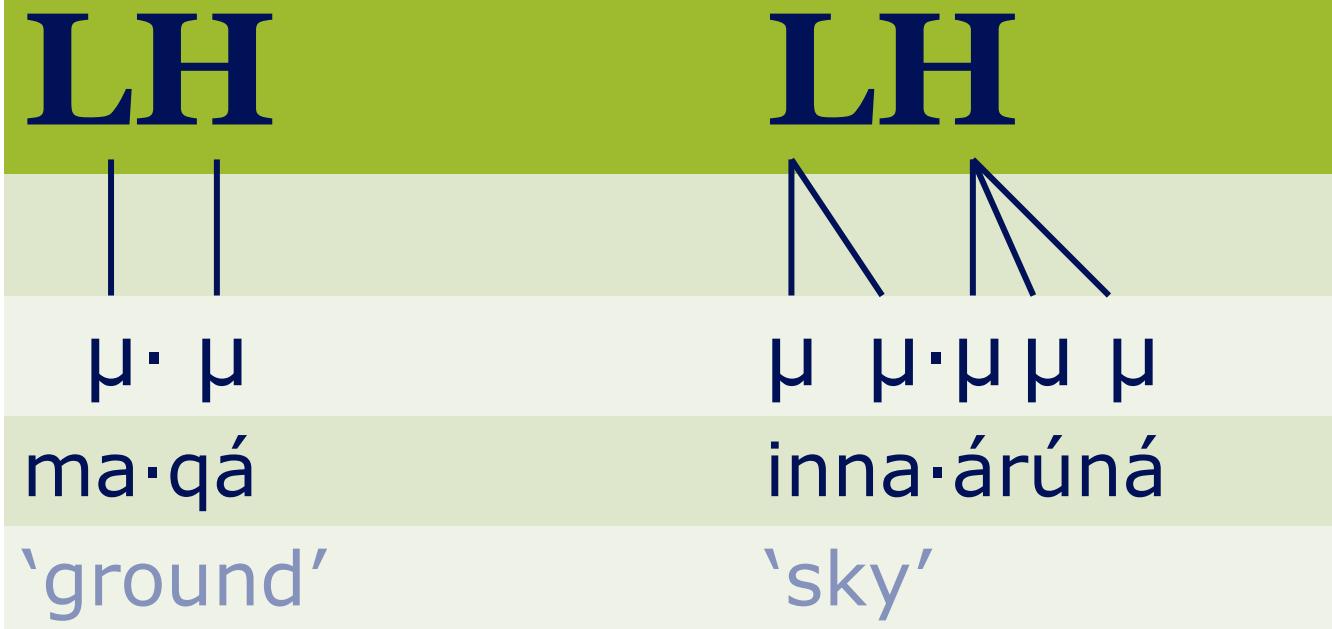
LHL

fasáu 

'star'

The prosody of noun roots

Root-level prosody is realised on the mora.



The point where the pitch changes is not predictable.

faiqí 'child'

faíqí 'man'

The prosody of noun roots

Each noun has one of the following four tone patterns: H, LH, HL, LHL.

	2μ	3μ	4μ	5μ
/H/	HH	HHH	HHHH	HHHHH
/LH/	LH	LLH	LLLH	LHHHH
		LHH	LLHH	LLHHH
		LHHH	LLLHH	
			LLLLH	
/HL/	HL	HLL	HLLL	HLLLL
		HHL	HHLL	HHLLL
		HHHL	HHHLL	
				HHHHL
/LHL/		LHL	LHLL	LHLLL
			LLHL	LLHLL
		LHHL	LLLHL	LHHLL
			LLHHL	
			LHHHL	

The prosody of noun roots

/H/ is **obligatory, culminative**. No **metricality**.

H	LH	HL	LHL
			/
μμ μ	μ· μ	μ· μ	μ· μ· μ
áúrú 'egg'	ma·qá 'ground'	sá·ni 'stone axe'	fa·sá·u 'star'

Root prosody and affixes

Affixes receive tone from the root.

H



$\mu \mu \mu$
táqú-kí

LH



sa·rúná-kí

HL



táá·fee-ki

LHL



quro·ó·na-k
i

'in bamboo'

'in the
pandanus'

'in the taro'

'in the
parrot'

Root prosody and affixes

Affixes can reveal the underlying word-level prosody.

LH



μ · μ μ μ

sa·rúná-kí

'in the pandanus'

LHL



μμ · μ μ · μ

saa·súná-ki

'in the axe'

Root prosody and affixes

Affixes can reveal the underlying word-level prosody.

LH



μ· μ μ

sa·rúná

'pandanus tree'

LHL



μμ· μ μ· μ

saa·súná·

'axe'

Root prosody and affixes

Affixes can reveal the underlying word-level prosody.

LH



μ · μ μ μ

sa·rúná-fáqá

'and the pandanus'

LHL



μμ · μ μ · μ

saa·súná·-faqa

'and the axe'

Root prosody and affixes

LH	HL	LHL
$\mu\mu \ \mu \cdot \ \mu$	$\mu\mu \ \mu \cdot \ \mu$	$\mu\mu \cdot \ \mu \ \mu \cdot \ \mu$
eeqa·-ki	kúárá·-ki	pai·páná·-ki
'in the banana'	'in the pig'	'in the knife'

Prosody of compounds

In English, the **semantic head** is right, but the **prosodic head** is left.

Semantic head

'containership'

Prosodic head

'containership'

In this respect, Binumarien is the same.

Prosody of compounds

The **semantic head** is right; the **prosodic head** is left.

LH	LH	LH	
iroo·sá	ufaana·	>	iroo·súfáná
't.o. bandicoot'	'trap'		'bandicoot trap'
HL	LH	HL	
kúárá·	ufaana·	>	kúár·ufana
'pig'	'trap'		'pig trap'

Prosody of adjective-noun combinations

The tone pattern of both roots is maintained.

HL	LH		HL	LH
káqí·kaa	sa·qárí	>	káqíkaa	saqárí
'small'	'tree'			'small tree'
LH	LH		LH	LH
firaa·	sa·qárí	>	firaa	saqárí
'big'	'tree'			'big tree'

Obligatory high tone on utterance-level

If the /H/ in the roots is not realised, the last mora of the utterance is /H/.

Binumarien has a **privative** system.

HL **LH**

káqí·kaa kupee· > káqíkaa kupee

'small' 'ant' 'small ant'

LH **LH**

firaa· kupee· > firaa kupee

'big' 'ant' 'big ant'



Obligatory high tone on utterance-level

Various underlying patterns result in a /H/ final mora.

LH	LH	LHL
 μμ· μ μ	 μ μμ· μ	 μ μ· μ· μ
koo·qí-kí 'in the door'	ufini·-kí 'in the bird'	ama·qí-ki 'in the meat'
kooqí 'door'	ufini <i>ufini</i> ← 'bird'	amaqí 'meat'

Downstep

— — — — — — — —

táqú-fáqá túká-fáqá

'bamboo and box'

— — — — — — — —

túká-fáqá táqú-fáqá

'box and bamboo'

— — — —

qiní saná

'my taro'

Discussion and conclusion

- Each root has one of four patterns. H, LH, HL, LHL
- Pattern is realised on moras. innaárúná
- Point of pitch change is unpredictable. fai·qí / fa·íqí
- Affixes receive tone from the root. sarúná-kí
- The full pattern is not always realised within the root. saasúná-ki
- The prosodic head of compounds is left. kúárufana
- If no root assigns /H/, the last mora has /H/. ufiní
- Downstep requires further research. qiní sanā



Typology of tone

Property-driven approach with four parameters (Hyman, 2009).

Obligatoriness

At least one /H/ per word.

✓ Each Binumarien noun root has at least one /H/.

Culminativity

At most one /H/ per word.

✓ Each Binumarien noun root has at most one /H/.

Privativity

/H/ vs /∅/ instead of /H/ vs /L/.

✓ The tone of Binumarien affixes is dependent on the root prosody; /H/ is obligatory, /L/ is not.

Metricality

Tone is affected by the metrical hierarchy.

✗ Binumarien syllables have no metrical hierarchy.

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Dúfi dúfi 'thank you'



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