

Organized Phonology Data

Bau (BBD) Madang

Trans-New Guinea Phylum; Madang Adelberg Range Subphylum; Madang Super Stock; Mabuso Stock; Gum (Abaian) Family

Population census: 3142 (National Census 2000)

Major villages: Bau, Bafulo/Dae, Guman, Gumaru, Efu, Fulumu, Bamahal, Dolonu, Lagaha, Bauk.

Linguistic work done by: SIL (2008)

Data checked by: Hans van der Meer (2001 – 2008)

Phonemic and Orthographic Inventory

/ a b ʔ d ɛ f g h i k l m n o p \widehat{gb} s t u w /
 < a b c d e f g h i k l m n o p q s t u w >
 < A B C D E F G H I K L M N O P Q S T U W >

Consonants

	Bilab	LabDen	Dental	Alveo	Postalv	Retro	Palatal	Velar	Uvular	Pharyn	Glottal
Plosive	p b		t d					k g			ʔ
Nasal	m		n								
Trill											
Tap/Flap											
Fricative		f		s							h
Lateral Fricative											
Approx											
Lateral Approx			l								
Ejective Stop											
Implos											

/w/ voiced labial-velar approximant

/ \widehat{gb} / voiced labial-velar plosive

Environments are listed in the following order: pre-vocalic, intervocalic, post-vocalic, post-consonantal and pre-consonantal.

Morpheme breaks are indicated as follows: “-” indicates morpheme breaks, “=” indicates clitic breaks and “.” indicates reduplication .

b	[ba.'him]	/bahim/	<bahim>	'platform'
	[¹ a.bi]	/abi/	<abi>	'garden'
	[ɛb]	/ɛb/	<ɛb>	'betel nut'
	[¹ wal.bik]	/walbik/	<walbik>	'immoral person'
	-	-	-	-
ʔ	[ʔog]	/ʔog/	<cog>	'frog'
	[ʔɛ.'ʔɛs]	/ʔɛ.ʔɛs/	<ceces>	'smell'
	[nu.'ɛʔ]	/nu = ɛʔ/	<nuec>	'to go'
	[ʔuf.'ʔuf]	/ʔuf.ʔuf/	<cufcuf>	'pieces'
	[¹ saʔ.si.li]	/saʔsili/	<sacsili>	'small grey-ish fish'
d	[dɛ.wɛ.'ni]	/dɛwɛ-ni/	<deweni>	'my body'
	[¹ ma.du]	/madu/	<madu>	'chicken'
	[ud]	/ud/	<ud>	'dry'
	[¹ bil.dec]	/bild = ɛʔ/	<bildec>	'new'
	[¹ dad.mɛʔ]	/dadm = ɛʔ/	<dadmec>	'to be confused'
f	[fo]	/fo/	<fo>	'pig'
	[¹ u.fu]	/ufu/	<ufu>	'rest'
	[g̃baf]	/g̃baf/	<qaf>	'victory leaf'
	[i.'ful.fu.dɛʔ]	/ifulfud = ɛʔ/	<ifulfudec>	'to scatter'
	[of.'dɛʔ]	/ofd = ɛʔ/	<ofdec>	'to look after'
g	[gam]	/gam/	<gam>	'basket'
	[ga.ga.'diʔ]	/gagadiʔ/	<gagadic>	'strong'
	[hu.'nig]	/huni-g/	<hunig>	'3p pos breast'
	[¹ gun.gu]	/gun-gu/	<gungu>	'to the spirit'
	[a.'tig.dɛʔ]	/atigd = ɛʔ/	<atigdec>	'to fence in'
h	[hi]	/hi/	<hi>	'road'
	[fɛ.'hil]	/fɛhil/	<fɛhil>	'bone'

	[mɛ.ˈlɛh]	/mɛlɛh/	<meleh>	‘flying fox’
	[ha.nup.ha.ˈnup]	/hanup.hanup/	<hanuphanup>	‘in the front’
	[ˈdah.mɛʔ]	/dahm = ɛʔ/	<dahmec>	‘to hear’
k	[ka.ˈfat]	/kafat/	<kafat>	‘bamboo rafter’
	[ˈpa.ka.hi]	/pakahi/	<pakahi>	‘small fish’
	[u.ˈnuk]	/unuk/	<unuk>	‘all’
	-	-	-	-
	[ˈtuk.dɛʔ]	/tukd = ɛʔ/	<tukdec>	‘to put together’
l	[lo]	/lo/	<lo>	‘house’
	[ba.ˈlɛm]	/balem/	<balem>	‘men’s house’
	[mil]	/mil/	<mil>	‘ground’
	-	-	-	-
	[a.ˈwal.gu]	/awal-gu/	<awalgu>	‘in a clay pot’
m	[ma]	/ma/	<ma>	‘taro’
	[ˈa.mi]	/am-i/	<ami>	‘my eye’
	[ˈam]	/am/	<am>	‘sun’
	[al.ˈmɛʔ]	/alm = ɛʔ/	<almec>	‘to die’
	[i.ˈfam.dɛ.an]	/ifamd-ɛa-n/	<ifamdean>	‘he changed and ...’
n	[na]	/na/	<na>	‘tree’
	[lo.ga.ˈni]	/loga-ni/	<logani>	‘my blood’
	[lan]	/lan/	<lan>	‘fence’
	-	-	-	-
	[sa.ˈnan.mɛʔ]	/sananm = ɛʔ/	<sananmec>	‘to start’
p	[paif]	/paif/	<paif>	‘long white yam’
	[su.la.ˈpai]	/sulapai/	<sulapai>	‘star’
	[ga.ˈlap]	/galap/	<galap>	‘finery for the skin’
	-	-	-	-
	[ˈsɛp.fɛh]	/sɛpfɛh/	<sɛpfɛh>	‘if’

gb	[gbai]	/gbai/	<qai>	‘dog’
	[¹ u.gba]	/ugba/	<uqa>	‘3p singular’
	-	-	-	-
	[¹ gbaim.gbɛ]	/gbaimgbɛ/	<qaimqe>	‘fast’
	-	-	-	-
s	[soh]	/soh/	<soh>	‘strong bamboo’
	[¹ ma.sa]	/masa/	<masa>	‘village’
	[wɛs]	/wɛs/	<wɛs>	‘wooden plate’
	[ʔo.ʔoʔ.sa]	/ʔo.ʔoʔsa/	<cococsa>	‘sputum’
	[a. ¹ mas.dɛʔ]	/amasd = ɛʔ/	<amasdec>	‘to unveil’
t	[tu.ʔu.li. ¹ mi]	/tuʔuli-mi/	<tuculimi>	‘my thigh bone’
	[o. ¹ tig]	/oti-g/	<otig>	‘his brother’
	[ut]	/ut/	<ut>	‘black palm’
	[¹ kat.mɛ.ni.ah]	/katm-eniah/	<katmeniah>	‘be in a very deep sleep’
	[¹ dain.ta]	/dainta/	<dainta>	‘pain’
w	[wa]	/wa/	<wa>	‘water’
	[¹ a.wi]	/awi/	<awi>	‘uncle’
	[lɛ. ¹ hiw]	/lɛhiw/	<lɛhiw>	‘afternoon’
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-

Vowels

i u
 o

ɛ
 a

/ɛi/ /ai/ /oi/ /ou/ /au/

Environments are listed in the following order: pre-consonantal, inter-consonantal, post-consonantal, pre-vocalic, post-vocalic and inter-vocalic.

Morpheme breaks are indicated as follows: “-” indicates morpheme breaks, “=” indicates clitic breaks and ‘.’ indicates reduplication.

a	[ad]	/ad/	<ad>	‘enemy’
	[ba.ˈtal]	/batal/	<batal>	‘platform’
	[ˈa.ba]	/aba/	<aba>	‘door’
	[ˈoh.ʔai]	/oh-ʔai/	<ohcai>	‘some’
	[wa.hi.ˈaʔ]	/wahi = aʔ/	<wahiac>	‘to arrive’
	[bi.ˈai]	/biai/	<biai>	‘aunt’
ε	[ˈε.bi]	/εbi/	<εbi>	‘sister’
	[mεm]	/mεm/	<mεm>	‘father’
	[ˈa.lε]	/alε/	<alε>	‘2p dual’
	[ˈa.gε.u]	/agε-u/	<ageu>	‘theirs’
	[nu.ε.ˈa.nah]	/nu-εa-nah/	<nueanah>	‘he came’
	[ni.εi.ˈgan]	/ni-εiga-n/	<nieigan>	‘I will live’
i	[id]	/id/	<id>	‘banana’
	[a.ˈhiw]	/ahiw/	<ahiw>	‘hand drum’
	[o.ˈni]	/o-ni/	<oni>	‘my mouth’
	[g̃bε.li.ˈa]	/g̃bεlia/	<qelia>	‘tongue’
	[ka.iεʔ]	/kai = εʔ/	<kaiec>	‘to yell’
	[ai.ε.ˈhi]	/ai-εhi/	<aiehi>	‘the two get up’
o	[o.ˈhul]	/ohul/	<ohul>	‘betel pepper’
	[ˈgo.si]	/gosi/	<gosi>	‘end of a rope’
	[ˈfa.ʔo]	/faʔo/	<faco>	‘rafter’
	[ho.a.gε]	/ho.agε/	<hoage>	‘they’
	[i.hi.ˈoʔ]	/ihioʔ/	<ihioc>	‘already’
	-	-	-	-

u	[u. ¹ seʔ]	/use-ʔ/	<usec>	‘splint bone’
	[hu. ¹ ni]	/hun-i/	<huni>	‘my breast’
	[¹ tu.tu]	/tu.tu/	<tutu>	‘short’
	[nu. ¹ a.nah]	/nu-a-nah/	<nuanah>	‘he went’
	[¹ wε.le.u]	/wεleu/	<weleu>	‘long ago’
	-	-	-	-

Environments are listed in the following order: syllabic, inter-consonantal, post-consonantal, pre-vocalic and inter-consonantal across syllable boundaries.

Morpheme breaks are indicated the same way as above mentioned.

ei	[¹ ei.u]	/eiu/	<eiu>	‘strong alcoholic drink’
	[leiɦ]	/leiɦ/	<leiɦ>	‘some’
	[u. ¹ fɛi]	/ufɛi/	<ufɛi>	‘wind’
	[nu.ei. ¹ an]	/nu-eia-n/	<nueian>	‘he will go’
	[ε.fɛi. ¹ gan]	/εf-ɛiga-n/	<efeigan>	‘I will carry’
ai	[aid]	/aid/	<aid>	‘woman’
	[laiɦ]	/laiɦ/	<laiɦ>	‘leg’
	[ɦai]	/ɦai/	<ɦai>	‘bird’
	[ai. ¹ a]	/ai-a/	<aia>	‘where?’
	[mai. ¹ tɛʔ]	/ma-it = ɛʔ/	<maitec>	‘to tell me’
oi	[ois]	/ois/	<ois>	‘all right’
	[hoil]	/hoil/	<hoil>	‘another’
	[boi]	/boi/	<Boi>	‘name of a star’
	[doi. ¹ an]	/d-oia-n/	<doian>	‘he will know’
	[wa.loi. ¹ gan]	/wal-oiga-n/	<waloigan>	‘I will wash’
ou	[ou]	/o-u/	<ou>	‘mouth’
	[doul]	/doul/	<doul>	‘expecting’
	[fou]	/fou/	<fou>	‘trunk of a tree’

	[kou. ¹ εʔ]	/kou = εʔ/	<kouec>	‘make a certain sound’
	[i.lou. ¹ gbεʔ]	/ilou-gb = εʔ/	<ilouqec>	‘headache’
au	[au]	/a-u/	<au>	‘mother’
	[daul]	/daul/	<daul>	‘long’
	[hau]	/hau/	<hau>	‘cloud’
	[gbau. ¹ εʔ]	/gbau = εʔ/	<qauec>	‘to lie’
	[¹ mau.deʔ]	/ma-ud = εʔ/	<maudec>	‘to talk with him’

Suprasegmentals (tone, stress, length)

There are two patterns of stress placement depending on the morphological structure of the word. Stress placement on monomorphemic words is phonologically conditioned and predictable. Stress placement on polymorphemic words (i.e. verbs and possessed nouns) is grammatically conditioned and predictable but to a lesser degree than for monomorphemic words.

For monomorphemic words stress falls on the first closed syllable, which is usually though not necessarily the last syllable in the word, or if there is no closed syllable, then on the first syllable. For the purpose of stress placement an off-glide functions as a closed syllable when it occurs in word final position.

For polymorphemic words grammatical factors play a greater role than phonological factors. With the inalienable possessed nouns there is a general stress rule whereby main stress is placed on the final syllable of the word. With the verbs stress placement can be placed on any of the following elements depending on the particular conjugation of the verb: the subject agreement suffix, the aspectual/mood/negative marker, the infinitive clitic or the object marker.

First closed syllable:

[du. ¹ an]	/duan/	<duan>	‘cold’
[ga.ʔa. ¹ lit]	/gaʔalit/	<gacalit>	‘small plant’
[a. ¹ gin.ʔai]	/agin-ʔai/	<agincai>	‘sticky’
[¹ les.a.les]	/les.ales/	<lesales>	‘type of grass’

Vowel glide functioning as closed syllable:

[fu. ¹ au]	/fuau/	<fuau>	‘red ant’
[ha.ʔi. ¹ sai]	/haʔ-isai/	<hacisai>	‘where?’

First syllable:

[ga .ga.tu]	/ga.gatu/	<gagatu>	‘darkness’
[sa .gi.gi.li]	/sagigili/	<sagigili>	‘feeling of sickness’

Inalienable possessed nouns:

[ga.ti. na .ga]	/gati-naga/	<gatinaga>	‘their heads’
[o.la. ni]	/ola-ni/	<olani>	‘my face’
[wa. ʔu]	/wa-ʔu/	<wacu>	‘his stomach’

Subject agreement suffix:

[wal. o .g̃ba]	/wal-og̃b-a/	<waloqa>	‘we are washing’
[nu. ε .a.nah]	/nu-εa-nah/	<nueanah>	‘he went’

Aspectual marker:

[ta .ta.wε.hi.an]	/ta.taw-εhia-n/	<tatawehian>	‘while the two are standing’
[do .do.a.fa]	/do.d-oa-fa/	<dodoafa>	‘while he thought, he ...’

Mood marker:

[bi.lε.a. ʔuf]	/bil-ε-a-ʔuf/	<bileacuf>	‘is he sitting?’
[nu.εʔ. εʔ]	/nu-εʔ-εʔ/	<nuecec>	‘(you) go!’

Negative marker:

[tε. naʔ]	/t-εnaʔ/	<tenac>	‘don’t go up!’
[fa. he .wan]	/fah-εwa-n/	<fahewan>	‘he will not come’

Infinitive clitic:

[ta.hu. leʔ]	/tahul = εʔ/	<tahulec>	‘to throw’
[tuk. deʔ]	/tukd = εʔ/	<tukdec>	‘to join something’
[do. loʔ]	/dol = oʔ/	<doloc>	‘to be surprised’

Object marker:

[mεʔ. ig .ε.a]	/mεʔ-ig-ε-a/	<mecigea>	‘he sees us’
[ma. da .da.nah]	/mad-ad-a-nah/	<madadanah>	‘he told them’

Syllable Patterns

V	[o]	[o.lu]	[bi.o.toʔ]	[g̃bɛ.li.a]
	/o/	/olu/	/bioto-ʔ/	/g̃bɛli-a/
	<o>	<olu>	<biotoc>	<qelia>
	'yam type'	'pumpkin'	'buttocks'	'tongue'
VV	[au]	[ɛi.u]	[nu.ɛi.gan]	[fu.au]
	/a-u/	/ɛiu/	/nu-eiga-n/	/fuau/
	<au>	<ɛiu>	<nueigan>	<fuau>
	'mother'	'alcoholical drink'	'I will go'	'red ant'
VC	[ut]	[al.mɛʔ]	[gu.am.bi]	[si.po.am]
	/ut/	/alm = ɛʔ/	/guambi/	/sipoam/
	<ut>	<almec>	<guambi>	<sipoam>
	'black palm'	'to die'	'ornament'	'day after tomorrow'
VVC	[aub]	[aid.laif]	[mɛl.aid.ʔai]	[mɛl.aid]
	/aub/	/aid.lai-f/	/mɛl.aid-cai/	/mɛl.aid/
	<aub>	<aidlaif>	<melaidcai>	<melaid>
	'white man'	'a woman's legs'	'with the daughter'	'daughter'
CV	[fo]	[ma.du]	[ma.na.fal]	[g̃ba.li]
	/fo/	/madu/	/manafal/	/g̃bali/
	<fo>	<madu>	<manafal>	<qali>
	'pig'	'chicken'	'male'	'bow'
CVC	[mɛb]	[lan.ʔai]	[a.li.l.dɛʔ]	[ma.lag]
	/mɛb/	/lan-ʔai/	/alild = ɛʔ/	/malag/
	<mɛb>	<lancai>	<alildec>	<malag>
	'slit gong'	'yellow'	'to fence in'	'yam'
CVV	[lai]	[noi.gan]	[i.hi.lei.gan]	[a.bai]
	/lai/	/n-oiga-n/	/ihil-eiga-n/	/abai/
	<lai>	<noigan>	<ihileigan>	<abai>
	'fire'	'I will go down'	'I will cook'	'older sister'
CVVC	[dau]	[dai.n.ta]	[mɛ.u.li.fain.gu]	[li.fain]
	/dau/	/dainta/	/mɛulifain-gu/	/lifain/
	<dau>	<dainta>	<mɛulifaingu>	<lifain>
	'long'	'pain'	'at his right hand'	'right hand'

Conventions: Phonological

The alveolar lateral approximant /l/ has an allophone, the vibrant [r] which occurs in free variation with it intervocally and word finally.

The voiceless bilabial plosive /p/ is in free variation with [f] in word initial and word medial position.

The voiced high close front unrounded vocoid /i/ often desyllabifies to the palatal semi-vowel [y] when followed by a vowel.

The voiced high close back rounded vocoid /u/ often desyllabifies to the bilabial semi-vowel [w] when followed by a vowel.

Conventions: Orthographic

The symbols < c > and < q > are used for the phonemes / ʔ / and / \overline{gb} / like in the Amele language.

The symbols < j > and < r > are borrowed from English and are used when necessary.

Transcription of a recorded passage

/isa lenimi endruw || isau mem leni abeks || isau au leni mugun || isa fulumude || maneʔet le gug sain lagel am isaugu || maneʔet le he madedemin kelebob kasetgu rekodim itean || ois | le hananmi madeigan || sain hoil wi lagel am meubahinak || dana melʔai aid uniʔa huninieian || isa adi lagel am meubahinak gun bibili | wawi dodoan sek sisili || fuafuahi? | et kokom budidi? ami wa nenean bilinah || elacʔin | sain ho lagel am meubahinak || odan meleh agefa hau ohis halufafaweʔ lagel elʔel dede obeinah || isa ami hau ohis tean meʔi adi nini asisi wawi doanah || odan aid haun hoil huninie dahmeafa aie lo u \overline{g} baugude obebe isau logu fahanah || isa bilinahgu soan meʔidi asisi ticalinah || isa isdin ho isa siai aid ina || odiafa \overline{gb} il meʔidinah | u \overline{g} ba aid masalde bahin || ois | aid maidanah | almeu \overline{g} be? ina odaʔan damisifig meiseiganun fahia || isa \overline{gb} il inaʔai bilewan || odan \overline{gb} il aid ho isaʔai bilewa || aid ho weni sisilia | u \overline{g} ba weni sisilia || maneʔet saigan fahan hegada? | ois /

<Isa lenimi Andrew. Isau mem leni Abeks. Isau au leni Mugun. Isau Fulumude. Manecet le gug sain lagel am isaugu. Manecet le he madedemin Kelebob kasetgu rekodim itean. Ois, le hananmi madeigan. Sain hoil wi lagel am meubahinak. Dana melcai aid unica hunieian. Isa adi lagel am meubahinak gun bibili. Wawi dodoan sek sisili. Fuafuahic, et kokom budidi ami wa nenean bilinah. Elacin, sain ho lagel am meubahinak. Odan meleh agefa hau ohis halufafaweic lagel elcel dede obeinah. Isa ami hau ohis tean meci adi nini asisi wawi doanah. Odan aid haun hoil huninie dahmeafa aie lo uqaugude obebe isau logu fahanah. Isa bilinahgu soan meciidi asisi ticalinah. Isa isdin ho isa siai aid ina. Odiafa qil mecinah, uqa aid masalde bahin. Ois, aid maidanah, “Almeuqec ina odacan damisifig meiseiganun fahia. Isa qil inacai bilewan.” Odan qil aid ho isacai bilewa. Aid ho weni Sisilia, uqa weni Sisilia. Manecet saigan fahan hegadac, ois.>

“My name is Andrew. My father’s name is Abeks. My mother’s name is Mugun. I am from Fulumu. This is the origin of the story of the time of the full moon. While I am talking, Bob

will record this story on a cassette player. All right, I will start with the words and talk. Once when the moon was as bright as the sun (full moon) a man and his child and his wife, all were asleep. I myself was sitting in the bright moonlight and feeling sad and singing a song. While I was whistling and beating a bamboo drum I was weeping and sat down. Because at that time the moon was so bright. And the flying foxes were flying in the sky because they too were enjoying the moon light. I looked up into the sky and saw them and while lying down felt even sadder. And a woman while sleeping heard it and got up from her house and walked towards my house. She came to where I was sitting and seeing her I was very surprised. I thought that it was a spirit woman. After that I looked and saw she was a real woman. Okay, the woman said to me, ‘You are the one doing this what I was hearing and I would like to see you so I came. So now I will stay with you.’ And now this woman is living with me (i.e. is my wife). That woman’s name is Sisilia, her name is Sisilia. The story I am telling you comes here to an end, that’s all.”

Orthography Chart

Phonemes	Bau	Amele	Pidgin
/a/	<A,a>	<A,a>	<A,a>
/b/	<B,b>	<B,b>	<B,b>
/ʔ/	<C,c>	<C,c>	-
/d/	<D,d>	<D,d>	<D,d>
/e/	<E,e>	<E,e>	<E,e>
/f/	<F,f>	<F,f>	<F,f>
/g/	<G,g>	<G,g>	<G,g>
/h/	<H,h>	<H,h>	<H,h>
/i/	<I,i>	<I,i>	<I,i>
/ɕ/	<J,j>	<J,j>	<J,j>
/k/	<K,k>	<K,k>	<K,k>
/l/	<L,l>	<L,l>	<L,l>
/m/	<M,m>	<M,m>	<M,m>
/n/	<N,n>	<N,n>	<N,n>
/o/	<O,o>	<O,o>	<O,o>
/p/	<P,p>	<P,p>	<P,p>
/gb/	<Q,q>	<Q,q>	-
/r/	<R,r>	<R,r>	<R,r>
/s/	<S,s>	<S,s>	<S,s>
/t/	<T,t>	<T,t>	<T,t>
/u/	<U,u>	<U,u>	<U,u>
/w/	<W,w>	<W,w>	<W,w>

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