#### **ILLUSTRATIONS OF THE IPA**

# Xumi (part 2): Upper Xumi, the variety of the upper reaches of the Shuiluo river

#### Katia Chirkova

Centre de Recherches Linguistiques sur l'Asie Orientale, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Paris, France

katia.chirkova@gmail.com

## Yiya Chen

Leiden University Centre for Linguistics, Leiden Institute for Brain and Cognition, Leiden, the Netherlands yiya.chen@hum.leidenuniv.nl

## Tanja Kocjančič Antolík

Laboratoire de Phonétique et Phonologie, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Paris, France tkocjancic@googlemail.com

This Illustration focuses on the variety of the Xumi language (旭米, /LP su ketç3/ or /EP su-hī ketç3/) that is spoken in the upper reaches of the Shuiluo river (水洛河) in Shuiluo Township (水洛乡) (hereafter Upper Xumi).¹ The township is located in Muli Tibetan Autonomous County (木里藏族自治县, *smi li rang skyong rdzong* in Written Tibetan, hereafter, WT), in the South-West of Sichuan Province (四川省) in the People's Republic of China.

Upper Xumi is one of the two dialects of the Xumi language, the other one being Lower Xumi. That dialect is spoken in the lower and middle reaches of the Shuiluo river, as we discussed in our phonetic and phonological sketch of Lower Xumi (Chirkova & Chen 2013b). The present overview of Upper Xumi complements our overview of Lower Xumi.

The two dialects of Xumi are closely related to each other, but they are distinctly different, due to their contact with different languages. Upper Xumi is essentially influenced by the local dialect of Tibetan (Gami Tibetan), as well as, to a lesser extent, by Pumi. By contrast, Lower Xumi is mostly influenced by the local dialects of the Pumi, Mosuo, and Naxi languages. The observed diversity is highly remarkable given:

- (a) the small geographical area occupied by the group (there is a mere 15.25 km beeline between the northernmost village of Lanman (兰满村) in the upper reaches of Shuiluo river and the southernmost village of Mianbang (免邦村) in the lower reaches of Shuiluo river):
- (b) the small number of speakers (less than 2,000 people);
- (c) the continuing contact and exchange between villages in the upper, middle, and lower reaches of Shuiluo river.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In transcriptions of Xumi words '-' stands for morpheme boundary, and ' = ' stands for clitic boundary. In WT etymologies '?' stands for a morpheme whose meaning is unclear. When attached to a word, it signals that the etymon represented by this word is tentative. When standing on its own (between spaces), it indicates an uncertain origin of a morpheme in a disyllabic word. See section 'Prosodic organisation' for the adopted system of tone notation (the superscript letters and numbers in transcriptions).

The comparative data on the two varieties are of interest for studies on language change in progress, and they may provide insight into the mechanisms at work in the implementation of language change and the diffusion of linguistic innovations.

The present sketch provides an overview of Upper Xumi with an emphasis on those features that distinguish it from Lower Xumi. It also contains an instrumental study of the voiceless—voiced contrast in nasals and laterals (nasal and oral airflow and electroglottographic measures), made possible by the fact that we could work with our principal Upper Xumi language consultant in a phonetics laboratory.

The description is based on the first author's fieldwork. The word list and the recorded passage provided with this paper were recited by a fifty-nine year old male native speaker of Xumi, who was born and raised in Lanman village. To facilitate comparison with Lower Xumi, the present description uses (whenever available) cognates in both varieties as illustrative examples. (In the sound archive, sound files with Lower Xumi forms are marked with 'LX'.)

# **Consonants**

The consonant inventory of Upper Xumi comprises of 44 consonants, as listed below. (Low frequency phonemes are given in parentheses. See section 'Prosodic organization' for tonal variation on monosyllabic words.) The appendix provides the distributional patterns of consonants and vowels that include permissible sequences in syllables as attested in our corpus of c. 2,800 words. Upper Xumi is characterized by a reduced segmental inventory (44 consonants compared with 50 in Lower Xumi), different phonotactic constraints, and the presence of prenasalized clusters.

	Bilabial	Alve	Alveolar		Retroflex		Alveolo- palatal		Velar		Uvular		ottal
Plosive	p p <sup>h</sup> b	t t <sup>i</sup>	¹ d					k k	h g	q	q <sup>h</sup>		
Affricate		ts ts	h dz	tş tş	h dz	tç tç	¹ dz						
Nasal	(m) m	(ņ)	n				ŋ		ŋ				
Fricative		S	Z	ş	Z,	Ç	Z	X		(X)	R	h	(fi)
Approximant	w		Ţ				j						
Lateral approximant		1	1			Ý	λ						

p	нрз	'to speak'	ş	цŞ	'fishing net'
p <sup>h</sup>	$^{\rm H}$ р $^{\rm h}$ з	'price'	Z,	RP le-z,i	'to sleep'
b	ь̂з	'(house) beam'	tc	<sup>н</sup> tсз	'star'
m	Rmз	'sky'	tçh	<sup>R</sup> t¢ <sup>h</sup> з	'muntjac'
m	μm̃ε	'medicine'	d₽	нdzз	'water'
w	HW3	'tooth'	ŋ	<sup>R</sup> jnз	'fire'
t	<sup>H</sup> tjε	'cutting board'	Ç	<sup>Ř</sup> dzi-¢з	'one hundred'
$t^h$	нt <sup>h</sup> jε	'to wear (a hat)'	$\mathbf{Z}$	<sup>н</sup> <b>ұ</b> 3	'beer, wine'
d	<sup>н</sup> djε	'fox'	z j	нjз	'tent'
ts	RPtsv-ts3	'to bundle'	λ	$3\lambda^{\scriptscriptstyle \mathrm{H}}$	'correct, right'
$ts^h$	Htsh3	'salt'	Ÿ	аўн	'flavorless'
dz	<sup>R</sup> dz3	'to eat'	k	нku	'to be able'
n	Rno	'whole; complete'	$k^h$	$Rk^{h}u$	'want'
ņ	õņ <sup>A</sup> ul <sup>A</sup>	'fur, animal hair'	g	<sup>н</sup> gu	'clothes'
Ţ	ar a	'chicken'	ŋ	<sup>н</sup> ŋз	ʻI'
S	HS3	'to know'	X	<sup>R</sup> xu	'to go (IMP)'
Z	R <sub>Z3</sub>	'to wash'	q	нqu	'hearth'
1	$\mathfrak{sl}^{\scriptscriptstyle \mathrm{H}}$	'tiger'	$q^h$	нq̂hu	'year'

There is a general three-way contrast in stops and affricates: voiceless aspirated, voiceless unaspirated, and voiced. Velars and uvular stops are in near complementary distribution. Uvular stops are found before non-high vowels, and velar stops are found elsewhere. The two series contrast before /e 3 u ɔ̃/, e.g. /Rkhe/ 'tax' (WT *khral*?) vs. /Rqhe/ 'lime', /Rkh3/ 'foot' vs. /Hqh3/ 'feces', /Hku/ 'to be able' vs. /Hqu/ 'hearth', /RPn3-kɔ̃/ 'to warm oneself' vs. /Hqɔ̃/ 'fate, life'. Unlike Lower Xumi, Upper Xumi does not have a voiced uvular stop. Words with the voiced uvular stop in Lower Xumi correspond to words with the cluster /Ng/ in Upper Xumi (see section on prenasalized clusters below).

Fricatives are pronounced at six different places of articulation: alveolar, retroflex, alveolopalatal, velar, uvular, and glottal. Voiceless velar and glottal fricatives are in complementary distribution, the former only occur with oral vowels, whereas the latter only occur with nasal vowels, e.g. / $^{\rm H}$ xɔ/ 'cooked rice, food', / $^{\rm H}$ hō/ 'to stretch'. /fi/ has the most restricted distribution of all fricatives. It co-occurs only with the nasal vowels /ō/ and /ē/; examples include: / $^{\rm H}$ fō/ 'to dare' (compare with / $^{\rm H}$ ō/ [ $^{\rm H}$ ?ō] 'self (first person subject)'), / $^{\rm R}$ fō/ 'self (third person subject)' (compare with / $^{\rm H}$ ō/ [ $^{\rm H}$ ?ō] 'sheep'). Also unlike Lower Xumi, Upper Xumi does not have a voiced velar fricative, but it has the voiceless uvular fricative / $\chi$ / as an independent phoneme, which can occur word-initially, e.g. / $^{\rm LP}$  $\chi$ 3- $\chi$ e/ 'to itch' (compare Lower Xumi / $^{\rm LP}$ q $^{\rm h}$ e- $\chi$ e/), / $^{\rm H}$  $\chi$ e/ 'difficulty' (WT dka').

Xumi nasals and laterals contrast (i) alveolar and alveolopalatal places of articulation and (ii) voiced and voiceless counterparts.

Alveolar and alveolopalatal laterals and nasals are minimally distinguished before /u/; in addition, alveolar and alveolopalatal nasals are also distinguished before /e/. Examples include: /LP nu-nu/ 'breast' vs. /LP nu-tshu/ 'bean curd', /R lu/ 'again' vs. /R Lu/ 'come (IMP)', /RP nure/ 'twenty' vs. /LP nurs/ 'shadow'. For nasals, the contrast is not found before the vowels /i  $\epsilon$  3/, and for laterals, before /e/. In the above cases, we use the symbols for the alveolopalatal nasals and laterals, respectively. Example include: /Hpi/ 'you, thou', /Hpe/ 'snivel, snot', /Hps/ 'milk', /Hps/ 'to have a craving (for something), to be hungry'; /R Le/ 'predestined affinity'.

Bilabial and alveolar nasals show a clear voiced vs. voiceless contrast as confirmed with our electroglottography (EGG) data (see Figures 1 and 2). Voiceless nasals are infrequent. They mostly occur in loanwords from Tibetan, but they are also attested in the native vocabulary, e.g. / RP mjetsű/ [RP mjætsű] 'tail', / R nã/ 'fur, animal hair'. Upper Xumi has two voiceless nasals (/m, n/), which is two voiceless nasals less than in Lower Xumi (/m n n/). This is surprising, given that Upper Xumi is in closer contact with a local Tibetan dialect than Lower Xumi and that that local Tibetan dialect has four voiceless nasals (/m n n n/), Chirkova, in press). Moreover, / EP numu/ (WT lha rnga mo), the word for 'camel', is distinct in Upper Xumi not only from the corresponding form in Lower Xumi (/EP numo/ 'camel'), but also from that in Gami Tibetan, / numã/ (WT rnga mong), suggesting distinct donor languages for this form.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> In prefixes (which are prosodically unstressed), such as the directional prefix /bu-/ 'outward', /u/ is reduced to a schwa, e.g. /<sup>RP</sup>bu-ce/ [<sup>RP</sup>bə-ce] 'to stick, to glue', /<sup>RP</sup>bu-ge/ [<sup>RP</sup>bə-ge] 'to pull outward', /<sup>RP</sup>bu-nɔ̃/ [<sup>RP</sup>bə-nɔ̃] 'to push (outward)'.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> This is a traditional unit of length, equal to the distance between the thumb and out-stretched middle finger.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The combination /jɛ/ is realized as [jæ] for some speakers, see also below, section on vowels.

10. 7	107 Idi, dililidi ildir.					
Word	NAF min	NAF max	NAF mean	OAF min	OAF max	OAF mean
/Hmje/ 'bamboo'	0.01311	0.04695	0.02849	-0.05225	0.0166	-0.010466
/Hm̃̃E/ 'medicine'	0.24425	0.38435	0.34294	0.10735	1.1086	0.8391
\u00e4bare\ ,tmeuti,	0.04065	0.1048	0.06417	-0.21485	-0.09365	-0.171984
/н ñ̃e/ 'incantation'	0.24227	0.43413	0.35542	0.01703	0.75213	0.59644
/Rno/ 'whole, complete'	0.02163	0.0574	0.03928	-0.09573	-0.01457	-0.07147
/¤nã/ 'fur, animal hair'	0.25163	0.4995	0.40140	0.02893	0.67113	0.31034

Table 1 Measured values of nasal airflow (NAF) and oral airflow (QAF) (in liter/second) for the (near) minimal pairs /\*imjɛ/ 'bamboo' vs. /\*imjɛ/ 'medicine' (WT sman), /\*\*nə/ 'whole, complete' vs. /\*nɔ/ 'fur, animal hair'.

Table 1 provides the measured values of nasal airflow (NAF) and oral airflow (OAF) for the three (near) minimal pairs: /Hmje/ 'bamboo' vs. /Hme/ 'medicine' (WT sman), /RPneke/ 'twenty' vs. /Hne/ 'incantation, curse' (WT sngags?), and /Rno/ 'whole, complete' vs. /Rno/ 'fur, animal hair'. In the table, NAFmin = minimum NAF; NAFmax = maximum NAF; NAFmean = mean NAF value; the provided measures represent an average of two to three repetitions and are measured during the nasal closure only. Figure 1 provides waveforms, spectrograms, EGG, NAF, and OAF for the three pairs.

A surprising finding of this pilot investigation is that all values are greater during the articulation of voiceless nasals. More precisely, while in the articulation of voiceless nasals the air escapes both through the nasal and oral cavity, there is almost no airflow through either nasal or oral cavity for the voiced nasals. Piezoelectric data, recorded for the same corpus, confirms that in voiced nasals, there is resonance recorded in the nose but no nasal (and no oral) airflow. A more detailed study (in preparation) will hopefully provide a more accurate description of this potentially new kind of nasals.

All examples of the voiceless laterals include frication and an abrupt release of the front closure that occurs slightly before the onset of voicing for the vowel (see Figure 2). The burst separates the segment into two parts with different spectral structure. The pre-burst part has the greatest energy centered around 3000 Hz and greater amplitude of frequencies above that peak. The post-burst part has the noise present more equally across the frequencies, with minor peaks at the frequencies corresponding to the formant peaks of the following vowel. In addition, the post-burst part resembles the spectral structure of the voiced lateral counterpart. The presence of the burst and the spectral structure of the post-burst part suggest that these segments have developed from clusters.

# Syllabic consonant

As a syllabic consonant,  $/\rlap.l/$  may occur with a zero-initial (e.g.  $/^{RP}$ khu- $\rlap.l/$  'to be in debt'), and after alveolar sibilants and retroflexes (attested in our corpus after /ts tsh dz s z tṣh ş z/). We take the position that this syllabic consonant is phonologically the same as the fricative vowel after alveolar sibilants and retroflexes (/s z ts tsh dz  $\int$  3 t $\int$ h tṣh/). In the latter case, / $\rlap.l/$  is realized as homorganic to the preceding consonant onset. Conset the following examples:  $/^{H}$ tsz/ $|^{H}$ tsz/ $|^$ 

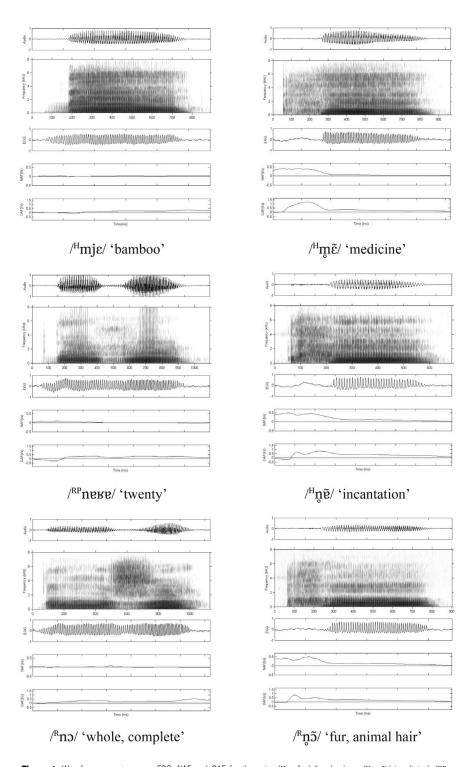


Figure 1 Waveforms, spectrograms, EGG, NAF, and OAF for the pairs /Hmje/ 'bamboo' vs. /Hmee/ 'medicine', /RPnee/ 'twenty' vs. /Hmee/ 'incantation', and /Rno/ 'whole, complete' vs. /Rmoo/ 'fur, animal hair'.

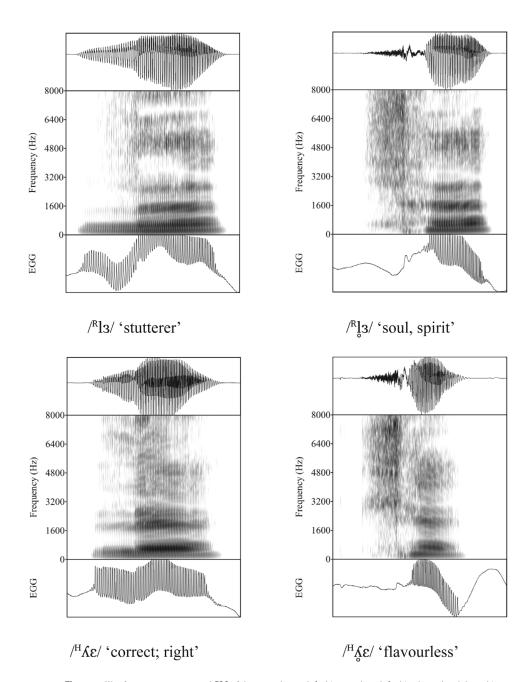


Figure 2 Waveforms, spectrograms, and EGG of the minimal pairs /R13/ 'stutterer' vs. /R13/ 'soul, spirit', and /H κε/ 'correct; right' vs. /H κε/ 'flavourless'

# Consonant clusters

Clusters with  $/\mathbf{w}/$ 

The approximant /w/ occurs in the second position in consonant clusters, where it may be realized as secondary labialization of the first position consonant. /w/ occurs after alveolars, alveolopalatals, retroflexes, velars, uvulars, as well as after /ŋ/ and /ɪ/. It may be followed

by /i e  $\epsilon$  3 e  $\tilde{\epsilon}$ / as well as, marginally, also by /i/. If preceded by an alveolopalatal onset or followed by the front vowels /i e  $\epsilon$  i/, /w/ is realized as [q], e.g. /Hgwi/ [Hgqi] 'bundle wrapped in cloth', /Rdwe/ [Rdqe] 'to ask', /Rdzwe/ [Rdzqe] 'bird', /Rdzws/ [Rdzqs] 'honey, sugar', /EPgwe-w3/ [EPgqe-w3] 'to hunt', /EPle-gw3/ [EPle-gq3] 'to hide something', /Rxw3/ 'copper', /Rxwe/ 'heavy', /Hqwe/ 'to cry, to weep'.

#### Prenasalized clusters

Similar to its linguistic neighbour, Gami Tibetan (Chirkova, in press), Upper Xumi has prenasalized voiced stops and affricates clusters (/Nb Nd Ndz Ndz Ndz Ng/). The stop component of the cluster may only be voiced, and a sequence of a nasal and a stop must be homorganic.<sup>5</sup> Prenasalization in Upper Xumi is contrastive, as evidenced by the (near) minimal pairs below:

```
/LP bemi/ 'axe' /HNbe/ 'saddle pad' (WT 'bol 'cushion')
/R dze/ 'to exist (at a fixed location)' /RNdze/ 'board for pressing things together'
/H dzp/ 'enemy' (WT dgra) /RNdzp-Ndzp/ 'to be similar' (WT 'dra)<sup>6</sup>
/RP le-ge/ 'to obstruct, to block' /RP le-Nge/ 'to be scorched'
```

Prenasalized clusters mostly occur in Tibetan loanwords (corresponding Gami sound files have been provided whenever available), and they are likely to be borrowed due to widespread Xumi-Gami Tibetan bilingualism in the upper reaches of the Shuiluo river. Examples include: /RPNdiwu/ 'bullet' (WT mde'u, Gami /HNdi/), /RNdzɔ-Ndzɔ/ 'to be similar' (WT 'dra, Gami /HNdzo/). (Compare the corresponding words in Lower Xumi: /RPdiwu/ 'bullet', /EPdze-hī/ 'similar', with the nominalizing marker /hî/.) Prenasalized clusters are also attested in Xumi native vocabulary. We note that such words (invariably with the cluster /Ng/) are cognates with Lower Xumi forms with the voiced uvular stop, as in 'to stew': Upper Xumi /RNqu/, Lower Xumi /R<sub>GO</sub>/. As suggested by the external reviewer of this paper, the presence of Tibetan loanwords containing the cluster /Nq/ has possibly paved the way for the reinterpretation of the voiced uvular stop as a /Ng/ cluster in Upper Xumi. We note that such a development would be consistent with the correlation between stops and voicing, as discussed in Ohala (1983: 194–201). Given that the farther forward in the vocal tract a stop is articulated, the better able it is to accommodate voicing, /G/ is the most difficult stop to voice. The prenasalized stop /Nq/ avoids the problems associated with maintaining voicing, while maintaining the original phonemic contrast between /g/ and /G/.

### Consonant lenition

Similar to Lower Xumi, Upper Xumi has a set of productive lenition rules, which transform some intervocalic voiced and voiceless aspirated stops and affricates into spirants. However, compared to the lenition rules in Lower Xumi, those in Upper Xumi are reduced in number and solely yield independent full-fledged phonemes that can occur word-initially. The attested lenition rules are summarized as follows:

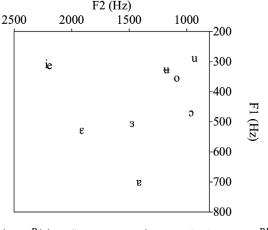
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Homorganic nasal-consonant onsets can be described as unit phonemes or as consonant clusters (clusters carrying secondary articulatory gestures). Our analysis of such segments as consonant clusters in Xumi follows that of similar segments in Kham Tibetan dialects (e.g. Gesang & Gesang 2002), which, in most cases, appear to be the donors of words with homorganic nasal-consonant onsets in Upper Xumi.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> This word is realized with a rising contour on the first syllable. This is an unusual pattern for disyllabic words, not further attested in other words in the corpus.

The noted changes are not only less numerous, but are also less regular than the lenition rules in Lower Xumi, and for some initials, also sporadic and marginal. This is the case for  $\sqrt{R} dz \tilde{z} / \tilde{z}$  'to have', where the initial  $\sqrt{dz}$  irregularly lenites to  $\sqrt{z}$ , as in  $[R^P mu = z \tilde{z}]$  'not have'.

### **Vowels**

The Xumi vowel system comprises nine oral vowels and six nasal vowels (i.e. one oral vowel more than in Lower Xumi). Vowels exhibit a wide range of surface realizations (also among the language consultants that we worked with) with most vowels occurring in a rather narrow range of contexts. The number of hypothesized underlying vowels and the relation between the surface vowel realizations and the phonemic vowel categories have been established on the basis of cognates in both varieties. See also the vowel chart plotted on the relative F1/F2 formant values below. (F1 and F2 were measured at one quarter of the vowel duration (25%), at mid point (50%), and at three quarters of the vowel duration (75%); the mean formant value of a vowel was calculated by averaging over the three measurements).



```
Rhi
            'flour'
                         Htsi.
                                    'lock'
                                                   RP1g-tshi
                                                               'to abstain'
i
                         <sup>EP</sup>tsezi
      Rbe 'pig'
                                                  Htshe
                                    'to trample'
                                                               'to like'
e
                                                   EPnetshje 'earring'7
                         <sup>EP</sup>υ-tsiε
      Rbie 'leaf'
                                    'hot'
ε
                                                   Htsh3
      Rb3 'pot, pan' RPtsp-ts3
                                                               'salt'
                                   'to bundle'
3
      Rbu 'crops'
                                                   Rtshu
                        нtsu
u
                                    'to pluck'
                                                                'ghost'
      Rbu 'to rub with hands'
```

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> This word is likely to be a loan from Tibetan, WT rna? 'ear?'.

```
o LPboxu 'gourd' Htso [HtsY] 'crown of a head' Htsho 'lungs' o Hbo 'mask'8

e RPbeze 'cicada' Htse 'sinew' EPnetshe 'ink'9
```

Upper Xumi nasal vowels include /ĩ  $\tilde{\epsilon}$  ũ  $\tilde{\delta}$   $\tilde{\epsilon}'$ , as in /Hhl/ 'man, person', /Hhl/ 'to cut, to slice (meat)', /Hhl/ 'to blow', /Hhl/ 'vegetable', /RPle-hl/ 'have disappeared'. Marginally, Upper Xumi also has the vowel / $\tilde{\delta}$ /, which is only attested in one word in our corpus, namely /LPm $\tilde{\delta}$ de/ 'on the roof, upstairs' (compare /LPm $\tilde{\delta}$ de/ 'pitiful').

# **Vowel realization**

/i/ and /e/ overlap with some initials (see below for discussion).

Front mid vowels contrast two degrees of vowel height: /e/ vs. /ɛ/, as in the following examples (where these vowels are also contrasted with /i/): /Rji/ 'to exist (of animate beings)', /Rje/ 'to lick', /Rje/ 'vegetable oil'; /RPvdzi/ 'alcohol, spirits', /Hdze/ 'happy', /Hdze/ 'rich'.

The front vowel  $/\epsilon/$  seems to be limited to occur only with [j], e.g.  $/^H$ bj $\epsilon/$  'hoof',  $/^H$ dj $\epsilon/$  'fox',  $/^R$ gj $\epsilon/$  'eggplant',  $/^H$ mj $\epsilon/$  'bamboo'. The combination /j $\epsilon/$  is realized as [jæ] for some speakers, e.g.  $/^{LP}$ mj $\epsilon$ -ts $^h$ u/  $[^{LP}$ mj $\epsilon$ -ts $^h$ u] 'downstairs'.

/ʉ/ has a restricted distribution. It only occurs after bilabials (e.g. /Rbu/ 'to rub (with hands), to twist'), and velars, where it is realized as [w] (e.g. /Hku/ [Hkw] 'to bake, to roast, to toast').

/o/ has many different realizations, for it represents a change in progress, that is, raising to /u/ (see below). After alveolars, it is realized as [o] or [ $\theta$ ] (e.g. /Htho/ 'manner, way (to do things)', /Hto/ [Ht $\theta$ ] 'to build'). After alveopalatals, it is realized as [ $\theta$ 0] (e.g. /Ht $\theta$ 0/ [Ht $\theta$ 10] 'to insert, to stick in', /H $\theta$ 0/ [H $\theta$ 20] 'meat'). Occasionally, it can also be realized as [ $\theta$ 1] (e.g. /Hts $\theta$ 1/ (rown of a head').

/ɔ/ frequently appears in Tibetan loanwords (where it corresponds to WT a), e.g. /EPthuwɔ/ 'hammer' (WT  $tho\ ba$ ), /Hbɔ/ 'mask' (WT ba), /Hdzɔ/ 'enemy' (WT dgra), /RPletchɔ/ 'instrument, utensil' (WT  $lag\ cha$ ), /EPmezɔ/ 'peacock' (WT  $rma\ bya$ ). In the native vocabulary, /ɔ/ contrasts with /e/, e.g. /Hqɔ/ 'mountain range' vs. /Hqe/ 'to move', /Huɔ/ 'strength' vs. /RPnuɛɐ/ 'twenty'.

# Comparison with Lower Xumi

The main differences between the vowel systems of Lower and Upper Xumi can be summarized as follows. Compared to their counterparts in the vowel system of Lower Xumi, the vowels of Upper Xumi evidence a chain shift that consists of the raising of most vowels. The chain shift is possibly triggered by the addition to the system of the phoneme /ɔ/. Hence, Lower Xumi /e o v a ẽ õ v a/generally correspond to Upper Xumi /e u 3 ɔ ĩ ũ ẽ ɔ/, respectively. For the oral mid vowels /e o/, the change is in progress, yielding a number of intermediate forms (see above on the realization of these vowels) and resulting in near merger for some words, as discussed below.

The Lower Xumi /u/ generally merges with /u/ in Upper Xumi, except after bilabial and velar initials, where it continues to be contrastive with /u/, e.g. /Hbu/ 'bowels, intestines' vs. /Hbu/ 'Pumi people', /Rbu/ 'to rub (with hands), to twist' vs. /Rbu/ 'crops', /Hku/ to bake, to roast, to toast' vs. /Hku/ 'to be able'. In all other cases, we observe merger with /u/. For example, the words 'to count' and 'to wipe', which are contrastive in Lower Xumi (/Hsu/ and /Hsu/, respectively), are homophonous in Upper Xumi, /Hsu/ 'to count' and /Hsu/ 'to wipe'.

The clearest examples of vowel raising involve the (Lower Xumi) low vowels /ɐ ɑ ɐ̃ ɑ̃/, which rise into the empty mid vowel space. Thus, Lower Xumi /ɐ/ generally corresponds to Upper Xumi /ʒ/, Lower Xumi /ɑ/ generally corresponds to Upper Xumi /ʒ/, Lower Xumi

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> This word is a loan from Tibetan, WT 'ba 'mask'.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> This word is a loan from Tibetan, WT *snag tsha* 'ink'.

 $/\tilde{\epsilon}$ / generally corresponds to Upper Xumi  $/\tilde{\epsilon}$ /, and Lower Xumi  $/\tilde{\alpha}$ / generally corresponds to Upper Xumi  $/\tilde{\delta}$ /; this is illustrated by the following examples:

GLOSS	LOWER XUMI	UPPER XUMI
'to speak'	/Hpe/	/нрз/
'to arrive'	/ <sup>H</sup> pa/	/Hpo/
'sheep'	$/\mathbf{\widetilde{\widetilde{g}}}^{H}/$	$/^{ m H} \tilde{\widetilde{\epsilon}} /$
'self'	/H ã/	/H ɔ̃/

The situation is more complex for the (Lower Xumi) oral mid open vowels /e o/, which by raising towards (Upper Xumi) /e u/ cause the overcrowding of the high vowel space, leading in some cases to merger or near merger. The minimal pair 'now' and 'cloth' (Lower Xumi /HII/ 'now', /HIE/ 'cloth') is a case in point. A minimal pair test investigating speakers' intuitions about their pronunciation of these words (see Labov 1994: 353-354) suggests complete merger for most Upper Xumi speakers that we consulted: they judged the two words to be homophonous (compare the realization of these words by the speaker DDTR, /H.zi/ 'now' and /HJi/ 'cloth'). A more careful pronunciation of these words, as in word elicitation and discussion with our principal consultant, yielded a distinction, which our main consultant claimed to be that of tone. He pronounces the word for 'now' with a continued fall after the abrupt f0 rise in the initial part of the syllable, which gives the perception of a falling tone (i.e. [xi<sup>451</sup>] 'now'). Conversely, he pronounces the word for 'cloth' with a high-level pitch contour after the abrupt rise, which gives the perception of a high level tone (i.e. [xi<sup>455</sup>] 'cloth'). We note, however, that our principal language consultant was inconsistent in his judgements, and that this type of variation in the realization of the high tone is non-contrastive in this variety (see below on tone).

Consider another example, involving the back vowels /u/ and /o/, as in the minimal pair /Hqhu/ 'year' and /Hqho/ 'bowl', Lower Xumi /Hqhu/ and /Hqho/, respectively. While our principal language consultant maintains a distinction, the difference is acoustically very minor. Video recording reveals a difference in the relative degree of lip rounding (see the video clips 'Year' and 'Bowl' in supplementary materials). Clearly, broader surveys and commutation tests (Labov 1994: 356–357) are needed to provide a complete account of this merger in progress.

# Syllable structure

The canonical syllable of Upper Xumi may contain up to two optional elements in the following two types of linear structures: (i) (C1)(C2)V, and (ii) (C2)(C3)V, where C1 stands for nasal (before voiced stops and affricates), C2 can be any consonant, and C3 can only be -w-; V stands for vowel (or the syllable consonant /ɪ/), and parentheses indicate optional constituents. A non-phonemic glottal stop can be inserted at the left edge of a vowel-initial stressed syllable (e.g. / $^{\text{H}}\tilde{\epsilon}$ / [ $^{\text{H}}$ / $\tilde{\epsilon}$ ] 'sheep', / $^{\text{H}}\tilde{u}$ / [ $^{\text{H}}$ / $^{\text{H}}$ ] 'collar'), and at the left edge of a vowel-initial root (e.g. / $^{\text{RP}}$ lɐ- $\tilde{\epsilon}$ / [ $^{\text{RP}}$ lɐ-? $\tilde{\epsilon}$ ] 'to be drunk', / $^{\text{EP}}$ mjɛ- $\tilde{u}$ / [ $^{\text{EP}}$ mjæ- $^{\text{H}}\tilde{u}$ ] 'to swallow down').

- (1) V /RP  $e = z\tilde{p}/$  'do you have?'
- (2) CV / $^{\text{H}}$ dz $_{\text{D}}$ / 'enemy' (WT dgra), / $^{\text{H}}$ s $_{\text{H}}$ / 'to know'
- (3) CCV /RNdzp-Ndzp/ 'to be similar' (WT 'dra), /Hsw3/ 'to whet (a knife)'

Xumi is phonologically monosyllabic with a strong tendency towards disyllabicity in its lexicon. Trisyllabic and quadrisyllabic words are mostly composite, e.g. /<sup>LP</sup>t<sup>h</sup>5-sĩp5/ 'pine tree' (WT *thang*) (from the word /<sup>LP</sup>sĩp5/ 'tree'), /<sup>RP</sup>l swu-dzw3/ 'peach' (from the bound root /dzw3/ 'fruit', as in the word /<sup>LP</sup>dzw3-dzw3/ 'fruit'), /<sup>LP</sup>n3mi buxu/ 'sunflower' (from /<sup>LP</sup>n3mi/ 'sun', /<sup>RP</sup>buxu/ 'flower'). At the same time, Upper Xumi also has a handful

monomorphemic trisyllabic words (both native and loanwords), e.g. /LPb3zxki/ 'pillar', /EPl5mutçhi/ 'elephant' (WT *glang po che*).

# **Prosodic organization**

Similar to Lower Xumi, Upper Xumi has a two-way tonal contrast on monosyllabic words and a three-way contrast of tonal melodies on polysyllabic words.

# Tone and tonal melodies on lexical words

On monosyllabic roots, we observe a two-way tonal contrast: (i) rising (R) (e.g.  $/^R$ je/ 'to lick',  $/^R$ je/ 'vegetable oil',  $/^R$ le/ 'suspension bridge',  $/^R$ we/ 'cow'), and (ii) high (H) (e.g.  $/^H$ je/ 'tobacco',  $/^H$ je/ 'to buy',  $/^H$ le/ 'tiger',  $/^H$ we/ 'tooth'). The pitch contours of the two tones differ slightly from the corresponding tones in Lower Xumi, as in Figure 3. Similar to Lower Xumi, non-contrastive variation abounds in the actual realization of the two lexical tones in Upper Xumi. In particular, the high tone may be realized as a falling tone. For example, the word  $/^H$ j3/ 'tent' may be realized as  $[j3^{455}]$  or as  $[j3^{451}]$ .

In polysyllabic monomorphemic words, we observe a three-way contrast of tonal melodies. Here, again, we adopt the prosodic system developed for Lizu (Chirkova & Chen 2013a) but it is important to note that just like Lower Xumi, Upper Xumi does not show a consistent correlation between duration and melody as observed in Lizu. Rather, the three patterns are more consistently signaled via their melodic difference. These tonal melodies are:

- (i) Equally-Prominent Contour (EP). There is no salient rise or fall over any of the syllables. Rather, it seems to be high-level pitch contours throughout the two syllables. This pattern is mostly attested in monomorphemic words and in loanwords, e.g. /EP memi/ 'soldier' (WT dmag mi), /EP tçeze/ 'airplane' (WT lchags bya).
- (ii) Left-Prominent Contour (LP). The high f0 peak is realized before the end of the first syllable, where the pitch starts to fall already and continues to fall in the second syllable, e.g. /LP mppe/ 'fire tongs', /LP dzɜçi/ 'chopsticks', /LP bemi/ 'axe'.
- (iii) Right-Prominent Contour (RP). The high f0 peak is realized over the last syllable of the word, e.g. /RP mepi/ 'mani pile' (WT *ma ni*, pile of stones with the Mani Mantra of Avalokiteshvara), /RP tceze/ 'weeding hoe' (WT *lcags gzar*), /RP dzsci/ 'to stand', /RP be-mi/ 'sow'.

# Tone patterns in compounds

If the tone of the leftmost monosyllabic root is high, the resulting compound has the left-prominent pattern, as illustrated with the following sequence:

```
/Hsĩ/ 'wood, tree' + /Hqho/ 'bowl' = /LPsĩ-\chio/ 'wooden bowl' /Hsĩ/ 'wood, tree' + /Rkhu/ 'root' = /LPsĩ khu/ 'root of a tree' /Hsĩ/ 'wood' + /RPdzšhš/ 'house' = /LPsĩ dzšhš/ 'wooden house'
```

Conversely, if the tone of the leftmost monosyllabic root is rising, the resulting tonal melody is right prominent, as the following illustrate:

```
/^R§\tilde{\mathfrak{I}}/ 'iron' + /^Hq^ho/ 'bowl' = /^RP§\tilde{\mathfrak{I}}-\chio/ 'iron bowl' (^RJ\tilde{\mathfrak{I}}/ 'horse' + /^Rk^hw\mathfrak{I}/ 'shed' = /^RP^HJ\tilde{\mathfrak{I}} k^hw^H3/ 'stable, horse shed' (^RJ\tilde{\mathfrak{I}}/ 'horse' + /^RP^Hmjets\tilde{\mathfrak{I}}/ 'tail' = /^RP^HJ\tilde{\mathfrak{I}} mjets\tilde{\mathfrak{I}}/ 'horse tail'
```

# Transcription of the recorded passage

Our principal language consultant was recorded at the Laboratoire de Phonétique et Phonologie (LPP) of the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS). The original recording (made with a Digidesign 003 Rack souncard, Sound Studio 3.6 software for iMac, and an AKG C520L microphone) has been made available to the *JIPA* along with this

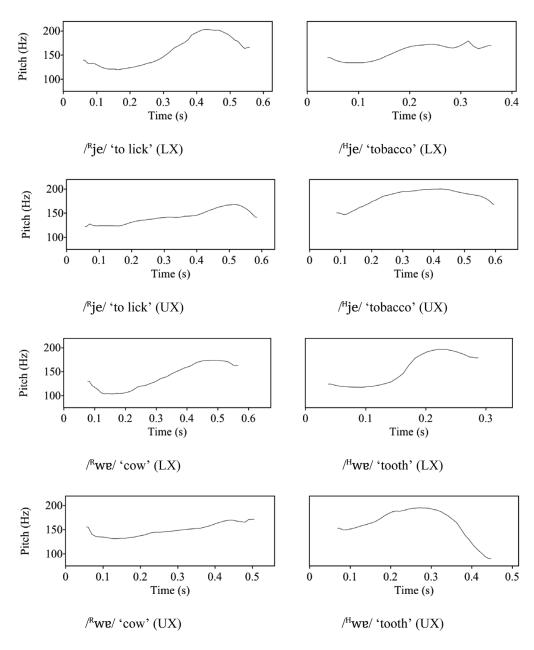


Figure 3 Pitch contours for the pairs /\*je/ 'to lick' vs. /\*je/ 'tobacco', and /\*we/ 'cow' vs. /\*we/ 'tooth' in Lower and Upper Xumi.

analysis. In the transcription, only lexical items are marked for tone, whereas function words are not. Xumi function words and discourse particles (e.g. the genitive particle /ji/, the topic marker /z, i/ in the appended text) are never pronounced in isolation. Their surface tone realization depends on the tone of the preceding (host) lexical word (similar to tone sandhi in compounds).

# Semi-narrow phonetic transcription

North Wind and the Sun

 $\begin{array}{l} |ij=3\lambda \text{ c.e.}^{PH} | \text{ sy in}^H | \text{ in-s.}^{PH} \text{ im-s.}^{PH} \text{ im-s.}^{PH} | \text{ in-s.}^{PH} |$ ı̃ | EP ç3 mu gi Rb3 se | Hlo Hçũ Rxi li nõ || Hlo RP seko EP du3 no ni | Hhĩ thi Rdzõ se |  $^{EP}$ ph3lo  $^{RP}$ lis. $pu = ^{RP}$ l $^{RP}$ sero  $^{RP}$ le-lu-lu li  $^{RP}$ dz3- $^{RP}$ dz3- $^{RP}$ le |  $^{H}$ lo |  $^{H}$ tho  $^{RP}$ mu = z̃o se |  $^{H}$ ts  $^{H}$ tş  $^{h}$ u  $^{R}$ tçi li ño ||  $^{EP}$ dzv-γε λε λε |  $^{LP}$ nзmi =  $_{I}$ ε |  $^{RP}$ bə-tsv li se |  $^{RP}$ mjɛ-qẽ  $^{H}$ pu  $^{R}$ xɐ li ɲẽ ||  $^{H}$ hĩ thị |  $^{EP}$ v-tsjɛ  $^{H}$ pu li se |  $^{EP}$ ph3lɔ |  $^{EP}$ dzv- $\chi$ ɔ  $^{\mathrm{RP}}$ dzi-wu |  $^{\mathrm{RP}}$ lɐ-p $^{\mathrm{h}}$ u  $^{\mathrm{R}}$ tçi li nõ ||  $^{\mathrm{RP}}$ t $^{\mathrm{h}}$ e-лє |  $^{\mathrm{EP}}$ dzз-ки = ji  $^{\mathrm{H}}$ lɔ = лє |  $^{\mathrm{H}}$  mɔ nõ  $^{\mathrm{H}}$ рз 

# Interlinear morphemic glossing

Abbreviations used in the gloss below follow the Leipzig Glossing Rules (LGR, http://www.eva.mpg.de/lingua/resources/glossing-rules.php). Non-standard abbreviations (those not included in the LGR) are: AGT = agentive, ANM = animate, ITSF = intensifying.

$$^{RP}dzi-bu\mid ^{EP}dz3-Bu=ji \qquad ^{H}l^{1}D \quad ji\mid ^{LP}ji3mi \quad ^{LP}ji3-ku\mid ^{H}jii \quad \chi e\mid \\ one-time \quad water-head=GEN \quad wind \quad and \quad sun \quad two-item \quad who \quad only \\ ^{EP}eid \quad \mathcal{K}e=ji\mid & ^{RP}tc^{h}ele \quad li \quad jii\mid ^{RP}tc^{h}ele \\ ruthless \quad become=GEN \quad discuss \quad NMLZ.PST \quad COP \quad discuss \\ dz3 \quad l3\mid & ^{EP}iumi \quad nd \quad ^{RP}ts^{h}j-j \quad p^{h}ald \quad ^{H}gu \quad ^{H}hii \\ EXP \quad come \quad road \quad on \quad ship-skin \quad coat \quad clothes \quad man \\ ^{H}hii \quad ^{R}dzi\mid ^{H}t3 \quad ^{H}pd \quad ^{R}tc^{h}ii \quad jii \quad jii\mid ^{RP}t^{h}e-\mathcal{K}e\mid ^{LP}t^{h}i-dzji \\ man \quad one \quad there \quad arrive \quad come \quad NMLZ.PST \quad COP \quad that-become \quad that-DU \\ jn3-ku\mid & ^{RP}le-k^{h}ii \quad se\mid ^{H}t^{h}i \quad ^{R}b3 \quad \mathcal{K}u\mid ^{H}p3 \quad li \\ two-item \quad pFV-talk.over \quad then \quad that \quad do \quad come.IMP \quad speak \quad NMLZ.PST \\ jn3\mid ^{H}ji=i\tilde{e}\quad & ^{EP}cebe \quad nd\mid ^{H}hii \quad ^{RP}t^{h}i=sj\mid ^{RP}t^{h}j-j \\ cop \quad who=AGT \quad first \quad inside \quad man \quad that =ANM.PNT \quad goat-skin \\ p^{h}3ld\mid ^{R}hi\tilde{e}=i\tilde{e}\quad & ^{RP}le-p^{h}tt \quad dia \quad ^{R}xi \quad zu\mid ^{RP}t^{h}i=zj\mid ^{RP$$

 $^{EP}$ dzз-ки = ji  $^{H}$ lɔ = л $\tilde{\epsilon}$  |  $^{EP}$ çз mu qi  $^{R}$ bз se |  $^{H}$ lɔ  $^{H}$ cũ water-head = GEN wind = AGT die NEG care do then wind blow cu enp<sub>da</sub> caas<sub>da</sub> cl<sub>H</sub> || çu  $R_{xi}$ CAUS NMLZ.PST COP wind more big inside and  $|h_1|^2 + |h_2|^2 + |h_3|^2 + |h_3$ man that cold then coat body = on $n\tilde{\mathfrak{z}}$  $\parallel$  EP dzз-ки = iiRPl<sub>P</sub>-lu-lu 1i PFV-wrap-wrap NMLZ.PST COP water-head = GEN wind  $^{H}t^{h}o$   $^{LP}mu = z\tilde{\mathfrak{z}}$  se |  $^{H}t\mathfrak{z}$   $^{H}t\mathfrak{s}^{h}u$   $^{R}t\mathfrak{c}i$  li nõll manner NEG = have then there abandon do NMLZ.PST COP  $4 \sin \beta = \sin \beta$  $3\lambda$   $3\gamma$   $3\gamma$ li one-instant become become sun = AGT outward-jump NMLZ.PST se |  $^{RP}$ miɛ-qɛ̃  $^{H}$ pu  $^{R}$ xɐ  $^{I}$ i  $^{n}$ 5 |  $^{H}$ hĩ  $^{th}$ i | then downward-roast carry go.PST NMLZ.PST COP man that se | EPphalo EPdzv-xo RPdzi-wu | EP<sub>p</sub>-tsie H<sub>pu</sub> li ITSF-hot carry NMLZ.PST then coat one-instant one-return  $n\tilde{\mathfrak{z}} \parallel {}^{RP}t^{h}e$ - $\mathfrak{L}$ е  $\stackrel{EP}{}$ dzз- $\mathfrak{L}$ и =  $\mathfrak{z}$ і RP1g-phu Rtci li PFV-take.off do NMLZ.PST COP that-become water-head = GEN  $\epsilon q^H$  |  $\epsilon l$  |  $\epsilon q^H$   $\tilde{c}\eta$  |  $\epsilon m^H$  |  $\tilde{a} L = c l^H$ mo hε I wind = AGT NEG.COP COP speak come speak NEG.COP have  $\tilde{a}$ w<sup>R</sup> cte<sup>A</sup>  $\tilde{a}$  cte<sup>A</sup> imen<sup>A</sup> nõ l <sup>Н</sup>рз nõ || only ruthless COP.EMPH COP speak NMLZ.PST COP

### **Acknowledgements**

We would like to thank our principal language consultants, Mr. Lurong Duoding 鲁绒多丁, Mr. Mulian Lanbu 木联兰布, and Mr. Duoding Tshi'er 阿果多丁次尔, for their patience and assistance. We are grateful to Jonathan Evans and the anonymous reviewers of this journal for helpful comments and suggestions. Thanks are also due to the directors of the Laboratoire de Phonétique et Phonologie (LPP) of the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS) Jacqueline Vaissière and Annie Rialland for making the phonetics laboratory of the LPP available to us through the project LabEx-EFL (Empirical Foundations of Linguistics); to Angélique Amelot (LPP, CNRS) for helping us with recordings; to Jos Pacilly (Leiden University) for helping us with Praat scripts; and to Wang

Dehe 王德和 for helping us with videorecordings. We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the Agence Nationale de la Recherche (France) as part of the research project 'What defines Qiang-ness? Towards a phylogenetic assessment of the Southern Qiangic languages of Muli' (ANR-07-JCJC-0063) to Katia Chirkova and Tanja Kocjančič Antolík. Yiya Chen is currently supported by the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO-VIDI 016084338) and the European Research Council (ERC-Starting Independent Researcher Grant, 206198).

# Appendix. C-V and CC-V combinations in Upper Xumi

# C-V combinations

The table is based on a vocabulary list of c. 2,800 words. Marginal phonemes are restricted to two or less occurrences. Chinese loanwords and place names (such as Lanman) are in grey.

	i	e	ε	Ţ	3	u	u	0	э	в	ĩ	ε	ũ	ã	ğ
Ø		$\sqrt{}$						<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>			
p p <sup>h</sup> b Nb	V			,	$\sqrt{}$	<b>√</b>	V	\/	<b>√</b>	V	$\checkmark$	√ √	V	1	
ph	√				√	√.	√	V,	√	√		V,	√	V/	V
b							V		√			V	V	V	
Nb							<b>√</b>		<b>√</b>						
t			$\sqrt{}$		$\sqrt{}$			$\sqrt{}$			$\sqrt{}$				
th										$\sqrt{}$					
d Nd						$\sqrt{}$			$\sqrt{}$						
Nd															
k k <sup>h</sup>	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$													
k <sup>h</sup>					$\sqrt{}$									√ √	
g Ng															
Ng															
q q <sup>h</sup>										<b>√</b>					
q <sup>h</sup>															
ts				$\sqrt{}$											$\checkmark$
tsh										V,					
dz															
ts ts <sup>h</sup> dz Ndz	$\checkmark$								$\sqrt{}$						
tş tş <sup>h</sup> dz <sub>L</sub> Ndz <sub>L</sub>				$\sqrt{}$						$\sqrt{}$					
tş <sup>h</sup>		$\checkmark$										$\sqrt{}$			
dz,								$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$						
Ndz									<b>√</b>						
tç tç dz Ndz		$\sqrt{}$								√					
tç <sup>h</sup>										$\sqrt{}$			<b>√</b>		
dz	V				V		√ √				$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$	V	V	
Ndz			·					·						Ţ,	
m												<b>√</b>			
m			$\overline{}$							$\sqrt{}$		<u> </u>			
ņ	·		·					·		√				√ √	
n									$\sqrt{}$	<b>√</b>				<b>√</b>	√
n							V		·					V	
ŋ	·		·		V		V			√				, i	
S		$\sqrt{}$			$\sqrt{}$		V			V	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$		$\sqrt{}$	
S	$\overline{}$	$\overline{}$		√ √ √	$\overline{\checkmark}$		V		Ţ,	√	$\overline{}$	V	$\sqrt{}$	1	
Ş	·						V			$\sqrt{}$	·	V		Ĭ,	
Z,				$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$		V					<u> </u>		V	
Ç					$\overline{\checkmark}$		V			$\sqrt{}$					$\square$
Z			$\overline{}$		$\sqrt{}$		V			V,	√		Ė		
X		Ť			Ţ,	$\sqrt{}$	V	$\checkmark$	$\sqrt{}$	V					
χ					$\sqrt{}$		V		, i						
R							V		<b>√</b>	$\sqrt{}$					П
h							,	·	·	·		V	V	V	

# Appendix. Continued

	i	e	ε	Ţ	3	u	u	0	э	в	ĩ	ĩ	ũ	õ	ğ
ĥ															
W								$\checkmark$							
Ţ															$\checkmark$
j															
1															
1															$\checkmark$
λ															
Ÿ															

# CC-V combinations

	i	e	ε	3	в	ĩ	ε
tw							
t <sup>h</sup> w							
dw							
kw	<b>√</b>						
$k^h w$							
gw			$\sqrt{}$				
qw							
q <sup>h</sup> w							
tsw	<b>V</b>			V			
tshw	V		<b>V</b>	V			
dzw	<u> </u>		,	V			
tsw							
tş <sup>h</sup> w							
dzw							
dzw tşw tş <sup>h</sup> w dzw tçw			<b>√</b>	$\checkmark$			
t¢"w							
dzw							
ŋw							
SW							
ZW							
¢W							
<b>z</b> W							
ζW							
XW							
hw							
RM							
JW							
λw							

# References

Chirkova, Katia. In press. Phonological profile of Kami, the Tibetan dialect of Muli. In Jackson T.-S. Sun (ed.), Lesser known dialects of Tibetan, special issue of Language and Linguistics.

Chirkova, Katia & Yiya Chen. 2013a. Lizu (Illustrations of the IPA). *Journal of the International Phonetic Association* 43(1), 75–86.

Chirkova, Katia & Yiya Chen. 2013b. Xumi (part 1): Lower Xumi, the variety of the lower and middle reaches of the Shuiluo river. *Journal of the International Phonetic Association* 43(3), 363–379.

Gesang Jumian (skal bzang 'gyur med) & Gesang Yangjing (skal bzang dbyangs chan). 2002. Zangyu fangyan gailun/Bod kyi yul skad rnamb shad/An introduction to Tibetan dialects. Beijing: Nationalities

Labov, William. 1994. Principles of linguistic change: Internal factors. Oxford: Blackwell.

Ohala, John J. 1983. The origin of sound patterns in vocal tract constraints. In Peter F. MacNeilage (ed.), *The production of speech*, 189–216. New York: Springer.