

Kametsu dialect of Tokunoshima

Subgroup: Northern Ryukyuan

Location: Kametsu dialect is spoken in the community of Kametsu on the island of Tokunoshima in Amami.

Data source: Hirayama, Teruo 1986. *Amami hōgen hisogoi no kenkyū* [A study of Amami Ryukyuan basic vocabulary]. Tokyo: Kadokawa Shoten.

Overview of Kametsu accent

Bimoraic

atonic	[HH-H, LH-H]
initial-mora accent	[HL-L]
final-mora accent	[LF ~ HH-L/LH-L]

Trimoraic

atonic	[LHH-H]
initial-mora accent	[HLL-L]
second-mora accent	[LHL-L]
final-mora accent	[LLF ~ LLH-L]

Bimoraic

Phonemic	Phonetic	Example
atonic	HH-H	ʃa: ‘below’, ni: ‘chest’, Fi: ‘fart’, ?ju: ‘fish’, ki: ‘hair’, ɿti: ‘hand’, ɿja: ‘house’, wa: ‘I’, je: ‘interval’, ha: ‘leaf’, mi: ‘meat’, na: ‘name’, si: ‘nest’, ko: ‘river’, Fu: ‘sail’, fa: ‘south’, du: ‘tail’, tu: ‘ten’, ?wi: ‘up, above’, fu: ‘west’, nu: ‘what’, ?ja: ‘you’
	LH-H	hai ‘ash’, tui ‘bird’, ?itsa ‘board’, haku ‘box’, juda ‘branch’, jumi ‘bride’, hasi ‘bridge; ladder’, noro ‘cloth’, kadu ‘corner’, gaN ‘crab’, jadu ‘door; lodging’, ?ui ‘east’, si ^d zi ‘elbow’, tsira ‘face; cheeks’, m [?] atsi ‘fire’, hai ‘fly’, kiri ‘fog’, maki ‘forehead’, dusi ‘friend’, kuma ‘here’, ?utu ‘husband’, wan ‘I’, musi ‘insect’, ?utsi ‘inside, interior’, ?uri ‘it’, Futa ‘lid’, kusi ‘loins’, kutsi ‘mouth’, sigi ‘mustache; beard’,

		kugi ‘nail’, tsim̩i ‘nail, claw’, Fuṣu ‘navel’, kubı ‘neck’, ?ui ‘nephew’, nis̩i ‘north’, hana ‘nose’, lmara ‘penis’, mits̩i ‘road’, kata ‘shape’, ?utu ‘sound’, hai ‘south’, Fusi ‘star’, ?isi ‘stone’, nats̩i ‘summer’, ?a ^d zi ‘taste’, ?an / ?un ‘that (mod.)’, ?ari ‘that (nom.)’, ?uma / ?ama ‘there’, kun ‘this (mod.)’, kuri ‘this (nom.)’, mi ^d zi ‘water’, tu ^d zi ‘wife’, kadı ‘wind’, hanı ‘wing’, Fuju ‘winter’
initial-mora	HL-L	?ı́lN ‘dog’, kułga ‘egg’, Fułku ‘bag’, ?ołbı ‘belt’, Fułni ‘boat’, ?ı́łki ‘breath’, małi ‘buttock, rear end’, gałra ‘crow’, ?ał ^d za ‘father’, ?ałtu ‘footprint, trace; behind’, jałgi ‘goat’, dzı́łN ‘land’, ?ułs̩i ‘mortar’, ?ałma ‘mother’, hałi ‘needle’, nałbı ‘pan; pot’, hałra ‘pillar’, kałi ‘rice porridge’, małsu ‘salt’, ?ułN ‘sea’, kałgi ‘shadow, shade’, sìłs̩i ‘soot’, salta ‘sugar’, tı́łda ‘sun’, dżuł: ‘ten’, młN ‘thing’, tałbı ‘travel’, sołN ‘village’, kułi ‘voice’, dı́łN ‘which (mod.)’, ?ułi ‘you’, ts?ił: ‘breast; milk’, ?ałN ‘grandmother’, mił: ‘hole’, kjuł: ‘today’, dał: ‘where’
final-mora	LF ~ HH-L	?wı́ł ‘bucket’, bał ‘aunt’, mił ‘eye’, më:ł ‘front’, dzı́ł ‘grandfather’, ja:ł ‘middle, inside’, ?o:ł ‘millet’, n?a:ł ‘now’, ?wa:ł ‘big’, ko:ł ‘skin, peel, fur’, ni:ł ‘stomach’, ha:ł ‘tooth’, kił ‘tree’
	LF ~ LH-L	?udrı́ł ‘arm’, mamı́ł ‘bean’, watał ‘belly; intestine’, ?adał ‘bruise’, ?ubał ‘aunt’, jauł ‘cat’, kumuł ‘cloud’, ?iruł ‘color’, hateł ‘cultivated field’, mińł ‘ear’, ?ubił ‘finger’, hanał ‘flower’, sinił ‘foot/leg’, kusał ‘grass’, kimuł ‘heart’, nitsı́ł ‘heat’, ?aduł ‘heel’, watał ‘intestine’, simał ‘island; hamlet’, sisı́ł ‘meat’, tsı́kı́ł ‘moon’, jamał ‘mountain’, duruł ‘mud’, ?amı́ł ‘net’, juruł ‘night’, sutuł ‘outside’, ?ujał ‘parent’, dukuł ‘poison’, ?amı́ł ‘rain’, kumił ‘rice’, ?ını́ł ‘rice (as a crop)’, tsı́nał ‘rope’, tsı́duł ‘saliva’, tanıł ‘seed’, sinił ‘shin’, katał ‘shoulder’, sıruł ‘soup’, ?ugrı́ł ‘sugar cane’, ?aſı́ł ‘sweat’, nadal ‘tear’, ?itſuł ‘thread’, nubił ‘throat’, tı́kı́ł ‘time’, hakał ‘tomb’, ?atſał ‘tomorrow’, sibjał ‘tongue’, kamił ‘turtle’, namił ‘wave’, ?ırı́ł ‘west’, ?itsı́ł ‘when’, danı́ł ‘which (mod.)’, tuſı́ł ‘year’, kinuł ‘yesterday’

Trimoraic

Phonemic	Phonetic	Example
atonic	LHH-H	mawai ‘around’, ka ^d zinagai / küsínagai / ſenagai ‘back of body’, guſaN ‘cane’, ware: ‘child (warabi)’, ?ı́kıngrı ‘cough’, l?unaN ‘cow’, ja:tsı́ ‘eight’, tuſı́wi ‘elder’, ju:tsı́ ‘four’, jamı́ł ‘illness’, magar ‘knee’, ga ^d zı́an

		‘mosquito’, ?amba ‘oil’, ?owan ‘rice bowl’, nigiri ‘right’, ?isago ‘sand’, ?unai ‘sister’, mu:tsi ‘six’, tinto ‘sky’, kibu:si ‘smoke’, tsikjara ‘strength’, Fugui ‘testicles’, ?agan / ?ugan ‘there’, nusidu ‘thief’, mi:tsi ‘three’, t'a:tsi ‘two’, tsingjo ‘well’, siwa: ‘worry’, ki:dzi ‘wound’, ?akui ‘yawn’, wa:i ‘youth’, ?agari ‘east’
initial-mora	HLL-L	Fulttu ‘adult’, çimma ‘daytime’, tl:tsi ‘one’, tf'u:li ‘one person’, mu:kkwa ‘son-in-law’, gu:ndza ‘whale’, ?ulita ‘you (plural)’
2nd-mora	LHL-L	j?a:lsi ‘chopsticks’, ku:ju:li ‘drug’, si:kajdži ‘everyday’, ?itsiltsi ‘five’, m?a:lg̩a ‘grandchild’, Fu:l?adža ‘grandfather’, Fu:l?ama ‘grandmother’, si:džalı ‘left’, ?ara:lm̩u ‘lie’, ?ude:l: ‘lightning’, janalgi ‘loincloth’, ni:džilmi ‘mouse’
final-mora	LLF ~ LLH-L	tso:tſol ‘butterfly’, ?utugel ‘chin’, wuttr̩l ‘day before yesterday’, ?ikkij ‘fish scale’, tumbel ‘funeral’, kinl ‘garment’, ?inutsi LLH ‘life’, jingal ‘male’, kagamil ‘mirror’, ?uinubol ‘nephew’, mi:džol ‘niece’, kunutsi ‘nine’, nanatsi ‘seven’, ?intſal ‘soil’, ho:mal ‘vagina’, wakkjal ‘we’, ?jakkjal ‘you (plural)’, ?uttul ‘younger sibling’, ?asatrl ‘day after tomorrow’, wanagu LLH ‘female’

Tetramoraic – our date are not enough to establish a whole system for tetramoraic nouns. See Hirayama (1968:832) for its complete system.

Phonemic	Phonetic	Example
atonic	LHHH	?ukkaN ‘head’, kutsibiru ‘lip’, narukami ‘thunder’, ?u:džiganasi ‘uncle’
3rd-mora	LLHL	?je:da:lma HHHL ‘dragonfly’, ?attalra LLHL ‘frog’, tukkulı LLHL ‘jar, pot’, situmiflti LLHL ‘morning’, no:grl N LLHL ‘rainbow’, maŋku:lbu LLHL ‘spider’
final-mora	LLLH-L	mijnau: / mimmaju: LLLH ‘eyebrow’, hansin: LLHH ‘sweet potato’

Others:

ni:l ‘plant root’, kw?a ‘child’, tʃ'u ‘human’, sube:l / ?alnda ‘beside’, jirri, ?utundžalma ‘brother’, hanasikrl?utundžama ‘cousin’, wanaunu:kk?wa ‘daughter’, jinganu:kk?wa ‘son’, jo:nega:lt̩a ‘evening’,