

Uechi dialect of Miyako Ryukyuan

Subgroup: Southern Ryukyuan

Location: Uechi dialect is spoken in the community of Uechi on the island of Miyako.

Data source: Hirayama, Teruo, Ichirō Ōshima, and Masachie Nakamoto. 1967. *Ryūkyū Sakishima hōgen no sōgō-teki kenkyū* [A comprehensive study of Yonaguni dialect of the Ryukyuan language]. Tokyo: Tōkyōdō.

Overview of Uechi accent

Bimoraic

atonic	[LL-LL]
final-mora accent	[LH-LL, HH-LL]

Trimoraic

atonic	[LLL-LL]
2nd-moraic accent	[LHL ~ LHH-LL, HHL ~ HHH-LL]

Tetramoraic

atonic	[LLLL]
2nd-moraic accent	[LHLL, HHLL] ¹

Bimoraic nouns

Phonemic	Phonetic	Example
atonic	LL-LL ²	s̥ita ‘below’, tui ‘bird’, p̥aku ‘box’, pasi ‘bridge; ladder’, ?adža ‘bruise’, maju ‘cat’, nunu ‘cloth’, kadu ‘corner’, iu ‘fish’, pigi ‘hair’, p̥itu ‘human’, musi ‘insect’, ?uri ‘it’, ts̥ibu ‘jar, pot’, pa: ‘leaf’, f̥uta ‘lid’, kus̥i ‘loins’, f̥utsi ‘mouth’, piŋI ‘mustache; beard’, fugi ‘nail’, ts̥imi ‘nail’,

¹ Not enough data to know how they behave when followed by a particle.

² The pitch after a hyphen indicates that of the particle -nudu that marks a subject.

		claw', na: 'name', ss̩i: 'nest', nis̩i 'north', pana ' nose', iaku 'oar', mai 'rice', mai 'rice (as a crop)', ŋgi 'right', ka: 'river', mts̩i 'road', tin 'sky', pau 'snake', s̩is̩i 'soot', nai 'sound', ?isi 'stone', bu:g̩i 'sugar cane', nats̩i 'summer', ?adzi 'taste', tu: 'ten', kanu 'that (distal mod.)', ?unu 'that (mesial mod.)', kari 'that (distal)', kunu 'this (mod.)', kuri 'this', kju: 'today', paka 'tomb', tabi 'travel', ?ui 'up, above', mura 'village', midzi 'water', ka: 'well', ?i: 'west', ?its̩i 'when', kadzi 'wind', pani 'wing', fuju 'winter', s̩iba 'worry', kidzi 'wound', ?afugi 'yawn', kinu 'yesterday, kama 'over there'
final-mora	LH-LL	?udi] LH 'arm', buba] LH 'aunt', mami] LH 'bean', bata] LH 'belly; intestine', suba] LH 'beside', ?itsa] LH 'board', funi] LH 'boat', puni] LH 'bone', juda] LH 'branch', ts̩isi] LH 'breast; milk', ?iki] LH 'breath', jumi] 'bride', fumu] LH 'cloud', ?iru] LH 'color', jadu] LH 'door, lodging', maju] LH 'eyebrow', pari] LH 'field, plain', pana] LH 'flower', pagi] LH 'foot/leg', dusi] LH 'friend', fusa] LH 'grass', kimu] LH 'heart', ?adu] LH 'heel', kuma] LH 'here', ?ana] LH 'hole', butu] 'husband', basi] LH 'interval', bata] LH 'intestine', sima] LH 'island; hamlet', naka] LH 'middle, inside', ts̩iki] LH 'moon', ?usi] LH 'mortar', jama] LH 'mountain', duru] LH 'mud', nabi] LH 'pan; pot', mara] LH 'penis', para] LH 'pillar', duku] LH 'poison', ?ami] LH 'rain', ts̩ina] 'rope', tani] LH 'seed', kagi] 'shadow, shade', sini] 'shin', mta] LH 'soil', muku] 'son-in-law', pu:s̩i] LH 'star', bata] LH 'stomach', taja] LH 'strength', sata] LH 'sugar', tida] LH 'sun', nadal] LH 'tear', tani] LH 'testicles', munu] LH 'thing', nudu] LH 'throat', tuk̩i] LH 'time', ?atfa] LH 'tomorrow', si:da] LH 'tongue', ?atu] LH 'trace', kami] LH 'turtle', budza] LH 'uncle', pi:s̩i] LH 'vagina', ndza] LH 'where', tudzi] 'wife', tusi] LH 'year', ?uma] LH 'there', nam] LH 'wave'
	HH-LL	pa:] 'tooth', pu:] 'sail', ?im] 'sea', ka:] 'skin, peel, fur', ki:] 'tree', mi:] 'sweet potato', ta:] 'rice field', ju:] 'rice porridge', ?am] 'net', ni:] 'plant root', wa:] 'pig', du:] 'myself', ?a:] 'millet', ti:] 'hand', ffa] 'son', vva] 'you', ?uja] HH 'parent', noa] 'what', toa] 'who', ndzi] 'which', mss̩i] 'soup', pai] 'south', dz̩i:] 'land', pi:] 'fart', ki:] 'fog', ja:] 'house', dži:] 'cane', ffa] 'child', kui] 'voice', ban] 'I', jam] 'illness', mim] 'ear', mi:] 'eye', ki:N] 'garment', kam] 'god', ſu:] 'grandfather', mma] 'grandmother', ?in] 'dog', pii] 'needle', mai] 'front'

Trimoraic nouns

Phonemic	Phonetic	Example
atonic	LLL-LL	ma:i ‘around’, supigi ‘belt’, ?akatsi ‘blood’, pisuma ‘daytime’, ?aga:i ‘east’, ja:tsi ‘eight’, pidzi ‘elbow’, midum ‘female’, ?iki ‘fish scale’, ju:tsi ‘four’, kagam ‘mirror’, nnama ‘now’, katatsi ‘shape’, sirusi ‘sign’, m:tsi ‘six’, kiffu ‘smoke’, mi:tsi ‘three’, ?ututu ‘younger sibling’
2nd-mora	LHL ~ LHH-LL	fuku:ru LHL ‘bag’, ?umi:lsi ‘chopsticks’, ?isa:lk:i LHL ‘cough’, ?its:lfu ‘cousin’, garala:sa LHL ‘crow’, ?asa:lti LHL ‘day after tomorrow’, fusu:li LHL ‘drug’, tunala:ka LHL ‘egg’, mipala:na LHL ‘face; cheeks’, ?uma:lti LHL ‘fire’, ?its:tsi ‘five’, funalta LHL ‘frog’, pida:li LHL ‘left’, dara:lfu LHL ‘lie’, sanalgi LHL ‘loincloth’, jumu:nu LHL ‘mouse’, nubuli LHL ‘neck’, ?ara:l: LHL ‘outside’, makali ‘rice bowl’, tsiba:lk:i LHL ‘saliva’, nana:tsi LHL ‘seven’, nusiltu ‘thief’, mumu:lni LHL ‘thigh’, kudzi:ra LHL ‘whale’
	HHL ~ HHH-LL	?u:lk:i ‘bucket’, ?ui:lb:i ‘finger’, mma:lg:a ‘granchild’, nu:lm:a ‘horse’, si:ls:i ‘meat’, ?an:lna ‘mother’, mi:lbu ‘navel’, mju:li ‘nephew’, mju:li ‘niece’, ju:li ‘night’, ?au:lv:a ‘oil’, ma:lsu ‘salt’, ?an:lg:a ‘sister’, ban:ta: ‘we’, uua:lt:a: ‘you (pl.)’

Tetramoraic nouns

Phonemic	Phonetic	Example
atonic	LLLL	karapai ‘ash’, t'sibita:i ‘buttock, rear end’, mmifutsi ‘chest’, mi:us:i ‘cow’, bututui ‘day before yesterday’, jusarabi ‘evening’, mainitsi ‘everyday’, soa:ski ‘funeral’, bikidum ‘male’, timbau ‘rainbow’
2nd-mora	LHLL	?upu:p:itu LHLL, kjoaldai ‘brother’, s:tu:lgai LHLL ‘chin’, t:si:lu:i LHLL ‘elder’, kana:lmarija LHLL ‘head’, s:tu:lmuti LHLL ‘morning’, kuku:lnutsi LHLL ‘nine’, kata:lmus:i LHLL ‘shoulder’, nui:liu: ‘thread’, baka:lmunu LHLL ‘youth’
	HHLL	tav:lkja: ‘one person’

others: p:ti:tsi LHHL ‘one’, nna:lpikai LHLLL ‘lightning’, m:nagu: ‘sand’, kamtujum ‘thunder’, futa:tsi ‘two’