

# The Phonology of Yunnanese Dialect at Mae Salong Nok Sub-District, Mae Fah Luang District, Chiang Rai Province

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## Abstract

This research aimed to study and analyze the sound system of the Yunnanese dialect spoken among the Yunnan Chinese at Mae Salong Nok subdistrict of Mae Fah Luang district in Chiang Rai. The data in this study were collected from the interviews of three informants whose ages were over sixty years. Subsequently, the data were analyzed for the different consonant phonemes, vowel phonemes, and auditory phonetic methods. The finding showed that the Yunnanese dialect at Mae Salong Nok subdistrict of Mae Fah Luang district in Chiang Rai consisted of 20 consonant phonemes, 27 vowel phonemes, and 4 pitch phonemes excluding the unstressed sounds. Therefore, the writer focus on studying the phonology as a priority. In addition, it can be beneficial for the detailed study of the morphology, syntax, and other related fields of the Yunnanese dialect. Moreover, it will facilitate the study of other topics such as folklore, history, local culture, Chinese dialects, and Chinese language development.

Keywords: sound system, Yunnan Chinese, Mae Salongnok



#### Introduction

In 1949, there were conflicts between the Communist Party and the Kuomintang Nationalist Army party. The Communist Party was able to gain the victory; consequently, China was under the rule of the communist regime. Due to the defeating situation, some parts of the Kuomintang Nationalist Army party eventually evacuated to Formosa Island, Taiwan while other parts of the Army Party deployed two troops in Yunnan. Later the two troops were defeated again and one part retreated south to Laos and Vietnam. The other part of the troop headed for the Shan State area of Myanmar and Thailand.

Ever since 1950, the Burmese government kept pushing the Kuomintang Nationalist troop out of the country, so the troop could not settle down in Burma. Some part of the troop started to immigrate into Thailand during 1950-1956, and later the Thai government permitted the refugee group to stay in the northern area of Thailand, Chiang Rai, Chiang Mai, and Mae Hong Son. Accordingly, Doi Mae Salong which is located in Mae Salong Nok subdistrict of Mae Fah Luang district in Chiang Rai is where a great number of Yunnan Chinese presently live and they still communicate in Yunnanese dialect as their specific language.

From the Ethnic Group Development Plan 2015-2017, it can be concluded that the Yunnan Chinese ethnic group is one of the 13 highland ethnic groups or who we call "hill tribe". They have had historic relations with Thai societies since the very past. They differ in many aspects, and they have their language, culture, and tradition. The population is clustered into the multicultural group aiming to conserve, develop and inherit their ancestral land and their ethnic identity to the future generation.

The Yunnan Chinese ethnic group or the Yunnan Chinese or the Chin Haw can be called by a variety of names. The Yunnan Chinese speak Yunnanese dialect which is considered to be in the group of Sino-Tibetan language family. At present, it is found that Yunnanese dialect is used in the northern and western provinces of Thailand such as Chiang Rai, Mae Hong Son, Chiang Mai, etc.

The research team found that the Yunnan Chinese people living on Doi Mae Salong are still using Yunnanese dialect in their communication. However, it might be because of the changing of their society and lifestyle, there is a decreasing number of the Yunnan Chinese



people who speak Yunnanese dialect in Mae Salong Nok subdistrict of Mae Fah Luang district in Chiang Rai province. Moreover, Mandarin Chinese words, as well as Thai words, are more often replaced in sentences. As a result, the new generation of the Yunnan Chinese people hardly know the original Yunnanese dialect. It will gradually lose its original language identity and finally become extinct. Thus, the research team was interested to study phonology on the pitch, the consonant, and the vowel of the Yunnanese dialect in Mae Salong Nok subdistrict of Mae Fah Luang district in Chiang Rai province as a priority to facilitate the study of morphology, syntax, and other related fields in the future.

#### Objectives

The research aimed to study the phonology of pitch, consonant, and vowel of the Yunnanese dialect spoken in Mae Salong Nok subdistrict of Mae Fah Luang district in Chiang Rai province.

#### Methodology

According to the study criteria, the research team determined the source of Mae Salong Nok subdistrict of Mae Fah Luang district in Chiang Rai province for collecting the data.

Concerning the data collection on phonology, the research team determined the traits of the three informants of being Yunnan Chinese from birth who still use the Yunnanese dialect in everyday life. They must be old people over 55 years of age who never moved their residence. Besides, their education must not be upper than compulsory education. Males are preferred because, compared to females, males have less chance of language changing. Most importantly, the informants selected must have complete vocalization organs.

In recording sounds, the research team got the data by using the sound testing instrument called The Commercial Press to collect 3700 sounds from each informant. The total number of the collected phonemes was 11100. (3x3700 phonemes) The recording device used in the study was a Sony Model ICD-PX470.

In interviews, each informant was asked to say one word at a time in the Yunnanese dialect from a list of prepared words. In addition, questions, images, gestures, and/or real



objects were used in conducting the questioning. It was a specific method by giving out the list of words for the informant to cite one word at a time for 3-5 times for the researcher to imitate until the informant confirmed that the sound produced by the researcher was correct. Then the sound would be noted with IPA (The International Phonetic Alphabet) and also recorded in the machine. Finally, the conclusions and findings were reported in descriptive writing to present discussions and recommendations.

#### Findings on the phonology study of the Yunnanese dialect

From this phonology study of the Yunnanese dialect at Mae Salong Nok subdistrict of Mae Fah Luang district in Chiang Rai province, it was found that the phonology of the Yunnanese dialect consisted of the following detailed information of the consonant, vowel, and pitch phonemes.

#### 1. Consonant phoneme

The consonant phonemes of the Yunnanese dialect in this area consist of 20 phonemes including words without initial sounds. In addition, there are 5 types of manners of articulations which consist of plosive, affricate, fricative, nasal, and lateral. The properties and places of articulations of these consonant phonemes are as follows:

p八白包病笔	p <sup>h</sup> 爬普派皮品	m米木明梦	f夫飞饭胡虎	v 问纹蚊闻温
pA <sup>312</sup> , p <b>Ə</b> <sup>312</sup> ,	p <sup>h</sup> A <sup>312</sup> , p <sup>h</sup> u <sup>42</sup> ,	ml <sup>42</sup> , mu <sup>312</sup> ,	fu <sup>44</sup> , fei <sup>44</sup> , fa <b>ŋ</b> <sup>35</sup> ,	vu <b>ƏŊ</b> <sup>312</sup> , vu <b>ƏŊ</b> <sup>312</sup> ,
pAo <sup>44</sup> ,	p <sup>h</sup> Ai <sup>35</sup> , p <sup>h</sup> I <sup>312</sup> ,	mi <b>ŋ</b> <sup>312</sup> ,	fu <sup>312</sup> , fu <sup>42</sup>	vu <b>ƏŊ</b> <sup>312,</sup>
pi <b>ŋ</b> <sup>35</sup> , pl <sup>312</sup>	p <sup>h</sup> i <b>ŋ</b> <sup>35</sup>	mo <b>ŋ</b> 35		vu <b>ƏŊ</b> <sup>312,</sup> u <b>ƏŊ</b> <sup>44</sup>
t 得爹都胆东	t <sup>h</sup> 特土糖天同	n 努女脑年业	L六绿老连	
t <b>Ə</b> <sup>312</sup> , tie <sup>44</sup> ,	t <sup>h</sup> <b>Ə</b> <sup>312</sup> , t <sup>h</sup> u <sup>42</sup> ,	nu <sup>42</sup> , ni <sup>42</sup> ,	lu <sup>312</sup> , lu <sup>312</sup> , lAo <sup>42</sup> ,	
tu <sup>44</sup> ,	t <sup>h</sup> a <b>ŋ</b> <sup>312</sup> ,	nAo <sup>42</sup> ,	li <b>ŋ</b> <sup>312</sup>	
ta <b>ŋ</b> 42, to <b>ŋ</b> 44	t <sup>h</sup> i <b>Ŋ</b> <sup>44</sup> , t <sup>h</sup> o <b>Ŋ</b> <sup>312</sup>	ni <b>ŋ</b> <sup>312</sup> , nie <sup>312</sup>		



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21 March, 2022

ts 资猪摘贼作	ts <sup>h</sup> 词茶错抽船	s事书三锁顺	z日热肉让软
ts <b>]</b> <sup>44</sup> , tsu <sup>44</sup> ,	ts <sup>h</sup> <b>]</b> <sup>312</sup> , ts <sup>h</sup> A <sup>312</sup> ,	s <b>]</b> <sup>35</sup> , su <sup>44</sup> , sa <b>J</b> <sup>44</sup> ,	z <b>]</b> <sup>312</sup> , z <b>Ə</b> <sup>312</sup> ,
ts <b>ə</b> <sup>312</sup> ,	ts <sup>h</sup> io <sup>35</sup> ,	sio <sup>42</sup> ,	zu <sup>312</sup> ,
tsei <sup>312</sup> , tsio <sup>312</sup>	ts <sup>h</sup> <b>Ə</b> u <sup>44</sup> ,	su <b>ƏŊ</b> <sup>35</sup>	za <b>Ŋ</b> <sup>35</sup> , zua <b>Ŋ</b> <sup>42</sup>
	ts <sup>h</sup> ua <b>ŋ</b> <sup>312</sup> ,		
t <b>G</b> 九菊静间脚	t <b>g</b> <sup>h</sup> 七且轻雀全	<b>G</b> 习学形响兄	
t <b>G</b> i <b>Ə</b> u <sup>42</sup> ,	t <b>G</b> <sup>h</sup> l <sup>312</sup> , t <b>G</b> <sup>h</sup> ie <sup>312</sup> ,	<b>G</b>   <sup>312</sup> , <b>G</b> io <sup>312</sup> ,	
t <b>G</b> i <b>Ə</b> u <sup>312</sup> , t <b>G</b> i <b>Ŋ</b> <sup>312</sup> ,	t <b>G</b> <sup>h</sup> i <b>Ŋ</b> <sup>44</sup> ,	<b>G</b> i <b>Ŋ</b> <sup>312</sup> ,	
	- 1 210	- 10 - 11	
t <b>G</b> i <b>Ŋ</b> <sup>44</sup> , t <b>G</b> iO <sup>312</sup> ,	t <b>G</b> <sup>h</sup> io <sup>312</sup> ,	<b>G</b> ia <b>Ŋ</b> <sup>42</sup> , <b>G</b> io <b>Ŋ</b> <sup>44</sup>	
t <b>G</b> i <b>Ŋ</b> <sup>44</sup> , t <b>G</b> io <sup>312</sup> ,	t <b>G</b> <sup>n</sup> io <sup>312</sup> , t <b>G</b> <sup>h</sup> i <b>Ŋ</b> <sup>312</sup> ,	<b>G</b> ia <b>Ŋ</b> <sup>42</sup> , <b>G</b> ioŊ <sup>44</sup>	
-			
k 高古界虹括	t <b>G</b> <sup>h</sup> i <b>Ŋ</b> <sup>312</sup> ,	×河鞋好灰欢	
k 高古界虹括 kAo <sup>44</sup> , ku <sup>42</sup> ,	t <b>ɕ</b> ʰi <b>ŋ</b> <sup>312</sup> , кʰ 开苦快去看	x河鞋好灰欢 xo <sup>312</sup> , xai <sup>312</sup> ,	
k 高古界虹括 kAo <sup>44</sup> , ku <sup>42</sup> , kai <sup>35</sup> ,	t <b>G<sup>h</sup>iŋ</b> <sup>312</sup> , ĸ <sup>h</sup> 开苦快去看 k <sup>h</sup> ai <sup>44</sup> , k <sup>h</sup> u <sup>42</sup> ,	x河鞋好灰欢 xo <sup>312</sup> , xai <sup>312</sup> , xAo <sup>42</sup> ,	
k 高古界虹括 kAo <sup>44</sup> , ku <sup>42</sup> , kai <sup>35</sup> ,	t <b>G</b> <sup>h</sup> i <b>ŋ</b> <sup>312</sup> , k <sup>h</sup> 开苦快去看 k <sup>h</sup> ai <sup>44</sup> , k <sup>h</sup> u <sup>42</sup> , k <sup>h</sup> uai <sup>35</sup> , k <sup>h</sup> <b>Ə</b> <sup>35</sup> , k <sup>h</sup> a <b>ŋ</b> <sup>35</sup>	x河鞋好灰欢 xo <sup>312</sup> , xai <sup>312</sup> , xAo <sup>42</sup> ,	

#### Description

1) The nasal [m]: rounded lips with strong fricative

2) The teeth position of the fricative [f] goes further back with rather a strong fricative sound.

3) The nasal sound [n] if glided with the initial [i], the sound [n] will become [**ŋ**], [n] and [**ŋ**] can be used alternatively. The informant, Hu Guangshu (胡光曙), can be pronounced mainly the sound of [n]

4) Some of the palatal sounds [x], when pronounced, the tongue position is near the uvula, and there is a strong fricative sound.



#### 2. The vowel phoneme

There are 27 vowel phonemes found in the Yunnanese dialect at Mae Salong Nok subdistrict of Mae Fah Luang district in Chiang Rai province as follows:

s <b>]</b> <sup>44</sup> , s <b>]</b> <sup>35</sup>	pl <sup>312</sup> , ml <sup>312</sup> , <b>G</b> l <sup>44</sup> , nl <sup>42</sup> , t <b>G</b> l <sup>44</sup> , ml <sup>312</sup> iA 家 洽 跨 下 牙 压	u 布出六橘握肉 pu <sup>35</sup> , ts <sup>h</sup> u <sup>312</sup> , lu <sup>312</sup> , tsu <sup>312</sup> , u <sup>312</sup> , zu <sup>312</sup> uA 抓刷刮跨花瓦 tsuA <sup>44</sup> , suA <sup>312</sup> , kuA <sup>312</sup> , k <sup>h</sup> uA <sup>35</sup> , xuA <sup>44</sup> , uA <sup>42</sup>
ə 特百墨肋吓去 t <sup>h</sup> ə <sup>312</sup> , pə <sup>312</sup> , mə <sup>312</sup> , lə <sup>312</sup> ,		
xə <sup>312</sup> , khə <sup>35</sup> o 歌 盒 磨 饿 火 初 ko <sup>44</sup> , xo <sup>312</sup> , mo <sup>312</sup> , o <sup>35</sup> , xo <sup>42</sup>	io 作 若 学 雀 勺 药 tsio <sup>312</sup> , zio <sup>312</sup> , <b>G</b> io <sup>312</sup> , t <b>G</b> hio <sup>312</sup> , sio <sup>312</sup> , io <sup>312</sup>	uo 我 uo <sup>44</sup>
ai 败 排 鞋 亩 矮 pai <sup>35</sup> , p <sup>h</sup> ai <sup>312</sup> , xai <sup>312</sup> , lai <sup>44</sup> , ai <sup>42</sup>		uai 衰怪筷怀歪果 (雪~) suai <sup>44</sup> , kuai <sup>35</sup> , k <sup>h</sup> uai <sup>35</sup> , xuai <sup>312</sup> , uai <sup>44</sup> , kuai <sup>312</sup>
Ao 包 跑 脑 老 抄 敲 pAo <sup>44</sup> , p <sup>h</sup> Ao <sup>312</sup> , nAo <sup>42</sup> , lAo <sup>42</sup> , ts <sup>h</sup> Ao <sup>44</sup> , k <sup>h</sup> Ao <sup>44</sup>	iAo 表 吊 聊 巧 要 猫 piAo <sup>42</sup> , tiAo <sup>35</sup> , liAo <sup>312</sup> , t <b>G</b> <sup>h</sup> iAo <sup>42</sup> , iAo <sup>35</sup> , miAo <sup>44</sup>	



21 March, 2022

an 班 南 山 胖 唐 虹 ian 娘 江 墙 羊 祥 腻 uan 短 玩 宽 王 双 光 pa**ŋ**<sup>44</sup>, na**ŋ**<sup>312</sup>, tsa**ŋ**<sup>44</sup>, tua**Ŋ**<sup>42</sup>, ua**Ŋ**<sup>312</sup>, k<sup>h</sup>uaŊ<sup>44</sup>, uaŊ<sup>312</sup>, nia**Ŋ**312, t**G**iaŊ<sup>44</sup>, t**G**<sup>h</sup>iaŊ<sup>312</sup>, p<sup>h</sup>a**Ŋ**<sup>35</sup>, tha**Ŋ**<sup>312</sup>, ia**Ŋ**<sup>312</sup>, **G**ia**Ŋ**<sup>312</sup>, sua**ŋ**<sup>44</sup>, ka**Ŋ**<sup>35</sup> nia**Ŋ**<sup>35</sup> kua**ŋ**44 ei杯 赔 臂 飞 美 贼 uei 吕内回对吹翠 pei<sup>44</sup>, p<sup>h</sup>ei<sup>312</sup>, pei<sup>35</sup>, fei<sup>44</sup>, mei<sup>42</sup>, luei<sup>312</sup>, nuei<sup>35</sup>, xuei<sup>312</sup>, tsei<sup>312</sup> tuei<sup>35</sup>, ts<sup>h</sup>uei<sup>44</sup>, ts<sup>h</sup>uei<sup>35</sup> əu 豆后走口丑仇(姓) iəu 牛流酒球秀油菊育 ni $\partial u^{312}$ , li $\partial u^{312}$ , tGi $\partial u^{42}$ , tG<sup>h</sup>i $\partial u^{42}$ , Gi $\partial u^{35}$ , i $\partial u^{312}$ , tsi $\partial u^{312}$ , t**ə**u<sup>35</sup>, x**ə**u<sup>35</sup>, ts**ə**u<sup>42</sup>, k<sup>h</sup>**ə**u<sup>42</sup>,  $ts^{h} \partial u^{42}$ .  $ts^{h} \partial u^{312}$ i**Ə**u<sup>312</sup> əŋ门分灯冷馋硬 iŋ 近请边年云园 uən 问 嫩 论 春 顺 m**ƏŊ**<sup>312</sup>, f**ƏŊ**<sup>44</sup>, t**ƏŊ**<sup>44</sup>, t**G**i**Ŋ**<sup>35</sup>, t**G**<sup>h</sup>i**Ŋ**<sup>42</sup>, pi**Ŋ**<sup>44</sup>, ni**Ŋ**<sup>312</sup>, vu**ƏŊ**<sup>312</sup>, nu**ƏŊ**<sup>35</sup>, lu**ƏŊ**<sup>312</sup>, l**ƏŊ**<sup>42</sup>, ts<sup>h</sup>**ƏŊ**<sup>42</sup> , **ƏŊ**<sup>35</sup> i**ŋ**<sup>312</sup>, i**ŋ**<sup>312</sup> ts<sup>h</sup>u**Ə**Ŋ<sup>44</sup>, su**Ə**Ŋ<sup>35</sup> on 东送中呑蜕 ion 穷兄凶永用  $to \eta^{44}$ ,  $so \eta^{35}$ ,  $tso \eta^{44}$ ,  $t^{h}o \eta^{44}$ ,  $t \beta^{h}io \eta^{312}$ ,  $Gio \eta^{44}$ ,  $Gio \eta^{44}$ , t<sup>h</sup>o**Ŋ**<sup>35</sup> io**Ŋ**<sup>42</sup>, io**Ŋ**<sup>35</sup>

# Description

1) The tongue position of this vowel phoneme [A] is rather lower than the normal position.

2) These vowel phonemes [a**ŋ**] [ia**ŋ**] [ua**ŋ**]: when they are produced, the tongue positions are changed.

3) In the final [ƏŊ] of some sounds: the tongue position moves rather to the front.
 It is between [n] and [Ŋ].



4) The vowel phoneme [**Ə**] of [u**Əŋ**] in this group (臻摄) the tongue position moves to the front, and the sound produced is short and unstressed.

5) When the vowel phoneme [i] is produced, the tongue position is rather low.

6) When the vowel phoneme [i] of [ai] [uai] [ei] [uei], the tongue position is rather low.

7) When the vowel phoneme [i] is in [iu], the tongue position is rather high, and the lips are rounded.

## 3. The pitch phoneme

The pitch phoneme in the Yunnanese dialect

The pitch phoneme 1(阴平)mid-high [44] as in 东 [toŋ<sup>44</sup>], 该 [kai<sup>44</sup>], 灯 [təŋ<sup>44</sup>], 风[foŋ<sup>44</sup>], 天 [t<sup>h</sup>iŋ<sup>44</sup>], 春 [ts<sup>h</sup>uəŋ<sup>44</sup>].

The pitch phoneme 2(阳平)mid- rising [312] as in 门 [m**əŋ**<sup>312</sup>], 龙 [lo**ŋ**<sup>312</sup>], 节[t**G**ie<sup>312</sup>], 哭 [k<sup>h</sup>u<sup>312</sup>], 六 [lu<sup>312</sup>], 毒 [tu<sup>312</sup>].

The pitch phoneme 3(上声)mid-high falling [42] as in 懂 [to**ŋ**<sup>42</sup>], 草 [ts<sup>h</sup>Ao<sup>42</sup>], 买[mai<sup>42</sup>], 老 [LAo<sup>42</sup>], 五 [u<sup>42</sup>], 有 [i**ə**u<sup>42</sup>].

The pitch phoneme 4(去声)mid- rising [35] as in 动 [toŋ<sup>35</sup>], 罪 [tsuei<sup>35</sup>], 近 [t**G**iŋ<sup>35</sup>], 四[sŋ<sup>35</sup>], 去 [kʰə͡<sup>35</sup>], 硬 [əŋ<sup>35</sup>].

#### Description

1) In pitch phoneme 2, the pitch falls a little before going up. The pitch changes to [312].

#### 4. The mixing between the consonant phoneme and the vowel phoneme

The mixing between the consonant phoneme and the vowel phoneme of the Yunnanese dialect of the Feng Qing accent at Mae Salong Nok subdistrict of Mae Fah Luang district in Chiang Rai province is concluded according to this table. The symbol "+" indicates the possibility to mix between the consonant phoneme and the vowel phoneme. However,



21 March, 2022

in the blank space in the table, there is no "+" signal, which infers that there cannot be any mixing.

Table 1 shows the mixing between the consonant phoneme and the vowel phoneme (声韵配合表)

Place of articulation (发音部位)	Consonant phoneme <b>(声母)</b>	unrounded (开口 呼)	Spread (齐齿 呼)	rounded (合口 呼)	Spread + rounded (撮口 呼)
Bilabial (双唇音)	[p][p <sup>h</sup> ][m]	+	+	+	
Labiodental	[f]	+		+	
(唇齿音)	[v]			+	
Alveolar	[t][t <sup>h</sup> ]	+	+	+	
(舌尖中音)	[n][l]	+	+	+	
Retroflex (舌尖前音)	[ts][ts <sup>h</sup> ][s][z]	+	+	+	
Palato-Akveolar	[t <b>G</b> ][t <b>G</b> <sup>h</sup> ][ <b>G</b> ]				
(舌面前音)	נמןן מוונמון		+		
Velar(舌根音)	[k][k <sup>h</sup> ][x]	+		+	
Words without initial					
consonant	[ <b>ǿ</b> ]	+	+	+	
(零声母)					

# description

1) The vowel phonemes in the Yunnanese dialect do not have all 4 levels but only in the Linchang dialect. The vowel sounds do not occur to all 4 vowels. There appears only an unrounded vowel sound, a spread vowel sound, and a rounded vowel sound.



2) The consonant group [p] [p<sup>h</sup>] [m] can be produced with a spread vowel sound and a rounded vowel sound. However, a rounded vowel sound can be mixed to only the vowel [u].

3) The consonant [f] can mix with an unrounded vowel sound, a rounded vowel sound but cannot mix with a spread vowel sound.

4) The consonant [v] can mix with a rounded vowel sound.

5) The consonant [t] [t<sup>h</sup>] can mix with an unrounded vowel sound, a spread vowel sound, and a rounded vowel sound.

6) The consonant [n] [l] can mix with an unrounded vowel sound, a spread vowel sound, and a rounded vowel sound.

7) The consonant group [ts] [ts<sup>h</sup>] [s] [z] can mix with an unrounded vowel sound, a spread vowel sound, and a rounded vowel sound.

8) The consonant group [t**G**] [t**G**<sup>h</sup>] [**G**] can mix with only a spread vowel sound.

9) The consonant group [k][k<sup>h</sup>][x] can mix with only an unrounded vowel sound and a rounded vowel sound.

10) The consonant  $[{\ensuremath{\not 0}}]$  can mix with an unrounded vowel sound, a spread vowel sound, and a rounded vowel sound.

# 5. The sound change in the two-syllable phoneme (两字组连读变调)

The sound change in two-syllable phonemes in the Yunnanese dialect has the patterns according to the table below. On the left-hand column are the pitches of the initial syllables and on the upper row are the sounds of the final syllables. In the first row of the table, sounds are produced continuously. Two groups have different sound changes. The symbol "....." is used for the sound change type as shown in the table.



The 15<sup>th</sup> National and International Conference

"Global Goals, Local Actions: Looking Back and Moving Forward 2022"

21 March, 2022

Table 2 shows the sound change of the two-syllable group of words in the Yunnan Chinese (云南方言两字组连读变调)

Final consonant (后字) Initial consonant (前字)	pitch1 (阴平) 44	pitch2 ( 阳平 ) 312	pitch3 (上声) 42	pitch4 (去声) 35
pitch1 (阴平) 44			44 45	
pitch2 (阳平) 312		312 44  312 35	312 45  312 44	
pitch3 (上声) 42	45 44	45 312	45 45	45 35
pitch4 (去声) 35			35 45  45 35	35 35  35 312

# 6. The sound change effect of a two-syllable group of words. (连读变调特点)

The sound change sometimes occurs when producing a two-syllable group of words. Therefore, it is called the sound change of a two-syllable group of words in the Yunnanese dialect. There are three types:1. There is no sound change of the initial syllable, but a sound change of the final syllable. 2. There is a sound change of the initial syllable, but no sound change of the final syllable. 3. There are sound changes in both the initial and final syllables.

#### 6.1 The initial syllable of pitch 1

1) There is no sound change on the initial syllable, but there is a sound change on the final syllable.



The 15<sup>th</sup> National and International Conference "Global Goals, Local Actions: Looking Back and Moving Forward 2022" 21 March, 2022

Pitch 1+ Pitch 3: 44 + 42 → 44 + 45

工厂 [koŋ<sup>44</sup>ts<sup>h</sup>aŋ<sup>42-45</sup>] 身体 [səŋ<sup>44</sup>t<sup>h</sup>i<sup>42-45</sup>] 乡长 [**G**iaŋ<sup>44</sup>tsaŋ<sup>42-45</sup>] 天井 [t<sup>h</sup>iŋ<sup>44</sup>t**G**iŋ<sup>42-45</sup>] 孙女 [suəŋ<sup>44</sup>ni<sup>42-45</sup>] 公里 [koŋ<sup>44</sup>ti<sup>42-45</sup>]

6.2 The initial syllable of pitch 2

1) There is no sound change on the initial syllable, but there is a sound change on the final syllable.

Pitch 2+ Pitch 2: 312 + 312 → 312 + 35 越剧 [ie<sup>312</sup>t**G**i<sup>312-35</sup>]

Pitch 2+ Pitch 3:  $312 + 42 \rightarrow 312 + 45$ 

牙齿 [iA <sup>312</sup> t <b>G</b> <sup>h</sup> i <sup>42-45</sup> ]	门口 [məŊ <sup>312</sup> kʰƏu <sup>42-45</sup> ]	团长 [t <sup>h</sup> ua <b>ŋ</b> <sup>312</sup> tsa <b>ŋ</b> <sup>42-45</sup> ]
长短 [tsa <b>ŋ</b> <sup>312</sup> tua <b>ŋ</b> <sup>42-45</sup> ]	牛奶 [ni <b>ə</b> u <sup>312</sup> nai <sup>42-45</sup> ]	朋友 [pʰo <b>ŋ</b> ³¹²i <b>ə</b> u⁴²-45]
黑板 [xə³12paŋ42-45]	缺点 [t <b>ɕ</b> ʰie³12ti <b>ŋ</b> ⁴2-45]	发火 [fA <sup>312</sup> xo <sup>42-45</sup> ]
发展 [fA <sup>312</sup> tsa <b>ŋ</b> <sup>42-45</sup> ]	墨水 [m <b>ə</b> ³12suei <sup>42-45</sup> ]	石板 [s] <sup>312</sup> t <sup>h</sup> əu <sup>42-45</sup> ]
谷雨 [ku <sup>312</sup> i <sup>42-45</sup> ]	黑马 [xə³¹²mA⁴²-⁴5]	物理 [u <sup>312</sup> li <sup>42-45</sup> ]
十五. [s] <sup>312</sup> u <sup>42-45</sup> ]		

Pitch 2+ Pitch 3: 312 + 42 → 312 + 44

日子 [z]<sup>312</sup>ts]<sup>42-44</sup>]



### 6.3 The initial syllable of pitch 3

1) There is no sound change on the initial syllable, but there is a sound change on the final syllable.

火车 [xo <sup>44-45</sup> ts <sup>h</sup> ə <sup>44</sup> ]	点心 [ti <b>ŋ</b> 44-45 <b>ɕiŋ</b> 44]	比方 [pi <sup>44-45</sup> fa <b>ŋ</b> <sup>44</sup> ]
打针 [tA <sup>44-45</sup> ts <b>əŋ</b> <sup>44</sup> ]	老师 [lAo <sup>44-45</sup> s] <sup>44</sup> ]	尾巴 [uei <sup>44-45</sup> pA <sup>44</sup> ]

水池 [suei <sup>42-45</sup> tsh] <sup>312</sup> ]	草鞋 [tshAo42-45xai312]	倒霉 [tAo <sup>42-45</sup> mei <sup>312</sup> ]
检查 [t <b>ɕiŋ</b> <sup>42-45</sup> ts <sup>h</sup> A <sup>312</sup> ]	码头 [mA <sup>42-45</sup> t <sup>h</sup> <b>ə</b> u <sup>312</sup> ]	老婆 [lAo <sup>42-45</sup> p <sup>h</sup> o <sup>312</sup> ]
粉笔 [f <b>əŋ</b> <sup>42-45</sup> pi <sup>312</sup> ]	赌博 [tu <sup>42-45</sup> po <sup>312</sup> ]	享福 [ <b>ɕ</b> ia <b>ŋ</b> <sup>42-45</sup> fu <sup>312</sup> ]
洗脚 [ <b>ɕ</b> i <sup>42-45</sup> t <b>ɕ</b> io <sup>31</sup> ]	美国 [mei <sup>42-45</sup> ko <sup>312</sup> ]	满足 [ma <b>ŋ</b> <sup>42-45</sup> tsu <sup>312</sup> ]
体育 [ti <sup>42-45</sup> iu <sup>312</sup> ]	转业 [tsua <b>ŋ</b> 42-45ie <sup>312</sup> ]	礼物 [li <sup>42-45</sup> u <sup>312</sup> ]
死活 [s] <sup>42-45</sup> x0 <sup>312</sup> ]	伙食 [xo <sup>42-45</sup> s] <sup>312</sup> ]	老实 [lAo <sup>42-45</sup> s] <sup>312</sup> ]

Pitch 3+ Pitch 4: 42 + 35 → 45 + 35

水稻 [suei <sup>42-45</sup> tAo <sup>35</sup> ]	改造 [kai <sup>42-45</sup> tsAo <sup>35</sup> ]	水库 [suei <sup>42-45</sup> k <sup>h</sup> u <sup>35</sup> ]
还带 [xai <sup>42-45</sup> tai <sup>35</sup> ]	写信 [ <b>ɕ</b> ie <sup>42-45</sup> <b>ɕiŋ</b> <sup>35</sup> ]	比赛 [pi <sup>42-45</sup> sai <sup>35</sup> ]
满意 [ma <b>ŋ</b> 44-45;35]	买票 [mai <sup>44-45</sup> p <sup>h</sup> iAo <sup>35</sup> ]	手艺 [s <b>ə</b> u <sup>42-45</sup> i <sup>35</sup> ]
古代 [ku <sup>44-45</sup> tai <sup>35</sup> ]	写字 [Gie <sup>42-45</sup> s] <sup>35</sup> ]	准备 [tsu <b>əŋ</b> <sup>42-45</sup> pei <sup>35</sup> ]
午饭 [u <sup>42-45</sup> fa <b>ŋ</b> <sup>35</sup> ]	马路 [mA <sup>42-45</sup> lu <sup>35</sup> ]	

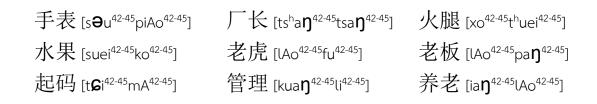
2) There are sound changes both in the initial and final syllables.

Pitch 3+ Pitch 3: 42 + 42 → 45 + 45



The 15<sup>th</sup> National and International Conference "Global Goals, Local Actions: Looking Back and Moving Forward 2022"

21 March, 2022



#### 6.4 The initial syllable of pitch 4

1) There is no sound change on the initial syllable, but there is a sound change on the final syllable.

# Pitch 4+ Pitch 3: 35 + 42 → 35 + 45

动手 [to <b>ŋ</b> <sup>35</sup> s <b>ə</b> u <sup>42-45</sup> ]	市长 [s] <sup>35</sup> tsaŋ <sup>42-45</sup> ]	报纸 [pAo <sup>35</sup> ts] <sup>42-45</sup> ]
政府 [ts <b>əŋ</b> <sup>35</sup> fu <sup>42-45</sup> ]	放火 [fa <b>ŋ</b> ³⁵xo⁴²-⁴5]	进口 [t <b>ɕiŋ</b> <sup>35</sup> kʰə͡u <sup>42-45</sup> ]
代表 [tai <sup>35</sup> piAo <sup>42-45</sup> ]	字典 [ts] <sup>35</sup> ti <b>ŋ</b> <sup>42-45</sup> ]	县长 [ <b>ɕiŋ</b> <sup>35</sup> tsa <b>ŋ</b> <sup>42-45</sup> ]
大腿 [tA <sup>35</sup> t <sup>h</sup> uei <sup>42-45</sup> ]	送礼 [so <b>ŋ</b> <sup>35</sup> li <sup>42-45</sup> ]	跳舞 [t <sup>h</sup> iAo <sup>35</sup> u <sup>42-45</sup> ]
大雨 [tA <sup>35;42-45</sup> ]	糯米 [no <sup>35</sup> mi <sup>42-45</sup> ]	

2) There is a sound change on the initial syllable, and there is a sound change on the final syllable.

Pitch 4+ Pitch 3: 35 + 42 → 45 + 35 远近 [iŋ<sup>35-45</sup>t**ɕ**iŋ<sup>42-35</sup>]

#### 7. The continuous sound change (glide)

A gliding sound normally is a phenomenon that two syllables combine into one syllable. In the Yunnanese dialect, sometimes two syllables are read as one continuous syllable, but it is rare. The glided consonant is the same as the following initial consonant, or the preceding vowel is the same as the following vowel. Besides, mostly the glided consonant is the same as the preceding consonant, and it is rare in the case that the glided consonant is the same as the following consonant. For example,



不需要 [pu<sup>312-45</sup>Gi<sup>44</sup>iAo<sup>35</sup>] pronounced as "不消" [pu<sup>312-45</sup>GiAo<sup>44</sup>] 回来 [xuei<sup>312</sup>lai<sup>312</sup>] pronounced as "怀" [xuai<sup>312</sup>] 吃了 [ts<sup>h</sup>]<sup>312</sup>lo<sup>312</sup>] pronounced as "朝"[ts<sup>h</sup>Ao<sup>312</sup>] 莫要 [mo<sup>312</sup>iAo<sup>35</sup>] pronounced as "麻" [mA<sup>312</sup>] 一下 [yi<sup>312</sup>GiA<sup>35</sup>] pronounced as "哈" [xA<sup>312</sup>]

#### Conclusion and discussion

This study of the Yunnanese dialect phonology in Mae Salong Nok subdistrict of Mae Fah Luang district in Chiang Rai is the study of a sub-language of Yunnanese dialect which is presently being spoken by the people in Mae Salong Nok subdistrict of Mae Fah Luang district in Chiang Rai. This study was conducted with a field operation in Mae Salong Nok for collecting data of the Yunnanese dialect using the structural linguistic methodology. The findings revealed that the Chinese language that the Yunnan Chinese people are speaking in Mae Salong Nok has 20 consonant phonemes, 27 vowel phonemes, and 4 pitch phonemes excluding the unstressed sounds.

In addition to the new knowledge of the Yunnanese dialect which is considered to be an important recording of a local Chinese language, this knowledge is also beneficial to education in many areas such as the study of traditions, history, local culture, etc. Moreover, this study is also extremely important for the study of Chinese dialects and the development of the Chinese language.

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