

The lexical problem.

1. Introduction: setting of the problem

It is sometimes assumed that members of a word class behave identically. However, the range of agreement in Archi is never 100%: there is not a single word class where every member has a morphological slot for agreement: most adjectives show agreement, as do about half the verbs (judging by the 1328 verbs in our database), and a handful of adverbs and particles. This presents a challenge for defining word classes.

	total	agreeing	% agreeing
adjectives	446	313	70.2
verbs	1248	399	32.0
adverbs	397	28	7.1
postpositions	34	1	2.9
enclitic particles	4	1	(25.0)

Data from the Archi dictionary, reported in Chumakina & Corbett (2008: 188)

2. Lexical problem by word classes

2.1. Adjectives

Inflecting adjectives agree in gender and number (1) but not in case (2):

- (1) (a) t'i-t:u-t lo
 small-ATTR-IV.SG child(IV)[SG.ABS]
 'small child'
- (b) t'i-t:-ib lo-bur
 small-ATTR-PL child(IV)-PL.ABS
 'small children'
- (2) do:ʒu-t adam da:zeχ:u-t'o-nč'iš do:ʒu-b č'ele-li-r-ši
 big-IV.SG person(IV)[ABS.SG] get.IV.SG.PFV-NEG-COND big-III.SG stone(III)-OBL-CONT-ALL
 aqʷul c'ixə ba-k-a
 mind(IV)[ABS.SG] ask III.SG-become-IMP'

'If you don't come across an old [=big] person, ask an advice from a big stone.'

Uninflecting adjectives: some make semantically coherent groups (A-B), some do not (C):

A. Nationalities and similar qualities:

aršat:en	Archi
dargin	Dargi
haman	Lak
jat:an	Avar
nuɣaj	Nogaj
o'ro's	Russian
parang	French
pirs:i	Persian
ʒarab	Arabic
maʒarul	mountainous (highlander)
bišin	foreign
kulu	orphan

These are true adjectives as they can modify nouns (3)-(5), unlike, say, stative verbs or nouns which take the genitive (6):

- (3) pirs:i daraj
 Persian fabric(IV)[SG.ABS]
 ‘Persian fabric’
- (4) dargin f:onnol
 Dargi woman(II)[SG.ABS]
 ‘Dargi woman’
- (5) aršat:en č’at
 archi language(IV)[SG.ABS]
 ‘Archi language’

Compare:

- (6) uš-mi-n oq
 brother(I)-OBL.SG-GEN wedding(IV)[SG.ABS]
 ‘brother’s wedding’

B. Quantification:

		example showing noun modification
čeh	not at all, not one	(7)
ho:nu	of any kind, all	(8)
marči	everybody, everyone	(9)
na:q’ukan	a lot	(10)
obš:i	all, whole	(11)
os para	some	(12)

These also can modify nouns:

- (7) **čeh** **adam-li-s** sin e<ɾ>t:i-li dit’u
 not.one person(IV)-OBL.SG-DAT know <II.SG>become.PFV-CVB II.SG-be.PRS-NEG
 jamu-r lo χit:a.
 that-II.SG girl(II)[SG.ABS] then

‘...nobody recognized her then.’ (T6: 079¹)

- (8) i-t:u-t **ho:nu** **na’kl’** eχu-li oq’a-li
 IV.SG.be.PRS-ATTR-IV.SG any milk(IV)[SG.ABS] IV.SG.spill.PFV-CVB IV.SG.go.PFV-EVID
 ‘...all the milk spilled over.’ (T8: 018)

- (9) jamu-r lo **marči** **žihil-til-če-s** kl’an de-ke-r-ši e<ɾ>di,
 that-II.SG girl(IV)[SG.ABS] all youth(I)-PL-OBL.PL-DAT love II.SG-become-IPFV-CVB <II.SG>be.PAST
 ‘All lads were in love with that girl.’ (T1: 007)

- (10) **na:q’ukan** **χo:s-u** χ:a-li
 a.lot property(IV)[SG.ABS]-and IV.SG.bring.PFV-EVID
 ‘...(and he) brought a lot of goods.’ (T8: 060)

- (11) **obši** **χalq’i-bu** ra-raq-li-t oq’a-li
 all people(I/II)[PL.NOM]-and side(IV).RDP-OBL.SG-SUP <HPL>go.PFV-CVB
 ‘All the people went in different directions.’

- (12) **os para** **adam-til-če-s** oq-or-če-t:i-k b-eq’e-s kl’an b-eke-r-t’u
 some man(IV)-PL-OBL.PL-DAT wedding(IV)-PL-OBL.PL-SUP-LAT HPL-go-INF love HPL-become-IPFV-NEG
 ‘Some people do not like going to weddings.’

¹ T6: 079 (and so on) stands for Text 6, sentence 079 from Kibrik et al., online (see References)

QUESTION for future fieldwork: some of these adjectives are used with singular nouns (7, 8, 10), some are used with plural ones (9, 11, 12). Is it the only possible usage?

C. *Other:* no apparent semantic group

a ^h ra ^h č ^h	reasonably big
but ^h u	different
čelennin	privately owned
č ^h ere	barren, dry
dalū	loony, crazy
ħok ^h o	small
ħoʒol	ripe
mekkle	of male gender
nak ^h alaj	old, ancient, bygone
wa ^h p ^h	fat, lazy, slow
burāq ^h	bronze

Some of these have semantically parallel **inflected** adjectives, compare:

(13) a^hra^hč^h ‘reasonably big’ vs. do^h:zur ‘big, fat (II.SG)’

(14) ħok^ho lo
small child(IV)[SG.ABS]

(15) t^hi-t:u-t lo
small-ATTR-IV.SG child(IV)[SG.ABS]

(16) ħok^ho lo-bur
small child(IV)-PL.ABS

(17) t^hi-t:-ib lo-bur
small-ATTR-PL child(IV)-PL.ABS

2.2. Verbs

2.2.1. Simple dynamic, expectation: inflecting

There are 150 inflecting simple dynamic verbs and 19 non-inflecting.

Non-inflecting dynamic verbs

PFV	IPFV	syntax	gloss
baq ^h ár	boq ^h o	ABS	return
babc ^h ur	babc ^h u	ABS	hew
babχ ^h ur	babχ ^h u	ABS	swell
ba ^h rkl̩in	ba ^h rkl̩ni	ERG-ABS-DAT	press
barhur	barhu	ERG-ABS	babysit
berc ^h :ar	bec ^h :u	ABS	be able
da ^h ršin	da ^h šni	ABS	cloud up
dartir	dat:i	ABS	clear up
dorq ^h ur	dorq ^h u	ABS	moan
dub ^h ar	dub ^h u	ERG-ABS	sew, darn
dubqar	dubqu	ERG-ABS	destroy
war	bo	ERG-ABS	speak
gobχ ^h ur	gobχ ^h u	ERG-ABS	scratch
jarhur	ja:hu	ERG-ABS	winnow
or ^h ur	or ^h :u	ABS	be silent
sesar	sesu	ERG-ABS	roast (grains)
χ ^h erχ ^h in	χ ^h eχ ^h ni	ABS	raise, ferment
χ ^h ert:ar	χ ^h et:u	ABS	swear

2.2.2. Simple stative, expectation: not inflecting

Inflecting stative verbs (stative verbs never take ERG)

IV.SG	III.SG	Gloss
a:č'at'i	ba:č'ab bi	be empty
ac:'ar	bac:'ar	ache, hurt
aχ ^ɬ	baχ ^ɬ	be enough
aχ ^ɬ t'u	baχ ^ɬ t'u	Need
ic'	bic'	be sweet, tasty
iq:' ^s a	biq:' ^s a	be hungry
iq' ^w ^s	biq' ^w ^s	be heavy

2.2.3. Complex verbs, recap:

complex verb = lexical part + simple verb

simple verb:

as 'do', kes 'become', bos 'say'

The overall majority of non-inflecting verbs comes from verbs where the simple part is the verb *bos* 'say' which does not inflect for gender and number:

	PERFECTIVE		IMPERFECTIVE		FINALIS ²		IMPERATIVE	
	IV.SG	III.SG	IV.SG	III.SG	IV.SG	III.SG	IV.SG	III.SG
do	aw	abu	ar	bar	as	abas	a	ba
become	et.i	ebt.i	ker	beker	kes	bekes	ka	baka
say	bo	bo	war	war	bos	bos	ba	ba

Conjugations of *bos*-verbs (based on Kibrik 1977: 75)

		PERFECTIVE	IMPERFECTIVE	FINALIS	IMPERATIVE
I conjugation	'stick in'	q'e-bu	q'e-r	q'e-bu-s	q'e-ba
	'throw'	kam-mu	kam-ar	kam-mu-s	kam-ma
II conjugation	'nod'	k'erš-bo	k'erš-ar	k'erš-bo-s	k'erš-ba
III conjugation	'stutter'	ɬ:als-bo	ɬ:als war	ɬ:als-bo-s	ɬ:als-ba

The non-inflecting verbs are used in the same syntactic positions as inflected, compare:

(18) ajša boq'so
aisha return.PFV
'Aisha returned.'

(19) ajša da-q'a
aisha II.SG-come.PFV
'Aisha came.'

syntactic context: CVB-li + FINITE VERB ('having done P1, did P2'):

CVB-li	FINITE VERB	
inflecting	non-inflecting	(20)
non-inflecting	inflecting	(21)

(20) šipiɬ-li eɬ:u-li tumank'
Shapi(I)-SG.ERG <III.SG>put.PFV-CVB I gun(III)[SG.ABS] kammu-li
'Shapi, having put the gun (i.e. having aimed), shot.'

² "Finalis" is the term used by Kibrik to describe this stem. It is used as a base for other forms such as converbs and participles, and has the meaning "the event is supposed to happen". When used independently, this form has usages similar to European infinitives (see, for example, (12) and (27)).

(21) nokl'-a bu-kun-ni-li c'abu-li q'edi-li kompanija-li-t
 house(IV)-IN I/IL.PL-eat-PFV-CVB drink.PFV-CVB <HPL>sit.down.PFV-EVID company-OBL.SG-SUP
 'At home again, having had something to eat and drink, they sat chatting.' (based on T22:154)

(22) to-w-mu marči-me-s ko-s-ši
 that.one-I.SG-ERG all-OBL.PL-DAT hear.IV.SG-FIN-CVB
 daki'-i-s darqa-r-ši i
 door(IV)-OBL.SG-DAT knock-IPFV-CVB be.IV.SG.PRS
 'He is knocking at the door so that all may hear him.' (Kibrik 1977: 252).

(23) aro-wu a-r-ši š:ut'a-r-ši w-i
 work(IV)[SG.ABS]-and IV.SG.do-IPFV-CVB whistle-IPFV-CVB I.SG-be.PRS
 'While working, he is whistling.' (Kibrik 1977: 248)

(24) ja-b marχ:əla q'ot:aq'li b-aχ'
 this-III.SG snow(III)[SG.ABS] for.winter III.SG-be.enough
 'This snow is enough (to last) for the whole winter.'

2.3. Adverbs

Expectation: not inflecting

Inflecting adverbs

	Gender III	Gender IV	gloss
Derivation source clear: CVB	bak:ut'aw	ak:ut'aw	stealthily, as soon as
	baχ'ejkun	aχ'ejkun	enough
EMPH particle	horo:kejbu	horo:kejt'u	a very long time ago
	jellejbu	jellejt'u	for no reason, just so
	k'ellejbu	k'ellejt'u	entirely, wholly
	mumat:ijbu	mumat:ijt'u	while I am asking you nicely
	žeq'dijbu	žeq'dijt'u	in her usual way, in her manner
	sijbu	sijt'u	alone
Derivation source less clear	baturš:una	aturš:una	outstretched (usually with the verb 'lie')
	abc'en	a:c'en	to one's heart's content, to one's fill
	ballejbu	allejt'u	free of charge
	bat:ebš:u	bateš:u	fully, absolutely, completely
	dit:abu	dit:at'u	early, soon
	ebt:a:t'u	et:a:t'u	not allowed
	no:subu	no:sut'u	long time ago
	žaq'abu	žaq'at'u	between themselves
	š'w'iqi q'abditaw	š'w'iqi q'a'jditaw	day after day

(25) un jemmet a<r>a-s kl'ana?
 2SG.ABS thus <II.SG>do-INF want.QUEST
 'Do you want thus to be done to you (become covered in gold)?' (T6:072)

(26) nen dit:a<t'>u ati bo-li nokl'-a-ši
 1PL.EXCL.ABS early<1PL>³ 1PL.let.go.IMP say.PFV-EVID house(IV)-IN-ALL
 'Let us go home at once (early).' (T25:114)

³ Agreement in person is a big issue which we come back to later.

2.4. Postpositions

Expectation: not inflecting

- (27) jamu **laha-s** **χir** tu-w bošo:r-u q^{wa}-li
 that.I.SG lad(I)OBL.SG-DATbehind that-I.SG man(I)[SG.ABS]-and I.SG.come.PFV-EVID
 ‘Behind that lad there came that man.’ (T2:010)
- (28) to-w-mi t^wak-du-t duχriq^a-k **eq’en**
 that.one-I.SG-SG.ERG near-ATR-IV.SG village(IV).SG.INTER-LAT <III.SG>up.to
 deq^{ʼs} au
 road(III)[SG.ABS] <III.SG>make.PFV
 ‘He made (built) the road to the next village.’ (based on Kibrik et al. 1977: 227 with thanks to Bulbul)

Note the domain problem in (29).

2.5. Particles

Expectation? There are four enclitic particles one of which inflects for gender:

=wu – ‘and’, emphatic

=kun – ‘similar’

=t’aw – ‘beside’

=ej<w>u / ej<r>u / eju / ej<t’>u – emphatic

- (29) hann-u=**kun** w-arhu-šaw ju-w χir i<w>di-li w-i-t’u
 what-and=similar I.SG-think.PFV-CONC this-I.SG.ABS behind <I.SG>be.PFV-CVB I.SG-be.PRS-NEG
 ‘Though he thought in what way (to eat bread without breaking it), he didn’t manage (to find the way).’
 (T3:026)
- (30) arša horo:k=**eju** iškul dablu
 Archi.IN.ESS long.ago=**very<III.SG>** school(III)[SG.ABS] open.PFV
 ‘A school was opened in Archi a very long time ago.’ (Kibrik 1977: 326)

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