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Adverbial modifiers

Adverbial modifiers are a category which includes modifiers of predicates, clauses, adjectives, and other adverbial modifiers. Since they are functionally defined notions, they not only include adverbs but also nouns, demonstratives, and clauses (discussed in §10.2.3), as long as they function adverbially (Sohn 1994:86). Adverbials always precede the element they are modifying. This chapter describes various adverbials that modify the action or state expressed by a verb, including those that describe time (§6.1), frequency (§6.2), manner (§6.3), degree (§6.4), and epistemic likelihood (§6.5), as well as adverbs derived from other lexical categories (§6.6). Adverbials describing place are discussed in the section on local demonstratives (§3.5).

6
Adverbial modifiers

Temporal adverbials include temporal shifters, definite time specifications, and duration adverbials. Temporal shifters are words whose reference shifts when the time changes (Dixon 2010a:114). Temporal shifters referring to days, years, and other points in time are presented in tables 6.1 - 6.3 below. Besides these temporal adverbials, §13.7 describes how to tell time and date.

6.1 Temporal adverbials

Beside these temporal adverbials, §13.7 describes how to tell time and date.

Table 6.1 “Day” shifters

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>purparaxɛb</td>
<td>‘three days prior’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>paraxɛb</td>
<td>‘two days prior’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xɛb</td>
<td>‘yesterday’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nur</td>
<td>‘today’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pɯgün</td>
<td>‘tomorrow’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fai</td>
<td>‘two days hence’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wɯdaŋ</td>
<td>‘three days hence’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wadiri</td>
<td>‘four days hence’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>paswadiri</td>
<td>‘five days hence’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jonwadiri</td>
<td>‘six days hence’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Topics in the syntax of Sarikoli

wijonwadir ‘seven days hence’
wijonpaswadir ‘eight days hence’
wijonsulpaswadir ‘nine days hence’

Table 6.2 “Year” shifters

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>pursadus</td>
<td>‘two years before last year’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sadus</td>
<td>‘year before last year’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>parus</td>
<td>‘last year’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>seð</td>
<td>‘this year’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sulir</td>
<td>‘next year’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jonsul</td>
<td>‘year after next year’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wijonsul</td>
<td>‘two years after next year’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 6.3 Other points in time shifters

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>prud</td>
<td>‘before; previously’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dar waχt</td>
<td>‘a while ago’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tsa waχt</td>
<td>‘a while ago’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ingum/inguv</td>
<td>‘just now’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sɨtɛ</td>
<td>‘now’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>uzir</td>
<td>‘now’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iludɛr</td>
<td>‘a while later; in a moment’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ilu zabu</td>
<td>‘a while later; in a moment’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>zabu</td>
<td>‘later’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dal ki wi waχt</td>
<td>‘exactly at that time’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Definite time specifications are usually nouns which often function adverbially and whose reference does not change, always referring to the same point in time regardless of the time of utterance. Table 6.4 shows definite time specifications referring to different periods of the day.

Table 6.4 Time of day adverbials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>xjejn tanuv</td>
<td>‘before dawn’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jiwł</td>
<td>‘daybreak’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Adverbial modifiers

Some common adverbials that express a duration of time are presented in Table 6.5:

Table 6.5 Duration adverbials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>adverbial</th>
<th>meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ilundzik</td>
<td>‘for a short time’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i dam i zamun</td>
<td>‘instantaneously’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tsəm hat tʃeɪj baymig its</td>
<td>‘instantaneously (lit. in the blink of an eye)’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>maθ paqad</td>
<td>‘all day’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ramaθon</td>
<td>‘all day’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>raxob</td>
<td>‘all night’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i sul paqad</td>
<td>‘for a whole year’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>umr paqad</td>
<td>‘for a lifetime’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sequence adverbials designate the timing of a situation with respect to a context or other situations:

Table 6.6 Sequence adverbials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>adverbial</th>
<th>meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>awal</td>
<td>‘first’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>uz</td>
<td>‘again’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>uχir</td>
<td>‘finally’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The default position of temporal modifiers is immediately after the subject, as in (6.1), or sentence-initial position if the subject is omitted, as in (6.2).
Topics in the syntax of Sarikoli

(6.1)  
\textit{mardon peɕin az tɕɛd naxtizd}  
Mardon late.afternoon ABL house go.up.3SG.IPfv  
‘Mardon will go out (from the house) in the late afternoon.’

(6.2)  
\textit{pɯrparaxɛb = am a = wi wandʑ-it}  
three.days.prior = 1SG.PFv ACC = 3SG.NNOM.DIST see.PRF-CESS  
‘I saw her three days ago.’

6.2 Frequency adverbials

Frequency adverbials are used to indicate how often a situation occurs. Table 6.7 presents some commonly-used frequency words.

Table 6.7 Frequency adverbials

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adverbial</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>kam tar kam</td>
<td>‘very rarely’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kam</td>
<td>‘rarely’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>igun igun; igun = ir</td>
<td>‘sometimes’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>itang waχt</td>
<td>‘sometimes’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>go waχt</td>
<td>‘sometimes’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pur</td>
<td>‘often’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iχɪl</td>
<td>‘constantly; incessantly; frequently’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dojim</td>
<td>‘constantly; incessantly; frequently’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>har dojim</td>
<td>‘very frequently’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>har waχt</td>
<td>‘always; all the time’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>maθ tar maθ</td>
<td>‘(increasingly) day by day’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As with temporal words, frequency words generally occur immediately after the subject, as in (6.3) & (6.4). If the subject is omitted, they occur sentence-initially, as in (6.5). In (6.6), the frequency word occurs after the spatial setting, which follows the subject slot. When used as a frequency word, igun ‘sometimes’ is either reduplicated or takes the dative marker = ir.

(6.3)  
\textit{maɕ dver har waχt tamaɕ = ir hat}  
1PL.NNOM door every time 2PL.NNOM = DAT open  
‘Our door is always open to you(pl).’
6.3 Manner adverbials

Manner adverbials are used to describe the manner in which an action is performed. Some common manner adverbials are presented in Table 6.8 below. *dzald* ‘fast’, *asto* ‘slow’, and *χɯɕrɯj* ‘beautiful’ may function as manner adverbials as well as adjectives in adnominal or copula complement position. The comitative function marker *qati* may also be used adverbially to mean ‘together’. The numeral *i* ‘one’ may be used as a hedge against full effort or commitment when trying something out initially.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Manner adverbial</th>
<th>English Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>harɡiz</td>
<td>‘ever’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tag(əw)</td>
<td>‘ever’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dzald</td>
<td>‘fast’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gupαθ</td>
<td>‘very quickly’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dzup</td>
<td>‘very quickly’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>asto</td>
<td>‘slow’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>χɯɕrɯj</td>
<td>‘beautiful’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iwiḍz</td>
<td>‘alone’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>qati</td>
<td>‘together’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tup</td>
<td>‘as a group’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tang</td>
<td>‘simultaneously’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Topics in the syntax of Sarikoli

\**dal**  ‘exactly; just right’
\**tɕing**  ‘fully; firmly’
\**atuin**  ‘purposefully’
\**odata**  ‘by habit (usually)’
\**i**  ‘once (on a trial basis)’

In general, manner adverbials occur immediately after the subject (6.7) - (6.9) or direct object (6.10), or sentence-initially when the subject is omitted, as in (6.11).

(6.7)  \[\text{merona} \  \text{gupat} \ \chiu \  \az \  \dzu \  \undawd\]
\text{Merona} \  \text{very.quickly} \  \text{REFL.NNOM} \  \text{ABL} \  \text{place} \  \text{get.up.PFV}
\[\chi-ono=ri \ \ \text{tilfon} \  \text{tswg}\]
\text{REFL.NNOM-mother} = \text{DAT} \  \text{phone} \  \text{do.PFV}
‘Merona got up from her seat very quickly and called her mother.’

(6.8)  \[\text{wo}=\text{af} \  \uch \ \text{ɕwɛn} \  \text{lc} \  \text{ir} \  \text{ve} \]
\text{3PL.NOM.DIST} = \text{3PL.PFV} \  \text{very} \  \text{beautiful} \  \text{say.INF} = \text{DAT} \  \text{be.PRF}
‘They speak/sing very beautifully. (Evidential/New information)’

(6.9)  \[\text{waz} \  \i \ \uj \  \k=\text{am}\]
\text{1SG.NOM} \  \text{once} \  \text{thought} \  \text{do.IPVk} = \text{1SG.IPk}
‘I will think about it.’

(6.10) \[\text{ju} \  \chiu \  \text{tɕini} \  \text{tɕing} \  \text{na} \  \text{wa} \text{dɔrdz}\]
\text{3SG.NOM.DIST} \  \text{REFL.NNOM} \  \text{bowl} \  \text{firmly} \  \text{NEG} \  \text{grab.PRF}
‘He did not hold on to his bowl firmly. (Evidential/New information)’

(6.11) \[\text{dal}=\text{an} \  \text{lc} \text{dzs}\]
\text{exactly} = \text{1PL.PFV} \  \text{say.PRF}
‘We said it exactly right. (Evidential/New information)’

### 6.4 Degree adverbials

Degree adverbials are adverbial modifiers that indicate the degree of an action or attribute. They modify verbs, adjectives, manner adverbials, or some combination of these, and always precede the element that they modify. Table 6.9 lists some frequently-used degree adverbials, with the third column specifying...
what they modify. In addition to functioning as adverbial modifiers of verbs, adjectives, and adverbials, some of these words are also quantifiers (kam, pur) or adjectives (dzulik) which directly modify the head noun of an NP.

Table 6.9 Degree words

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree word</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
<th>Modifies which constituents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>kam</td>
<td>‘few’</td>
<td>verb, adjective, manner adverbial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dzulik</td>
<td>‘little’</td>
<td>verb, adjective, manner adverbial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pur</td>
<td>‘much’</td>
<td>verb, manner adverbial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tag(əw)</td>
<td>‘at all’</td>
<td>verb, manner adverbial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>χeji</td>
<td>‘fairly’</td>
<td>adjective, manner adverbial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>uburo</td>
<td>‘more’</td>
<td>adjective, manner adverbial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>uuc</td>
<td>‘very/too (much)’</td>
<td>verb, adjective, manner adverbial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>adzab</td>
<td>‘very’</td>
<td>adjective, manner adverbial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gando</td>
<td>‘very’</td>
<td>adjective, manner adverbial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tazo</td>
<td>‘very’</td>
<td>adjective, manner adverbial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>eng</td>
<td>‘most’</td>
<td>adjective, manner adverbial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pɛt</td>
<td>‘completely’</td>
<td>verb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rəwrɯz</td>
<td>‘completely’</td>
<td>verb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iwaθ</td>
<td>‘completely; for good’</td>
<td>verb</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The sentences in (6.12) - (6.29) below illustrate the use of each of these degree adverbials.

tag(əw) has three different usages: 1) as a degree adverb indicating no degree ‘at all’ (as shown in (6.14) & (6.15) below); as an epistemic adverb which means ‘ever’ (§6.5); or 3) as an epistemic adverb used for intensifying questions (§6.5). In the first two usages, tag(əw) is only used in negative sentences, occurring either with the negative particle na, negative predicate nist, or prohibitive particle mo. The third usage is reserved for content questions and for alternative questions with a negative tag.

(6.12) \[\text{pur} = \text{an} \quad \text{na} \quad \text{t\text{uxt}}, \quad \text{kam} = \text{an} \quad \text{t\text{uxt}}\]
\[\text{much} = 1\text{PL.PFV} \quad \text{NEG} \quad \text{watch.PFV} \quad \text{few} = 1\text{PL.PFV} \quad \text{watch.PFV}\]
\[\text{‘We did not wait long, just for a short time.’}\]

(6.13) \[\text{dzul} - \text{ik} \quad \text{wa\text{xti}} \quad \text{naxtedz} = \text{it}\]
\[\text{little-DIM} \quad \text{early} \quad \text{go.up.IP} = 2\text{PL.PFV}\]
\[\text{‘Go out a little bit early.’}\]
(6.14)  
\[
\text{ta } \text{gap} = \text{am } \text{tagw } \text{na } \text{fam} \\
\text{2SG.NNOM word} = \text{1SG.PFV at.all NEG understand.PFV}
\]
'I did not understand what you said at all.'

(6.15)  
\[
\text{wi } \text{leq } \text{tços, } \text{tagw } \text{sejb } \text{na} \\
\text{3SG.NNOM.DIST clothing watch.PFV at.all match NEG}
\]
'dudz \\
give.PRF

'Look at her clothes, they do not match at all. (Evidential/New information)'

(6.16)  
\[
\text{mu } \text{mom } \text{mudzu } \text{xejli } \text{tCARDZ sut} \\
\text{1SG.NNOM grandmother feeling fairly good become.PFV}
\]
'My grandmother has gotten fairly well.'

(6.17)  
\[
\text{tw = at } \text{uburo } \text{xejruj } \text{seddz} \\
\text{2SG.NOM = 2SG.PFV more beautiful become.PRF}
\]
'You have become more beautiful. (Evidential/New information)'

(6.18)  
\[
\text{mu } \text{te} \text{i } \text{ter-nendz } \text{wez } \text{ut } \text{garun} \\
\text{1SG.NNOM LOC high-ADJ burden very heavy}
\]
'The burden above me (on my back) is very heavy.'

(6.19)  
\[
\text{di } \text{rang } \text{ktub-ef } \text{waz } \text{ut } \\
\text{3SG.NNOM.PROX SEMB book-PL.NNOM 1SG.NOM very}
\]
\[xuj = \text{am} \\
\text{read.PFV = 1SG.IPFV}
\]
'I read a lot of these kinds of books.'

(6.20)  
\[
\text{a = digaru-ef = am adzab tCARDZ gow } \text{tCARDW} \\
\text{ACC = other-PL.NNOM = 1SG.PFV very good trick do.PFV}
\]
'I tricked the other people very well.'

(6.21)  
\[
\text{jad } \text{qirut } \text{gando } \text{teng} \\
\text{3SG.NOM.PROX Qirut very hard}
\]
'This Qirut (dried yogurt) is very hard.'

(6.22)  
\[
\text{nurbia } \text{gando } \text{tej } \text{zud} \\
\text{Nurbia very speedy run.3SG.IPFV}
\]
'Nurbia runs very speedily.'
Adverbial modifiers

(6.23) \(a = di\, ičim\, tu = ri\, tazo\, arzun\)
\(\text{ACC} = 3\text{SG.NNOM.PROX}\, \text{pants} \quad 2\text{SG.NNOM} = \text{DAT}\, \text{very}\, \text{cheap}\)
\(lev = am = o\)
\(\text{say.IPVF} = 1\text{SG.IPVF} = Q\)
‘Shall I give you a very cheap price for these pants?’

(6.24) \(kazwi\, k = a = wi\, maθ\, eng\, ɯlɯʁ\)
\(\text{so} \quad \text{ANA} = \text{ACC} = 3\text{SG.NNOM.DIST}\, \text{day} \quad \text{SUPL}\, \text{great}\)
\(wazon = an,\quad eng\, ɫɔw\, wazon = an,\quad eng\)
\(\text{know.IPVF} = 1\text{PL.IPVF} \quad \text{SUPL}\, \text{big} \quad \text{know.IPVF} = 1\text{PL.IPVF} \quad \text{SUPL}\)
\(χuɕ-i\, qati\, a = wi\)
\(\text{happy-NMLZ}\, \text{COM}\, \text{ACC} = 3\text{SG.NNOM.DIST}\)
\(narzamb = an\)
\(\text{celebrate.IPVF} = 1\text{PL.IPVF}\)
‘So we regard that day as the greatest, regard it as the most important, and celebrate it with the most happiness.’

(6.25) \(woð = af\, a = tikist\, pet\, juð\)
\(3\text{PL.NOM.DIST} = 3\text{PL.IPVF} \quad \text{ACC} = \text{text} \quad \text{completely} \quad \text{memory}\)
\(zuxt\)
\(\text{get.IPVF}\)
‘They memorized the text completely.’

(6.26) \(ki = wi\, bijur-i\, χu\)
\(\text{ANA} = 3\text{SG.NNOM.DIST} \quad \text{evening-NMLZ} \quad \text{REFL.NNOM}\)
\(texd-ndz-χejl\, pet\, wixt\, so = in\)
\(\text{house-ADJ-PL.NOM} \quad \text{all} \quad \text{gather.INF} \quad \text{become.IPVF} = 3\text{PL.IPVF}\)
\(i\, tsi\, dzuŋ\, niθ = in\)
\(\text{one} \quad \text{LOC}\, \text{place} \quad \text{sit.IPVF} = 3\text{PL.IPVF}\)
‘That evening, their families all gather together and hang out in one place.’
Topics in the syntax of Sarikoli

(6.27) Ｐｕｒｓ ｚｉｖ ｒａｗｒｕｚ ｌｅｖｄ ｔｃｉ
Persian  tongue  completely  say.INF  CAP

\(k\alpha = in = o\)
do.IPV = 3PL.IPV = Q
‘Can they speak Persian completely?’

(6.28) Ｊｕ ｔｚｅｄ ｗｅｒｄ ｉｗａθ ｔｚａｗＩｌ
3SG.NOM.DIST  house  turn.PFV  completely  worthless

\(s\text{uut}\)
become.PFV
‘That house fell over and got completely destroyed.’

(6.29) Ｔａｍａ℅ ｄｉ ｔｕｖ ｉｗａθ
2PL.NOM  3SG.NOM.PROX  time  completely

\(t\text{e}\)ｄ\(z = it = o, \quad n\text{e}j, \quad u\)ｚ \(j\)ｏ\(d = it\)
go.IPV = 2PL.IPV = Q  NEG  again  come.IPV = 2PL.IPV
‘Are you(pl) leaving for good this time, or will you(pl) come back again?’

6.5 Epistemic adverbials

Epistemic adverbials indicate the speaker’s commitment to or certainty about a situation. Some common epistemic adverbials are presented in Table 6.10.

Table 6.10 Epistemic adverbials

<p>| | | | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ｉｖｉｄ</td>
<td>ｉｖｉｄ</td>
<td>ｉｖｉｄ</td>
<td>ｉｖｉｄ</td>
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<td>ｉｖｉｄ</td>
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<td>ｉｖｉｄ</td>
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Adverbial modifiers

(6.30) χɯɕnamo i vid pugan jet na tei
Heeshnamo one be.INF tomorrow come.INF NEG CAP
kaxt
do.3SG.IPVF
‘Heeshnamo might not be able to come tomorrow.’

(6.31) wi radzen magam kasal scɔdz
3SG.N NOM.DIST daughter probably sick become.PRF
‘Her daughter probably got sick. (Evidential/New information)’

(6.32) albatta muu puts utup tɛwɛg
of.course 1SG.N NOM son win do.PFV
‘Of course my son won.’

tag(əw) and hargiz occur with the prohibitive particle mo and are used for intensifying the prohibition.

(6.33) a = di ktɕawi tagəw mo bunos
ACC = 3SG.N NOM.PROX ring ever PROH lose.IPVF
‘Don’t ever lose this ring.’

(6.34) hargiz bos mo ka
ever give.up PROH do.IPVF
‘Never give up.’
tag(əw) has the additional function of intensifying a question and expressing the speaker’s confusion, impatience, eagerness to know, or difficulty understanding a situation. It may be used in a content question, as in (6.35) - (6.40), or in an alternative question with a negative tag, as in (6.41) - (6.43). tag(əw) also functions as a degree adverb (§6.4).

(6.35) tɔw tagəw tsɛm indiz
2SG.NOM ever when get.up.IPVF
‘When on earth are you going to get up?’

(6.36) waz tagəw tsund sul a = ta
1SG.NOM ever how.much year ACC = 2SG.N NOM

   tɔs = am
watch.IPVF = 1SG.IPVF
‘However many years am I to wait for you?’
ki = di  rang xudz mas na bord
ANA = 3SG.NOM.PROX SEMB fear also NEG fear.3SG.IPV

putxu a = zit gap tsejz = ituz jad χalg
king ACC = bad word do.INF = REL 3SG.NOM.PROX person
tag tsoj
ever who.NOM

‘Who on earth is this, who fearlessly speaks ill of the king?’

tamaɕ = af naxtug a = tsejz = af tagw
2PL.NOM = 2PL.PFV go.up.PFV ACC = what = 2PL.PFV ever

wand mejdʑ vud
see.INF INTEN be.PFV

‘You(pl) went out; what on earth were you planning to see?’

ato saɗo, puɡan-endʑ intawum utɕ qilo = ik
INTJ boy tomorrow-ADJ exam very difficult = DUR

lev = in, tow tag tsoa ka
say.IPV = 3PL.IPV 2SG.NOM ever how do.IPV

‘O my, boy, they say tomorrow’s exam is going to be very difficult; how on earth are you going to manage?’

mu-an ato ano vud, yin vud, wist
1SG.NOM-GEN father mother be.PFV wife be.PFV twenty

sul sut a = wef na wand = ir,
year become.PFV ACC = 3PL.NOM.DIST NEG see.INF = DAT

wef = ir tag tsejz sut, tsejz naj
3PL.NOM.DIST = DAT ever what become.PFV what NEG

‘I had a father and a mother, I had a wife; it has been twenty years since I saw them; what on earth has happened to them, and what has not?’

tamaɕ tagaw katɕ ka = it = o, nej
2PL.NOM ever move do.IPV = 2PL.IPV = Q NEG

‘Are you(pl) going to move or not?’

Sobir tagaw pa χusmat tizd = o, nej
Sobir ever LOC work go.3SG.IPV = Q NEG

‘Is Sobir going to work or not?’
Adverbial modifiers

Adverbial modifiers are often derived from adjectives and nouns with the adverbializer -i. In the following examples, -i is added to an adjective (6.44) & (6.45) or a noun (6.46) to form an adverb.

\[(6.43)\]  \[
\begin{array}{l}
\text{wod} \quad \text{tagw} \quad a = \text{batco} \quad \text{kalt} \quad \text{ka} = \text{in} = o,\\
3\text{PL.NOM.DIST} \quad \text{ever} \quad \text{ACC} = \text{child} \quad \text{save} \quad \text{do.IPVF} = 3\text{PL.IPVF} = \text{Q}
\end{array}
\]
\[
\text{nej}
\]
\text{NEG}

‘Are they going to save the child or not?’

6.6 Derived adverbs

Adverbial modifiers may also be derived from cardinal numerals. When cardinal numerals take the adverbializer -i, they become distributive numerals which are used adverbially. Distributive numerals may be reduplicated, as in (6.48). Example (6.53) is taken from a song, so the word order is not standard for conversation or narrative discourse.
(6.47) χɯ  batɕo-ɛf  az  iw-i  par  mu
REFL.NNOM child.PL.NNOM ABL one-ADV LAT 1SG.NNOM

buz
send.IPFWV

‘Send your children to me one by one.’

(6.48) kalo-χejl = af  δɔw-i  δɔw-i  ar  wal
sheep-PL.NOM = 3PL.PFV two-ADV two-ADV LOC stable

dejd
enter.IPFWV

‘The sheep entered the stable in pairs.’

(6.49) juu  hara  maθ  i  az  val  δɔw-i  məwl
3SG.NOM.DIST every day one ABL stable two-ADV sheep

χird
eat.3SG.IPFWV

‘He eats two sheep from a stable every day.’

(6.50) əwrat-χejl  laka  tar  pindʑu-i  niθ = in
woman-PL.NOM let.IPFWV LOC fifty-ADV sit.IPFWV = 3PL.IPFWV

‘Let the women sit in groups of fifty.’

(6.51) i  pa  sumuf  tsavur-i  tudʑik  batɕo  jost
one LOC class four-ADV Tajik child be.IPFWV
‘There are four Tajik students in each class.’

(6.52) i  pa  tung  woxt-i  nəw-i  tala  xats  wid
one LOC barrel eight-ADV nine-ADV bucket water fit.INF

setir
become.INF = REL be.PRF

‘In each barrel eight or nine buckets of water could fit. (Evidential/New information)’

(6.53) χɯ  pa  ʁov = ik  δid  az  pindz-i
REFL.NNOM LOC mouth = DUR give.3SG.IPFWV ABL five-ADV

զəwɔd = ir = ik  kaxt  dzat-i
chew.INF = DAT = DUR do.3SG.IPFWV hurry-NMLZ

‘She puts five into her mouth at a time, and is in a hurry to munch on it.’
They live behind their father, and have twenty or thirty sheep each and one to three cows.
Topics in the syntax of Sarikoli