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The phonological systems of the Mbam languages of Cameroon with a focus on vowels and vowel harmony

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The phonological systems of
the Mbam languages of Cameroon
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Preface

Languages are so rich, multiple and varied that through this study I have merely "... been at a great feast of languages and stol'n the scraps."¹ This book is dedicated to all who introduced me to that 'great feast of languages', even if I have come away with only the scraps.

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Abbreviations and symbols

#	micro-stem boundary	cl.	cluster
-	morpheme break	COMP	completive
=	clitic boundary	CONJ	conjunction
(n)	noun	CONT	continuous
(v)	verb	DEM	demonstrative
1p	1 st person pl. concord	DIM	diminutive
1s	1 st person sing. concord	DIR	directional
1sIO	1 st person indirect object	DIST	distal prefix
2p	2 nd person pl. concord	e.o.	each other
2s	2 nd person sing. concord	EXT	extension
3pPOS	3 rd person pl. possessive	EXTENS	extensive
3s.OBJ	3 rd person object	F1	formant one
3sIO	3 rd person sing. indirect object	F2	formant two
ADV	adverb	Ft	front (vowel)
APPL	applicative suffix	FT1	immediate (certain) future
ASSOC	associative	FT2	distant future
ATR	advanced tongue root	FT3	distant (uncertain) future
AuxV	auxiliary verb	FV	Future (not defined)
Ave.	average	H	final vowel
C	habitual	HAB	high tone
c9	imperative	IMP	noun class 9
CAUS	incompletive	INC	causative
	infinitive	INF	

INTENS	intensifier	PST	past tense (not defined)
INTR	intransitive verb	RD	round (vowel)
IO	indirect object	RECP	reciprocal
ITER	iterative	REFL	reflexive
L	low tone	REP	repetitive
LOC	locative	RT	root
MCS	Modified Contrastive Specification	S	subject
NARR	narrative tense	s.o.	someone
NC	noun class	SDA	Successive Division Algorithm
NEG	negative marker	SEPAR	separative
NPhr	noun phrase	sffx	suffix
o.s.	oneself	sg	singular
OBJ	object	smth.	something
P0	immediate past tense	sp.	species
P1	recent past tense	ss	same subject
P2	yesterday past tense	STATIV	stative
P4	distant past tense	SUBJ	subject
P.C.	personal communication	T/A	tense/aspect marker
PFX	prefix	TBU	tone bearing unit
PL	plural	TR	transitive verb
POS	positional	trad.	traditional
POSS	possessive	V	vowel
PR	present	VH	vowel harmony
PREP	preposition	Vrt	verb root
PFV	perfective	V-sffx(es)	Verb-suffix(es)