

The semantics of adverbs in Chrambo

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This article seeks to describe the semantics of adverbs in Chrambo, a Bantoid language spoken by an estimated 29,000 speakers (Eberhard, Simons & Fennig 2023) in the village of Bambalang, Ndop Subdivision, Ngoketunjia Division, North West Region of Cameroon. This paper is an attempt to contribute to the knowledge of adverbs by describing their morphological structure, functions, and syntax. The findings reveal that both pure and derived adverbs occur in the language and are realised as particles, e.g., *ní jí* "fast", as individual lexical items, through reduplication of words like *shíshí* "well", derived words like *ní ní* "with strength", and word groups such as *ngɔhu yua* "last year". We also discovered that some verb clusters in the language designate manner, frequency, magnitude, size-of- groups, location, and time. The syntax surrounding their co-occurrence observes restriction to the hierarchy and is seen as the nature of the interface between them and explained in terms of their distribution and properties in the language. To attain this, data were collected from primary and secondary sources and the structural approach guided the analysis.