

## CONDITIONED ALLOMORPHY IN TAHLTAN VERB STEMS

Hank F. Nater  
Wáglísla, British Columbia  
Canada VOT1ZO

0. Tahlтан, a Dene<sup>1</sup> language of northern British Columbia, possesses a complex verb structure. Here, as in all other languages belonging to the Dene linguistic stock, a finite verb consists of one or more prefixes (with diverse functions and sequential hierarchies), a verb stem, and occasionally also a suffix:

- (1) ʔesʔá:ɬ 'I am (ʔes-) chewing (-ʔa:ɬ)',<sup>2</sup>
- (2) ʔeštén 'it is (ʔeš-) frozen (-ten)'
- (3) dé:sdi:ɬ 'I (-es-) will (d-ʔ...-ɬ) drink (-di:)',<sup>3</sup>
- (4) kódi:nk'a:l+a: 'will (-d-ʔ...-ɬ) you (-ən-) light (-h-k'a:) the fire (ko-) ʔ (ʔa:)',<sup>4</sup>

The intricacy of the Tahlтан verb manifests itself in two processes. The first of these, internal sandhi, may characterize prefix strings and the prefix-stem boundary:

- (5) ná:nt'e:š 'cook it again!' = /naʔ'e:nʔh-t'e:š/ 'again - you/urgency - h augmentation - cook'
- (6) ʔedéši:nge:l+a: 'are you going to kill yourself?' = /ʔede-š-ʔə:n-dʔxé:ɬfa:/ 'oneself - stative - you/future<sub>1</sub> - d augmentation - kill - future<sub>2</sub> - question marker',<sup>5/6</sup>

Secondly, verb stems are subject to variation, an account of which is given in this report. We must distinguish two types of verb stem allomorphy in Tahlтан: (1) stem suppletion (which serves to indicate subject or object number), and (2) morphonemic alternation (indicating tense or aspect). Both types are morphologically redundant in that number (except dual) and tense-aspect distinctions are also made by means of prefixation. The former type is exemplified, in passing, below:

- (7) sesdáh 'I am sitting' = /š-es-dah'/ 'stative - I - one sits',<sup>7</sup>
- (8) šiké: 'we (two) are sitting' = /šidʔke:ʔ/ 'we - two sit'
- (9) déšič'i: 'we (three or more) are sitting' = /de-ʔšidʔč'i:/ 'around - we - plural sit'
- (10) desá: 'I am going' = /de-sʔda:ʔ/ 'around - I - one goes',<sup>8</sup>
- (11) déšit'a:s 'we (two) are going' = /de-ʔšidʔa:s/ 'around - we - two go'
- (12) déšide:ɬ 'we (three or more) are going' = /de-ʔšidʔde:ɬ/ 'around - we - plural go'

Phonemic stem variation is considerably more productive than the process described above, insofar as it affects virtually the entire inventory of verb stems in Tahlтан; this is the phenomenon that will concern us from here on. Some examples:

- (13) ʔešičéč 'I am eating' = /ʔešičéč'/ 'I - eat'
- (14) ʔé:šiče:dí 'I have eaten' = /ʔeʔi:-sʔiče:tʔi/ '(it -) perfective - I - eat - final',<sup>9</sup>
- (15) dé:šiče:ɬ 'I will eat' = /d-ʔe:sʔiče:tʔɬ/ 'completion - I/future<sub>1</sub> - eat - future<sub>2</sub>',<sup>10</sup>
- (16) ʔast'éh 'I am' = /ʔa-s-t'eh'/ '... - I - be',<sup>11</sup>
- (17) ʔá:yt'eʔí 'I have been' = /ʔaʔi:šh-t'eʔ-i/ '... - perfective - I - h augmentation - be - final',<sup>12</sup>
- (18) ʔáde:st'e:ɬ 'I will be' = /ʔa-d-ʔe:s-t'e:-ɬ/ '... - completion - I/future<sub>1</sub> - be - future<sub>2</sub>'
- (19) ʔecév 'he is crying' = /ʔe-cev'/ 'he - cry'
- (20) yí:ce:í 'he has cried' = /yəʔi:-∅-ce:vʔi/ 'yə- conjugation - perfective - he - cry - final'
- (21) náda:ce:ɬ 'he is going to cry again' = /na-d-ʔ∅:-ce:vʔɬ/ 'again - completion - he/future<sub>1</sub> - cry - future<sub>2</sub>',<sup>13</sup>

1. In what follows, I will establish that morphonological alternation

in Tahltan verb stems is a conditioned (regular), rather than random (irregular), process. It will be shown that a diachronic-comparative description of such allomorphy (where older forms take the place of "underlying forms" en vogue in other theoretical approaches) is more suitable than one framed within a strictly synchronic discipline.

As a beginning student of Dene linguistics, I have often found the Tahltan verb bewildering in its complexity and apparent irregularity. When considering Tahltan verbal processes in isolation, that is, without giving attention to historical facets, one encounters the following complications: (1) erratic vowel alternations, (2) the virtual impossibility to make a classification of allomorphic types due to (3a) merging of certain stem-final consonants with (petrified) suffixes, (3b) the presence of VARIABLE vs. INVARIABLE stems (for detailed information on these see Leer: 5.1.2). Furthermore, Tahltan appears conservative in comparison with other Dene languages insofar as it has retained certain stem-final affricates. These facts, along with the relative antiquity of the Tahltan phoneme inventory (Nater: 4.3, and tables 5-7, 9-11), have convinced me that a thorough description of the Tahltan verb should not lack diachronic considerations.

In the sections following, adherence is made to Leer's distinctions between (a) VARIABLE vs. INVARIABLE (roots), (b) OBSTRUENT-CLOSED vs. NON-OBSTRUENT-CLOSED (roots);<sup>14</sup> these differentiations are especially useful in an account of Tahltan verb stems, where they can be employed both in a syn- and diachronic sense.

2. Tahltan verb stems can be divided into two main categories:

...K# / ...R#  
 INVARIABLE /  
 V A R I A B L E

(K = non-R consonant; R = dental nasal, palatalized velar, glottal, or long-tense vowel.)

Within the category of variable stems, finer distinctions must be made: a variable stem morph-set may contain two, three, or several allomorphs. However, due to the incompleteness of my data, I have not been able to

ascertain (1) the highest number of allomorphs possible, (2) whether certain verb stems, to date diagnosed as invariable, may, on further investigation, prove to be variable. (Stems with dubious status are not mentioned in this paper.) I have, however, come to the tentative conclusion that the average variable verb stem is realized as a set of three allomorphs.

As concerns the paucity of proto-Dene reconstructions adduced in the next section, the reader is requested to consider that information on proto-Dene verb stems is as yet rather scant; where such data are not available, I offer, when feasible, experimental reconstructions (representing older stages of Tahltan, or proto-west-Canadian Dene) based on forms recorded for Tahltan,<sup>1</sup> central Carrier (Story and Carrier Dictionary Committee), Babine (Story), and Sarcee (Cook). I also mention Ahtna (Kari) facts where necessary.

3. In the enumeration of Tahltan verb forms contained in this section, the following abbreviations are used: PPD = pre-proto-Dene, PD = proto-Dene, PWD = proto-west-Canadian Dene, OT = older Tahltan, NT = modern Tahltan; cnt = continuative, cst = customary, dis = distributive, fut = future, imp = imperfective, mom = momentaneous, neg = negative, ntr = neuter, opt = optative, pf = perfective, prog = progressive, rep = repetitive, rev = reversative, sem = semelfactive, IOF = imperfective-optative-future; B and L are Leer's basic and lengthened. Furthermore, -ŷ is Leer's -ŷ̃ (the pre-proto-Dene perfective suffix); v = short vowel, v: = long vowel, ̣ = nasalization, vʔ and v:ʔ are Leer's ṿ and ṿ:; ḡ, tḡ (etc.) are replaced by ḡ, tḡ (etc.); I render the proto-Dene back velars as ḡ, q, q', ḡ, ḡ; palatality of proto-Dene front velars (not being phonemically distinctive) is not indicated by me: ḡ, k, k', x, ɣ.

3.1. Those Tahltan verb stems that are definitely invariable total only two. Aside from their phonemic stability, they have in common that (1) they end in an obstruent, (2) they share a sound-descriptive connotation (i.e. of NOISE). The latter feature, which also characterizes certain invariable verb stems in some other, if not most, northwestern Dene (see Leer: 5.1.2), may underlie the immutability of these stems throughout all conjugational paradigms. The two such stems attested in Tahltan are

-teč 'barking' (in ya-...-h-teč 'to be the source of barking' = 'to bark') and -dos 'boiling'.<sup>15</sup> Consider the following forms:

- (22) yastéč 'I am barking' = /yə<sup>h</sup>a-s<sup>h</sup>-teč/ 'yə- conjugation - ... (see fn. 11) - I - h augmentation - barking'
- (23) yá:rtéč 'I have barked' = /yə<sup>h</sup>a<sup>h</sup>'i:s<sup>h</sup>-teč/ 'yə- conjugation' - ... - perfective - I - h augmentation - barking'
- (24) yáde:steč 'I will bark' = /yə<sup>h</sup>a-d-'e:s<sup>h</sup>-teč/ 'yə- conjugation - ... - completion - I/future<sub>1</sub> - h augmentation - barking'
- (25) dadénedos 'it is boiling' = /da-de-'ne-dos/ 'upwards, rising - around, throughout - (sur)face - boiling'
- (26) dadénesdos 'I am boiling it' = /da-de-'ne-s<sup>h</sup>-dos/ 'upwards, rising - around, throughout - (sur)face - I - h augmentation - boiling'
- (27) dadénehdos 'I have boiled it' = /da-de-'ne<sup>h</sup>'i:s<sup>h</sup>-dos/<sup>16</sup> 'upwards, rising - around, throughout - (sur)face - perfective - I - h augmentation - boiling'
- (28) dadénesdos 'I will boil it' = /da-de-'ne<sup>h</sup>'e:s<sup>h</sup>-dos/<sup>16</sup> 'upwards, rising - around, throughout - (sur)face - I/future<sub>1</sub> - h augmentation - boiling'

3.2. Variable verb stems are numerous. In view of certain historical and morphological properties, I divide them into non-obstruent-closed (section 3.2.1) and obstruent-closed (section 3.2.2) stems (cf. Leer: sections 3 and 4). Henceforth, we shall be concerned solely with the study of verb stems, and I will purposely refrain from analyzing the prefix complexes functioning as constituents of the cited Tahltan finite verbs (some of which would, besides, require rather detailed comments: cf. footnotes 5, 8, 11, 16). In 3.2.1 we examine the ...R# stems, in 3.2.1.1 the transitional category of MIXED TYPE stems is considered, and in 3.2.2 the ...K# verb stems are treated.

3.2.1. ...R# verb stems (as a rule variable) end in one of the long-tense vowels a:, e:, i:, u:, one of the continuants m, n, n', ɣ, ɣ' (the

latter have replaced proto-Dene phonemes termed "sonorants" by Leer), or a glottal phoneme (ʔ, h: glottals are non-obstruent insofar as they are NON-LABIAL and NON-LINGUAL, and differ from all other phonemes in various other respects as well). Members of this class are unlike ...K# verb stems, because (1) ʔ and h play an important role, (2) the suffix /ʔ/ 'future<sub>2</sub>' does not always affect the stem, (3) PPD suffixes are more readily traceable than they are in ...K# verb stems (this peculiarity is typical of pan-Dene). For proto-Dene, the third and second criteria, and partially also the first one, are identical (NT ʔ continues PD ʔ/k'/q', NT h continues PD x/ɣ'). For further details I refer to Leer (sections 4-4.5).

The evolution of Tahltan verb stems is illustrated below. (Note that /ʔ/ is still a recognizable, and productive, suffix in modern Tahltan.)

STAGE I	STAGE II	STAGE III
suffixes		
verb root	verb stem	
morph-set	morph-set	
B, B', L, L', reduced	suprasegmental features	verb stem allomorphs

Stage I is pre-Proto-Dene; Stage II comprises proto-Dene and proto-west-Canadian Dene; Stage III represents Tahltan (both OT and NT). B' = glottalized basic, L' = glottalized lengthened (see Leer: 4, 4.1-4.4). The addition of an "obstruent suffix" to a PPD obstruent-closed root was coupled with reduction of the vowel contained in the root (Leer: 3.4.). The PPD suffixes (detailed in Leer: 3.1, 3.4.1-3.4.5) were: /-ɣ/ 'perfective', /-ɣ̣/ 'progressive, negative perfective', /-ɣ̣̣/ 'reversative', /-k/ 'repetitive-customary', /-x/ 'semelfactive non-perfective', and /-t/ 'semelfactive perfective'. The morphological changes that transpired during the transition from PPD to PD are illustrated in Leer: 3.5.1-3.5.6 and 4.6.1-4.6.6. The phonological modifications that characterize the evolutionary stages intermediate between PD and NT are: (1) REDUCTION OF VOWEL + GLOTTAL: (a) \*v:h (I) + v:, (II) + v<sup>h</sup>, (b) \*v:ʔ

(I) → v:, (II) → v?, (cI) \*v(:)hC → v(:)C, (cII) \*v(:)?C → v(:)C; (2) TREATMENT OF PD STEM-FINAL (PRE-)GLOTTALIZED VELARS: (a) \*k'/q' → ʔ, (b) \*ʔk' → č, \*ʔq' → k; (3) CONSONANT ASSIMILATION: interdental, alveolar, and palatal consonants influence each other when in mutual proximity (Nater: 2.1); (4) TREATMENT OF PD AND OT FRONT VELARS: (a) \*e:yi ~ \*e:vi → e:i (Nater: 2.3.2), (b) \*əx → ih, (c) \*tx → tš = č; (5) TREATMENT OF PD NASALS AND NASALITY: (a) \*vY → vn/n, (b) \*e:n → i:n/n, \*e:n' → i:n', (cI) \*y:(?) → OT y(?) → NT vn('), (cII) \*y:? → OT v:? → NT v:, (cIII) \*v:n' → v:? (Nater: 3.3.3), (d) stem-initial \*n → d; (6) VOWEL GRADATION; (7) TREATMENT OF /-t/: (a) \*...tš → ...-t, (b) fricative + \*-t → bare fricative; (8) METATHESIS OF /-t/: (a) \*...st → OT ...tš = NT ...č, (b) \*...t → OT ...tš = NT ...š. (In what follows, these changes will be indicated by the above number-letter codes.)

Note 1aI-II and 1bI-II, which point to a phonemic-dialectal split in earlier Tahltan; 1aII and 1bII may be original, while 1aI and 1bI may have evolved under the influence of 1cI, resp. 1cII.

We will now consider a quantity of ...R# verb stems. Each verb stem morph-set is numbered (the numbering continues through 3.2.1.1 and 3.2.2), and is illustrated in several finite verbs, which bear a label ((a), (b), etc.); then the allomorphs as such are listed, and their origin is traced. Abbreviations and codes are explained in sections 3 and 3.2.1; for the PPD suffixes see 3.2.1. Furthermore, Ah = Ahtna, Ba = Babine, Ca = central Carrier, Sa = Sarcee.

(1) TO BE: (a) ʔast'éh 'I am', (b) ʔá:xt'e'í 'I have been', (c) ʔáde:s-t'e:š 'I will be':

NT	OT	PD	PPD <sup>17</sup>
(a) -t'eh (1aII)	-t'e:h	-t'e:ʔx	-t'e:w'-k (L', rep/cst)
(b) -t'e?i	-t'e?	-t'e?	-t'e:w'-y (L', pf)
(c) -t'e:š	-t'e:š	-t'e:ʔš	-t'e:w'-š (L', prog/mom/fut)

(Eyak /-t'e/ (ntr/imp), /-t'u/ 'to be thus')

(2) TO BE BOUND, TIED: (a) nánənλ'u? 'get dressed!', (b) mečif'e:nλ'u: 'tie them together!', (c) mečif'e:hλ'u:n 'I have tied them together', (d) mečif'de:sλ'u:š 'I will tie them together':

NT	OT	PD <sup>18</sup>	PPD
(a) -λ'u?	-λ'u?	-λ'u?	?-λ'əw' (B')
(b) -λ'u: (?1aI)	-λ'u:(h)	-λ'u:((?)x)	?-λ'əw(')-x (B (B', sem))
(c) -λ'u:n	-λ'u:n	-λ'u:y	?-λ'əw-y (B, pf)
(d) -λ'u:š	-λ'u:š	-λ'u:(?)š	?-λ'əw(')-š (B, B', prog/mom/fut)

(3) TO BLOW, BE WIND: (a) nac'fh '(it is) windy', (b) ʔihc'fi 'wind', (c) šáda:c'əš 'there will be a strong wind blowing':

NT	OT	PD	PPD
(a) -c'ih (1aII)	-c'i:h	-č'w <sup>i</sup> :x	-k'wəy-k (B, rep/cst)
(b) -c'i:	-c'i:	-č'w <sup>i</sup> :	-k'wəy (B)
(c) -c'əš <sup>20</sup>	?-c'əh/yš	?-č'wəyš	-k'wəy-š <sup>19</sup> (B, prog/mom/fut)

(Krauss and Leer posit PD /-č'w<sup>i</sup>:/ = /-č'wəy/ and PPD /-k'wəy/; cf. Eyak k'u:y 'wind')

(4) TO GO BY BOAT: (a) nédaxedehki:n 'he took us across (the lake)', (b) táde:ske:š 'I will go up the river by boat':

NT	OT	PD	PPD
(a) -ki:n (5b)	-ke:n	-qe:y	?-qe:-y (B, pf)
(b) -ke:š	-ke:š	-qe:(?)š	?-qe:/ʔ-š (B, B', L', prog/mom/fut)

(Eyak /-qe/ 'to go by boat')

(5) TO BREATHE: (a) dešših 'I am breathing', (b) kaná:šší? 'I have come back to life', (c) náde:ššəš 'I will live forever, over and over' (note that -š- is a contraction of /-d-/ and y; see fn. 5):

	NT	OT	PD	PPD
(a)	-d <sup>h</sup> yih (1aII)	-yi:h	-yi:ʔx	-xi:k <sup>(W)</sup> (B)
(b)	-d <sup>h</sup> yiʔ (1bII)	-yi:ʔ (2a)	-yi:kʔ	-xi:k <sup>(W)</sup> -Y (B, pf)
(c)	-d <sup>h</sup> yəɪ <sup>20</sup>	-yəh/yɪ	-yəʔxɪ	-xək <sup>(W)</sup> -ɪ (prog/mom/fut)

- (6) TO BUILD: (a) ʔesci: 'I am building', (b) sihci:n 'I have built', (c) dé:sci:ɪ 'I will build':

	NT	OT	PD	PPD
(a)	-h-ci: (1aI)	-ci:h	ʔ-či:(ʔ)x	-...:/ʔ-k (B, B', L', rep/cst)
(b)	-h-ci:n	-ci:n	ʔ-či:Y	-...:-Y (B, pf)
(c)	-h-ci:ɪ	-ci:ɪ	ʔ-či:(ʔ)ɪ	-...:/ʔ-ɪ (B, B', L', prog/mom/fut)

- (7) TO BURN: (a) déduk'a: 'it may burn', (b) kóde:hk'a:n 'I have lit the fire', (c) kóde:sk'a:ɪ 'I will light the fire', (d) déšk'an' 'it is burning':

	NT	OT	PD	PPD
(a)	-k'a: (1aI)	-k'a:h	-q'ə:(ʔ)x	-q'an(')/a:n'-k (B, B', L', rep/cst)
(b)	-h-k'a:n	-k'a:n	-q'a:n	-q'a:n-Y (B, pf)
(c)	-h-k'a:ɪ	-k'a:ɪ	-q'ə:(ʔ)ɪ	-q'an(')/a:n'-ɪ (B, B', L', prog/mom/fut)
(d)	-k'an'	-k'an'	-q'an'	-q'an' (B')

(Eyak /-q'a/ 'to burn')

- (8) TO CARRY, PACK: (a) táʔadənge: 'pack it uphill!', (b) táʔesgi:n 'I have packed it uphill', (c) táʔade:sge:ɪ 'I will pack it uphill':

	NT	OT	PD	PPD
(a)	-d <sup>h</sup> xə:	-x/yə:	-ʔe:	-ʔe: (B)
(b)	-d <sup>h</sup> xi:n (5b)	-x/yə:n	-ʔe:Y	-ʔe:-Y (B, pf)
(c)	-d <sup>h</sup> xə:l	-x/yə:ɪ	-ʔe:(ʔ)ɪ	-ʔe:/ʔ-ɪ (B, B', L', prog/mom/fut)

(Eyak /-ʔe/ 'to carry on one's back')

- (9) TO CRY, WEEP: (a) ʔecéy 'he is crying', (b) yí:ce:ɪ 'he has cried', (c) náda:ceɪ 'he will cry again':

	NT	OT	PD	PPD
(a)	-cey	-cəx/h	-č <sup>w</sup> əɪ	-k <sup>w</sup> ...ɪ (B)
(b)	-ce:ɪ (1aI)	-ce:h	-č <sup>w</sup> e:ʔɪ	-k <sup>w</sup> ...ʔɪ-Y (pf)
(c)	-ceɪ <sup>20</sup>	-cəhɪ	-č <sup>w</sup> əɪɪ	-k <sup>w</sup> ...ɪ-ɪ (prog/mom/fut)

(Eyak /-kɪ:ɪ/ 'to weep')

- (10) TO DIE: (a) tó:nča:sa: 'you are bound to die', (b) tašecá:n 'he is dead', (c) tadé:šča:ɪ 'I will die':

	NT	OT	PD	PPD
(a)	-ča:	-ča:	-ca:	ʔ-ca: (B)
(b)	-ča:n	-ča:n	-ca:Y	ʔ-ca:-Y (B, pf)
(c)	-ča:ɪ	-ča:ɪ	-ca:(ʔ)ɪ	ʔ-ca:/ʔ-ɪ (B, B', L', prog/mom/fut)

(Ah /-ca:/ (imp), /-ca:n/ (pf), /-ca:x/ (cst) 'to die')

- (11) TO DIP: (a) meyi:ʔiska: 'I am dipping it', (b) meyi:ʔi:ka:n 'I have dipped it', (c) meyi:ʔde:ska:ɪ 'I will dip it' (cf. (23)):

	NT	OT	PD	PPD
(a)	-l-ka: (1aI)	-ka:h	-qa:(ʔ)x	ʔ-qa:/ʔ-k (B, B', L', rep/cst)
(b)	-l-ka:n	-ka:n	-qa:Y	ʔ-qa:-Y (B, pf)
(c)	-l-ka:ɪ	-ka:ɪ	-qa:(ʔ)ɪ	ʔ-qa:/ʔ-ɪ (B, B', L', prog/mom/fut)

(PD /-qa:/, Eyak /-qa/ 'to handle object in container')

- (12) TO DRINK: (a) náʔusda:n 'I should drink again', (b) dí:ndi: 'drink it up!', (c) dé:sdi:ɪ 'I will drink':

	<u>NT</u>	<u>OT</u>	<u>PD</u>	<u>PPD</u>
(a)	-da:n (5d)	-na:n	-na:Y	-na:Y (B)
(b)	-di: (5d, 1aI)	-ni:h	-ni:ʔx	-na:Y'-x (L', sem/ non-pf)
(c)	-di:ɬ (5d)	-ni:ɬ	-ni:ʔɬ	-na:Y'-ɬ (L', prog/ mom/fut)

(Eyak /-la/, Tlingit /-na/ 'to drink')

For PD i:ʔ from PPD a:Y' see Leer: 2.3.3.

- (13) TO LIGHT: (a) melakodí:ht'an 'I have lit the fire', (b) k'ənac'eh-t'á:hi 'what (-i) one (-c'(e)-) causes (-h-) to shine (-t'a:h-)' around (k'əna-)' = 'flashlight':

	<u>NT</u>	<u>OT</u>	<u>PD</u>	<u>PPD</u>
(a)	-h-t'an (5cI)	-t'á:/a:n	-t'a:Y	-...:-Y (B, pf)
(b)	-h-t'a:h-	-t'a:h	-t'a:(ʔ)x	-...:/ʔ-k (B, B', L', rep/cst)

(PD /-t'a:(-Y) 'to handle fire')

- (14) TO BE FROZEN: (a) ʔeštén 'it is frozen', (b) yetí:ɬ 'it is becoming frozen, freezing':

	<u>NT</u>	<u>OT</u>	<u>PD</u>	<u>PPD</u>
(a)	-tən	-tən	-tən	ʔ-tən-Y (B, pf)
(b)	-ti:ɬ	-ti:ɬ	-ti:(ʔ)ɬ	ʔ-tən(')/i:n'-ɬ (B, B', L', prog/mom/fut)

(Sa /-tín/ (pf/imp), /-tíɬ/ (cnt) 'to freeze'; Ah /-ten/ (imp), /-ti:ɬ/ (fut) 'be frozen')

- (15) TO GROW, MATURE: (a) sešján 'I am old', (b) c'éneve:i 'what (-i) one (c'(e)-) causes (-h-) to grow (-ye:-) on the surface (-ne-)' = 'seed(ing), sprout, domestic plant(s), garden vegetables'; (c) ná:ye:ɬ 'it is growing' (cf. (12), and see Leer: 2.3.3 and 4.6.6):

	<u>NT</u>	<u>OT</u>	<u>PD</u>	<u>PPD</u>
(a)	-d <sup>h</sup> ya:n	-ya:n	-ya:Y	-xa:Y-Y (B, pf/ntr)
(b)	-h <sup>h</sup> ye: (1aI)	-ye:h	-ye:ʔx	-xaY'-k (B', dis/rep/ cst)
(c)	-ye:ɬ	-ye:ɬ	-ye:(ʔ)ɬ	-xaY(')-ɬ (B, B', prog/mom/fut)

(Eyak xa:nih 'very old salmon', Tlingit /-šan/ 'to become old')

- (16) TO HAVE: (a) ʔest'f:n 'I have', (b) yest'f:n' 'I have had', (c) dé:st'i:ɬ 'I will have':

	<u>NT</u>	<u>OT</u>	<u>PD</u>	<u>PPD</u>
(a)	-t'i:n (5b)	-t'e:n	-t'e:n	ʔ-...ʔe:n (L, dura- tive/imp)
(b)	-t'i:n' (5b)	-t'e:n'	-t'e:n'	ʔ-...ʔe:n'-Y (L', pf)
(c)	-t'i:ɬ	-t'i:ɬ	-t'j:(ʔ)ɬ	ʔ-...ʔən(')/e:n'-ɬ (B, B', L', prog/mom/fut)

(PD /-t'e:n/ may be /-d-/ plus /-ʔe:n/ 'to see')

- (17) TO KILL (sg. object): (a) ʔedú: ší:nxe: 'don't kill him!', (b) šé:-hxi:n 'I have killed him', (c) ʔedése:sge:ɬ 'I will kill myself':

	<u>NT</u>	<u>OT</u>	<u>PD</u>	<u>PPD</u>
(a)	-h-xe:	-x/ye:	-ʔe:	ʔ-ke: (B)
(b)	-h-xi:n (5b)	-x/ye:n	-ʔe:Y	ʔ-ke:-Y (B, pf)
(c)	-d <sup>h</sup> xe:ɬ	-x/ye:ɬ	-ʔe:(ʔ)ɬ	ʔ-ke:/ʔ-ɬ (B, B', L', prog/mom/fut)

- (18) TO LIE (sg. subject), SLEEP, DREAM: (a) nasté: 'I am dreaming', (b) yí:steʔ 'I have slept', (c) šetí:n 'he is lying down', (d) ní:n-te:l+a: 'are you going to sleep?':

	<u>NT</u>	<u>OT</u>	<u>PD</u>	<u>PPD</u>
(a)	-te:	-te:	-te:	ʔ-te: (B)
(b)	-teʔ	-teʔ	-teʔ	ʔ-teʔ(-Y) (L', pf/ntr)
(c)	-ti:n (5b)	-te:n	-te:Y	ʔ-te:-Y (B, pf)

NT	OT	PD	PPD
(d) -te:ɪfa: <sup>4</sup>	-te:ɪ	-te:(?)ɪ	?-te:/?-ɪ (B, B', L', prog/mom/fut)

(Eyak /-te/ 'sg. animal lies prone')

(19) TO MELT: (a) nó:sxi: 'let me melt it', (b) ná:yxi:n 'I have melted it', (c) náde:sxi:ɪ 'I will melt it':

NT	OT	PD	PPD
(a) -h-xi: (1aI)	-x/ɣi:h	-ɪj:(?)x	?-xən(')/i:n'-k (B, B', L', rep/cst)
(b) -h-xi:n (5b)	-x/ɣe:n	-ɪe:n	?-xə:n-ɥ (B, pf)
(c) -h-xi:ɪ	-x/ɣi:ɪ	-ɪj:(?)ɪ	?-xən(')/i:n'-ɪ (B', B', L', prog/mom/fut)

(Eyak /-xə/ 'to melt')

(20) TO SEE: (a) ?edú: ye?i: 'he cannot see him', (b) sénən?i:n 'look at me!', (c) ná:h?i:ɪ 'you (pl.) will see':

NT	OT	PD	PPD
(a) -?i: (1aI)	-?i:h	-?j:(?)x	-?ən(')/e:n'-k (B, B', L', rep/cst)
(b) -?i:n (5b)	-?e:n	-?e:n	-?e:n (L, durative/ imp)
(c) -?i:ɪ	-?i:ɪ	-?j:(?)ɪ	-?ən(')/e:n'-k (B, B', L', prog/mom/fut)

(Eyak /-?eh#, -?ə-/ 'to see')

(21) TO SWIM: (a) desbé: 'I am swimming', (b) nésesbi:n 'I swam across', (c) k'ənadé:sbe:ɪ 'I am going to swim around':

NT	OT	PD	PPD
(a) -be:	-be:	-we:	?-we: (B)
(b) -bi:n (5b)	-be:n	-we:ɥ	?-we:-ɥ (B, pf)
(c) -be:ɪ	-be:ɪ	-we:(?)ɪ	?-we:/?-ɪ (B, B', L', prog/mom/fut)

(Eyak /-we/ 'sg. swim', Tlingit /-hu/ 'sg. swim, wade')

Note the phonetic-semantic similarity between (3) and (5) in PPD.

3.2.1.1. MIXED TYPE verbal morph-sets contain both ...R# and ...K# members. They constitute a small intermediate category, which has evolved through certain morphonological changes. Examples follow below.

(22) TO BE COOKED: (a) ná:nt'e:š 'cook it again!', (b) ?éde:st'eš 'I will cook it', (c) ?éš:ht'eh 'I have cooked it':

NT	OT	PD	PPD
(a) -h-t'e:š	-t'e:š	-t'e:ʔs	-t'aɥ-c' (imp)
(b) -h-t'eš	-t'əš (7b)	-t'əʔsɪ	?-t'əc'-ɪ (prog/mom/ fut)
(c) -h-t'eh (1aII)	-t'e:h	-t'e...	-t'aɥ-ɥ (pf)

(PPD and Eyak t'e:š 'raw' (Eyak /-š/ 'negative suffix'), Tlingit /-t'a/ 'be hot; be ripe', /-t'e's/ 'become hot', t'a`ɥ 'heat, hot springs')

Krauss and Leer posit (P)PD /-c'/ 'imperfective suffix': PD /-t'e:-c', -t'e:ʔs/ 'to roast'. NT and OT h remains unexplained.

(23) TO HOOK: (a) ɪúe sezéhɪ 'he hooked a fish', (b) ɪúe ?ide:szeɪ 'I will hook a fish', (c) ɪúe tasí:zek 'I have hooked (several) fish':

NT	OT	PD	PPD
(a) -l <sup>h</sup> seh (1aII)	-s/ze:h	?-ɪ <sup>w</sup> e:ʔk	?-š/x <sup>w</sup> e:q' (L, mom/IO)
(b) -l <sup>h</sup> seɪ <sup>20</sup>	-s/zəhɪ	?-ɪ <sup>w</sup> əʔkɪ	?-š/x <sup>w</sup> əq'-ɪ (prog/mom/ fut)
(c) -l <sup>h</sup> sek	-s/zək (2b)	?-ɪ <sup>w</sup> əʔq'	?-š/x <sup>w</sup> əq'-ɥ (pf)

(PD /š<sup>w</sup>əʔk-ɪ/ 'hook', Eyak /-čeʔq'/ 'to hook an object')

Note the verbal augment /-l-/. This element as such is never realized phonetically, but has the following effects: (1) like /-h-/, it causes deletion of /-s-/ 'I' after /-i:-/ 'perfective'<sup>12</sup> (as in tasí:zek), (2) a contiguous stem-initial voiceless continuant becomes voiced.

(24) TO REACH FOR, AIM AT (/h-di.../ 'to cause to come within reach, to

have as one's goal'): (a) mésəndi:č 'aim at it!', (b) mekáh tédusdi: 'I may reach down into the water for it', (c) mekáh téde:sdəɪ 'I will reach down into the water for it':

	<u>NT</u>	<u>OT</u>	<u>PD</u>	<u>PPD</u>
(a)	-h-di:č (5d)	-ni:č	-ni:ʔk	-niʔk-ɣ (pf)
(b)	-h-di: (5d, 1aI)	-ni:h	-ni:x	-ni:k (L, mom/IO)
(c)	-h-dəɪ <sup>20</sup> (5d)	-nəhɪ	-nəxɪ	-nək-ɪ (prog/mom/fut)

(Eyak /-leʔg<sup>w</sup>/ 'to move one's hand', Tlingit /-ni`g<sup>w</sup>/ 'to feel')

(25) TO SWALLOW: (a) dí:nde: 'swallow it!', (b) dé:hdek 'I have swallowed it':

	<u>NT</u>	<u>OT</u>	<u>PD</u>	<u>PPD</u>
(a)	-h-de: (5d, 1aI)	-ne:h	-ne:ʔk	-ne:q' (L, mom/IO)
(b)	-h-dek (5d)	-nək (2b)	-nəʔq'	-nəq'-ɣ (pf)

(Eyak /-ʔni:q'/ 'to swallow')

(26) TO CLEAN, WIPE DRY (with /-h-/): (a) mek'é:ʔusde: 'let me wipe it dry', (b) mek'é:ʔi:hde:k 'I have wiped it dry', (c) mek'é:ʔde:sdeɪ 'I will wipe it dry':

	<u>NT</u>	<u>OT</u>	<u>PD</u>	<u>PPD</u>
(a)	-h-de: (1aI)	-de:h	ʔ-de:k	ʔ-de:q (L, mom/IO)
(b)	-h-de:k	-de:k	ʔ-de:ʔq	ʔ-deʔq-ɣ (pf)
(c)	-h-deɪ <sup>20</sup>	-dəhɪ	ʔ-dəxɪ	ʔ-dəq-ɪ (prog/mom/fut)

(Ca yənáʔəɪdéh 'he wipes')

3.2.2. In this section is listed a number of ...K# verb stem sets.

(27) TO ASK (with /-h-/): (a) núdeskət 'I ask you', (b) núdi:hkət 'I have asked you', (c) núde:skəɪ 'I will ask you':

	<u>NT</u>	<u>OT</u>	<u>PD</u>	<u>PPD</u>
(a)	-h-kət	-kət	ʔ-qət	ʔ-qət (B)
(b)	-h-kət	-kət	ʔ-qət	ʔ-qət-ɣ (pf)
(c)	-h-kəɪ	-kəɪ (7a)	ʔ-qətɪ	ʔ-qət-ɪ (prog/mom/fut)

(Ba udəɪɪqəd 'I ask', Ah /O+u+d+ɪ+qe:d/ 'to ask', Eyak /O+ʔ+d+ɪ+qeʔd+ɪ/ 'to ask')

(28) TO (BECOME) INFLATE(D): (a) ʔənyú:ɪ 'blow it up!', (b) ʔi:hɣóλ 'I blew it up', (c) ʔída:yoɪ 'it will swell up':

	<u>NT</u>	<u>OT</u>	<u>PD</u>	<u>PPD</u>
(a)	-h-ʔyu:ɪ	-yu:ɪ	-ɣu:ʔɪ	ʔ-xu:λ' (L, mom/IO)
(b)	-h-ʔyoλ	-yo/uλ	-ɣuʔλ'	ʔ-xuλ'-ɣ (pf)
(c)	-yoɪ	-yo/uɪ	-ɣuʔɪ	ʔ-xuλ'-ɪ (prog/mom/fut)

(Eyak /-xuʔλ'/ 'to blow', and cf. (3) and (5))

(29) TO MAKE BROTH (with /-h-/): (a) sičé:ɪ 'we are making broth', (b) yehčá:č 'he has made broth':

	<u>NT</u>	<u>OT</u>	<u>PD</u>	<u>PPD</u>
(a)	-h-če:š <sup>2</sup> i (ʔ3)	-če:š/s	-ke:š	ʔ?? (imp)
(b)	-h-ča:č (ʔ3)	-ča:č/c	-ka:ʔč	-kayaʔč (pf)

(Eyak ka:ɪ 'soup')

(30) TO CHASE: (a) k'ənánešyoč 'I am chasing game', (b) téhu:dene:yu:t 'I have chased them away', (c) téhu:denešyoɪ 'I will chase them away':

	<u>NT</u>	<u>OT</u>	<u>PD</u>	<u>PPD</u>
(a)	-yoč	-yo/utš (ʔ4c)	ʔ-yutx	ʔ-...t-k (rep/cst)
(b)	-yu:t	-yu:t	ʔ-yu:t	ʔ-...t-ɣ (pf)
(c)	-yoɪ	-yo/uɪ (ʔ7a)	ʔ-yutɪ	ʔ-...t-ɪ (prog/mom/fut)



- (31) TO CHEW: (a) ʔesʔá:ɬ 'I am chewing', (b) nadéne:sʔaɬ 'I will chew it well', (c) nadéni:hʔa:ɬ 'I have chewed it well', (d) ʔənʔáɬ 'chew it!':

NT	OT	PD	PPD
(a) -ʔa:ɬ	-ʔa:ɬ	-ʔa:ʔɬ	-ʔa:ɬ' (L, mom or durative/IO)
(b) -h-ʔaɬ	-ʔaɬ	-ʔaʔɬ(ɬ)	-ʔaɬ'-ɬ (prog/mom/fut)
(c) -h-ʔa:ɬ	-ʔa:ɬ	-ʔa:ʔɬ'	-ʔaʔɬ'-ɻ (pf)
(d) -ʔaɬ	-ʔatɬ (8b)	-ʔaʔɬt	-ʔaɬ'-t (sem/pf)

Alternatively, /-ʔaɬ/ may go back to PD \*/-ʔaʔɬ'/ (PPD \*/-ʔaɬ'/) (B, cnt/IO(F)), itself unattested; however, Ah has /O+i(∅ s)+ʔa:ɬ'//ʔaɬ'/ 'bite object once'.

- (32) TO CLOSE ONE'S EYES: (a) nənc'í:ɬ 'close your eyes!', (b) né:sc'eɬ 'I have closed my eyes', (c) né:sc'eɬ 'I will close my eyes':

NT	OT	PD	PPD
(a) -c'í:ɬ	-c'í:ɬ	ʔ-ɬ'(ʷ)i:ʔɬ	ʔ-ɬ'/k'ʷi:ɬ' (L, mom/IO)
(b) -c'eɬ	-c'əɬ	ʔ-ɬ'(ʷ)əʔɬ'	ʔ-ɬ'/k'ʷəɬ'-ɻ (pf)
(c) -c'eɬ	-c'əɬ	ʔ-ɬ'(ʷ)əʔɬ(ɬ)	ʔ-ɬ'/k'ʷəɬ'-ɬ (prog/mom/fut)

- (33) TO HANDLE CLOTH (with /-h-/): (a) ʔeʔí:nɬu:ɬ 'put the cloth away!', (b) ʔeʔí:hɬu:ɬ 'I have put the cloth away', (c) ʔeʔí:de:ɬɬəɬ 'I will put the cloth away', (d) méʔesi:hɬəɬ 'I have lashed it up':

NT	PWD	PD	PPD
(a) -h-ɬu:ɬɬi (3)	-ku:ʔs	ʔ-ku:ʔs	ʔ-kuʔs (B, cnt/IO(F))
(b) -h-ɬu:ɬɬi (3)	-ku:ʔs	ʔ-ku:ʔs	ʔ-kuʔs-ɻ (pf)
(c) -h-ɬəɬ (3)	-kəs (7b)	ʔ-kə(?)sɬ	ʔ-kə(?)s-ɬ (prog/mom/fut)
(d) -h-ɬəɬ (3)	-kəts (8a)	ʔ-kə(?)st	ʔ-kə(?)s-t (sem/pf)

PWD ʔ in (a) and (b) is suggested by the Sa reflex /-cùz/ 'a fabric to lie (pf/imp)'. Cf. further Ba /-kos/ 'to handle a fabric', Ca dəʔaiyíɬ-cùz 'he hangs up a coat'.

- (34) TO BE COLD: (a) dehk'á:ɬ 'it is cold (weather)', (b) táʔsek'aɬ 'the water is cold', (c) ɬá:hk'aɬ 'it has become cold':

NT	OT	PD	PPD
(a) -h-k'a:ɬ	-k'a:ɬ	ʔ-q'a:c'	ʔ-q'a:c'-ɻ (pf)
(b) -k'aɬ	-k'aɬ	ʔ-q'aʔc'	ʔ-q'ac' (B, cnt/IO(F))
(c) -h-k'aɬ	-k'aɬ (7b)	ʔ-q'aʔsɬ	ʔ-q'ac'-ɬ (prog/mom/fut)

(Ba /-q'əʔ/ 'to be cold', Ah /d+∅+q'ac'//q'a:ʔ/ 'to be cold')

/-h-/ may here have an inchoative function. For (b), cf. (31d).

- (35) TO CUT: (a) ʔest'á:s 'I am cutting', (b) nadéni:t'a:ɬ 'I have cut it up', (c) nadéni:t'a:ɬ = nadéni:t'a:ɬ, (d) nadéne:st'a:ɬ 'I will cut it up':

NT	OT	PD	PPD
(a) -t'a:s	-t'a:s	-t'a:ʔs	-t'a:c' (B, cnt/IO(F))
(b) -t'a:ɬ	-t'a:ɬ	-t'a:c'	-t'a:c'-ɻ (pf)
(c) -t'a:ɬ	-t'atɬ (8a)	-t'aʔst	-t'ac'-t (sem/pf)
(d) -t'a:ɬ	-t'a:ɬ (7b)	-t'aʔsɬ	-t'ac'-ɬ (prog/mom/fut)

(b/c) nadéni:t'a(:)ɬ may contain /-l-/: ʔ/-'i:ɬsɬl-/: cf. (23).

- (36) TO EAT: (a) ʔeʔééé 'I am eating', (b) ʔé:séce:di 'I have eaten', (c) dé:séceɬ 'I will eat':

NT	OT	PD	PPD
(a) -ééé (3)	-éetɬ (4c)	ʔ-ce/ətx	ʔ-cə-t-k (rep/cst)
(b) -ée:tɬi	-ée:t	ʔ-ce:t	ʔ-ce:t-ɻ (pf)
(c) -ééɬ	-ééɬ (7a)	ʔ-ce/ətɬ	ʔ-cə-t-ɬ (prog/mom/fut)

(Ah /O+n+∅+ce:d/ 'eat soft floury object')

- (37) TWO GO: (a) tídu:t'a:z 'let's (the two of us) go out!', (b) tiné-šit'a:c 'we both have gone out', (c) tandí:t'as 'we both will go up again':

	<u>NT</u>	<u>OT</u>	<u>PD</u>	<u>PPD</u>
(a)	-ʔa:sʔi	-ʔa:s	-ʔa:ʔs	-ʔa:č' (L, mom/IO)
(b)	-ʔa:c	-ʔa:c	-ʔa:č'	-ʔa:č'-Ÿ (pf)
(c)	-ʔas	-ʔas (7b)	-ʔaʔsɩ	-ʔač'-ɩ (prog/mom/fut)

Note the following: (a) /...-uʔ('id-'):ʔa:.../ → ...'u:t'a:... (/ -u-/'optative', /-'id-/ 'we', /-'-:/ 'urgency'), (b) /...-('šid-'i):ʔa:.../ → ...'šit'a:... (/-'šid-/ 'we' (where š may be identified with /-š-/ 'be in a ... state'), /-'i:-/ 'perfective'), (c) /...-('id-'):ʔa:.../ → ...f:t'a... (/-'id-/ 'we', /-'-:/ 'future<sub>1</sub>').

(38) TO GRAB, CATCH (with /-h-/): (a) ʔihčú:t 'I have caught it', (b) ʔíde:ščəɩ 'I will catch it':

	<u>NT</u>	<u>OT</u>	<u>PD</u>	<u>PPD</u>
(a)	-h-čú:t	-čú:t	-ku:ʔt	-kuʔt-Ÿ (pf)
(b)	-h-čəɩ	-čəɩ (7a)	-kətɩ	-kut-ɩ (prog/mom/fut)

(Eyak /-ky:ʔd/ 'to grab')

(39) TO HANG: (a) ná:nba:ɩ 'hang it!', (b) nac'f:hba:ɩ 'somebody has hung it', (c) kená:beɩ 'it is hanging':

	<u>NT</u>	<u>OT</u>	<u>PD</u>	<u>PPD</u>
(a)	-h-ba:ɩ	-ba:ɩ	-wa:ʔɩ	?-waʔɩ (B, cnt/IO(F))
(b)	-h-ba:ɩ	-ba:ɩ	-wa:ʔɩ	?-waʔɩ-Ÿ (pf)
(c)	-beɩ	-bəɩ	?-wə/aɩ(ɩ)	?-wə/aɩ-ɩ (prog)

(Eyak /-waʔɩ/ 'to hang suspended')

(40) TO FALL, DUMP, POUR DOWN: (a) ʔaš ná:ʔ'eč '(a mass of) snow has come down (from the roof)', (b) nádeʔ'i:t 'it is raining', (c) na-dí:ʔ'i:t 'it has rained', (d) nádaʔ'eɩ 'it will rain':

	<u>NT</u>	<u>OT</u>	<u>PD</u>	<u>PPD</u>
(a)	-ʔ'eč	-ʔ'ətš (4c)	-ʔ'əʔtx	?-ʔ'ət'-x (sem/non-pf)

	<u>NT</u>	<u>OT</u>	<u>PD</u>	<u>PPD</u>
(b)	-ʔ'i:t	-ʔ'i:t	-ʔ'i:ʔt	-ʔ'i:t' (B, cnt/IO(F))
(c)	-ʔ'i:t	-ʔ'i:t	-ʔ'i:t'	-ʔ'i:t'-Ÿ (pf)
(d)	-ʔ'eɩ	-ʔ'əɩ (7a)	-ʔ'əʔtɩ	-ʔ'ət'-ɩ (prog/mom/fut)

(PD /-ʔ'i:t'/ 'pl. fall')

(41) TO BE WIDE, BROAD, SPREAD: (a) ʔukát 'it is wide', (b) niʔni:hka:t 'I have spread it', (c) níde:skəɩ 'I will spread it':

	<u>NT</u>	<u>OT</u>	<u>PD</u>	<u>PPD</u>
(a)	-kat	-kat	?-qat	?-qat
(b)	-ka:t	-ka:t	?-qa:t	?-qa:t-Ÿ (pf)
(c)	-kaɩ	-kaɩ (7a)	?-qatɩ	?-qat-ɩ (prog/mom/fut)

(?cf. PPD /-ʔa:t/ 'to shake (out)')

(42) TO STRETCH (with /-l-/): (a) ʔənbéc 'stretch it!', (b) si:béc 'I have stretched it', (c) dé:sbes 'I will stretch it':

	<u>NT</u>	<u>OT</u>	<u>PD</u>	<u>PPD</u>
(a)	-l-bec	-bəc	?-wəʔč'	?-wəč' (B, cnt/IO(F))
(b)	-l-bec	-bəc	?-wəʔč'	?-wəč'-Ÿ (pf)
(c)	-l-bes	-bəš (7b)	?-wəʔšɩ	?-wəč'-ɩ (prog/mom/fut)

(43) TO URINATE: (a) ʔesléc 'I am urinating', (b) si:léc 'I have urinated', (c) dé:sles 'I will urinate':

	<u>NT</u>	<u>PWD</u>	<u>PD</u>	<u>PPD</u>
(a)	-lec	-ləc	?-ləʔč'	?-ləč' (B, cnt/IO(F))
(b)	-lec	-ləc	?-ləʔč'	?-ləč'-Ÿ (pf)
(c)	-les	-ləš (7b)	?-ləʔšɩ	?-ləč'-ɩ (prog/mom/fut)

(Ba /-ləʒ/ 'urine', Sa /-líz/ 'to urinate', Ah zleş 'he urinated')

## FOOTNOTES

<sup>1</sup> My preference for the term "Dene" is based on three considerations: (a) there is no uniformity in the spelling of the traditional label (one reads "Athabaskan", "Athabaskan", "Athapascan", "Athapaskan"); (b) the designation "Atha<sup>b</sup>/<sub>p</sub>as<sup>c</sup>/<sub>k</sub>an" is often deemed alien, if not offensive, by speakers of Dene languages; (c) "Dene" is commonly used in the northern (Yukon, Northwest Territories) news media.

The Tahltan phonemes are: (1) consonants - BILABIAL: b, m; DENTAL: d, t, t', n, n, n'; INTERDENTAL: ʃ, č, č', š, ž; ALVEOLAR: ʒ, c, c', s, z; PALATAL: ʃ, č, č', š, ž; LATERAL: l, ɬ, ɬ', ɭ, ɮ; PALATALIZED VELAR: ɣ, ɣ; PURE VELAR: g, k, k', x, ɣ; UVULAR: q, q', χ, ʁ; ROUNDED VELAR: g<sup>w</sup>, k<sup>w</sup>, k'<sup>w</sup>, x<sup>w</sup>, w; GLOTTAL: h, ʔ; (2) vowels - LAX-SHORT: i, e, a, o, u; TENSE-LONG: i:, e:, a:, o:, u:.

My research on Tahltan has been supported by the Foundation for Linguistic Research, which is funded by the Netherlands Organization for the Advancement of Pure Research, Z.W.O.

<sup>2</sup> In finite verbs not containing a stress-attracting prefix (cf. footnotes 3, 4, 6, 16), the stem receives the stress. /ʔes-/ and /ʔeš-/ are the word-initial variants of /-s-/ and /-š-/; /-es-/ and /-eš-/ the post-consonantal alternants.

<sup>3</sup> -:... (/-'.../) indicates that the syllable preceding the morpheme boundary is stressed. If such a syllable is absent, the stress is assigned to the next syllable. However, /-'šid-/ 'we' is never stressed in the absence of a preceding syllable: šiké: 'we two are sitting' = /(')šid<sup>h</sup>ke:/.

<sup>4</sup> For stressed kó... see fn. 3. Also, note the voicing effect of the interrogative enclitic /ʔa:/, which causes /...lʔa:/ → ...l+a: (the plus sign introduces an enclitic). Furthermore /ə:/ → i:.

<sup>5</sup> Morphological and morphonological representations are printed between virgules. Prefixes such as /-d-/ and /-h-/, which are always stem-contiguous, have customarily been labelled "classifiers"; I refer to Krauss (1969) for a detailed discussion of such elements. Although they often appear semantically opaque, /-h-/ basically has a transitive-causative function, and /-d-/ often expresses reflexivity. Contractions involving /-d<sup>h</sup>/, such as /-d<sup>h</sup>x.../ → -g... and /-d<sup>h</sup>y.../ → -š..., are ascribed to the well-known "D-effect". Moreover, /ʔede-/ may be related to /-d-/, and may be the word-initial variant of \*/-de-/ (so far unattested, but consider footnotes 2 and 8).

<sup>6</sup> For /-d<sup>h</sup>x.../ → -g... see the preceding footnote. For /...e-š-'.../ → ...éš... see footnote 3.

<sup>7</sup> For assimilation rules such as /š-es-.../ → ses... see section 2.1 of my paper on Tahltan phonology.

<sup>8</sup> Deletion of stem-initial d after /-s-/ 'I' has also been noted in some other finite verbs, such as hódese: 'I am talking' = /ho'-de-s<sup>h</sup>de:/ 'areal - around, not location-bound - I - talk', desi:n 'I said' = /de-s<sup>h</sup>di:n/ 'around - I - say', dé:sa:ɬ 'I will go' = /d-'e:s<sup>h</sup>da:-ɬ/ 'completion - I/future<sub>1</sub> - go - future<sub>2</sub>'. In other finite forms containing the same stems, d is present: hódede: 'he is talking' = /ho'-de-θ-de:/, kénusdi: 'let me explain, let me show you the way' = /ke'-n-u-s<sup>h</sup>di:/ 'direction - you (object) - subjunctive - I - h augmentation - say, have explicit knowledge', dí:nda:l+a: 'will you go?' = /d-'ə:n-da:-lʔa:/ /(-)de-/ 'around, not location-bound, all over' may somehow be related to \*/-de-/ 'self' and/or /(-)de-/ 'completion' (cf. fn. 5).

<sup>9</sup> The suffix /-i/, which causes voicing of stem-final voiceless stops and continuants, can be deleted (symbolized as ɬ). Such optional elimination allows phonetically voiced stops to occur word-finally. The juncture symbol <sup>^</sup> indicates the following, mutually exclusive, phenomena: (1) voicing of a preceding voiceless consonant caused by a vocalic suffix, (2) consonant cluster alleviation, (3) telescoping of a vowel sequence, (4) sibilant and affricate assimilation (cf. fn. 7).

10 /<sup>h</sup>ɪ/ occasions elimination of a preceding consonant, except after an interdental, alveolar, or palatal continuant, in which position it is deleted. /-ʰ...:...-/ 'future<sub>1</sub>' may be a fused variant of /-ʰi:-/ 'perfective'.

11 /ʰa-/ unidentified prefix, possibly meaning 'being (in) the center'.

12 Note, how /-s-/ is deleted between /-ʰi:-/ and /-h-/:

/...a<sup>h</sup>i:ʰs<sup>h</sup>h.../ → /...a<sup>h</sup>i:-h.../ → \*...á:ih... → ...á:y...

This suggests that /-ʰi:-/ has, c.q. has had, consonantal properties.

13 /-ʰ∅:-/ is realized as á:... between consonants.

14 I consistently avoid the concept ROOT in this paper in view of its descriptive irrelevance in regard to the Tahltan verb.

15 The, equally invariable, Sarcee cognates of Tahltan -teč and -dos are resp. -tič and -máz.

16 Where two stress-attracting prefixes occur consecutively, location of the stress is determined by the leftmost such prefix.

In (27) note deletion of /-s-/ (for which see fn. 12), and ...é:h... (rather than \*...é:y...), which is the result of the shift \*e:i → e: (whereby \*i merges with a preceding long flat vowel - cf. sample sentence (14), where ...é:... = /...e<sup>h</sup>i:.../) whose completion antedates the \*ih → (i)y fusion (cf. Nater: 4.1). Thus:

\*\*ei:h → \*e:i|h → e:h

VS.

\*\*ai:h → \*a:|ih → a:y

17 B = cnt/I(OF), B-ŷ = mom/cnt/pf/(ntr), B-k = mom/rep/cst; B' = dis/I(OF), B'-k = dis/rep/cst; L = mom/IO or durative/IO; L' = ntr/opt or mom/cnt/opt, L'-ŷ = ntr/pf, L'-k = ntr/rep/cst; /-ɪ/ = prog/mom/fut; \*B'-ŷ, \*L'-ŷ, and \*L-k are unattested (and L virtually so) in Leer's non-

-obstruent-closed roots. As far as (b) is concerned, note that the optional NT suffix /-i/ 'final' appears to continue PD /-(y)ɪ/ (from PPD /tyən/ 'sg. human relative enclitic' - Leer: 4.5), rather than the PPD perfective suffix /-ŷ/, which was elided in L'-ŷ verb stems.

18 Krauss and Leer (1981) replace Leer's (1979) PD ...ŷ by ...ŋ (note, that our ŷ also stands for PD ŷ/ŋ). PD /-λ'u:/ seems to continue PPD /-λ'əw/ (cf. next fn.), which is related to Eyak /-λ'i/ (from PPD-Eyak /-λ'iw/).

19 In some instances, i: and u: may continue (P)PD əy, resp. əw (cf. Leer: 2.3.4).

20 OT h has disappeared before a word-final consonant. For h = y after front-flat vowels see Nater: 4.1. The distribution of ə and i is discussed in Nater: 2.2.

## REFERENCES

- Carrier Dictionary Committee (1974). Central Carrier Bilingual Dictionary. Fort St. James, B.C.
- Cook, Eung-Do (1972). Sarcee verb paradigms. National Museum of Man Mercury Series, No. 2.
- Kari, James (1979). Athabaskan verb theme categories: Ahtna. Alaska Native Language Center Research Papers, No. 2.
- Krauss, Michael E. (1969). On the classification in the Athapaskan, Eyak, and Tlingit verb. IJAL 35, Memoirs 23 and 24: 49-83.
- Krauss, Michael E. and Jeff Leer (1981). Athabaskan, Eyak, and Tlingit sonorants. Alaska Native Language Center Research Papers, No. 5.
- Leer, Jeff (1979). Proto-Athabaskan verb stem variation, part I: phonology. Alaska Native Language Center Research Papers, No. 1.
- Nater, Hank F. (1987). Some comments on the phonology of Tahltan. Submitted to IJAL.
- Story, Gillian L. (1984). Babine and Carrier phonology: a historically oriented study. S.I.L. Publications in Linguistics, No. 70.

