

TUTELO VERBS OF MOTION

Giulia R. M. Oliverio

University of Kansas

In a 1976 article Taylor reconstructed the Proto-Siouan system of motion verbs, showing the relationships between stems and attempting to reconstruct their exact shapes and meanings. Only isolated reconstructions had been previously proposed, with no attempt at understanding the system of motion verb stems. Taylor's study included most Siouan languages, but not Tutelo because it was "too poorly recorded to permit its inclusion" (Taylor 1976:287). The present paper will show however that the available Tutelo data include information on these basic motion verb stems and that the Tutelo system is, with an Ohio Valley Siouan twist, a reflex of the Proto-Siouan system proposed by Taylor. It will also be shown that Tutelo can contribute to the reconstruction of these Proto-Siouan morphemes and of their vertitive forms.

The Proto-Siouan system of motion verbs reconstructed by Taylor is shown in table 1. The system includes four stems depending on type of motion: arriving motion or motion prior to arrival, and destination: here or there.

Table 1: Siouan basic motion verb stems (Taylor 1976:289, table 2, with modifications)

Destination	arriving motion	motion prior to arrival
here	Stem 1 'arrive here'	Stem 2 'motion towards here'
there	Stem 3 'arrive there'	Stem 4 'motion towards there'

The reconstructed Proto-Siouan stems are given in table 2: stem 1 *rhí 'arrive here'; stem 2 *hú 'motion towards here'; stem 3 *hí 'arrive there'; stem 4 *rÁ 'motion towards there'. The form in parentheses for stem 1, *srahi, is an hypothetical reconstruction based on Ofo only; the capital A in stem 4 represents an ablauting vowel, a feature found all across Siouan.

Table 2: Proto-Siouan basic motion verb stems (from Taylor 1976)

Destination	arriving motion	motion prior to arrival
here	*rhí (*srahi)	*hú
there	*hí	*rÁ

As mentioned above, Taylor did not use Tutelo in his study for lack of data. However I have been able to find information on these motion verb stems in the data collected on Tutelo in the late nineteenth century when the Tuteloes were already in their new home in Ontario, Canada. There is also one instance of one of these motion verbs in a short list recorded in the eighteenth century in Virginia, the Tuteloes' original homeland. The nineteenth century data were recorded by Horatio Hale, James Owen Dorsey and J. N. B. Hewitt; the eighteenth century word list is from John Fontaine.

For reasons that will become clear later, I will first look at stems 2 and 4 in Tutelo, that is verbs denoting 'motion prior to arrival'.

For stem 2, 'motion underway towards here', Proto-Siouan *hú should have the reflex hú in Tutelo. And there is indeed a stem hú in Tutelo, shown in examples (1) through (8).

- | | | |
|-----|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| (1) | <i>hu wa</i>
come real | 'come' (Hale) |
| (2) | <i>wi-hú ta</i>
lsgP-come pot | 'I will come' (Hale) |
| (3) | <i>ki-hú -na</i>
neg-come-neg | 'he came not' (Hale) |
| (4) | <i>ya-hú wa</i>
?-come real | 'come', 'he is coming' (Hale) |
| (5) | <i>ya-hu wa</i>
?-come real | 'one is coming' (Hewitt) |
| (6) | <i>ki-ya-hú -na</i>
neg-?-come-neg | 'he is not coming' (Hale) |

VERTITIVE:

- | | | |
|-----|-----------------------------------|---|
| (7) | <i>"ki-hoe"</i>
vert-come | 'come here' (Fontaine)
(Saponi dialect) |
| (8) | <i>ki-hu wa</i>
vert-come real | 'come here', 'one coming home, one on
his way home' (Hewitt) |

(7) and (8) are instances of the vertitive form of the stem hú. A vertitive form is -- after Hollow (1965) and Taylor (1976) -- a form that "relate[s] the motion to one's home or to an earlier location" (Taylor, 1976:288).

In the first six examples, the stem is translated as 'come', a continuous action similar to the Proto-Siouan meaning, and in 'come' the direction of motion, i.e. 'here', is usually implied. The glosses given for the vertitive form of hú in examples (7) and (8) verify this analysis as 'here' is explicitly given.

Examples (1) through (8) thus show that the Proto-Siouan stem *hú, 'motion underway towards here', has the reflex hú in Tutelo, with a vertitive form ki-hú, as shown in (9).

- | | | |
|-----|-------|-----------------------|
| (9) | hú | 'come here' |
| | ki-hú | 'come back here/home' |

The Tutelo reflex of the Proto-Siouan stem 4 *rĀ, 'motion underway towards there', should be lĀ in Tutelo, with an ablauting vowel. Examples (10) through (17) show that such a stem with the ablauting vowel is found in Tutelo, with the meaning 'go' or 'go towards a location', i.e. a motion towards there.

- | | | |
|------|--|----------------------------------|
| (10) | la | 'go' (Hale) |
| (11) | wi-lé ta i-at ^{hf}
lsgP-go pot dir-house | 'I am going to the house' (Hale) |
| (12) | ki- wi-lé-pi -na
neg-lsgP-go-desid-neg | 'I do not wish to go' (Hale) |
| (13) | a-lé wa
loc-go real | 'he is going' (Hale) |
| (14) | ya-lé wa
?-go real | 'walk' (Hale) |

VERTITIVE:

- | | | |
|------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| (15) | wa- k-le wa
lsgA-vert-go real | 'I going homeward' (Hewitt) |
| (16) | wa- k-le ta
lsgA-vert-go pot | 'I will go home' (Hewitt) |
| (17) | ki-le ta-se
vert-go pot-quot | 'one will go home' (Hewitt) |

Proto-Siouan stem 4 thus gives (18) in Tutelo:

- | | | |
|------|-------|--------------------------|
| (18) | lĀ | 'go there' |
| | ki-lĀ | 'go back there/homeward' |

For stems 1 and 3, 'arriving here' and 'arriving there', Tutelo seems to have only one stem. Examples (19) through (21) are the only instances referring to arrival in the non-vertitive form. The Tutelo verb stem hf is a reflex of Proto-Siouan stem 3 *hf. In the vertitive forms shown in (22) and (23) however, the Tutelo verb stem is lf, a reflex of Proto-Siouan stem 1 *rhf as Proto-Siouan *r yields /l/ in Tutelo and the cluster liquid-/h/ is not possible in this language.

NON-VERTITIVE:

- (19) *hf* 'come' (Hale)
 (20) *wi-hf -ok^{ha}* 'I came' (Hale)
 1sgP-come-past
 (21) *ni-hi wa* 'one has arrived here' (Hewitt)
 ?*-come real*

VERTITIVE:

- (22) *wa- k-li wa* 'I come back' (Hewitt)
 1sgA-vert-come real
 (23) *naka- wa- k-li ta* 'reach there or home, again' (Hewitt)
 sit-1sgA-vert-come pot

(24) shows how Proto-Siouan stems 1 and 3, 'arrive here' and 'arrive there', collapsed in Tutelo, with different morphemes in the non-vertitive and the vertitive forms. For the non-vertitive, stem 3 was retained from Proto-Siouan **hf*, whereas for the vertitive stem 1 was retained from Proto-Siouan **rhf*.

- (24) *hf* 'come/arrive'
 k-li 'reach/arrive home'

The fact that both stems 1 and 3 occur in this alternation demonstrates however that the four Proto-Siouan stems reconstructed by Taylor had reflexes in Pre-Tutelo. The Tutelo system of basic motion verb stems was thus as shown in table 3. And the later collapse in the forms denoting an arriving motion yielded the system summarized in table 4.

Table 3: Pre-Tutelo basic motion verb stems

Destination	arriving motion	motion prior to arrival
here	<i>li</i>	<i>hu</i>
there	<i>hi</i>	<i>la</i>

Table 4: Tutelo motion verbs and vertitive forms

Destination	arriving motion	motion prior to arrival
here	<i>hf/klf</i>	<i>hu/kihú</i>
there		<i>la/kila</i>

This reconstruction of the Tutelo system of motion verbs sheds some light (a) on subgrouping in Siouan, (b) on the shape of the vertitive prefix, and (c) on an additional prefix.

For stems 1 and 3, the same collapse is found in the Biloxi and Ofo systems of motion verbs. These are reproduced in tables 5 and 6:

Table 5: Biloxi basic motion verb stems with vertitive forms (from Taylor 1976: table 12, with modifications)

Destination	arriving motion	motion prior to arrival
here	<i>hi/kidɪ</i>	<i>hu/ku</i>
there		<i>dE/kidE</i>

Table 6: Ofo basic motion verb stems (Taylor 1976: table 12, with modifications)

Destination	arriving motion	motion prior to arrival
here	<i>ofthahi</i>	<i>kiu</i> (vert.)
there		<i>te</i>

The Biloxi forms for 'arriving motion' in table 5 not only show the same collapse of the Proto-Siouan system but also the same pattern, basing the simplex verb on stem 3 and the corresponding vertitive on stem 1. This innovation shared by Biloxi and Tutelo (and probably Ofo) thus supports the hypothesis that Biloxi, Ofo, and Tutelo belong to the same subgroup within Siouan, the Ohio Valley Siouan branch.

Concerning the shape of the vertitive prefix, examples (7), (8), (15) through (17), (22), and (23) show that its shape in Tutelo is *ki-*, sometimes reduced to *k-* when the unstressed *i* is lost. With the other instances from Biloxi in the forms for 'arriving motion' *kidɪ* and 'motion underway towards there' *kidE*, and from Ofo in the form for 'motion underway towards here' *kiu*, the Tutelo examples show that the vertitive prefix should be reconstructed **ki-* in Proto-Siouan, and that the other Siouan languages have permanently lost the vowel.

Taylor also mentions in his study that in most Siouan languages the basic motion verb stems can be combined in order to obtain finer distinctions in types of motion. No such compounding is to be found in the Tutelo data however. It is thus doubtful that Tutelo developed such compounds, although the limited information on the language may be misleading.

There is in Tutelo however a prefix *ya-* attached to motion verb stems only, shown in examples (4) through (6), and (14). The latter are reproduced in (25), with the corresponding forms lacking the prefix.

(25) stem 2:

∅

ya-

(1) *hu wa*
come real
'come' (Hale)

(4) *ya-hú wa*
?-come real
'come', 'he is coming' (Hale)

(3) *ki-hú -na*
neg-come-neg
'he came not' (Hale)

(5) *ya-hu wa*
?-come real
'one is coming' (Hewitt)

(6) *ki-ya-hú -na*
neg-?-come-neg
'he is not coming' (Hale)

stem 4:

∅

ya-

(10) *la*
'go' (Hale)

(13) *a-lé wa*
loc-go real
'he is going' (Hale)

(14) *ya-lé wa*
?-go real
'walk' (Hale)

The prefix *ya-* seems to add a continuative or progressive meaning to the stems: from 'come' to 'be coming', and from 'go' to 'be going' or 'walk'. Furthermore, *ya-* is only prefixed to stems 2 and 4, the stems referring to a motion underway compatible with the idea of continuity/progressiveness. Stems 1 and 3 refer to arrival, a discrete point in time and are thus incompatible with such a progressive prefix. I shall then tentatively call this prefix *ya-* a 'progressive prefix'.

The origin of this prefix is uncertain but it does not seem to be a Tutelo innovation as a similar prefix is found in Crow and Hidatsa, with some verbs of motion only (Jones, personal communication). Examples from Hidatsa are given in (26).

(26) Hidatsa

wa:-hú: 'I come'
lsg-come

rá-ra-hu: 'you come'
?- 2-come

ra:-hu-?a 'they come'
?-come-?

The extra prefix *ra-* in the second and third persons of the Hidatsa verb *hu* 'come' is probably cognate with the Tutelo morpheme, although its meaning in Hidatsa has not been identified. These prefixes would then be reflexes of a Proto-Siouan morpheme **ya*.

In conclusion, this study has shown that Tutelo has inherited, like all other Siouan languages, the Proto-Siouan semantic division of motion verbs where both type of motion and direction are relevant. For the stems denoting arrival however, the distinction in direction of motion was altered in identical ways in the Southeastern Siouan languages, an innovation which offers new support to Voegelin's (1941) Ohio Valley Siouan subgroup. The Proto-Siouan prefix **ya-* was preserved with some Tutelo verbs of motion as a progressive marker.

REFERENCES

- Dorsey, James Owen. 1882. Tutelo vocabulary. Ms. 4800:336, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution.
- Fontaine, John. 1716. Vocabulary. An Indian vocabulary from Fort Christanna, 1716, by Edward P. Alexander. Virginia Magazine of History and Biography, vol. 79:3.303-13. July, 1971.
- Hale, Horatio. 1880. Tutelo vocabulary. Ms. 4800:334, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution.
- _____. 1883. The Tutelo tribe and language. Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society 21.1-45.
- Hewitt, J. N. B. 1888. Tutelo vocabulary. Ms. 4800:335, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution.
- Hollow, Robert Charles Jr. 1965. A Mandan dictionary. Ph. D. dissertation, University of California, Berkeley.
- Taylor, Allan R. 1976. On verbs of motion in Siouan languages. International Journal of American Linguistics, vol. 42, no. 4.
- Voegelin, C. F. 1941. Internal relationships of Siouan languages. American Anthropologist 43.246-9.



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).