

20th International Conference on Historical Linguistics (ICHLXX)
Workshop 18: Genealogical and Areal Linguistic Relations in the Kalahari Basin

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A preliminary classification of Taa dialects



Structure

A preliminary classification of Taa dialects

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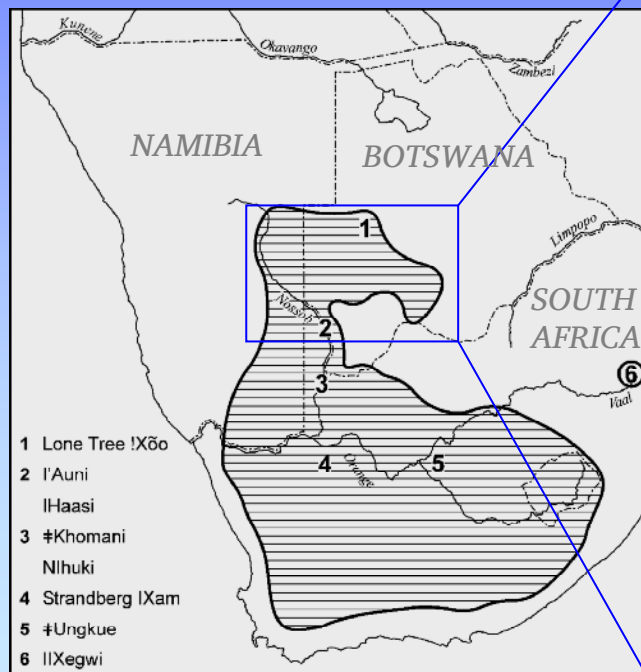
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1. Introduction

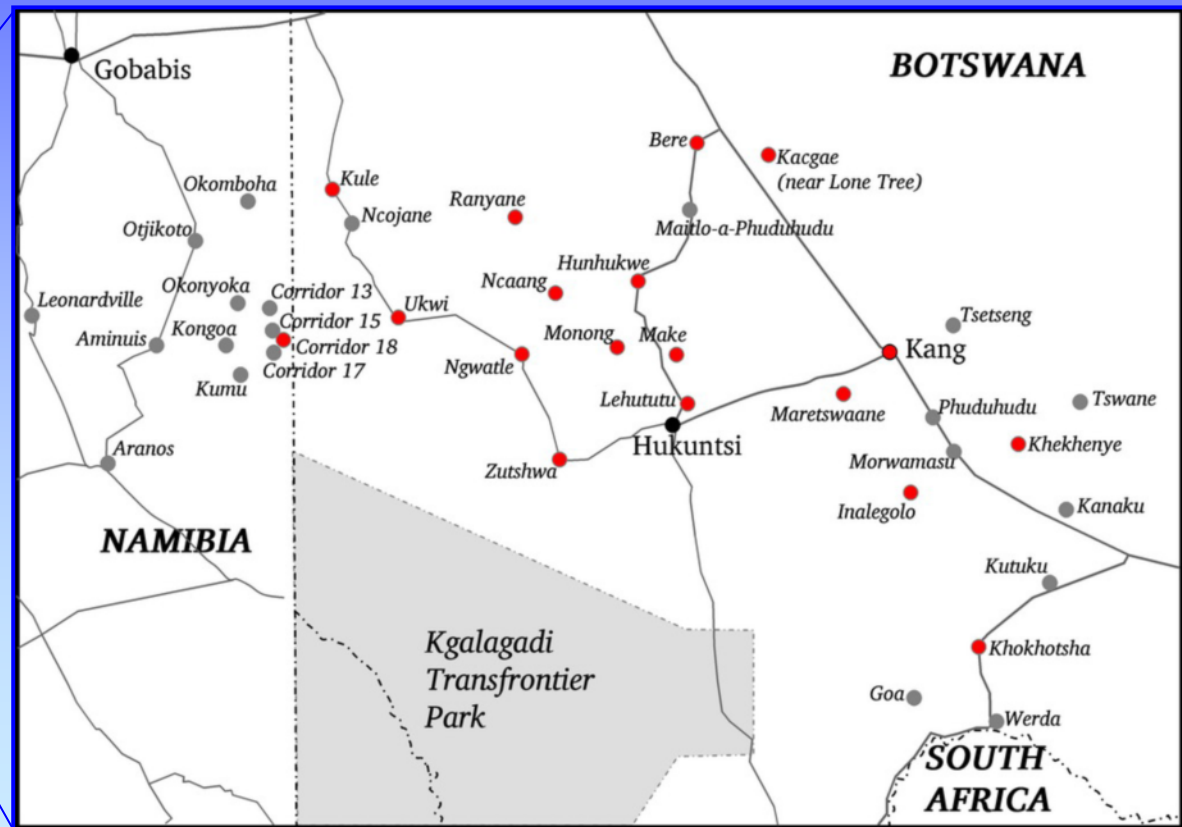
1.1. Taa language

Taa ("!Xóõ")

- last vital member of the Tuu language family
- 2500 – 4000 speakers, E Namibia – SW Botswana



Tuu languages, historical distribution
(Güldemann 2005:13)

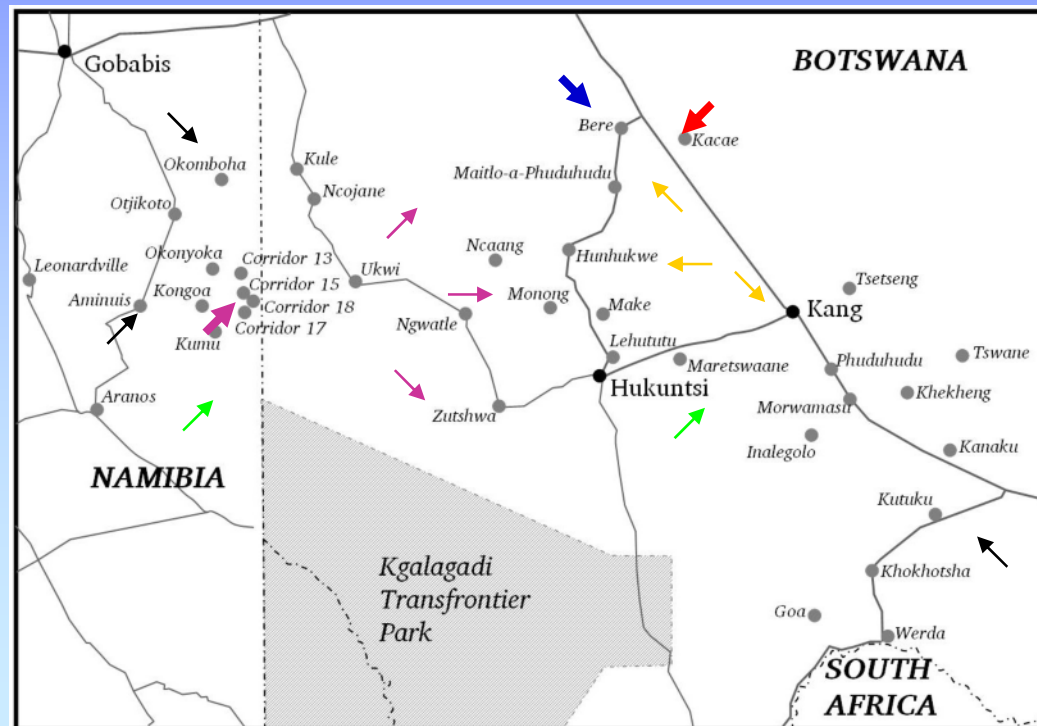


Settlements with Taa speakers (DoBeS/EuroBABEL, 2004-2011)
Data presented here (red), others (grey)

1.1. Taa language

Previous research

1. Dorothea Bleek 1913, 1928, 1929 (comparative-lexical)
2. L.F. Maingard 1958 (paper, 15 p.)
3. E.O.J. Westphal 1962, 1966, 1971 (comparative papers)
4. Hans-Joachim Heinz 1962 ... 1986 (anthropological)
5. Anthony Traill 1973 ... 2007 (phonological, lexical)
6. DoBeS, EuroBABEL 2004 ... (linguistic, anthropological)



1.1. Taa language

Large phoneme inventory

Vowels of West !Xoon, suggested orthography

	Front Close	Front Mid	Back Open	Back Mid	Back Close	<i>Phonotactic restrictions (conventional lexicon)</i>
Modal voice	i	e	a	o	u	
Tense ~ Glottalised			a'	o'	u'	<i>First stem mora only</i>
Breathy			ah	oh	uh	<i>First stem mora only</i>
Pharyngealised			aq	oq	uq	<i>First stem mora only</i>
Strident			aqh	oqh	uqh	<i>First stem mora only</i>
Nasalised	in		an		un	<i>Second stem mora only</i>

Note on tonality:

High tone <'> vs. low tone <`>; this presentation: optionally marked

1.1. Taa language

Large phoneme inventory

Consonants of West !Xoon, suggested orthography¹

	<i>Egressive</i>				<i>Ingressive (Clicks)</i>					<i>Egressive</i>			
	Labial	Alveo- lar	Alveol. Affric.	Palatal	Labial	Dental	Alveo- lar	Palatal	Lateral	Velar	Uvular	Uvular Affric.	Glottal
<i>Stop</i>													
Plain	p	t	ts		⊙		!	‡		k	q		'
Voiced	b	d	dz		g⊙	g	g!	g‡	g	g	gq		
Voiceless aspirated	ph	th	tsh		⊙h	h	!h	‡h	h	kh	qh		
Voiced aspirated	bh	dh	dzh		g⊙h	g h	g!h	g‡h	g h	gh	gqh		
Voiceless ejective	p'	t'	ts'		⊙'	'	!'	‡'	'	k'	q'	qx'	
Voiced ejective			dz'			g '	g!'	g‡'	g '	g'	gq'	gqx'	
<i>Fricative</i>													
	f	s									x		h
<i>Nasal</i>													
Plain	m	n ~ nn		ny	n⊙	n	n!	n‡	n	ng			
Voiceless						nh	nh!	nh‡	nh				
Glottalized	'm	'n			'n⊙	'n	'n!	'n‡	'n				
<i>Resonant</i>													
Approximant	w (?)	l		y									
Intermittent		r											

¹ Following the cluster analysis of Nakagawa (2006). Grey shading - occurring as C₂ in clusters.

1.1. Taa language

Large phoneme inventory

Initial consonant clusters of West !Xoon, suggested orthography

	Egressive C ₁			Ingressive C ₁ (Clicks)				
	Labial	Alveolar	Alveolar-Affricate	Labial	Dental	Alveolar	Palatal	Lateral
Plain + q <i>+ voice</i>				⊙q g⊙q	q g q	!q g!q	‡q g‡q	q g q
Plain + qh <i>+ voice</i>				⊙qh	qh g qh	!qh g!qh	‡qh g‡qh	qh g qh
Plain + q' <i>+ voice</i>				⊙q'	q' g q'	!q' g!q'	‡q' g‡q' ?	q' g q'
Plain + x <i>+ voice</i>		tx dx	tsx dzx	⊙x g⊙x	x g x	!x g!x	‡x g‡x	x g x
Plain + qx' <i>+ voice</i>	pqx'	txq' dqx'	tsqx' dzqx'	⊙qx' g⊙qx'	qx' g qx'	!qx' g!qx'	‡qx' g‡qx'	qx' g qx'
Plain + ' [ŋCLICK?] <i>+ voice</i> [ŋCLICK?]				⊙" n⊙"	" n "	!" n!"	‡" n‡"	" n "
Plain + h [ŋCLICKh] <i>+ voice</i> [ŋCLICKh]				⊙hh n⊙hh	hh n hh	!hh n!hh	‡hh n‡hh	hh n hh

1.1. Taa language

Gender system

- transitive verbs and other dependent forms are marked by concordial vowels (+ nasals) governed by the agreement class of the head noun

Example West !Xoon:

ńń sí n|à-**í** xám ɬ"u-`**ì** *'I see one lion.'*
1S IPFV see-**1** lion.S**1** one-**1**



A blue line with upward-pointing arrows at each end connects the red '1' in 'see-1' to the red '1' in 'one-1'. A vertical line is placed between 'lion.S1' and 'one-1'.

ńń sí n|à-**án** xání ká ||árí kàà**n** *'I see many lions.'*
1S IPFV see-**2ii** lion.P**2ii** I.REL:**2ii** b.many F.REL:**2ii**



A blue line with upward-pointing arrows at each end connects the red '2ii' in 'see-2ii' to the red '2ii' in 'F.REL:2ii'. A vertical line is placed between 'lion.P2ii' and 'I.REL:2ii'.

*transitive verbs,
prepositionals* ← **N** → *adjectives, particles, etc.*

1.1. Taa language

Gender system

- singular - plural class pairings yield genders with prototypical semantics
- e.g., the pair 3i – 4 (singular – plural; concordial vowels e – u) as a gender for human animates

*Example West !Xoon
agreement class pairings
and thematic vowels*

Singular	Plural
1 i	i 1
2ii a	a 2ii
2i a	a 2i
3i e	u 4
3ii e	

Pairings Singular - Plural

- 1 (-1) (i (- i)): mass nouns
- 1 - 2ii (i - a): animals, trees, landscape terms, loanwords, artefacts
- 2ii - 2ii (a - a): part-whole terms, diminutives, lexicalised compounds
- 2i - 2i (a - a, different tone patterns): animals, plants, artefacts, etc.
- 3i - 2i (e - a): plants, big birds, mammals, etc.
- 3i - 4 (e - u): human animates, kinship terms
- 3ii (e): proper names

'i' and 'ii' refer to distinct tone patterns (tone classes) of dependent forms.

Examples

!qhàà 'water', gɛhàhìn 'milk', Ɔàì 'meat', ɛqhúrí 'dust'
 ɛhài 'dog', ǀhái 'rhinoceros', xám 'lion'; !ùhìn 'dune', tsháńg 'tongs', sá'bí 'blanket'
 nǀàńg 'head', sà'àn 'face', tóqǀn 'hide'; gɛhàbà 'puppy', nǀáú-sà'àn '(geogr.) pan'
 nɛuqm 'Marama bean'; mári 'goat', háán 'horse'; !òó 'knife', !òhmá 'quiver'
 ǁáá 'Camel thorn tree', gǁháá 'Black thorn tree'; qóyè 'ostrich', ǁhùùn 'giraffe'
 táà 'human being', qáé 'mother', àqà 'father', Ɔqáqè 'child', Ɔxàà 'elder sibling'
 ǀÀqrîtê, Sínǁàhèsí, ǁ'Uun-ǁ'Uunte, Jakob, Sofia, Julietta (proper names)

1.2. Classification of Taa dialects

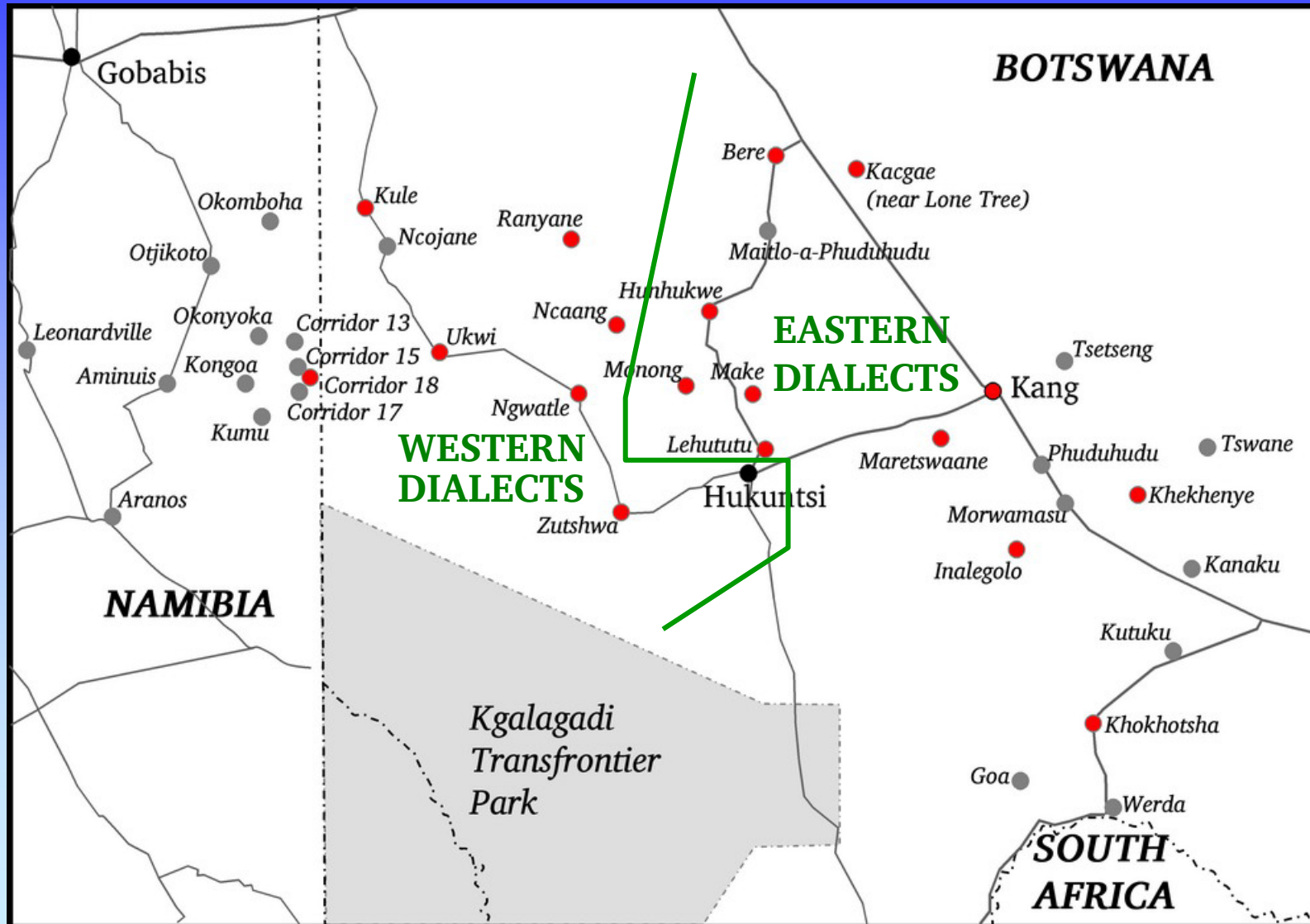
A) Anthony Traill (1974:30, 1985:3,10)

- distinction western vs. eastern dialects 'on the basis of lexical, morphological and phonological criteria' (1985:3)
- more explicitly: agreement class of /^hũ: "whiteman" in diagnostic sentences (1974:30)

	<i>Western dialects</i> e.g. 'Kongowa !Xoon' ('N oha?):	<i>Eastern dialects</i> e.g. 'Lone Tree !Xoon':	
Traill (1974:30) Our transliteration Glossing	ma/ŋi: / ^h ũ: n ba n a-i huun 1S IPFV see-1 white.1	ma/ŋã: / ^h ũ: n ba n a- an huun 1S IPFV see-2 white.2	'I see a whiteman'
Traill (1974:30) Our transliteration Glossing	/ ^h ũ: !xai ² ŋ huun !xa-i n white.1 big-1 ID	/ ^h ũ: !xã: ² ŋa huun !xa- an nna white.2 big-2 ID	'It is a whiteman'
Traill (1974:30) Our transliteration Glossing	nasi: ‡ ² i / ^h ũ: n a sai ‡"a-i huun 1S PST come COM-1 white.1	nasi: ‡ ² ã / ^h ũ: n a sai ‡"(a)- an huun 1S PST come COM-2 white.2	'I came with a whiteman'

1.2. Classification of Taa dialects

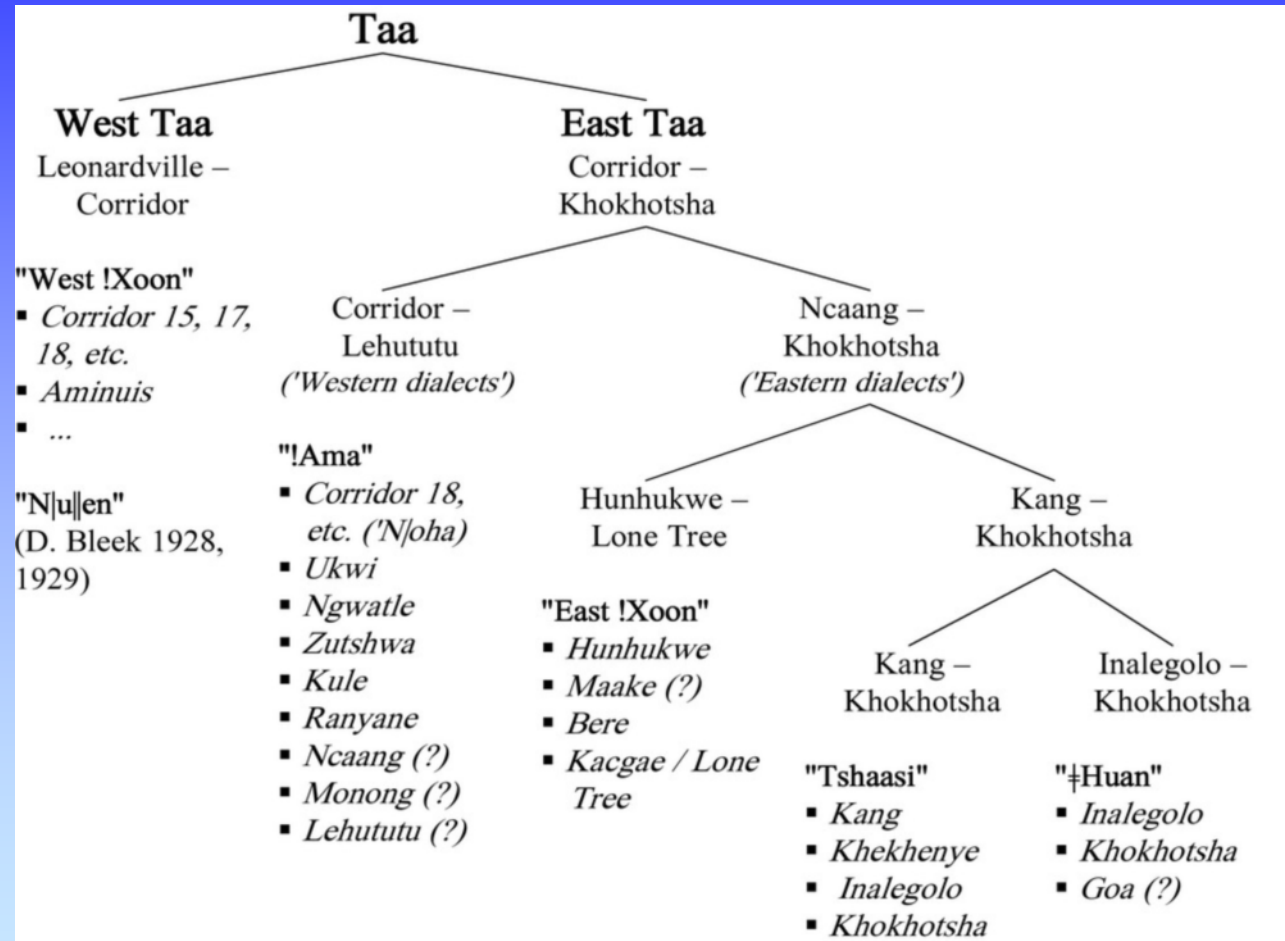
A) Anthony Traill (1974:30, 1985:3,10)



1.2. Classification of Taa dialects

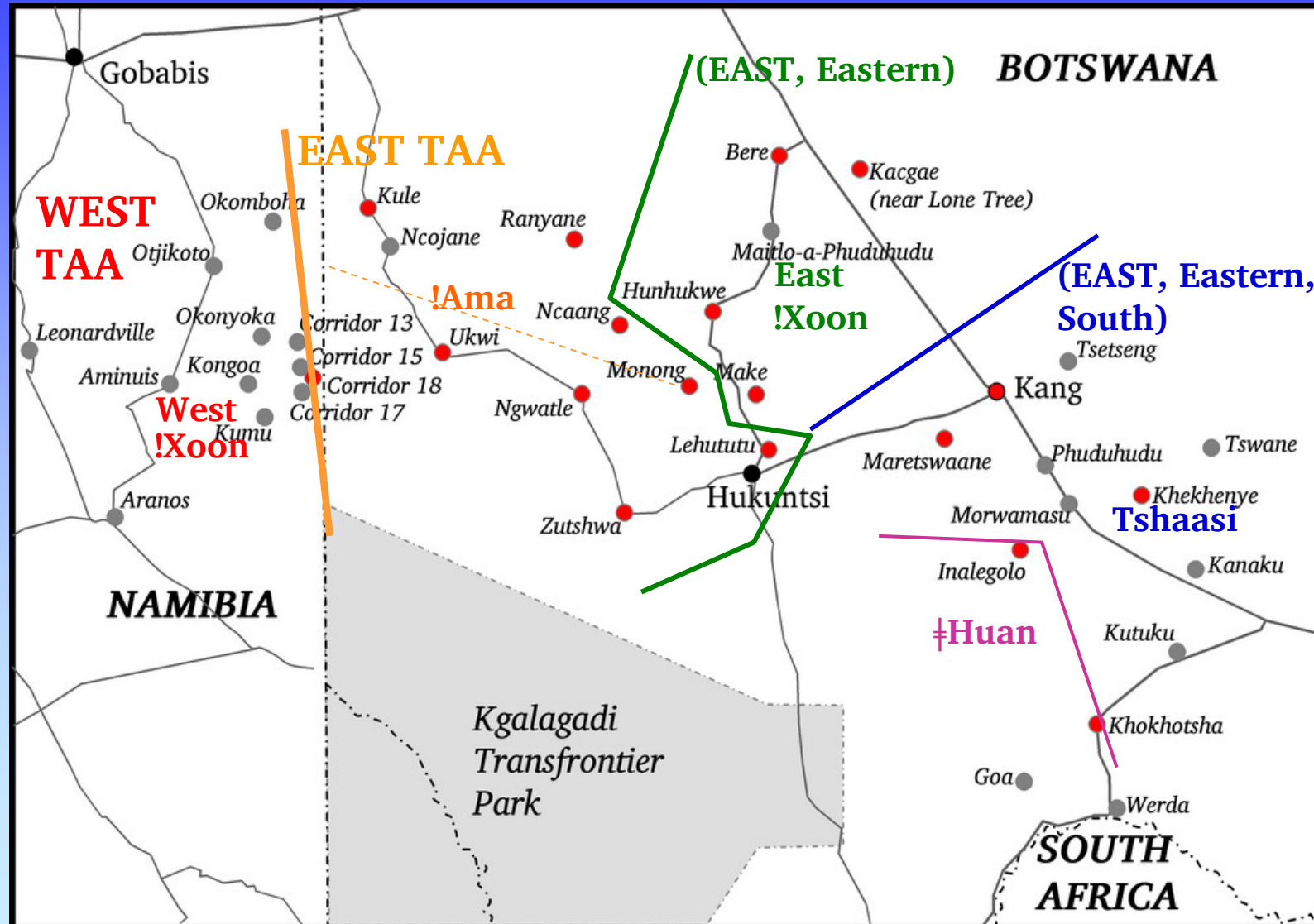
B) Suggestion

- primary distinction
West Taa vs. East
Taa; various
subgroups
- based on isogloss
bundles of mainly
morphosyntactic
features with a non-
diffuse distribution
- but:
 - elicited data
(ideally 350
sentences)
 - low number of
consultants
 - work in progress!



1.2. Classification of Taa dialects

B) Suggestion



2. Features and isoglosses

2.1. Features West Taa vs. East Taa

Features		WEST TAA	EAST TAA																		
			"!Ama"										Eastern dialects								
		-West !Xoon-	(Southwestern varieties)				(N ahe and other varieties)				"East !Xoon"				(Southeastern varieties)						
		Corridor 18 (!Xoon)	Corridor 18	Ukwi	Ngwatle	Zutshwa	Kule	Ranyane	Monong	Lehututu	Ncaang	Maake	Hun- hukwe	Bere	Kaegae / Lone	Inalegolo	Kang / Maretswa	Khe- khenye	Kho- khotsha	Inalegolo	Kho- khotsha
F1	NCL4 non-human PL	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
F2	NCL4: agreement suffix	-i	-u	-u	-u	-u	-u	-u	-u	-u	-u	-u	-u	-u	-u	-u	-u	-u	-u	-u	
F3	Agreement vs. anaphoric suffixes: tonal polarity	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
F4	Plural formation CVi nouns	(CV)-re	-ba-PL	-ba-PL	-ba-PL	-ba-PL	-ba-PL	-ba-PL	-ba-PL	-ba-PL	-ba-PL	-ba-PL	-ba-PL	-ba-PL	-ba-PL	-ba-PL	-ba-PL	-ba-PL	-ba-PL	-ba-PL	
F5	Future particle	kā	bānn	mann	(ma)ñn	(ma)ñn	(ba)ñn	ñn	ñn	bānn	mānn	ba	bānn	bānn	bānn (S), sihnn (P)	bānn, mahnn	mann, sa'nn	bānn, sānn	ba(nn)	ba, man (1S)	
F6	Comitative	l'(a)M	l'(a)M	l'(a)M	l'(a)M	l'(a)M	l'(a)M	?	?	l'(a)M	l'(a)M	?	l'(a)M	l'(a)M	l'(a)M	l'(a)M	l'(a)M	?	l'(a)M	l'(a)M	
F7	'to have'	l'(a)M	l'abM	l'abM	l'abM	l'abM	?	l'abM	l'abM	?	l'abM	l'ai l'(a)M	l'ai l'(a)M	l'ai l'(a)M, l'abM	l'abM	l'abM	l'ai l'(a)M	l'ai l'(a)M	l'ai l'(a)M, l'abM	l'ai l'(a)M	?
F8	Construction [N ka (k)M ≠"uM] 'one'	-	?	+	+	?	?	+	+	+	+	+	?	?	?	+	+	+	+	?	
F9	Quotative with bM 'like'	-	+	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	+	?	?	+	?	+	+	?	+	?	
F10	Singular 'man', 'woman'	sil xae, sil aqqn	'(f)male person'	'(f)male person'	'(f)male person'	'(f)male person'	'(f)male person'	'(f)male person'	'(f)male person'	'(f)male person'	'(f)male person'	'(f)male person'	'(f)male person'	'(f)male person'	'(f)male person'	'(f)male person'	'(f)male person'	'(f)male person'	'(f)male person'	'(f)male person'	
F11	'to want'	n!uni kM	l'ann sM, l'qhaM	l'ann sM, kane kM	l'ann sM, kane kM	l'ann sM, kane kM	?	l'ann sM, kane kM	l'ann sM, kane kM	l'ann sM	kane kM	kane kM	?	kane kM	l'ann sM, kane kM	l'ann sM, kane kM	kane gM	kane kM	kane kM	kane kM	?
F12	'to say'	n ahng	tae,tama	ta'i, tama	tama	ta'i, ka(a)	?	?	tam	taan ~ tam	ta'i, taa, tebe	?	ta'je' ?, tam	ta'i, tam	ta'en, tam	tae, ta'ji, tam	'nae / 'lae, tam	?	ta'i, ta'je, tabM?	ta'i, tam	?
F13	'yesterday' (adv)	loa	qaqm	qaqm	qaqm	qaqm	?	?	?	qaqm	qaqm	?	qaqm	qaqm	qaqm	qaqm	qaqm	?	qaqba	qaqba	?
F14	'still' (adv)	qàqàn	l oe	l oe	l oe	l oe	?	?	?	l oe	l oe	?	l oe	l oe	l oe	l ue	l oe	?	l oe	l oe	?
F15	Proximal demonstratives	ka'()M ~ la'()M (kM)	kha'M	kha'()M	kha'()M	kha'()M	tāM, taM 'MM	tM'M (kM), tMM 'MM	tM'M	tMM 'MM	tM'M	tMM 'MM	tMM	tMM	tM'M, 'MM	taM 'MM	tMM (g)M	tM'M, 'IMM	tM'M kM	tMM kMM	tMM kM
F16	Distal demonstratives	ta'()M (si) (kM)	kha'M ya kM, ta'M	kha'M ya kM	kha'Mya kM, ta'M	kha'()M ya kM	ta'M (ya kMM)	tM'M ya kM	tM'Mya kM	ta'M	tM'()M ya kM	tM'M ya kM	tM'M ya/sa kM	tM'()M sa kM	tMya kM, tM'MM sa kM	tM'Ma ya kM	tMM (ya gM)	tM'M / IM'M ya kM/IM	tM'M (ya kM)	ta'M ca kM	ta'M c(a) kM
F17	'a lot, very' (adv)	qahan, mahntti	l'ann, mahntti	l'am, l'ae	l'ann	l'ann, mahntti	?	l'ain	?	l'ain	... te l'oa	... kM lali kM	l'ain	≠aunku ?	l'alisa	l'ain	l'aliya, l'am	... ka l'ali	... ke l'ain	l'ai, l'amu	?

2. Features and isoglosses

2.1. Features West Taa vs. East Taa

F1. Agreement class 4: restricted to human plural (West Taa) vs. extended to non-human plural (East Taa)

(a) West !Xoon, Corridor 18

túù *ńń*, *ńń sí* *n/à-ù* 

people.4 ID 1S IPFV see-<4

"It's people, I see them."

hàrè *ńń*, *ńń sí* *n/à-àn* 

dog.P2ii ID 1S IPFV see-<2ii

"It's dogs, I see them."

(b) !Ama, Ngwatle

tùù ' *ńná*, *ń* *mà* *n/ú-ú* 

people.4 ID 1S IPFV see-4

"It's people, I see them."

hàbà-tê ' *ń*, *ń* *mà* *n/ú-ú* 

dog.P4-P ID 1S IPFV see-4

"It's dogs, I see them."

(c) Tshaasi, Khokhotsha

laa-aqa ka *//u-u* */xaba-le*, *e ka ka* *//o-a(n)* *g/hu'msa* 

man.S2ii IPFV trap-4 string.P4-P 3ii IPFV?? trap-2 ostrich.P2

"The man is making a trap (strings, snares) for (he wants to trap) ostriches."

2.1. Features West Taa vs. East Taa

F2. Agreement class 4: (cataphoric) agreement suffix *-i* (but: anaphoric *-u*) vs. invariant agreement suffix *-u*

(a) West !Xoon, Corridor 18

ńń sí n/à-í tùù kú //árí kùù 
1S IPFV see-4> people.4 I.REL:4 b.many F.REL:4
"I see many people."

(b) !Ama, Ukwi

ń mà n/ú-ú tùù kú //álí kù 
people.4 IPFV see-4 people.4 I.REL:4 b.many F.REL:4
"I see many people."

(c) ‡Huan, Khokhotsha

ńá n/á-ú tùù ku //árí kù 
1S(:x?) see-4 people.4 I.REL:4 b.many F.REL:4
"I see many people."

2.1. Features West Taa vs. East Taa

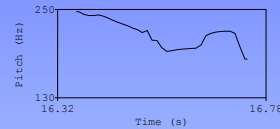
F3. Agreement vs. anaphoric suffixes on verbs: Presence (across all agreement classes) vs. absence of tonal polarity

(a) West !Xoon, Corridor 18

ńń sí n/à-í #hàì #ù-ì 📢

1S IPFV see-1 > dog.S1 one-1

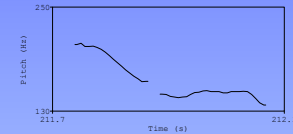
"I see one dog."



#hàì ńń, ńń sí n/à-í 📢

dog.S1 ID 1S IPFV see-<1

"It's a dog, I see it."

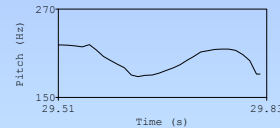


(b) !Ama, Ncaang

ń mà n/á-í #hàì #ù-ì 📢

1S IPFV see-1 dog.S1 one-1

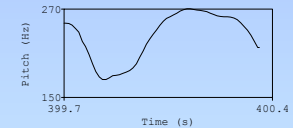
"I see one dog."



#hàì tá'ì, ń mà n/á-í 📢

dog.S1 DEM:1 1S IPFV see-1

"This dog, I see it."



2.1. Features West Taa vs. East Taa

F4. Nouns of the shape [C(C)Vi] , plural formation: [C(C)Vre] vs. [C(C)Vba-PL]

(a) West !Xoon, Corridor 18

<i>ǀhàì - ǀhàrè</i>	<i>/xàì - /xàrè</i>	<i>nǁ"ai - nǁ"are</i>
"dog – dogs"	"string – strings"	"bat-eared fox – ~-es"

(b) East !Xoon, Lone Tree (Traill 1994)

<i>ǀ(q)hàì - ǀ(q)hàba-tê</i>	<i>/xāi - /xāba-te</i>	<i>ǁ'ài - ǁ'àba-tê</i>
"dog – dogs"	"string – strings"	"bat-eared fox – ~-es"

(c) ǀHuan, Inalegolo

<i>ǀhàì - ǀhàbà-lu</i>	<i>ǁ"ài - ǁ"àbà-lê</i>	<i>ǀàì - ǀàbàlê</i>
"dog – dogs"	"bat-eared fox – ~-es"	"steenbok – ~-s"

2.1. Features West Taa vs. East Taa

F5. Future particle: *kǎ* vs. *ba((h)nn)* ~ *ma((h)nn)* ~ *mang*

(a) West !Xoon, Corridor 18

Ṑáí nń, nń kǎ á-ì 

meat.S1 ID 1S FUT eat-<1

"It's meat, I will eat it."

(b) !Ama, Ngwatle

Ṑàyé' nńà, (ń) mánn á-í 

meat.S1 ID 1S FUT(:?) eat-1

"It's meat, I will eat it."

(c) ‡Huan, Inalegolo

Ṑo(y)e qa, n màng á-ng 

meat.3ii ID 1s FUT eat-5

"It's meat, I will eat it."

2.1. Features West Taa vs. East Taa

F6. Comitative ('with, and'): |"(a)M vs. ≠"(a)M

(a) West !Xoon, Corridor 18

ń /ób-è àqà |"è qáé 

1S know-3ii father.S3i COM:3ii mother.S3i

"I know his father and his mother."

(b) East !Xoon, Bere

ń g/ob-e àqà ≠"(a)e qáé 

1S know-3ii father.S3i COM:3ii mother.S3i

"I know his father and his mother."

(c) Tshaasi, Kang

n ga /ob-e qáé ≠"(a)e àqà 

1S DISTR? know-3ii mother.S3i COM:3ii father.S3i

"I know his mother and his father."

2.1. Features West Taa vs. East Taa

F10. Singular of 'man' / 'woman': Basic lexeme vs. compound ('male/female person')

(a) West !Xoon, Corridor 18

sí-/àqnn – sí-/àqàn, sí-//xáè – sí-//xààn
PREF-woman.S3i PREF-women.P2ii PREF-man.S3i PREF-men.P2ii
"woman – women, man – men"

(b) !Ama, Corridor 18 ('N|oha)

táà-qáé – sî-/àqàn, táà-àqà – sî-//xààn
(person-mother).S2ii PREF-women.P2ii (person-father).P2ii PREF-men.P2ii
"woman – women, man – men"

(c) cf. Lower Nossob, |Haasi (Story 1999:30)

ĩ – ka /ã
woman PREF women
"woman – women"

2.2. Features !Ama vs. Eastern East Taa

Features		WEST TAA	EAST TAA									Eastern dialects									
		West !Xoon	"!Ama"					(N!ahe and other varieties)				"East !Xoon"				(Southeastern varieties)					
			(Southwestern varieties)													"Tshaasi"			"!Huan"		
		Corridor 18 (!Xoon)	Corridor 18	Ukwi	Ngwatle	Zutshwa	Kule	Ranyane	Monong	Lehututu	Ncaang	Maake	Hun-hukwe	Bere	Kagae / Lone	Inalegolo	Kang / Maretswa	Khe-khenye	Kho-khotsha	Inalegolo	Kho-khotsha
F18	Gender mass nouns	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3ii (~1)	3ii	3ii	3ii	3ii, 3i?	3ii	3ii	3ii	3ii	3ii	3ii
F19	Gender of 'white person'	1	1	1	?	1	1	1	1	?	1	2ii ?	2ii	2ii	2ii	2ii	2ii	?	comp.	comp.	comp.
F20	Question marker /M(M)	-	-	-	-	-	?	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	?
F21	'the other' ta'M etc.	qhaM, 'axa	qhaM, kM aa kM	qhaM	qhaM, 'axa	qhaM, 'axa	?	?	?	qhaM	qhaM	?	ta'M, qhaM	ta'M ~ t'MM	ta'M ~ t'MM?	t'M'M	'laM	?	t'M'M	t'M'M	laa t'M'M
F22	Default plural suffix	-ke ~ -te	-te	-te	-te	-te	-te	-te	-te	-te	-te	-te ~ -le	-te	-te	-te	-le	-le	-le	-le	-le	-le
F23	Distributive? ka ~ ga	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
F24	Prefix in 'women, men'	si-	si-	si- (ci-?)	si- (ci-?)	si- (ci-?)	Ø-	si- (ci-?)	si-	?	Ø-	Ø- ~ ci-	Ø-	Ø-	Ø-	i- ~ Ø-	i-	i-	i-	ti- ~ ki-	di-
F25	NOM suffix	-sa	-sa	-sa	-sa	-sa	-sa	?	-sa	-sa	-sa ~ -ya	-sa	-sa	-sa	-sa	-ya	-ya	-ya	-ya	-ca	-ca
F26	Imperfective	si	ba	ba ~ ma	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba ~ aa	ba	ka	ka ~ a	ka	ka
F27	Distinct progressive	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	ǀáá	a(i) ba ~ ǀaa	ǀa	ǀa(a) (IPFV?)	-	-
F28	ID particle	ńń	ǃnnà	ǃnnà	ǃn, ǃnnà	ǃn, ǃnnà	ǃnnà	ǃnnà	ǃnnà	ǃnnà	ǃnnà	ǃnnà	ǃnnà	?	ǃnnà	lâ ~ nâ	lâ ~ nâ	la ~ 'na	la	qaa	qa
F29	'what' (in object question)	tahi	tàè(sí), hee	tae(sí)	tae(sí)	tae(sí)	?	tae(sí)	taesi	tae(sí)	tae(cí)	taesi, hee	hee	eh ~ he	èh	xai	xaisi	xai	xai	taa hang	?
F30	Palatalisation (s ~ c)	s	s	s ~ c?	s ~ c?	c ~ s	s	s ~ c	s	s ~ c	c	c	s	s	s	s	s	s	s	c	c
F31	Prefix in animal names	si-	Ø-	Ø-	Ø-	Ø- (~ si-)	?	?	?	Ø-	Ø-	?	Ø-	Ø-	Ø-	Ø-	Ø-	Ø-	Ø-	ti- ~ ki-	?
F32	Demonstratives ... ya kM	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	+	+	+	?	+	+	+	+	+	- ?	-?
F33	Lateralisation (r : l)	r [r]	l (~r)	l (~r)	l	l (~r)	r [r]	r	l	l	l	l	l	l (~r)	l	l	l	l	r [r ~ r]	r [r~r]	r [r~r]
F34	Presence of /ŋ/	+	Ø	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	Ø	Ø	?	?	?	?	+	+
F35	Causative particle/prefix	si	si	si	si	-	?	?	?	?	ti	?	?	-	-	ki	gi	-	-	ti?	?

2.2. Features !Ama vs. Eastern East Taa

F18. Gender of mass nouns (water, milk, meat, blood) 1(-1) vs. 3ii (-3ii)

(a) !Ama, Corridor 18 ('N|oha)

n ma qx'ǎ-i !qhàà k_i ka //a'un k_i 
1S IPFV drink-1 water.1 I.REL:1 COP:2 coldnesss.2 F.REL:1
"I drink cold water."

(b) East !Xoon, Hunhukwe

(n) ma qx'ǎ-e !qhàà t_e a //a'un k_e 
1S IPFV drink-3ii water.3ii I.REL:3ii COP:2 coldnesss.2 F.REL:3ii
"I drink cold water."

(c) Tshaasi, Khokhotsha

n /áá qx'àh-e !qhàà k_e ka //a'un k_e 
1S IPFV drink-3ii water.3ii I.REL:3ii COP:2 coldnesss.2 F.REL:3ii
"I drink cold water."

2.2. Features !Ama vs. Eastern East Taa

F19. Absence vs. presence of a question marker (Y-N questions, content questions)

(a) !Ama, Ncaang

e-ee a taa tae? 

3ii.EMPH PST say what

"What did he say?"

(b) East !Xoon, Bere

ee ba ahl-e eh? 

QUEST-3ii IPFV make-3ii what.3ii

"What are you saying?"

(c) Tshaasi, Inalegolo

aa /a n/á-é xai? 

QUEST-2s IPFV see-3ii what.3ii

"What do you see?"

(c) ‡Huan, Inalegolo

a a tam taa hang? 

QUEST-2s PST say:5 what.5

"What did you say?"

2.2.a. Features for Southwestern varieties of East Taa?

Features		WEST TAA	EAST TAA										Eastern dialects									
		"I Ama"																				
		•West I Xoon•	(Southwestern varieties)				(N ahe and other varieties)					"East I Xoon"				(Southeastern varieties)						
		Corridor 18 (Xoon)	Corridor 18	Ukwi	Ngwatle	Zutshwa	Kule	Ranyane	Monong	Lehututu	Ncaang	Maake	Hun- hukwe	Bere	Kacgae / Lone	Inalegolo	Kang / Maretswa	Khe- khenye	Kho- khotsha	Inalegolo	Kho- khotsha	
F1	NCL4 non-human PL	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+1	
F2	NCL4: agreement suffix	-i	-u	-u	-u	-u	-u	-u	-u	-u	-u	-u	-u	-u	-u	-u	-u	-u	-u	-u	-u2	
F3	Agreement vs. anaphoric suffixes: tonal polarity	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
F4	Plural formation CVi nouns	(CV)-re	-ba-PL	-ba-PL	-ba-PL	-ba-PL	-ba-PL	-ba-PL	-ba-PL	-ba-PL	-ba-PL	-ba-PL	-ba-PL	-ba-PL	-ba-PL	-ba-PL	-ba-PL	-ba-PL	-ba-PL	-ba-PL	-ba-PL	
F5	Future particle	kǎ	bǎnn	mann	(ma)ǎn	(ma)ǎn	(ba)ǎn	ǎn	ǎn	bǎnn	mǎnn	ba	bǎnn	bǎnn	bahnn (S), sihnn (P)	bǎnn, mahnn	mann, sa'(n)n	bahnn, sǎnn	ba(n)n	ba, man	nǎnn (1S)	
F6	Comitative	l'(a)M	l'*(a)M	l'*(a)M	l'*(a)M	l'*(a)M	l'*(a)M	?	?	l'*(a)M	l'*(a)M	?	l'*(a)M	l'*(a)M	l'*(a)M	l'*(a)M	l'*(a)M	?	l'*(a)M	l'*(a)M	l'*(a)M	
F7	'to have'	l'*(a)M	l'abM	l'abM	l'abM	l'abM	?	l'abM	l'abM	?	l'abM	lai l'*(a)M	lai l'*(a)M	lai l'*(a)M, l'abM	l'abM	l'abM	lai l'*(a)M	lai l'*(a)M	lai l'*(a)M, l'abM	lai l'*(a)M	?	
F8	Construction [N ka (k)M ≠"uM] 'one'	-	?	+	+	?	?	+	+	+	+	+	?	?	?	+	+	+	+	+	?	
F9	Quotative with bM'like'	-	+	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	+	?	?	+	?	+	+	?	+	+	?	
F10	Singular 'man', 'woman'	sil xae, sil aqnn	l'(fe)male person'	l'(fe)male person'	l'(fe)male person'	l'(fe)male person'	l'(fe)male person'	l'(fe)male person'	l'(fe)male person'	l'(fe)male person'	l'(fe)male person'	l'(fe)male person'	l'(fe)male person'	l'(fe)male person'	l'(fe)male person'	l'(fe)male person'	l'(fe)male person'	l'(fe)male person'	l'(fe)male person'	l'(fe)male person'	l'(fe)male person'	
F11	'to want'	n!uni kM	l'ann sM, l'qhaM	l'ann sM, kane kM	l'ann sM, kane kM, k(a)M ?	l'ann sM, kane kM	?	l'ann sM, kane kM	l'ann sM, kane kM	l'ann sM	kanc kM	kane kM	?	kanc kM	l'ann sM, káne kM	l'ann sM, kane kM	kanc gM	kanc kM	kane kM	kale kM, taN	?	
F12	'to say'	n ahng	tae,tama	taí, tama	tama	taí, ka(a)	?	?	tam	taan ~ tam	ta'í, taa, tebe	?	ta(')e ?, tam	taí, tam	ta'en, tam	tae, ta(')í, tam	'nae / 'lae, tam	?	taí, ta(')e, tabM?	ta'í, tam	?	
F13	'yesterday' (adv)	l oa	qaqm	qaqm	qaqm	qaqm	?	?	?	qaqm	qaqm	?	qaqm	qaqm	qaqm	qaqm	qaqm	?	qaqba	qaqba	?	
F14	'still' (adv)	qàqàn	l oe	l oe	l oe	l oe	?	?	?	l oe	l oe	?	l oe	l oe	l oe	l ue	l oe	?	l oe	l oe	?	
F15	Proximal demonstratives	ka(')M ~ la(')M (kM)	kha'M	kha(')M	kha(')M	kha(')M	tāM, taM 'MM	tM'M (kM), tMM 'MM	tM'M	tMM	tM'M	tMM	tMM	tMM	tM'M, 'MM	taM	tMM ((g)M)	tM'M, 'IMM	tM'M kM	tM'M kMM	tMM kM	
F16	Distal demonstratives	ta(')M (sí) (kM)	kha'M ya kM, ta'M	kha'M ya kM	kha'Mya kM, ta'M	kha(')M ya kM	ta'M (ya kMM)	tM'M ya kM	tM'Mya kM	ta'M	tM(')M ya kM	tM'M ya kM	tM'M ya/sa kM	tM(')M sa kM	tMya kM, tM'MM sa kM	tM'Ma ya kM	tMM (ya gM)	tM'M / IM'M ya kM/IM	tM'M (ya kM)	ta'M ca kM	ta'M c(a) kM	
F17	'a lot, very' (adv)	qahan, mahntti	l'ann, mahntti	l'am, l'ae	l'ann	l'ann, mahntti	?	l'ain	?	l'ain	... te l'oa	... kM lali kM	l'ain	l'aunku ?	l'alísà	l'ain	l'aliya, l'am	... ka l'ali	... ke l'ain	l'ai, l'amu	?	

2.2.a. Features for Southwestern varieties of East Taa?

F16. Demonstrative base *khM(')M* as a feature of 'N|oha – Ukwī – Ngwatle – Zutshwa subgroup of !Ama ?

(a) !Ama, Ukwī

isi i n g/om-a si-/aqan kha(')an ya ka 
1P:EXCL:EMPH 1P DECL? know-2ii PREF-women.P2ii DEM.DIS:2ii
"We know those women."

(b) !Ama, Zutshwa

isi n g/om-a si-/aqan kha(')an ya ka 
1P:EXCL DECL? know-2ii PREF-women.P2ii DEM.DIS:2ii
"We know those women."

(c) !Ama, Ranyane

n g/om-a taa-qae ta'an ya ka 
1S know-2ii person-mother.S2ii DEM.DIS:2ii
"I know that woman."

2.3. Features for Southeastern East Taa

Features		WEST TAA	EAST TAA																		
		West IXoon	"!Ama"					Eastern dialects													
			(Southwestern varieties)					(N ahe and other varieties)					"East IXoon"				(Southeastern varieties)				
		Corridor 18 (IXoon)	Corridor 18	Ukwi	Ngwatle	Zutshwa	Kule	Ranyane	Monong	Lehututu	Ncaang	Maake	Hun-hukwe	Bere	Kagae / Lone	Inalegolo	Kang / Maretswa	Khe-khenye	Kho-khotsha	Inalegolo	Kho-khotsha
F18	Gender mass nouns	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3ii (~1)	3ii	3ii	3ii	3ii, 3i?	3ii	3ii	3ii	3ii	3ii	3ii
F19	Gender of 'white person'	1	1	1	?	1	1	1	1	?	1	2ii ?	2ii	2ii	2ii	2ii	2ii	?	comp.	comp.	comp.
F20	Question marker /M(M)	-	-	-	-	-	?	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	?
F21	'the other' ta'M etc.	qhaM, 'axa	qhaM, kM aa kM	qhaM	qhaM, 'axa	qhaM, 'axa	?	?	?	qhaM	qhaM	?	ta'M, qhaM	ta'M ~ t'MM	ta'M ~ t'MM?	t'M'M	'laM	?	t'M'M	t'M'M	laa t'M'M
F22	Default plural suffix	-ke ~ -te	-te	-te	-te	-te	-te	-te	-te	-te	-te	-te ~ -le	-te	-te	-te	-le	-le	-le	-le	-le	-le
F23	Distributive? ka ~ ga	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
F24	Prefix in 'women, men'	si-	si-	si- (ci-?)	si- (ci-?)	si- (ci-?)	Ø-	si- (ci-?)	si-	?	Ø-	Ø- ~ ci-	Ø-	Ø-	Ø-	i- ~ Ø-	i-	i-	i-	ti- ~ ki-	di-
F25	NOM suffix	-sa	-sa	-sa	-sa	-sa	-sa	?	-sa	-sa	-sa ~ -ya	-sa	-sa	-sa	-sa	-ya	-ya	-ya	-ya	-ca	-ca
F26	Imperfective	si	ba	ba ~ ma	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba ~ aa	ba	ka	ka ~ a	ka	ka
F27	Distinct progressive	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	láá	la(i) ba ~ aa	a	la(a) (IPFV?)	-	-
F28	ID particle	ńń	ǃnnà	ǃnnà	ǃn, ǃnnà	ǃn, ǃnnà	ǃnnà	ǃnnà	ǃnnà	ǃnnà	ǃnnà	ǃnnà	ǃnnà	ǃnnà	ǃnnà	lâ ~ nâ	lâ ~ nâ	la ~ 'na	la	qaa	qa
F29	'what' (in object question)	tahi	tàè(si), hee	tae(si)	tae(si)	tae(si)	?	tae(si)	taesi	tae(si)	tae(ci)	taesi, hee	hee	eh ~ he	èh	xai	xaisi	xai	xai	taa hang	?
F30	Palatalisation (s ~ c)	s	s	s ~ c?	s ~ c?	c ~ s	s	s ~ c	s	s ~ c	c	c	s	s	s	s	s	s	s	c	c
F31	Prefix in animal names	si-	Ø-	Ø-	Ø-	Ø- (~ si-)	?	?	?	Ø-	Ø-	?	Ø-	Ø-	Ø-	Ø-	Ø-	Ø-	Ø-	ti- ~ ki-	?
F32	Demonstratives ... ya kM	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	+	+	+	?	+	+	+	+	+	- ?	-?
F33	Lateralisation (r : l)	r [r]	l (~r)	l (~r)	l	l (~r)	r [r]	r	l	l	l	l	l	l (~r)	l	l	l	l	r [r ~ r]	r [r~r]	r [r~r]
F34	Presence of /ŋ/	+	Ø	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	Ø	Ø	?	?	?	?	+	+
F35	Causative particle/prefix	si	si	si	si	-	?	?	?	?	ti	?	?	-	-	ki	gi	-	-	ti?	?

2.3. Features for Southeastern East Taa

F22. Default plural suffix *-le* vs. *-te* (sound change $t > l$ in grammatical morphemes, to various degrees)

(a) East !Xoon, Bere

‡*haba-te* *ku* *n* *tu'u*, *n* *ba* *n/á-ú* 
dog.P4-P COP:4 DECL? DEM.PROX:4 1S IPFV see-4
"These are dogs, I see them."

(b) Tshaasi, Kang

‡*haba-le* *la*, *n* *ma* *n/ú-ú* 
dog.P4-P ID 1S IPFV see-4
"It's dogs, I see them."

(c) ‡Huan, Inalegolo

‡*haba-le* *qa*, *na* *ká* *n/á-ú* 
dog.P4-P ID 1S(:x?) IPFV see-4
"It's dogs, I see them."

2.3. Features for Southeastern East Taa

F23. Stative? particle preceding /obM "to know" (East Taa innovation > fusion to *g/obM* in other East Taa varieties ?)

(a) East !Xoon, Hunhukwe

isi *g/om-a* */aqan* *ta'an ya ka* 
1P:EXCL know-2ii women.P2ii DEM.DIS:2ii
"We know that woman."

(b) Tshaasi, Kang

n *ga* */om-a* *laa-qae* *'naan ya ga* 
1S STAT? know-2ii woman.S2ii DEM.DIS:2ii
"I know that woman."

(c) ‡Huan, Khokhotsha

na *ka* */ob-a* *laa-qae* *ta'a c(a) ka* 
1S(:x?) STAT? know-2ii woman.S2ii DEM.DIS:2ii
" I know that woman."

2.4. Features for Tshaasi vs. ≠Huan

Features		WEST TAA "I Ama"																		
		EAST TAA										Eastern dialects								
		West (Southwestern varieties)					('N ahe and other varieties)					"East IXoon"				(Southeastern varieties)				
		Corridor 18 (IXoon)	Corridor 18	Ukwi	Ngwatle	Zutshwa	Kule	Ranyane	Monong	Lehututu	Ncaang	Maake	Hun-hukwe	Bere	Kagae / Lone	Inalegolo	Kang / Maretswa	Khe-khenye	Kho-khotsha	
F18	Gender mass nouns	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3ii (~1)	3ii	3ii	3ii	3ii, 3i?	3ii	3ii	3ii	3ii	3ii
F19	Gender of 'white person'	1	1	1	?	1	1	1	1	?	1	2ii ?	2ii	2ii	2ii	2ii	2ii	?	comp.	comp.
F20	Question marker /M(M)	-	-	-	-	-	?	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	?
F21	'the other' ta'M etc.	qhaM, 'axa	qhaM, kM aa kM	qhaM	qhaM, 'axa	qhaM, 'axa	?	?	?	qhaM	qhaM	?	ta'M, qhaM	ta'M ~ t'MM	ta'M ~ t'MM?	t'M'M	'laM	?	t'M'M	t'M'M
F22	Default plural suffix	-ke ~ -te	-te	-te	-te	-te	-te	-te	-te	-te	-te	-te ~ -le	-te	-te	-te	-le	-le	-le	-le	-le
F23	Distributive? ka ~ ga	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+
F24	Prefix in 'women, men'	si-	si-	si- (ci-?)	si- (ci-?)	si- (ci-?)	Ø-	si- (ci-?)	si-	?	Ø-	Ø- ~ ci-	Ø-	Ø-	Ø-	i- ~ Ø-	i-	i-	i-	ti- ~ ki-
F25	NOM suffix	-sa	-sa	-sa	-sa	-sa	-sa	?	-sa	-sa	-sa ~ -ya	-sa	-sa	-sa	-sa	-ya	-ya	-ya	-ya	-ca
F26	Imperfective	si	ba	ba ~ ma	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba ~ aa	ba	ka	ka ~ a	ka
F27	Distinct progressive	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	áá	a(i) ba ~ a	a	la(a) (IPFV?)	-
F28	ID particle	ńń	nnà	nnà	n, nnà	n, nnà	nnà	nnà	nnà	nnà	nnà	nnà	nnà	nnà	nnà	lâ ~ nâ	lâ ~ nâ	la ~ 'na	la	qaa
F29	'what' (in object question)	tahi	tàè(si), hee	tae(si)	tae(si)	tae(si)	?	tae(si)	taesi	tae(si)	tae(ci)	taesi, hee	hee	eh ~ he	èh	xai	xaisi	xai	xai	taa hang
F30	Palatalisation (s ~ c)	s	s	s ~ c?	s ~ c?	c ~ s	s	s ~ c	s	s ~ c	c	c	s	s	s	s	s	s	s	c
F31	Prefix in animal names	si-	Ø-	Ø-	Ø-	Ø- (~ si-)	?	?	?	Ø-	Ø-	?	Ø-	Ø-	Ø-	Ø-	Ø-	Ø-	Ø-	ti- ~ ki-
F32	Demonstratives ... ya kM	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	+	+	+	?	+	+	+	+	+	- ?
F33	Lateralisation (r : l)	r [r]	l (~r)	l (~r)	l	l (~r)	r [r]	r	l	l	l	l	l	l (~r)	l	l	l	l	r [r ~ r]	r [r ~ r]
F34	Presence of /ŋ/	+	Ø	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	Ø	Ø	?	?	?	?	+
F35	Causative particle/prefix	si	si	si	si	-	?	?	?	?	ti	?	?	-	-	ki	gi	-	-	ti?

2.4. Features for Tshaasi vs. ꠔHuan

F26. Progressive /ai ba ~ /a(a) ba ~ /a(a) (Tshaasi) > imperfective ká (ꠔHuan)

(a) East !Xoon, Bere

u(u) n //oe ba n//ae 
4 DECL? still IPFV sing
"They are still singing."

(b) Tshaasi, Kang

u(u) ai ba tana 
4 stay IPFV talk
"They are talking."

túù áá g/áàn 
people.4 PROGR work
"They are working."

(c) ꠔHuan, Inalegolo

wo? //oe ka n//ae 
4 still IPFV sing
"They are still singing."

2.4. Features for Tshaasi vs. ꞤHuan

F25/30. Nominalisation suffix *-ya* (vs. *-ca* / *-sa*) (Tshaasi) and palatalisation *s* > *c* (ꞤHuan)

(a) East !Xoon, Bere

e a n xali ka a-an-sà 
3ii PST DECL? finish MPO:2ii eat-SUF-NOM.2ii
"She has finished to eat."

(b) Tshaasi, Inalegolo

e a xali ka a-an-yà 
3ii PST finish MPO:2ii eat-SUF-NOM.2ii
"She has finished to eat."

(c) ꞤHuan, Inalegolo

e 'nꞤahnn ka a-an-ca la 
3ii finish MPO:2ii eat-SUF-NOM.2ii FOC
"She has finished to eat."

2.5. Features centre vs. periphery

Features		WEST TAA	EAST TAA																			
		West IXoon	"!Ama"										Eastern dialects									
			(Southwestern varieties)					(N ahe and other varieties)					"East !Xoon"				(Southeastern varieties)					
		Corridor 18 (!Xoon)	Corridor 18	Ukwi	Ngwatle	Zutshwa	Kule	Ranyane	Monong	Lehututu	Ncaang	Maake	Hun-hukwe	Bere	Kagae / Lone	Inalegolo	Kang / Maretswa	Khe-khenye	Kho-khotsha	Inalegolo	Kho-khotsha	
F18	Gender mass nouns	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3ii (~1)	3ii	3ii	3ii	3ii, 3i?	3ii	3ii	3ii	3ii	3ii	3ii	
F19	Gender of 'white person'	1	1	1	?	1	1	1	1	?	1	2ii ?	2ii	2ii	2ii	2ii	2ii	?	comp.	comp.	comp.	
F20	Question marker /M(M)	-	-	-	-	-	?	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	
F21	'the other' ta'M etc.	qhaM, 'axa	qhaM, kM aa kM	qhaM	qhaM, 'axa	qhaM, 'axa	?	?	?	qhaM	qhaM	?	ta'M, qhaM	ta'M ~ t'MM	ta'M ~ t'MM?	t'M'M	'laM	?	t'M'M	t'M'M	laa t'M'M	
F22	Default plural suffix	-ke ~ -te	-te	-te	-te	-te	-te	-te	-te	-te	-te	-te ~ -le	-te	-te	-te	-le	-le	-le	-le	-le	-le	
F23	Distributive? ka ~ ga	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	
F24	Prefix in 'women, men'	si-	si-	si- (ci-?)	si- (ci-?)	si- (ci-?)	Ø-	si- (ci-?)	si-	?	Ø-	Ø- ~ ci-	Ø-	Ø-	Ø-	i- ~ Ø-	i-	i-	i-	ti- ~ ki-	di-	
F25	NOM suffix	-sa	-sa	-sa	-sa	-sa	-sa	?	-sa	-sa	-sa ~ -ya	-sa	-sa	-sa	-sa	-ya	-ya	-ya	-ya	-ca	-ca	
F26	Imperfective	si	ba	ba ~ ma	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba ~ aa	ba	ka	ka ~ a	ka	ka	
F27	Distinct progressive	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	láá	a(i) ba ~ aa	a	la(a) (IPFV?)	-	-	
F28	ID particle	ńń	nnà	nnà	n, nnà	n, nnà	nnà	nnà	nnà	nnà	nnà	nnà	nnà	?	nnà	lâ ~ nâ	lâ ~ nâ	la ~ 'na	la	qaa	qa	
F29	'what' (in object question)	tahi	tàè(si), hee	tae(si)	tae(si)	tae(si)	?	tae(si)	taesi	tae(si)	tae(ci)	taesi, hee	hee	eh ~ he	èh	xai	xaisi	xai	xai	taa hang	?	
F30	Palatalisation (s ~ c)	s	s	s ~ c?	s ~ c?	c ~ s	s	s ~ c	s	s ~ c	c	c	s	s	s	s	s	s	s	c	c	
F31	Prefix in animal names	si-	Ø-	Ø-	Ø-	Ø- (~ si-)	?	?	?	Ø-	Ø-	?	Ø-	Ø-	Ø-	Ø-	Ø-	Ø-	Ø-	ti- ~ ki-	?	
F32	Demonstratives ... ya kM	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	+	+	+	?	+	+	+	+	+	- ?	-?	
F33	Lateralisation (r : l)	r [r]	l (~r)	l (~r)	l	l (~r)	r [r]	r	l	l	l	l	l	l (~r)	l	l	l	l	r [r ~ r]	r [r~r]	r [r~r]	
F34	Presence of /ŋ/	+	Ø	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	Ø	Ø	?	?	?	?	+	+	
F35	Causative particle/prefix	si	si	si	si	-	?	?	?	?	ti	?	?	-	-	ki	gi	-	-	ti?	?	

2.5. Features centre vs. periphery (example)

F31. Prefix *si-* in animal names, plant names, and other nouns: Loss in central varieties

(a) West !Xoon, Corridor 18

sí/*húú* 'bird', *sí*//*úi* 'leopard', *sín*≠*óqè* 'mouse', (*sí*)*dzhòhè* 'aardvark',
sí!*qhànn* 'moon'

(b) ≠Huan, Inalegolo

tig/*huu* 'bird', *ti*//*ui* 'leopard', *tín*≠*oqe* 'mouse', /*q(x)*'*ae* 'aardvark'

(c) East !Xoon, Kacgae/Lone Tree (Traill 1994)

g/ūh'u 'bird', //*úi* 'leopard', *n*≠*ûqye* 'mouse', /*qx'âye* 'antbear [aardvark]',
!qhànn 'moon'

(d) cf. Lower Nossob, |Haasi (Story 1999:21-2)

*si*_/*gɔː* 'bird', //*ɔ* 'leopard', *si* *?ai* 'antbear [aardvark]'

2.6. Diffusely distributed features

Features		WEST TAA	EAST TAA																		
		West IXoon	"!Ama"										Eastern dialects								
			(Southwestern varieties)					(‘N ahe and other varieties)					"East IXoon"				(Southeastern varieties)				
		Corridor 18 (IXoon)	Corridor 18	Ukwi	Ngwatle	Zutshwa	Kule	Ranyane	Monong	Lehututu	Ncaang	Maake	Hun-hukwe	Bere	Kagae / Lone	Inalegolo	Kang / Maretswa	Khe-khenye	Kho-khotsha	Inalegolo	Kho-khotsha
F18	Gender mass nouns	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3ii (~1)	3ii	3ii	3ii	3ii, 3i?	3ii	3ii	3ii	3ii	3ii	3ii
F19	Gender of 'white person'	1	1	1	?	1	1	1	1	?	1	2ii ?	2ii	2ii	2ii	2ii	2ii	?	comp.	comp.	comp.
F20	Question marker /M(M)	-	-	-	-	-	?	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	?
F21	'the other' ta'M etc.	qhaM, !axa	qhaM, kM aa kM	qhaM	qhaM, !axa	qhaM, !axa	?	?	?	qhaM	qhaM	?	ta'M, qhaM	ta'M ~ t'MM	ta'M ~ t'MM?	tM'M	'laM	?	tM'M	tM'M	laa tM'M
F22	Default plural suffix	-ke ~ -te	-te	-te	-te	-te	-te	-te	-te	-te	-te	-te ~ -le	-te	-te	-te	-le	-le	-le	-le	-le	-le
F23	Distributive? ka ~ ga	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
F24	Prefix in 'women, men'	si-	si-	si- (ci-?)	si- (ci-?)	si- (ci-?)	Ø-	si- (ci-?)	si-	?	Ø-	Ø- ~ ci-	Ø-	Ø-	Ø-	i- ~ Ø-	i-	i-	i-	ti- ~ ki-	di-
F25	NOM suffix	-sa	-sa	-sa	-sa	-sa	-sa	?	-sa	-sa	-sa ~ -ya	-sa	-sa	-sa	-sa	-ya	-ya	-ya	-ya	-ca	-ca
F26	Imperfective	si	ba	ba ~ ma	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba	ba ~ aa	ba	ka	ka ~ a	ka	ka
F27	Distinct progressive	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	lâá	a(i) ba ~ aa	a	la(a) (IPFV?)	-	-
F28	ID particle	nín	˘nnà	˘nnà	˘n, nnà	˘n, nnà	˘nnà	˘nnà	˘nnà	˘nnà	˘nnà	˘nnà	˘nnà	?	˘nnà	lâ ~ nâ	lâ ~ nâ	la ~ 'na	la	qaa	qa
F29	'what' (in object question)	tahi	tâè(si), hee	tae(si)	tae(si)	tae(si)	?	tae(si)	taesi	tae(si)	tae(ci)	taesi, hee	hee	eh ~ he	èh	xai	xaisi	xai	xai	taa hang	?
F30	Palatalisation (s ~ c)	s	s	s ~ c?	s ~ c?	c ~ s	s	s ~ c	s	s ~ c	c	c	s	s	s	s	s	s	s	c	c
F31	Prefix in animal names	si-	Ø-	Ø-	Ø-	Ø- (~ si-)	?	?	?	Ø-	Ø-	?	Ø-	Ø-	Ø-	Ø-	Ø-	Ø-	Ø-	ti- ~ ki-	?
F32	Demonstratives ... ya kM	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	+	+	+	?	+	+	+	+	+	- ?	-?
F33	Lateralisation (r : l)	r [r]	l (~r)	l (~r)	l	l (~r)	r [r]	r	l	l	l	l	l	l (~r)	l	l	l	l	r [r ~ r]	r [r~r]	r [r~r]
F34	Presence of /ŋ/	+	Ø	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	Ø	Ø	?	?	?	?	+	+
F35	Causative particle/prefix	si	si	si	si	-	?	?	?	?	ti	?	?	-	-	ki	gi	-	-	ti?	?

2.6. Diffusely distributed features (example)

F35. Causative prefix *si-* ~ *ki-* ~ *ti-* etc. vs. paraphrastic constructions

(a) West !Xoon, Corridor Pos 18

èé sí si-g/áàn kí túù 

3ii IPFV CAUS-work MPO:4 > people.P4

"He makes the people work."

(b) East !Xoon, Bere

e n ba ahl-u tuu ba g/aan 

3ii DECL? IPFV make-4 people.P4 IPFV work

"He makes the people work."

(c) Tshaasi, Inalegolo

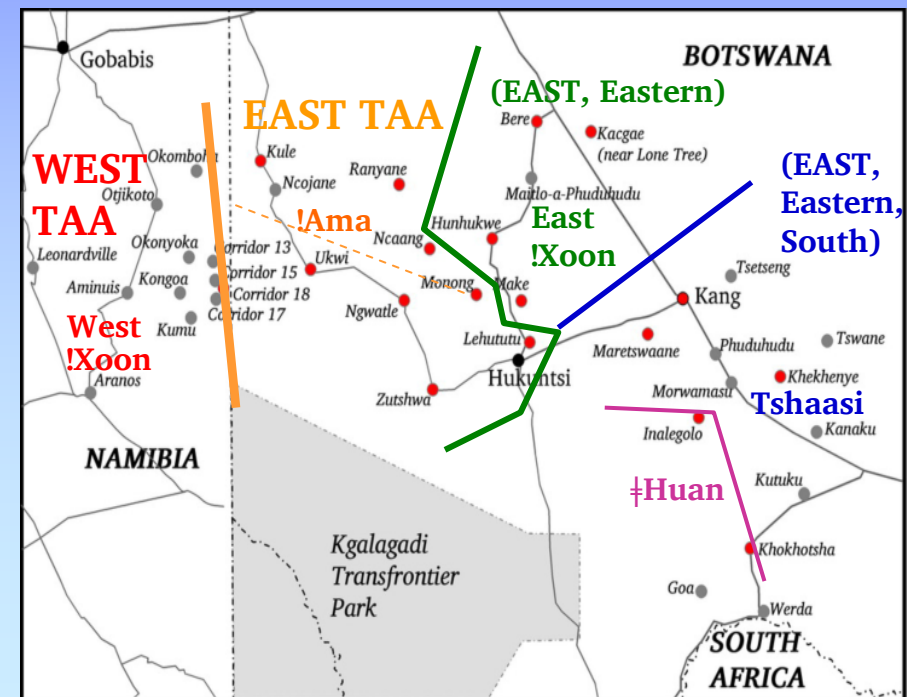
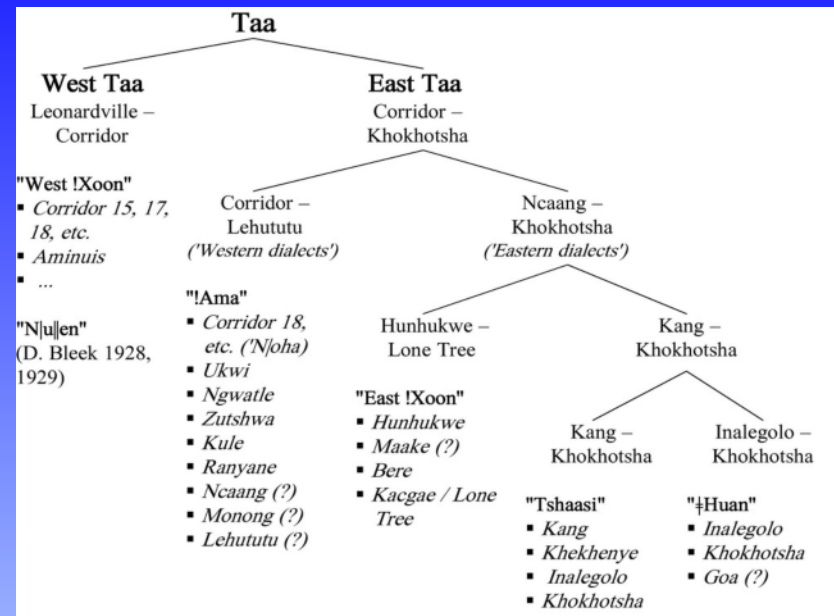
e /aa ki-g/aa(n) ku tuu 

3ii PROGR CAUS-work MPO:4 people.P4

"He makes the people work."

3. Conclusions

- most distinctive features for West Taa vs. East Taa
- Traill's 'Western vs. Eastern dialects' confirmed (but weaker)
- several features for 'Tshaasi' and 'ǀHuan' dialect groups
- possible subgroup of South-western varieties within '!Ama'
- sound changes do **not** seem to constitute good diagnostics for genealogical classification
- central varieties (excluding West Taa and ǀHuan) appear to form a secondary convergence area → matching sociolinguistic situation (distinct self-identities for speakers of West !Xoon and ǀHuan; not for central groups)
- resulting genealogical tree would match a spread of Taa from west to east



Acknowledgements

Acknowledgements

to Tom Güldemann, Roland Kießling, Gertrud Boden, Frida !'Ama-||'Ai Tsame, Budzani Gabanamotse, Gustel Heinz, Sven Hubold, Lena Sell, Anja Bonitz, and all Taa speakers contributing to this study.

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