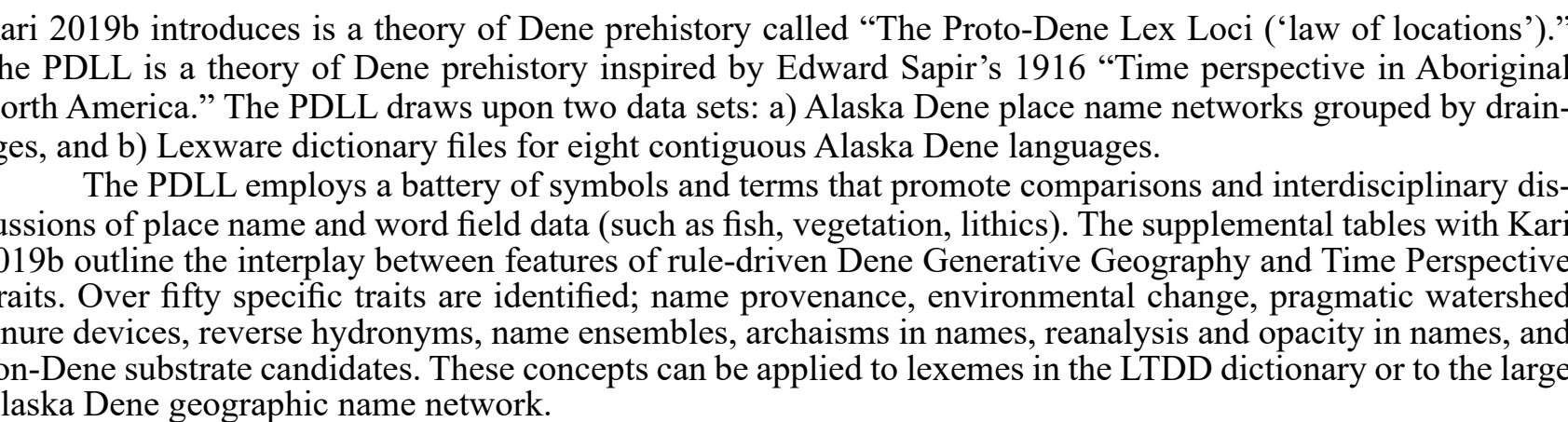


Kari 2019a:49. In Kari 1995, 1996b I first discussed the seven mutually exclusive *hydropnomic districts* among Northern Denen languages. The grouping of first, second, and third order streams into regional hydropnomic districts must have been the first overly pragmatic Denen *watershed tenure device* (sophisticated Denen vernacular collaborations). M-25 adds a layer to Grah Smith's 2021 Alaska Denen kernel density map to show the two Alaskan hydropnomic districts: 'ni'q'nd downstream/west; 'ni'q'q' upstream/east, as well as part of the 'ni'tu' district in the Yukon. The map also shows the boundaries of the 'ni'q'nd and 'ni'q'q' districts. The question was: what was the oldest word for stream among the ancient Denen? *Answer*: it was under negotiation. At Bill Bright's suggestion in 1996 Bright and Kari copyrighted the term 'Atabaskan hydropnomic districts'. Kari is not aware of any other indigenous language family where the same or a similar concept has been posited.

Smith's Dec 2021 kernel density map groups clusters of Dene names @ 30 m. The current database has 12,452 named features. (This excludes multilingual names across Dene language boundaries.) The twelve historic-contemporary Alaska Dene languages are ~754,000 km² (~291,000 mi²) in area. The white lines approximate 19th-century land territories among Dene languages as well as for Inupiaq and Central Yupik. To our knowledge, our Alaska Dene place names database is the largest cumulative, drainage-ordered, and consistently annotated multilingual place names database for adjacent languages of a single language family ever produced. We can query content: there are 216 names with PD *q'ey* 'birch'. We can query interesting feature types such as 162 names with PD **xəth*, *-yitha* 'ridge'.



☀ overtly informative; ☹ environ. change;
♥ anatomical; ∞ pass-marker



languages with the most accurate and complete coverage are Dena'ina, Ahtna and Lower Tanana. These do not accurately depict name coverage for Koyuk and Gwich'in, where many recorded names have not been entered into drainage files. Other languages with good potential for expansion include Tanacross, Upper Kuskokwim, and the Alaska Dene d.b. could eventually contain 15,000 named features.

b) The Alaska Dene place name networks extend far beyond the historic Dene historic language and band boundaries. Dene bands must have had larger territories, say 6000 to 8000 years ago. This supports Ben Potter's (2019) argument that the Dene languages are older than the Athabaskan languages.

c) The place names can be etymologized and analyzed even when they plausibly appear to be over 10 millennia in age as in the Tanana and Copper River Basins. Kari 1990b-70 "The resilience and durability of the Dene languages in the face of massive population change." In: *The Dene Languages*, ed. by J. Haiman, pp. 1-14. Cambridge MA: MIT Press.

d) The place names may contain evidence for the formation of the Dene verb complex from Proto-dene verbal roots and verbs with template word formation (Kari 2010a) and (c) the vital orientation, logistical, and auto-instructional features of Protodene generative geography.

e) Various PDLI patterns among the c. 12,500 root-driven Dene place names (patterned adaptations, reverse derivations, etc.) and their cognates in other languages (e.g., Uralic, Indo-European, etc.) reflect a gradual downstream or east-to-west diachronic trajectory. This trend argues against Fortescue and Vajda's 2022 proposal for a mid-Holocene entry of Na-Dene languages into Western Alaska.

f) Vajda 2019:100-101 has considered the possible Dene hydronym cognates for current and former Yeniseian occupation areas in Siberia; see discussion in Fig. M-39.

Work sponsored in 2017-2020 by National Science Foundation #1664455 (BCS) "Linguistic and Ethnographic Investigations of Place Names and Narratives in Two Alaska Dene Languages: Toklat (Lower Tanana) and Middle Tanana [taa]." Work in 2019-2022 has been sponsored by College of Rural and Community Development, UAF.

to appear in 2023, Alaska Native Language Center
compiled and edited by James Kari, book design by Leon Unruh

Introduction 40 pp
Table of Headwords, revised Feb. 10, 2022 11
main entries, 31 sections: 455
section order: 0 1 c b ch d d dr dz g gh/x h j k k' l' n sh t t' t l t' tr tr' ts ts' th tth' y/s z/szr/sr
plus 40 main entry figures

The LTDD is a resource on and for the Lower Tanana Den language, for the **tr** *utathana* 'the ancestors' and their modern-day descendants. The forthcoming LTDD is a mid-sized dictionary compiled by Karl in his Lxwaxe Den band label © format. Vers. 3.1 consolidates nearly all of the primary data for LT at the Alaska Native Language Archive from the years 1903 to 2001. LT is a highly conservative Den language with stem-initial/stem final distinctions for the *tl*, *tlh*, *tlr*, *ch* series; full PD positive-negative inflectional paradigms; and verb forms that are transparent at both surface and underlying levels.

The range of information in the LTDD represents the words, the skills and ideas of over 40 expert LT speakers and is eclectic and highly interdisciplinary. The format of the LTDD is naturalistic to this dense language's root-morpheme inventory and to its grammar. The LTDD has over 9600 example sentences, based upon over fifty texts by LT speakers. Also 350 quotes by expert speakers (Laura Anderson, Peter John, Hester Evan, others) make for interesting reading on biology, cultural beliefs, or skills. The Figures and Appendices summarize specializations such as anatomy, numerals, Dene Generative Geography with LT place names in the Fairbanks area as well as ethnohistoric facts about the Chena band.

The best place for first-time users of the LTDD to gauge the scope of this dictionary is to read through the Table of Headwords: pp. 1-11. **See Table of Headwords**

What Kari 2019a calls "high volume Dene lexicography" refers to the software, methods and pace for working with three Dene dictionaries concurrently (LT, MT and Den) during 2017-2021. Compared with the KAD 2000, the LTDD has a smaller root inventory with more rigorously grouped sub-entries. Often tag definitions can be standardized between LT and Dena'ina. Root type conventions allows groups of entries to be compared within LT or with Dena'ina. **See A-1 Folding the Lines**

Dene grammatical terminology spans more than 125 years, and most terms and abbreviations used for LT word categories, verb themes, aspects, and specific prefix positions are exactly the same as those for the 1990 AAD and the 2000 KAD. Working with reversible verb complexes for both LT and LTn in *Indesgen*, we have conventions for assigning slots, and superscripts for affixes. Tracking slots for haplogly (h) and mutual exclusivity (7) is proving to be workable. The LTDD is the first Dene dictionary to identify a full inventory of prefixes and suffixes. For the LT verb complex file we identify 38 prefix/suffix slots, with 131 v/s in four zones and 22 v/s in two zones after the verb root. All 154 LT v/s and v/s.f. are distinguished by superscripts. Appendix B discusses features of "Dene Interrupted Synthesis Word Formation" a term first used by Sapir and Whorf in 1932. **See Fig. B-2, LT Verb Complex, Fig. I-8 and p. 17 of Whorf 1932**

Various LTDD figures advance cross-disciplinary inquiry on the Dene-Yeniseian Hypothesis, or introduce terms and hypotheses from a Sapirian time perspective theory Kari 2019b calls the Proto-Dene *Lex Loci*. See Fig. M-8.

The Alaska Dene Webmap (Kari-Smith 2017), and especially Smith's 2021 kernel density map prompt time perspective hypotheses as well as research lacunae. **See Fig. M-25 with extended discussion of Dene ethnogeographic research**

Kari's 2019b claim that 15 to 17 Dene place names of the "The Nen' Yese' Ensemble" were coined in the 11th millennium BP is buttressed by VanderHoek et al. to appear. **See Fig. 5b from Kari 2019b.**

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n-chu-yh rosehips lit. 'small obj.-more-customarily'
be-ɬ (*n*.) sleep lit. 'his/her instrument'.
te-ɬ 'duffel, foot wrappings' < te + ɬ lit. 'among instrument'
yun, yuyh /measure/ *four affixes*, **y+u+n-yh** <3RD SG.+CONATIVE+N³ PERF.-YH CUST.

Editable Lower Tanana Verb Complex

© James Kari, February 22, 2022

Fig. B-2
 ∩: mutually exclusive slots
 h: haplological slots

TOTALS: 38 positions: 34 prefix slots in four zones + ROOT + 4 suffix slots in one zone; affixes in underlying forms as in LTDD entries
 SUPERCRIPT POLICY: n⁴³²¹ ROOT n² (n² 'perf.' is prefix and suffix); surface allomorphs excluded from LT verb complex
 TAM STEM TAM = tense-aspect-mode prefix/suffix options; -- = 'centrifugal application of derivational strings <Fortescue 1992; *Operator zone <Whorf 1932
 SYMBOLS: ~ conditional left movement, G gender function; [d'] epenthetic affix; dh'/th' pf. with 2 forms
 BOUNDARIES: ## word; # disjunct; + default affix boundary; [operator zone] PHON. RULES: _ _] precedes STEM; _ _] precedes CLF+STEM; _ _ S]] precedes SBJ-CLF-STEM
fi = c. 28 haplological v.pfs. in 15 positions that occur at different derivational layers but can appear only once at surface; G^h hyper-haplological affix, HAPLOLOGY INDEX = e.g. sum of d² in all strings & verb themes

horizontal template joins vertical strings, layer upon layer

Symbols & Abbreviations: xxy-xccx

A. Table of LT Headwords

pp. 1-10 *alphabetized cosmographic outline*
entry 1st line: root + /tag/ *PD root /root type/
Simple Word Formation
2nd line: d.f. (derived forms) stem allomorphs

B. LT Verb Complex as horizontal template
see Fig. B-1
LT has 84 theme formation strings, B-3 (1)
example verb theme LT has 1120 th.sh.
ch¹+t+zis (op-rev) to dance

C. Dene Interrupted Synthesis Word Formation
horizontal template joins vertical strings, layer upon layer
→ Operator zone tense-aspect-mode
centrifugal application of derivational strings

> (no¹+t)(d¹)t¹/iter., prg., caus.
> (yen¹) 3rd pl. mult.)

derived verb's underlying form minus inflection

> t+gh+t¹ future
> dh¹+es+r¹ 1st sg., negative

Lorem ipsum
time perspective theory
of Dene prehistory (Karl2019b)

/ ch¹+t+dh+gh+s+t+dzis+t+r /

phonological rules at v.pf. entries | ch'ettedhegjedzezi | [phonetic verb form]

> post-inflectional

D. Proto-Dene Lex Loci
time perspective theory
of Dene prehistory (Karl2019b)

/ ch¹+t+dh+gh+s+t+dzis+t+r /

phonological rules at v.pf. entries | ch'ettedhegjedzezi | [phonetic verb form]

> post-inflectional

Fig. A-1. Folding the lines, Den gg and LT g sections

[illegible]

from p. 17 of Benjamin Whorf's 1932 student paper at Edward Sapir's "Primitive Linguistics" class at Yale University. Sapir lectured on Navajo grammar. Whorf's paper has never been published. This quote was first cited in Kari 1989.

Athabaskan as a synthesis of elements

This trait of split semantemes, of making the expression of an idea depend upon a binary compound that is readily interrupted by the expression of auxiliary ideas or by some of the interrupted parts of auxiliary expressions likewise binomially composed - "interrupted synthesis", to use Sapir's term for it - is the outstanding peculiarity of Athabaskan. The interlocking of a number of interrupted semantemes into a firmly knit structure seems to be a leading principle of coherence in these languages.

Some Lower Tanana Archaisms ▼ about 60 are noted

rok *chʰa-k /bad weather/ /dʰ::Vop v/

c' *trol* chinook wind, *both appear to be derived roots; a verb theme so far only in LT; important archaism*
dh' troyh trol troyh troyh
ch'w-a=O=trok V (sg.) we had bad weather (any season) **noch'ewngwhit** it is bum weather +1PT:
notr'ewngwhit we had bad weather, **noch'extenotroyh** we will have bad weather

trol *chw-1* Chinook weather, */hw-N/en/*
possible derived root; only in LT, MT, At, Den, Te, UK; only in Central-southern Alaska Range;
trol' (ins.n) warm spell in winter, Chinook wind or weather **trol' den'ta** there is a warm spell
trol' t' (ins.n) germs, something infectious, contagious, lit. 'from (somewhere) instrument'
yona' t'rol' k'ot'u'w'sr we are walking around upriver with something contagious MT81-2