# Advances in the study of Siouan languages and linguistics
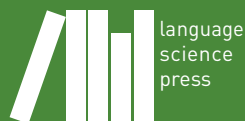
Change your subtitle in localmetadata.tex

Edited by

Catherine Rudin & Bryan J. Gordon

language science press

Studies in Diversity Linguistics

Chief Editor: Martin Haspelmath
Consulting Editors: Fernando Zúñiga, Peter Arkadiev, Ruth Singer, Pilar Valenzuela

In this series:

1. Handschuh, Corinna. A typology of marked-S languages.

2. Rießler, Michael. Adjective attribution.

3. Klamer, Marian (ed.). The Alor-Pantar languages: History and typology.

4. Berghäll, Liisa. A grammar of Mauwake (Papua New Guinea).

5. Wilbur, Joshua. A grammar of Pite Saami.

6. Dahl, Östen. Grammaticalization in the North: Noun phrase morphosyntax in Scandinavian vernaculars.

7. Schackow, Diana. A grammar of Yakkha.

8. Liljegren, Henrik. A grammar of Palula.

9. Shimelman, Aviva. A grammar of Yauyos Quechua.

# Advances in the study of Siouan languages and linguistics

Change your subtitle in localmetadata.tex

Edited by

Catherine Rudin & Bryan J. Gordon

Freie Universität Berlin

To Bob, whose knowledge was matched only by his generosity.

# Contents

# Part I

# Historical Linguistics and Philology

# Chapter 1

# NP-internal possessive constructions in Hoocąk and other Siouan languages

## Johannes Helmbrecht

Languages usually have more than one construction to express a possessive relationship. Possessive constructions in an individual language usually express semantically different relations, which are traditionally subsumed under the notion of possession such as part-whole relationships, kinship relationships, prototypical ownership, and others. Hoocąk and the other Siouan languages are no exception from this many-to-many relationship between possessive constructions and semantic kinds of possession. The present paper deals with NP-internal types of possession in Siouan languages leaving aside constructions that express possession on the clause level such as benefactive applicatives, reflexive possessives and the predicative possession. The NP-internal possessive constructions will be examined according to the semantic/syntactic nature of the possessor (regarding the Animacy Hierarchy), and the semantic nature of the possessed (alienable/ inalienable distinction). I will begin with an analysis of Hoocąk and will then compare the Hoocąk constructions with the corresponding ones in some other Siouan languages. At least one language of each sub-branch of Siouan will be discussed. It will be shown that the choice of differlakota ent NP-internal possessive constructions depends on both semantic scales (the Animacy Hierarchy and the alienable/inalienable distinction), but in each Siouan language in very individual ways. KEYWORDS: [Siouan, possessive constructions, alienable vs. inalienable, possessor, possessed, possessive pronouns]

## 1 The structure of NP-internal possessive constructions

It may safely be assumed that all languages have grammatical and lexical means to express a possessive relation between an entity A and an entity B. Semantically, possession is a cover term for a broad range of distinct relations, which are expressed by possessive constructions (PC) in the languages of the world. Central to the notion of grammatical possession are the relations of ownership, whole-part relations, and kinship relations. Less central to the general notion of possession are attribution of a property, spatial relations, association, and perhaps

nominalization. All these relations may be expressed by NP-internal possessive constructions in English as exemplified in Table 1.[1]

Table 1: Semantics of possessive relation in the broad sense (cf. Dixon 2010:262-7)

| Entity A | Possessive relation | Entity B | English example |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Possessor** | ⟵————————⟶ | **Possessed** | |
| | Ownership | | my car/ Peter's house |
| | Whole-part | | Mary's teeth/ the teeth of the bear |
| | Kinship | | Peter's wife/ my daughter |
| | Attribution of property | | her sadness/ his age |
| | Spatial relation | | the front of the house/ the inside of the church |
| | Association | | Jane's teacher/ her former school |

Not all of the different kinds of relations in Table 1 can be expressed by possessive constructions in all languages, but in most cases ownership, whole-part, and kinship relations are covered by their NP-internal PCs. It is still an open question, whether there is a general semantic notion of possession that covers all relations expressed by PCs. There is at least one prominent approach to possession which claims that there is a semantic prototype with a core and a periphery (cf. Seiler's prototype approach (Seiler 1983, 2001); and a critical examination of it in Helmbrecht 2003). Others reject this idea (cf. for instance Heine 1997; Dixon 2010:263 and others).

Languages usually have more than one syntactic construction expressing possessive relations on the clause level as well as on the NP level. In Tables 2 and 3, there are examples of different possessive constructions from Hoocąk,[2] English and German for illustrative purposes.

The present paper deals only with PCs on the NP level. Languages often possess more than just one NP-internal PC, as it is the case for instance in English. English has the *of*-construction and the genitive *=s* construction to express possession NP-internally; similarly for German. If there are two or more NP-internal PCs in a language, the choice of these constructions often depends on the semantic and syntactic category of the possessor and/or the semantic type of the

---

[1] See Dixon (2010:262-7) for a more detailed discussion of these relations.

[2] Hoocąk, formerly also known as Winnebago, is a Siouan language still spoken in Wisconsin. Hoocąk together with Otoe, Ioway, and Missouria forms the Winnebago-Chiwere sub-branch of Mississippi-Valley Siouan. For the widely accepted classification of Siouan languages see, for instance, **Rood1979** Mithun (1999:501), and Parks and **Rankin2001**

Table 2: A brief typology of possessive constructions (part 1, Clausal)

| level | construction type | examples |
|---|---|---|
| Clause | predicative possession | English<br>*I **have** a blue car.*<br>*The blue car **belongs** to me.* |
| | external possession[a]<br>(possessor raising) | Hoocąk (BO979)<br>*Huuporo=ra **hį**-teek-ire …*<br>knee=DEF 1E.U-hurt-SBJ.3.PL<br>'When my knees hurt, … ' |
| | dative of interest | German<br>*Sie schneidet **ihm** die Haare*<br>she cuts **him**.DAT the hair<br>'She cuts his hair.' |
| | beneficiary-possessor<br>polysemy | Hoocąk (**Helmbrecht2003**)<br>*Wažątírera hįįgí'eeną.*<br>wažątíre=ra hi-< **hį-gí**>-'e=ną<br>car=DEF <1E.U-APPL.BEN>-find=DECL<br>'He found the car for me.'/ 'He found my car.' |
| | possessive reflexive | Hoocąk (Helmbrecht & Lehmann (eds.) 2010)<br>*Hinįk=ra nąą<**kara**>t'ųp='anąga*<br>son=DEF <POSS.RFL> embrace(SBJ.3SG&OBJ<br>3SG)=and<br>'He (i.e. the father) embraced his son, and …' |

[a] See, for instance, Payne & **Barshi1999** on types of external possession.

Table 3: A brief typology of possessive constructions (part 2, Non-clausal)

| level | construction type | examples |
|-------|-------------------|----------|
| NP | juxtaposition (no marking at all) | Hoocąk (**Helmbrecht2003**) *Peter=gá šųųk=rá* Peter=PROP dog=DEF 'Peter's dog' |
| | genitive attribute (genitive case marker on possessor) | English *Peter's dog* |
| | prepositional attribute | German *der Hund **von** Peter* DEF dog **of** P. 'Peter's dog' |
| | pronominal index on possessed noun (possessor marking on possessed) | Mam (**England1983**) ***t**-kamb' meenb'a* 3SG-prize orphan 'the orphan's prize' (lit. 'his-prize orphan') |
| | mixed strategy (genitive case marking plus pronominal index) | Turkish (**Kornfilt1990**) *Ayşe-**nin** araba-**sı*** A.-GEN car-3SG 'Ayşe's car' (lit. Ayşe's car-his) |

> The usefulness of the literary translations is unclear, especially in conjunction with the glosses provided, which are more precise. Using 'his' for the female first name 'Ayşe' is especially strange, but 'her' sounds bad as well. Could this be removed?

| level | construction type | examples |
|-------|-------------------|----------|
| | nominalized predicative possession | Hoocąk (**Helmbrecht2003**) *hicųwį́ waháara* hicųwį́ **wa-háa=ra** aunt OBJ.3PL-have.kin(1E.U)=DEF 'my aunts' |
| Word | nominal compounds | German *das Regierungsauto* das Regierung-s-auto DEF government-LINKER-car 'the car of the government' |

possessed entity.

With regard to the possessor, the choice of the PC may depend on the specific NP type of the possessor. For instance, if the possessor is expressed by means of a possessive pronoun a different construction may be used than with a possessor expressed by a lexical noun phrase. If the possessor is a proper name or kinship term this may determine the selection of a specific PC, too. Animacy proper of the possessor, i.e. possessor NPs with a human, animate or inanimate common noun, may play a role as well. The implicational scale that brings together these different NP-types that may be relevant for the choice of different NP-internal PCs in Siouan languages as well is called Animacy Hierarchy (AH). The AH is a scale that describes many different grammatical phenomena cross-linguistically. The AH is usually considered as: 1/2 > 3 > proper noun/kin term > human common noun > animate common noun > inanimate common noun (cf. for instance Dixon 1979; Comrie 1989; Croft 2003).

With regard to the possessed, it can be observed that the choice of the NP-internal PC depends on the semantic class of the possessed, i.e. these languages often have two sets of nouns, so that $set_1$ nouns designating the possessed entity require one type of the PC, and $set_2$ nouns designating the possessed entity the other. This classification of nouns with regard to PCs is better known under the heading alienable versus inalienable distinction. Alienable nouns usually designate entities that can be owned in the prototypical sense implying that the possessor has full control over these possessed entities; for instance the possessor can sell them, give them away, and so on. The class of inalienable nouns is much more heterogeneous with regard to the semantics; inalienable nouns designate entities that bear a close association to the possessor implying that the possessor has no or only a limited control over them. Often, kinship terms, body part terms, and other relational nouns (local/spatial nouns) belong to this class. With regard to the formal marking of the respective PCs, the following possibilities can be distinguished (cf. Dixon 2010: 286-290):

i. the alienable PC is similar to that for inalienable possession with an added grammatical element;

ii. the grammatical marking for alienable possession is longer than that for inalienable possession;

iii. the alienable PC requires a classifier, the inalienable construction does not;

iv. overt marking only in an alienable PC;

The possibilities i-iv cover the cross-linguistic observation that inalienable PCs tend to be shorter and morphological less complex than alienable PCs. In other

words, the PC for alienable possession is always more marked than the PC for inalienable possession. In what follows it will be shown that this observation also holds in general for the different NP-internal PCs in Siouan.

## 2  Methodical remarks

The goal of this study is to search for all different NP-internal PCs in selected Siouan languages and to describe the conditioning factors for their choice. The guiding hypothesis is that the syntactic/semantic properties of the possessor (Animacy Hierarchy) and the semantic properties of the possessed (alienable vs. inalienable) is a fruitful notional frame for the discovery and the description of the splits in the expression of possession; cf. Table 3.

Typological studies on possession show that the properties of the possessive relation itself such as actual possession vs. possession in the past, temporary possession vs. permanent possession, close possession vs. loose possession and so on, may trigger a constructional split too, in some languages (cf. Dixon 2010: 274-6). This is, as far as I can see, not the case in Siouan languages. Therefore, these semantic parameters won't play a role in the rest of the paper.

Table 4: Semantic/syntactic parameters for constructional splits in NP-internal possessive constructions.

| Semantic-syntactic properties of the possessor (Animacy Hierarchy) | Semantic properties of the possessive relation | Semantic properties of the possessed (alienable - inalienable) |
|---|---|---|
| pronoun (SAP/3rd person) proper name kinship term common noun [human] [animate] [inanimate] | temporal/ closeness temporary/ permanent close/ loose general type of possession | A) ownership B) whole-part relation C) kinship relation D) attribution E) orientation/ location F) association G) nominalization |

The properties of the possessor and the possessed as summarized in Table 4 serve as a kind of questionnaire or guideline for the search for constructional splits in the various grammatical descriptions of Siouan languages that are used here. The data and descriptions of PCs are taken from the grammars that are available for the different Siouan languages. For Hoocąk, data fro m a text corpus

and from fieldwork sessions will be taken.

I will exclude the question of the relation between NP-internal PCs and the clause level PCs for later research. My own experience with text data from Hoocąk makes me think that clause level PCs are often preferred over the NP-internal PCs at least in Hoocąk, but this needs to be shown in more detail.

## 3  NP-internal possession in Hoocąk

Hoocąk and Chiwere (Missouria, Otoe, Ioway) are closely related and constitute the Winnebago-Chiwere sub-branch of the Mississippi Valley group of the Siouan languages. Hoocąk is taken as a representative of this sub-branch, then.

Hoocąk has no possessive pronouns comparable to English *my, your, his, her*, etc., no nominal case marking in general, and no genitive case marker in particular. In addition, there are no connectives, linkers or possessive markers, i.e. grammatical forms that indicate a possessive relation between two nominals. Hoocąk has in principal two different types of NP-internal PCs. The first one is a simple juxtaposition of two nouns without any special possessive marking, see example (1) below. The second type of PC is a complex construction with an inflected verb of possession, e.g. *=hii* 'have.kin' plus a definite article nominalizing the entire construction illustrated in example (1b). Without this definite article, we have a clause expressing a kind of predicative possession.

(1)  Hoocąk (Helmbrecht 2003: 16)

    a.  *Petergá  šųųkrá*
        Peter=gá šųųk=rá
        P.=PROP  dog=DEF

        'Peter's dog'

    b.  Hoocąk (Helmbrecht 2003: 19)
        *hicųwį́  wahaará*
        hicųwį́ wa-haa=rá
        aunt    OBJ.3PL-have.kin(1E.U)=DEF

        'my aunts'

Both types of NP-internal PC will be discussed in more detail in the subsequent sections.

## 3.1 Juxtaposition

The semantic/syntactic type of the possessor does not require the choice of the juxtaposition PC in Hoocąk with one exception. If the possessor is a speech act participant or a third person, the second construction type with the nominalized possessive verb has to be chosen obligatorily (see §3.2 below).

The following series of examples demonstrates that neither the AH – except with regard the pronoun/noun distinction – nor the distinction between alienable vs. inalienable nouns have any effect on the expression of attributive possession in Hoocąk. The example in (2)) is an attributive possessive relation with a proper name as possessor and a kinship term as possessed noun. The relation is inherent and inalienable. The definite article is required.

(2)  Hoocąk (Helmbrecht 2003: 16)
     *Petergá    hi'ącrá*
     Peter=gá hi'ąc=rá
     P.=PROP   father=DEF
     'Peter's father'

The possessive relation in (3a) is a part-whole relationship with a human possessor and a body part term as possessed. The possessive relation is inherent and inalienable. The same holds for the examples in (3b)-(3c). The whole PC needs to be specified by a determiner, i.e. the definite article, or a demonstrative pronoun. If there is a definite article following the possessor (cf. (3b)), then it is the possession of a specific and definite possessor. If the indefinite article follows the possessor (cf. (3c)), it is the possession of an indefinite possessor.

(3)  Hoocąk (Helmbrecht 2003: 13)

  a. *hinų́k    hišja=rá*
     woman face=DEF

     'the woman's face'

  b. *hinų́k=rá     hišja=rá*
     woman=DEF face=DEF
     'the face of the (specific/definite) woman'

  c. *hinų́k=ízą    hišja=ra*
     woman=DEF face=DEF

     'the face of an (indefinite) woman'

The PCs in (4) and (1) (above) are alienable. Both contain alienable possessed nouns, the inanimate noun *hiráati* 'car' and the animate noun *šųųk* 'dog'. The possessor is a human being (proper name) in both cases.

(4)   Hoocąk (Helmbrecht 2003: 13)
      *John=ga hiráati=ra*
      J.=PROP   car=DEF
      'John's car'

The possessive relation in (5) includes a body part term as possessed noun (inseparable, inalienable) with a non-human possessor. The example in (6) represents a part-whole relation with an inanimate object as possessor and an inanimate object as possessed (separable, alienable). Both possessors in (5) and (6) can be interpreted either as specific or as generic.

(5)   Hoocąk (Helmbrecht 2003: 13)
      *wijúk huu=rá*
      cat    leg=DEF
      'the leg(s) of the/a cat'

(6)   Hoocąk (Helmbrecht 2003: 13)
      *wažątíre hogis=rá*
      car        circular.part=DEF
      'the wheel(s) of a/the car'

Note that the constructions in (5) and (6) often resemble a nominal compound with the first noun specifying the second noun thus creating a new word and concept instead of expressing a possessive relation. For instance, the Hoocąk word *nąąhá* 'bark' is a compound of the noun *nąą* 'tree' and *haa* 'skin, pelt, hide' thus giving the new concept 'tree skin' which corresponds to 'bark' in English. This combination of two nouns is a nominal compound on phonological grounds. The vowel in the second noun is shortened, which is a normal word-internal process in Hoocąk. However, the boundary between compound and juxtaposition is often blurred and the function "the first noun specifies the second" can be found in phrasal juxtaposition as well as in nominal compounding. The expressions in (5) and (6) are certainly phrasal in nature. Both words in these expressions have their own primary accent and there are no sandhi processes between the two nouns.

The same type of construction employed for the expression of possession in the preceding examples is also used for the expression of spatial relations. There

are numerous local nouns such as *coowé* 'front part', *nąąké* 'back part', *rook* 'inside', *hihák* 'top, surface', and so on, which are used to express the specific local/spatial relation of an object vis-à-vis the spatial region of another object. The local nouns are the possessed nouns in these constructions. They designate the spatial position of the possessor. The possessor functions as the reference point (cf. Langacker 1993) of the localization, it represents the object with regard to which another one is localized, cf. the examples in (7). The clitic *=eja* 'there' is a local adverb almost obligatorily used in these constructions.

(7)     Hoocąk (Helmbrecht 2003: 14)

    a.  *šųųkrá   hirarúti coowéja      ʾakšąną*
        šųųk=rá **hirarúti coow=éja**   ʾak=šąną
        dog=DEF **car**      **front=there** be.lying=DECL

        'The dog is (in a lying position) in front of the car.'

    b.  *šųųkrá   hirarúti hihákeja   jeeną*
        šųųk=rá **hirarúti hihák=eja** jee=ną
        dog=DEF **car**      **top=there** be.standing=DECL

        'The dog is (in a standing position) on the top of the car.'

    c.  *šųųkrá   hirarúti rookéja      nąkšąną*
        šųųk=rá **hirarúti rook=éja**   nąk=šąną
        dog=DEF **car**      **inside=there** be.sitting=DECL

        ' The dog is (in a sitting position) inside of the car.'

The expressions in examples (2) through (7) show that the semantic nature of a lexical possessor does not trigger a shift to another construction type: this holds if the possessor is a proper name (=*ga* PROP), human noun (=DEF/=INDEF/=Ø), animate noun (=DEF/=INDEF/=Ø), or inanimate noun (=DEF/=INDEF/=Ø). In addition, the expressions in (2) through (7) show that there is no alienable-inalienable distinction: the same construction type is chosen with kinship terms, body part terms, relational spatial nouns, as well as with alienable nouns. The possessor noun may be marked by a definite (DEF), an indefinite (INDEF) article, or by zero. If the possessor is a proper name (PROP), it will be marked by the proper name marker. The entire PC is always definite (DEF) (marked on the possessed noun) except with spatial nouns. They are usually marked by means of a local adverb clitic *=eja* 'there' which – in this respect – could also be analyzed as a general local postposition. The examples also show that this type of PC may express real ownership, part-whole relations, kinship relations, and spatial relations.

## 3.2 Nominalized verbal possessive constructions

The juxtaposition of two nominals is a general construction type to express possession and other binary relations in Hoocąk. There is, however, an alternative NP-internal possessive construction, which indeed exhibits a classification of nouns: inalienable nouns such as kinship terms, domestic (pet) animals, and alienable nouns. These alternative constructions are in each case a nominalized version of the possessive predication employing different possessive verbs for different types of possessed entities. The nominalized possessive clauses appear in the same syntactic position as the juxtaposed nouns, i.e. in a noun phrase position of the clause.

(8)   Hoocąk (Helmbrecht 2003: 16)

    a.   ***John=gá hiráati=ra** hacáa=ną*
        J.=PROP car=DEF     see(1E.A&OBJ.3SG=DECL
        'I see John's car.'

    b.   ***John=gá hiráati hanį=rá**        hacáa=ną*
        J.=PROP car own(SBJ.3SG&OBJ.3SG)=DEF see(1E.A&OBJ.3SG)=DECL
        'I see John's car.'

Both clauses in (8) have the same translation, but speakers indicate that they prefer the nominalized variant over the juxtaposed variant. The same constructional pairs exist for possessive constructions with kinship terms and pet animals (domestic animals). These nominalized possessive clauses represent a kind of transition from attributive to predicative possession. The general structure of these nominalized possessive clauses is given in (9).

(9)   General structure of the nominalized verbal possessive construction
    [(N-POSSESSOR$_i$) N-POSSESSED$_j$ PRO$_j$-PRO$_i$-Verb of
    possession=DET]$_{NP}$

If the possessor is a speech act participant or third person, these nominalized PCs are the only possibility. Since the possessor is often a topic (given and definite) in discourse and hence expressed pronominally as a 3SG, this type of PC prevails in discourse over the alternative juxtaposition. Note that 3SG arguments are always marked zero on the verbs. Both entities $X_{possessor}$ and $Y_{possessed}$ are cross-referenced in the verb of possession utilizing the two different series of pronominal prefixes, the actor/subject series for the possessor and the undergoer/object series for the possessed. The verbs of possession are treated as regular transitive verbs.

If the possessor is a lexical human noun, this construction type competes with the juxtaposition type of PCs dealt with in the preceding section; cf. the following examples in (10).

(10)    Hoocąk (Helmbrecht 2003: 16)

> a.  *Peterga   hi'ą́c   hiirá*
>     Peter=ga hi'ą́c   **hii**=ra
>     P.=PROP   father have.kin=DEF
>
>     'Peter's father'
>
> b.  *Peterga    šų́ų̨k   nįįhíra*
>     Peter=ga šų́ų̨k   **nįįhí**=ra
>     P.=PROP   dog   have.pet=DEF
>
>     'Peter's dog'
>
> c.  *John=gá hiráati **hanį**=rá*
>     J.=PROP car      own=DEF
>
>     'John's car'

The verbs of possession that are used in the PCs in (10) are restricted in their usage. The verb *=hii* 'X has Y as kin' can only be used with kinship terms or with terms designating close friends. This verb is homophonous with the causative auxiliary *=hii* 'to cause'. There are reasons to believe that both verbs are historically cognate, and that they should be considered as different usages of one verb rather than homonyms. The main reason for this analysis is that the causative verb *=hii* has an irregular personal inflection, and the possessive verb *=hii* shows exactly the same pattern.

The possessive verb *nįįhí* 'X has Y as pet' is used only with pet animals. Usually, pet animals are domesticated animals such as cats, and dogs, etc. The semantic boundaries of this class are not clear-cut. Historically, *nįįhí* is presumably a combination of *\*nį* 'to live, living thing', which does not occur independently in Hoocąk and the causative auxiliary *=hii*.[3] The verb *nįįhí* shows the same inflectional irregularities as the causative verb *=hii*.

The possessive verb *hanį* 'to own' is a regular (lexical) transitive verb designating the possession of alienable entities such as inanimate objects, artifacts, animals, and so on. Body parts belong to this group of nouns, too. It is restricted to

---

[3] *\*nį* is the reconstructed Proto-Mississippi-Valley Siouan form for 'live, be alive' (cf. Rankin et al (eds.) 2015). This form can be found in other verbs in Hoocąk such as *nįįhá* 'to breathe' or in *nįį'ą́p* 'be alive'.

human possessors. Part-whole relations with inanimate possessors, on the other hand, are never expressed with this construction. Cf. the summary in Table 5.

Table 5: Alienable vs. inalienable distinction in Hoocąk

| inalienable/ inseparable | | alienable/ separable |
|---|---|---|
| set$_1$: =híi | set$_2$: nįįhí | set$_3$: haną́ |
| kinship (including close social relations such as friendship) | pet animals (usually domestic animals such as dog, cat, horse, etc.) | animate and inanimate objects such as non-domestic animals, artifacts, and so on including body parts |

All three verbs in Table 5 form the same type of nominalized verbal PC with pronominal and lexical human possessors. There is no difference between them with regard to structural markedness or with regard to the iconic relationship observed for the inalienable vs. alienable distinction and the size of the corresponding PCs. The paradigms for all three verbs of possession are given below; cf. Table 6, Table 7, and Table 8. The paradigms contain only constructions with a 3sg possessed noun. If the possessed nouns were plural ('aunts', 'dogs', and 'cars') the verbs of possession would be inflected for the third person plural object (wa- OBJ.3PL).

Table 6: Paradigm of the possessive verb *hii* 'to have.kin'

| possessor | possessed N *hicųwį́* | |
|---|---|---|
| 1sg | hicųwį́ haa=rá | 'my aunt' (father's sister) |
| 2sg | hicųwį́ raa=ra/=gá | 'your aunt' |
| 3sg | hicųwį́ hii=rá | 'his aunt' |
| 1I.D | hicųwį́ hįhi=rá /=ga | 'my and your aunt' |
| 1I.PL | hicųwį́ hįhiwí=ra | 'our aunt' |
| 1E.PL | hicųwį́ haawí=ra | 'our aunt' |
| 2PL | hicųwį́ raawí=ra/=ga | 'your aunt' |
| 3PL | hicųwį́ hiíre=ra | 'their aunt' |

The kinship term *hicųwį́* 'aunt (father's sister)' has a variant form that is used for address purposes, *cųwį́* '(my) aunt!'. These address forms of kinship terms — often simply lacking the initial syllable *hi-* — cannot occur in a possessive

Table 7: Paradigm of the possessive verb *nįįhi* 'to have.pet'

| possessor | possessed N *šųųk* | |
|---|---|---|
| 1SG | šųųk nįįháa=ra | 'my dog' |
| 2SG | šųųk nįįná=ra/=ga | 'your dog' |
| 3SG | šųųk nįįhí=ra | 'his dog' |
| 1I.D | šųųk nįįhi=ra/=ga | 'our dog' |
| 1I.PL | šųųk nįįháwi=ra | 'our dog' |
| 1E.PL | šųųk nįįhiwi=ra | 'our dog' |
| 2PL | šųųk nįįnáwira/=ga | 'your dog' |
| 3PL | šųųk nįįhíre=ra | 'their dog' |

Table 8: Paradigm of the possessive verb *hanį́* 'to have'

| possessor | possessed N *wažątíre* | |
|---|---|---|
| 1SG | wažątíre haanį́=ną[a] | 'my car' |
| 2SG | wažątíre hašįnį́=ną | 'your car' |
| 3SG | wažątíre hanį́=ną | 'his car' |
| 1I.D | wažątíre hįįnį́=ną | 'our car' |
| 1I.PL | wažątíre hįįnį́wį=ną | 'our car' |
| 1E.PL | wažątíre haanį́wį=ną | 'our car' |
| 2PL | wažątíre hašįnį́wį=ną | 'your car' |
| 3PL | wažątíre hanį́įne=ra | 'their car' |

[a] There are two phonological rules in Hoocąk a) that underlying /r/ becomes [n] after nasal vowels and b) that oral vowels are nasalized after nasal consonants. Sometimes rule a) is indicated orthographically by a haček/caron <ň>.

construction. This seems to be a general rule for obvious reasons. The usage of kinship terms as address terms usually presupposes that such a kinship relation holds between speaker and hearer.

There is another kind of variation in the paradigm of kinship possession that may be rooted in the mutual knowledge of the interlocutors. The common determiner in possessive constructions with a kinship term is the definite article *=ra*. However, in the second person singular and plural the determiner is *=ga*, a deictic element also used for the indication of proper names. Lipkind claims that *=ga* has to be used exclusively in these instances (cf. Lipkind 1945:31), but Hoocąk speakers gave me forms that show that there is actually a choice between *=ra* and *=ga* in the second person and in the first person inclusive dual form;[4] *=ga* is ungrammatical in all other person categories. One of my most important language consultants, Phil Mike, indicated to me that this choice has to do with the mutual knowledge of the kinsman by both interlocutors. The definite article is used in the second person, if the speaker does not know the kinsman (assuming that the hearer knows his or her kinsmen), but *=ga* is used when both interlocutors know the person talked about (which is more naturally the case if the speaker talks about the kinsman of the hearer). This could also explain why *=ga* is not allowed if the possessed is plural. The deictic suffix *=ga* is also used with the address forms of kinship terms indicating the first person as possessor. Lipkind (1945:31) says that all kin terms with initial *hi-* take *haará* 'my' in the first person; the few ones without it take solely *=ga* instead; the reason is that the shorter forms are terms of address while the *hi-* forms are terms for reference. For instance, the form *cųwį́* is the address term corresponding to *hicųwį́* 'aunt (father's sister)'. Hence the 1SG possessive form is *cųwį́-gá* which translates literally 'that aunt' implying that everybody knows that she is the aunt of the speaker (EGO). It is a kind of reduced form of speaking. The address term implies that the person so addressed has the kin relation designated by the term toward the speaker. It is an effect of the Animacy Hierarchy. Shared background knowledge of the possessor plays an important role here (cf. also Heine 1997:26f).[5]

---

[4] I am particularly grateful to Henning Garvin helping me to collect the relevant forms here.

[5] This can also be interpreted as an instance where the inherent relationality of kin terms leads to a structural reduction of the expression of possession confirming the prediction of the prototype approach.

# 4 Constructional splits in the other Siouan languages

In what follows a few other Siouan languages are examined with regard to constructional splits that have to do with the NP type of the possessor and the semantics of the possessed. I will begin with the Northwestern Siouan languages Crow, Hidatsa, and Mandan (§4.1-§4.3), then I will continue with Lakota (the Dakotan sub-branch of Mississippi-Valley Siouan; §4.4) and Osage (Dhegiha sub-branch of Mississippi-Valley Siouan; §4.5), and I will close this investigation with Biloxi as a representative of the South-Eastern branch of Siouan (Ohio-Valley Siouan; §4.6).

## 4.1 Crow

### 4.1.1 The possessor

Crow has four different NP-internal PCs depending on the semantic/syntactic nature of the possessor; cf. the examples in (11) through (14).

(11)  Crow (Graczyk 2007: 234)

   a. [Poss.Pro — $N_{possessed}$]

   b. *Ø-iilápxe*
      3SG.POSS-father
      'his father'

(12)  Crow (Graczyk 2007: 234)

   a. [$N_{possessor}$(-DET/-Ø) Poss.Pro — $N_{possessed}$]

   b. *Charlie-sh Ø-iilápxe*
      C.-DET      3SG.POSS-father
      'Charlie's father'

(13)  Crow (**Graczyk2007**)

   a. [Emphatic PRO-POSS.PRO-$N_{possessed}$]

   b. *bii-w-*                      *achuuké*
      1SG.EMPH-1SG.POSS-younger.brother
      'MY younger brother'

(14)  Crow (Graczyk 2007: 236)

   a. [[[$N_{possessor}$] [$N_{possessor}$]] [$N_{possessed}$]]

b. *úuxbishke*     *chíis-uua iía*
   white.tailed.deer tail-PL    hair
   'hair from the tail of the white-tail deer'

No matter whether the possessed noun is alienable or inalienable, there has to be a possessive pronoun attached to the possessed noun indicating the possessor (cf. example (11)). The same is true if there is a lexical possessor in addition (cf. example (12)). The possessive prefix may be emphasized by means of a bound emphatic pronoun prefixed to the possessive prefix (cf. example (13)). Interestingly, there are also PCs that do not show any possessive marking and hence look like a juxtaposition expressing a whole-part relationship, cf. the example in (14). I did not find more examples like this in Graczyk's grammar, so I cannot say if this is generally an alternative possibility or required for non-human possessors.

### 4.1.2 The possessed

Crow has different paradigms of proper bound possessive pronouns distinguishing different sets of possessed nouns according to the alienable versus inalienable distinction. The paradigm of possessive pronouns for alienable possession is given in Table 9; the paradigm of inalienable possession is given in Table 10.

Table 9: Alienable possession in Crow (Graczyk 2007: 53)

|  | stem *íilaalee* |  |
|---|---|---|
| 1SG | **ba**-**s**-íilaalee | 'my car(s)' |
| 2SG | **dí**-**s**-iilaalee | 'your car(s)' |
| 3SG | **i**-**s**-íilaalee | 'his/her car(s)' |
| 1I.PL | **balee**-**is**-íilaalee | 'our car(s)' |
| 1E.PL | **ba**-**s**-íilaalee-**o** | 'our car(s)' |
| 2PL | **dí**-**s**-iilaalee-**o** | 'your car(s)' |
| 3PL | **i**-**s**-íilaalee-**o** | 'their car(s)' |

The possessive pronouns of alienable possession in Table 9 are formally invariable; they have an additional /-s/ thus being phonologically more marked than the prefixes of the inalienable paradigm. The 2SG possessive pronoun of the alienable paradigm shows a shift of the primary stress from the stem to the prefix, a pattern which is found also in some of the active verb paradigms. The 1I.PL prefix *balee-* is taken from the B-set pronominal paradigm for stative verbs. This

Table 10: Inalienable possession in Crow (Graczyk 2007: 52)

|        | stem *apá*      |                 |
|--------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1SG    | **b**-apé       | 'my nose'       |
| 2SG    | **d**-ápe       | 'your nose'     |
| 3SG    | **Ø**-apé       | 'his/her nose'  |
| 1I.PL  | -               | -               |
| 1PL    | **b**-ap-**úua** | 'our noses'    |
| 2PL    | **d**-áp-**uua** | 'your noses'   |
| 3PL    | **Ø**-ap-**úua** | 'their noses'  |

form is added to the 3SG.POSS *is-* prefix, probably a late innovation introducing a 1PL inclusive-exclusive distinction into the alienable paradigm. This distinction is lacking in the inalienable paradigm of possessive pronouns as well as in the verbal paradigms. The suffixes in both paradigms (*-o* in the alienable possessive paradigm, *-úua* in the inalienable possessive paradigm) indicate the plurality of the possessor.

The paradigm of inalienable possession varies in form depending on the stem-initial sounds. There are three phonologically conditioned allomorphic paradigms, for stems in /d-/, /i+consonant-/, and /vowel-/. As can be seen in Table 10, the stem itself also undergoes some sound changes.

There are, however, three additional paradigms of inalienable possession: a) one that marks possession with the undergoer series of pronominal prefixes (called B-set of pronominal prefixes in Graczyk's grammar), b) one with an irregular paradigm, and c) one residual paradigm that shows stem suppletion. Graczyk (2007:57) finds the following classification of nouns associated with these three different inalienable paradigms.

**a)** Inalienable possession with the B-set prefixes is used with nouns referring to internal body parts such as 'gland', 'joint', 'limb', 'hip', 'bone', 'lung', 'stomach', etc. (cf. Graczyk 2007: 57).

**b)** There are not enough nouns requiring the irregular paradigm for a semantic classification, but they all seem to belong semantically rather to the inalienable class of nouns, though;

**c)** The nouns that require suppletive stems refer to kinship relations, clothing, and some culturally important possessions, cf. the examples in Table 11.

The first column shows the nouns in citation form, the second column in a possessive construction. The corresponding stems are clearly suppletive.

Table 11: Suppletive stems in Crow (Graczyk 2007: 58)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ihkáa | 'mother' | is-ahká | 'his mother |
| huupá | 'shoe' | is-ahpá | 'his shoe' |
| alúuta | 'arrow' | is-aá | 'his arrow' |
| buú | 'song' | is-huú | 'his song' |

There is also a prefix *bale-* that is used if inalienable nouns are used without indicating a possessor. This form is called depossessivizer in Graczyk (2007: 53/234) and it is obligatorily used with unpossessed body part nouns. This form is not used with kinship terms.

Table 12 summarizes the findings with regard to the alienable/inalienable distinction. Inalienable nouns are a closed class of nouns in Crow. It is clear that the semantic classification of the nouns with regard to the different PCs is not sharp. There are even body part nouns that belong to the alienable class ($set_5$). Gross modo, however, the nouns in $set_1$ - $set_4$ could be subsumed under a class of inalienable nouns semantically.

## 4.2 Hidatsa

### 4.2.1 The possessor

Hidatsa and Crow are closely related and constitute the Missouri Valley sub-branch of Siouan. Although they belong to the same sub-branch of Siouan, there are differences in the expression of possession. Hidatsa has different PCs depending on the syntactic/semantic type of the possessor. As in Crow, there is an obligatory marking of the possessor on the possessed noun no matter whether the possessed noun is alienable or inalienable; cf. the alienable PC in (15b)). If there is an additional lexical possessor, the structure of the PC in Hidatsa is analog to the one in Crow, cf. the alienable PC in (15a).

(15)  Hidatsa (Boyle 2007: 81)

Table 12: Alienable vs. inalienable distinction in Crow

| inalienable | | | | alienable |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| set$_1$ | set$_2$ | set$_3$ | set$_4$ | set$_5$ |
| phonologically conditioned inalienable paradigm | B-set prefixes | irregular paradigm | suppletive possessed forms | alienable paradigm |
| body parts, kinship | closed class of nouns referring to internal body parts | 'chest', 'tail', 'husband' | closed class of nouns referring to objects closely associated to a person (e.g. clothing, a few kin terms, culturally important possessions) | open class of nouns not inherently possessed; exceptions are: *huli* 'bone', *íili* 'blood', *kahkahká* 'forearm' and a few others. |

    a.  *macée idawashúga*
       wacée ita=wašúka
       man   3SG.POSS=dog
       'man's dog'

    b.  *idawashúga*
       ita=wašúka
       3SG.POSS=dog
       'his dog'

**Boyle2007** does not mention in his grammar of Hidatsa whether there exists a juxtaposition of possessor-possessed as another possible PC in Hidatsa. One of the peculiarities of PCs in Hidatsa is that they can freely be modified by a defi-

nite article and/or a demonstrative pronoun. Since there are a lot of similarities between Crow and Hidatsa, the discussion of the properties of the possessed will be brief.

### 4.2.2 The possessed

As in Crow, there are two paradigms of possessive pronouns in Hidatsa, one indicating inalienable possession, the other alienable possession; cf. Table 13.

Table 13: Alienable and inalienable possessive pronouns (Boyle 2007: 72; 80)

|   | inalienable possessive pronouns |         | alienable possessive pronouns |          |
|---|---------------------------------|---------|-------------------------------|----------|
| 1 | ma- /wa-/                       | 'my'    | mada= /wa-ta=/                | 'my'     |
| 2 | ni- /ri-/                       | 'your   | nida= /ri-ta=/                | 'your    |
| 3 | i- /i-/                         | 'his, her' | ida= /i-ta=/               | 'his, her' |

The paradigm for inalienable possession shows — as with Crow set$_1$ nouns — phonologically conditioned allomorphy (stem-initial vowel vs. stem-initial consonant, and /r/-initial stems). It seems that there is no semantic sub-classification associated with the allomorphy in the inalienable prefixes and the corresponding irregularities. Therefore, I lumped these different formal properties of inalienable nouns together in one set$_1$ class of nouns in Table 14.

However, there are also differences. For instance, the 2POSS forms do not trigger a shift in stress assignment as in Crow, and the inalienable possessive prefixes are true prefixes, whereas the corresponding alienable forms are analyzed as clitics. The alienable forms are identical to the ones for inalienable possession plus /*ta*-/ which can be found in other Siouan languages as well (cf. e.g. in Lakota alienable PCs of set$_4$ nouns which have a -*t$^h$a* prefix added to the undergoer pronominal prefix; cf. Table 16 below). There is no mention of a depossessivizer in Boyle's grammar of Hidatsa.

### 4.3 Mandan

Mandan is considered a proper sub-branch of Siouan neither belonging to the Missouri Valley nor the Mississippi Valley group of Siouan.

The semantic/syntactic properties of the possessor and their possible effects on the choice of the PC are not discussed and described in Mixco's grammatical sketch (Mixco 1997). However, looking into the appended Mandan text, it seems

Table 14: Alienable vs. inalienable distinction in Hidatsa

| inalienable | alienable |
|---|---|
| set$_1$ | set$_2$ |
| inalienable paradigm (including phonologically conditioned allomorphy and some irregular forms) | alienable paradigm (no allomorphy) |
| closed class of nouns: body parts, many kinship terms, some clothing items | open class of nouns not inherently possessed |

that juxtapositions are possible in case the possessor is a lexical noun. There is at least one clear example of this construction (cf. (16)) that shows that association may be expressed by this PC.

(16)   Mandan (Mixco 1997: 70; text line 24)
    *ʼwį=ti   rų̓ʼwą̓ʔk=ši-s*
    village man=good-DEF
    'the village chief'

If the possessor is a speech act participant or a third person, one of the follow-ing distinct PCs has to be used. In one construction the possessive pronominal affixes, which are in principle identical to the undergoer series of pronominal affixes (called 'stative' in Mixco 1997:44) are attached directly to the noun stem that designates the possessed [POSS-N$_{stem}$]$_{inalienable\ possession}$. This construction is used for inalienable possession; see the relevant forms in Table 15.

The second PC inserts a prefix *ta-* between the stem and the possessive prefix [POSS-*ta*-N$_{stem}$]$_{alienable\ possession}$. This construction is used for alienable possession. The form *ta-* as an alienable marker is cognate to Lakota *tʰá-*, see below. The possessive prefixes are the same as in the inalienable PC, see Table 15.

There are some peculiarities with PC for inalienable possession. First, there are some kinship terms that require a prefix *ko-* for third person possessor. I suppose this form is related historically to *ku-/tku-* in Lakota. Secondly, there are kinship terms and a few other alienable terms (old nominalized verb forms) that take the actor series of pronominal prefixes in order to express the possessor. For instance,

Table 15: Possessor affixes in Mandan (Mixco 1997: 16f,44)

|   | SG | PL |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | wį-[a] | ro:- |
| 2 | rį- | rį-stem-rįt |
| 3 | i- | -kræ[b] |

[a] Note that this form of the 1SG.POSS differs from the corresponding form of the undergoer series, which is wą-. Mixco speculates that the wį- form is a contraction of wą- + i- for the third person, but provides no evidence for this idea.

[b] Mixco does not give the full paradigm, neither for the stative or undergoer affixes nor for the possessive affixes. This is the reason for the question mark. In addition I did not find a single example in Mixco's sketch of Mandan that corresponds to 'their Y'. Note, however, that Kennard (1936:8) gives the form *-kɛrɛ* for the 3PL possessive affix. The forms are identical, but the transcription is different.

the kinship term for 'mother' takes the usual undergoer series of prefixes for inalienable possession, but requires *ko-* for the third person possessor; cf. (17).

(17)   Mandan (Mixco 1997: 45)

     a.   *wį-hų:-s*
        1SG.POSS-mother-DEF
        'my mother'

     b.   *rų-hų:-s*
        2SG.POSS-mother-DEF
        'your mother'

     c.   *ko-hų:-s*
        3SG.POSS-mother-DEF
        'his mother'

The term for 'father', on the other hand, requires the actor series of pronominal affixes in Mandan in order to express the possessor, cf. the examples in (18).

(18)   Mandan (Mixco 1997: 45)

     a.   *wa-aʔt-s*
        1SG.A-father-DEF
        'my father'

    b.  *a-aʔt-s*
       2SG.A-father-DEF
       'your father'

    c.  *ko-aʔt-s*
       3SG.A-father-DEF
       'his father'

Interestingly, no mention is made of the way body parts are possessed in Mandan. A quick look into the Mandan text (cf. Mixco 1997:66ff) reveals that body part nouns never occur in one of the above described PCs with possessive affixes. They appear always without the *ta-* form and never carry any possessive affixes. The possessor always has to be inferred from the text.

## 4.4 Lakota

### 4.4.1 The possessor

Lakota is a language of the Mississippi Valley Siouan languages, more specifically of the Dakotan sub-branch of this group. Lakota does employ possessive pronouns, which are almost entirely identical to the set of undergoer pronominal prefixes in stative/inactive verbs. If the possessor is a SAP/pronoun and the possessed noun belongs to the class of alienable nouns, the following constructions may be used. Note that the 1SG.POSS *mi-* is a special form that does not correspond to the regular 1SG form of the pronominal undergoer prefixes (*ma-*).[6]

**a) Ownership**
[N$_{possessed-inanim}$ PRO.POSS-HAVE DET]

(19)    Lakota (Buechel 1939: 98)
      *thípi   mi-tȟáwa kiŋ*
      house 1SG-have  DEF
      'my house'

**b) Ownership, attribution of property**
[PRO-*tȟa*-N$_{possessed-inanim/abstr}$ DEF]

---

[6] Data in this section has been re-spelled in the current Lakota orthography.

(20)   Lakota (Buechel 1939: 98)

   a.   *mi-tȟá-makȟočhe kiŋ*
        1SG.POSS-land   DEF
        'my land'

   b.   *nitȟóksape        kiŋ*
        ni-tȟá-wóksape   kiŋ
        2SG-POSS-wisdom DEF
        'thy wisdom'

There is no information about the conditions or the differences between the two constructions; it is clear that the one in (19) contains a stative verb of possession *tȟáwa-* 'have' that is nominalized in this context inflecting for the person and number of the possessor and the number of the possessed. In Rood & Taylor (1996:458) it is said that the stative verb of possession *itȟáwa* 'have' depends only on the category of the possessor in this PC and not on the number of the possessed. It seems that this stative verb of possession has been grammaticalized towards a marker of possession quite recently in Lakota.

The PCs in (20) contain a marker for possession *tȟá-* 'POSS' which is attached to the possessed noun and preceded by the pronominal affix of the possessor. This marker is common Siouan (cf. Rankin et al. 2015). If there are lexical nouns expressing the possessor, the following PCs are used.

**c) Ownership**
[N~possessed-anim~ N~possessor-PROP~ PRO.POSS-HAVE DEF]

(21)   Lakota (Buechel 1939: 91)
       *šúŋka wakȟáŋ David Ø-tȟáwa  kiŋ*
       horse         D.    3SG-have DEF
       'David's horse'

[N~possessed-anim~ N~possessor-PROP~ PRO.POSS-HAVE DEF]

(22)   Lakota (Buechel 1939: 91)
       *šúŋka wakȟáŋ Peter na   Paul Ø-tȟáwa-pi  kiŋ*
       horse          P.    and P.    3SG-have-PL DEF
       'Peter and Paul's horses (or horse)'

**d) Association**
[N~possessor-PROP~ PRO.POSS-*tȟa*-N~possessed-hum~ DEF]

(23)   Lakota (Buechel 1939: 92)
       *Itȟáŋčhaŋ Ø-tȟa-wóilake    kiŋ*
       Lord       3SG-POSS-servant DEF
       'the Lord's servant'

   [N~possessor-PROP~ PRO.POSS-*tȟa*-N~possessed-hum~ DEF]

(24)   Lakota (Buechel 1939: 92)
       *Abraham Ø-tȟa-wámakȟaškaŋ-pi kiŋ*
       A.       3SG-POSS-animal-PL    DEF
       'Abraham's animals'

Again we have two different PCs in the examples (21)-(24) with a lexical posses-
sor, one with a verb of possession that is nominalized, and the other exhibiting
a morphological possessor marking on the possessed noun. These examples rep-
resent alienable possessions. It can be concluded that the syntactic status of the
possessor does not play a role for the choice of the PCs.
   If the relation between the possessor and the possessed is a whole-part relation,
or a partitive relation, or the possessor noun is an abstract noun or a nominaliza-
tion, the following constructions are used.

   **e) Whole-part relationships**
   [N~possessor-inanim~ N~possessed-anim~ DEF] (juxtaposition)

(25)   Lakota (Buechel 1939: 92)
       *maȟpíya zitkála-pi kiŋ*
       cloud    bird-PL    DEF
       'the birds of the air'

   [N~possessor-inanim~ N~possessed-inanim~ INDEF]

(26)   Lakota (Buechel 1939: 92)
       *čheȟ    íkȟaŋ waŋ*
       bucket rope   INDEF
       'a bucket handle, rope of a bucket'

   **f) Partitive**

(27)   Lakota (Buechel 1939: 93)

> *itȟáŋčhaŋpi kį    óta*
> chiefs        DEF many
> 'many of the chiefs'

Example (27) is not really a PC, but a regular quantified NP. The same holds for (28). It can hardly be considered a PC. It is rather a juxtaposition expressing a NP ('good works') modifying another NP ('man').

**g) With an abstract possessor N**

(28)   Lakota (Buechel 1939: 93)
   *wičháša oȟʼaŋ      wašté kiŋ  héčha*
   man      in.actions good  DEF such
   'a man of good works'

### 4.4.2 The possessed

There are different PCs according to the semantic type of the possessed noun; body part terms are simply affixed by the pronominal series of undergoer prefixes. Among the body part terms, there is a split between body parts that are "conceived as particularly subject to willpower" (Boas & Deloria 1941:128), and the others. Buechel (1939:100) describes this difference as "possession of one's incorporeal constituents" versus "possession of one's body and its physical parts"; compare the examples in (29) and (30).

(29)   Lakota (Buechel 1939: 101)
   *mi-náǧi kiŋ*        'my souls'
   *mi-čháže kiŋ*        'my name'
   *mi-óȟʼaŋ kiŋ*       'my occupation'
   etc.

(30)   Lakota (Buechel 1939: 100)
   *ma-čhéži kiŋ*       'my tongue'
   *ma-íšta kiŋ*        'my eye'
   *ma-sí kiŋ*          'my foot'
   etc.

Note that this distinction has become partially obsolete in contemporary Lakota. Rood & Taylor (1996:458) note that this distinction is semantically maintained

only in the Oglala variety of Lakota. There *ma-* (1SG.POSS) is used for "concrete visible possessions", and *mi-* (1SG.POSS) for "intangibles" (cf. Rood & Taylor 1996:458). Otherwise, both forms are in free variation.

Kinship relations with a possessor of the first and second person are expressed solely by the possessive prefixes. A possessor of the third person requires an additional marker *−ku, -tku, -ču* which is suffixed to the possessed kinship term; cf. (31).

(31)   Lakota (Buechel 1939: 102)
    *mi-tȟúŋkašila*        'my grandfather'
    *ni-tȟúŋkašila kiŋ*     'thy grandfather'
    *Ø-tȟúŋkašit**ku** kiŋ*   'his/her grandfather'

Table 16 summarizes the findings. As was mentioned above, the set$_1$ and set$_2$ possessed nouns are no longer separated formally in Lakota (except for Oglala).

Table 16: Alienable vs. inalienable distinction in Lakota (Boas & Deloria 1941: 127-33)

| inseparable/inalienable | | separable/alienable | |
|---|---|---|---|
| set$_1$ | set$_2$ | set$_3$ | set$_4$ |
| body part terms [+control] [incorporeal constituents] mouth, lips, facial expression, eye, arm, voice, hand, spirit, etc. | body part terms [-control] [physical parts] kidney, knee, liver, lungs, blood, etc. | kinship relations ownership | distal affinal kinship terms prototypical |
| PC | PC | PC | PC |
| [PRO.POSS-noun] with a special form in the 1SG.POSS (*mi-*) | [PRO.POSS-noun] | [1./2.POSS-noun] [3.POSS-noun-*ku*] -*tku*] -*cu*] | [PRO.POSS -*tʰa*-noun] [noun PRO.POSS-*tʰa'wa*] |

As in Hoocąk, the causative verb is used for the clause-level predicative expression of possession of a kinship term, cf. (32).

(32)   Lakota (Buechel 1939: 102)

    a. *tȟuŋkášila-wa-ya*
       grandfather-1SG.A-have.kin
       'I have (him) as grandfather'

    b. *tȟuŋkášila-uŋ-yaŋ-pi*
       grandfather-1I.A-have.kin-PL
       'We have (him) as grandfather'

I found no example showing that this verb of possession could be used like the alienable verb of possession *tȟáwa* illustrated in (19) above. If this were the case, we would have a quite similar opposition of verbs of possession in Lakota as we found in Hoocąk.

In addition, it should be mentioned that Lakota allows the non-modifying auto-referential usage of the possessive pronouns, however only the expressions based on the verb of possession *tȟáwa* plus the definite article. This could be interpreted as a nominalized possessive predication; cf. (33)).[7]

(33)   Lakota (Buechel 1939: 22)
      *mitȟáwa kiŋ  hé  ahí   ičú*
      mine     DEF she came take
      'She came and took mine'

Interestingly, this is a PC in which there is no possessed noun. All other PCs discussed so far require a possessed lexical noun.

## 4.5 Osage

Osage is taken as a representative of the Dhegiha sub-branch of Mississippi Valley Siouan. It was chosen because there is a recent extensive grammatical description of this language (Quintero 2004). Unfortunately, it is difficult to find the relevant data out of Quintero's grammar of Osage. There is no specific chapter on possession, and there is no index in the grammar. Quintero uses the terms alienable and inalienable, but it is not made explicit which nouns are alienable and which are inalienable. However, some conclusions about this question can be drawn from the numerous examples provided by the grammar. There is a special construction for PCs with possessed kinship nouns. Kinship nouns are inflected with a series of inalienable pronominal prefixes, cf. Table 17.

---

[7] One of the reviewers mentioned that *mitȟáwa ki̧ he* could be analyzed as a null head relative clause. This is probably the best way to treat it. It does not, however, change the argument here. The example only demonstrates that a nominal expression for the possessed is not required in this possessive construction.

Table 17: Inalienable possessive prefixes for kinship terms in Osage (Quintero 2004: 481f)

| Possessor | inalienable prefix paradigm | example | translation |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1sg | wi- | wi-sǫ́ka | 'my (male's) younger brother' |
| 2sg | ði- | ði-sǫ́ka | 'your (male's) younger brother' |
| 3sg | i- | i-sǫ́ka | 'his (male's) younger brother' |
| 1pl | does not exist | - | - |
| 2pl | ? | ? | |
| 3pl | ? | ? | |

The question marks in Table 17 indicate that Quintero did not provide the expected forms. In addition, PCs with possessed body part nouns are not provided either.

Alienable nouns require another construction, which has the following properties. There is a pronominally inflected (bound) stem *-hta*, which marks possession.[8] The pronominal prefixes resemble the ones used for the PCs with possessed kinship terms, with one exception. There is a dual and plural form for the first person, which does not exist in the PCs with possessed kinship terms. The inflected possessive form follows the possessed noun; cf. the examples in (34) and (35). The full paradigm is given in Table 18.

(34)  Osage (Quintero 2004: 298)
      *ówe      che   **hcí    ąkóhta-api** aðį́-ahi-a*
      groceries those **house 1pl.poss-pl**  have-arrive.there-imp
      'Bring those groceries to our house!'

(35)  Osage (Quintero 2004: 299)
      *Máry Ĵóhn-a **hcí    íhta-api***
      M.    J.-syl **house 3sg.poss-pl**
      'Mary and John's house'

Quintero analyzes the possessive form *-hta* as a noun or nominal element for two reasons: first, this stem is inflected by the same prefixes as the inalienable

---

[8] Again, this is the Common Siouan marker for alienable possession (cf. Rankin et al. (eds.) 2015).

Table 18: Alienable possession in Osage (Quintero 2004: 297f)

|        | possessed     | possessor              | translation       |
|--------|---------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| 1SG    | hcí 'house'   | wihta ? (<wi-hta)      | 'my house'        |
| 2SG    | hcí 'house'   | ðíhta (<ðí-hta)        | 'your house'      |
| 3SG    | hcí 'house'   | ihta (<i-hta)          | 'his/her house'   |
| 1DU    | hcí 'house'   | ąkóhta (< ąkó-hta)     | 'our house'       |
| 1PL    | hcí 'house'   | ąkóhtapi (<ąkó-hta-api)| 'our house'       |
| 2PL    | hcí 'house'   | ðíhtaapi (<ðí-hta-api) | 'your house'      |
| 3PL    | hcí 'house'   | ihta-api (<i-hta-api)  | 'their house'     |

nouns (kinship terms), and secondly, if it would be analyzed as a verbal stem, the possessive inflection would be quite irregular (cf. Quintero 2004: 317f).

One problem with this reasoning is that one would have to expect that the nominal stem *-hta* belongs to the group of inalienable nouns because it requires the inalienable series of prefixes. There is, however, no evidence for that. Secondly, the order of elements suggests that the *-hta* stem is of verbal origin. If it would be nominal, it should precede the possessed noun. Attributive nouns always precede the head nouns; all other modifying elements follow the head noun. That the pronominal prefixes are different from the ones for stative/inactive verbs is not necessarily an argument for the non-verbal character of the stem — there are often deviations in possessive paradigms. Furthermore, this possessive form may be used autonomously without a possessed noun, cf. the example in (36). This construction is not possible in Hoocąk. The utterance in (36) would require the reflexive possessive prefix *k-/kara-* in Hoocąk.

(36)  Osage (Quintero 2004: 413)
      *ąkóhta    akxa Ø-xǫ́-api-ðe*
      1PL.POSS SBJ   3SG.SBJ-break-PL-DECL
      'Ours is broken'

Part-whole relationships - at least with regard to inanimate parts - seem to be expressed by means of a simple juxtaposition. However, I found only one example illustrating this in Quintero's grammar, cf. example (37).

(37)  Osage (Quintero 2004: 423)

> *oðíhtą hci    hcíže áðiitą-a*
> car    house door close-IMP
> 'Close the garage door!'

To summarize: there is an alienable/inalienable distinction in Osage and it seems that kinship terms belong to the inalienable set of nouns (set$_1$), while all other nouns belong to the alienable set of noun (set$_2$); cf. Table 19.

Table 19: Alienable vs. inalienable distinction in Osage

| inalienable set$_1$ | alienable set$_2$ |
|---|---|
| kinship terms | all other nouns ? |
| PC | PC |
| PRO-N$_{possessed}$ | (N$_{possessor}$) N$_{possessed}$ PRO.POSS-*hta* |

## 4.6 Biloxi

Biloxi was chosen as a representative of the Ohio Valley sub-branch of Siouan. The standard reference work with respect to a grammatical description is **Einaudi1976** She mentions two NP internal PC types in her grammar of Biloxi, a) a juxtaposition of two nominals to be used for all kinds of possessed nouns, and b) pronominally inflected nouns designating body parts and kinship relations (cf. Einaudi 1976: 57-68). Concerning a) the order of nouns in the juxtaposition PC is possessor precedes possessed. Concerning b) if body parts and kinship terms are possessed, the possessed nouns have to be inflected obligatorily with pronominal prefixes that are identical to the ones in verbs. This holds also for some intimate personal possessions such as 'house', 'clothing', etc. See two examples for the juxtaposed PC construction in (38) and two examples of the inflected PC construction in (39).

(38)   Biloxi (Einaudi 1976: 139f)

   a.   *ąya  ti-k*
       man house-DET
       'the man's house'

b. *ama    tupe ką*
ground hole DET
'the ground's hole'

(39)  Biloxi (Einaudi 1976: 139f)

a. *tuhe Ø-tukąni   yandi*
T.    3SG-uncle DET
'Tuhe's uncle (mother's brother)'

b. *ąya  Ø-anahį ką*
man 3SG-hair DET
' people's hair'

Full paradigms of inalienable possession are given in Table 20.

Table 20: Paradigm of inalienable possession in Biloxi (Einaudi 1976: 57f/62f)

| possessor | kinship term adi 'father' | body part term cake 'hand' |
|---|---|---|
| 1SG | nk-adi | nk-cake |
| 2SG | iy-adi | i-cake |
| 3SG | Ø-adi | Ø-cake |
| 1PL | nk-ax-tu | nk-cak-tu |
| 2PL | iy-adi-tu | i-cak-tu |
| 3PL | ax-tu | cak-tu |

I did not find any examples that illustrate how alienable nouns are possessed by SAP possessors, something like 'my horse', 'your car', etc.

## 5  Conclusions

There is an alienable-inalienable distinction in one way or other in all Siouan languages, even in Biloxi, as seen in Table 21, but there, the inalienable nouns (kinship, body parts) are inflected by means of the subject prefixes. As the examination of PCs in the various Siouan languages shows, there are at least four kinds of constructions that are used to express possession on the NP level. The simplest construction is juxtaposition, which is used in all sample languages except for Hidatsa, for which no data were available. Inalienable possession is expressed in

Table 21: Alienable vs. inalienable distinction in Biloxi

| inalienable | alienable |
|---|---|
| $set_1$ | $set_2$ |
| kinship terms<br>body part terms<br>intimate personal possessions<br>such as 'house', clothing' | all other nouns |
| PC | PC |
| PRO-N$_{possessed}$ DET | N$_{possessor}$-N$_{possessed}$ DET |

all sample languages with a series of possessive affixes directly attached to the possessed. The sole exception is Hoocąk, which has no possessive affixes. There are two principal constructions that express alienable possession in the sample Siouan languages. There is a construction that has a possessive marker attached to the stem indicating alienable possession. The same set of possessive affixes appears with these constructions. This construction is not available in Hoocąk and Biloxi. The second construction utilizes a verb of possession that is nominalized by a determiner and inflected by the same paradigm of possessive affixes. It follows the possessed noun. This construction is missing in Missouri Valley Siouan and in Biloxi. I have no clear data for Osage. The principle types of constructions that are used in Siouan languages to express possession are summarized in Table 22 together with the semantic kinds of possessed nouns.

The nominalized verbs of possession appear only in Mississippi Valley Siouan, most prominently in Hoocąk. Hoocąk is particular also with regard to the lack of the two middle construction types in Table 20; one could perhaps say that Hoocąk has not really grammaticalized a NP-internal possessive construction: juxtaposition is semantically the most abstract means, hence able to subsume all kinds of binary relations (among them also real ownership) and the verbal expression of possession is semantically the most concrete one, hence excluding many binary relations that are often expressed by means of possessive constructions (there is no possibility to express association, whole-part, attribution of property relations with these PCs).

Another interesting observation is that there is no neat classification of nouns with respect to the alienable/inalienable distinction. Alienable and inalienable

Table 22: Distribution of NP-internal possessive constructions among Siouan languages

| | juxtaposition $N_{poss'}$ or $N_{poss'ed}$ | less marked POSS.PRO-$N_{poss'ed}$ | POSS.PRO-POSS-$N_{poss'ed}$ → | more marked $N_{poss'ed}$ POSS.PRO-verb.poss-DET |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Crow | 1) part-whole 2) others? | 1) body parts, kinship terms 2) internal body parts 3) 'chest', 'tail', 'husband' 4) closely associated with possessor, e.g. clothing items, kin terms, cultural possession | rest, plus some exceptions | Ø |
| Hidatsa | ? | 1) many kinship terms 2) body parts 3) some clothing items | rest | Ø |
| Mandan | 1) association 2) body parts | 1) kinship terms 2) ? | 1) kinship terms 2) ? | ? |
| Lakota | 1) ownership 2) part-whole | 1) body parts 2) internal body parts 3) kinship terms | 1) kinship terms 2) ownership 3) attribution of property 4) association | 1) ownership 2) kinship |
| Hoocąk | 1) part-whole 2) body parts 3) kinship 4) local nouns | Ø | Ø | 1) kinship 2) domestic/ pet animals 3) rest |
| Osage | part-whole | kinship terms | ownership? | |
| Biloxi | 1) part-whole 2) ownership 3) rest | 1) kinship 2) body parts 3) intimate personal belongings ('house', 'clothing') | Ø | Ø |

nouns are distributed over all kinds of PCs and it seems that the often observed markedness relations between alienable and inalienable PCs do not really hold in Siouan. For instance, juxtapositions as the least marked PCs comprise real ownership (Lakota, Biloxi) as well as body parts (Mandan, Hoocąk) and kinship terms (Hoocąk). On the other hand, nominalized predicative PCs, which are the most complex PCs in this study, include not only real ownership (Lakota, Hoocąk) but also kinship terms which are inalienable nouns. The two construction types in the middle columns in Table 20 show a markedness relation between inalienable and alienable nouns that is much clearer. The PC with the possessive pronouns attached to the possessed nouns (second column from left) are chosen primarily for inalienable possession (all languages except Hoocąk) and the PC with the added possession marker (POSS) are used overwhelmingly for alienable possession such as real ownership or as a kind of rest category that always includes alienable nouns (all languages except Hoocąk). In Lakota and Mandan, however, kinship terms as possessed nouns are included, which blurs this distinction to some degree.

## Abbreviations

1, 2, 3, = first, second, third person; A = actor; AH = Animacy Hierarchy; APPL.BEN = benefactive applicative; APPL.SUPESS = locative applicative superessive; DAT = dative; DECL = declarative; DEF = definite article; E = exclusive; EMPH = emphatic; GEN = genitive; I = inclusive; INDEF = indefinite article; OBJ = object; PC = possessive construction; PL = plural; POSS PRO = possessive pronoun; PREP = preposition; PROP = proper name; REFL.POSS = reflexive possession; SAP = speech act participant; SBJ = subject; SG = singular; U = undergoer.

## References

## References

Rankin, Robert L. 1977. From verb, to auxiliary, to noun classifier and definite article: grammaticalization of the siouan verbs 'sit', 'stand', 'lie'. In Robert L. Brown, Kathleen Houlihan, Larry G. Hutchinson & Andrew MacLeish (eds.), *Proceedings of the 1976 mid-america linguistics conference*, 273–83. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Linguistics Department.

Trechter, Sara. 1995. *The pragmatic functions of gendered clitics in lakhota*. Lawrence: University of Kansas (Doctoral dissertation).

Barker, Chris 1995: Possessive descriptions. CSLI Publications, Stanford

Baron, Iréne. et al. (eds.) 2001: Dimensions of possession. Amsterdam and Philadelphia: J. Benjamins.

Boas, Franz and Ella Deloria. 1941. Dakota Grammar. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office.

Boyle, John 2007. Hidatsa Grammar. Universitiy of Chicago: PhD Disseration.

Buechel, Eugene S.J. 1939. A Grammar of Lakota. The Language of the Teton Sioux Indians. Saint Francis Mission, Saint Francis P.O., South Dakota.

Chappell, Hilary and William McGregor (eds.) 1996. The grammar of inalienability: a typological perspective on body part terms and the part-whole relation. Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter.

Comrie, Bernard. 1981. Language Universals and Linguistic Typology. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Croft, William. 2003 Typology and universals, second edition. (Cambridge Textbooks in Linguistics.). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Dixon, R.M.W. 1979. Ergativity. In: Language 55:59-138.

Dixon, R.M.W. 2010. Basic Linguistic Theory. Volume 2. Grammatical Topics. Oxford: OUP.

Einaudi, Paula Ferris 1976. A Grammar of Biloxi. New York and London: Garland Publishing, Inc.

England, Nora 1983. A Grammar of Mam, A Mayan Language. (Texas Linguistics Series). Univ. of Texas Press.

Heine, Bernd 1997: Possession. Cognitive sources, forces and grammaticalization. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Heine, Bernd: 2001. Ways of explaining possession, in: Iréne Baron, Michael Herslund and Finn Sørensen (eds.) Dimensions of possession, 311-328. Amsterdam, Benjamins

Helmbrecht and Lehmann (eds.) 2010. Hocąk Teaching Materials, Vol I. Elements of Grammar, Learner's Dictionary. Albany: SUNY Press.

Helmbrecht, Johannes 2003."Possession in Hoocąk (Winnabago) – Problems for a prototype approach." In: Arbeitspapiere des Seminars für Sprachwissenschaft der Universität Erfurt (ASSidUE) Nr. 8. Erfurt: University of Erfurt. (Available as a pdf file: http://www.db-thueringen.de/servlets/DerivateServlet/Derivate-1887/ASSidUE08.pdf).

Ingham, Bruce 2003. Lakota. (Languages of the World/ Materials 426). München: LINCOM EUROPA.

Kennard, Edward 1936. "Mandan Grammar." In: International Journal of American Linguistics IJAL 9:1-43.

Koontz, John E. 1984. Preliminary Sketch of the Omaha-Ponka Language. PhD diss., University of Colorado in Boulder, CO.

Kornfilt, Jaklin 1990. Turkish and the Turkic Languages. In: Comrie, Bernard (ed.) The World's Major Languages. NY, Oxford: OUP, 619-645.

Kuno, Susumo and E. Kaburaki 1977. Empathy and Syntax. In: Linguistic Inquiry 8:627-72.

Langacker, Ronald W. 1993. Reference-point constructions. In: Cognitive Linguistics 4: 1-38.

Lehmann, Christian 1998: Possession in Yucatec Maya. Structures - functions - typology. Unterschleissheim: LINCOM Europa (LINCOM Studies in Native American Linguistics, 4).

Lévy-Bruhl, L. 1914. L'expression de la possession dans les langues mélanésiennes. Mémoires de la Société de Linguistique 19(2): 96-104.

Lipkind, William 1945. Winnebago grammar. New York; King's Crown Press.

Lowie, Robert H. 1941. The Crow Language. Grammatical Sketch and Analyzed Text. University of California Publications in American Archeology and Ethnology, Vol 39, No.1, pp1-142). Los Angeles and Berkeley: University of California Press.

Martin, Jack 1993. Inalienable possession in Creek (and its possible origin). In: IJAL 59:442-52.

Matthews, G.H. 1965. Hidatsa Syntax. The Hague: Mouton.

Mithun, Marianne. 1999. The Languages of Native North America. (Cambridge Language Surveys). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Mixco, Mauricio 1997. Mandan. (Languages of the World/ Materials 159). München, Newcastle: LINCOM EUROPA.

Oliverio, Giulia R.M. 1996. Grammar and dictionary of Tutelo. Lawrence,KS: University of Kansas.

Parks, Douglas R., and Rankin, Robert L. 2001 Siouan languages. In: Handbook of North American Indians, Plains. Vol.13, ed. by Raymond J. DeMallie, 94–114. Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution.

Payne, Doris L. and Immanuel Barshi (eds.) 1999. External possession. Amsterdam and Philadelphia: J. Benjamins (Typological Studies in Language, 39).

Quintero, Carolyn 2004. Osage Grammar. (Studies in the Anthropology of North American Indians). Lincoln,NE: University of Nebraska Press.

Rankin, Robert L. 2002. Quapaw Dictionary. Unpubl. ms. University of Kansas.

Rankin, Robert L. 2004. An Ofo Grammar Sketch – based on materials collected by John R. Swanton and John R. Swanton's Ofo-English Dictionary. Unpubl. manuscript, University of Kansas.

Rankin, Robert L. 2005a. Kansa-English lexical file. Manuscript. The University of Kansas, Department of Linguistics.

Rankin, Robert L. 2005b. "Quapaw." In: Hardy, Heather and Scancarelli, Janine (eds.) Native Languages of the Southeastern United States. Pp. 454-498. Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska Press.

Rankin, Robert L., Carter, Richard T. , Jones, A. Wesley, Koontz, John E., Rood, David S., Hartmann, Iren (eds.) 2015. Comparative Siouan Dictionary. Leipzig: Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology. (Available online at http://csd.clld.org, Accessed on 2015-05-22.)

Rice, Keren 1989. A grammar of Slave. Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter.

Rood, David. 1979. Siouan. In: The Languages of Native America: Historical and Comparative Assessment, ed. by Lyle Campbell and Marianne Mithun., 236–98. Austin: University of Texas Press.

Rood, David and Allan R. Taylor. 1996. "Sketch of Lakhota, a Siouan Language." In: Goddard, Ives (ed.) Languages. Vol. 17 of Sturtevant, William C. (ed.) Handbook of North American Indians. Washington,DC: Smithsonian Institution, pp. 440-482.

Seiler, Hansjakob 1983: Possession as an Operational Dimension of Language. Tübingen, Narr.

Seiler, Hansjakob 2001: The operational basis of possession: a dimensional approach revisited, in: Iréne Baron, Michael Herslund and Finn

Sørensen (eds.) Dimensions of possession, 27-40., Amsterdam, Benjamins

Stolz Thomas, Sonia Kettler, Cornelia Stroh and Aina Urdze 2008: Split Possession. (Studies in Language Companion Series 101). Amsterdam, Benjamins.

Susman, Amelia 1943. The accentual system of Winnebago. New York: Columbia University [unpublished Ph.D. dissertation].

Ultan, Russel 1978. Toward a typology of substantival possession, in: Joseph H. Greenberg (ed.): Universals of human language 4., Stanford.

Van Valin, Robert D. Jr. 1977. Aspects of Lakhota Syntax. A study of Lakhota (Teton Dakota) syntax and its implications for universal grammar. Unpubl. PhD Dissertation, University of California, Berkeley.

White Eagle, Josephine P. 1988. A lexical study of Winnebago. Lexicon Project Working Papers 26. Cambridge, MASS.: Center for Cognitive Science, MIT.

Whitman, William 1947. "Descriptive grammar of Ioway-Otoe." In: International Journal of American Linguistics IJAL 13:233-48.

# Name index

# Did you like this book?

This book was brought to you for free

language
science
press
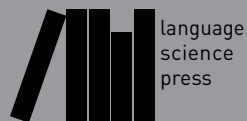
# Change your backtitle in localmetadata.tex

Change your blurb in localmetadata.tex