'be able to VP' in Dogon languages
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'Be able to VP, can VP' with an associated VP is expressed in Dogon languages as follows:

(1)   eastern
        Toro Tegu   inflected *bèrá* 'get' as final verb in direct chain
        Ben Tey   inflected *bèré* 'get' as final verb in direct chain
        Bankan Tey   ??
        Nanga   inflected *bèré* 'get' as final verb in direct chain
        Jamsay   inflected *bèré* 'get' as final verb in direct chain
        Togo Kan   inflected *bèré* 'get' as final verb in direct chain
        Tommo So
           perfective: inflected *bèlé* 'get' as final verb in direct chain
           imperfective: inflected *bèlé* 'get' plus nominalized verb with *-ú*
        Donno So   inflected *bèlé* 'get' as final verb in direct chain
        Yorno So   inflected *bèlé* 'get' as final verb in direct chain
        Tomo Kan   ??
    northwestern
        Najamba
           'be able to'   inflected *já* as final verb in direct chain
           'have a chance to'   inflected *dùmé* 'get' as final verb in direct chain
        Tiranige   capacitative derivational suffix *-má-* on main verb
        Dogul Dom   ??
        Yanda Dom   inflected *bèlé* 'get' as final verb in direct chain
        Tebul Ure   inflected *bě:* 'get' as final verb in direct chain
    southwestern
        Bunoge   capacitative derivational suffix *-mò-* on main verb
        Mombo   ??
        Ampari   ??
        Penange   inflected *díné* 'get' after imperfective subordinated clause

The most common construction is an inflected 'get, obtain' verb directly chained to a preceding VP. In eastern and some northwestern languages, the 'get' verb is a reflex of **bèlé*. In Penange (southwestern) it is a noncognate verb *díné*. Najamba *dùmé* may be cognate to Penange *díné*, and can be used in the related sense 'have a chance to'.

That noncognate 'get' verbs occur in the same construction suggests that the pattern 'get' = 'be able to' is calquable (diffusable). In fact, the same equation occurs in Tondi Songway Kiini, the Songhay language most subject to Dogon substratum effects, where the verb in question is the native Songhay *dù* 'get'. The broader (non-Dogon) distribution of 'get' = 'be able to' is not known.

A completely different way to express 'be able to' is to add a capacitative derivational suffix to the main verb. This occurs in some western languages: Bunoge (-*mò*-) and Tiranige (-*má*-).