

Introduction

In the present paper, evidence is put forward demonstrating the relationship between the North Caucasian and Na-Dene languages. This implies that the Na-Dene family is genetically related to the Sino-Caucasian macro-family which also includes the Sino-Tibetan and Yenisei languages. In fact, the present work should be considered a follow-up to the pioneering article by S.A. Starostin in which the existence of the Sino-Caucasian macro-family was first substantiated (Starostin: 1984).

It has been proven that the Sino-Caucasian macro-family is not confined to Eurasian languages alone, but extends far to the east, since the Na-Dene family, which belongs to Sino-Caucasian, is distributed throughout a large part of North America. Its boundaries will extend even further eastward if it can be proven that the Algonquian-Ritwan languages belong to Sino-Caucasian.

The Na-Dene language family is comprised of the following:

1. Haida
2. Tlingit-Athapaskan
 - A. Tlingit
 - B. Eyak-Athapaskan
 - a. Eyak
 - b. Athapaskan (Navaho, Sarsi, Hupa and others)

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The dissolution of the Na-Dene proto-language (PNaD) occurred approximately 7,000-7,500 years ago. The original homeland of this family, judging from the evidence, must be central or eastern Alaska (cf. Krauss:1979).

In the present paper I make use in most cases of an Eyak-Athapaskan reconstruction (PEA), because only for languages of this group did I have sufficient materials (Krauss' Eyak dictionary and H. Hoijer's Navaho dictionary, as well as information on other Athapaskan languages from morphological and phonetic descriptions, basic word lists, comparative-historical articles and other sources). The PEA reconstruction cited below is my own. It differs in certain important details from E. Sapir's reconstruction used by American linguists (see Krauss:1979).

As regards Tlingit and Haida, sufficiently comprehensive dictionaries of these languages have unfortunately been unavailable to me. However, in all cases of which I am aware, I have generally taken Tlingit data from texts in Tongean dialects. Tlingit forms can for the most part be derived from PEA (it is however possible that Tlingit differentiates old uvulars and velars which have merged in PEA).

Certain doubts have been expressed regarding the inclusion of Haida in the Na-Dene family, but they should be considered unsubstantiated. Certain complex and non-trivial phonetic correspondences between Haida and other Na-Dene languages give rise to some difficulties. Because of the extremely fragmentary nature of the Haida data, I was unable to determine whether using this material adds anything to the reconstruction of PNaD. Under the heading PNaD I cite those protoforms where at least Tlingit data are present.

Below are the regular correspondences between consonants in the North Caucasian and Eyak-Athapaskan proto-languages. I do not give the Sino-Caucasian interpretation of these correspondences, since they are given by Starostin. The PNC-PEA correspondences match poorly with his proposed PSinC system which, it seems to me, does not in all cases

reflect the true state of affairs. A binary comparison similar to that proposed in the present work does not generally allow for a reliable reconstruction (such reconstructions are unfortunately quite common in American linguistics).

Reflexes after the old sonants (sounds which have partially disappeared in PEA) are given in square brackets. Single slanted lines separate those correspondence pairs whose origin can be explained. The PNC system is considered to be the more archaic because of the large number of phonemes. Vocalic correspondences are not given because their reconstruction has been inadequately worked out in PEA (in my PEA reconstructions, pre-Athapascan vowels are given from which the Eyak vowels are derived).²

PNC	PEA	PNC	PEA
b, p, ḡ	w-	c w	č-
p', w	w	c' w	[č w]
m	w-, m // θ	čč w	č' w- / č w-
d	d	cc w	č-
t, t̄	t-, d	c' c' w	c' - / č w-
t'	t' [d]	z (w)	š w-
n	l - // w-, n // m // θ	s w	š w-
c	c-, ʒ	ž	ž-
č	s	č	-š
č'	c'	č'	č' - (// š)
čč	c' - / s	č' č'	c' - [č]
c' c'	c'	š	š-
s, ſ	s	š	s
č' w	l' - (// č' -)	x	g-
čč w	-ž	ž	x-
č' č' w	ł-	g (w)	g (w) -
š w	s	q	k - / x-
č	š-	q (w)	x (w) -
č'	č' [ž]	q' (w)	k' (w)
čč	-č'	GG (w)	g (w) / x
č' č'	č' / š-	qq	k - / x
ž	š-	q' q'	x
š, ſ	š	q' q' (w)	k' (w)
čč (w)	-č'	R	g -

² The transcription has the following features. Lateral stops and affricates: l, t, l'; lateral spirants: t̄, ſ; the "back" lateral sonant: ɿ. Consonantal labiality is designated by the diacritic w to the right of the phoneme, abruptness by the sign *. Vocalic nasality is indicated by the sign n to the right of the letter. The medio-lingual sonant is represented by the letter y. The voiced uvular stop is rendered by the letter G, the voiced spirant with the letter R, and the voiceless spirant as X. The symbol I denotes pharyngealization of the preceding sound. Superscript numerals indicate possible variants of the correspondingly ordered sound in the preceding example. For instance, *x̄čd (~č², t³) means the Y may vary with č, and d may vary with t'. These remarks should be taken into account when comparing the material given above with that in Starostin's papers.

PNC	PEA	PNC	PEA
š ^w	š	x(^w), ū(^w)	x
L	-L	?	?- [h]
L'	L'	?	k'-,x/? [H]
LL	L-,t/1'	?	y-/x-
L'L'	t/L'	h̄	x-,x/?
L	l-	h	?-//h- [h]
t	t-	?w	w-,x [h]
t ^w	t-	?w	-xw [h]
LLw	-t	?w	w-/xw
t ^w	t-	h̄w	-x
L'L'w	t	l	1-//ž-,1//θ
t ^w	t-	l	t
g	g	r	d,y//θ/n
k	k-/x-	u	w-
č(w)	g(w)	y	y-//?-,y
k'(w)	k'(w)[g]		
k'k'(w)	k'(w)-		

The comparative material is given below. For the sake of convenience, the comparative lexicon is divided into semantic groups as in Starostin. PNC reconstructions are given according to my and Starostin's "Comparative-Historical Dictionary of North Caucasian languages" (MS; see also Nikolaev & Starostin:1984).

I. Human and animal body parts³

- 1.1. E. GəG 'thigh' /< PEA *gₙ(M)g/ ~ PEC *ḠRₙ(~q̄¹) 'id.'
- 1.2. E. Gənš 'mustache, beard' /< *gₙnš/ ~ PNC *k̄a(n)č̄ 'id.'
- 1.3. E. o'šnX 'eyebrow' /< PEA *c'ₙnx/ ~ PNC *c'šH̄mₙ (~c'c'¹) 'eyebrow, eyelash'
- 1.4. PNAD *1ž?x / *xž?l 'eye' ~ PNC *?wžlhi 'id.'
- 1.5. Nav. -yid /< PEA *xid (~e²,t³) / ~ PEC *xₙtₙ (~d³,q¹) 'breastbone (sternum), brisket'
- 1.6. PEA *dž? 'lip, beak, bill' ~ PEC *t̄əñnₙ (~d¹,h³) 'gum/cheek' (apparently, primarily 'front part of the mouth')
- 1.7. PNAD *kʷₙh(M)d 'lip' ~ PEC *k'wēm t̄i (~o⁵) 'id.'
- 1.8. PEA *čžlₙ 'stomach, belly, uterus (womb)' ~ PNC *ccwšymₙ 'bile, gall'. Regarding the validity of the comparison see "Commentary".
- 1.9. PEA *č'yₙk'w 'gut intestines' ~ PEC *č'č'āq'q'wₙ 'id.'
- 1.10. PNAD *xé? 'fat, grease, suet, lard' ~ PEC *Xw̄iI(H)i (~e¹,l³) 'fat, suet, lard'
- 1.11. PEA *čax 'fat, grease' ~ PEC *ččw̄im(H)ₙ (~o²) 'suet'
- 1.12. PEA *k'úm? 'roe, milt, kidney (anat.)' ~ PEC *k'k'əmpₙ 'kidney (anat.)'
- 1.13. PNAD *k̄hLₙ 'skin (hide), bark' ~ PEC *q̄q̄šLₙ (~č³) 'id.'
- 1.14. PEA *gú?(n)d 'knee' ~ PEC *q'wəInₙ (~q'q'w¹) 'knee, elbow'
- 1.15. PNAD *čₙnh 'bark' ~ PEC *l̄eI/n/?wₙ 'hide' (thick)
- 1.16. PEA *xž(?)k' 'large skeletal bones' ~ PEC *kū/l/k'ₙ 'bone, leg bone'
- 1.17. PEA *c'ém(?) 'bone, leg, foot' ~ PNC *yč'c'wēmₙ 'id.'
- 1.18. PEA *dèt 'blood' ~ PNC *rəl'L'ž 'flesh'

³ In the PEA form, sonants *m and *l may be either present or absent, and in such instances are denoted by the symbol (M). The symbol N = *n/*m/*l.

- 1.19. PNaD *t'āx (*h³*) 'foot' ~ PEC *t'wēhwa 'id.'
- 1.20. PNaD *kʷənč' 'thumb' ~ PNC *k'(*w*)nšə (~ k¹k'(*w*)¹, nš³) 'finger/toe'
- 1.21. Sarsi -yùs 'leg' /< PNaD *xūš (~ s³); cf Tlingit x̂us/ ~ PEC *kʷənšə (~ 1³, š⁴) 'leg, foot, paw'
- 1.22. PNaD *k'ʷəh(M)š 'leg, foot' ~ PEC *q'q'ʷoI1šə 'leg, foot, heel'
- 1.23. PEA *číNš 'nose' ~ PEC *čumšə (~ š^{1,4}) 'face, muzzle, snout' (?)
- 1.24. E. guč' 'penis' /< PEA *gʷə(M)c' / ~ PEC *k'ač'ʷə (~ č'⁴) 'genitalia'
- 1.25. PNaD *t'ā(n)h 'feather' ~ PNC *t'i'čimə 'feather, wing'
- 1.26. PEA *k'ēhž 'armpit' ~ PEC *q'q'ʷəč'ʷə (~ č'č'ʷə³) 'elbow, armpit'
- 1.27. PEA *c'č? (~ e²) 'umbilical cord, placenta' ~ PEC *čččhñú 'navel'
- 1.28. PEA *c'ék' 'navel' ~ PNakh *c'onk'ʷə (~ g³) 'id.'
- 1.29. PEA *ča? 'hand' ~ PNC *Hulol'L'ě / *HoL'L'ołě 'hand, arm, shoulder'
- 1.30. E. ?uG 'heart' /< PEA *?ʷ(M)g / ~ PNC *yěrk'ʷě 'id.'
- 1.31. E. tux 'saliva, phlegm' /< PNaD *t̥xw (~ l̥xw, mxʷ³) / ~ PNakh *t̥ug / *t̥uk' 'saliva' (derived from the PEC verb *t̥uyə 'to spit')
- 1.32. E. dēt 'spine, backbone, spinal column' /< PEA *dʷ(M)t̥ / ~ PNC *r̥hēL'L'ʷə 'bone'
- 1.33. E. Gę?t' 'body' /< PEA *gʷ?(M)t̥ / ~ PEC *Gwăt'č 'stem; trunk (body), torso'
- 1.34. PNaD *čéhx(*w*) 'ear' ~ PNC *l̥eh₁ʷ 'id.'
- 1.35. PEA *q'émgs 'cartilage' ~ PNC *q'amq'ašə (~ q'q'^{1,4}) 'id.'
- 1.36. E. q'a?c' 'jaw' /< PEA *k'ʷ?(M)c' / ~ PEC *q'ac'o (~ q'q'^{1,2}, c'c'³) 'mouth'
- 1.37. PEA *k'ʷùs 'neck, back of the head, throat' ~ PEC *k'ʷəsə (~ š³, k'¹) 'throat, back of the head'
- 1.38. E. ?iəhG 'intestines' /< PEA *?iəh(M)g / ~ PEC *iágʷ 'stomach, belly, entrails, intestines'
- 1.39. E. quh 'lung' /< PEA *kʷ(M)h / ~ PEC *qʷəl̥ə 'id.'
- 1.40. E. q'āk' 'fish bone' /< PEA *k'ʷ(M)k'ʷ / ~ PNC *q'ʷəm̥q'qʷ (~ q'q'⁴) 'bone'
- 1.41. PEA *gʷē?k' (~ š²) 'throat' ~ PEC *GGʷmGGʷ 'id.'
- 1.42. E. gihg 'to show teeth (an animal), teeth' ~ PEC *gəmč'ʷ 'fang, canine tooth'
- 1.43. E. Xe?X 'diarrhea; defecate, urinate' /< PEA *xʷ?(M)x / ~ PEC *GḠiGGi 'excrement, dung'
- 1.44. PEA *ččk' 'hair (on the head)' ~ PWC *s̥q̥la 'head'
- 1.45. PEA *g̥aň 'arm' ~ PNC *GGʷiIn̥ / *n̥iIGGʷ 'id.'
- II. Terms denoting kinship and social organization
- 2.1. PEA *wúž 'older brother', *d̥eħž 'younger sister' ~ PNC *w-čččwə 'brother', *r-čččwə 'sister' (root with alternating prefixed class markers)
- 2.2. PEA *w̥iš (~ č³) 'uncle/nephew' ~ PEC *máčə 'the name of a distant relative or relative by marriage ('fiance', 'distant cousin', etc.)
- 2.3. PEA *č'wíy 'woman' ~ PNC *ččw̥yə 'id.'
- 2.4. PEA *čáč 'woman' ~ PEC *ččhw̥l̥ə (~ 1⁵) 'female'
- 2.5. PEA *čā? 'father; father-in-law' ~ PEC *čača(yə) 'father'
- 2.6. PNaD *wā? 'father' ~ PNC *čob̥a(yə) 'id.'
- 2.7. PEA *(y)čhš 'nephew (sister's son)' ~ PNC *-čr̥šə 'son, daughter' (with alternating class markers, including *y-)
- 2.8. PEA *ččhž (~ ē²) 'relative by marriage (father-in-law, son-in-law, brother-in-law)' ~ PEC *ččhwc(w)ə 'son-in-law, brother-in-law, husband'
- 2.9. PEA *ččNč 'father-in-law' ~ PEC *čččiččə 'father-in-law; first cousin (male)'

- 2.10. PNaD *t̥iñh 'woman, wife' ~ PEC *t̥iñhʌ (~ t̥¹) 'id.'
- 2.11. PEA *k'ēy 'brother-in-law' ~ PEC *q'aṛən̥ 'first cousin; uncle'
- 2.12. PEA *?ləhg "enemy, foreigner" ~ PNC *ləkʌ (~ l̥¹) 'slave; man, person'

III. Fauna

- 3.1. PNaD *k'ət̥ng 'butterfly' PEC *k'a₁ək'ʌ 'id.'
- 3.2. Sarsi mɪt̥ 'moth' /< PEA *wɪt̥ (~ ě²) ~ PEC *pěl̥ʌ 'butterfly'
- 3.3. PEA *cət̥n̥č̥ 'squirrel' ~ PNC *c'ʌ/₁/ʌcʌ (~ c'c'¹, č̥⁵) 'weasel, marten, rat'
- 3.4. PNaD *gəx̥ 'dog, wolf' ~ PNC *kʷač̥e 'id.'
- 3.5. Kiowa-Apache y̥ał 'crow' /< PEA *x̥ał] ~ PNC *qʷəI₁ʌ (~ Gʷ¹) 'jackdaw, rook'
- 3.6. E. čid 'nit' /< PEA *čₙ(M)d / ~ PEC *č'ʌm̥t̥'ʌ 'flea, (bed-)bug'
- 3.7. PNaD *gəx 'hare, rabbit' ~ PEC *GGʷəð̥?rʌ 'hare'
- 3.8. Hare -déd-í 'a type of fly' /< PEA *d̥ít̥ (~ ě², d³) ~ PEC t̥'əm̥t̥'ó 'fly'
- 3.9. PEA *wał? (~ x³) 'fly' ~ PEC *pałʌ (~ r³) 'fly, bee'
- 3.10. PEA *LúñH (~ lₘ³) 'mouse, squirrel' ~ PNC *LLar(H)ʌ 'hare'
- 3.11. PNaD *wéh (~ x³) 'sheep/goat' ~ PEC *w/o/bʌ 'sheep, lamb'
- 3.12. Slave gəl-ən̥ 'elk' /< PEA *gūł / ~ PEC *Rʷəl̥ʌ (~ Gʷ¹) 'deer'
- 3.13. Nav. b̥iñh 'deer' /< PEA *w̥iñx] ~ PEC *w̥iłxʌ (~ r³) 'mountain goat'
- 3.14. PEA *k'ʷəm̥(?) 'large predator (wolf, sea lion)' ~ PEC *?əm̥?ʌ (~ ?⁴) 'wolf'
- 3.15. PNaD *šūk' 'robin redbreast' ~ PEC *č̥aq'ʷʌ 'a type of sparrow'
- 3.16. PEA *šáš 'a small bird' ~ PEC *š̥əršʌ (~ i³) 'id.'
- 3.17. PEA *x̥ək' 'crow' ~ PNC *q'q'ʷəIGʌ (~ i²) 'crow, jackdaw'
- 3.18. PEA *k'ₙ(M)k' 'waterfowl (duck, loon)' ~ PEC *qq'̥r(i)qq'ʷʌ 'crane'

- 3.19. E. liglig 'small wild goose' /< PEA *1̥gʷ-1̥gʷ / ~ PEC *1̥eg-1̥egʌ (~ l̥¹, 4) 'stork, heron'
- 3.20. PEA *w̥išix 'nightjar (goatsucker)/(sea-)gull' ~ PNC *b̥až̥až̥ʌ 'large predatory bird'
- 3.21. PNaD *t̥úk' 'fish' ~ Plezg *č'ek' 'id.'
- 3.22. E. Xəwə 'dog' /< PEA *xₙw / ~ PEC *XʷəHyę 'id.'
- 3.23. PEA *č'úč̥ (~ č', š³) 'worm' ~ PNC *č'ʌrčʌ 'snake, lizard'
- 3.24. E. ciL 'otter' /< PEA *cₙ(M)L / ~ PNC *carLLwʌ 'weasel'
- 3.25. Tl. s'ik 'black bear' /< PEA *c'ₙ(1)x(w) (~ g(w)⁴) ~ PEC *c'úI1q'q'ʌ 'lynx, leopard'
- 3.26. PEA *c'ₙx 'a type of (small?) bird' ~ PEC *c'c'uhmʌ 'a type of bird'
- 3.27. E. ?níq' 'seagull' /< PEA *?iₙ(M)k' / ~ PEC *1̥Iq'ʷʌ (~ l̥¹, q'q'³) 'large predatory law'
- 3.28. E. gaʔq' 'heron, crane' /< PEA *gʷₙ(M)k' / ~ PEC *q'q'ʷənq'q'ʌ 'id.'
- 3.29. E. wēx 'crow' /< PEA *wₙ(M)x / ~ PEC *pʷəIqqʌ 'crow'

IV. Flora

- 4.1. PEA *?iñ 'branch' ~ PEC *Həl̥ʌ 'id.'
- 4.2. PEA *d̥es 'driftwood' ~ PNC *r/í/šʷʌ 'tree, firewood'
- 4.3. E. t̥id 'deadwood, firewood' /< PEA *t̥ₙ(M)d / ~ PEC *t̥wim̥t̥ʌ (~ ē, t̥²) 'firewood'
- 4.4. PEA *x̥ùʔš 'thorny plant' ~ PEC *Rałc'c'(~ w)́ 'thorny shrubs'
- 4.5. PNaD *găd 'stump, root' ~ PNC *gūrdʌ 'log, stump, block'
- 4.6. E. s̥ins 'moss, lichen' /< PEA *sₙns / ~ PEC *š̥amšʌ 'moss; mold'
- 4.7. PEA *g̥iž (~ ě²) 'stick' ~ PEC *qʷərč'ʌ (~ Gʷ¹) 'stick, twig, stalk'
- 4.8. PEA *č'íñ 'plant, bush, tree' ~ PEC *č'íw̥lū 'log, beam, girder, tree'
- 4.9. Nav. t̥eł 'reed' /< PEA *t̥eł / ~ PEC *t̥wəł́ 'stick, post (a type of tree)'

- 4.10. E. *tug* 'rice' /< PEA **t_n(M)g^w* / ~ PEC **t̥ik'w̥i*/**t̥i̥k̥w̥i* 'millet (> rice)'
- 4.11. PNaD **L'ù?*_{x^w} 'grass' ~ PEC **?w̥éL'ñ* 'grass, hay'
- 4.12. E. *q'aGš* 'a type of berry' /< PEA **k'ñ(M)gš* / ~ PEC **k'išñ* / **šik'ñ*
(~ *š^{3/1}*) 'sweetbrier (egplantine)'
- 4.13. PEA **xăy* 'edible root' ~ PEC **q'q'añ* (~ *q'¹*) 'plant with edible root
(turnip, beet, etc.)'
- 4.14. E. *wēč* 'wooden spit for roasting fish' /< PEA **wñ(M)c'* / ~ PNC
**m/u/rč'wñ* 'sharp stick'
- V. Natural phenomena and objects
- 5.1. E. *q'ac'* 'bog, swamp' /< PEA **q'ñ(M)c'* / ~ PNC **qāmc'ñ* 'bog, swamp,
mire, dirt, filth'
- 5.2. E. *se?t̥* 'twilight, evening' /< PEA **sñ?t̥* / ~ PNC **šw̥i_ñ* (~ *e², r³*)
'evening, night'
- 5.3. E. -*duk'*- 'hump, hump-backed' /< PEA **dñ(M)k'w* / ~ PNC **rñq'q'(^w)ñ*
'mountain, hill'
- 5.4. E. *q'ama?* 'fog' /< PEA **k'ñm* / ~ PNC **k'k'wōmñ* 'cloud, fog'
- 5.5. PEA **sñlH* (~ *m, n³*) 'star' ~ PEC **šñlHñ* (~ *l³*) 'sunlight, ray, beam'
- 5.6. PEA **c'íd* 'earth, dirt' ~ PEC **c'wñlτwñ* (~ *d(^w)³*) 'id.'
- 5.7. PEA **lēhk'* 'earth, soil, ground' ~ PEC **neq'wñ* (~ *q'q'w³*) 'id.'
- 5.8. PEA **žwímh* 'day' ~ PEC **y̥GG(^w)ññ* 'id.'
- 5.9. PEA **žú(?)x* '(hoar-)frost' ~ PNC **s(^w)ñHñ* (~ *l⁴*) 'hoarfrost, cold (adj.),
to freeze'
- 5.10. PEA **žú* (~ **žúw*) 'hail, hoarfrost, ice' ~ PEC **y̥žíwñ* (~ *ž, š, e^{2, 4}*)
'snow'
- 5.11. PNaD **wēl(h)* 'ocean, lake, pond' ~ PEC **žw̥ñlñ* 'river/sea'
- 5.12. PEA **xí?L'* 'night, darkness' ~ PEC **?eImL'ñ* 'fog, cloud; sleep'

- 5.13. PNaD **k'ùhs* 'cloud, sky' ~ PEC **?šmññ* 'sky, cloud; deity'
- 5.14. PEA **sáy* 'sand' ~ PND **süre* 'sand; soot'
- 5.15. PNaD **xăñ?* 'water, river' ~ PEC **žăñ?* 'id.'
- 5.16. PEA **žílñ* (~ *m, n³*) 'river, brook' ~ PNC **Hñžwññ*/**Hñrñžwñ* 'sea'
- 5.17. E. *ší* 'brook, stream' /< PEA **šñy* / ~ PEC **šorñ* (~ *š¹*) 'river, stream, lake'
- 5.18. PEA **šàhs* (~ *c'⁴*) 'snow' ~ PEC **šñrñ* (~ *š^{1, 4}*) 'hoarfrost'
- 5.19. PEA **šwá(H)* 'sun/moon' ~ PNC **žžwñhñ* (~ *é⁷*) 'star'
- 5.20. PNaD **t'è?c'* 'coal' (> 'black') ~ PEC **t'irččwñ* (~ *ččw⁴*) 'coal'
- 5.21. E. *xu1?L'* 'winter, snow' /< PEA **xwñ?(M)L'* / ~ PEC **žñL'L'ñ(nñ)* (~ *h¹, L'L'w³*) 'winter'
- 5.22. E. *qih* 'prairie; forest clearing' /< PEA **kñ(M)h* / ~ PNC **qw̥ñrHñ* 'field'
- VI. Terms relating to agriculture and manufacturing
- 6.1. E. *Xehñ* 'rope' /< PEA **xñhñ* / ~ PEC **žñlñ* (~ *ž², l³*) 'thread, rope'
- 6.2. PEA **L'ñ?* 'rope' ~ PEC **Hñc'wñlñ* 'leather, rope'
- 6.3. E. ?*lähñ* 'comb' /< PEA **?lñhñ* / ~ PEC **y̥rñLLwñ* 'id.'
- 6.4. PEA **ké1* (~ *n, m³*) 'house' ~ PEC **qé1ñ* 'house, nest'
- 6.5. PEA **?éhs* 'weir for catching fish' ~ PEC **žwñlñsñ* (~ *ž²*)
- 6.6. E. *k'uš* 'scoop' /< PEA **k'ñ(M)š* / ~ PEC **q'wñšwñ* 'scoop, shovel'
- 6.7. PNaD **xñh(M)d* 'basket' ~ PEC **kñtñwñ* 'id.'
- 6.8. PNaD **c'žg(w)* 'basket, bowl, dish' ~ PNC **č'ž'žq'wñ* 'spoon, scoop'
- 6.9. PEA **tñMk'w* 'bow, arrow' ~ PEC **t'ññññ* 'arc, bow'
- 6.10. E. *Ge?t'* 'skirt' /< PEA **gñ?(M)t'* / ~ PEC **žñrñtñwñ* 'shirt, clothing'
- 6.11. Nav. *c'žñ* 'ruins' /< PEA **c'žñ* / ~ PEC **c'wñlñHñ* (~ *l³*) 'id.'
- 6.12. Nav. -*žññññ* 'salt' /< PEA **žññññ* (~ *šw¹*) / ~ PNC **c'c'wññññ* 'id.'
- 6.13. E. *q'ac'* 'pair of tongs' /< PEA **q'ñ(M)c'* / ~ PEC **žñ(I)mc'ñ* 'id.'

- 6.14. E. **Xəʔt̪** 'handle; mollusc shell' /< PEA **xəʔt̪*/ ~ PEC **lʷəI1L'L'ʷʷ*
 'handle'
- 6.15. E. **gəʔc'** 'ladder' /< PEA **gʷʷ*?(*M*)*c'*/ ~ PEC **k̄ōnʒʒʷ* (~ *čč*, *čč*) 'ladder;
 door frame'
- 6.16. PNaD **wégʷš* 'flint' (>'metal') ~ PNC **nōwqʷč'ʷ* 'flint'

VII. Other nouns

- 7.1. PEA **č'íld* '(evil) spirit, the deceased' ~ PEC **č'č'ʷiI1č(ʷ)* 'tombstone'
 (> 'tower')
- 7.2. Tl. **?at̪** 'thing' /< PEA *?(*N*)*d*/ ~ PNC **H₄t₄* (~ *d3*) 'thing'
- 7.3. PEA **wānh* 'military detachment, group of warriors' ~ PEC *?*wšI?**r₄* (~ *ʔ3*)
 'army'
- 7.4. PEA **xeʔs* 'pus' ~ PEC **h/š/mʒʒʷ* 'saliva, pus, snot'
- 7.5. E. *c'ənʔq'* 'diarrhea' /< PEA **c'ʷn₄k'*/ ~ PNC **čiIqʷʷ* (~ *c'1*) 'feces,
 excrement, dung'
- 7.6. Hare -giér-e? 'road' /< PEA **ged*/ ~ PEC **GGʷāt'ʷ* 'street'
- 7.7. Nav. *k'iz* 'chink, crack, split' /< PEA **k'ʷ(w)ič'* (~ *čč²*, *s³*) ~ PEC **q'ʷč'ʷ*
 (*q'ʷq'¹*, *čč'³*) 'hole'
- 7.8. Nav. -*yéł* 'sacrifice, offering (to the spirits)' /< PEA **xéł*/ ~ PEC **qʷáł?*
 (~ *ə5*) 'fate; verdict, gossip'
- 7.9. PEA **š(w)ih* 'name' ~ PEC **zʒʷér?**i* 'id.'
- 7.10. E. *sinhX* 'tree gum' /< PEA **s₄h₄nx*/ ~ PNC **šʷnq'q'i* 'tree gum; ink'
- 7.11. PEA **wéłH* (~ *čč²*, *n₄*, *m³*) 'round, to twirl, twist' ~ PEC *?*wiIh₄* (~ *h̄4*)
 'wheel'
- 7.12. PEA **súñs* 'thorn, sting' ~ PNC **čč₄(n)čč* 'thorn, thorny plant'
- 7.13. PNaD **wéʔt̪* 'edge' ~ PEC **pāʔáłč* 'id.'
- 7.14. E. *GehG* 'ring, circle' ~ PNC **gürḡʷ* 'circle'

- 7.15. E. **Xeš** 'mark' /< PEA **x₄(M)š*/ ~ PEC **čʷč̄1č̄i* (~ *e5*) 'id.'
- 7.16. PEA **c'úw* 'female breast, nipple' > 'milk' ~ PNC **c'c'ʷh₄rp'ʷ* 'sharp
 tip'
- 7.17. PEA **L'šh* 'bottom, ground, buttocks' ~ PNC **H₄L'šnū* / **L'šnHū*
 'bottom, ground'
- 7.18. E. **yəX* 'down, downwards' /< PEA **y₄(M)x*/ ~ PNC *-*šXʷ₄* 'bottom'
 (with prefixes indicating classes including **y-*)
- 7.19. E. **?āg** 'half' /< PEA *?₄(*M*)*č*/ ~ PNC **hāmc'ʷ₄* 'middle, half'
- 7.20. PEA **gáł-* 'manner of walking' ~ PEC **yáłh₄* (~ *čč²*, *h̄4*) 'step'
- 7.21. Nav. -*k'áł* 'fork (in a road)' /< PEA **k'(w)áł* (~ *L'*, *L³*)/ ~ PNC
 **k'ʷ/a/1L'L'ʷ* (~ *LL⁴*) 'pitchfork, fork (in a road)'
- 7.22. PEA **wéł* 'sleep' ~ PNC **néhēwL'L'u* 'id.'
- 7.23. PEA **dá?* 'edge' ~ PEC *-i^f*w₄* 'edge, end' (with alternating prefixed class
 markers including **r-*)
- 7.24. E. *xah₄* 'hothouse, bathhouse' /< PEA **xʷ₄ah₄*/ ~ PEC **h/a/1h₄* 'breath,
 steam'
- 7.25. E. *xah₄* 'bathhouse' (< PEA **xʷ₄ah₄*) ~ PEC **h[a]1h₄* 'breath, steam'

VIII. Numerals

- (8.1.) PEA **ki* 'two' (in compounds **1aʔd-ki*, cf. E. *1aʔd* 'two') ~ PNC
 *(*t*)*q'ʷšáI* 'id.'
- 8.2. PNaD **díNk'* 'four' ~ PEC *-*ěmq'ʷ₄* 'id.' (with alternating class markers
 including **r-*)
- 8.3. PNaD **g₄* 'ten/twenty' (E. *Gā* 'ten', Tl. -*qə* 'twenty') ~ PNC **GGə*
 'twenty' (?)

IX. Pronouns and particles

- 9.1. PNaD **d₄* locative particle/affix ~ PNC *-*t₄* locative affix (lative?)

- 9.2. PEA **1_Λ-x* 'you (pl.)/we' ~ PNC **L/ə/* 'we (inclusive)'
- 9.3. E. *k'u* 'not, no' /< PEA **č'Λ* (~ *c'w1*) / ~ PNC **č'Λ* (~ *č'1*) negative particle/affix
- 9.4. PEA **dΛ* 'not, no' ~ PNC **tΛ* (~ *d*) negative particle
- 9.5. PNaD **hΛ* demonstrative/personal pronoun (3rd/4th p. sg.) ~ PNC **hΛ* stem of demonstrative pronouns and adverbs

9.6. PEA **dΛ* 'this, these' ~ PEC **dΛ* 'that, those'

- 9.7. PNaD **?Λ* stem of demonstrative pronouns and adverbs ~ PEC **?Λ* 'id.'
- 9.8. PNaD **wΛ* stem of demonstrative and personal pronouns (3rd p.) ~ PNC **uΛ* 'this, that'
- 9.9. PNaD **wř* 'thou' ~ PNC **uo* 'thou'
- 9.10. PNaD **šwf* 'I' ~ PNC **z(ω)o* 'I'

X. Verbs

- 10.1 PNaD **?yř(H)* 'to be, to become' ~ PNC **?ə?Λ* 'to be'
- 10.2. PNaD **?yř(H)* 'to make, do' ~ PNC **?əhʷΛ* 'to make, do'
- 10.3. PEA *-*k(ω)řm(h)* (~ 1³) 'food, foodstuffs' ~ PEC **?ikʷənΛ* 'to eat'
- 10.4. Tl. -*?at* 'to go, walk' (pl.) /< PNaD **?Λ(M)d* / ~ PNC **?ətΛ* 'to go, to move'
- 10.5. Tl. -*?us* 'to wash' /< PNaD **?Λ(N)c* / ~ PNC **?əlzzΛ* (~ *n³*) 'id.'
- 10.6. PNaD **LřNH* 'to drink' ~ PEC **HALL(ω)Λ(nΛ)* 'id.'
- 10.7. E. *sūt'* 'to suck' /< PEA **sΛ(M)t'* / ~ PEC **šwint'Λ* 'to sniff (smell); to smoke'
- 10.8. E. *q'əc'* 'to bite' /< PEA **k'Λ(M)c'* / ~ PEC **q'ac'i* (~ *q'q'1, c'c'4*) 'bite, piece'
- 10.9. PNaD **tΛ(H)* 'to put' ~ PNC **?etΛ(rΛ)* 'to leave; to be'
- 10.10. PNaD **gʷΛ(H)* 'to know' ~ PNC **?əmc'(ω)Λ* 'to know, to see' (?)

- 10.11. PNaD **k'řm* (~ 1³) 'to burn; fire' ~ PEC **k'ʷ/ř/mΛ* / **?/ř/mk'ʷΛ* 'to burn'
- 10.12. PEA **xéwΛ?š* 'to itch, to scratch oneself' ~ PEC **[h]řčΛWΛ* (~ *č³*) 'id.'
- 10.13. E. *L'ə?* 'to beat, to cut' /< PEA **L'Λ(M)?* / ~ PEC **HUL'L'ΛwΛ* 'to beat, to butt'
- 10.14. E. *ca* 'to buy' /< PEA **cΛ(M)* / ~ PEC **?/š/cΛ(nΛ)* 'to take, to buy'

XI. Adjectives and adverbs

- 11.1. Tl. *č'ř?kʷ* 'long ago' /< PNaD **č'Λ?kʷ* / ~ PNakh **čšq* 'far'
- 11.2. PEA **čuhk'* 'big' ~ PNC **(hΛ)č'əqʷΛ* 'id.'
- 11.3. PNaD **čùxʷ* 'yellow, green' ~ PEC **[čč]řakkʷΛ* 'id.'
- 11.4. PEA **šΛ?gʷ* 'crooked' ~ PEC **č'ΛkʷΛ* (~ *č'č'1*) 'id.'
- 11.5. PEA **L'řhx* 'left' ~ PNC **č'Λ(H)mΛ* 'id.'
- 11.6. PNaD **yřhš* 'small' ~ PEC **?řIřšΛ* (~ *ř⁴*) 'small, few'
- 11.7. PNaD **kΛ(M)č'* 'small; young animal, child' ~ PNC **kʷřrč'Λ* (~ *č'4*) 'young animal'
- 11.8. PEA **čř?x* 'wet; to swim' ~ PEC **čʷeH(Λ)mΛ* 'wet'
- 11.9. PEA **kʷúm?* 'fire, light' ~ PEC **kʷənΛ* 'light (noun, adj.)'
- 11.10. PNaD **šānh* 'old (person, animal)' ~ PEC **šānΛ* 'year'
- 11.11a. PEA **gʷřN(H)* 'dry, to dry' ~ PNC **?iGGʷΛrΛ* 'id.'
- 11.11b. Tl. -*xuk* 'to dry' /< PNaD **g(ω)Λ(N)gʷ* / ~ PEC **GGiGGʷΛ(rΛ)* 'dry, to dry'
- 11.12. PEA **k'řhř* (~ *m⁴*) 'sour' ~ PEC **q'Λč'č'Λ* 'id.'
- 11.13. E. *Xa* 'hot', *Xən* 'to melt, thaw; warm (adj.)' /< PEA **xΛ(H), *xΛn(H)* / ~ PNC **?řIřXΛ(nΛ)* (~ *ř²*) 'to be warm, hot'
- 11.14. E. *č'řxʷ* 'muddy' /< PEA **č'Λ(M)xʷ* / ~ PEC **(č')č'ořrqʷΛ* 'dirty, dirt, filth'

11.15. E. **gá** 'bad' /< PEA ***gʷʰ**(H) ~ PEC */**h**/ **o̥kʷʰ** 'bad'

Commentary

11.16. E. **qēc'** 'child, small animal' /< PEA ***kʷʰ**(M)c'] ~ PNC ***kənɔ'c'ʷʰ** 'small;
puppy, child'

11.17. PEA ***šumh** 'good' PEC ***hʷiŋžʰ** (~ **h**!) 'id.'

A somewhat modified version of Swadesh's basic word list is given below for PEA
and PEC cognates.

		PEC	PEA
1.	big	*(h)č'əqʷʰ	*čùhk'
2.	eye	*?w̥ilhɪ	*iáʔ?x / *xáʔ?
3.	to burn	*k'w/í/m̥	*k'ám
4.	two	*(t)q'ʷʷ́I	*ki
5.	gut (intestine)	*č'č'āq'q'ʷʰ	*c'iyakʷʰ
6.	woman	*zzʷʰyŋ	*č'wíy
7.	this/that	*d̥	*d̥
8.	yellow	*/čč/akkw	*cùxʷ
9.	earth	*n̥eq'ʷʰ (~ q'q'ʷ³) *1ēhk'	
10.	name	*z̥w̥eř?i	*š(w)iḥ
11.	bark (of a tree)	*q̥q̥aL	*kǎhL
12.	bone	*yěc'c'ʷem̥	*c'em?
13.	four	*-ěm̥q'ʷʰ	*d̥im̥k'
14.	rope	*H̥ač'wo₁	*L'ú?
15.	small	*řaIiš	*yáhš
16.	we	*L̥/á/	*1a-
17.	not	*d̥ (~ t̥)	*d̥
18.	foot	*t̥ʷēhʷ	*t̥'áx (~ h³)
19.	cloud	*?am̥s	*k'ùhs
20.	sand	*süre	*say
21.	feather	*t̥i?im̥	*t̥'an(h)
22.	to drink	*H̥aLL(w)v(n)	*LáNH

	PEC	PEA
23. arm	*GGw ^h i In ^h	*gān
24. fish	PLezg *č'ek'	*čuk'
25. knee	*q'wəInta ^h (~ q'q'w ^h)	*qú?(n)d
26. dry	*?iGGwər ^h	*gʷāN(H)
27. ear	*lēh ^h 1 ^h	*čéhx(ʷ)
28. father	*?ača(y ^h), *?oba(y ^h)	*t̥a?, *wā?
29. good	*hwinž ^h (~ h ^h)	*šumh
30. I	*z(ʷ)o	*šw̥i
31. grass	*?wēL' ^h	*L'ù?xʷ
32. fat	*t̥t̥w ^h (H)m ^h	*t̥ax

In accordance with my glotto-chronological calculations, the time-depth of the Eyak-Athapaskan family is approximately 2,500 - 2,700 years while the time-depth of PNC is around 6,000 years (according to Starostin). With corrections, this does not appear to be an obstacle for glottochronological calculations in determining the time when Sino-Caucasian started to deteriorate. But a great uncertainty in choosing one of the two proto-languages' synonyms for comparison keeps me from making these calculations. For example, in PNC, for every gloss in the word list, there are, in almost all cases, two lexemes, and it is not possible, in most instances, to decide which word is primary and which is not. The decision will usually be subjective (and therefore the age of the family will be either greatly overestimated or, on the contrary, underestimated).

What follows is a list of cognates from Sino-Caucasian languages and Algoinquian and Salishan languages (which, as it seems, also belong to Sino-Caucasian). Numbers correspond to those in the preceding lists.

- 1.3. Cf. PST *čam 'head hair, eyebrow, eyelash', PY *čəŋ e 'hair' (Starostin 1984, p.24), PSa *čəm (~η³) 'eyebrow', maybe also N. čy/xiv-r 'eyebrow'
- 1.4. Cf. PY *de- 'eye' (Starostin 1984, p.23), PSa q1-əŋ?, Yurok -1-in 'id.'
- 1.8. Cf. PST *s̥iñ, PY *səŋ 'liver' (Starostin 1984, p.24). PNC meaning 'gall' is secondary. Cf. Twana šča11šb 'liver', čš1ab 'lungs', etc. (< PSa *čə1aŋ). Cf. also Altaic *s[ə]1(ə)mä, Uralic *šuðəmə 'heart' (a borrowing from a Sino-Caucasian substratum?).
- 1.30. Cf. PST *?rak/ŋ, PY *təga 'chest' (Starostin 1984, p.23), N. n̥t-rv-ir 'id.'
- 1.32. Cf. PST *rak/ŋ 'bone', PAlg. *wa-θk- 'id.', Yurok (?)waθk-a? 'id.'
- 1.44. Cf. PY *čiGn 'head' (Starostin 1984, p.23), PAlg. *-štikw-, maybe also N. (Amur) čoŋ-r, (East Sakhalin) čony-r 'head'
- 1.45. Cf. Old Chinese kēn 'shoulder', PY *ken- id. (Starostin 1984, p. 28), PAlg. *-neθk- 'hand' (the PAlg. form fits PEC root variant *n̥iIGGw^h).
- 2.1. Cf. PST *čšyH 'elder brother/sister', PY *b-i-s(a) 'brother, sister' (Starostin 1984, p. 28), PAlg. *-iθe- 'elder brother', PSa *qec- 'id.' Note possessive marker *b- in PY.
- 2.6. Cf. PST *pa(H), PY *?ob 'father' (Starostin 1984, p. 29), PSa *χip 'grandfather', *piŋ 'father'.
- 2.11. Cf. PST *Kwriy 'nephew, son-in-law', PY *χ/qər 'grandchild' (Starostin 1984, p. 28).
- 3.5. Cf. PST *kri, PY *k/gor-UT- 'craw' (Starostin 1984, p. 29)

- 3.13. Cf. PST *ryuk 'deer', PY *ʔiʔχ 'male reindeer' (Starostin 1984, p.29), PAIg. *mah/?kw- 'deer'
- 3.15. Cf. Old Chinese čekʷ 'sparrow' (Starostin 1984, p. 29)
- 3.20. Cf. N. phisk 'kite', PAIg. *piškw- 'goatsucker', PSa *pigʰʷ 'id.' - Cf. also Oroch pičaki 'id.'
- 3.21. Cf. PY *c[í]k 'fish, snake' (Starostin 1984, p. 205), PSa *c'əqʷ 'fish', N. čho 'id.'
- 3.22. Cf. PST *qhʷiy 'dog' (Starostin 1984, p. 23), PSa *χʷeʔʷ 'fox'
- 3.24. Cf. PST *[s]rainj 'squirrel', PY *sa?qa 'id.' (Starostin 1984, p.29), PAIg. šänkʷ- 'mink', šinkʷ- 'weasel', N. čhon sq 'polecat'
- 3.27. Cf. PST *lač/ŋ 'eagle, hawk', PY *dʌ?Gʌ 'eagle' (Starostin 1984, p. 29); maybe also PAIg. *kil iw- 'eagle' (with a metathesis?)
- 4.1. Cf. PST *yəl 'branch', PY *ʔul-aŋ 'small twig, switch' (Starostin 1984, p. 30-31), PSa *xʷəlk 'branch'
- 5.4. Cf. PST *mūk 'fog' (this corresponds to the PEC root variant *mōk'k'ʷ₈), PY: Kotic Xoŋ 'fog' (Starostin 1984, p. 30-31), (?) PSa *pum/ŋ 'smoke, to smoke'
- 5.14. Cf. PST *srəy 'sand' (Starostin 1984, p. 24)
- 5.15. Cf. PY *xur₁ 'water' (Starostin 1984, p. 25) - [Hardly to PEC *xən?‡.-V.S.]
- 6.8. Cf. PST *č/šekʷ 'to laddle', PY *s̥iʔχ (~ k, g⁴) 'a dough trough' (Starostin 1984, p. 32)
- 7.3. Cf. PST *raH 'army; enemy', PY *har- 'slave, servant' (Starostin 1984, p. 32), PSa *xwər/1 'white man' (originally 'enemy, alien?')
- 7.6. Cf. PNC *ghʷət (~ kh¹) 'yard, passage', PY *q/xoʔt 'path, road' (Starostin 1984, p. 32)
- 7.10. Cf. PST *smək/ŋ 'ink', PY *suk 'paint' (Starostin 1984, p. 32), PSa *čəməχ 'resin, gum', PAIg. *šiHkw- 'resin'
- 7.11. Cf. PST *qʷəl, *qʷət 'round', PY > Ket ií-təp 'wheel' (Starostin 1984, p. 31), PAIg. *kwat- 'rotate' (trans.) [As for PNC *l₁ versus PAIg. *t, cf. also PNC *ccōy(U)wi1HU 'winter/fall' : PAIg. *kēywēt- (~ *kyēwēt-) 'north, northern wind']. - Cf. also N. kulkus 'wheel'.
- 7.17. Cf. PST *nəiķʷ 'drown, sink, submerge', PY *kan/m- 'bottom, low', PAIg. *nēyhθ- 'down, below' (see Starostin 1984, p. 35, about PST and PY cognates)
- 7.25. Cf. PST *la 'spirit', PY *ʔir 'spirit, breath' (Starostin 1984, p. 33), PSa *he 'soul; dream; to live', PAIg. *lēh1ē- 'breath' (redupl.)
- 8.1. Cf. PST *k-niy(s), PY *xi-nə 'two' (Starostin 1984, p. 25), PSa *tq'ʷu 'two' (cf. PNC *tq'IwU 'two' where *t- is unclear from the point of view of the PNC level [*t- is a prefix, according to Starostin. - V.S.]), PAIg.: Cree nə-po 'two' (*nU- is a numeral prefix in PAIg.), with -p- < PAIg. *kʷ.
- 9.4. Cf. PST *?at-/ta- 'not' (Starostin 1984, p. 24), N. tha 'not' (prohibitive particle)
- 9.7. Cf. PST *?i 'this', *?a 'that' (Starostin 1984, p. 25), N. a- 'that'
- 9.9. Cf. PY *?u/*?aw 'thou' (Starostin 1982, p. 204), PSa *wU 'thou'.
- 9.10 Cf. PSa *ca , 'o'.
- 10.2. Cf. PST *qʷay, *Gʷay 'make, do' (Starostin 1984, p. 34), PSa *ħəʔw 'id.'
- 10.10. Cf. PST *siə, PY *?ut- 'know' (Starostin 1984, p. 24), PAIg. *kiθk- 'know', PSa *?ac'-əχ 'see'
- 11.2. Cf. PST *čok 'sufficient' (Starostin 1984, p. 36). -Alt.. *čók(U) 'much, many' and Ural. *čókkU 'thick, big' might represent borrowing from Sino-Caucasian language.

- 11.9. Cf. Old Chinese *k_wāŋ, PY *gə?n- 'light (noun), bright' (Starostin 1984, p.35), PAlg. *k_wU_n- 'day', PSA *q_wi_n 'bright, shiny', N. khunu- 'be bright, transparent', khunu 'dawn'
- 11.10. Cf. PST *s_nīŋ 'year; old', PY *s_in- 'old' (Starostin 1984, p. 33), N. aň 'year'.
- 11.11. PNC root in 11.11b [PEC GG_iGGwU(rU) 'dry, to dry'] represents a reduced variant of 11.11a (PNC *?iGGwUrU 'id.'). Na-Dene data confirm this identification. There is a reflex of a reduplicated root in PAlg. *kāhk- 'dry'; of simple forms in PST *q/kār, PY *qər₁ /l 'id.' (Starostin 1984, p. 23), N. (East Sakhalin) qhəu 'become dry'.

Abbreviations

E. - Eyak; N. - Niukh; Nav. - Navaho; PAlg. - Proto-Algonquian; PEA - Proto-Eyak-Athapaskan; PEC - Proto-East Caucasian; PLegz - Proto-Lezgian; PNaD - Proto-Na-Dene; PNakh - Proto-Nakh; PNC - Proto-North Caucasian; PND - Proto-Nakh-Daghestanian; PSA - Proto-Salishan; PSinC - Proto-Sino Caucasian; PST - Proto-Sino-Tibetan; PWC - Proto-West Caucasian; PY - Proto-Yeniseian; Tl. - Tlingit.

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