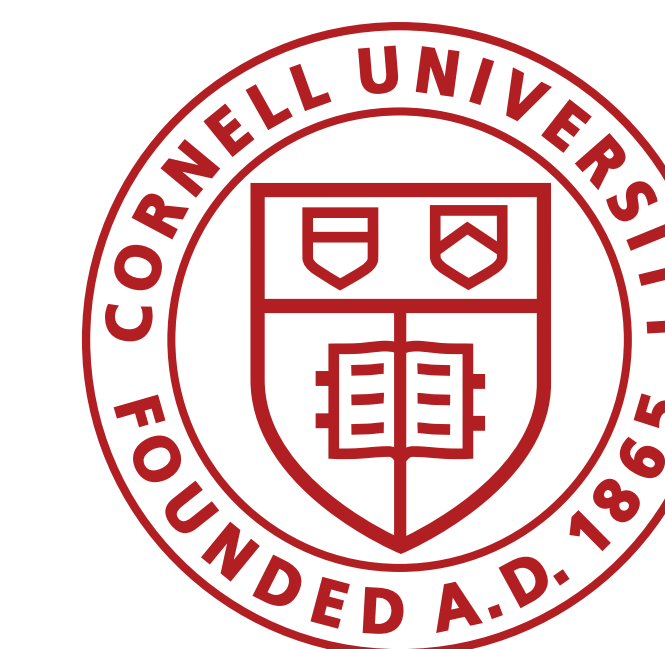


# RELATIVE CLAUSES IN KOASATI: INTERNALLY HEADED

Mary Moroney

DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS, CORNELL UNIVERSITY

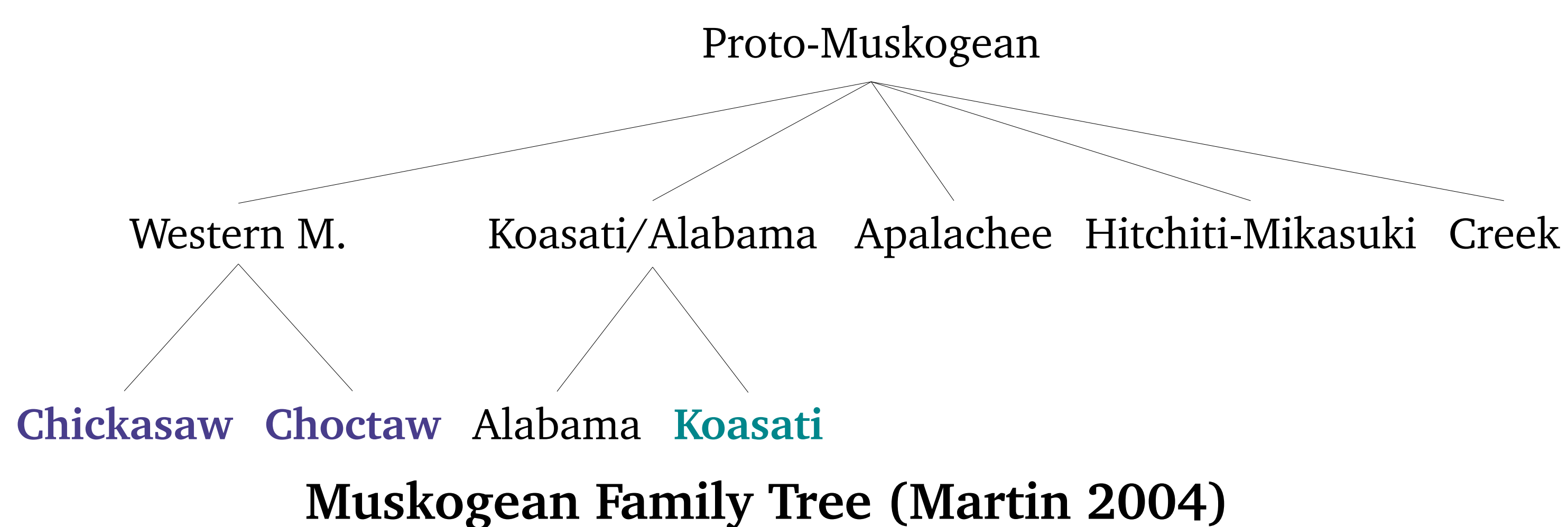


## Objectives

- Show that Koasati has a construction parallel to the Western Muskogean internally headed relative clause (IHRC).

## Introduction

- Koasati has been said not to have relative clauses (Rising 1992; Kimball 1991).
- A participle construction fulfills the function of a relative clause (Rising 1992; Kimball 1991).
- This construction resembles the internally headed relative clauses (IHRCs) found in other Muskogean languages (Broadwell 2006).



## Notes

- The morpheme *-.say-* (PRES:PART) is homophonous with a nominal suffix translated as “the aforesaid,” from a set Kimball (1991) calls “article suffixes.”
- Subject relatives were extremely uncommon in Koasati data.
- Chickasaw and Choctaw can form RCs with other morphology.
- Not all Muskogean RCs are IHRCs.
- Other constructions in Koasati might be RCs.

## Parallel Cases in Chickasaw, Choctaw, and Koasati

### (1) Chickasaw Object IHRC:

[Jan-at **ofi'** ipita-**kaash-oo-t**] mali-t kaniya-tok  
 Jan-SBJ **dog** feed-**kaash**-FOC-**SBJ** run-SS go=away-PT  
 “That dog Jan fed ran away.” (Gordon 1987: 74)

### (2) Koasati Object Relative:

[am-tá:ta-k **tayyí** hí:ca-**sáy-o-k**]  
 1S.POSS-father-SBJ **woman** see-PRES:PART-FOC-**SBJ**  
 ci-halk-ó-k óm  
 2S.POSS-wife-FOC-SBJ be  
 “The woman that my father saw is your wife.” (Kimball 1991: 525)

### (3) Choctaw Object Relative:

[**Ofi'** ipiita-li-**k-aash-mat**] balii-t kaniiya-h.  
**dog** feed-1SI-TNS-**PREV-D:NM** run-PART go:away-TNS  
 “That dog I fed ran away.” (Broadwell 2006: 299)

## Conclusion

Koasati participle constructions are actually internally headed relative clauses.

## Accessibility Hierarchy in Koasati

### (4) Subject Relative:

[akkó **á:ti-k** am-biní:li-**sáy-o-n**]  
 that **person-SBJ** 1S.DAT-visit-PRES:PART-FOC-**OBJ**  
 is-hi:ca-**ŷŷ**,-to?  
 2S.SBJ(1A)-see-,Q,-III-PAST

“Did you see the person who just visited me?” (Kimball 1991: 289)

### (5) Indirect Object Relative:

[**aatosi** im-ka-t  
**child** 3S.DAT-give-CONN  
 is-pa-**sáy-o-k** cayahl  
 2SG.SBJ-eat-PRES:PART-FOC-**SBJ** walk.3

“The child whom you just fed is walking.” (Rising 1992: 38)

### (6) Oblique Relative:

[**ó:la-fa** ahí:ya-li-**sáy-o-k** hahcí  
**town-in** go(SG)-1SG.SBJ-PRES:PART-FOC-**SBJ** river  
 apatah-ó-:li-:s  
 beside-be-DEDUC-IPAST

“The town to which I went is along a river.” (Kimball 1991: 525-526)

## Features of Muskogean IHRCs

Feature	Choctaw	Chickasaw	Koasati
Clause Internal Head	✓	✓	✓
Tense + Previous Mention	✓	✓	✓
Focus		✓	✓
Case Marking	✓	✓	✓

## Future Work

Feature	SBJ	OBJ	SS	DS
Marked on	noun	noun	verb	verb
Phonological from	-k	-n	-k	-n

- In Choctaw and Chickasaw (Gordon 1987) case (SBJ or OBJ) or switch reference (SS or DS) can mark relative clauses.
- There is some evidence that this happens in Koasati as well.
- Are relative clauses in these languages nominal or verbal?
- Are there RCs in Koasati that are not IHRCs?

## CONTACT

mrm366@cornell.edu

<http://conf.ling.cornell.edu/mmoroney/>

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