THE VOWELS OF PROTO-ẸDOID

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Ten oral vowels are reconstructed for Proto-Ẹdoid (PE). It is also assumed that PE operated vowel harmony of the Kwa type in which one set of vowels is characterized by an expanded pharynx and the other by an absence of such an expansion.

There is a reduced role for vowel harmony in modern Ẹdoid languages. The reason for this is the reduction of the original ten-vowel system to a nine-, eight, or even seven-vowel system in the Ẹdoid languages.

The ways in which vowel system reduction takes place are discussed: the vowels *ə, *ɪ, *and *ɔ *are the first to go in that order. The origin of vowel sequences is also discussed: in CVCV stems, the second consonant, $-C_2-$ was invariably a lenis one, while the final vowel, $-V_2$, was -i/-ɪ, or -u/-ɔ or -ə/-a. The loss of $-C_2-$ created vowel sequences.*

Finally, nasals and nasalization are examined as they affect the reconstruction of the PE vowel system. In particular, the question is raised whether PE had significant vowel nasalization. The conclusion is that there was and that $-C_2-$ nasals of PE are derived from their oral counterparts by a nasal rule.

On est arrivé à la conclusion que le proto-ẹdoïde (PE), devait posséder dix voyelles orales, et il est également admis que le processus d'harmonie vocalique du PE était du type de celui du groupe kwa, dans lequel l'un des groupes de voyelles est caractérisé par une dilatation du pharynx et l'autre par une absence de dilation du pharynx.

Le processus d'harmonie vocalique a une fonction plus restreinte dans les langues édoïdes modernes, en effet, il y a dans ces langues diminution du système original à dix voyelles, à des systèmes à neuf, huit ou même sept voyelles.

*La façon dont ces diminutions du nombre de voyelles dans les systèmes vocaliques apparaissent, est étudiée dans l'article que nous résumons. Les premières voyelles à disparaître sont dans l'ordre [*ə], [*ɪ], [*ɔ]. L'origine des séquences vocaliques est également étudiée dans cet article. Dans la*

structure CVCV, la deuxième consonne $-C_2-$, était invariablement une consonne faible et la voyelle $-V_2-$ était toujours -i/[ɪ], *ou* -u/[*ɷ] *ou encore* -[ə]/a-. *Lors de la disparition de la consonne $-C_2-$ une séquence vocalique apparaissait donc.*

Enfin, l'article étudie les nasales et la nasalisation pour, par ce biais, retrouver le système vocalique du PE. La question se pose, en particulier de savoir s'il y avait un phénomène de nasalisation des voyelles du proto-ẹdoïde. La réponse est affirmative, et d'autre part les consonnes $-C_2-$ nasales du proto-ẹdoïde, dériveraient des consonnes orales équivalentes suivant une règle spécifique.

0. INTRODUCTION

The Ẹdoid languages are traditionally classified as Kwa (Greenberg 1963). More recently, Bennett and Sterk (1977) have classified them as a group (?) within Eastern South-Central Niger-Congo. Geographically, they are found mostly in the Bendel State of Nigeria. Delta-Ẹdoid (DE) languages are spoken in the Rivers State while some North-Central (NCE) and North-Western (NWE) Ẹdoid languages are spoken in the Bendel/Ondo border areas of Ondo State.

1. THE VOWELS OF PROTO-ẸDOID (PE)

Ten oral vowels are reconstructed for Proto-Ẹdoid:

(1)

			i					u	
				ɪ			ɷ		
			e					o	
					ɛ		ɔ		
						ə			
						a			

Donwa (forthcoming) has done a spectrographic investigation of vowels in Isoko and discovered that ɪ and ɷ are in fact lower than e and o. If this were the situation in PE, it could mean that the non-expanded vowels were lower all round than their expanded counterparts (see below). Synchronic evidence from modern Ẹdoid languages suggests that PE operated a vowel harmony rule. This suggestion is confirmed by the pattern of vowel distribution in our reconstructed PE lexicon.

We assume that vowel harmony in PE was of the Kwa type in which vowels fall into two sets, one characterized by an expanded pharynx and the other by the absence of such an expansion. The two harmony sets in PE would thus be as in (2):

(2)

EXPANDED PHARYNX		NON-EXPANDED PHARYNX	
i	u	ɪ	ʊ
e	o	ɛ	ɔ
ə		a	

According to the vowel harmony rule, all affix vowels had to agree with stem vowels in pharynx width. In the case of polysyllabic stems, all vowels also had to agree in terms of pharynx width.

In the modern Ẹdoid languages, there is a reduced role for vowel harmony. It is observed that the fewer the vowels in a given system, the less the role of vowel harmony. Thus vowel harmony is virtually non-existent in the NCE languages (Ẹdo, Auchi, Ghotuọ, etc.) where the original ten-vowel system has been reduced to seven. In Delta-Ẹdoid, where ten-vowel systems still exist, vowel harmony is at its most symmetrical and rigid. The NWE and the SWE situations are intermediate between these two (DE and NCE) extremes.

2. VOWEL SYSTEM REDUCTION

The implication of postulating a ten-vowel system for PE is that most Ẹdoid languages have reduced the original system in various ways. The first step is, of course, to prove that we are dealing with reduction rather than expansion in the Ẹdoid situation.

The evidence for postulating reduction is overwhelming and conclusive: while *i and *e have regular i- and e- reflexes respectively, *ɪ shifts to i, ɪ, e, or ɛ! Similarly, while *u and *o have u- and o- reflexes respectively, *ʊ has u-, ʊ-, o- and ɔ-reflexes. These observations are parallel to what happens in the case of *ə and *a. *ə has a very varied set of reflexes but *a does not. All these observations are supported by the evidence in Table 1.

Some generalizations may be drawn from the way in which the original ten-vowel system has been reduced in the Ẹdoid languages: (See Table 1 overleaf.)

(3) a. In the nine-vowel system, there is no /ə/.

b. In the eight-vowel system, there is no /ə/ and no /ɪ/.

c. In the seven-vowel system, there are no /ə, ɾ, ʊ/.

An example of (3a) in Ẹgẹnẹ (Engenni). Ibilo (NWE) is an example of (3b) while all NCE languages provide examples of (3c). In cases of (3a), [ə] sometimes remains as an allophone of /a/ while, in cases of (3b), there is no trace of [ə] but [ɪ] is an allophone of /i/.

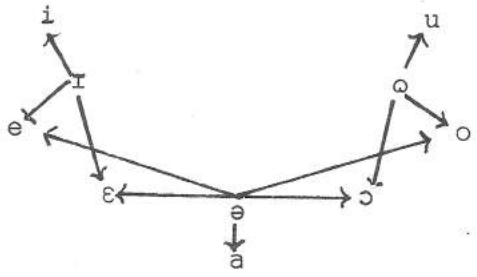
Table 1: Vowel correspondences in Ẹdoid

		i	ɪ	e	ɛ	ə	a	ɔ	o	ɷ	u
DE:	Dẹgẹma	i	ɪ	e	ɛ	ə	a	ɔ	o	ɷ	u
	Ẹgẹnẹ	i	ɪ	e	ɛ	e	a	ɔ	o	ɷ	u
	Epie	i	ɪ	e	ɛ		a	ɔ	o	ɷ	u
SWE:	Ẹrụwa	i	ɪ	e	ɛ	ɛ	a	ɔ	o	ɷ	u
	Isoko	i	ɪ	e	ɛ	e ɛ	a	ɔ	o	ɷ	u
	Okpe	i	e	e	ɛ	ɛ	a	ɔ	o	o	
	Urhobo	i	e	e	ɛ	ɛ	a	ɔ	o	o	u
	Uvbiẹ	i	ɪ	e	ɛ	ɛ	a	ɔ	o	ɷ	u
NCE:	Ẹdo	i	e	e	ɛ	a	a	ɔ	o	o	u
	Aoma	i	e	e	ɛ	a	a	ɔ	o	o	u
	Avbianwu	i	e	e	ɛ	a	a	ɔ	o	o	u
	Auchi	i	e	e	ɛ	a	a	ɔ	o	o	u
	Unẹmẹ	i	e	e	ɛ	ɔ	a	ɔ	o	o	u
	Ghotuọ	i	e	e	ɛ	a	a	ɔ	o	o	u
NWE:	Ọlọma	i	ɛ	e	ɛ	a	a	ɔ	o	ɔ	u
	Ẹmhalhẹ	i	ɛ	e	ɛ		a	ɔ	o	ɷ	u
	Ibilo	i	ɛ	e	ɛ	a	a	ɔ	o	ɷ	u
	Uhami	i	i	e	ɛ	a	a	ɔ	ɔ	u	u
	Ehueun	i	i	e	ɛ	a	a	ɔ	o	u	u
	Ukue	i	i	e	ɛ	a	a	ɔ	o	u	u

In the ten-vowel system of Dẹgẹma, /ə/ is forbidden in prefix position (cf. Elugbe 1976); in the nine-vowel system of Ẹgẹnẹ, /ɪ/ and /ʊ/ are forbidden in prefix position. It would appear that this kind of distributional restriction is one of the first steps in vowel system reduction.

Table 1 and our discussion so far are summarized in (4):

(4) Vowel system reduction routes in Ẹdoid



It may well be that PE *ə was closer and therefore more centralised than here indicated since Table 1 and our summary in (4) show that it has the ability to shift to the greatest variety of vowels. It is followed by *ɪ and *ʊ. The evidence also shows that although Elugbe (1973) did not reconstruct *ə, there is ample evidence for its reconstruction. The inclusion of data from Dẹgẹma (DE) and Unẹmẹ (NCE) has been useful in bringing a new dimension into the correspondences (see the items 'river' and 'two' in the appendix).

If we take Donwa's forthcoming position on Isoko as representatative of what may have operated in PE, we should re-arrange the vowels of PE as in (1′):

(1′)

It would become obvious that the three most central vowels are the most prone to change. It may well be that peripheral vowels are more resistant to change than non-peripheral (i.e. central) vowels - at least within vowel systems of the Kwa type with vowel harmony.

3. VOWEL SEQUENCES AND $-V_2-$

Vowel sequences are widely attested in the Ẹdoid languages. The sequences are either closing or opening. A closing sequence of vowels is one in which the last vowel is closer (i.e. higher on the Height scale) than the first. On the other hand, an opening

sequence is one in which the last vowel is more open (i.e. lower on a Height scale) than the first.

Thus we find opening sequences -iV, -ɪV, -ʊV, and -uV in which V is lower than the close i, ɪ, ʊ, u. On the other hand typical closing sequences are -ei, aI, -ɔʊ, ou etc.

There are more vowel sequences to be found in a typical modern Ẹdoid language than I postulate for PE. This arises from the fact that most Ẹdoid languages have zero-reflex for the PE $-C_2-$ consonants which were lenis -dh-, -mh-, -nh-, etc. (see Elugbe 1980 for a discussion of this).

In CVCV stems of PE, there was a restriction as to the vowels which could occur at $-V_2$. Only *-i/*-ɪ, *-ʊ/*-u and *-ə/*-a could occur there. Once a $-C_2-$ was lost, original CVCV stems became CVV in which, very often, $-V_2$ was a close vowel. Donwa (forthcoming) gives evidence which shows a development CVCV > CVV > CV within the dialects of Isoko. Elugbe and Williamson (1977) also give evidence from the Ẹdoid languages to support the view that some vowel sequences have arisen from the loss of $-C_2-$ in the Ẹdoid languages.

4. VOWELS, NASALS, AND NASALIZATION IN PE

In Elugbe (1973) I suggested that significant vowel nasalization was a feature of PE. I also said then that of all the vowels of PE, only *e and *o had no significantly nasalized counterparts. This point about nasalized ẽ and õ was based on the observation that no *ẽ or *õ could be convincingly reconstructed for PE.

Nasalization in the Ẹdoid languages is often traceable to PE -mh- and -nh-, i.e. $-C_2-$ nasals, which have been lost. But there are also cases where synchronic nasalization is not traceable to a PE lenis nasal in $-C_2-$ or any other position. It is for such cases that significant nasalization is postulated in the 1973 work, giving us *$C\tilde{V}$ and *$C\tilde{V}\tilde{V}$ stems. However, in the 1977 work by Elugbe and Williamson, PE *$C\tilde{V}$ and *$C\tilde{V}\tilde{V}$ are said to have been derived from a pre- or early-Proto-Ẹdoid form in which a velar nasal $-C_2-$ occurred. In Elugbe (1980), that position is slightly modified and -N- is postulated in place of -ŋ-. Thus the item 'tree' is reconstructed at various stages as in (5):

(5)	1973	PE *ʊ-thãĩ	'tree'
	1977	*ʊ-thaŋɪ	
	1980	*ʊ-thaNɪ	

The difference between the 1977 and the 1980 positions is that -ŋ- was postulated for a pre-Proto-Ẹdoid level while -N- is postulated

for PE. There is also no claim in the 1980 work that -N- was necessarily -ŋ-. In fact, the claim is that -N- may never have been realized segmentally but rather as nasalization of the surrounding vowels.

In making a case for a pre-PE -ŋ-, Elugbe and Williamson (1977) point to two considerations which are relevant: (1) the irregularity of having -mh- and -nh- but not -ŋ- (our -N-); and (2) the derivation of significant nasalization from the loss of -mh- and -nh-.

The case, already made in 1977 against the background of Benue-Kwa, will be briefly amplified here. If we assume that the typical PE stem was CVCV (and occasionally CV, CVV or CVC) in which $-C_2-$ was frequently a lenis nasal -mh-, -nh-, or -N-, we find that all Ẹdoid languages have lost -N-, with faint traces of it left in the form of vowel nasalization; on the other hand, -mh- and -nh- are retained here and there. Using Dẹgẹma and Ẹgẹnẹ (DE), Isoko (SWE), Aoma (NCE), and Ibilo (NWE) as examples, we find the following interesting situation:

(6)	Proto-Ẹdoid	CVmhV	CVnhV	CVNV
	> Dẹgẹma	CVm	CVn	CṼṼ/CVV
	> Ẹgẹnẹ	CVm(V)	CVn(V)	CVV
	> Isoko	CVV	CVɾV	CVV
	> Aoma	CVmV	CṼ	CṼ
	> Ibilo	CV	CVṇV	CV

The languages in (6) are not representative of what happens within each sub-group of Ẹdoid. For example, the Isoko examples obscure the fact that PE -mh- has a -m-reflex in Okpẹ, another SWE language. What (6) does is give us an idea of the variety of processes by which vowel nasalization and stem reduction have taken place in Ẹdoid. (7) is a practical demonstration of (6):

(7)	PE:	E-nhamhɪ	khɔnhɪ	U-thaNɪ	dhɪ-kɨNə
	De.	ɛ̀-nám	kɔn	ώ-!tã́ɪ̃́	ú-!kɪ́é
	Eg.	à-nàm(ὼ)	kɔn(ɪ)	ɛ̀-tàɪ̀	ɪ́-kɪ̀è
	Is.	à-ɾàὼ	hɔɾɪ	ú-ré	é-ké
	Ao.	é-ã̀mɪ̀	xɔ̃̀ɪ̃	ó-rã̀	ɛ́-kɛ̃̀
	Ib.	à-ṇà	khɔṇɔ	ú-ʃà	ḷá-cà
	Eng.	'meat'	'fight'	'tree'	'egg'

What is clear from (7) is that the most unpopular $-C_2-$ is -N-. Beyond that some languages have dropped -nh- while retaining -mh- (e.g. Aoma); others have dropped -mh- while retaining -nh- (e.g. Ibilo).

In the 1973 work, Elugbe made it clear that he regarded the nasals *mh and *nh as allophones of *bh and *dh respectively before nasalized vowels. On the other hand, both Elugbe and Williamson (1977) and Elugbe (1980) say that their reconstruction is at a systematic phonetic level. I would suggest, then, that there is little difference between Elugbe's 1973 view of vowel nasalization in PE and our present view of it. It should be possible to say that

(8)	PE	CVmhV are derived	from PE	/CVbhṼ/
		CVnhV	from	/CVdhṼ/
	and	CVNV	from	/CVGṼ/

There would be only one little question about this: is there evidence for the postulation of -G-? Elugbe (1980) presents such evidence and cites the case of 'ear' and 'house' (see the appendix). In the one case where there is an actual segmental reflex for -G-, it turns out to be -ɣ-. Although the evidence is meagre, I consider it further support for the position that at least some dialects of PE may have had some kind of velar nasal which may have been -ŋ-, a velar nasal, or -ɣ̃-, a voiced nasalized velar approximant - at any rate a very weak nasal consonant. This consonant obviously occurred only in -C_2- position and has no segmental reflex in any of the Ẹdoid languages on which we have data.

We must now ask how we are to deal with stems in which there is no evidence of a second syllable traceable to PE, though there is evidence of nasalization. For example the stems for 'tooth' and 'to build or thatch a roof' are reconstructed as *-kω̃ and *-βɔ̃ respectively in the 1973 work. In the 1980 work, these are reconstructed as *-kωN and *βɔN respectively. If our argument for the derivation of -NV from -GṼ is applied here, we must accept the suggestion that *CVG̃ > CVN > CṼ. We might even take the argument a step further and say that CVG̃ was itself derived from an earlier *CVGṼ. Outside Ẹdoid the case made by Elugbe and Williamson (1977) for -C_2- nasals in Proto-Benue-Kwa is evidence which supports the position taken in this work.

APPENDIX

I present in the following pages evidence to support Table 1 and my postulation of a ten-vowel system for PE. There are fourteen series of comparative items.

IPA symbols are used as much as possible. However, an h after a consonant suggests a lenis version of that consonant. n̥ and l̥ are topped alveolar nasal and lateral respectively: they are derived from lenis PE alveolars. ɾ̊ is a voiced alveolar tap with lateral offglide.

Upper-case vowel symbols in noun prefix position summarize harmony-determined alternants:

I = i ~ ɪ		A = ə ~ a	
E = e ~ ɛ		O = o ~ ɔ	
	U = u ~ o		

Non-cognate items are enclosed in brackets.

1.Proto-Ẹdoid *-ki 'market'

DE:	Dẹgẹma	è-kí ì-
	Ẹgẹnẹ	è-kì
	Epie	e-ki
SWE:	Ẹrụwa	è-kí ì-
	Isoko	è-kì
	Okpẹ	é-yì
	Urhobo	è-kì
	Uvbiẹ	è-kì
NCE:	Ẹdo	è-kì
	Aoma	è-kì
	Auchi	à-kì ì-
	Avbianwu	à-kì
	Unẹmẹ	à-kì
	Ghotuọ	ghò-kì
NWE:	Ọlọma	ghè-kì
	Ẹmhalhẹ	wè-kì rù-kì
	Ibilo	è-cì
	Uhami	è-cì
	Ehueun	è-hi
	Ukue	è-kì

2.Proto-Ẹdoid *dhɪ 'eat'

DE:	Dẹgẹma	ɗɪ
	Ẹgẹnẹ	ɗɪ
	Epie	ɗɪ
SWE:	Ẹrụwa	rɪ [ɹɪ]
	Isoko	ɾɪ
	Okpẹ	ɾe
	Urhobo	ɺe
	Uvbiẹ	ɾɪ
NCE:	Ẹdo	ɺe/ɹe
	Aoma	e
	Auchi	ɺe
	Avbianwu	ɺe
	Unẹmẹ	ɺe
	Ghotuọ	e
NWE:	Ọlọma	rɛ
	Ẹmhalhẹ	rɛ
	Ibilo	rɛ
	Uhami	ri
	Ehueun	ri
	Ukue	di

3.Proto-Ẹdoid *deNi 'fall'

DE:	Dẹgẹma	deĩ
	Ẹgẹnẹ	dei
	Epie	deĩ
SWE:	Ẹrụwa	ze
	Isoko	tʃe < t̲ie
	Okpẹ	se
	Urhobo	ʃe
	Uvbiẹ	rie
NCE:	Ẹdo	de
	Aoma	de
	Auchi	de
	Avbianwu	de
	Unẹmẹ	de
	Ghotuọ	de
NWE:	Ọlọma	ze
	Ẹmhalhẹ	ze
	Ibilo	dze
	Uhami	ze
	Ehueun	ze
	Ukue	d̲e

4.Proto-Ẹdoid *ɗɛ 'buy'

DE:	Dẹgẹma	ɗɛ
	Ẹgẹnẹ	(do)
	Epie	ɗɛ
SWE:	Ẹrụwa	dɛ
	Isoko	dɛ
	Okpẹ	dɛ
	Urhobo	dɛ
	Uvbiẹ	dɛ
NCE:	Ẹdo	dɛ
	Aoma	dɛ
	Auchi	dɛ
	Avbianwu	dɛ
	Unẹmẹ	dɛ
	Ghotuọ	dɛ
NWE:	Ọlọma	dɛ
	Ẹmhalhẹ	dɛ
	Ibilo	dɛ
	Uhami	dɛ
	Ehueun	dɛ
	Ukue	dɛ

5. Proto-Ẹdoid *E-da i- 'river'

DE:	Dẹgẹma	édè í-
	Ẹgẹnẹ	é-dè
	Epie	é-dè
SWE:	Ẹrụwa	í-sè
	Isoko	é-t̲è (í-)
	Okpẹ	(ù-ɾ̥íé)
	Urhobo	(ò-ɾ̥íɛ́)
	Uvbiẹ	(ù-ɾ̥íè)
NCE:	Ẹdo	è-zè
	Aoma	é-dè
	Auchi	é-dà é-
	Avbianwu	é-dà é-
	Unẹmẹ	é-dɔ̀
	Ghotuọ	ɛ̄dā ɛ̄-
NWE:	Ọlọma	-
	Ẹmhalhẹ	(ó-kè)
	Ibilo	(ó-kphò)
	Uhami	(ú-kò)
	Ehueun	(ó-kè)
	Ukue	(ù-kóù)

6.Proto-Ẹdoid *i-və 'two'

DE:	Dẹgẹma	i-və
	Ẹgẹnẹ	í-vè
	Epie	í-vè
SWE:	Ẹrụwa	î-vè
	Isoko	ǐ-vè
	Okpẹ	é-và
	Urhobo	í-vè
	Uvbiẹ	ì-vè
NCE:	Ẹdo	è-vá
	Aoma	è-vá
	Auchi	è-vá
	Avbianwu	è-vá
	Unẹmẹ	è-vá
	Ghotuọ	è-vā
NWE:	Ọlọma	é-wā ?
	Ẹmhalhẹ	è-vâ
	Ibilo	è-vá
	Uhami	è-vá
	Ehueun	è-vā
	Ukue	è-vâ

7.Proto-Ẹdoid *ma
'mould'

DE:	Dẹgẹma	(ɗum)
	Ẹgẹnẹ	ma
	Epie	ma
SWE:	Ẹrụwa	ma
	Isoko	ma
	Okpẹ	ma
	Urhobo	ma
	Uvbiẹ	ma
NCE:	Ẹdo	ma
	Aoma	ma
	Auchi	ma
	Avbianwu	ma
	Unẹmẹ	ma
	Ghotuọ	ma
NWE:	Ọlọma	ma
	Ẹmhalhẹ	ma
	Ibilo	ma
	Uhami	ma
	Ehueun	ma
	Ukue	ma

9.Proto-Ẹdoid *do
'steal'

DE:	Dẹgẹma	do
	Ẹgẹnẹ	do
	Epie	dõ
SWE:	Ẹrụwa	so
	Isoko	ṭo
	Okpẹ	so
	Urhobo	co
	Uvbiẹ	co
NCE:	Ẹdo	(rhaa)
	Aoma	do
	Auchi	(ṭue)
	Avbianwu	(ṭue)
	Unẹmẹ	do, do(ḷɔ)
	Ghotuọ	do
NWE:	Ọlọma	zo
	Ẹmhalhẹ	zo
	Ibilo	dzo
	Uhami	zo
	Ehueun	zo
	Ukue	ḍo

11.Proto-Ẹdoid *fumhi
'swell'

DE:	Dẹgẹma	fu (TW)
	Ẹgẹnẹ	fuo
	Epie	fuẹ (TW)
SWE:	Ẹrụwa	fi(ri)
	Isoko	fu
	Okpẹ	fu
	Urhobo	(vbɔ [ʊɔ])
	Uvbiẹ	fu(ru)
NCE:	Ẹdo	hiv ĩã [hiʊ̃ĩ
	Aoma	humu
	Auchi	fumhi
	Avbianwu	fumhi
	Unẹmẹ	fumhu
	Ghotuọ	humhi
NWE:	Ọlọma	-
	Ẹmhalhẹ	(bie)
	Ibilo	(bio)
	Uhami	(mina)
	Ehueun	(zɔ)
	Ukue	(dhɔ)

8.Proto-Ẹdoid *ghU-ɓɔ
A- 'arm, hand'

DE:	Dẹgẹma	ɷ̀-ɓɔ́ à-
	Ẹgẹnẹ	ɔ́-bɔ̀
	Epie	ɷ̀-ɓɔ̀
SWE:	Ẹrụwa	à-bɔ́
	Isoko	ɷ̀-bɔ̀ à-
	Okpẹ	ò-bɔ́ à-
	Urhobo	ò-bɔ̀ à-
	Uvbiẹ	à-bɔ̀
NCE:	Ẹdo	ò-bɔ́
	Aoma	ó-bɔ̀
	Auchi	ó-bɔ̀ a-
	Avbianwu	ó-bɔ̀ a-
	Unẹmẹ	ó-bɔ̀ a-
	Ghotuọ	ghō-bɔ̀ a-
NWE:	Ọlọma	ghɔ́-bɔ̀ á-
	Ẹmhalhẹ	wɔ́-bɔ̀ á-
	Ibilo	ɔ́-bɔ̀ á-
	Uhami	ɔ́-bɔ̀
	Ehueun	ō-wɔ̀
	Ukue	ó-bɔ̀

10.Proto-Ẹdoid *O-ɓɷ
A- 'doctor'

DE:	Dẹgẹma	ɔ̀-ɓɷ́ è-
	Ẹgẹnẹ	ɔ̀-ɓɷ̀
	Epie	ɔ̀-ɓɷ̀
SWE:	Ẹrụwa	ɔ̀-bɷ̀ ɪ̀
	Isoko	ɔ̀-bɷ̀ ɪ̀-
	Okpẹ	ɔ̀-bɷ́
	Urhobo	ɔ̀-bo è-
	Uvbiẹ	à-bɷ̀
NCE:	Ẹdo	ɔ̀-bɷ́
	Aoma	ɔ́-bɔ̀
	Auchi	ɔ́-bɔ̀ é-
	Avbianwu	ɔ́-bɔ̀ é-
	Unẹmẹ	ɔ́-bɔ̀ í-
	Ghotuọ	ɔ̄-bɔ̀ ē-
NWE:	Ọlọma	á-bù
	Ẹmhalhẹ	ɔ́-bɷ̀ é-
	Ibilo	ɔ́-bɷ́ é-
	Uhami	ɔ̀-bù
	Ehueun	ɔ̄-bù
	Ukue	ɔ́-bu

12.Proto-Ẹdoid *vɪɛ
'cry, weep'

DE:	Dẹgẹma	vɪɛ
	Ẹgẹnẹ	vɪɛ
	Epie	-
SWE:	Ẹrụwa	vɪɛ
	Isoko	vɪɛ
	Okpẹ	viɛ
	Urhobo	viɛ
	Uvbiẹ	viɛ
NCE:	Ẹdo	viɛ
	Aoma	viɛ
	Auchi	viɛ
	Avbianwu	viɛ
	Uneme	viɛ
	Ghotuọ	viɛ
NWE:	Ọlọma	viɛ
	Ẹmhalhẹ	viɛ
	Ibilo	viɛ
	Uhami	viɛ
	Ehueun	viɛ
	Ukue	viɛ

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