

# Yòng xiēzi qiào kāi wèntí

(Wedge issues)

Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing  
June, 1997

James A. Matisoff  
University of California  
Berkeley

## 1.0 Introduction

When I elicited the Pumi word **tsó** 'wedge' in Kunming (March 1996), I was struck by its resemblance to Lahu **jû** 'wedge'. Since the Qiangic languages are not particularly close to Loloish on the TB family tree, this apparent cognate for an item of non-core vocabulary was of interest. The first task in establishing a relationship between the Pumi and the Lahu forms was to reconstruct the PLB ancestor of Lahu **jû**. Then possible cognates to the Pumi form in other Qiangic languages had to be examined. Given our present rudimentary knowledge of comparative Qiangic, could parallel examples establish a Proto-Qiangic reconstruction resembling our newly reconstructed PLB form?

As it turns out, the Pumi and Lahu forms are not cognate after all. Still, this study has unearthed several new etyma for WEDGE, and clarified some Qiangic rhyme developments, especially as concerns the fate of PTB **\*-am** and **\*ap**. Finally, it raises some cautionary issues in comparing sets of forms across distant subgroups of the vast TB family.

## 2.0 The PLB provenience of Lahu **jû** : PLB **\*N-džam**<sup>2</sup>

Lahu **jû** (N; M<sub>px</sub>) 'wedge; shim; stake' is both a free noun (N) and a morpheme prefixable by **ǰ-** (M<sub>px</sub>), occurring in collocations like:

<b>chɛ-kə-jû</b> (N)	shim used in a rice-pounder
<b>jû dǰʔ ve</b> (OV)	drive in a wedge/stake
<b>jû ʃɛ ve</b> (OV)	insert a wedge; insert a wooden pin into a prepared hole
<b>ǰ-jû ka ve</b> (OV)	drive in a wedge/stake

No etymology was offered for this morpheme in Matisoff 1988:163, 568. The abundant new Lolo-Burmese data provided in Sun et al, 1991 (henceforth **ZMYYC**), and Dai et al, 1992 (henceforth **TBL**), now allows us to reconstruct a PLB root with confidence.

## 2.1 Burmish reflexes

Achang (Longchuan)	a <sup>31</sup> <b>ce</b> <sup>51</sup>	wedge	ZMYYC #413, p. 783; TBL #620, p. 207
Bola	s <sup>35</sup> <b>tʃɛ</b> <sup>31</sup>	wedge	TBL #620, p. 207
Langsu (=Maru) <sup>1</sup>	saŋ <sup>35</sup> <b>tʃɛ</b> <sup>31</sup>	wedge	ZMYYC #413, p. 783; TBL #620, p. 207
Zaiwa (=Atsi)	siŋ <sup>21</sup> <b>tʃam</b> <sup>21</sup>	wedge	ZMYYC #413, p. 783; TBL #620, p. 207

<sup>1</sup>The first syllables in the Langsu and Zaiwa forms apparently do not mean 'wood', the morphemes for which are Langsu **sak** and Zaiwa **sik**<sup>55</sup>.

The Burmish reflexes are crucial, pointing unmistakably to a nasal-finalled rhyme. The Zaiwa form narrows it down to **\*-am**. In WB itself, the reflex of **\*-am** is **-am**, but there is no apparent Burmese cognate to this set.<sup>2</sup> The Achang (Longchuan) form **a<sup>31</sup>ce<sup>51</sup>** cited above (2.01) is not cognate, since the regular Achang reflex of **\*-am** is also **-am** (see sets below).

The dozen or so best-attested **\*(w)am** etyma in Lolo-Burmese, and their WB reflexes, are as follows:

	PLB	WB
BEAR	<b>*d-wam<sup>1</sup> ⌘<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>(wak-)wam</b>
BELLY	<b>*p-wam<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>wâm</b>
BRIDGE	<b>*dzam<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>tsam</b>
DARE	<b>*wam<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>wam'</b>
EAR/SPIKE of GRAIN	<b>*s-nam<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>hnam</b>
FATHOM/CORD	<b>*s-lam<sup>1</sup> ⌘<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>lam ⌘ hlâm<sup>3</sup></b>
FENCE/GARDEN	<b>*kram<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>khram</b>
FLY (v.)	<b>*byam<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>pyam</b>
HAIR (head)	<b>*cham<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>tsham</b>
IRON	<b>*syam<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>sam</b>
OTTER	<b>*syam<sup>1</sup> ⌘ *pyam<sup>1</sup> &lt; PTB *sram</b>	<b>phyam</b>
ROAD	<b>*lam<sup>2</sup> ⌘<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>lam</b>
SESAME	<b>*s-nam<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>hnâm</b>
SMELL	<b>*nam<sup>1</sup> ⌘<sup>2</sup> ⌘<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>nam, nâm, nam'</b>

Reflexes of these etyma in other Burmish languages are quite regular:

	<i>Achang</i>	<i>Zaiwa</i>	<i>Leqi</i>	<i>Langsu</i> <sup>4</sup>	<i>Bola</i>
BEAR	ɔm <sup>55</sup>	vam <sup>51</sup>	wɔm <sup>31</sup>	vẽ <sup>31</sup>	vẽ <sup>55</sup>
BELLY	ɔm <sup>31</sup> tau <sup>31</sup>	vam <sup>21</sup>	wɔm <sup>33</sup> tou <sup>33</sup>	vẽ <sup>35</sup> tuk <sup>31</sup>	vẽ <sup>31</sup> tau <sup>31</sup>
BRIDGE	tɕam <sup>55</sup>	tsam <sup>51</sup>	tsam <sup>31</sup>	tsẽ <sup>31</sup>	tsẽ <sup>55</sup>
DARE	--	vam <sup>55</sup>	wu:m <sup>55</sup>	vẽ <sup>55</sup>	vẽ <sup>35</sup>
FATHOM	lam <sup>55</sup>	lam <sup>51</sup>	lam <sup>31</sup>	lẽ <sup>31</sup>	lẽ <sup>55</sup>
EAR/SPIKE (grain)	tɕɔ <sup>55</sup> ɲam <sup>55</sup>	a <sup>21</sup> ɲam <sup>51</sup>	a <sup>55</sup> ɲam <sup>33</sup>	kauk <sup>31</sup> nẽ <sup>31</sup>	nẽ <sup>55</sup>
FLY	tɕam <sup>55</sup>	[taŋ <sup>21</sup> ]	[ta:ŋ <sup>33</sup> ]	[tɕ <sup>35</sup> ]	[tɕ <sup>31</sup> ]
GARDEN/FENCE	--	khjam <sup>51</sup>	khjam <sup>33</sup>	khjẽ <sup>31</sup>	khjẽ <sup>55</sup>
HAIR (of head)	--	u <sup>21</sup> tsham <sup>51</sup>	tsham <sup>33</sup>	tshẽ <sup>31</sup>	tshẽ <sup>55</sup>

<sup>2</sup>See below 4.2 for a discussion of WB **sap** and its possible cognates.

<sup>3</sup>The aspirated allofam means 'to stretch out the arm'; the **\*s-** prefix is also reflected in Yi Mile **tu<sup>33</sup>** and Jinuo **te<sup>33</sup>**.

<sup>4</sup>The Bola forms given in TBL (Language #32 of 50) are virtually identical to these Langsu (Maru) forms (Lg. #31 in TBL).

IRON	ʂam <sup>55</sup>	ʂam <sup>51</sup> tɔ <sup>55</sup>	[tʃɔ <sup>31</sup> tɔ <sup>55</sup> ]	ʂɛ <sup>31</sup> tɔ <sup>55</sup>	ʂɛ <sup>55</sup> -ta <sup>55</sup>
OTTER	sam <sup>55</sup>	xam <sup>51</sup>	ʂam <sup>33</sup>	xɛ <sup>31</sup>	xɛ <sup>55</sup>
SMELL	nam <sup>31</sup>	nam <sup>51</sup>	na:m <sup>31</sup>	nɛ <sup>31</sup>	nɛ <sup>55</sup>
WEDGE	[a <sup>31</sup> ɕe <sup>51</sup> ]	siŋ tʂam <sup>21</sup>	--	saŋ <sup>35</sup> tʂɛ <sup>31</sup>	sɔ <sup>35</sup> tʂɛ <sup>31</sup>

These Burmish reflexes may be tabulated as follows:

PLB	Achang (Longchuan)	Zaiwa (Atsi)	Leqi (Lashi)	Langsu (Maru)	Bola
*-am	-am, -ɔm	-am	-am, -ɔm, -um	-ɛ	-ɛ

## 2.2 Loloish reflexes

Gazhuo	sɿ <sup>35</sup> tse <sup>31</sup>	wedge	TBL #620
Hani (Lüchun)	tsha <sup>31</sup> tshɔ <sup>31</sup>	wedge	TBL #620
Hani (Mojiang)	tɔ <sup>31</sup> tʃu <sup>31</sup>	wedge	TBL #620
Hani (Shuikui)	tɔ <sup>31</sup> tʃhu <sup>31</sup>	wedge	ZMYYC #413
Lahu (Black)	dzu <sup>53</sup>	wedge	ZMYYC #413
Lisu	dʒo <sup>31</sup> tʃhe <sup>55</sup>	wedge	ZMYYC #413
Lisu (Northern)	nɔ <sup>55</sup> dʒɔ <sup>21</sup>	wedge	DB-Lisu <sup>5</sup>
Naxi (Lijiang)	ʂua <sup>55</sup>	wedge	ZMYYC #413; TBL #620
Nusu (Bijiang)	tɕa <sup>55</sup>	wedge	ZMYYC #413
Nusu	tʂa <sup>55</sup>	wedge	TBL #620
Sani	sɿ dzɿ <sup>11</sup>	wedge	TBL #620
Yi (Mile (Axi))	dʒi <sup>21</sup> bu <sup>33</sup>	wedge	ZMYYC #413
Yi (Mojiang)	cɿ <sup>33</sup> dʒe <sup>33</sup>	wedge	ZMYYC #413
Yi (Nanjian)	dʒy <sup>21</sup>	wedge	ZMYYC #413
Yi (Nanhua)	cɿ <sup>33</sup> dʒu <sup>21</sup>	wedge	ZMYYC #413
Yi (Weishan)	ba <sup>21</sup> dʒy <sup>21</sup>	wedge	TBL #620
Yi (Wuding)	ŋtʂhe <sup>33</sup>	wedge	TBL #620
Yi (Xide)	ndʒo <sup>33</sup>	wedge	ZMYYC #413; TBL #620

At first glance, some of these forms look like possible loans from Chinese (cf. Mandarin **xiēzi**), especially Yi Nanhua **ɕe<sup>21</sup> tsɿ<sup>33</sup>** (TBL #620, p. 207). On the other hand, the first syllables might be reduced forms of morphemes meaning WOOD (< PTB **\*sik** ≈ **\*siŋ**). To ascertain whether, e.g. the Gazhuo, Sani, Mojiang, and Nanhua (ZMYYC) forms are loans from Chinese or not, we shall have to look at other cognate sets reflecting the rhyme **\*-am**.

## 2.3 The PLB \*-initial

The voicedness of the initial in Lahu **jû** points unmistakably to a \*prenasalized prototype.<sup>6</sup> The Chinese Lahu source has **dz-**, probably inaccurately recorded; but in any case there is no contrast in Black Lahu between dentals and palatals. The palatal phonemes /c ch j ʃ y/ have dental allophones before -ɿ:

<sup>5</sup>This form is not from either ZMYYC or TBL, but rather from Bradley 1994.

<sup>6</sup>See Matisoff 1972:15-16.

/c ch j š y/ ---> [ts tsh dz s z] / -----t<sup>7</sup>

The prenasalization of the PLB initial is directly confirmed by the Yi Wuding and Yi Xide reflexes.

## 2.4 The PLB \*tone

Since Lahu **jû** is from PLB Tone \*2, we expect that its LB cognates will also reflect that tone. To check that out, all we need do is compare the tones for WEDGE in these languages with the tones of the reflexes of an "exemplary" Tone \*2 etymon. In the case of the Burmish forms we should select a non-verbal<sup>8</sup> etymon, e.g. PLB \***sum**<sup>2</sup> THREE:

	<i>Tone of WEDGE</i>	<i>Tone of THREE</i>
<b>Burmish</b>		
Achang (Longchuan)	--	31 <b>sum</b> <sup>31</sup>
Bola	31	55 <b>sam</b> <sup>55</sup> <sup>9</sup>
Zaiwa (Atsi)	21	21 <b>sum</b> <sup>21</sup>
Langsu (Maru)	31	31 <b>sam</b> <sup>31</sup>
Leqi (Lashi)	--	55 <b>səm</b> <sup>55</sup>
WB	--	^ <b>sûm</b>

In the case of Loloish, THREE will not do as a comparison, since etyma with voiceless sibilant initials often acquire special tones. Better would be BITTER (PLB \***ka**<sup>2</sup>):

	<i>Tone of WEDGE</i>	<i>Tone of BITTER</i>
<b>Loloish</b>		
Gazhuo	31	31 <b>kha</b> <sup>31</sup>
Hani (Lüchun)	31	31 <b>xa</b> <sup>31</sup>
Hani (Mojiang)	31	31 <b>xɔ</b> <sup>31</sup>
Hani (Shuikui)	31	31 <b>xɔ</b> <sup>31</sup>
Lahu (Black)	53	53 <b>qha</b> <sup>53</sup>
Lisu	31	31 <b>khua</b> <sup>31</sup>
Lisu (Northern)	21	21 <b>hkwa</b> <sup>21</sup>
Nusu (Bijiang) <sup>10</sup>	55	53 <b>kha</b> <sup>53</sup>
Sani	11	11 <b>qho</b> <sup>11</sup>
Yi (Dafang)	--	33 <b>khu</b> <sup>33</sup>
Yi (Mile (Axi))	21	21 <b>kha</b> <sup>21</sup>
Yi (Mojiang)	33	33 <b>kho</b> <sup>33</sup>
Yi (Nanhua)	21	21 <b>kha</b> <sup>21</sup>
Yi (Nanjian)	21	21 <b>kha</b> <sup>21</sup>
Yi (Weishan)	21	21 <b>kha</b> <sup>21</sup>
Yi (Wuding)	33	33 <b>kho</b> <sup>33</sup>
Yi (Xide)	33	33 <b>khu</b> <sup>33</sup>

<sup>7</sup>See Matisoff 1973/1982, pp. 6-8.

<sup>8</sup>As Burling (1968:57-8, 69) demonstrated, Atsi and Maru tonal reflexes of PLB Tone \*2 are different for verbs as opposed to non-verbs.

<sup>9</sup>I cannot explain why this form has tone 55, since many other Tone \*2 etyma give Bola tone 31: BONE \***rəw**<sup>2</sup> > Bo. **fǎ-u**<sup>31</sup>, FOUR \***b-ləy**<sup>2</sup> > Bo. **məi**<sup>31</sup>, FIVE \***ŋa**<sup>2</sup> > Bo. **ŋa**<sup>31</sup>, NINE \***gəw**<sup>2</sup> > Bo. **kau**<sup>31</sup>. Furthermore, other Tone \*2 etyma with initial \***s-** develop Bola tone 35: BLOOD \***swəy**<sup>2</sup> > Bo. **sui**<sup>35</sup>, MEAT \***sa**<sup>2</sup> > Bo. **fa**<sup>35</sup>.

<sup>10</sup>The conditioning for the reflexes of Tone \*2 in Nusu are not yet clear. Other Tone \*2 etyma do give Nusu 55, e.g. FIVE PLB \***ŋa**<sup>2</sup> > Nusu **ŋa**<sup>55</sup>.

## 2.5 The PLB \*rhyme

When you have widely divergent rhyme reflexes in cognates from language to language, it's a good bet that it's a closed syllable rhyme (i.e. one with a final stop or nasal). As we shall see, Loloish reflexes of **\*-am** go all over the map:

i	y	ɿ	ʊ	ɤ	u
ɪ			ʏ	uo	
e					o
ɛ					ɔ
	a		ɱ		ɑ

### Loloish sets with the \*-am rhyme

	<b>BEAR</b> <b>*d-wam<sup>1</sup> ɰ<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>BELLY</b> <b>*p-wam<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>BRIDGE</b> <b>*n-dzam<sup>1</sup></b>
Lahu (Black)	yè-mĩ-t <sup>5</sup>	gô-pè / ɣu <sup>53</sup> pe <sup>31</sup> 11	cò
Yi Xide	ɣo <sup>33</sup> (T *1)	[i <sup>21</sup> mo <sup>21</sup> ] 12	dzi <sup>33</sup>
Yi Nanjian			ɣo <sup>21</sup> dzy <sup>55</sup>
Yi Nanhua	ɣu <sup>33</sup> mA <sup>21</sup>		dzu <sup>33</sup>
Yi Mile (Axi)			tsi <sup>33</sup>
Yi Mojiang			dzu <sup>21</sup> gu <sup>21</sup>
Yi Dafang	ɣu <sup>21</sup>	ɣo <sup>13</sup> mo <sup>55</sup>	thu <sup>33</sup> 13
Lisu	ɣo <sup>33</sup> / vɛ-ti <sup>55</sup> 14	[he <sup>31</sup> khi <sup>31</sup> ]	kho <sup>31</sup> dze <sup>33</sup>
Naxi Lijiang <sup>✓</sup>	gv <sup>31</sup>		ndzo <sup>31</sup>
Naxi Yongning			dzo <sup>33</sup>
Hani Biyue	ɔ <sup>31</sup> je <sup>55</sup>		tse <sup>33</sup> kv <sup>31</sup>
Hani Dazhai (Luchun)	xa <sup>31</sup> ɔ <sup>55</sup>		lo <sup>55</sup> dzo <sup>55</sup>
Hani Shuikui (Mojiang)	xɔ <sup>31</sup> v <sup>55</sup>	ɣu <sup>31</sup> mo <sup>33</sup>	tcho <sup>31</sup>
Akha	k'a <sup>✓</sup> hm <sup>✓</sup>		law <sup>✓</sup> dzm <sup>✓</sup>
Jinuo	a <sup>33</sup> ø <sup>44</sup>		khɛa <sup>33</sup> tshe <sup>33</sup>
Gazhuo			tse <sup>33</sup>
Yi Sani	ɣu <sup>33</sup>	[i <sup>11</sup> pi <sup>44</sup> ]	tsy <sup>33</sup>
Yi Wuding	je <sup>11</sup> mp <sup>55</sup>		ntshe <sup>11</sup>
Yi Weishan		[hi <sup>21</sup> ma <sup>33</sup> dzɿ <sup>33</sup> ]	ɣo <sup>21</sup> dzy <sup>55</sup>
Nusu (Bijiang)	ua <sup>33</sup>	va <sup>31</sup> lo <sup>53</sup>	gu <sup>55</sup> dza <sup>33</sup>

<sup>11</sup>Lahu here has initial ɣ-, instead of the usual v- reflex of \*w-, since Lahu does not tolerate syllables of the shape vo. Several Lahu words (including some loans from Burmese) show alternation between ɣ- and v-. See Matisoff 1973:9.

<sup>12</sup>There is a separate root PLB \*?wik 'stomach' [TSR #176] that may underlie the Xide, Lisu, Weishan, and Sani forms for BELLY.

<sup>13</sup>Note the deaffrication of the initial, as in Mpi (see Matisoff 1978). But HAIR in Dafang is affricated.

<sup>14</sup>The former form is from ZMYYC, the latter from TBL. Both are varieties of the Lisu of Fugong District, Nujiang County.

	EAR/SPIKE/PANICLE of GRAIN <sup>15</sup> *s-nam <sup>1</sup>		DARE <sup>16</sup> *wam <sup>3</sup>
Lahu (Black)	ḍ-nu		
Yi Xide	ŋi <sup>33</sup>		
Yi Nanjian	ny <sup>55</sup>		
Yi Nanhua	nuw <sup>33</sup>		
Yi Mile (Axi)			
Yi Mojiang	ne <sup>55</sup>		
Yi Dafang	nuw <sup>33</sup>		
Lisu	e <sup>55</sup> ni <sup>33</sup> , e <sup>55</sup> ne <sup>33</sup>		
Naxi Lijiang <sup>✓</sup>			
Naxi Yongning	ŋu <sup>31</sup>		
Hani Biyue	ɔ <sup>31</sup> ne <sup>55</sup>		
Hani Dazhai (Luchun)	a <sup>55</sup> no <sup>55</sup>		
Hani Shuikui (Mojiang)	tʃhe <sup>55</sup> ny <sup>55</sup>		
Akha			
Jinuo	ko <sup>33</sup> ne <sup>44</sup>		
Gazhuo	tʃhe <sup>33</sup> ne <sup>24</sup>		
Yi Sani	ny <sup>44</sup>		
Yi Wuding	ne <sup>33</sup>		
Yi Weishan	?ny <sup>55</sup> / ?y <sup>55</sup>		
Nusu (Bijiang)	ŋa <sup>33</sup>		va <sup>31</sup>
	FATHOM *s-lam <sup>1</sup>	FENCE/GARDEN *kram <sup>1</sup>	FLY (v.) *byam <sup>1</sup>
Lahu (Black)	lò	kho	pò
Yi Xide	li <sup>33</sup>	xo <sup>33</sup> gu <sup>44</sup>	dzi <sup>33</sup>
Yi Nanjian		tchy <sup>55</sup>	by <sup>55</sup>
Yi Nanhua	luw <sup>33</sup>		duw <sup>33</sup> (also biu <sup>33</sup> )
Yi Mile (Axi)	ɬuw <sup>33</sup>	guw <sup>55</sup> khuw <sup>33</sup>	ʈi <sup>33</sup>
Yi Mojiang	le <sup>21</sup>	go <sup>21</sup> tsho <sup>21</sup>	be <sup>21</sup>
Yi Dafang	luw <sup>21</sup>		qɿ <sup>21</sup>
Lisu			dʒe <sup>33</sup> (also bi <sup>33</sup> )
Naxi Lijiang	ly <sup>31</sup>	xo <sup>31</sup> phe <sup>55</sup> kho <sup>31</sup>	mbi <sup>31</sup>
Naxi Yongning		tsha <sup>33</sup> khuo <sup>13</sup>	dze <sup>13</sup>
Hani Biyue	le <sup>55</sup>	ja <sup>55</sup> khe <sup>55</sup>	pe <sup>55</sup>
Hani Dazhai (Luchun)	lo <sup>55</sup>		bjɔ <sup>55</sup>
Hani Shuikui (Mojiang)	lu <sup>55</sup>	xɔ <sup>55</sup> khu <sup>55</sup>	pu <sup>55</sup>
Akha	lm <sup>✓</sup>	km <sup>✓</sup> ceh <sup>✓</sup>	
Jinuo	ɬe <sup>33</sup>	a <sup>33</sup> ke <sup>33</sup> khe <sup>33</sup>	pke <sup>33</sup>
Gazhuo	le <sup>24</sup>		phy <sup>31</sup>
Yi Sani	ly <sup>33</sup>	khuw <sup>33</sup> ə <sup>33</sup>	ti <sup>33</sup>
Yi Wuding	le <sup>11</sup>		qe <sup>11</sup>
Yi Weishan		chy <sup>55</sup>	by <sup>55</sup>
Nusu (Bijiang)	la <sup>33</sup>	khja <sup>33</sup>	bia <sup>33</sup>

<sup>15</sup>This is an excellent etymon that must be set up at the PTB level. Cf. Proto-Tamang-Gurung-Thakali-Manang \***Ahnam** (Mazaudon 1996).

<sup>16</sup>This etymon is sparsely attested in Loloish.

	HAIR (head) *cham <sup>1</sup>	IRON *syam <sup>1</sup>	OTTER <sup>17</sup> *s-/p-yam <sup>1</sup> < PTB *sram
Lahu (Black)	[cɨ-khɛ-mu]	šo	g̊i-šo-lo
Yi Xide		ɣu <sup>33</sup> du <sup>33</sup>	ɣo <sup>33</sup>
Yi Nanjian	u <sup>21</sup> tchy <sup>55</sup>	xy <sup>55</sup>	
Yi Nanhua	u <sup>55</sup> tshu <sup>33</sup>	xu <sup>33</sup>	zi <sup>21</sup> ɣi <sup>33</sup>
Yi Mile (Axi)	o <sup>55</sup> tshi <sup>33</sup>	xu <sup>33</sup>	
Yi Mojiang	ɲu <sup>33</sup> tche <sup>21</sup>	ce <sup>21</sup>	zi <sup>21</sup> ce <sup>55</sup>
Yi Dafang	o <sup>33</sup> tshu <sup>33</sup>	xu <sup>21</sup>	zi <sup>21</sup> sɿ <sup>33</sup>
Lisu	o <sup>55</sup> tshe <sup>44</sup>	xo <sup>44</sup>	
Naxi Lijiang		ɣu <sup>31</sup>	ɣu <sup>31</sup>
Naxi Yongning		ɣe <sup>33</sup>	ɣu <sup>33</sup>
Hani Biyue	tshɛ <sup>55</sup> khɿ <sup>55</sup>	se <sup>55</sup>	ɿ <sup>55</sup> se <sup>55</sup>
Hani Dazhai (Luchun) <sup>18</sup>	tshɛ <sup>55</sup> kho <sup>55</sup>	so <sup>55</sup>	u <sup>55</sup> so <sup>55</sup>
Hani Shuikui (Mojiang)	tshɛ <sup>55</sup> khu <sup>55</sup>	fu <sup>55</sup>	ɣu <sup>55</sup> fu <sup>55</sup>
Akha		shm̃ <sup>˥</sup>	uĩ <sup>˥</sup> shm̃ <sup>˥</sup> ~ ĩ <sup>˥</sup> shm̃ <sup>˥</sup>
Jinuo	tshɛ <sup>˥</sup> khu <sup>33</sup>	ce <sup>42</sup>	ce <sup>42</sup>
Gazhuo		se <sup>33</sup>	
Yi Sani	o <sup>55</sup> tshɿ <sup>33</sup>	xu <sup>33</sup>	z̥ <sup>33</sup> ɣɿ <sup>44</sup>
Yi Wuding		ce <sup>11</sup>	ji <sup>11</sup> se <sup>33</sup>
Yi Weishan	ʔɿ <sup>21</sup> tchy <sup>55</sup>	cy <sup>55</sup>	
Nusu (Bijiang)	tsha <sup>33</sup>	sa <sup>33</sup>	ŋa <sup>55</sup> dza <sup>55</sup>

*Hani Dazhai and Shuikui* HAIR is apparently not from \*tsam, but from the cognate to Lahu cɨ-.

	ROAD *lam <sup>2</sup> ɰ <sup>3</sup>	SESAME <sup>19</sup> *s-nam <sup>2</sup>	SMELL *nam <sup>1</sup> ɰ <sup>2</sup> ɰ <sup>3</sup>
Lahu (Black)	[lo <sup>˥</sup> loc. prt. < * <sup>3</sup> ]	nū	nù
Yi Xide			ni <sup>21</sup>
Yi Nanjian			ny <sup>21</sup>
Yi Nanhua			nu <sup>55</sup>
Yi Mile (Axi)			nu <sup>21</sup>
Yi Mojiang			nu <sup>21</sup>
Yi Dafang			bi <sup>55</sup> nu <sup>33</sup>
Lisu			tʃhɿ <sup>31</sup> nu <sup>33</sup>
Naxi Lijiang			nv <sup>31</sup>
Naxi Yongning			bv <sup>33</sup> nv <sup>33</sup>
Hani Biyue			ne <sup>55</sup>
Hani Dazhai (Luchun)			no <sup>55</sup>
Akha		nm̃ <sup>˥</sup> <sup>20</sup>	
Jinuo			ne <sup>42</sup> tje <sup>33</sup>
Gazhuo			ne <sup>31</sup>

<sup>17</sup>The first elements in all the compounds except Nusu mean WATER < PLB \*røy<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>18</sup>The bolded syllables in Hani Dazhai and Shuikui are apparently not from \*tsam, but rather from \*n-dzi-k.

<sup>19</sup>Unfortunately this item is missing both from ZMYYC and TBL.

<sup>20</sup>The tone here is irregular, pointing to a \*LOW stopped provenience instead of \*2 (as elsewhere in LB).

Yi Sani  
Yi Weishan  
Nusu (Bijiang)

ny<sup>11</sup>  
ny<sup>21</sup>  
nɔ<sup>33</sup>

## 2.51 BRIDGE and WEDGE

In most Loloish languages the reflexes for WEDGE are very similar to those for BRIDGE, except for tone and the manner and/or position of articulation of the initial affricate: Identical reconstructions except for tone and (I now believe) type of affricate:

	BRIDGE *n-dzam <sup>1</sup>	WEDGE *n-džam <sup>2</sup>
Lahu (Black)	cò	jû
Yi Xide	dzi <sup>33</sup>	ndzɔ <sup>33</sup>
Yi Nanjian	ɣo <sup>21</sup> dzy <sup>55</sup>	dzy <sup>21</sup>
Yi Nanhua	dzu <sup>33</sup>	ci <sup>33</sup> dzɯ <sup>21</sup>
Yi Mile (Axi)	tsi <sup>33</sup>	dzi <sup>21</sup> bu <sup>33</sup>
Yi Mojiang	dzɯ <sup>21</sup> gu <sup>21</sup>	ci <sup>33</sup> dze <sup>33</sup>
Yi Dafang	thu <sup>3321</sup>	
Lisu	kho <sup>31</sup> dze <sup>33</sup>	dʒo <sup>31</sup> tʃhɛ <sup>55</sup>
Naxi Lijiang <sup>✓</sup>	ndzo <sup>31</sup>	
Naxi Yongning	dzo <sup>33</sup>	
Hani Biyue	tse <sup>33</sup> kv <sup>31</sup>	
Hani Dazhai (Luchun)	lɔ <sup>55</sup> dzo <sup>55</sup>	tsha <sup>31</sup> tshɔ <sup>31</sup>
Hani Shuikui (Mojiang)	tɕɛ <sup>33</sup> kv <sup>31</sup>	tɔ <sup>31</sup> tʃhu <sup>31</sup> (ZMYYC); tɔ <sup>31</sup> tʃu <sup>31</sup> (TBL)
Akha	law <sup>✓</sup> dzm <sup>✓</sup>	
Jinuo	khka <sup>33</sup> tshe <sup>33</sup>	ze <sup>42</sup> (ZMYYC); ze <sup>31</sup> (TBL)
Gazhuo	tse <sup>33</sup>	sɿ <sup>35</sup> tse <sup>31</sup>
Yi Sani	tsy <sup>33</sup>	sɿ <sup>44</sup> dzɿ <sup>11</sup>
Yi Wuding	ntshe <sup>11</sup>	ŋtʃhe <sup>33</sup>
Yi Weishan	ɣo <sup>21</sup> dzy <sup>55</sup>	ba <sup>21</sup> dzy <sup>21</sup>
Nusu (Bijiang)	gu <sup>55</sup> dza <sup>33</sup>	tʃa <sup>55</sup>

For some speculations as to a possible semantic interconnection between WEDGE and BRIDGE, see below.

## 2.6 Lahu Reflexes of \*-am etyma

BEAR	[yè-mí-tɕ]
BELLY	ǰô-pè
BRIDGE	cò
DARE	---
EAR/SPIKE (of grain)	ò-nu
FATHOM	lò
FLY	pò
GARDEN/FENCE	kho
HAIR (of head)	---
IRON	šo
OTTER	ǰì-šo-lo

<sup>21</sup>Note the deaffrication of the initial, as in Mpi (see JAM 1978). But HAIR is affricated. Could there be a typo?



ROAD  
SESAME  
SMELL  
WEDGE

[lo 'locative particle' < \*<sup>3</sup>]  
nū  
nù  
jû

The most common Black Lahu reflex of **\*-am** is **-o**. However, the regular reflex of **\*-am** after **n-** is clearly **-u**, with three excellent examples (SESAME, SMELL, EAR/SPIKE of GRAIN).<sup>22</sup> Furthermore, exactly paralleling WEDGE is the word **jū-qō ~ jō-qō** 'blacksmith's bellows' [DL 569, 574], with **j-** initial and variation between **-o** and **-u**. In fact there is considerable alternation between Black Lahu **-o** and **-u** (e.g. **tò?** 'burn' ≈ **tú** 'set on fire', etc.; see GL, pp. 12-13). Even the ethnonym for Lahu is often written Ladhōl (i.e. Lâhō) in China.

The rhyme of BEAR is irregular, perhaps because of the preempted **-w-** (<PTB **\*d-wam**).

### 2.7 Reflexes in other Loloish languages (in alphabetical order)

Akha	-m	BEAR, BRIDGE, FATHOM, GARDEN/FENCE, IRON, OTTER, SESAME
Gazhuo	-ε -x	BRIDGE, EAR/SPIKE, FATHOM, IRON, SMELL, <b>WEDGE</b> FLY
Hani Biyue	-e	BEAR, BRIDGE, EAR/SPIKE, FATHOM, FLY, GARDEN/FENCE, HAIR, IRON, OTTER, SMELL
Hani Dazhai (Lüchun)	-o	BEAR, BRIDGE, EAR/SPIKE, FATHOM, FLY, IRON, OTTER, SMELL, <b>WEDGE</b>
Hani Shuikui (Mojiang)	-u -y	FLY, EAR/SPIKE, GARDEN/FENCE, IRON, FATHOM, OTTER, <b>WEDGE</b> BEAR
Jinuo	-ε	BRIDGE, EAR/SPIKE, FATHOM, FLY, GARDEN/FENCE, HAIR, IRON, OTTER, SMELL, <b>WEDGE</b>
Lisu	-o -u -e	BEAR, IRON, <b>WEDGE</b> SMELL BRIDGE, EAR/SPIKE, FLY, HAIR
Naxi Lijiang	-u -v -o -y [-ua	IRON, OTTER BEAR, SMELL BRIDGE, GARDEN/FENCE FATHOM <b>WEDGE ]</b>

One might think this form for WEDGE comes from **\*sap** [see 4.2 below], but two forms from **\*-am** in Naxi Yongning have the same reflex:

Naxi Yongning	-o	BRIDGE
	-e	FLY, IRON
	-ua	GARDEN/FENCE, OTTER
	-v	SMELL
	-u	EAR/SPIKE

<sup>22</sup>A fourth example is SNOT (Lh. nú) from a stopped prototype **\*s-nap**, with the high-rising tone /' derived by dissimilation from a doubly glottalized pre-Lahu **\*ʔ-naʔ**. The usual Lahu reflex of **\*-ap** is **-oʔ**. See Matisoff 1972, p. 61.

Nusu (Bijiang)	-a	BEAR, BELLY, BRIDGE, DARE, EAR/SPIKE, FATHOM, FLY, GARDEN/FENCE, HAIR, IRON, OTTER, <b>WEDGE</b>
	-ɔ	SMELL
Yi Dafang	-u	BEAR, BRIDGE, EAR/SPIKE, FATHOM, HAIR, IRON, SMELL
	-ɔ	BELLY
	-ɭ	FLY, OTTER
Yi Mile (Axi)	-i	BRIDGE, FLY, HAIR, <b>WEDGE</b>
	-u	FATHOM, GARDEN/FENCE, IRON, SMELL
Yi Mojiang	-e	EAR/SPIKE, FATHOM, FLY, HAIR, IRON, OTTER, <b>WEDGE</b>
	-u	BRIDGE, SMELL
	-o	GARDEN/FENCE
Yi Nanhua	-u	BEAR, BRIDGE, EAR/SPIKE, FATHOM, FLY, HAIR, IRON, SMELL, <b>WEDGE</b>
	-i	OTTER
Yi Nanjian	-y	BRIDGE, EAR/SPIKE, FLY, GARDEN/FENCE, HAIR, IRON
Yi Sani	-x	BRIDGE, EAR/SPIKE, HAIR, FATHOM, OTTER, SMELL, <b>WEDGE</b>
	-u	BEAR, IRON, GARDEN/FENCE
	-i	FLY
Yi Weishan	-y	BRIDGE, EAR/SPIKE, FLY, GARDEN/FENCE, HAIR, IRON, <b>WEDGE</b>
Yi Wuding	-e	BEAR, EAR/SPIKE, BRIDGE, FATHOM, FLY, IRON, OTTER, <b>WEDGE</b>
Yi Xide	-o	BEAR, GARDEN/FENCE, OTTER, <b>WEDGE</b>
	-i	BELLY, BRIDGE, EAR/SPIKE, FATHOM, FLY, SMELL
	-u	IRON

Eleven languages/dialects have quite regular phonological developments here. Seven others (Lisu, Naxi Lijiang, Naxi Yongning, Yi Mile, Yi Mojiang, Yi Sani, Yi Xide) have some unexplained phonological developments of the **\*-am** rhyme. As adumbrated above, there are no fewer than 15 Loloish reflexes of this rhyme, sprawled all over vocalic space:

i	y	ɭ	u	ɣ	u	ua
ɪ			ɤ			
e					o	
ɛ					ɔ	
	a				ɱ	

### 3.0 Etymological possibilities for Pumi tsó 'wedge'

We are on much shakier ground when trying to deal with Qiangic words for WEDGE. Forms for WEDGE have been recorded for at least five dialects of Pumi:

Pumi (Dàyáng)	<b>tsó</b> [ts <sup>w</sup> o <sup>55</sup> ]	JAM fieldnotes
Pumi (Jinghua)	<b>tso</b> <sup>55</sup>	ZMYYC, p. 783
Pumi (Jiulong)	<b>tso</b> <sup>35</sup>	TBL, p. 207
Pumi (Lanping)	<b>siē</b> <sup>13</sup> <b>dzə</b> <sup>55</sup>	TBL, <i>ibid.</i>
Pumi (Taoba)	<b>sē</b> <sup>35</sup> <b>kuēi</b> <sup>53</sup>	ZMYYC, <i>ibid.</i>

The latter two are obvious loans from Chinese, the Lanping form apparently from the SW Mandarin pronunciation of **xiēzi** 'wedge', and the Taoba form perhaps from a compound like Mand. **xiē-guī** 'wedge gauge'.<sup>23</sup> It is the other, presumably native word (e.g. Dayang **tsó**) that is of particular interest in connection with the Lolo-Burmese forms just discussed:

Taking what one might call the "bottom-up" approach, one could look at other Dayang words with the **-o** rhyme and see where they come from. Here too, however, the situation is not clear, with at least four attested velar-rhyme proveniences:<sup>24</sup>

<b>*-ak</b>	CHICKEN	PTB <b>*k-rak</b>	(STC p.88; TSR #184)	Dayang <b>ró</b>
	BOIL/COOK	PTB <b>*s-klak</b>	(STC #124; TSR #61)	Dayang <b>xó, xqó</b>
	RAT	PTB <b>*k-r-wak</b>	(STC p.107; TSR #188)	Dayang <b>wó</b>
<b>*-ok</b>	YEAR	PTB <b>*kok</b>	(TSR #34)	Dayang <b>kó</b>
	BACK	PTB <b>*s-nok/ŋ</b>	(STC #354; TSR #155)	Dayang <b>nǒ</b>
<b>*-oŋ</b>	TIGER	PTB <b>*s-roŋ</b>	(STC p. 107)	Dayang <b>wǒ</b>
	PEACOCK/ PHEASANT	PTB <b>*m-don</b>	(STC #341)	Dayang <b>qò dǒ</b> 'pheasant'
<b>*-aŋ</b>	MOUNTAIN	PTB <b>*s-gaŋ</b>	(DL, p. 299)	Dayang <b>gǒ</b>

But can Pumi Dayang **tsó** be related to PLB **\*N-džam<sup>2</sup>** ? Several other Qiangic languages have words for WEDGE that are phonologically similar to the Pumi and LB forms, e.g. Namuyi **šo**<sup>35</sup> / **suó**<sup>35</sup>, Lusu **ndze**<sup>35</sup>, Queyu **tsə**<sup>53</sup>, etc. Are these relatable to Pumi **tsó** and/or to our LB etymon **\*N-džam<sup>2</sup>** ?

In order to decide these questions, we will have to figure out what the regular reflexes of the PTB **\*-am** rhyme are in Pumi and the other Qiangic languages.

<sup>23</sup>It is not clear why the first syllables of these words have nasalized vowels.

<sup>24</sup>Note that the three examples of **\*-ak** > Pumi **-o** are all etyma with **-r-** or **-l-** in the initial cluster, and -- apparently more importantly -- are all in the high tone (symbolized by the acute accent). The most frequent Dayang reflex of **\*ak** seems to be **-o**, with at least nine examples, all of them under the low tone (symbolized by a wedge): ASHAMED **\*g-yak** ≈ **\*s-rak** > PD **ftfhǒ**; BOWL/CUP **\*kwak** > PD **qhwǒ**; DIRTY **\*tšak** > PD **tjǒ**; DROP **\*N-dzak** > PD **sthǒ**; HAND **\*g-lak** > PD **zǒ**; LEAF **\*r-pak** > PD **ǒpǒ**; LICK **\*m-lyak** > PD **dǒ**; PIG **\*p-wak** > PD **ptfhǒ**; WEAVE **\*t-(r)ak** > PD **tšǒ**.

### 3.1 Qiangic reflexes of exemplary PTB \*-am etyma

Data on the following Qiangic languages and dialects are available:<sup>25</sup>

PT	Pumi (Taoba)	ZMYYC #10
PJH	Pumi (Jinghua)	ZMYYC #11
PJL	Pumi (Jiulong)	TBL #10
PLP	Pumi (Lanping)	TBL #9
PD	Pumi (Dayang)	JAM fieldnotes
QM	Qiang (Mawo)	ZMYYC #8
QT	Qiang (Taoping)	ZMYYC #9
QA	Qiang (Mao, Aba Prefecture)	TBL #8
RGB	rGyalrong (Benzhen)	Jackson Sun fieldnotes
RGC	rGyalrong (Caodeng)	Jackson Sun fieldnotes
RGS	rGyalrong (Suomo)	ZMYYC #12
RGM	rGyalrong (Maerkang)	TBL #11
DF	Daofu (=Horpa = Stau)	TBL #12
EG	Ergong	ZMYYC #14
MYS	Muya (Kangding, Shade)	ZMYYC #15
MYG	Muya (Kangding, Ganzi)	TBL #15
QYY	Queyu (Yajiang) ["Zhábā"]	ZMYYC #16
QYX	Queyu (Xinlong)	TBL #13
ZB	Zhábà	TBL #14
GQY	Guiqiong (Kangding, Yutong)	ZMYYC #17
GQG	Guiqiong (Kangding, Ganzi)	TBL #16
ES	Ersu	ZMYYC #18
LS	Lüsu	TBL #18
NML	Namuyi Muli Luobo	ZMYYC #19
NMM	Namuyi Muli	TBL #46
SXS	<sup>26</sup> Shixing (Shuiluo River)	ZMYYC #20
SXM	Shixing (Muli, Liangshan)	TBL #17

**BEAR** (ZMYYC #125; TBL #311)<sup>27</sup>

PT **guẽ<sup>55</sup>**

PJH **uõ<sup>55</sup>**

**PTB \*d/g-wam**

PJL **ɲuẽ<sup>35</sup>**

PD **wéN**

<sup>25</sup>The crosshatched numbers in this list refer to the position of the particular language among all those cited in the sources, e.g. "ZMYYC #10" means that Pumi Taoba is the tenth out of the 52 languages cited in the synonym sets of ZMYYC; "TBL #9" means that Pumi Lanping is the ninth out of the 50 languages cited in the sets of TBL, etc.

<sup>26</sup>These two Shixing dialects are virtually identical.

<sup>27</sup>Here the crosshatched numbers refer to the position of the particular synonym set among the 1004 presented in ZMYYC and the 1822 sets of TBL.

RGM	tə wam	RGB	tə-wam?	RGC	preʔ tom	DF	dəm
EG	wo	MYS	z <sub>c</sub> e <sup>35</sup> we <sup>55</sup> 28	MYG	re <sup>33</sup> we <sup>55</sup>	QYY	wua <sup>35</sup>
QYX	wər <sup>13</sup>	ZB	ŋi <sup>55</sup> vʔΛ <sup>55</sup>	GQY	ε <sup>33</sup> ngui <sup>53</sup>	GQG	ã <sup>31</sup> gui <sup>55</sup>
NM	vu <sup>55</sup>	SXS	gi <sup>55</sup>	SXM	gi <sup>55</sup>		

**BELLY** (ZMYYC # 260; TBL # 96)

DF	vo	EG	vəu	PTB	*p-wam	MYS	vu <sup>35</sup> lø <sup>53</sup>	MYG	βə <sup>33</sup> lø <sup>53</sup>
QYY	bu <sup>55</sup>	QYX	lvu <sup>55</sup> / rvu <sup>55</sup>	ZB	vei <sup>13</sup>				

**BRIDGE** (ZMYYC #477; TBL #70)

PT	dzā <sup>35</sup>	PJH	dziāu <sup>13</sup>	PJL	dzā <sup>35</sup>	PD	dzōuN
QM	tshi	QT	tshie <sup>33</sup> da <sup>241</sup>	QA	tshua	RGS	ta ndzam
RGM	ta ndzam	RGB	tə-ndzəm	RGC	ndzem	DF	dzo
EG	dzo	MYS	ndzo <sup>35</sup>	MYG	ndzo <sup>24</sup>	QYY	dzā <sup>55</sup>
QYX	tso <sup>55</sup>	ZB	ptsI <sup>55</sup>	GQY	z <sup>53</sup> pū <sup>53</sup>	GQG	zā p <sub>H</sub> <sup>55</sup>
ES	dzi <sup>55</sup>	LS	dze <sup>35</sup>	NM	dzo <sup>55</sup>	SXS/SXM	zē <sup>55</sup>

Note that in BRIDGE, **-o** is the reflex of **\*-am** for several of these languages (Daofu, Ergong, Muya, Queyu Xinlong, Namuyi) - but not for Pumi!

**DARE** (ZMYYC #731; TBL #1335)PQiangic **\*s-n-wam** [JAM]<sup>29</sup>

PT	wā <sup>55</sup>	PJH	nua <sup>55</sup>	PJL	nua <sup>55</sup>	PD	nón
RGS	kha nos	RGM	ka nos	RGB	ka-noʔs	RGB	kə/nə-nos
DF	znə	EG	snuu	MYS	nə <sup>55</sup>	MYG	nø <sup>53</sup>
QYY	ŋu <sup>53</sup>	ZB	nΛ <sup>13</sup>	GQY	ji <sup>55</sup> ŋ <sub>y</sub> i <sup>35</sup>	GQG	ŋ <sub>y</sub> <sup>35</sup>
ES	ŋo <sup>55</sup>	LS	ʂu <sup>53</sup> 30	NM	ŋa <sup>33</sup>	SXS	fi <sup>53</sup>
SXM	fi <sup>53</sup>						

The rGyalrong forms may not be cognate: why final **-s** instead of **-m**?

**EAR/SPIKE of GRAIN**(ZMYYC #229; TBL #407) PTB **\*s-nam**

RGB	khə-fnəm	RGC	kə-fnəm?	QYX	ɕnoŋ <sup>13</sup>		
PT	ŋi <sup>53</sup>	PJH	ŋiə <sup>55</sup>	PLP	ŋiə <sup>55</sup>	PJL	ŋē <sup>55</sup>
EG	sno-z <sub>c</sub> mε	ES	ndzo <sup>33</sup> ndzo <sup>55</sup>				

There is another root **\*s-nye** (cf. WT **snye**-ma ≈ **snyi**-ma), which may underlie the following syllables:

QYY	ʂa <sup>35</sup> ŋe <sup>53</sup>	ZB	ne <sup>33</sup> dzi <sup>55</sup>	SXM	hã <sup>53</sup> ŋi <sup>33</sup>	SXS	ha <sup>55</sup> nuu <sup>33</sup>
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**FATHOM** (ZMYYC #959; TBL #899) PTB **\*lam** (perhaps > PQiangic **\*g-lam**)

<sup>28</sup>For the first syllable of MY **z<sub>c</sub>e<sup>35</sup>we<sup>55</sup>** see the first syllable of Lahu **yè-mí-tṣ**.

<sup>29</sup>This etymon is reconstructed as PTB **\*hwam** in STC #216, on the basis of forms from Lushai, Jingpho, and WB. The root is also represented by Proto-Tamang **\*wam** 'coax' (Mazaudon REF.)

<sup>30</sup>Perhaps with preemption by the outer, sibilant prefix (i.e. < **\*s-wam**).

PT	tə <sup>35</sup> ji <sup>55</sup>	PJH	tə <sup>55</sup> iē <sup>55</sup>	PJL	tə <sup>55</sup> iē <sup>55</sup>	PD	yīN
QM	zy	QT	zi <sup>241</sup>	QA	ε zε	RGS	tə kçam
RGM	kçam	DF	a çho	EG	gzɛl (? < gzɛ-l)		
MYS	tə <sup>35</sup> de <sup>35</sup>	MYG	tə de <sup>53</sup>	QYY	tə <sup>35</sup> lō <sup>55</sup>	QYX	tu <sup>55</sup> lu <sup>55</sup>
ZB	tə <sup>55</sup> li <sup>55</sup>	GQY	ta <sup>33</sup> xō <sup>53</sup>	GQG	ta <sup>31</sup> hō <sup>55</sup>	ES	lio <sup>55</sup>
LS	tə <sup>55</sup> liu <sup>53</sup>	NML	ty <sup>55</sup>	NMM	lu <sup>53</sup>	SXS	ji <sup>55</sup>
SXM	dzi <sup>33</sup> jē <sup>55</sup>						

**FLY/RUN** <sup>31</sup> (ZMYYC #782; TBL #1318)

PTB \*byam &gt; PQiangic \*N-byam

PT	khə <sup>35</sup> bē <sup>35</sup>	PJH	khə <sup>13</sup> bɜ̃ <sup>13</sup>	PJL	bɜ̃ <sup>13</sup>	PD	b(d)ɜ̃N
QM	gzi	QT	dze <sup>241</sup>	RGS	ka bjam	RGM	ka bjam
RGB	ka-nbjam	RGC	kə-qɛ-lnbjəm?	DF	bjo	EG	bzo la
MYS	ndzye <sup>35</sup>	MYG	thi <sup>33</sup> ndzue <sup>55</sup>	QYY	tə <sup>35</sup> de <sup>55</sup>	QYX	rde <sup>13</sup>
ZB	tə <sup>55</sup> mdzi <sup>55</sup>	GQY	phu <sup>55</sup>	GQG	phu <sup>31</sup>	LS	bze <sup>35</sup>
SXS	bu <sup>33</sup> zī <sup>55</sup>	SXM	dzē <sup>55</sup>	NMM	mi <sup>33</sup> ndzu <sup>55</sup> ndzu <sup>55</sup>		

**GARDEN** (ZMYYC #366; TBL #522)

PTB \*kram

PT	kho <sup>55</sup> rɛ <sup>53</sup>	PJH	ŋa <sup>13</sup> qhe <sup>13</sup>	PJL	gi <sup>11</sup> tsɿ <sup>55</sup>	PD	thǎ <sup>32</sup>
QM	kuz (< ku-z)	QT	tshie <sup>55</sup> kie <sup>33</sup>	QA	tsɛ ku	DF	skəɹjo
ZB	xo <sup>55</sup> ji <sup>55</sup>	NM	dze <sup>33</sup> ntshu <sup>55</sup> qhe <sup>55</sup>	SXS	hō <sup>55</sup> ji <sup>33</sup>		

**FENCE (bamboo, twig)** (TBL #521)

/same etymon as GARDEN/

DF	rjo	MYG	tshæ <sup>53</sup>	QYX	ntsho <sup>55</sup>	LS	tshu <sup>53</sup> dzɬ <sup>53</sup>
SXM	qu <sup>55</sup>						

**HAIR** (ZMYYC #234; TBL #75)

PTB \*tsam

ES	tsi <sup>55</sup>	ZB	gu <sup>33</sup> tshɿ <sup>55</sup>	LS	tçɛ <sup>31</sup>
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Most Qiangic words for HAIR descend from other roots, e.g. \*skra (STC #115), \*ney (STC #292), \*mul (STC #2).

**IRON** (ZMYYC #38; TBL #54)

PTB \*syam

PT	çi <sup>55</sup>	PJH	ş̣ <sup>55</sup>	PJL	ş̣ <sup>55</sup>	PD	ʃiN
QM	su <sup>1</sup> mu	QT	çi <sup>55</sup>	QA	su: <sup>1</sup> mu	RGS	ʃam
RGM	ʃam	RGB	ʃam?	RGC	ʃəm?	DF	tço
EG	tço	MYS	çɛ <sup>53</sup>	MYG	çɛ <sup>53</sup>	QYY	çā <sup>55</sup>
QYX	ço <sup>55</sup>	ZB	çi <sup>55</sup>	GQY	ʃ̣ <sup>53</sup>	GQG	ʃ̣ <sup>31</sup>
ES	ş̣ɛ <sup>55</sup>	LS	ş̣u <sup>53</sup>	NM	ş̣u <sup>53</sup>	SXS	ş̣ā <sup>35</sup>
SXM	ş̣ō <sup>35</sup>						

<sup>31</sup>This root often means RUN in Qiangic.

<sup>32</sup>The initial reflex here is quite regular (see Matisoff 1996 for many parallel examples); but the rhyme is irregular with respect to all the other \*-am reflexes in Dayang.

**OTTER** (ZMYYC #133, TBL #317)

PT	<b>xi</b> <sup>55</sup>	PJH	<b>skhē</b> <sup>55</sup>	PTB	<b>*sram</b>		
QT	[tsuə <sup>33</sup> ma <sup>31</sup> ŋy <sup>33</sup> ] <sup>33</sup>	QA	<b>ɣdzə</b> <sup>55</sup>	PJL	<b>ḡē</b> <sup>55</sup>	QM	<b>ɣdzi</b>
RGB	<b>fram</b>	RGS	<b>tʃə fram</b>	RGM	<b>tʃhə sram</b>	EG	<b>szɛm</b>
MYS	<b>dzye</b> <sup>35</sup>	MYG	<b>dzuə</b> <sup>24</sup>	QYY	<b>sō</b> <sup>53</sup>	DF	<b>ḡsəm</b>
ZB	tʌ <sup>33</sup> <b>ḡi</b> <sup>33</sup>	GQY	wi <sup>55</sup> <b>zɿ</b> <sup>53</sup>	QYX	<b>ḡse</b> <sup>55</sup>	GQG	tʃhə <sup>55</sup> <b>sō</b> <sup>55</sup>
LS	<b>ḡe</b> <sup>35</sup>	SXS	<b>ḡē</b> <sup>55</sup>	SXM	<b>ḡē</b> <sup>55</sup>	ES	<b>ḡɿ</b> <sup>55</sup> ji <sup>55</sup> <sup>34</sup>

**SMELL V.** (ZMYYC #548; TBL #1707)

PT	xə <sup>35</sup> <b>ḡō</b> <sup>35</sup>	PJH	xə <sup>13</sup> <b>ḡiə</b> <sup>55</sup>	PJL	xə <sup>13</sup> <b>ḡiə</b> <sup>55</sup>	PTB	<b>*s-nam</b>
RGC	kə-nə- <b>mnəm</b> ?	DF	<b>no</b>	EG	<b>snu</b> no	PD	<b>ḡéN</b>
MYG	khi <sup>33</sup> sə <sup>55</sup> <b>nə</b> <sup>33</sup>	QYY	tə <sup>35</sup> lu <sup>55</sup> <b>nū</b> <sup>55</sup>	QYX	<b>ḡnoŋ</b> <sup>13</sup>	MYS	khw <sup>55</sup> <b>nu</b> <sup>53</sup>
SXS	by <sup>55</sup> <b>ḡo</b> <sup>55</sup>	SXM	hū <sup>55</sup> <b>nu</b> <sup>55</sup>	ZB	ŋʌ <sup>33</sup> <b>mni</b> <sup>55</sup> <b>mni</b> <sup>33</sup>		

The SXM form seems to indicate that a number of other syllables in **h-** belong to a different etymon than **\*s-nam**:

GQY	<b>xū</b> <sup>55</sup> <b>xū</b> <sup>33</sup>	GQG	ji <sup>35</sup> <b>hō</b> <sup>55</sup>	ES	<b>hi</b> <sup>55</sup> <b>hi</b> <sup>55</sup>	LS	te <sup>53</sup> <b>hū</b> <sup>53</sup> <b>hū</b> <sup>31</sup>
NM	<b>hi</b> <sup>33</sup> <b>hi</b> <sup>55</sup>						

**WHITE** (ZMYYC #840; TBL #1006)PQiangic **\*pram** <sup>35</sup>

PT	<b>phzã</b> <sup>55</sup> mə <sup>53</sup>	PJH	<b>phzã</b> <sup>55</sup>	PLP	<b>phzã</b> <sup>55</sup>	PJL	<b>phzɿ</b> <sup>55</sup> lə <sup>55</sup> lə <sup>11</sup>
PD	<b>phséN</b>	QM	<b>phi</b>	QT	<b>phzɿ</b> <sup>55</sup> QA		<b>phɿ</b> ξ (< <b>phɿ</b> -ξ)
RGS	kə <b>pram</b>	RGM	kə <b>pram</b>	RGB	kə- <b>pram</b>	RGC	kə- <b>ɣrəm</b> ?
ZB	<b>ptḡhi</b> <sup>55</sup> <b>ptḡhi</b> <sup>55</sup>						

The following forms look as if they descend from a distinct etymon, PTB **\*plu** [STC pp. 60-1].

DF	<b>phru phru</b>	EG	<b>phḡu phḡu</b>	MYS	<b>tḡhō</b> <sup>55</sup> <b>tḡhō</b> <sup>33</sup>	MYG	<b>tḡhō</b> <sup>53</sup> <b>tḡhō</b> <sup>33</sup>
QYY	<b>tḡhō</b> <sup>55</sup> <b>tḡhō</b> <sup>55</sup>	QYX	<b>ptḡho</b> <sup>55</sup> <b>ptḡho</b> <sup>33</sup>	GQY	<b>ḡō</b> <sup>55</sup> ma <sup>55</sup>	GQG	<b>ḡã</b> <sup>55</sup> ma <sup>55</sup>
NM	<b>phu</b> <sup>55</sup> lu <sup>55</sup>	SXS	<b>phu</b> <sup>33</sup>	SXM	phu <sup>33</sup> <b>tḡi</b> <sup>33</sup> <b>tḡi</b> <sup>55</sup>	SXM	<b>phu</b> <sup>33</sup> tḡi <sup>33</sup> tḡi <sup>55</sup>

**3.2 Pumi reflexes of exemplary PTB \*-am sets**

A quick look at the Pumi reflexes of these etyma from PTB **\*-am** makes it clear that Pumi **tso** cannot possibly be related to PLB **\*N-džam**<sup>2</sup>, thus answering in the negative the question posed above in 3.0 (a):

<sup>33</sup>This compound means literally “water-cat” (pers. comm., Jonathan P. Evans).

<sup>34</sup>Judging from the Lusu and Shixing forms, it is the first syllable of this compound which is the cognate; but it is apparently the Guiqiong second syllables which are cognate.

<sup>35</sup>This root has not been discovered in Lolo-Burmese.

<i>PT (Taoba); PJH (Jinghua); PJJ (Jiulong); PLP (Lanping); PD (Dayang)</i>					
<b>BEAR</b>		PTB <b>*d/g-wam</b>			
PT	<b>guẽ<sup>55</sup></b>	PJH	<b>uõ<sup>55</sup></b>	PJL	<b>ŋuẽ<sup>35</sup></b> PD <b>wéN</b>
<b>BRIDGE</b>		PTB <b>*n-dzam</b>			
PT	<b>dzã<sup>35</sup></b>	PJH	<b>dziũ<sup>13</sup></b>	PJL	<b>dzã<sup>35</sup></b> PD <b>dzõuN</b>
<b>DARE</b>		PQiangic <b>*s-n-wam</b>			
PT	<b>wã<sup>55</sup></b>	PJH	<b>nuc<sup>55</sup></b>	PJL	<b>nuc<sup>55</sup></b> PD <b>nón</b>
<b>DRAW WATER</b>		PTB <b>*kam</b> ≈ <b>*kap<sup>36</sup></b>			
PJL	<b>tʃə<sup>55</sup> khẽ<sup>55</sup></b>				
<b>EAR/SPIKE of GRAIN</b>		PTB <b>*s-nam</b>			
PT	<b>ŋi<sup>53</sup></b>	PJH	<b>ŋiə<sup>55</sup></b>	PLP	<b>ŋiə<sup>55</sup></b> PJJ <b>ŋẽ<sup>55</sup></b>
<b>FATHOM</b>		PTB <b>*lam</b> ( <i>perhaps</i> > PQiangic <b>*g-lam</b> )			
PT	<b>tə<sup>35</sup>ji<sup>55</sup></b>	PJH	<b>tə<sup>55</sup>iẽ<sup>55</sup></b>	PJL	<b>tə<sup>55</sup>iẽ<sup>55</sup></b> PD <b>yíN</b>
<b>FLY/RUN</b>		PTB <b>*byam</b>			
PT	<b>khə<sup>35</sup> bẽ<sup>35</sup></b>	PJH	<b>khə<sup>13</sup> bʒẽ<sup>13</sup></b>	PJL	<b>bʒẽ<sup>13</sup></b> PD <b>b(d)ʒiN</b>
<b>IRON</b>		PTB <b>*syam</b>			
PT	<b>çi<sup>55</sup></b>	PJH	<b>ʂõ<sup>55</sup></b>	PJL	<b>ʂẽ<sup>55</sup></b> PD <b>ʃiN</b>
<b>OTTER</b>		PTB <b>*sram</b>			
PT	<b>xĩ<sup>55</sup></b>	PJH	<b>skhẽ<sup>55</sup></b>	PJL	<b>ʂẽ<sup>55</sup></b>
<b>SMELL</b>		PTB <b>*s-nam</b>			
PT	<b>xə<sup>35</sup> ŋõ<sup>35</sup></b>	PJH	<b>xə<sup>13</sup> ŋiə<sup>55</sup></b>	PJL	<b>xə<sup>13</sup> ŋiə<sup>55</sup></b> PD <b>ŋéN</b>
<b>WHITE</b>		PQiangic <b>*pram</b>			
PT	<b>phzã<sup>55</sup> mə<sup>53</sup></b>	PJH	<b>phzõ<sup>55</sup></b>	PLP	<b>phşõ<sup>55</sup></b> PJJ <b>phzĩ<sup>55</sup> lø<sup>55</sup> lø<sup>11</sup></b>
PD	<b>phşéN</b>				

As these sets show, almost all Pumi reflexes of **\*-am** etyma have nasalized vowels. In Dayang, the reflexes include **-eN** (BEAR; DRAW WATER; WHITE), **-iN** (FATHOM; FLY/RUN; IRON), **-ɛN** (SMELL), and **-ouN** (BRIDGE). Dayang forms are lacking for

<sup>36</sup>See STC #336 and n. 226; TSR #39. STC only sets up the allofam with final stop **\*kap** (underlying, e.g. WB **khap**); the variant **\*kam** is directly attested by forms like Lahu **qho** and Zaiwa **kham<sup>51</sup>**.



EAR/SPIKE and OTTER, but the Jiulong dialect has **-eN** (written **-ě**) for both. The Dayang form for DARE has **-ɒN**, but that set is a bit problematical.

### 3.3 Other Qiangic words for WEDGE

Several other forms for WEDGE in Qiangic languages bear a surface similarity to Pumi **tso**, but they must be individually scrutinized, since several etymological possibilities exist for each one of them. First let us just present them in an alphabetical list<sup>37</sup> :

Daofu	(DF)	<b>zav</b>
Ersu	(ES)	<b>ndzi</b> <sup>55</sup>
Guiqiong <sup>38</sup>	(GQG)	<b>ze</b> <sup>35</sup>
Lusu	(LS)	<b>ndze</b> <sup>35</sup>
Muya (=Minyak)	(MYS)	<b>tshu</b> <sup>33</sup> zɸ <sup>55</sup>
Muya	(MYG)	<b>tshə</b> <sup>33</sup> zɸ <sup>53</sup>
Namuyi Muli Luobo	(NML)	<b>so</b> <sup>35</sup>
Namuyi Muli	(NMM)	<b>so</b> <sup>35</sup>
Pumi (Lanping)	(PLP)	siẽ <sup>13</sup> <b>dze</b> <sup>55</sup>
/Despite the nasalization of the first syllable, his form looks like a loan from Chinese (Mand. <b>xiēzi</b> )/		
Qiang Aba	(QA)	qɛ <b>sɛ</b>
Qiang (Taoping)	(QT)	sie <sup>33</sup> <b>tɕhy</b> <sup>33</sup>
Queyu Yajiang ("Zhábā")	(QYY)	<b>tsə</b> <sup>53</sup>
Queyu Xinlong	(QYX)	<b>ssa</b> <sup>35</sup>
rGyalrong	(RGS; RGM))	<b>tɛ cɕhə</b>
rGyalrong Benzhen	(RGB)	<b>tɛ-tʃhə</b>
rGyalrong Caodeng	(RGC)	<b>tɛ-mtʃhi</b>
Shixing	(SXS)	<b>ʂɿ</b> <sup>55</sup>
Shixing	(SXM)	<b>ʂɿ</b> <sup>53</sup>
Zhábà	(ZB)	<b>cɕhʌ</b> <sup>13</sup>

Several of these forms bear a *prima facie* resemblance to PLB **\*N-džam**<sup>2</sup> (above), especially those with prenasalized initials (Ersu, Lusu, rGyalrong Caodeng):

Lusu **ndze**<sup>35</sup> 'wedge'

The same reflex **-e** occurs in Lusu BRIDGE, FLY, HAIR, OTTER:

Lusu **dze**<sup>35</sup> 'bridge'  
 Lusu **bze**<sup>35</sup> 'fly'  
 Lusu **tɕe**<sup>31</sup> 'hair'

<sup>37</sup>forms taken from ZMYYC #413 (p. 783) and TBL #620 (p. 207).

<sup>38</sup>The Guiqiong form cited in ZMYYC (GQY), **ɕe**<sup>33</sup> **tsɿ**<sup>33</sup>, is an obvious loan from Chinese (cf. Mand. **xiēzi**).

Lusu **ʒe**<sup>35</sup> 'otter'

Other Lusu reflexes of **\*-am** etyma include: **u** (IRON, FENCE) and **iu** (FATHOM).  
For another possible etymology of Lusu **ndze**<sup>31</sup>, see below.

Ersu **ndzi**<sup>55</sup> 'wedge'

The same reflex **-i** occurs in Ersu BRIDGE:

Ersu **dzi**<sup>55</sup> 'bridge'

However, other Ersu reflexes of **\*-am** etyma include: **ɿ** (OTTER), **o** (EAR/SPIKE), **io** (FATHOM), and **ɛ** (IRON).

The *rGyalrong* forms, despite the prenasalization in Caodeng, cannot be related to our PLB etymon, since **\*-am** is generally preserved as such in *rGyalrong* dialects.

The rhymes of the *Namuyi* forms are also consistent with an **\*-am** origin:

*Namuyi Muli Luobo* (NML) **ʒo**<sup>35</sup>, *Namuyi Muli* (NMM) **ʒuo**<sup>35</sup> <sup>39</sup>

The same reflex **-o** occurs in *Namuyi* BRIDGE:

*Namuyi dzo*<sup>55</sup> 'bridge'

Other *Namuyi* reflexes of **\*-am** etyma include: **u** (IRON, BEAR, GARDEN), and **-y** (FATHOM).

The *Guiqiong* (GQG) form **ze**<sup>35</sup> looks very much like Lusu **ndze**<sup>31</sup>, that we have already assigned to **\*N-dzam**. However, *Guiqiong* does not have **-e** as the reflex of any other **\*-am** etymon. Rather, the unruly *Guiqiong* reflexes of **\*-am** include **ʒ** (BRIDGE, FATHOM, IRON), **ɿ** (OTTER), **ui** (BEAR), and **ʉ** (FLY). An alternative proposal for the origin of this *Guiqiong* form is given below.

The remaining forms for WEDGE in our list (Muya, Qiang, Queyu, Shixing, Zhaba) similarly show no particular rhyme similarities to established **\*-am** etyma:

Muya (MYG) **tshə**<sup>33</sup> **zɛ**<sup>53</sup>, (MYS) **tshu**<sup>33</sup> **zɛ**<sup>55</sup>

The same MYS reflex **-u** occurs in only one **\*-am** etymon:

Muya (MYS) **khɯ**<sup>55</sup> **nu**<sup>53</sup>.

Muya reflexes of **\*-am** etyma include: **-e** (BEAR, FATHOM, FLY, IRON), **-o** (BRIDGE), **ɿ** / **ɚ** (OTTER).

Qiang (QA) **qɛ** **sɛ**, (QT) **sie**<sup>33</sup> **tɕhy**<sup>33</sup> <sup>40</sup>, Qiang (QM) **sa** **səɿ**

The most frequent QM reflex of **\*-am** seems to be **-i** (BRIDGE, FLY, OTTER, SMELL, WHITE). QT reflexes are all over the place, including **-ie** (BRIDGE,<sup>41</sup> GARDEN), **-e** (FLY), **-i** (IRON), **-i** (WHITE). QA reflexes range from **-ua** (BRIDGE), to **-ə** (OTTER), to **-i** (WHITE).

The QM and QA forms for IRON are transcribed with a rhotic offglide (written above the line in the sources): QM **suɿ** mu, QA **su:ɿ** mu. It is possible that these descend from PTB **\*syir** ≈ **\*sya:l** (STC #372), but note that the QM word for WEDGE (QM **sa** **səɿ**) and the QA word for OTTER (QA **ɣdzɛə**) show similar rhotacization. In the case of QM 'wedge' there is a possible explanation (see below).

<sup>39</sup>The **-u-** in the NMM form may represent an allophonic labialization of the initial consonant before the vowel **-o**. As similar labialization occurs automatically in Pumi Dayang before **-o** (Matisoff 1996).

<sup>40</sup>The first syllable of this form looks like a loan from Chinese (Mand. **xiē**).

<sup>41</sup>If it is the *first* syllable of QT **sie**<sup>33</sup> **tɕhy**<sup>33</sup> that is being compared, its rhyme **-ie** would agree with BRIDGE and GARDEN.

Queyu Yajiang ["Zhábā"] (QYY) **tso**<sup>53</sup>, Queyu Xinlong (QYX) **ssa**<sup>35</sup>  
 QYY reflexes of **\*-am** etyma include **-ua** (BEAR), **-ã** (BRIDGE, IRON), **-õ** (FATHOM, OTTER), **-ũ** (SMELL), **-e** (FLY)

QYX reflexes of **\*-am** etyma include **-ɛ** (OTTER), **-ɛr** (BEAR) [again note the rhotacization], **-o** (BRIDGE, IRON, FENCE/GARDEN), **-u** (FATHOM), **-e** (FLY)

Shixing (SXS) **ṣã**<sup>55</sup>, (SXM) **ṣõ**<sup>53</sup>

SXS reflexes of **\*-am** etyma include **-ĩ** (BEAR, FATHOM, FLY), **-ẽ** (BRIDGE), **-ẽ** (OTTER), **-ã** (IRON), **-o** (SMELL), **-õ** (DARE)

SXM reflexes of **\*-am** etyma include **-ĩ** (BEAR), **-ẽ** (BRIDGE, FATHOM, FLY, OTTER), **-õ** (IRON, DARE), **-u** (SMELL)

The irregularity of these reflexes makes it less impressive that the SXS reflexes of IRON and WEDGE are the same, or that the SXM reflexes of IRON, DARE, and WEDGE are all the same.

Zhábà (ZB) **cçh**<sup>13</sup>

Zhaba reflexes of **\*-am** etyma include **-a** (BEAR, DARE), but also especially **-i** (BRIDGE, FLY, SMELL, WHITE), and **-i** (IRON, FATHOM, OTTER).

In general, then, these Qiangic forms do not seem unequivocally relatable to our PLB root in **\*-am**. There are, however, several other possibilities.

#### 4.0 Tibetan and Burmese forms, and their possible relationship to Qiangic ones

##### 4.1 Tibetan *gzer* ≈ *hdzer* 'peg; wedge' and its possible congeners

Most of the Qiangic forms for WEDGE we have cited bear a strong resemblance to forms from Tibetan dialects. Jäschke (pp. 495, 489) cites WT **gzer** ≈ **zer** 'nail; tack', which appears together with **lćags** 'iron' and **śiŋ** 'wood' in compounds meaning 'iron nail' (**lćags-gzer**) and 'wooden nail' (**śiŋ-gzer**), the latter elsewhere glossed 'peg' (p. 559). This morpheme can also be used verbally (**gzer-ba** 'bore into, drive or knock into'), and has developed some interesting extensions of meaning as a noun, including 'mnemonic verse' (presumably intended to knock a text into one's head); 'ray, beam (e.g. of sunlight)', perhaps because of the elongated shape; and 'pain, ache' (maybe by association with sharp or pointed objects). TBL (p. 207) cites a Written Tibetan form **ciŋ hdzer** 'wedge' (not to be found in Jäschke),<sup>42</sup> with the *a-chung* prefix; this is confirmed by forms in several Tibetan dialects with prenasalized initials<sup>43</sup>:

Tibetan (Batang)	xhĩ <sup>35</sup> <b>ndze</b> <sup>55</sup>	wedge	TBL #620
Tibetan (Amdo:Zeku)	<b>ndzer</b> ma	wedge	ZMYYC #413

This now raises the strong possibility that our best Qiangic candidates for relationship with PLB **\*n-džam**, i.e. Lusu **ndze**<sup>35</sup> and Ersu **ndzi**<sup>55</sup> (above 3.3), are to be related instead to this Tibetan morpheme.

Other Tibetan dialect forms include:

Tibetan (Lhasa)	ciŋ <sup>55</sup> <b>se</b> <sup>15</sup>	wedge	ZMYYC #413
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<sup>42</sup>ZMYYC #413 has ciŋ **gzer** 'wedge'.

<sup>43</sup>For the connection between *a-chung* and prenasalization, see e.g. Matisoff 1975. It is possible that this nasal prefix arose secondarily in the compound for WEDGE by assimilation to the final of the first syllable **śiŋ** 'wood'.

Tibetan (Lhasa)	ciŋ <sup>55</sup> se: <sup>55</sup>	wedge	TBL #620
Tibetan (Khams:Dege)	chin <sup>55</sup> dze <sup>55</sup>	wedge	ZMYYC #413
Tibetan (Amdo:Bla-brang)	t̥chə	wedge	ZMYYC #413
Tibetan (Alike)	t̥chə	wedge	TBL #620

The Monpa Tshona (Mama = Takpa) form ɕeŋ<sup>55</sup>zer<sup>13</sup> (ZMYYC #413; TBL #620) also has the morphemic structure WOOD + PEG, and is obviously closely related to or borrowed from Tibetan.<sup>44</sup> The same may now be said for the Muya forms: (MYS) tshu<sup>33</sup> zɤ<sup>55</sup>, (MYG) tshə<sup>33</sup> zɤ<sup>53</sup> (cf. Muya tshə<sup>55</sup> rə<sup>53</sup> 'wood' TBL #511). Pumi Lanping (PLP) ʂə<sup>55</sup> ze<sup>55</sup> 'nail' contains the same second element, though as the gloss implies, the first syllable ʂə<sup>55</sup> means IRON, not WOOD.<sup>45</sup>

Also possibly related to the Tibetan forms is Lepcha zǎ 'a wedge (for placing in eye of hatchet etc. to render tight the handle, or for splitting wood', kuŋ-zǎ 'wooden wedge', zǎ kyóp 'fix in a wedge' (Mainwaring 1898:313-4).

Several other Qiangic languages have forms for WEDGE very similar to those of Amdo Tibetan, including rGyalrong (RGS; RGM) tɛ c̥chə<sup>46</sup>, (RGB) tɛ-tʃhə, (RGC) tɛ-mtʃhi (with prenasalization); Zhábà (ZB) c̥chɹ<sup>13</sup>; Queyu (QYY) tsə<sup>53</sup>, (QYX) ʂsa<sup>35</sup>; and Qiang (QA) qɛ se, (QT) sie<sup>33</sup> t̥chy<sup>33</sup>.<sup>47</sup>

Finally, a few more miscellaneous wedge-words (from ZMYYC #413 and/or TBL #620) from languages whose phonological history is quite obscure, but which also have affricate initials: Bai (Dali) t̥ci<sup>35</sup>, Bai (Jianchuan) t̥ci<sup>55</sup> ne<sup>21</sup> (for the second element see below 5.2); Tujia t̥chi<sup>55</sup>.

#### 4.2 Written Burmese *sap* and its possible congeners

Quite a separate root is represented by WB *sap* 'wedge'<sup>48</sup>, which surprisingly has a perfect cognate in Tshangla Monpa (Menba Cangluo Motuo) *sap* 'wedge' (ZMYYC #413, p. 783; TBL #620, p. 207). The form cited in the *Menba Jianzhi* (REF.) is the compound ɕeŋ<sup>55</sup> *sap*<sup>55</sup>, with 'wood' as its first element, contrasting etymologically with Monpa Tshona ɕeŋ<sup>55</sup>zer<sup>13</sup>, cited above 4.1.

A Qiangic form which certainly appears cognate is Daofu *zav* 'wedge' (TBL #620), with the unusual rhyme *-av* paralleled in at least two other unimpeachable *\*-ap* etyma:

SNOT	PTB <i>*s-nap</i> [STC #102]	>	Daofu <i>snav</i> (ZMYYC #278; TBL #157)
REPAY	PTB <i>*tsap</i> [STC #63]	>	Daofu <i>xshav</i> (TBL #1183)
			≈ <i>xsav</i> (TBL #1381)

The closely related Ergong language has similarly parallel forms for WEDGE and SNOT:

Ergong	<i>suu zau</i> 'wedge' (ZMYYC #413)	<i>snau</i> 'snot' <sup>49</sup>
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<sup>44</sup>Other Tshona (= Cuona) forms reflect a distinct etymon *\*sap* found also in Burmese (see below 4.2).

<sup>45</sup>Despite its superficial similarity to these forms, Jinuo (aberrant Loloish) ze<sup>42</sup> / ze<sup>31</sup> has been assigned to PLB *\*N-džam* because of parallel reflexes in several other *\*-am* etyma (above 2.34).

<sup>46</sup>It is hard to be sure of the actual phonetic realization of this cluster "c̥ch-". The Qiangic languages are remarkable for their profusion of fricatives and affricates, difficult for the non-native to produce and to distinguish. See Matisoff 1996.

<sup>47</sup>The first syllable of this QT form looks like Mand. xiē.

<sup>48</sup>This is mistranscribed as *thap* in ZMYYC #413.

<sup>49</sup>The Muerzong dialect of Ergong also has a labiodental reflex of *\*-ap*, e.g. NEEDLE *ɹɛf* (< *\*k-rap*), FOLD *lɛf* (< *\*l-tap*). [Personal communication, Sun Tianshin].

A strong Kamarupan cognate is Tangkhul Naga **thiŋ-tap** 'wedge' [Pettigrew 1918:211, 456]. Like other Kuki-Chin-Naga languages (e.g. Mizo, Lai), Tangkhul has developed dental stops from PTB **\*s-** [see STC p.28], e.g. 'die' **\*səy** > TN **thi**, 'wood' **\*siŋ** > TN **thiŋ** [this is the first element in the compound for 'wedge' just cited]. The lack of aspiration in the second syllable of **thiŋ-tap** is perhaps due to its non-initial position as a bound constituent of the compound (**tap** does not appear as a head entry in Pettigrew).

I have just learned that another Kamarupan language, Lai Chin, has an obviously cognate form, **tsop** [personal communication, Kenneth Vanbik).

Another possible reflex of **\*sap** is Naxi (Lijiang) **ɣua<sup>55</sup>** 'wedge' (but see 2.34 above).

Since this etymon must now definitely be set up for PTB, this leads us to a new question. Could Dayang Pumi **tsó**, which started this whole investigation, perhaps come from **\*sap** instead of **\*N-džam**? There is actually one shred of evidence that this might be so: the Pumi word for NEEDLE (< PTB **\*k-rap**; see TSR #191) has the same rhyme as Pumi WEDGE. As a matter of fact, the Namuyi words for NEEDLE and WEDGE also have the same rhyme **-o**:

NEEDLE	PTB <b>*k-rap</b>	WB <b>ʔap</b>	Pumi Dayang <b>qhǒ</b>	Namuyi <b>ko<sup>33</sup></b>
WEDGE	PTB <b>*sap</b>	WB <b>sap</b>	Pumi Dayang <b>tsó</b>	Namuyi <b>ɣo<sup>35</sup></b>

Unfortunately, however, no further examples of Dayang **-o** < PTB **\*-ap** have yet been uncovered.<sup>50</sup> Dayang reflexes of etyma in **\*-ap** include **-a** (WEEP **\*krap** > PD **χqwá**), and **-o** (SHOOT **\*ga:p** > PD **thǒ**).<sup>51</sup>

### 5.0 *Words for WEDGE in other branches of Tibeto-Burman; other etyma for WEDGE*

Several forms in the little-known Abor-Miri-Dafla (Mirish) branch of TB have forms for WEDGE with affricate initials and non-front vowels that look superficially very much like our Pumi **tsó**, but which remain equally obscure in origin (data from ZMYYC #413; TBL #620):

Darang Deng (=Taraon)	tɕ <sup>31</sup> <b>tsau<sup>53</sup></b>
Geman Deng (=Kaman)	dɕ <sup>31</sup> <b>tsuu<sup>55</sup></b>
Idu (Luoba)	ɕ <sup>55</sup> <b>tsu<sup>55</sup></b>

A few other new etyma for WEDGE may perhaps be reconstructible, though the evidence is still scattered:

<sup>50</sup>Except perhaps for Dayang **nò siN** 'morning' < PTB **\*m-nap**. This root also has a well-attested variant **\*m-nak** in Lolo-Burmese (see TSR #131).

<sup>51</sup>Although there are over 30 cognate sets reconstructed with PTB and/or PLB **\*-ap** in STC and TSR, only a handful of them have so far been shown to have solid Qiangic cognates.

### 5.1 \*san

The Akha (S. Loloish) word for **seh** 'wedge' cannot be from **\*-am**, since the regular Akha reflex of **\*-am** is definitely syllabic /-ṃ/ (see above 2.3), but might be from PLB **\*san**<sup>2</sup> (cf. LOUSE PLB **\*san**<sup>1/2</sup> > Ak. **sheh**).<sup>52 53</sup>

This would make the Akha form a perfect cognate to Dulong (Nungish group) **san**<sup>55</sup> 'wedge' (TBL #620). We should probably also include another Nungish form in this set, Among **ga**<sup>31</sup> **saŋ**<sup>55</sup> (ZMYYC #413; TBL #620), despite the difference in position of the final nasal.

Less secure would be an attempt to relate Qiangic forms like Shixing (SXS) **ṣā**<sup>55</sup> (SXM) **ṣō**<sup>53</sup> to this root, though anything is possible.

In any event, this new etymon seems quite distinct both from **\*džam** and **\*sap**.

### 5.2 \*-n(y)e

This flimsily attested item occurs as the second syllables of compounds in Apatani (Tani group of Mirish) and Bai, two languages whose geographic separation precludes contact with each other:

Apatani	<b>pu-ñe</b>	wedge	J. Sun 1993
Apatani	<b>ú-ñe</b>	wedge	<i>ibid.</i>
Bai (Jianchuan)	<b>tçí</b> <sup>55</sup> <b>ne</b> <sup>21</sup>	wedge	ZMYYC #413, p. 783

### 5.3 \*ka

This equally flimsy prospective etymon occurs only in the (unclassified) Tujia language and in Tibetan:

Tujia (Northern)	<b>ko</b> <sup>21</sup>	wedge/clip	JZ-Tujia <b>REF.</b>
Tujia (Southern)	<b>kha</b> <sup>33</sup>	wedge/clip	JZ-Tujia <b>REF.</b>
Tibetan (Written)	<b>ka</b> -ru	wedge	Jäschke, p. 2

The non-aspirated Tibetan initial immediately stamps this lexical item as somehow aberrant, perhaps a loanword, since non-prefixed WT syllables with voiceless obstruent initials are overwhelmingly aspirated in native vocabulary.

## 6.0 Conclusions

Although we have not achieved our original goal of etymologizing Pumi **tsó** 'wedge', the attempt to do so has yielded a number of side benefits. We have reconstructed several new roots for WEDGE, including PLB **\*N-džam**<sup>2</sup>, Proto-Himalayish **\*-zer**, and PTB **\*sap**, clarifying in the process the fate of the rhymes **\*-am** and **\*-ap** in both Lolo-Burmese and Qiangic. A number of other forms have not been assigned with certainty to any of these etyma, but at least some of the difficulties involved have been expounded.

It will be challenging to work out Qiangic phonological developments in sufficient detail to establish the exact nature of the relationship of this branch of TB to the other subgroups of the

<sup>52</sup>But HAWK **\*dzwan**<sup>1</sup> gives Ak. **k'a** **dze**.

<sup>53</sup>The Akha compound for 'nail' is **shm** **seh** (IRON + WEDGE, with the first syllable < **\*syam**). This compound thus has the same *semantic* structure as WT **lçags-gzer** 'nail', though both syllables are *etymologically* distinct in the two languages. The first syllable of the Lahu compound **šo-chû** 'nail' reflects the same etymon for IRON as the Akha compound, though the second element means THORN < PTB **\*tsow** [STC # 276].

family. Although Qiangic initial consonants are justly famous for their manifold complexities, the rhymes of Qiangic languages (except for the rGyalrong/Ergong group) are often just as depleted as those of Loloish, with total loss of post-vocalic consonants. The phonological evolution of originally \*closed syllables in Qiangic seems particularly intricate.<sup>54</sup> Compounding the comparativist's headaches is the high degree of dialectal differentiation within individual Qiangic languages. Some of the invaluable data provided in recent Chinese sources may be insufficiently phonemicized, so that certain reflex-patterns appear more complicated than they actually are. Despite the copiousness of these published sources, many key cognate forms are undoubtedly still lacking, not because they do not exist, but simply because they were accidentally not recorded, in favor of a more or less synonymous form. It behooves us then to approach comparisons between Qiangic and other branches of TB with due humility.

In closing, I cannot resist one speculative semantic sally. We have seen that the PLB root **\*N-džam<sup>2</sup>** 'wedge' is almost identical (except for tone) with PLB **\*N-dzam<sup>1</sup>** 'bridge'. Could there be some intrinsic semantic connection between the two concepts? Wedges have both splitting and joining functions: they can be used to pry things apart,<sup>55</sup> or conversely to bridge the gap between objects that are too far apart (in the manner of a shim). The 'bridge' of a violin wedges the strings apart from the sounding-board, while simultaneously connecting the four strings together by causing them to vibrate over the same thin piece of wood.

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<sup>54</sup>Not that the evolution of \*open syllables is straightforward either! Even \*-a, the most common of all TB rhymes, has complex conditioned reflexes in Dayang Pumi, with the most common reflex being \*-i. See Matisoff 1996.

<sup>55</sup>Cf. Jingpho **sùm-pràt** 'wedge' (< **phràt** 'split').

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