Record Nr. UNINA9910814869003321 Autore McPherson Laura E (Laura Elizabeth) Titolo A grammar of Tommo So / / by Laura McPherson Pubbl/distr/stampa Berlin; ; Boston:,: De Gruyter Mouton,, [2013] ©2013 **ISBN** 3-11-030107-5 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (648 p.) Collana Mouton grammar library (MGL);;62 Disciplina 496/.3 Soggetti Dogon language - Grammar Dogon language - Phonology Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Front matter -- Acknowledgments -- Table of contents --Abbreviations -- 1. Introduction -- 2. Grammatical sketch -- 3. Segmental phonology -- 4. Tone -- 5. Nominal, pronominal, and adjectival morphology -- 6. Nominal and adjectival compounds -- 7. Noun phrase structure -- 8. Ideophones and onomatopoeia -- 9. Coordination -- 10. Postpositions and adverbials -- 11. Verbal derivation -- 12. Verbal inflection -- 13. VP and predicate structure --14. Comparatives -- 15. Focalization and interrogation -- 16. Relativization and clause nominalization -- 17. Conditional constructions -- 18. Clause chaining and subordination -- 19. Quotative constructions -- 20. Anaphora -- 21. Grammatical pragmatics -- 22. Dialects -- 23. Texts -- References -- Index Sommario/riassunto Tommo So is a Dogon language with approximately 60,000 speakers in Mali, West Africa. As only the second full grammatical description of a Dogon language, this volume is a critical resource for solving the mystery of Dogon's genetic affiliation with other languages in Africa. Tommo So is an SOV language with isolating nominal morphology and agglutinative verbal morphology; suffixes on the verb mark tense/aspect/negation as well as subject agreement. The phonology is sensitive to levels of verbal morphology in that variable vowel harmony applies less frequently as one moves to outer layers of the morphology.

The tone system of Tommo So is of typological interest in both its

phonological and syntactic instantiations. Phonologically, it is a two-tone system of H and L, but these specified tones contrast with a surface-underspecified tone. Grammatically, the lexical tone of a word is often overwritten by syntactically-induced overlays. For example, an inalienable noun's tone will be replaced with L if it is possessed by a non-pronominal possessor, and by either H or HL if the possessor is pronominal. The language has also innovated a series of locative quasiverbs and focus particles sensitive to pragmatic factors like certainty.