

Verbs of Motion in the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*

— MS. D, British Library MS. Cotton Tiberius B. iv, ff. 3-86 —

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During the Transition Period from Old English to Middle English (around the 11th century), we can find evidence of a vocabulary shift in some of the manuscripts. The aim of this paper is to show how verbs of motion were distributed in an 11th century manuscript written in Worcester, and to try to reason why the *go-went* paradigm became established.

Key words : Old English, Verbs of Motion, Transition Period, Paradigm of *go*

1. Introduction

As is general knowledge, what we call verbs of motion include verbs which denote coming and going, directed movement, and changing location. Among them, the verbs meaning ‘going’ are noteworthy in their historical development. For example, the Modern English (ModE) *go* has specific characteristics in the light of its history.

In the first place, the paradigm of ModE *go* (< Old English [OE] *gán*) shows irregularity, as in *go-went-gone*. Old English verbs have two main classifications: weak and strong. The preterit tense of strong verbs is made by changing the vowel of the root syllable according to fixed series¹. That of weak verbs is made by adding to the root syllable a suffix containing *d* (*-ede*, *-ode*, *-de*)². However, the paradigm of *go-went-gone* does not fit the case. In short, it is formed by an amalgamation of different verbs, the system of which is called suppletion³.

In the second place, OE *gán* originally meant ‘to move on foot’ like *gehen* in German. In OE, there were several verbs of motion which had similar meanings as ModE *go*. Weman (1933) states that OE *faran*, *féran*, *gewítan* undertook the ‘colourless’ meaning of ModE *go*⁴. However, in the course of time, the original meaning of *gán* disappeared and *gán* also came to mean the ‘colourless’ sense, which resulted in the prevalence of *go*⁵.

The purpose of this paper is to show the distribution of the verbs of motion denoting ‘going’ by examining a manuscript from the eleventh century, namely the transition period between Old English and Middle English; the examination of which will also lead us to clarify the actual situation of the usage of ‘went’ at that period.

2. The Development of Paradigm of ‘go-went’

According to the *OED*, the past tense form of OE *gán* was lost and the missing form was supplied

in Old English by *éode* (*-dest*, *-de*, *-don*) from a lost form equivalent to Gothic *iddja*, the past tense of *gaggan* ‘to go’⁶. *Éode* became *ȝede*, *yede*, *yode*, etc. in Middle English. These Middle English preterits disappeared in the 15th century, and were superseded by the past tense form of *wend* (< OE *wendan* ‘to turn’). From c1200, the forms *wente* and *went* appeared and became more usual. In the end, “*went* finally replaced the older preterits belonging to *go*, and from c1500 is most naturally regarded as the pa. tense of that verb, while *wend* was provided with the new form *wended*.”⁷

Another opinion by Lass (1992) describes that *wente* spread from north to south which happened in the 13th and 14th century⁸. Referring to the replacement of *yede/yode* (< *eode*) by *wente*, Lass explains that a new suppletive past tense form developed quite early in the north. Welna (2001) also states that the prevalence of *went* became marked during the 14th century; although the 15th century texts, except those from South Lancashire, reveal a relative balance between the old and new forms⁹. Welna assumes that such a balance indicates the rather conservative character of West Midland *morphology*.

Both Lass and Welna argue that the prevalence of *went* became obvious by the end of the 14th century. It is worth while to examine the subject more closely, because there is an example in the Gospel translation in which *wente* and *eode* appear synonymous:

Matthew 8:34 (Italics mine)

WSCp	Da <i>eode</i> seo ceaster-waru togeanes ðam Hælende;
Wycliffe	And loo! Al the citee <i>wente</i> aȝeinis Jhesu, metynge hym;
Vulgate	Et ecce tota civitas <i>exiit</i> obviam Iesu,

WSCp is the West Saxon translation of the Gospels and referred to as the Corpus manuscript, Corpus Christi College Cambridge MS. 140¹⁰. The written date is considered to be about the year 1000. Morrell (1965) states that the Latin text on which West Saxon Gospels were based was not Vulgate. Bosworth (1888) also says that the Anglo-Saxon version of Gospels was translated from the *Vetus Italica*¹¹ that existed before Vulgate. However, Vulgate is used here for the convenience of comparison.

Wycliffe translated the Latin Vulgate into English. The edition used here is founded upon the first version, Oxford, Bodleian Library, Douce 369, and the written date was before 1390¹². This example supports what Welna states. As for the distribution of *yede* (< *eode*) and *went* in the Late Middle English period, Unebe (2000) shows from the data collected from *A Linguistic Atlas of Late Medieval English* [LALME] that *yede* spreads more widely in the south than *went* does¹³.

3. The Meanings of Old English *gán* and *wendan*

According to *An Anglo-Saxon Dictionary Supplement*, the main definitions of Old English *gán* are summarized as follows¹⁴:

- I . of movement, irrespective of the point of departure or destination. (1) *to go on foot, walk*: (2) *to move along, proceed* (irrespective of mode of progression): (3) *to take a specified course*:
- II . where movement *from* a place is the primary notion. (1) *to move away, depart*:
- III . where the prominent notion is that of destination or direction. (1) of self-originated motion or action. (2) of passive movement, change of state, &c.

IV. of movement towards the speaker, *to come*:

In the definitions above, we can find the ‘colourless’ sense of ‘going,’ as Weman says. From this, it seems reasonable to suppose that the semantic shift began even in the Old English period.

As for Old English *wendan*, *An Anglo-Saxon Dictionary* defines as follows¹⁵:

I . *trans.* (1) *To cause to move, alter the direction or position of something* (lit. or fig.): (2) *to turn round or over.* (3) *to turn from one condition to another, to change, alter, convert:* (3a) *to turn from one language to another, to translate, interpret.*

II . *reflexive,* (1) *to move one’s self, take one’s way, go, proceed, wend* (lit. or fig.): (2) *to turn, direct the attention:*

III . *intrans.* (1) *To wend, go, proceed* (lit. and fig.): (2) *to turn round:* (3) *to turn from one condition to another, to change, alter:* (4) *to change, shift, vary, be variable:*

Old English *wendan* basically means ‘to turn,’ but it also means ‘to go, proceed,’ and this second meaning gains power later in history.

We can comprehend the semantic development of *wendan* > *wend* by the *Historical Thesaurus of English* [HTE]¹⁶. Table 1 shows a part of the data of *wend* inclusive of compounds and phrases. From this table we can see that Old English *wendan* and its compounds mean ‘to change direction, return, revolve,’ but they gradually come to mean ‘to proceed, depart, go away’ after the Old English period.

Table 1 Semantic Development of *wendan* in the HTE

Main Category	Word	Date
Cause to rise	upawendan	OE
Change direction of movement of	awendan, onwenden, onwenden of	OE
Return	agenbewendan, awendan, edwenden, gewendan, onwenden	OE
Revolve/rotate	(ge)wenden	OE
Travel/proceed/make one’s way	i-wende<gewendan	OE·c1275
Travel/proceed/make one’s way	i-wende<gewendan	OE·a1300
Depart/leave/go away	awend<awendan	OE·c1305
Depart/leave/go away	wend<(ge)wenden	OE·1603+1819-
Travel/proceed/make one’s way	wend<(ge)wenden	OE·1613/16+1775
Travel/proceed/make one’s way	wend<wenden	OE·1635
Go away	to-wend	c1175·c1205
Rise/go up	upwend	c1200·a1400
Return	wend again	c1205·c1430
Move in a certain direction	wend	c1205·1622+1816-
Direct one’s course	wend (one’s) way	c1250·a1586+1810-
Move over/across/through/past	overwend	c1250-
Travel/proceed/make one’s way	wend one’s street	a1300·1481
Travel/proceed/make one’s way	ywende	c1300·1393
Writhe/twist	wend	a1310·1561
Move the body/a member	wend	1340/70·a1400
Fall	wend to ground	c1430
Return	rewend	1616

4. The Manuscripts of the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*

According to Plummer (1899), it is commonly stated that *the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle* is contained in seven MSS., and four MSS. among them have the right to be considered distinct Chronicles, namely, MSS. A, C, D and E¹⁷.

The descriptions of the four MSS. are as follows, which are mainly taken from Ker (1957)¹⁸:

(1) MS. A (Cambridge, Corpus Christi College 173. ff. 1-56) [*The Winchester Manuscript*]¹⁹

This contains the oldest manuscript of the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle* and laws. This was written between the 9th and the second half of the 11th century at Winchester. Then, by c1070, the manuscript was moved to Christ Church, Canterbury where numerous alterations were made.

(2) MS. C (British Museum, Cotton Tiberius B. i) [*The Abingdon Manuscript*]

This manuscript holds King Alfred's translation of Orosius, the verse Menologium, gnomic verses, and the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*. This was written during the 11th century at Abingdon.

(3) MS. D (British Museum, Cotton Tiberius B. iv, ff. 3-86, 88-90) [*The Worcester Manuscript*]

The *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle* occupies ff. 3-86. This was made between the middle and the latter half of the 11th century at Worcester. According to Swanton (1997), the body of MS. D seems to have been copied from a now lost north-country exemplar, perhaps compiled at York or Ripon²⁰. These northern scribes had not merely taken up and continued the Alfredian archetype, but added material from the body of Bede's *Ecclesiastical History* and from a set of eighth-century Northumbrian annals²¹. These scribes were well-informed about events in the north of England and on Anglo-Scandinavian relations in particular²².

(4) MS. E (Oxford, Bodleian, Laud Misc. 636) [*The Peterborough Manuscript*]

This chronicle was written at Peterborough between the first half and the middle of the 12th century. The annals from 1122 to the end were composed at Peterborough, but those up to 1121 were, to quote Clarke (1970), "copied from an archetype of unknown origin."²³ She points out that "[t]he language of the copied annals is 'Standard Late West Saxon', demonstrating the persistence of the *Schriftsprache* rather than telling us anything about current speech."²⁴ The annals from 1122 to 1131 are the First Peterborough Continuation, and the language represents the features of the East Midland dialect, although it was influenced by the *Schriftsprache*²⁵. The annals from 1132 to 1154 are the Final Continuation, and the language is no longer regarded as Old English but as a specimen of Early Middle English with some Old English traits²⁶.

5. The Distribution of Verbs of Motion in MS. D

Here are listed annals which include the verbs of motion denoting 'going' in MS. D. The text based here is from Plummer's edition²⁷, and put Modern English translation in the parentheses²⁸. Underlines are mine.

904 foron þær ofer Temese ([Æthelworld] came hither from oversea)

905 7 wendon þa east ham weard (and went east homeward)

905 Þa for Eadweard cyning æfter (Then king Edward marched after them)

905 Þa he eft þanon faran wolde (When he wished to withdraw [= to go])

911 7 þa scipu foron be suðan east ([a hundred] ships which sailed east along the south)

911 Þa ge ahsode se cyning þæt þæt hi on hergeað foron (When the king learnt that they had gone

out harrying)

- 915 7 foron þa west abuton (and sailed west about)
 915 Þa æfter þam þa for se here eall úp (Then after this the whole host went inland)
 915 7 wolde faran þa git on hergeað (and wanted to go on a raid)
 915 þæt he of þæs cynges anwealde faran wold[n] (and promised to depart from the king's
 dominion)
 915 foron þa þanon to Deo medum (then they went thence to Dyfed [= S. Wales])
 915 þa for Eadweard cyning to Buccinga hámmme (King Edward went to Buckinham)
 915 ær he þanon fore (and before he went from there)
 934 Her for Æþelstan cyning on Scotland (Here King Athelstan went to Schotland)
 1016 Her on þissum geare com cnut mid his here. 7 Eadric ealdorman mid him ofer Temese into
 Myrcum. æt Cricgelade. 7 wendon þa to Wærinc wic scire ingang þære middan winters tidæ
 (Here in this year Cnut came with his raiding-army, and Ealdorman Eadric with him, over the
 Thames into Mercia at Cricklade, and then went to Warwickshire during the midwinter
 season)

As for the historical event written in the year 1016, we need a supplementary explanation²⁹. Cnut landed at Sandwich in Kent, then he crossed the Thames and got into Mercia at Cricklade in Wiltshire with Eadric, who was Ealdorman of Mercia in the reign of Ethelred II. Eadric, however, became notorious for his treachery. Eadric betrayed his king and took sides with Cnut. Then they proceeded to the north, and went to Warwickshire. As they did not retrace their steps but just proceeded northwards, *wendon* here should be translated into 'went.'

- 1016 7 ferde ælc man him ham (and each man took himself home [= went home])
 1016 þæt ælc man þe fære wære forð wende (that each man who was fit should go forth)
 1016 Wende him ða út þurh Bucingahama scire into Bedan fordscire (then he turned himself out
 through Buckinghamshire into Bedfordshire)
 1016 7 syððan wende him suð weard oðres weges (and afterward he turned himself southwards
 another way)
 1016 7 Se æþeling Eadmund wende to Lundene to his fæder (and the ætheling Edmund went to
 London to his father)
 1016 7 þa æfter Eastron wende se cyng Cnut mid eallon his scypon to Lunden weard. (and then,
 after Easter, the king Cnut went towards London with all his ships)
 1016 7 binnan litlan fæce wendon to Lundene ([the Danish ships came to Greenwich] and within a
 little while went to London)
 1016 Þa wæs Eadmund cyng ær þan gewend ut (King Edmund had then gone out before that)
 1016 þa heres him sylfe to eodon on þam gefeohte (and the raiding-armies themselves broke off the
 fight) →eodon =came into the state of something [not physical movement]
 1016 7 ferde to Lundenne (and [Eadric gathered an army] and travelled to London)
 1016 se cyning gewende ofer æt Brægent forða (the king crossed over [the river] at Brentford)
 1016 þa þe ferdon beforan þære fyrde (when they travelled in front of the army)
 1016 7 se kyning æfter þæm gewende to West seaxan (And after that the king went to Wessex)
 1016 Þa gewende se here to Lundenne (Then the raiding-army went to London)

- 1016 Se here gewende þa æfter þæm fram Lundene (Then, after that, the raiding-army went away from London)
- 1016 7 þær up foran (and there went up)
- 1016 and ferdon on Myrcan (and travelled into Mercia)
- 1016 swa hwæt swa hi oferforan (whatsoever they came across)
- 1016 7 ferde ofer Temese æt Brægent forða ([King Edmund] travelled over the Thames at Brentford)
- 1016 7 ferde inon Cænt (and [King Edmund] travelled into Kent)
- 1016 7 Eadric ealdorman gewende þa þone cyning ongean æt Ægeles forða (And Ealdorman Eadric then turned to join the king at Aylesford [→ gewende = turned and betrayed])
- 1016 Se here gewende eft úp on East Seaxan (The raiding-army went back up into Essex)
- 1016 7 ferde into Myrcan ([the raiding-army] travelled into Mercia)
- 1016 7 forðde eall {þ}³⁰ he oferferde (and destroyed all that it travelled over)
- 1016 he fiftan siðe ealle Engla þeode 7 ferde him æt hindan (he [=the king] assembled the entire English nation for the fifth time and travelled behind them [=the raiding-armies])
- 1016 Ða æfter þisum ge feohte wende Cnut cyning úp mid his here to Gleawcestre scire (Then after this fight King Cnut went inland with his raiding-army to Gloucestershire)
- 1018 7 se here þa ferde sum to Denmarcon (And then some of the raiding-army travelled to Denmark)
- 1019 Her Cnut cyng gewende mid ·x. scypum to Denmarcon (Here King Cnut turned to Denmark)
- 1020 7 on þisan geare for se cyng 7 Þurkyl eorl to Assan dune (And in this year the king went to Ashingdon, and Earl Thurkil)
- 1022 Her Cnut keening for út mid his scypum to Wihhtlande (Here King Cnut went out with his ships to the Isle of Wight)
- 1022 7 Æþelnoð þ. fór to Róme (And Bishop Æthelnoth went to Rome)
- 1022 7 þa seoððan bliðelice ham to his earde ferde (and afterwards happily travelled home to his country)
- 1026 Her for Ælfric þ to Rome (Here Bishop Ælfric went to Rome)
- 1031 Her for Cnut cyng to Rome (Here King Cnut went to Rome)
- 1031 þa fór he to Scot lande (then he went to Scotland)
- 1031 7 Scotta cyng eode him on hand (and the king of Scots went to him [→ eode = surrendered to him, or gave in him])
- 1045 gewende þa to Ramesege ([Bishop Ælfweard] then went to Ramsey)
- 1045 7 for to Denmarcon syððan (and afterwards [Gunnhild, King Cnut's relative] went to Denmark)
- 1049 7 Harold for to Norwegum. Magnus fædera (and Harald, the paternal uncle of Magnus, went to Norway)
- 1050 7 he fór þa to Sandwic (And then he [Edward] went to Sandwich)
- 1050 þe fór ær of of þisan lande to Denmarcon (who earlier went from this land to Denmark)
- 1050 fóron fela scypa hám (many ships went home)
- 1050 7 Godwine eorl eac fór 'mid' xlii. scypum fram Sandwic to Peuenes éa (and Earl Godwine also went with 42 ships from Sandwich to Pevensey)
- 1050 7 Beorn eorl him fór mid (and Earl Beorn went with him [=Godwine])
- 1050 þe ær ham wendon (which [=ships] went home earlier)

- 1050 7 wendon eft ongearn mid ·vi· scyfum (and [Osgod and his men] went back again with 6 ships)
- 1050 7 þa oðre fóron on SuðSexe to Eadulfes næsse (and the others went to Eadulf's Ness in Sussex)
- 1050 7 wendon eft to scypon (and [the others] went back to the ships)
- 1050 He wende þa for þære sibbe mid þreom geferum mid him (Then because of their kinship he [=Beorn] went with him [=Swein], with three companions)
- 1050 Wende þa þanon mid him to Dertamuðan (then [Beorn] went from there with him [=Swein] to Dartmouth)
- 1051 7 Ealdred ʒ foron to Rome (and Bishop Aldred went to Rome)
- 1052 Þa ferdon his men dyslice æfter inne (His men then travelled looking for quarters foolishly)
- 1052 Fór ða on niht awæg (Then he [=Godwine] went away by night)
- 1052 7 he wende suð to Þorn ege (And he went south to Thorney)
- 1052 7 he wende þa ut of Afenemuðan (And he then went out from the mouth of the Avon)
- 1052 Wende þa forð to Irlande (he [=Aldred] went out of Ireland)
- 1052 7 þa þe mid him wæron wendan of Dornege to Byrce (and those who were with him [=Aldred] went from Thorney to Bruges)
- 1052 7 sona æfter ðam for abuton Penwiðsteort (and immediately after this [Harold] went around Penwith Tail)
- 1052 7 {þ} lið wende ongearn to Sandwic (and that fleet went back to Sandwich)
- 1052 {þ}e on Sandwic læig wæs ham gewend (the fleet which lay at Sandwich had gone home)
- 1052 þa for he æft ongearn to With (then he [=Godwine] went back to Wight)
- 1052 oð {þ} {þ} flod upp eode (until the tide came up)
- 1052 7 Godwine for upp (and Godwine landed [on the bank of the Thames])
- 1054 Her ferde Siward eorl mid miclum here on Scot land (Here Earl Siward went forth with a great raiding-army into Scotland)
- 1055 Ac he gewende to 'Hirlande 7' Brytlande (but he [=Ælfgar] went to Ireland and Wales)
- 1055 7 ferde swa to Herreforda (and [Ælfgar] travelled to Ireland)
- 1055 7 gewendon þa into Hereford porte (and then [many people] went into Hereford market-town)
- 1056 7 ferde to Burh to sçe Petres mynstre (and [Æthelric] travelled to Peterborough to St Peter's minster)
- 1056 7 swa for to ferde ongearn Griffin þone Wyliscan cining (and [Æthelric] went thus to the campaign against Gruffydd, the Welsh king)
- 1058 eall hu hit gefaren wæs (how it all happened)
- 1058 7 swa ferde to Hierusalem (and so [Aldred] travelled to Jerusalem)
- 1061 Her for Ealdred ʒ to Rome æfter his pallium (Here Bishop Aldred went to Rome for his pallium)
- 1061 7 his wife ac foron to Rome (and his [=Earl Tostig's] wife also went to Rome)
- 1061 þa hi hamward foran (when they [=Aldred and Tostig] travelled homeward)
- 1063 On þissum geara for Harold eorl, æfter middan winter (In this year [1062] Earl Harold went after midwinter)
- 1063 for Harold mid scyfum of Brycgstowe abutan Brytland (Harold went with ships from Bristol, round Wales)
- 1063 Tostig fór mid land ferde ongearn (and Tostig went against them with a land-army)

- 1065 þa for Cradoc to Gryffines sunu mid eallon þam genge (then, Caradog, Gruffydd's son, went with all the band he could get)
- 1065 7 he for suð mid ealre þære scire (And he [=Ælfgar] went south with all the shire)
- 1065 þa hwile þe he fór heora ærende (while he went [there] on their message)
- 1065 þa ðe woldon þæt he wolde faran suð ofer sæ mid him (those who wanted what he wanted, went south across the sea with him)
- 1066 eall swa hit syððan aeóde (just as it afterwards came to pass [→ ágán=to go, pass, come to pass])
- 1066 7 he for to Scotlande mid ·xii· snaccum (and he [=Tostig] went to Scotland with 12 cutters)
- 1066 Man cyððe þa Harolde Engla cyng {þ} þis wæs gefaren (Then Harold, king of the English, was informed that this had come about there [→ gefaran = to speed, to happen])
- 1066 7 hi foron þa upp to uran kyninge (And they then went up to our king)
- 1066 7 se cyng hi let hám faran mid ·xxiii· scypum (and the king let them go home with 24 ships)
- 1066 7 Wyllelm eorl for eft ongean to Hæstingan (And Earl William went back to Hastings)
- 1066 he fór upp mid eallon his here (he went inland with all of his raiding-army)
- 1066 7 hergade ealne þone ende þe he ofer ferde (and [William] raided all that region he travelled across)
- 1066 hi hergedan eall {þ} hi ofer foron (they raided all that they went across)
- 1066 7 fór þa on þam lengtene ofer sæ to Normandíge (and then in the spring went across the sea to Normandy)
- 1067 7 þeah hwæðre let æfre hergian eall {þ} ofer foron (and yet nevertheless always allowed to be raided all that they went across)
- 1067 And þa he ferde to Defena 'scire' (And then [1068] he travelled to Devonshire)
- 1067 And þæs sumeres Eadgar cild for út (And that summer Prince Edgar went away [to Scotland])
- 1067 7 awende hine sylfne to Gode (and turned himself toward God [→ turned = changed])
- 1067 7 hire modor cynn gæð to Heinrice casere (and her mother's family goes back to the emperor Henry)
- 1067 7 her ferde Gyða út Haroldes modor (And here Gytha, mother of Harold, travelled away to the Isle of Flatholme)
- 1067 7 swa fór þanon ofer sæ to s̅ce Audomare (and so went from there across the sea to St Omer)
- 1067 foron þa to Bryge stowe (then [they] went to Bristol)
- 1067 hi foron þa to scypan (they went to the ships)
- 1067 7 swa hi fóron on Sumer sæton (and they went thus to Somerset)
- 1067 7 þær upp eodon (and went up there)
- 1067 7 þanon aweig foron þe þær to láfe wæron (and those who were left there went away from there)
- 1068 7 se æðeling fór eft ongean to Scot lande (And the ætheling went back again to Scotland)
- 1068 7 þær unwærlice úp eodon (and went up there carelessly)
- 1068 7 Haroldes sunas foron eft to Yrlande ongean (And Harold's sons went back again to Ireland)
- 1069 ridende 7 gangende mid un mætan here (riding and marching with an enormous raiding-army)
- 1069 7 swa ealle anrædlice to Eoferwic foron (and thus all resolutely went to York)
- 1069 þa for he norðward mid ealre his fyrde (he went northward with all of his army)

- 1072 Her Eadwine eorl 7 Morkere eorl hlupon út 7 mislice ferdon on wuda (Here Earl Edwin and Earl Morcar ran off and travelled variously in woods)
- 1072 7 Morkere mid scype gewende to Héliġ (and Morcar went by ship to Ely)
- 1072 7 hi ealle þa eodon þan kyninge on hand (And then they all went into the king's hand)
- 1073 7 hi sylf mid his landfyrde ferde inn ofer {þ} Wæð (and [William] himself travelled in with his land-army ofer the Forth)
- 1073 7 he syððan ham gewende mid ealre fyrde (and afterwards he went home with all his army)
- 1073 7 ferde to Burh (and travelled to Peterborough)
- 1074 7 hig seoððan ham gewendan (and afterwards they went home)
- 1075 7 his ferestan menn ferdon eft ongean to Scotlande (and those of his fittest men went back again to Scotland)
- 1075 sume hreowlice on fotan gangende (some pitiaibly walking on foot)
- 1075 7 ferde ealne weig mid him (and went all the way with them)
- 1076 7 Rogcer ferde west to his eorldome (And Roger went west to his earldom)
- 1076 Rawulf eac wolde mid his eorl dome forð gan (Ralph, also, wanted to go forward with his earldom)
- 1076 7 heo þa utferde of Engla lande (and then she [and all her men who wanted to go with her] went out of England)
- 1076 7 Walpeof eorl ferde ofer sæ (And Earl Waltheof went across the sea)
- 1076 ac ferdon to Eoforwic (but [Cnut and Hákon] went to York)
- 1076 7 foron swa aweg (and so [Cnut and Hákon] went away)
- 1077 7 Wyllelm cynge for ofer sé (And King William went across the sea)
- 1077 7 Wyllelm cynge þa þanon fór (and the king William went from there)
- 1079 7 Rotbert eft gewende to Fleminga lande (and Robert went back to the land of the Flemings)
- [MS. D ends in the year 1079.]

Table 2 shows the distribution and occurrences of verbs of motion in MS. D

Table 2 The Occurrences of Verbs of Motion in MS. D.

Infinitive	Frequency	Actual Forms
faran	65 (46.1%)	for (38), foron (19), faran (5), foran (2), fore (1)
feran	25 (17.7%)	ferde (20), ferdon (5)
wendan	19 (13.5%)	wende (12), wendon (6), wendan (1),
gewendan	16 (11.3%)	gewende (12), gewend (2), gewendan (1), gewendon (1)
gan	10 (7.1%)	eodon (4), eode (2), gangende (2), gan (1), gæð (1)
oferfaran	1 (0.7%)	oferforan (1)
oferferan	1 (0.7%)	oferferde (1)
gefaran	1 (0.7%)	gefaren (1)
awendan	1 (0.7%)	awende (1)
agan	1 (0.7%)	aeode (1)
utferan	1 (0.7%)	utferde (1)
Total	141	

From the distribution illustration above and Table 2, we can find that *faran* and *feran* have power in MS. D. However, the preterits of *wendan* and *gewendan* are more frequently used than *eodon* and *eode*, which are the preterits of *gan*. This may be the evidence of the decline of *eode* and the prevalence of *went* as the preterit form of *go*. As is mentioned above, the scribes of MS. D were well informed about the Anglo-Scandinavian relations. As the *OED* clarifies, *wend* is one of Germanic cognates: OE. *wendan*, = OFris. *wenda* (WFr. *weine*, *wine*, NFr. *wên*, *wân*), MDu. (and Du.) *wenden*, OS. *wendian* (MLG. and LG. *wenden*, LG. *wennen*), OHG. *wentan* (MHG. and G. *wenden*), ON. and Icel. *venda* (Norw. *venda*; Sw. *vadotabönda*, Da. *vende*), Goth. *wandjan*; f. **wand-*, the preterite stem of *windan* WIND v.1, of which *wendan* is the causative.”³¹ Therefore, we may not overlook the Scandinavian influences in the shift of the paradigm of *go*.

6. Conclusion

From what we have seen above, we may say that the preterit form of *wend* came to be more frequently used in the middle of the 11th century, which many have contributed to the establishment of the paradigm of *go-went-gone*. In the background of this development, there may be the Scandinavian influences which cannot be ignored. It is not too far from the truth, and it is easily understood that *wend*, which is cognate with Germanic vocabulary, was very handy for the Anglo-Saxons in the communication with the Scandinavian settlers.

¹ Norman Davis (1953) *Sweet's Anglo-Saxon Primer, Ninth Edition*. Oxford University Press. p. 25.

² Norman Davis (1953), *ibid*.

³ Richard M. Hogg ed. (1992) *The Cambridge History of the English Language, Volume I. The Beginning to 1066*. Cambridge University Press. p. 546, 'Glossary of linguistic terms'.

⁴ Bertil Weman (1953; Kraus Reprint, 1967) *Old English Semantic Analysis and Theory with Special Reference to Verbs of Denoting Locomotion*. p. 96.

⁵ Bertil Weman (1933; Kraus Reprint, 1967), pp. 45-46.

⁶ *The Oxford English Dictionary, Second Edition on CD-Rom Version 4.0*. (2009) Oxford University Press. *go*, v. For further details about *iddja* and *eode*, see Warren Cowgill (1960) "Gothic *iddja* and Old English *eode*," *Language* 36, pp. 483-51.

⁷ *OED*, *wend*. v¹.

⁸ Roger Lass (1992) "Phonology and Morphology," in Norman Blake ed. (1992) *The Cambridge History of the English Language, Volume II. 1066-1476*. Cambridge University Press. p. 143.

⁹ Jerzy Welna (2001) "Suppletion for Suppletion, or the Replacement of *eode* by *went* in English," *Studia Anglica Posnaniensia*, 36, pp. 95-110.

¹⁰ N. R. Ker (1957; Oxford, 1990) *Catalogue of Manuscripts Containing Anglo-Saxon*. Oxford at the Clarendon Press. pp. 49-50.

¹¹ Joseph Bosworth (1888) *The Gothis and Anglo-Saxon Gospels in Parallel Columns with the Versions of Wycliffe and Tyndale*. London: Reeves & Turner. p. xi.

¹² Joseph Bosworth (1888), p. xxii.

¹³ Noriko Unebe (2000) "On the Past Tense Forms of *go* in Late Middle English," *Journal of Tokyo Kasei Gakuin University, Humanities and Social Sciences* 40. Tokyo Kasei Gakuin University. pp. 91-116.

- ¹⁴ T. N. Toller with Revised and Enlarged Addenda by A. Campbell (1921; OUP, 1980) *An Anglo-Saxon Dictionary Based on the Manuscript Collections of Joseph Bosworth, Supplement*. See gán.
- ¹⁵ Joseph Bosworth and T. N. Toller (1898; OUP, 1980) *An Anglo-Saxon Dictionary Based on the Manuscript Collections of the Late Joseph Bosworth*, edited and enlarged by T. N. Toller. See wendan.
- ¹⁶ Christian Kay, Jane Roberts and Irene Wotherspoon (2009) *The Historical Thesaurus of English*, 2 vols. University of Glasgow.
- ¹⁷ Charles Plummer (1899; OUP, 1972) *Two of the Saxon Chronicles Parallel with Supplementary Extracts from the Others, Volume II*. p. xxiii.
- ¹⁸ The descriptions of MSS. are taken from N. R. Ker (1957; Oxford, 1990).
- ¹⁹ M. J. Swanton (1997) *The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*. J. M. Dent, London. pp. xxi-xxviii. The titles of manuscripts follow Swanton.
- ²⁰ M. J. Swanton (1997), p. xxv.
- ²¹ M. J. Swanton (1997), *ibid*.
- ²² M. J. Swanton (1997), *ibid*.
- ²³ Cecily Clark (1970) *The Peterborough Chronicle 1070-1154*, 2nd ed. Oxford. p. xlii.
- ²⁴ Cecily Clark (1970). p. xlv.
- ²⁵ Cecily Clark (1970). p. xlv.
- ²⁶ Kikuo Miyabe ed. (1974) *A Middle English Prose Reader*. Kenkyusha. p. 131.
- ²⁷ Charles Plummer (1899; OUP, 1972) *Two of the Saxon Chronicles Parallel with Supplementary Extracts from the Others, Volume I*.
- ²⁸ I have consulted M. J. Swanton (1997), and G. N. Garmonsway (1953) *The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*. J. M. Dent & Sons Ltd.
- ²⁹ Richard Fletcher (1989) *Who's Who in Roman Britain and Anglo-Saxon England*. Shephard-Walwyn. pp. 198-200.
- ³⁰ {þ} represents a thorn with slash.
- ³¹ *OED*, *wend*. v¹.

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