

## Clause Linking in Dulong-Rawang

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### 1. Introduction

- Dulong (*tǎ̀rùŋ*; see LaPolla 2003) and Rawang (*rǎ̀wàŋ*) are closely related dialects of the Rung branch of Tibeto-Burman spoken just south and east of Tibet.
- The people who speak Dulong for the most part live in Gongshan county of Yunnan province in China, and belong to either what is known as the ‘Dulong’ (*tǎ̀rùŋ* or ‘Taron’, or ‘T’rung’) nationality (pop. 5816 according to the 1990 census), a name they were given because they mostly live in the valley of the Dulong (Taron/Trung) River, or to one part (roughly 6,000 people) of the Nu nationality (those who live along the upper reaches of the Nu River—the part of the Salween within China).
- The people who speak Rawang (population unknown, although Ethnologue gives 100,000) live in northern Kachin State in Myanmar (Burma), particularly along the Mae Hka (‘Nmai Hka) and Maeli Hka (Mali Hka) river valleys. In the past they had been called ‘Hkanung’ or ‘Nung’, and have often been considered to be a sub-group of the Kachin.
- Until government policies put a stop to the clearing of new land in 1994, they still practiced slash and burn farming on the mountainsides (they still do a bit, but only on already claimed land), in conjunction with planting paddy rice near the river.
- In this paper, I will mainly be using data of the Mvtwang (Mvt River) dialect of Rawang, which is considered the most central of those dialects in Myanmar and so has become something of a standard for writing and inter-group communication.<sup>1</sup>

### 2. Typological overview

- Verb-final, agglutinative, with both head marking and dependent marking. Large number of formative affixes, including the diminutive *-cè* and the augmentative *-mè*. Generally predication involves the use of verbs.
- No pivots in Rawang for cross-clause coreference (or other constructions).
- Three classes of verb and the copula (the citation form for verbs is the third person non-past affirmative/declarative form):
  - Intransitives take the non-past affirmative/declarative particle (*ē*) alone in the non-past (e.g. *ngōē* ‘to cry’) and the intransitive past tense marker (*-i*) in past forms (with third person argument); they can be used transitively only when they take valency-increasing morphological marking (causative, benefactive).

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<sup>1</sup> In the Rawang writing system (Morse 1962, 1963), which is used in this paper, most letters represent the standard pronunciations of English, except that *i* = [i], *v* = [ə], *a* = [ɑ], *ø* = [ʉ], *q* = [ʔ], and *c* = [s] or [ts] (free variation; historically [ts]). Tones are marked as follows (using the letter *a* as a base): high falling tone: *á*, mid tone: *ā*, low falling tone: *à*. All syllables that end in a stop consonant ([-p, -t, -ʔ, -k]) are in the high tone. Open syllables without a tone mark are unstressed. A colon marks a non-basic long vowel.

- Adjectives are a subclass of intransitive verbs, and so can be predicative without the copula. In citation they take the nominalizer *wē* (e.g. *tēwē* 'big'), but when used as predicates function the same as other intransitive verbs.
- Transitives take the non-past third person object marker (*ò*) plus the non-past affirmative/declarative particle (*ē*) in non-past forms (e.g. *ríòē* 'to carry (something)') and the transitive past tense marker (*-à*) in past forms (with third person O arguments); they can be used intransitively only when they take valency-reducing morphological marking (intransitivizing prefix, reflexive/middle marking suffix). In transitive clauses the agentive marker generally appears on the NP representing the A argument.
- Ambitransitives can be used as transitives or intransitives without morphological derivation (*ýmòē / v̄mē* 'to eat'). There are both S=O types and S=A types. With the S=O type, adding an A argument creates a causative, without the need to use the causative prefix. With the S=A type, use of the intransitive vs. the transitive form marks a difference between a general or habitual situation, e.g. (1a), and a particular situation, e.g. (1b), respectively. The difference is due partly to the nature of the object, and partly to the nature of general vs. specific action. I.e. if the O is specific, then the transitive form must be used, but if the O is non-specific, it is not necessary to use the intransitive form. If no O is mentioned, then usually the intransitive form is used.

(1) a. *Àng pé zvtñē.*  
*àng pé zvt-ē*  
 3sg basket weave-N.PAST  
 'He weaves baskets.' (general or habitual sense)

b. *À:ngí pé tiqchvng za:tnòē.*  
*àng-í [pé tiq-chvng] zvt-ò-ē*  
 3sg-AGT basket one-CL weave-TNP-N.PAST  
 'He is weaving a basket.'

### 3. Clause types

- A main clause generally will end in a tensed verb, as in (1). In imperative clauses, as in (2), the usual non-past marker used in non-past clauses does not appear.

(2) *Shóngcit wēdō Rvwangrìí ým yvngshàrì,*  
*shóngcit wē-dō [Rvwang-rì-í ým yvng-shà]-rì]*  
 sheungsit that-ADV Rawang-pl-AGT eat TMyrs-1plPAST-pl  
 (Things) like sheungsit (that) we Rawangs used to eat,

*kādō wà yà:ngà wē wērì gō èshò:nò.* (LaPolla & Poa 2001: 133)  
*[kā-dō wà yàng-à wē] wē-rì gō è-shòn-ò*  
 WH-ADV make TMyrs-T.PAST NOM that-pl also N.1-say-TNP  
 also tell us about the making of those things.

- A non-main clause will generally be nominalized, and this is done by adding a noun such as *dvgyv* 'when', or *kvt* 'time' to the end of the clause, forming a relative clause with this

word as the head (which is often followed by the adverbial marking clitic *-í*), as in lines 3 and 4 of (3), or it can be nominalized with the general nominalizer *wē*, which derives from *wē* ‘that’, and optionally followed by a locative clitic, as in lines 2 and 6 of (3) (this form is also used for complement clauses, as in (2) and in line 11 of (3)), or with the infinitive marker *lvm*, which also appears in the same position, as in (4), where it is used for a purpose clause. Aside from this, the non-main clause does not differ from a main clause in terms of person, number, tense/aspect/modality from a main clause. It will not have the illocutionary force of a main clause, so the mood will be different.

- A non-main clause generally precedes the main clause it is dependent on.
- Arguments shared between two clauses which are recoverable from context need not appear overtly in the second clause, e.g the barking deer in lines 4 and 5 of (3).

- 1 (3) *Vnvm gòm nvmbàng n̄*  
 [[vnvm gòm nv̄m-bàng] n̄  
 sun flat sun-beam TOP  
 (When) the beams of the sun
- 2 *n̄vml̄p shìgùng taqvz̀ng sv̄r daq̄à wē sv̀ng*  
 [n̄vml̄p shìgùng] taq vz̀ng sv̄r daq̄-à **wē**] sv̀ng  
 west mountain LOC first shine down-T.PAST **NOM LOC**  
 first shined down on the western mountain,
- 3 *shvrìgōí ngv̄r wā ỳng b̄à kvt*  
 [shvrì-gō-í ngv̄r wā ỳng b̄-à **kvt**]  
 barking.deer-CL-AGT notice ADV see PFV-T.PAST **time**  
 when the barking deer noticed (noticingly saw) it,
- 4 *dvbù n̄ ch̀ngshì lú:ngì kvt*  
 [dvbù **n̄** ch̀ng-shì lúng-ì **kvt**]  
 happy **PS** jump-R/M up-I.PAST **time**  
 when (the barking deer) was happy and jumped up (with joy),
- 5 *d̀ngdè n̄ dvb̄p h́m ḡ zeq lvm b̄à, wā.*  
 [d̀ngdè n̄ dv-b̄p h́m] **ḡ** zeq lvm b̄-à wā  
 soy.bean bean CAUS-rot basket **also** press.down step.on PFV-T.PAST HS  
 (s/he) also stepped on the basket with fermented soy beans, it was said.
- 6 *"N̄vm wv̄nzà mè-doq wē nàí vz̀ng èyà:ngòē,*  
 [n̄vm-wv̄n-zà mv-è-doq **wē**] nà-í vz̀ng è-ỳng-ò-ē  
 sun-buy-gold NEG-N.1-give/put.in **NOM** 2sg-AGT first N.1-see-TNP-N.PAST  
 “You did not contribute to buy the sun, (yet) you saw (the sun) first,
- 7 *vn̄ dvb̄p h́m ḡ èlvm̄-ā-ò-ē," wā,*  
 [vn̄ dv-b̄p h́m] **ḡ** è-lvm̄-ā-ò-ē wā  
 bean CAUS-rot basket **also** N.1-step.on-BEN-TNP-N.PAST say  
 (and) also stepped on the basket full of fermented beans.”

8 *ngv̄nké yà:ngà, wā.*

ngv̄n-ké yàng-à wā  
scold-AVS TMyrs-T.PAST HS  
they scolded him, it is said.

9 *Wērvt shvrìhí nōvnō dvbøp shōng vngà n̄,*

wē-rvt shvrì-hí nō vnō dv-bøp shōng vngà n̄  
**that-because** deer-leg TOP bean CAUS-rot smell smells **PS**  
Because of this, the legs of the barking deer smell like (fermented) beans and

10 *vgī tō pvn̄m bōdē, wā.*

vgī-í tō pvn̄m bō-ò-ē wā  
dog-AGT short.time(quickly) smell PFV-TNP-N.PAST HS  
(can) easily traced by the dog, it was said.

11 *Shvrì m̄r mvcøt yàng wē ḡ wērvt íē, wā.*

(LaPolla & Poa 2001: 33-34)

[shvrì m̄r mvcøt yàng wē] ḡ wē-rvt í-ē wā  
barking.deer face have.wrinkles TMyrs **NOM also that-because** be-N.PAST HS

And also because of this, the face of the barking deer became wrinkled (out of shame), it is said.

(4) *"Vn̄m w̄nl̄m vn̄mw̄nzà doq̄, " wā,*

(LaPolla & Poa 2001: 26)

[vn̄m w̄n-l̄m] vn̄m-w̄n-zà doq̄-ì wā  
sun buy-INF sun-buy-gold match.in.price-1plHORT HS  
“Let’s collect the amount to buy the sun,” (they) said.

- A non-main clause, possibly already nominalized or with the infinitive marker, can also take linkers such as *rvt* ‘because, in order to’, as in (5), *kèní(n̄)* ‘from, if, after’ or *nì(n̄)* ‘if, when, as’ (see examples below).

(5) *Vm̄ò vd̄m kèní tvnè vd̄m taq̄ v̄l l̄mrvt vc̄íl yà:ngà,*

(LaPolla & Poa 2001: 21)

[vm̄ò vd̄m kèní tvnè vd̄m taq̄ v̄l-l̄m]-rvt vc̄íl yàng-à  
Ameu plain from human plain LOC live-INF-**in.order.to** move TMyrs-T.PAST  
They were moved from *Ameu-adam* in order to live in *Tane-adam*.

#### 4. The semantics of linking

##### A. Addition

- Addition can simply be expressed by apposition, but the clause-final predicate sequencing particle *n̄* is often used. It appears on the lead-up clause, as in lines 4 and 9 of (3), and in (6). The adverb *ḡ* ‘also, still’, also helps convey the sense of addition, as in lines 5, 7, and 11 of (3), with or without *n̄*. The adverb *ḡ* ‘also, still’ can appear in both the lead-up and focus clause, as in (7). (In English, when the addition is of two negatives, *or/nor* is used, not *and* (e.g. *I don’t drink nor do I smoke*), whereas Rawang would use a simple addition construction with *ḡ* ‘also, still’ (e.g. ‘I don’t drink and I also don’t smoke’).)

- (6) *Vpūngí Vdósvng vdip bóà nò ngóa:pmì*  
 [Vpūng-í Vdó-svng vdip bó-à] nò ngó-ap-ì  
 Apung-AGT Adeu-LOC hit PFV-T.PAST PS cry-TMdys-I.PAST  
 Apung hit Adeu and X cried.

- (7) *Chēr gō vdāē, wā, nīgūng gō yōē, wā.* (LaPolla & Poa 2001: 49)  
 [chēr gō vdā-ē] wā [nīgūng gō yō-ē] wā  
 wings also have-N.PAST HS tail also grow-N.PAST HS  
 (The son) had wings (and he) also grew a tail, it is said.

- In some cases, as in line 2 of (8), the linking marked by *nò* is not as tight as would be assumed for the use of *and* in English, and it is clear that *nò* is not a conjunction. It also can appear at the end of an utterance.

- 1 (8) *Vlāng Pū:ngí nò svngzàwàngcèrì taqkèní*  
 [vlāng pūng-í nò svngzàwàngcè-rì taq-kèní  
 Vlang Pung-AGT TOP human.beings-pl LOC-from  
 Alang Pung, from the humans,
- 2 *svng vnvprì svng tvm vbūn baq ké-ò nò,*  
 svng vnvpr-ì svng tvm vbūn baq ké-ò] nò  
 person beautiful-pl LOC quickly lift carry eat-TNP PS  
 picked up the beautiful ones and quickly carried them away to eat,
- 3 *lónggápā lóngshvgà tiqrvm svng yvn ké-ò nò,*  
 [lónggá-pā lóng-shvgà tiq-rvm svng yvn ké-ò] nò  
 cliff-side rock-cave one-CL(hole) LOC transfer eat-TNP PS  
 (he) took them to a cave which was at the side of a cliff to eat (them),
- 4 *dvbé ké lú:ngà, wā.* (LaPolla & Poa 2001: 50-51)  
 [dv-bé ké lúng-à] wā  
 CAUS-be.gone AVS DIR(begin)-T.PAST HS  
 (and so) there were less people than before, it is said.

- There are also structures that could either be said to be a single clause with multiple predicates or two clauses in a special conjoined relation, as in (9), where there are clearly two actions, but there is only one non-past final particle:

- (9) *Mvmē shvwár mā:nò tór mā:nōē.*  
 mvmē shv-wár mvn-ò tór mvn-ò-ē  
 pretty.much CAUS-hot continue-TNP beat continue-TNP-N.PAST  
 He continued heating it and continued beating it (of someone making a sword).

**Ao. Alternation (or disjunction)**

- Alternation generally involves two alternative clauses in apposition, although one of the two clauses may be reduced, as in (10)-(11). Example (10) seems to be open disjunction, but in (11)-(13) it seems there are only two choices.

(10) *Shóngtòng má? Vwàtòng?* (LaPolla & Poa 2001: 178)

shóng-tòng má vwa-tòng  
wood-plant Q bamboo-plant  
Is it a tree? (Or is it) bamboo?

(11) (3) *Tìmùng, m̄-ínī, Tìnòng rvmè* (LaPolla & Poa 2001: 87)

tì-mùng **mv-í-nī** tì-nòng rvmè  
water-white **NEG-be-if** water-brown river

(3) Timungwang, (or) if not, Tineung River (the White River or the Brown River – the Salween)

(12) *Ngà n̄ paqká m̄-í n̄n̄, wāy aqlým íē.*

ngà n̄ paqká **mv-í nī-n̄**, wāy aq-lým í-ē  
1sg TOP tea **NEG-be if-TOP** wine drink-INF be-N.PAST

'I either drink tea or wine.' (Lit: 'As for me, if it is not tea, then I will drink wine')

(13) *Vmḡmmē wā kèní wēd̄ p̄d̄r̄á mv-sh̄n̄:*

ým-ḡm-ē wā kèní wē-d̄ p̄-d̄-r̄á mv-sh̄n̄-ò  
eat-tasty-N.PAST say from that-ADV thing-ADV-GRP NEG-say-TNP

There is no other way to say that sort of thing aside from “gam”,

*ḡmmē wá d̄ng mvl̄mmē.*

(LaPolla & Poa 2001: 195)

[[ḡm-ē] wá d̄ng [mvl̄m-ē]]  
tasty-N.PAST say only tasty-N.PAST  
(we) just say “it is gam” or “it is maleum”.

- In the second line of (14) the adverb *ḡ* ‘also, still’ is used in both clauses to help highlight the two alternates.

(14) *Rvwàng k̄ kèní n̄, s̄ng gvb̄ mà-gvb̄ wēd̄ gwaq n̄,*

Rvwàng k̄ kèní n̄ [s̄ng gvb̄] [mv-gvb̄] wē-d̄ gwaq n̄  
Rawang that from TOP person big NEG-big that-ADV wide PS

From (the point of view of) the Rawang people, whether a person is big or is not big (doesn't matter), (we only make) one size,

*raq̄ kèní n̄ yà:ngò, ḡ té ḡ mv-tē, wēmō wà yà:ngà wē.* (LaPolla & Poa 2001: 224)

raq-ò kèní n̄ yàng-ò [ḡ té ḡ mv-tē] wē-mō wà yàng-à wē  
weave-TNP from TOP see-TNP **also** big **also** NEG-big that-size make TMyrs-T.PAST NOM  
to see it from (the point of view) of weaving, (it doesn't matter) whether a person is big or is not big, (only) one size is made.

## B. Contrast

- Contrast often involves the same word we saw above glossed as ‘also’, but rather than appearing in the adverbial preverbal position, it appears at the end of the lead-up clause, either alone, as in line 1 of (15), or with *nì* ‘if/when’, as in line 3 of (15).

- 1 (15) *Kà gō shíng shònn yàng gō,*  
 [kà gō shíng shònn yàng] gō  
 word also different say TMyrs **also(although)**  
 Although the words were said differently,
- 2 *tá mū:nò vsà:ngí nō tásháshì yàng.*  
 [[tá mūn-ò vsàng]-í nō tá-shá-shì yàng]  
 hear used.to-TNP person-AGT TOP hear-know-R/M TMyrs  
 a person who got used to it could understand it.
- 3 *Dvmò dvmshà gō, dvgá tiqáng s̀ng dvmshà nìgō,*  
 [dvmò dvmshà gō dvgá tiq-cáng s̀ng dvmshà-ò] n ì-gō  
 Dameu damsha also another one-spirit LOC do.damsha-TNP **if-also**  
 Although the Dameu damsha speech can be made/addressed to other spirits too,
- 4 *wēdāng wēdāng íwē, mvshól tiqỳng s̀ng tvnùng yà:ngà.*  
 [[wē-dāng wē-dāng í-wē mvshól tiq-ỳng] s̀ng tvnùng yàng-à]  
 that-way that-way be-NOM story one-essay/part LOC follow TMyrs-T.PAST  
 one story of how things are is followed (by all the damshas). (LaPolla & Poa 2001: 16)

- Another possibility is to simply have a phrase similar to English *Be that as it may* at the beginning of the second clause to show a contrast, as in line 4 of (16):

- 1 (16) *"Vn̄ng" wā b̀ng gō*  
 [vn̄ng wā b̀ng] gō  
 Anang say name also  
 The name Anang also,
- 2 *ǹmlat gó taq r̄vmshì n̄ngshì daqì gó írvt,*  
 [ǹmlat gó taq r̄vm-shì n̄ng-shì daq-ì gó]<sub>CC</sub> í-**rvt**  
 the.first CL LOC add-R/M accompany-R/M DIR-I.PAST CL **be-because**  
 because (she) is one added to the first born as company,
- 3 *"Vn̄ng" wā b̀ng dènī dèyaq gō wēdōnī lá:ngiē.*  
 [vn̄ng wā b̀ng] dènī dèyaq gō wē-dōnī l̄ng-ì-ē  
 Anang say name today tonight also that-just.like use-1pl-N.PAST  
 the name Anang, in like manner we still use to the present day.

- 4 *Iwē lvngà vlat sv mā vlat yāgóní s̀vng n̄*  
 í-wē [lvngà vlat sv mā vlat yā-gó-ní] s̀vng n̄  
 be-that boy first.born girl first.born this-CL-dl LOC TOP  
 However, these first born boy and first born girl,
- 5 *puqn̄nzā s̀r í g̀vl daq̀à rvt*  
 [[puqn̄n-zā] s̀r í [g̀vl daq̀-à]] rvt  
 womb-sickness while give.birth DIR-T.PAST because  
 because they were born out of womb pain while giving birth,
- 6 *"S̀vngzà Pūng" ǹvng "S̀vngzà N̄vng" wā, t̄ yà:ngà.* (LaPolla & Poa 2001: 41)  
 [[s̀vng-zà pūng ǹvng s̀vng-zà n̄vng] wā] [t̄ yàng-à]  
 people-sick first.male COM people-sick first.female say name TMyrs-T.PAST  
 (They were) called Sangza Pung (human pain first born male) and Sangza Nang (human pain first born female).

- Often the contrast is simply marked by the post-nominal particle *m̀vng* in the focus clause, as in (17). This particle can also mean ‘instead’, and the lead-up clause can be nominalized to emphasize the contrast, as in (18).

(17) *Yāpè n̄ mà-shvlā, k̄pè m̀vng shvlāē.*  
 [yā-pè n̄ m̀v-shvlā] [k̄pè m̀vng shvlā-ē]  
 this-MALE TOP NEG-good that-MALE CONTRAST good-N.PAST  
 This guy is not nice, but that guy is nice.

(18) *Coffee w̄nl̄m ẁng bóngà wē, paqlvp m̀vng w̄n bóngà.*  
 [coffee w̄n-l̄m ẁng bó-ng-à wē] [paqlvp m̀vng w̄n bó-ng-à]  
 coffee buy-INF do-1sg PFV-1sg-T.PAST NOM tealeaves CONTRAST buy PFV-1sg-T.PAST  
 I was going to buy coffee, but bought tea instead.

- A different sort of narrow focus structure can be used in single clauses, or when the topic marker is added at the end of the clause, it can form the lead-up clause of a bi-clausal contrastive structure, as in (19):

(19) *Vd̄ d̄wē dv̄íē n̄, Vpūng n̄ mv-d̄.*  
 [Vd̄ d̄wē dv̄-í-ē] n̄ [Vpūng n̄ mv-d̄]  
 PN go-NOM CFP-be-N.PAST TOP PN TOP NEG-go  
 Vdeu went, not Vpung.

### C. Consequence

- The most common form of consequence marking is the particle *rvt* ‘because, in order to’, which appears at the end of the lead-up clause (whether it is nominalized or not), as in (5), where it appears on a clause nominalized by the infinitive marker to mark a purpose clause, and in lines 2 and 5 of (16), and in (20), where it appears alone to mark causation. The infinitive marker alone, without *rvt* following it, can also have the same purposive



meaning, but it is clearer with *rvt*. The predicate sequencer *nø* can also be added after *rvt* or ... *Ívmrvt* without any change in meaning.

- (20) . . . *d̀vmshà m̀ø-òngà rvt mv-gøp mv-rà:l̀ò*, (LaPolla & Poa 2001: 5)  
 [d̀vmshà m̀ø-í-ng-à] **rvt** [mv-gøp mv-ràl-ò]  
 damsha NEG-be-1sg-T.PAST **because** NEG-cover NEG-think.of-TNP  
 . . . since I am not a damsha, I cannot recall all.

- It is common for a preceding discourse segment to be anaphorically referred to with *wē* ‘that’, and then followed by *rvt* ‘because, in order to’ to introduce the result of the preceding action, as in lines 9 and 11 of (3).
- We also saw in line 4 of (8) that there can be a causative meaning without any overt marker aside from the general clause linker *nø*.
- The comitative *ǹng*, which appears in line 6 of (16) conjoining two noun phrases, appears at the end of the lead-up clause to mark the purpose of the focus clause, as in (21). It can optionally be followed by the locative/allative marker *s̀ng*. The meanings of ... *Ívmrvt* and ... *ǹng(s̀ng)* seem to be the same.

- (21) "*Ló, vǹvm g̀ò ǹng èd̀í*, " *ā:l̀ò ǹø*, (LaPolla & Poa 2001: 29)  
 [[l̀ó vǹvm g̀ò] **ǹng** è-d̀í] v̀l-ò ǹø  
 well(let's) sun call **PURPOSE** N.1-go say-TNP PS  
 “Let’s go to call the sun”, they said, and . . .

- Another common structure for expressing a cause-effect relationship (the reason for what is expressed in the focus clause) is one where the lead-up clause is nominalized by *wē* and generally followed by the topic marker, as in (22). The sense of (22) is that since he is going, there is no need for me to go.

- (22) *àng d̀íwē ǹø, ngà mv-d̀ng*.  
 [àng d̀í-wē] ǹø [ngà mv-d̀í-ng]  
 3sg go-NOM TOP 1sg NEG-go-1sg  
 He's going, (so) I'm not going.

- The type of clause with ‘the more . . . the more’ is also a type of consequence clause. In Rawang the clause juncture marker is *ǹǹø* ‘when, if’, and the contrastive sense is shown by the repeated adverb, as in (23):

- (23) *Té nàh̀øsh̀ì ǹǹø, té èshiqshàǹē*.  
 té è-vh̀ø-sh̀ì ǹì-ǹø té è-shiqshàǹē  
 big N.1-laugh.at-R/M if-TOP big N.1-healthy-N.PAST  
 The more you laugh the healthier you will be.

- Consequence (causation) can also be shown by nominalizing and embedding a clause and making it the agent of the result clause, as in (24):

(24) *Nv̀mb̀òng wà ráì wēí sh̀òngg̀ùng ngaq ráà.*

[[ǹv̀m̀b̀òng wà rá-ì wē]-í sh̀òngg̀ùng ngaq rá-à]  
 wind do DIR-I.PAST NOM-AGT tree knock.over DIR-T.PAST  
 The blowing of the wind knocked the tree over.

### Cp. Possible consequences

- Possible consequence involves a positive or negative clause of what might happen, and an imperative. This is the only clause combination I have found in which the order of clauses is fully reversible.

(25) *Mèwā nī lā dèlāshì rāē!*

[mv-è-wā nī] [lā è-dvlā-shì rā-ē]  
 NEG-N.1-do POL might N.1-have.accident-R/M DIR-N.PAST  
 Don't do that, you might have an accident!

(26) *Vshō zaqdaq má mà-shá, vzūng èlúng atnò.*

[vshō zaq-daq má mà-shá] [vzūng è-lvng at-ò]  
 rain(n.) rain(v.)-DIR Q NEG-know umbrella N.1-hold DIR-TNP  
 We don't know if it might rain, take an umbrella.

### D. Temporal

- The most common way to mark the sense of 'when' an action happened is to nominalize the temporal clause by making it a relative clause with a noun such as *dvgyv* 'period', *rvtò* 'time', or *kvt* ~ *kē* 'moment, time' as the head noun (which is often followed by the adverbial marking clitic *-í*), as in lines 3 and 4 of (3), and also in line 1 of (27) below.
- Another way of expressing a general sense of 'when' or 'as ... (same time)' is to add *nìnō* to the end of the temporal clause, as in line 2 of (27) (this marker is also used for 'if', and derives from *nī* ~ *nì* 'if' plus the topic marker--see (23)).

(27) *Dvtuq daqà kvt,*

dv-tuq daq-à **kvt**  
 CAUS-arrive (bring) down-T.PAST **time**  
 When (the water) was brought down,

*d̀v̀ngch̀èí vz̀v̀ng aq pà:ngò ǹǹǹō, vr̀òng vniq-á:mì, wā.* (LaPolla & Poa 2001: 36)

d̀v̀ngch̀è-í vz̀v̀ng aq p̀v̀ng-ò **ǹí-ǹō** vr̀òng vniq-vm-ì wā  
 goat-AGT first drink start-TNP **if-TOP** horn twisted-DIR-I.PAST HS  
 when the goat first drank it, it's horn became twisted, it was said.

- Inclusion can be marked by placing the word *sórí* or *chàng* between the two clauses, both of which mean 'while' or 'as' (in the sense of 'as he did this, he did that'), as we saw in line 5 of (16), and also in (28)-(29):

- (28) *Ch̀vngz̀ongp̀è n̄, c̀vnsh̀ì s̀or̀ì dvz̀õm b̀vnl̀ì taq,*  
 ch̀vngz̀ong-p̀è n̄ c̀vn-sh̀ì **s̀or̀ì** dvz̀õm b̀vnl̀ì taq  
 changzong-MALE TOP follow-R/M **while/as** serve work LOC  
 Changzong was the first one who learned while

*dvz̀õmsh̀ì wē tiq̀p̀è í yàng.* (LaPolla & Poa 2001: 2-3)  
 dvz̀õm-sh̀ì wē tiq̀p̀è í-yàng  
 serve-R/M NOM one-MALE be-TMyrs  
 giving his service (to the changwa).

- (29) *À:ng̀í kokráms̀v̀ng g̀ongr̀áì chàng*  
 àng-í kok-r̀m-s̀v̀ng g̀ong-r̀á-ì **chàng**  
 3sg-AGT room-inside-LOC enter-come-I.PAST **while/as**

*dvr̀èr̀ì p̀v̀ngt̀òm-s̀v̀ng b̀v̀ng sh̀ĩǹ-ò-ē.*  
 dvr̀è-r̀ì p̀v̀ngt̀òm-s̀v̀ng b̀v̀ng sh̀ĩǹ-ò-ē  
 thing-pl ground-LOC (sound) disperse-TNP-N.PAST  
 'As he entered the room he was throwing things.'

- To achieve the sense of ‘just as (someone did something they did something else)’, the lead-up clause could be nominalized with *wē* and take the comitative marker *-ó*. (e.g. *g̀ongr̀áì wēó* ‘Just as he entered . . .’).
- One action happening ‘after’ another is often expressed by adding the ablative marker *k̀èǹí* after the temporal clause, as in (30) (and in line 1 of (36)).

- (30) *ā-dāng k̀èǹí c̀ā-c̀è dī b̄ k̀èǹí, ā-d̄ vpvt n̄, . . .* (LaPolla & Poa 2001: 275)  
 ā-dāng k̀èǹí c̀ā-c̀è dī b̄ **k̀èǹí** ā-d̄ vpvt n̄  
 this-side from bird-DIM walk PFV **from** this-ADV snap PS  
 After the bird walks in from this side, it snaps (shut) like this, . . .

- *k̀èǹí* can also appear with the sense of ‘before’ in the phrase *dv̄gv̄p k̀èǹí n̄* ‘even before (some time)’:

- (31) *Nà (ḡ) sh̀ĩn̄ m̀è-sh̄q dv̄gv̄p k̀èǹí n̄*  
 [nà ḡ sh̀ĩn̄ mv-è-sh̄q **dv̄gv̄p**] **k̀èǹí n̄**  
 2sg still yet NEG-N.1-be.born **time from even**

*Vd̄ n̄ kolik c̀vnsh̀ì yàng̀ì.*  
 [Vd̄ n̄ kolik c̀vn-sh̀ì yàng̀-ì]  
 Adeu TOP college follow-R/M TMyrs-I.PAST  
 You were not yet even born when Vdeu went to college.'

- Another way of expressing the sense of one action happening after another is to mark the one that is completed with the verb *d̀v̀ng̀ò-ē* ‘finish’ and mark that clause (the lead-up clause) with the adverbial marker:

- (32) . . . *zūdá:ngí, kāpàshī wáràē?* (LaPolla & Poa 2001: 204)  
 [zū-**d́vng**]-**í** [kā-pà-shī wá-rà-ē]  
 plant-**after-ADV** WH-thing-yet do-must-N.PAST  
 . . . after planting, what else do you still have to do?

- Similarly, if one action happened ‘as’ another action happened, then the verb *m̄v̄nòē* ‘continue (something)’ can be added to the temporal clause (in the case of these auxiliary verbs, there is a rule of transitivity harmony, so the transitive verb *m̄v̄nòē* is intransitivized by the reflexive/middle marker to match the transitivity of ‘big (grow)’--see LaPolla 2000 for discussion and examples of this phenomenon):

- (33) *Kūdō kūdō té m̄v̄nshì lú:ngì n̄nō,*  
 [kū-dō kūdō té **m̄v̄n**-shì lúng-ì] **n̄n-ō**  
 that-ADV that-ADV big(grow) **continue**-R/M DIR-I.PAST **if-TOP**  
 As he was growing up (continued to grow up more and more),

- hí wūr nōl gō sūr lú:ngì, wā.* (LaPolla & Poa 2001: 50)  
 [hí wūr nōl gō sūr lúng-ì] wā  
 legs hands nail also grow DIR(begin)-I.PAST HS  
 his finger nails and toe nails began to grow long and pointy, it is said.

- Yet another way of showing one action having been finished before another started is by reduplicating the verb of the lead-up clause (with nasalization of the final consonant of the verb, if there is one), as in (34). The meaning of this structure is roughly synonymous with the structure mentioned above which involves the use of the verb ‘finish’. Both structures are often used in procedural texts in a set of clauses such as “Having done this, and having done this, you do this.”

- (34) *Vpūngí Vdósv̄ng vdimvdipò vhōshìē.*  
 [Vpūng-í Vdó-sv̄ng vdim-vdipò] [vhō-shì-ē]  
 Apung-AGT Adeu-LOC REDUP-hit laugh-R/M-I.PAST  
 After Apung had hit Adeu he laughed.

- An abbreviated clause, such as *Inì(nō)*, or lexical means, such as *m̄p̄v̄ng* ‘after’, both exemplified in line 1 of (35), can be used to show temporal relations as well.

- (35) *Inì bōpbō m̄p̄v̄ng nō, wēlòng rá, nàmaqí nō*  
**í-n̄** bōp-bō **m̄p̄v̄ng** nō wē-lòng rá nà-maq-í nō  
**be-if** rot-PFV **after** TOP that-CL again 2sg-pl-AGT TOP  
 Then after they have fermented, again that thing, you

- dèhòm nòng nò, è, àngchv̄ng èyē nòng ká nō, . . .* (LaPolla & Poa 2001: 141)  
 dv-è-vhòm nòng nò è àng-chv̄ng è-yē nòng ká nō  
 CAUS-N.1-meet 2pl PS eh NFP-CL N.1-flatten 2pl NOM TOP  
 gather them, and flatten them, . . .

### Dc. Conditional

- The conditional is most often marked by adding *nìnǝ* to the end of the lead-up clause, the condition, as in line 1 of (36).
- A different sort of conditional, an ‘only when ...’ type of conditional, formed by adding *wā* ‘only’ after the predicate sequencer *nǝ*, is shown in lines 3-4 of (36).

- 1 (36) *Nvngwà shòng nìnǝ, nvngwà zí-ò kèní mv-shá cáng gǝ lǝ nǝ,*  
 [nvngwà shòng] **n ì-nǝ** [nvngwà zí-ò] kèní [mv-shá-cáng gǝ lǝ] nǝ  
 cow like **if-TOP** cow give-TNP from NEG-know-spirit CL return PS  
 If (the spirit) preferred a cow, after a cow is offered, (then) the unknown spirit would leave,
- 2 *zāgǝ bānlǝm íwē.*  
 [[zā-gǝ bān-lǝm] í-wē]  
 sick-CL get.well-INF be-NOM  
 and the sick person would get well.
- 3 *Shvmè yǝngshì nǝ wā,*  
 shvmè yǝng-shì **nǝ wā**  
 shame.leaf look.at-R/M **PS only**  
 Only when the leaves had manifested the information (only when the leaves had been looked at),
- 4 vsǝng wēgǝ sǝng nú:ngā kǝā yà:ngà. (LaPolla & Poa 2001: 9)  
 vsǝng wē-gǝ sǝng nǝng-ā kǝ-ā yàng-à  
 person that-CL LOC offer-BEN sacrifice-BEN TMyrs-T.PAST  
 would sacrifices be offered for that person.

- The ablative marker *kèní* (‘from’) can also mark conditionals:

- (37) *Wēdǝ wēdǝ gǝ mè-vl daqshà kèní nǝ*  
 [wē-dǝ wē-dǝ gǝ mv-è-vl daq-shà] **kèní nǝ**  
 that-ADV that-ADV also NEG-N.1-say DIR-1plpast **from TOP**  
 If (you) don’t also say this and that to me (if you don’t remind me),

*kàòng zǝngāng lóngò má*  
 kà-òng zǝng-ā-ng lóng-ò má  
 word-CL put.on.record-BEN-1sg DIR-TNP Q  
 what words I should put on record (for you),

- wǝng nǝ vrá vnángò ká lè.* (LaPolla & Poa 2001: 133)  
 [wǝ-ng] nǝ vrá [vnáng-ò ká lè]  
 do(1st.person)-1sg PS again forget-TNP NOM REM  
 in doing it, again, I will forget words (what to say).

- There is also a type of conditional where the lead-up clause simply takes the topic marker, but both clauses are negative, so the sense is ‘Don’t do X until you have done Y’:

(38) *Mâ-ým nǒ mè-dīnī.*

mv-ým nǒ mv-è-dī-nī

NEG-eat TOP NEG-N.1-go-POL

Don't go without eating. (Don't go unless you have eaten.)

### 5. Other functions of clause linking markers

- We saw above in line 6 of (16) that the comitative marker *nǚng* and can be used for linking two noun phrases as well as for linking clauses.
- Several other markers that are mainly post-nominal relational markers, such as the topic marker, the locative markers, as well as the adverbial marker, all mark clauses as well.
- We also saw that the nominalizer *wē* is also used for creating clausal constituents.
- The infinitive marker can be used to simply make simple deverbal nouns, such as the references to clothes, things draped on the body, and earrings in (39):

(39) *Dǚmshà chǚngwàpè nǒ gwálm, pélm, bǚnlǚm*

dǚmshà chǚngwà-pè nǒ [gwá-lǚm pé-lǚm bǚn-lǚm

damsha chief-MALE TOP wear-INF put.on-INF wear(on.ear)-INF

*pǚnrìí, dvgǒ dvcǒpshì dá:ngí,*

pǚn-rì]-í dvgǒ dvcǒp-shì dǚng-í

kind-pl-INST prepare adorn-R/M finish-ADV

After the damsha had prepared and adorned himself by putting on various clothes and earrings.

*jǚngtùng lá:ngò nǒ, àng vdè vyā dāng vzǚng shǒnshì yàng.* (LaPolla & Poa 2001: 11)

jǚng-tùng lǚng-ò nǒ àng vdè vyā dāng vzǚng shǒn-shì yàng

jang-bundle<sup>2</sup> hold-TNP PS 3sg self rank about first tell-R/M TMyrs

he would grab a *jang*-bundle and would first identify or introduce his damsha rank.

- In (40), what looks like a clause linking construction (*wēyǚng kèní*) is used instead for linking noun phrases (cf. Taiwan Mandarin (*ránhòu* 'after that' > 'and')):

(40) *Ngàí wvp yǚngà wē kǎgǒrì,*

[ngà-í wvp yǚng-à wē]<sub>CS</sub> kǎgǒ-rì

I-AGT shoot TMyrs(1stperson)-T.PAST NOM gibbon-pl

I shot gibbons,

*rvshà-rì wē-yǚng kèní waqshǚng waqshǚng,*

rvshà-rì wē-yǚng kèní waqshǚng waqshǚng

monkey-pl that-LOC from boar boar

monkeys, and also boars,

<sup>2</sup>This is a bundle of a special kind of leaf for performing a shaman ritual.

*vzuq vzuq nō kādō ā:lòē?*  
 vzuq vzuq nō kā-dō v̄l-ò-ē  
 goat goat TOP WH-ADV call-TNP-N.PAST  
 goats, how do you call (that)?

*Wēyǎng kèní waqshǎng, vzuq, svrì,*  
**wē-yǎng kèní waqshǎng vzuq svrì**  
**that-LOC from boar goat deer**  
 And then boar, goat, deer,

*wēyǎng kèní wēdǎngtē wā íē.*  
**wē-yǎng kèní wē-dǎngtē wā í-ē**  
**that-LOC from that-much only be-N.PAST**  
 and then that's all.

## 6. Negation

There is only one negator in the language, the verbal prefix *mv-* (with several allomorphs), and it can be used in either the lead-up and/or focus clause of any of the structures we've discussed. There is only one structure, exemplified in (38), where both clauses must be negated.

## 7. Summary

See tables 1 and 2 on the coloured sheet.

### Abbreviations

1pl.PAST	1st person plural past marker	N.PAST	non-past marker
A	actor of a prototypical transitive clause	P	patient of a prototypical transitive clause
AGT	agentive marker	PERF	perfect nominalizer
AVS	adversative marker	PFV	perfective marker
BEN	benefactive suffix	pl	plural
CAUS	causative prefix	PN	proper name
CC	copula complement	POL	polite imperative marker
CL	classifier	PROB	marker of probability
CFP	contrastive prefix	PS	predicate sequence marker
CS	S of a copula clause	Q	question marker
DIR	direction marker	REDUP	reduplicated verb
dl	dual	REM	reminder particle
GRP	marker of a group	R/M	reflexive/middle marker
HS	hearsay marker	S	single direct argument of an intransitive verb
INF	infinitive marker	TMyrs	marker of remote past
IPAST	3rd person intransitive past marker	TOP	topic marker
LOC	locative marker (also used for dative, purpose)	TNP	3rd person transitive non-past marker
N.1	non-1st person actor (in a clause with a speech act participant)	T.PAST	transitive past marker
NFP	noun forming prefix	WH	interrogative pronoun
NOM	nominalizer		

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Semantic type	Markers	Position	Examples
A Addition	apposition <i>nð</i> (predicate sequencer) <i>gð</i> ('also, still')	Ml final Mf preverbal & possibly Ml preverbal also	(3), (9) (3), (6), (8) (3), (7)
Ao Alternative	apposition <i>mð-í-nī-(nð)</i> (NEG-be-if) <i>gð</i> ('also, still')	Ml final L&F preverbal	(10), (13) (11), (12) (14)
B Contrast	<i>nð</i> (topic marker) <i>wē</i> (NOM) <i>(nì)gð</i> ('also, still') <i>m̀vng</i> (contrast marker) <i>í-wē</i> (be-NOM)	Ml final Ml final Ml final Mf postnominal Mf initial	(19) (3) (15) (17), (18) (16)
C Consequence	<i>lvm(rvt)</i> (infinitive) <i>rvt</i> ('because, in order to') <i>nð</i> (predicate sequencer) <i>ǹvng</i> (comitative) <i>wē-(nð)</i> (NOM-TOP) <i>nì(nð)</i> (with repeated adverb) <i>-í</i> (AGT; on nominalized and embedded clause)	Ml final Ml final Ml final Ml final Ml final Ml final Ml final	(4), (5) (3), (16), (20) (8) (21) (22) (23) (24)
Cp Possible Consequence	apposition (with non-real L clause)		(25), (26)
D Temporal	<i>nð</i> (predicate sequencer) <i>kèní</i> (ablative marker) <i>nì(nð)</i> <i>kvt ~ kē / dvgvp / rvtð (-í)</i> <i>sórí</i> ('while/as') <i>chàng</i> ('while/as') <i>wē-(svng)</i> (NOM-LOC) <i>wē-(ó)</i> (NOM-COM) <i>d́vng-í</i> (finish-ADV) reduplication of verb <i>í nī-(nð)</i> (be-if-TOP)	Ml final Ml final Ml final Ml final Ml final Ml final Ml final Ml final Ml Mf initial	(6) (30), (31), (36) (27), (33) (3), (27) (16), (28) (29) (3) (p. 11) (32), (39) (34) (35)
Dc Conditional	<i>nð</i> (topic marker) <i>kèní</i> (ablative marker) <i>nì(nð)</i> <i>nð-wā</i> (PS-ADV; 'only when')	Ml final Ml final Ml final Ml final	(38) (37) (36) (36)

Table 1: Summary by semantic type

Marker/Structure	Semantic type	Examples
apposition	Addition	(3), (9)
	Alternative	(10), (13)
	Possible Consequence	(25), (26)
<i>n̄</i> (topic marker)	Contrast	(19)
	Conditional	(38)
	topic of clause	e.g. (17)
<i>n̄</i> (predicate sequencer)	Addition	(3), (6), (8)
	Temporal	(6)
	Conditional	(36)
	Consequence	(8)
<i>kèní</i> (ablative marker)	Temporal	(30), (31), (36)
	Conditional	(37)
<i>wē</i> (general nominalizer)	Contrast	(3), (16)
	Consequence	(22)
	Temporal	(3)
<i>lím</i> (infinitive)	Purpose	(4), (5)
	create deverbal nouns	(40)
<i>nì(n̄)</i>	Conditional	(36)
	Temporal	(27), (33)
	Consequence	(23)
<i>rvt</i>	Consequence	(3), (16), (20)
	(following INF) Purpose	(4)
<i>(nì)ḡ</i>	Contrast	(15)
	Addition	(3), (7)
	Alternation	(14)
<i>m̄-í-n̄</i> (NEG-be-if)	Alternation	(11), (12)
<i>í n̄</i> (be-if-TOP)	Temporal	(35)
reduplication of verb	Temporal	(34)
<i>n̄ng</i>	Consequence	(21)
	comitative marker	(16)
- <i>í</i> (AGT, ADV, INST)	Consequence	(24)
	Temporal (after <i>dýng</i> )	(32), (39)
	argument of clause	e.g. (1), (2), (39)

Table 2: Summary by marker