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Two types of temporal adverbial clauses in Cantonese Ka-Fai Yip

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Background

The typology of adverbial clauses

- Central adverbial clauses (CACs) E.g. temporal when, while
- Peripheral adverbial clauses (PACs) E.g. concessive while

Internal-external correlation

- □ Haegeman (2010): Int.: + Operator movement
 - Ext.: ± Subordination
- □ Endo & Haegeman (2019): Int.: Uniform OP mvt. with diff. launching sites Ext.: Attachment sites match with OP sites

Two types of TACs in Cantonese

- Hai 'at, when'
- □ Dona 'when, while'
- □ Temporal adverbial clauses (TACs) only
- □ Differ in both internal & external syntax

Proposal

- TACs are not uniformly derived by operator movement
 - Only hai-TACs involve OP movement, but not dong-TACs
- Operator merge site determines internal and external syntax
- ☐ Internal: Merge at TP → move to CP vs. Merge at CP → stay in-situ

Dong-TAC (CP operator)

- □ External: Structural matching effects
- Merge at TP
 - → The whole TAC attaches to TP
- Merge at CP
 - → The whole TAC attaches to CP

Implications

- Finer typology of adverbial clauses
- The significance of operator site
- Operator merge site determines the external syntax through labeling?

Hai-TAC

(TP operator)

External syntax

▶ Hai-TAC

- Attaches to TP
- Allows a post-subject position
- Allows reconstruction for binding by matrix subjects (handout)
- (6) Aaming [hai [Aafan fan-gan gaaul gozanl lai wan keoi Ming at Fan sleep-PROG nap that.time come find 3SG 'Ming came find Fan when she was sleeping.'

Dona-TACs

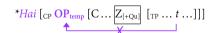
- Attaches to CP
- Must occur at a pre-subject position
- □ Disallows reconstruction for binding by matrix subj. (handout)
- (7) *Aaming [dong [Aafan fan-gan gaau] gozan] lai wan keoi Ming while Fan sleep-PROG nap that.time come find 3SG 'Ming came find Fan while she was sleeping.'

Internal syntax

- High-low ambiguity (also attested in English when-clause, cf. Geis 1970, Larson 1987)
- ▶ Hai-TACs
 - allows long-distance low reading
- ☐ The low reading will be blocked by islands (handout)
- (1) Hai [CP OP temp [TP Maangaajan thigh jyujin [CP saigaai thow wui waimit]] gozan, ngo zung saangngaungau. Maya.ppl. foretell world will destroy that.time 1SG still alive i. #'I'm still alive at the time when Maya people made the apocalyptic prophecy.' (high reading)
- ii. 'I'm still alive at the time when Maya people predicted to be the end of the world.' (low reading)
- Dong-TACs
 - □ disallows long-distance low reading → temporal operator directly merges to the highest CP
- (2) #Dong [CP OPtemp [TP Maangaajan jyujin [CP saigaai wui waimit]] gozan, ngo zung saangngaungau. Maya.ppl. foretell world will destroy that.time 1SG still alive #'I'm still alive at the time when Maya people made the apocalyptic prophecy.' (only high reading)
- A note on English while-clause
- □ No low reading (Larson 1990:174), as opposed to when-clause → no OP movement? (contra. Haegeman 2010)
- (3) I didn't see Mary in New York [PP while [CP1 she said [CP2 she was there]]]

- Minimality effects (Rizzi 2001, 2004)

 - □ Feature-based Relativized Minimality (RM) [Qu] ... [Qu



 $Dong \left[_{CP} OP_{temp} \left[C \dots \overline{Z_{[+Qu]}} \left[_{TP} \dots \right] \right] \right]$

▶ Hai-TACs

Subi

- □ Disruption by high Ou-elements (>TP) e.g. cleft focus, epistemic modal, etc.
- Low reading blocked by low Qu-elements e.g. negation, deontic modal, etc.

Dona-TACs

- In-situ operator → no movement
- No disruption by Qu-elements
- Existence of OP_{temp}: Temporal agreement with converbal haa, which also shows RM (handout)
- (4) Camjat {*hai/dong} [hai-Aaming fangaau] gozan, lousi zau faatnau. vesterday at while be-Ming sleep that.time teacher then become.mad 'The teacher became mad {*when/while} it was MING (but not someone else) that fell asleep.'
- (5) Hai [CP OPtemp Maangaajan [TP thigh hoji peo] jyujin [CP tlow saigaai wui waimit]] gozan Maya.ppl. can foretell world will destroy that.time 'At the time when Maya people could make the apocalyptic prophecy.' (only high reading)