

A Brief Sketch of Cua Clause Structure

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1. Major Clause Type
2. Minor Clause Types
3. Clause Variants Caused by Emphasis

1. The major clause type in the Cua (Kol) language ¹ is an independent clause consisting of two obligatory tagmemes, subject and predicate, such as *Dô hooy*. 'Dô goes'. This minimal clause may be expanded by additional tagmemes, usually one or two in any clause.

1.1 The tagmemes, in their normal order, are :

I - instrument, T - time, S - subject, P - predicate, O - object, D - destination. This may be symbolized as :

$$\pm I \pm T + S + P \pm O \pm D$$

The filler of the destination tagmeme is conditioned by the class of verb in the predicate slot. Most transitive verbs will take a destination tagmeme marked by either *ka-*, an affix of location, or *ma-*, an affix of movement. Some intransitive verbs will take a destination marked by either affix, but some intransitive verbs are restricted to one or the other of the affixes.

1.2 The instrument tagmeme is filled by words such as : *jôk* 'foot', *siah* 'knife', *dol* 'chopsticks', or noun phrases such as *siah yoot aneq* 'knife long this'.

1. Cua (or Kol) is a Mon-Khmer mountain language of Central Vietnam, spoken in the Trà Bồng area of Quảng Ngãi province. This analysis is based on about 6 months' fieldwork. The specific data analyzed was primarily tape-recorded narrative.

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siah gô koh ot 'knife I hit him'

siah yort aneq gô koh ot 'knife long this I hit him'

1.3 The time tagmeme is filled by time words such as : *janeq* 'now', *adrooy* 'before', *têq* 'after', or time phrases such as : *hngury tadrh* 'tomorrow', *dong mel* 'early', *siiq adrooy* 'a long time before.'

janeq gô suq mahnhr. 'now I return home.'

hngury tadrh gô suq mahnhr. 'tomorrow I return home.'

1.4 The subject tagmeme is filled by nouns such as : *so* 'dog', *Madê* 'person's name', *kadri* 'woman' ; by pronouns such as : *go* 'I', *êp* 'you', *ni* 'he' ; by noun phrases such as : *oh kanau* 'young boy', *muy dro oh kadri* 'one classifier young girl.'

A noun or noun phrase is usually followed by a pronoun.

Madê suq mahnhr. 'Madê goes home.'

Madê may suq mahnhr. 'Madê you go home.'

gô suq mahnhr. 'I go home.'

oh kanau suq mahnhr. 'young boy goes home.'

oh kanau ni suq mahnhr. 'young boy he goes home.'

1.5 The predicate tagmeme is filled with transitive verbs such as : *sok* 'to get', *hmot* 'to fight', *doorp* 'to work', and intransitive verbs such as : *hooy* 'to go', *bik* 'to sleep', *ahra* 'to toss while sleeping'. All verbs may take auxiliaries such as : *sung* 'to want', *pago* 'together with'.

gô sung sok daak. 'I want to get water.'

wot pago hooy tok. 'We together go go-up.'

1.6 The object tagmeme is filled by nouns such as : *daak* 'water', *pâng* 'rice', *kadri* 'woman', and by noun phrases such as : *oh kadri anrq* 'young girl there', *muy dro manih* 'one classifier person'.

gô sa pâng. 'I eat rice.'

gô hloq oh kadri anrq. 'I see young girl there.'

1.7 The destination tageme is filled by nouns such as : *vaq* 'father', *vua* 'king', *daak* 'water' ; by personal pronouns such as : *gô* 'I', *ep* 'you', *ni* 'he' ; and by demonstrative pronouns such as : *hø* 'there (close by)', *lø* 'there (far away)', *ding* 'here'. Transitive verbs can take either the destination prefix *ka* - or the directional prefix *ma*-.

- gô adrâk daak mavaq.* 'I carry water dir. father.'
gô adrâk daak kavaq. 'I carry water dest. father.'
gô adrâk daak mamaay. 'I carry water dir. you.'
gô adrâk daak kamaay. 'I carry water dest. you.'
gô adrâk daak malo. 'I carry water dir. there.'
gô adrâk daak ka'or. 'I carry water dest. there.'

Intransitive verbs of motion such as *jarook* 'run', *suq* 'return', *klêh* 'to fall' can take either a *ka-* or *ma-* prefix.

- gô hooy magôk.* 'I go dir. forest'.
gô hooy kagôk. 'I go dest. forest'.
gô hooy mamaay. 'I go dir. you'.
gô hooy kamaay. 'I go dest. you'.
gô hooy malo. 'I go dir. there'.
gô hooy kalo. 'I go dest. there'.

Intransitive verbs of emotion such as *yôq*, 'fear', *nhim* 'cry', *garon* 'angry', take only a *ka-* prefix.

- gô yôq kamanih.* 'I fear person.'
gô yôq kamaay. 'I fear you.'
gô yôq kalo. 'I fear there.'

Intransitive verbs such as *mut* 'enter', *hôôp* 'bathe' take only a *ma-* prefix, and will not take a personal pronoun.

- gô hôôp madaak.* 'I bathe water (river).'
gô hôôp malo. 'I bathe there.'

2. The minor clause types are classified as equative, fused and quotation introduction.

2.1 The equational clause is filled by *ni* 'he, she, it' plus *e* 'be' plus noun phrase.

- ni e jon.* 'there is a countryman.'
ni e jon anurq. 'there is a countryman there.'

2.2 The fused clause is identical to the transitive clause except at the object of the first predicate is simultaneously the subject of a cond predicate.

S — P₁ — O/S — P₂

- gô hloq Madê sa.* 'I see Madê is eating.'

If there is a destination tagmeme marked by the prefix *ka-* following the object of the main clause, it becomes the subject of the second predicate.

S — P₁ — O — D/S — P₂
maay am ka kagô sa. 'you give fish for me to eat.'

2.3 The quotation introduction clause is a dependent clause consisting of an obligatory subject and predicate plus an optional *ji* with noun phrase.

S P (ji NP)
ni sanoh. 'he said.'
ni sanoh ji kadri. 'he said to the woman.'
ni sanoh ji oh kadri anurq. 'he said to the young woman there.'

3. The subject, object and destination tagmemes may be emphasized by repetition.

3.1 The subject tagmeme normally consists of a single pronoun, or of a noun phrase followed by a pronoun. The pronoun may be emphasized by repeating it at the end of the clause. The noun phrase may be emphasized by adding a pronoun before as well as after it. The pronoun may be repeated a third time at the end of the clause.

Normal : *maay pah so.* 'you hit the dog.'
Madê maay pah so. 'Madê you hit the dog.'
 Emphasized : *maay pah so maay.* 'you hit the dog you.'
maay Madê maay pah so. 'you Madê you hit the dog.'
maay Madê maay pah so maay. 'you Madê you hit the dog you.'

3.2 The object may be emphasized by putting it before the subject as well as in its normal position after the predicate.

Normal : *ô klât am daak kamanih.* 'the snake gives water to the man.'
 Emphasized : *daak ô klât am daak kamanih.* 'water the snake gives water to the man.'

3.3 The destination tagmeme may be emphasized by adding it again before the subject, without its affix.

Normal : *ô klât am daak kani.* 'The snake gives water to him.'
gô hooy malô. 'I go there.'
 Emphasized : *ni ô klât am daak kani.* 'him the snake gives water to him.'
lô gô hooy malô. 'there I go there.'

