First Position Clitics in Northwest Sahaptin

Sharon Hargus
Univ. of Washington

Virginia Beavert
Yakama Nation and
University of Oregon
2008 Ken Hale Prize recipient

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Overview

- Previous descriptions of Sahaptin pronominal clitics
  - Mostly second position, one possible in first position
- Ellen Saluskin’s texts
  - Larger inventory of first position clitics
- Two possible analyses will be suggested
Thanks to our funders

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Fig. 1. Distribution of Sahaptin dialects and dialect clusters. Northern Sahaptin (Northwest cluster): 1, Klikitat; 2, Taitnapam (Upper Cowlitz); 3, Upper Nisqually (Mishapam), Yakima, Pshwanwapam; (Northeast cluster): 6, Wanapam; 7, Palouse; 8, Lower Snake (Chamnapam, Wauyukma, and Naxiyapam); 9, Walla Walla (Waluulapam); Southern Sahaptin (Columbia River cluster): 10, Umatilla; 11, Rock Creek; 12, John Day; 13, Celilo (Wayampam); 14, Tenino; 15, Tygh Valley (Johnson 1993; Coe, Snow, and Benson 1986).

Xápt’íniks Sawyalílx (Ellen Saluskin)
Ellen Saluskin text corpus

- Current study based on
  - 11 texts
  - recording length: 06:23:18
  - manuscript length (3-line interlinear glossed text): 548 pp.
  - genres: legend (1), autobiographical (2), local history/culture (8)

- More texts in various stages of completion
Sahaptin clitics

- Pronominal clitics
- Modal enclitics
- “...the sequence of clitics is =xi [‘too’], =tya [‘rather’], =xa[sh] [‘probably’], the pronouns, the remaining modals...” (Jacobs 1931: 128)

Pronominal clitic inventory

• nash, =Vsh 1SG
• na 1PL.INCL
• tash, natash 1PL.EXCL
• nam, =Vm 2SG
• pam 2PL
• mash 1SG>2SG, 2SG.POSS
• matash 1>2 (1 and/or 2 is plural), 2PL.POSS
• pat 3PL
Properties of Sahaptin pronominal clitics

- Syntactic position
- Phonological dependence
1. Syntactic position

- “In normal rapid speech the most frequent position is as enclitic to some connective or adverb...”

  áw=nash ítɬ’yawi-ta ‘now he will kill me’
  now=1SG  kill-FUT
  now  me  will.kill (Jacobs 1931:127)

- “Where the phrase or sentence is merely the verb itself, no connective or other word appearing, the enclitic pronoun normally attaches to its verb”

  i-k’ínu-na=ash ‘he saw me’
  3SG-see-PST=1SG
  he.saw  me (Jacobs 1931:127)
• “first and second person are represented in a sentence by pronominal enclitics, special forms that appear as the second element in a sentence” (Jansen 2010: 74)

• “Clitics follow the first word of the sentence, regardless of what that word is... the clitic is always in the second position in the sentence” (Jansen 2010: 78)

NW Sahaptin pat 3PL

- “third-person plural subject with third-person object” (Rigsby and Rude 1996: 675); “used with human A[animate] and human or animate O[bject]” (Jansen and Beavert 2012)
- Dialect variation noted by Rigsby and Rude
  - Northwest Sahaptin =pat + á- ~ áw- verb prefix
  - Northeast Sahaptin pa’á-
  - Umatilla patá- ~ patáw-
    - “…the Umatilla patá- ~ patáw- prefix has resulted from the fusing of the older enclitic =pat and the á- ~ áw- prefix into a new unitary prefix…”

pat 3PL position

- Attested in first position
  
  **Pat** awkú á-shyak-a.

  **3PL** then 3O-scout-PST

  **they** then **scouted.for.him**

  ‘they [Prairie Chickens] scouted for him [Coyote]’

  (Jansen and Beavert 2012)
2. Phonological dependence

- “attachment is to the first word in a clause...[C]litics are always pronounced as part of the word to which they are attached...” (Rigsby and Rude 1996: 672)
- “…in slow speech...they may be rendered either...as independent words, or...as quasi-proclitics. Thus in normal rapid speech:

  awkúuk=pat áw-(i)n-a ‘then they told him’
  \(\text{then}=3\text{PL}\ \ \text{OBV-say-PST}\)
  \(\text{then} \ \text{they} \ \text{told} \ \text{him}\)

In slower, hesitant speech:

  awkúuk \(\text{pat-ˈáwna}\)  

(Jacobs 1931: 128)
Pause before clitic

Ellen Saluskin

Áw, nash= íkwaal áak sínwi.

now 1SG= that.long that talk

now I that.long that talk

‘Now I have talked that long [about that].’
Clitics in Ellen Saluskin texts

• Some in first, not second syntactic position
  – not just **pat**

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• First position clitics are proclitic, not enclitic
The boy got dressed up in his regalia.

When you see the sky, all those beautiful colors appear [in the west].
nash 1SG

Kushyúk i-kwíita-sha=ya, íkush shíx.
normal 3SG-walk-IPFV=actually thus well
normal she’s.actually.walking thus well
‘She was walking normally.’

Nash= áw-n-a, “áw=nash páyu wáayawi-sha.
1SG= OBV-say-PST now=1SG very be.poor-IPFV
I told.her now.I very am.poor
‘I told her, “I’m very short of money now.’
‘Then they brought back, they went to pick those [blueberries]. Then we spent the night and another day there at the summit.’
Then when ours [dog salmon] was dried, they would come and get us from home with a wagon.
I took it to them and told them, taste this. You can eat it but if you don’t want all of it, I’ll take it home.” “Oh, let’s taste it.”

Spiritual teaching: 23
She was walking towards me.

White people were stopping her and greeting her.
How common are first position clitics?

- following Pintzuk 1999

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<td>33</td>
<td>81.2%</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>12.7%</td>
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Which pronominal clitics occur in first position?

- nash, =Vsh 1SG
- na 1PL inclusive
- tash, natash 1PL exclusive
- nam, =Vm 2SG
- pam 2PL
- mash 1SG>2SG, 2SG.POSS
- matash 1>2 (1 and/or 2 is plural), 2PL.POSS
- pat 3PL
When he names the salmon then we eat it, putting it in our mouths.
Clitic placement

- Usual analytic pieces
  - syntactic rule for placement
  - phonology-triggered adjustment
Prosodic inversion

• Typical pattern (e.g. Serbo-Croatian, Homeric Greek)
  – Clitics placed at L edge of syntactic phrase (a.)
    \[ [X_P = \text{clitic} \ X \ Y \ Z ] \]
  – Invert to 2\textsuperscript{nd} position when no suitable host to left (b.) (Taylor 1990) or when clitic is “prosodically deficient” (Hale 1996)
    \[ [X_P \ X = \text{clitic} \ Y \ Z ] \]

What is the rule for clitic placement?

• For ES
  – First position placement by syntax [__
  – Obligatory inversion to 2P if phonologically light (CV)
  – Otherwise optional inversion (but 98% rate of application)

• Alternatively
  – Second position placement by syntax [X __
  – Optional inversion to sentence-initial position if phonologically heavy (CVC)
Related phenomena

• The minimal phonological word in Sahaptin is CCV or CVC (Hargus and Beavert 2006).

wá/wásh ‘be, have’ allomorphy

“If the subject of the sentence is first or second person (‘I, we, you’) [and if]...the copula is first in the sentence, a special form (wash) is used, followed by the clitic.”
Jansen 2010: 115

"Wásh=mash kúyx k'úsí-'?"
have=2SG.POSS white horse-Q
have you white horse?
"Do you have a white horse?" (Beavert and Hargus 2010)

For further investigation

1. Are predictions born out? (**matash** = possible, but *na* = )

2. What is role of biconsonantal minimality in first position clitics?
   First position clitics always followed by CVC or longer word (never by CV).
   But sentence-initial CV (**ku** ‘then, and’) widespread.

3. What is/was special about **pat**?
4. “Second position” itself needs refinement

“Third position”

Chípshi-sha mísh=nam txána-sha awkú.
vomit-IPFV somehow=2SG become=IPFV then
are.vomiting somehow you are.becoming then

“You’ll start vomiting.”

“First position (the word order slot defined by the second-position enclitics) highlights or topicalizes.”

(Rigsby Rude 675)
Áw=nash  goodtime-i-sha.
now=1SG -V-IPFV
now.l  having.good.time
“I’m having a good time.”

Íkw’ak i-wá  chilwít íkwnimk=pam.
that  3SG-be bad  that.ERG=2PL
that  it.isbad  that  you pl.
‘That will do something bad to you (pl.).’

Íchayk-ani-ta kw’áxi íkuuni  imiinanák pxwí-t...
ruin-APPL-FUT  again  that.ALL  2DU.ACC  think.GER
will.ruin.one’s  again  that  your.du.  thought
‘That’s what will interfere with your (du.) happiness...

Wedding song: 6
Conclusions

• In ES texts, larger inventory of first position clitics than previously reported for any Sahaptin dialect.
• The majority of clitics appear in second position.
• Two analyses suggested
A CD (of Virginia) is available for $15. See
www.northwestheritageresources.org