The Klallam language has a set of demonstrative determiners composed of small phonological units marking notions of specific, non-specific, definite, feminine, invisible, proximal, and distal. This note updates and expands upon the componential analysis provided by Thompson and Thompson 1971.

1 Introduction

The demonstratives in Klallam usually function as determiners. However, most of them can also stand alone as demonstrative pronouns. As determiners, they are a required specifier preceding any non-predicative noun. As demonstrative pronouns, they may occur in any position a noun can in a sentence—subject, direct object or prepositional object—but do not themselves occur with a demonstrative and, unlike nouns and focus pronouns (such as ?əc '1', nək:ʷ 'you'), they are never predicative.

Thompson and Thompson (1971:265-266) provide a detailed componential analysis of the Klallam demonstrative system. They identify eleven basic elements (finals -i, -ə, -anu, -ayə, -iʔə, and initials č-, c-, kʷ-, t-, t- , -s-) that can combine to form 46 observed demonstratives in two categories: basic and emphatic. The tables in (1) are modified reproductions of the tables in Thompson and Thompson (1971:266).

(1a) Basic demonstrative determiners (adapted from Thompson and Thompson 1971)

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This paper has benefited greatly from the help of Klallam elders Adeline Smith and Bea Charles and their (great-)great-grand-niece, Wendy Sampson, who, when asked by an archeologist if Klallam was like Eskimo with a hundred words for 'snow' said, "No, but it's got a hundred words for 'the'!" Ivy Doak's suggestions and comments have made this better than it would have been.
Emphatic demonstratives (adapted from Thompson and Thompson 1971)

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In the charts (1) I have put in boldface the demonstratives that I have observed. I have also observed the three items in italics, which do not appear in the Thompsons' list. The item tiə, in parentheses, is my observation corresponding to the item next to it recorded by the Thompsons. Native speakers will accept a glottal stop between the two vowels, but never produce it. Also, I have observed that stress is variable and fairly even on the vowels of the demonstratives shown in (1b). None of these items carry phrase or sentence level stress, therefore, I do not mark stress on them.

Several factors may contribute to the differences in observations. The Thompsons were working with speakers in the 1960's that were 15 to 20 years older than the speakers I have worked with 20 to 30 years later. They certainly spoke an older and richer variety of Klallam. Furthermore, the speakers they worked with were also speakers of the easternmost Klallam dialects, while the speakers I have worked with speak the westernmost Klallam dialects. Certainly another possible reason for the discrepancy is simply limitations of the corpus. I have tried eliciting all of the items in the Thompsons' list, but the semantic/pragmatic vagueness of the distinctions (see below) make clear judgments difficult.

One set of differences is due to an important phonological difference between the eastern and western dialects. The western dialects tend to delete all unstressed schwas. Among the younger native speakers this deletion is obligatory even in citation forms. For the older speakers the deletion occurs in all but the most careful speech. For the speakers I have worked with, the bare consonant forms (t, kʷ, etc.) are variants of the forms with schwa (tə, kʷə, etc.).

The twenty-five demonstratives that I have observed encode combinations of seven features of meaning: specific, feminine, invisible, non-specific, far, near, and definite. While any of the demonstratives (except the non-specific) may function as either determiner or demonstrative pronoun, the definite ones are much more likely to occur alone in a pronominal function. The table in (2) lists all of the Klallam demonstratives that I have observed and shows their component meanings. In the following sections I present a more detailed discussion and exemplification of each of the semantic parameters.
(2) Meaning components of observed Klallam demonstratives

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2 Specific and non-specific

By ‘specific’ and ‘non-specific’ I intend the difference between the two readings of English indefmites like (3):

(3) I’m looking for a deer.

In the specific reading there is a particular deer, say Bambi, that I am looking for. In the non-specific reading I will be happy to find any deer. Von Helsing (2002) likes the test in English of inserting ‘certain’ after the ‘a’ to fix the specific reading. In either reading of (3) a deer is being introduced as a new discourse referent. This is opposed to ‘definite’ which requires a previous pragmatic instantiation as in ‘I’m looking for the deer.’ In English both the readings of (3) are indefinite. In Klallam, the specific demonstratives are neither definite nor indefinite.
The ‘specific’ set of Klallam demonstratives specify a particular, though not necessarily definite, referent. In (4), for example, the English translation with the indefinite ‘a’ shows that the referent is not definite. Although the speaker is referring to a specific deer, it is not necessarily a definite deer—not one that has been previously referred to or known from context. The fact that either translation is good shows that definiteness is not part of the semantics of this demonstrative.

(4) nəsqáčaʔ cə húʔpt.
my catch SP deer
‘I caught a deer.’ or ‘I caught the deer.’

(5) níł suʔliʔwənəxʷs cə siʔámí swáʔyaʔ.
then they see SP rich man
‘Then they saw a rich man.’

Example (5) also shows that cə is specific but not definite. This sentence is from a story about two girls, who look up from collecting feathers to see a strange man who is obviously rich. The man is a new, specific character, previously unknown and unexpected in the discourse. The English translation of (5) in its original context must use the specific indefinite ‘a’. When (5) was presented to native speakers out of context, the first translation they give is with the definite article, ‘then he saw the rich man.’ When asked about it, they confirm that either the definite or indefinite translation is good.

The ‘non-specific’ forms all end in /i/. Consistent with their ‘non-specific’ semantics, these forms never stand alone as pronominals; they must be followed by a noun or complement clause. They indicate an explicitly non-specific referent. Compare (6) and (7).

(6) nəsx̣éʔ cə tálə.
I want SP money
‘I want the/that money.’

(7) nəsx̣éʔ či tálə.
I want NS money
‘I want money.’

In (6) the cə precedes a noun with a specific referent, while in (7) the noun following či is not specific.

Examples (8) and (9) are from stories whose contexts show the non-specific use of či.

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2 The following abbreviations are used in examples: SP = specific, NS = non-specific, FE = feminine, IN = invisible, FA = far, NE = near, DE = definite, OBL = oblique object, POS = possessive, APP = apparently, NOM = nominalizer, NEG = negative, CONJ = conjunction, INFORM = informative, SIM = similar, DEM = demonstrative.
seeking OBL NS flounder CONJ nothing
‘He was looking for a flounder, but there were none.’

(9) xiyaʔani cə stixʷaʔcʔə aʔʔ ci swáyʔaʔ?
seek SP octopus OBL NS man
‘Octopus looked for a husband.’

In (8) Mink’s sister had sent him out to get a flounder so she could make a
meal. The cí is used here before a noun with a clearly non-specific
referent. Example (9), from a different story, shows two nouns. Octopus,
the main character of the story, is specific and marked with the cə ‘specific’
demonstrative. The second noun, swáyʔaʔ?, has no specific referent in the
context of the story. This is, in fact, the first sentence of the story, which
continues describing Octopus’s walking and searching for someone willing to
be her husband. As the story develops, Octopus finds Mink, ties him up, then:

(10) xiyaʔani aʔʔ ci sʔiʔən-sʔətístxʷ cə xáwəs swáyʔaʔ-s.
seek OBL NS food-3POS feed SP new man-3POS
‘She looked for food to feed her new husband.’

In (10) the food Octopus seeks is non-specific, but now she has found
herself a husband, so the specific cə is used in reference to him.

Note also that in this context that stíxʷaʔcʔə ‘octopus’ is a proper
name, referring to a definite, specific individual, well known in traditional
Klallam stories. In Klallam, proper names, just as all other nouns, must be
preceded by a determiner when they are subject or direct object. In (11),
ʔətʔutl, a legendary Klallam heroine, is the subject and marked with the
specific, feminine, invisible determiner.

(11) níʔ ci suʔxənəʔsu kʷətə ?ətʔutl, “xáytxʷəl”
it is APP is told IN.SP.FE do it again
‘So then ?ətʔutl told them, “Do it again!”’

Following the oblique object marker, the preposition aʔʔ, a proper
name is sometimes preceded by a determiner and sometimes not. There are
two examples in (12) that show a proper name preceded by a determiner
following the preposition. (13) shows three examples where there is no
determiner before the proper name.

(12) a. kʷánəʔət txʷʔúxʷ aʔʔ cə slapúʔ?
run go toward OBL SP
‘He ran toward Slapúʔ (the witch).’

b. ʔánəl cə ná̱nəʔənʔəʔ aʔʔ cə náwə.
comply SP his children OBL SP Noah
‘His children obeyed Noah.’

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The determiner is absent when the proper name is a passive agent as in (13a) and (13b) and when it is a possessor as in (13c). Example (10) also shows that it is the semantics, not the presence of the possessive morphology, that determines whether ci or cə is used. In (10) both nouns have the -s third person possessive suffix. The presence of a possessive form with ci renders the sentence ungrammatical only when a non-specific reading is impossible. Compare (14a) and (14b).

(14) a. ɬiyáʔt  cn  kwsə nə-swóyqaʔ.
    seeking him I IN.SP 1POS-man
     ‘I’m looking for my husband.’

b. * ɬiyáʔt  cn  cɨ nəswóyqaʔ.

Example (14a) is good since it has kwsə, the ‘invisible, specific’ determiner and the noun is specific. (14b) fails because it has the non-specific ci with a noun meaning ‘my husband’, which can only have a specific interpretation. Examples (15a, b) are the same as (14a, b) without the possessive prefix.

(15) a. ɬiyáʔt  cn  kwsə swóyqaʔ.
    seeking him I IN.SP man
     ‘I’m looking for a/the/that man.’

b. ɬiyáʔt  cn  cɨ swóyqaʔ.
    seeking him I NS man
     ‘I’m looking for a man.’

Both (15a) and (15b) are acceptable and both can be translated ‘I’m looking for a man.’ The difference is that in (15a) there is a specific man being looked for, while in (15b) the man is non-specific. (15b) implies as in (9) that the speaker is looking for a husband, while no such implication is present in (15a).

In some sentences where a noun would seem to have a required specific reference, the non-specific determiner is used. In such cases the use of the non-specific determiner indicates that the speaker is being indirect or evasive. In (16), for example, swóyqaʔ must have a specific referent.
because of the subject and the semantics of the main predicate. If ‘I see him,’ he must be specific.

(16)  \[k^w\,\&\,n\,n\,x\,w\,  c\,i\,  s\,w\,\acute{\,y\,}q\,a\,?\].
      see him   I   NS  man
      ‘I saw a/the man.’

The native speaker’s comment about this sentence was “it’s not said outright like.” The use of the non-specific determiner here indicates that the speaker is being slightly evasive. Example (17) is similar.

(17)  \[k^w\,\&\,n\,n\,x\,w\,  k\,\imath\,i\,  s\,w\,\acute{\,y\,}q\,a\,?\,y\,a\,?\].
      see him   I   IN.NS  man   PAST
      ‘I saw a/the (late) man.’

Example (17) has the ‘invisible’ non-specific determiner and the noun is marked past tense. Again, \(s\,w\,\acute{\,y\,}q\,a\,?\) must have a specific referent. The comment from the native speaker about this sentence was “it’s like you can’t mention his name; it’s like he’s dead.” Here the non-specific determiner is used in response to the traditional taboo against directly mentioning or specifying a recently deceased individual.

The most common use of the non-specific determiners, especially \(c\,i\) and \(k\,\imath\,i\), is to introduce a sentential complement clause. In this function the determiner is followed by a nominalized verb with a subjective genitive. This is shown in (18a).

(18)  a.  \[n\,\&\,s\,\acute{\,}x\,?\,  c\,i\,  n\,\&\,-s\,-h\,i\,y\,?\].
       I want  NS  IPOS-NOM-go
       ‘I want to go.’
   b.  *\[n\,\&\,s\,\acute{\,}x\,?\,  c\,\imath\,  n\,\&\,-s\,-h\,i\,y\,?\].

When a specific reading is impossible, as with \(n\,\&\,s\,\acute{\,}h\,i\,y\,?\) in (18), which cannot refer to a specific instance of ‘going’, the sentence is unacceptable with the specific determiner \(c\,\imath\) in place of the non-specific \(c\,i\) as in (18b).

Example (19a) shows the typical non-specific reading with a noun, \(s\,\&\,i\,\&\,n\) ‘food’, preceded by the \(c\,i\) non-specific determiner. In (19b) the noun has the first person possessive prefix making the noun specific and is preceded, as in (14), by a specific determiner. In (19c) the \(c\,i\) determiner forces a non-specific, sentential complement interpretation of \(n\,\&\,s\,\acute{\,}i\,\&\,n\).

(19b) is comparable to (18b). Example (19b) is acceptable because \(n\,\&\,s\,\acute{\,}i\,\&\,n\) has a possible specific interpretation; (18b) fails because \(n\,\&\,s\,\acute{\,}h\,i\,y\,?\) cannot have a specific interpretation in the context.

(19)  a.  \[n\,\&\,s\,\acute{\,}x\,?\,  c\,i\,  s\,-\,?\,i\,\&\,n\].
       I want  NS  NOM-eat
       ‘I want food.’

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b. nəsʔə? cə nə-sʔən.
I want SP 1POS-NOM-eat
‘I want my food.’

c. nəsʔə? či nə-sʔən.
I want NS 1POS-NOM-eat
‘I want to eat.’

Incidentally, (18) and (19) illustrate a need to recognize two different kinds of s- nominalization. The s- nominalization of ?ən ‘eat’ as in (19b) has independent lexical status, while the s- nominalization of hiyaʔ ‘go’ as in (18) does not.

Example (20) shows one more pair where cə is used for a specific interpretation and či is used for non-specific. In (20a), with cə, the speaker is weary of a specific thing that the addressee is saying. In (20b), with či, it is the addressee’s talking, in general, that the speaker is fed up with.

(20) a. nəsčínuʔ cə ʔən-s-qʷáqʷi.
I’m weary SP 2POS-NOM-talking
‘I’m tired of what you are saying.’

b. nəsčínuʔ či ʔən-s-qʷáqʷi.
I’m weary NS 2POS-NOM-talking
‘I’m tired of your talking.’

Among the ‘specific’ set of demonstratives tə and cə are by far the most frequently occurring. As (2) shows, these are the least semantically and phonologically marked of the demonstratives and, in fact, are not semantically distinguishable. Although alternation of /c/ and /t/ is not found elsewhere in the language, it must be concluded that tə and cə are free phonological variants of the same determiner. Native speakers accept either in the same context and seem not to notice the difference.

The two non-specific terms ti and či may be variants of the same determiner. As for the tə and cə specific variants, I have not been able to find any difference in usage between them, and native speakers accept either in the same context. I suspect that there may be some subtle difference because /t/ and /č/ alternate nowhere else in the language. However, working with the remaining speakers, I have been unable to confirm the subtle semantic/pragmatic distinction between the two found by the Thompsons (1971:265).

This specific/non-specific distinction in determiners does not appear in Saanich. It corresponds generally to the distinction in Squamish described as definite/indefinite by Kuipers (1967). It seems to correspond less closely to the distinction in Lushootseed and Musqueum called ‘hypothetical, remote’ in Hess and Hilbert (1980) and Suttles (2004), respectively.
The feminine determiners are most commonly used to specify the natural gender of the referent of gender-neutral kin terms. Examples are shown in (21) and (22) where the (a) and (b) examples differ only in that (a) has the feminine determiner and (b) does not.

(21) a. ?awə cn c kʷənəxʷ kʷtə nəčáʔmaqʷ yaʔ. not I NEG see IN.SP.FE my great-grandparent PAST ‘I never saw my late great-grandmother.’

b. ?awə cn c kʷənəxʷ kʷsə nəčáʔmaqʷ yaʔ. not I NEG see IN.SP my great-grandparent PAST ‘I never saw my late great-grandfather.’

(22) a. nǐ kʷtə nənáʔ-s it is IN.SP.FE offspring-3POS ‘It was his daughter.’

b. nǐ kʷsə nənáʔ-s it is IN.SP offspring-3POS ‘It was his son.’

As in other Coast Salishan languages (Musqueum (Suttles 2004:340), for example), Klallam has very few lexical items that distinguish natural gender. Only the words for man, woman, boy, girl, father, and mother have distinct roots that indicate gender. All other words, including kin terms such as cáčc ‘aunt/uncle’ and animal terms such as húʔpt ‘deer’ are neutral as to gender. The difference between the female and male counterparts is indicated with the feminine determiners as shown in (21), (22), and (23).

(23) a. kʷənəxʷ cn kʷtə húʔpt. see it I IN.SP.FE deer ‘I saw a/the doe.’

b. kʷənəxʷ cn kʷsə húʔpt. see it I IN.SP deer ‘I saw a/the deer.’

Note that the translation for (23b) is not ‘I saw the buck.’ The kʷsə form, though not feminine, does not mean non-feminine or masculine. All of the determiners that are not explicitly feminine are neutral as to gender, although with kin terms, as in (21) and (22), the usual interpretation of the non-feminine forms is as masculine. To specify a male animal the word swáchqaʔ ‘man, male’ must modify the animal term as in (24).

(24) kʷənəxʷ cn kʷsə swáchqaʔ húʔpt. ‘I saw the buck.’
Though not required, the feminine demonstratives are usually used when referring to singular females. They are never used, however, when the noun is in the collective plural. This is shown in (25) where the collective plural in (25a) has the neutral determiner while the singular in (25b) has the feminine.

(25) a. xʷíʔəŋ ca ʔáyaʔi.
   jump  SP girls.
   ‘The girls jumped.’

b. ?awənə sxčíts təq ʔáʔi.
   not exist her knowing it SP.FE girl
   ‘The girl didn’t know it.’

Unlike other Coast Salishan languages such as Lushootseed (Hess and Hilbert 1980:18) the Klallam feminine determiners apply only to feminine referents and do not apply to a masculine referent even if it is the smaller or less significant of two items. The feminine forms tə and təq are both marked the same in (2). There may be a difference, but only three examples of tə appear in the corpus where there are hundreds of examples of təq. Direct elicitation has been unsuccessful in determining a difference between the two. The forms recorded by the Thompsons beginning with /cs/ in (1) seem to be variants of the forms beginning /ts/.

4 Invisible

Demonstratives beginning with kʷ- indicate that the referent is not visible at the time of utterance, perhaps in another room, behind a tree, or not yet found. For example, a specific nominal object of the verb ƛ̓iyát ‘seek’ always takes an invisible determiner. Example (14) above illustrates this. Another example is given in (26).

(26) ƛ̓iyát cəʔn kʷə nəmúsmus.
   seek it I will IN.SP my cow
   ‘I’m going to look for my cow.’

The invisible demonstratives are always used when referring to people who have died in the past. Example (27) is particularly illustrative of this.

(27) ?awənə qə nəsxčíts či n... kʷi nəsčičʔiʔis yaʔ.
   not exist EMPH my knowing it NS IN.NS my ancestors PAST
   ‘I really don’t know who my ancestors were.’

In this sentence, the speaker started using the či determiner, hesitated, then corrected to the invisible, non-specific kʷi because the noun following refers to non-specific people who died in the past. Example (28) shows that it is
not just the presence of the past tense marker on the noun that determines the use of the invisible determiner.

(28) suʔtákʷss c̓ə̓ n̓ə̓nəʔs yaʔ.
    so he bought SP his offspring PAST
    ‘So he bought the one that had been his daughter.’

In the story (28) is from, a girl is taken by a spirit and then is recovered by her father. The girl is visible, so the invisible determiner is not used. Note, also, incidentally, that the feminine form of the determiner is not used here since there is only one offspring in the context.

5 Far and near

The far and near demonstratives are built on two endings: -ə̓so ‘far’ and -iə ‘near’. These endings each occur with beginnings marking particular feminine and neutral and particular, invisible feminine and neutral for a total of four demonstratives each. The neutral, particular, far determiner is illustrated in (29) and the invisible, feminine, far determiner is shown in (30).

(29) cú̃t̓xʷ to s̓út̓ č̓ʔ̓iyas ə̓so cácu.
    bring up SP firewood from there FA beach
    ‘Bring up the firewood from the beach.’

(30) x̓iʔosít cn k̓wəsə nəcāčə.
    write someone I IN.FE.FA my aunt/uncle
    ‘I wrote to my aunt.’

The far and near demonstratives, unlike the other Klallam demonstratives, specifically indicate location. When the referent is a location, as in (29), these are the most likely demonstratives to be used. When the referent is not a location, as in (30), the determiner usually indicates that the referent is at a far or near location relative to the propositional event, not necessarily the speech act. That is, the ‘far’ and ‘near’ of these demonstratives are not necessarily related to distance from the speaker or addressee. In (31), for example, from a historical narrative, the use of the far determiner indicates a position relative to the participants in the event, not relative to the participants in the speech act.

(31) n̓ıt̓ suʔonʔás č̓eʔinə̓ə̓sə šəmámt.
    it is so they come go up FA our enemy
    ‘So then our enemies came up.’

When the participants in the event are the speaker and addressee, then the far and near demonstratives indicate distance from the speaker, not necessarily the addressee. The example in (32) comes from a taped letter recorded by Leon Metcalf in 1951. The speaker is in Jamestown and is
recording a message for a niece who was living with her Klallam mother at Lummi—a much farther distance in 1951 than today.

(32)  yacúst kʷaʔčə kʷləsə ?əŋtán
tell therefore IN.FE.FA your mother

OBL NS I'm very CON lonely
‘So tell your mother that I am very lonely.’

In (32) the referent of the far marked noun, ?əŋtán, is far from the speaker but not the addressee.

Forms ending in -asa shown in (2) are also listed in Thompson and Thompson (1971:266), but not identified as encoding the meaning ‘far’. The native speakers I have worked with consistently provide translations for sentences with these forms that indicate the referent is explicitly far away.

Of the near demonstratives, tiə is, by far, the most common. An example of each of the near demonstratives is shown in (33) – (36).

(33)  híxt caʔn tiə saplín ?aʔ tiə pótə.
spread I will NE bread OBL NE butter
‘I'm going to spread this bread with this butter.’

(34)  ?úxʷəns cn kʷiə nəswəʔqəʔ.
go toward I IN.NE my husband
‘I'm going to get my husband.’ [he is home, but not in the room]

here OBL IN.FE.NE his offspring
‘He’s here at his daughter’s place.’ [the house next door]

(36)  yacústaŋ cn ?aʔ tsiə ʔəŋənaʔ.
is told I OBL FE.NE my offspring
‘I was told by my daughter.’ [daughter is present]

6  Definite

The definite demonstratives all end in níʔ, which by itself is the third person focus deictic predicate. It is likely that these are historically composed of níʔ prefixed with one of the other demonstratives. Synchronically, however, native speakers do not connect them. While níʔ is a predicate, the definite demonstratives are never predicative, just as are all the other demonstratives. Each definite demonstrative can precede a noun as a determiner and each can stand as a pronominal alone in a sentence.

One example each of the six observed definite demonstratives listed in (2) is shown in (37)-(41). In each case the demonstrative indicates a specific, definite referent, previously mentioned or known from context.
The definite demonstratives can never be translated with the English specific, indefinite 'a'.

(37) náwən cn ?a? cəwnut.
is named I OBL DE
'I was named by him.'

(38) qəwəčən ixʷ ya? kʷəwnut skʷtú?.
Cowichan GUESS PAST IN.DE raven
'I guess Raven was Cowichan.'

(39) n̓iʔ tsəwnut nəʔonaʔ.
it is FE.DE my offspring
'It's my daughter.'

(40) ƛ̓?iʔat cn kʷəwnut.
seeking I IN.FE.DE
'I'm looking for her.'

(41) ?uʔiyáʔ yaʔ cn kʷaʔ ?aʔ təsənut sxʷƛ̓aʔəmát.
be there PAST I INFORM OBL FA.DE belonging to Klallam
'I was there at that Klallam place.'

(42) ?uʔn̓iʔ tiʔwnut nəʔonaʔ ʔuʔn̓əʔəsxʷʔəlaʔ.
it is NE.DE my offspring my reason for being here
'It's my son here that's the reason I'm here.'

If the definite demonstratives are composed of n̓iʔ and a prefixed demonstrative, for example cə-w-n̓iʔ, there remains the w piece to account for. This may be historically related to the discourse ?uʔ- prefix. There are some variant pronunciations of the definite demonstratives following the usual Klallam phonological processes. The schwa can delete resulting in the vocalization of the /ə/ to /a/. Also, since a /ə/ regularly causes a preceding schwa to lower, the first vowel can appear as /a/. So, for example, cəwnut has these alternants: cuʔn̓iʔ, cəwnut.

In Halkomelem the demonstratives corresponding to the Klallam definites have -n̓iʔ forms in the island dialect (Gerdts and Hukari 2004) and -ƛ̓a forms in the Musqueum dialect (Suttles 2004). In that language they have a special case marking function. In Halkomelem, although these forms can appear in intransitive subjects, prepositional objects, and direct objects, when they occur with two overt arguments, they mark the subject.

Although the semantics of the Klallam definite demonstratives appears to match the corresponding Halkomelem forms, I have found no solid evidence of a comparable use as de facto case markers. It cannot be determined if Klallam is like Halkomelem or not in this respect because, in Klallam, transitive sentences with two full third person arguments are extremely rare. The passive is, by far, the preferred construction when the predicate calls for two participants. Around 55% of occurrences of the definite demonstratives are in intransitive subjects (including passive
subjects). Around 16% of occurrences are in prepositional objects (including passive agents). 22% of occurrences are found in direct objects—almost all of those with first or second person subjects. Their use in transitive subjects amounts to only 5% of occurrences. Of that 5%, I have found only two sentences in all of my text corpus that have a definite demonstrative in one of two full arguments. These two are shown in (43) and (44).

(43) máyaʔts cəʔn̓iʔt cə stiq̓ ʔew.
    kick 3/3 DE SP horse
    ‘He kicked the horse.’

(44) tčáts cəʔn̓iʔt máʔš̓c̓u cə st̓ ilkʷəns
    stab 3/3 DE mink SP his nephew
    ‘Mink stabbed his nephew.’

It is true that in both of these sentences the definite demonstrative is the transitive subject, but in the few other transitive sentences with two full third person arguments, the definite demonstratives are not used at all. One example is shown in (45).

(45) ls̓ ʔeqʷ̓ts cə sw̓aʔyaʔ cə snáxʷ̓t sʔiʔaʔs.
    smash 3/3 SP man SP canoe he bought
    ‘The man smashed up the canoe he bought.’

Typically in 3/3 transitive sentences only one full argument appears. This argument is usually interpreted as the direct object. It can, however, if the context makes it clear, be interpreted as subject as in (45). The definite determiner is not required and not usual in such sentences. One example is shown in (46).

(46) ččáts kʷə nəc̓ át.
    build 3/3 IN.SP my father
    ‘My father built it.’

The definite demonstratives are the only ones that have a collective plural form. The form of the plural is unique to these demonstratives. Ordinarily the collective plural is formed by infixation of /y/ or reduplication. In the definite demonstratives, the plural is formed by the infixation of /áʔ/ after the /n/. The infix takes stress. Examples are shown in (47)-(49).

(47) nəs̓ xʷiʔčən̓íkʷən cəʔnáʔʔíʔ.
    my pity DE.PL
    ‘I pity them.’

(48) ʔuʔxʷ̓áʔ čə yaʔ cə sxʷíc̓ʷəʔs kʷəm̓ ʔáʔíʔíʔ xʷiʔən̓íʔəm.
    fast APP PAST SP their jump IN.DE.PL white people
    ‘Those white people apparently jumped quickly.’

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are taken OBL DE.PL killer whale
‘They were taken by those killer whales.’

Example (47) shows that the plural form, just as the non-plural, can be pronominal. In (48) the determiner is followed by the collective plural form of xʷanítom. In (49) the noun following the plural determiner is in the singular. It is also possible to have a plural noun with a non-plural definite determiner as in (50).

(50) cəw̓ n̓ i ṣa? cəw̓ n̓ i ṣəyalúmačən čəsaʔ.
get out DE killer whales two
‘Those two killer whales got out.’

7 Other possible forms

I have been unable to confirm the person/entity distinction in the emphatic forms described by the Thompsons (1971:266). They give six forms ending in -aya referring to non-person entities as distinct from the -anu forms, which refer to persons.

In my data only two -aya forms appear: cayə and tsayə. These are not listed in (2) because there are too few examples to determine their semantics. In the few examples I have, the behavior of these forms is different from the other demonstratives. All of the other demonstratives occur either alone as a pronoun or before a noun or nominalized clause as a determiner. In each case of -aya it occurs neither alone nor followed by a noun or a nominalized form. Examples are shown in (51) and (52).

(51) ḥəwə c qʷáq⁸iʔə ḥə ?aʔ ə səʔtəʔən ʔaʔ tsayə
talk OBL NS their desire OBL DEM
ʔə’í ṣə skʷənts.
good NS their looking at it
‘They don’t talk about their desire for ones that are good looking.’

(52) húytx̱ ʔi suʔə’íʔ ʔiʔən ḥə cayə
talk only OBL good NS your thought OBL DEM
huy ʔuʔəskʾuʔəm’ʔəʔiʔ ʔuʔəʔıʔə’ʔəʔi.
only is right CONJ is happy
‘Have only good thoughts for those that are well and happy.’

All occurrences of the -aya forms that I have are from two texts from two speakers recorded separately at Jamestown by Metcalf. It is, perhaps, interesting that, though the contexts of these occurrence are quite different—(51) at the end of a traditional tale and (52) within a sermon—they both, and in fact all occurrences of -aya forms, occur in sentences giving advice. The
Elwha speakers I have worked with have no trouble interpreting these, but I have not been able to elicit any examples.

As for the -anu forms shown in (1b), I have recorded several of these, but in every case it can be better analyzed as one of the other demonstratives, ca, tsə, kʷsə, tia, preceding a word beginning with the prefix nu?- . The considerable overlap between /a/ and /ə/ in Klallam accounts for the vowel perception. The prefix nu?- , which has a variant pronunciation nu- , was not identified by the Thompsons in the 1971 sketch. It has a general meaning ‘similar to, seems like, kind of, sort of, rather’, as shown in (53).

(53) kʷánNASDAQ cn kʷsə nu?-swáýqa?.
    see it  IN.SP  SIM-man
    ‘I saw (what looked like) a man.’

I had originally recorded sentences like (53) as the Thompsons did, for example, kʷánNASDAQ cn kʷsanu swáýqa? . The ‘kind of like’ element of the meaning of these forms emerged gradually in the course of field work. Suspicions that the analysis was inadequate first arose when it became clear that while all of the demonstratives but the non-specific ones can act as independent pronominals, forms such as *kʷánNASDAQ cn kʷsanu are consistently rejected. Later sentences such as (54) appeared to confirm the need for reanalysis.

(54) nu?-swáýqa? ca sláni.
    SIM-man  SP  woman
    ‘That woman is like a man.’

The nu?- prefix is also used in comparison constructions:

    you SIM-big  OBL  I
    ‘You’re bigger than me.’

8 Conclusion

Klallam has a demonstrative determiner/pronoun system composed of a small number of phonological elements. They distinguish invisible and feminine referents, as do the other Central Salish languages. Both of these are opposed to demonstratives that are neutral for these semantics. In addition, Klallam has demonstratives that explicitly distinguish specific and non-specific referents independent of definiteness. A separate set of demonstratives, built in part on the specific forms, indicate definiteness in referring to previously mentioned or known discourse participants. Two other demonstrative sets indicate near or distant location relative to participants in the proposition. None of the demonstratives have any case marking function.
The list of demonstratives in (2) are those that I have observed. There are obvious gaps. It is unknown whether the gaps are systematic or accidental.

References


