# What is the original relationship between Mon-Khmer and Kam-Tai?

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#### 1. Introduction

Are the similarities between some Mon-Khmer and Kam-Thai languages the result of a genetic relationship or a contact relationship? Schmidt (1905) proposed that the Austronesian and Austroasiatic families are genetically related as part of an Austric superstock. Benedict (1942 and later) countered with a proposal that Thai, Kadai, and Indonesian are all part of an Austro-Thai stock which does not include Austroasiatic.

The unity of the Kam-Thai family is now generally accepted, as a result of the work especially of Li Fang-Kuei (1943 and later). And the unity of the Austroasiatic family, including Mon-Khmer, is also generally accepted. The question is what is the relationship between them?

The purpose of this paper is to test a new variant of lexicostatistics, applying it to some Southeast Asian languages and seeing what light it sheds on the relationship between Kam-Thai and the Va-De'ang (Palaung-Wa) branch of Mon-Khmer.<sup>1</sup>

## 2. Matching words in Kam-Thai and Mon-Khmer

There are many consistent correspondences in basic words between Kam-Thai and Mon-Khmer languages in southwestern China. Table 1 illustrates two of these consistent correspondences between Dai Xishuangbanna, Dai Dehong, and Va.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The languages cited in this paper are KAM-THAI: THAI GROUP: BY: Buyi of Guizhou, Guangxi; DD: Dai of Dehong, Yunnan; DJ: Dai along the Jinsha River, Yunnan; DL: Dai of Lincan, Yunnan; DX: Dai of Xishuangbanna, Yunnan, DY Dai along the Yun River, Yunnan; TT: Thai of Thailand; ZL: Zhuang of Longzhou; ZW: Zhuang of Wuming, Guangxi. KAM GROUP: 2DR Dong of Rongjiang, Guizhou; MLH: Maolan of Huangjiang, Guangxi, MLL: Mulao of Luocheng, Guangxi; SS: Sui of Sandu, Guizhou. LI GROUP: LB: Li of Baoding, Hainan, LT Li of Tongshi, Hainan. MON-KHMER: VA-DE'ANG GROUP: AV Alva of Menghai, Yunnan, PL Plang of Menghai, Yunnan; VA: Va of Cangyuan, Yunnan. SINO-TIBETAN: CHINESE GROUP: SWC Southwestern Chinese.

TABLE 1. TWO SOUND CORRESPONDENCES BETWEEN TT, DX, DD AND VA (the raised numbers represent the tone classes)

| Meaning        | TT  | DX                                    | DD                                    | VA                                      |
|----------------|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
|                | -ong                                      | -ong                                  | -ong                                  | -ōng                                    |
| echo           | kong <sup>3</sup>                         | kong <sup>3</sup>                     | kong <sup>3</sup>                     | r <u>o</u> ng                           |
| thing          | khong <sup>1</sup> ; hong <sup>1</sup>    | xəng <sup>1</sup>                     | xəngl                                 | kh <u>o</u> ng; khr <u>o</u> ng         |
| umbrella       | tsong <sup>3</sup> ; tsong <sup>5</sup>   | tsong <sup>3</sup>                    | tsong <sup>3</sup>                    | <u>o</u> ng                             |
| shine          | _   | thong <sup>5</sup>                    | thong <sup>5</sup>                    | th <u>o</u> ng                          |
|                | $plong^3$                                 | $pong^3$                              | pong <sup>3</sup>                     | pl <u>o</u> ng                          |
| Lancang river  |   | xəng <sup>1</sup>                     | xəng <sup>1</sup>                     | kr <u>ə</u> ng                          |
| basket         | kr'jong <sup>6</sup> ; khong <sup>3</sup> | 3                                     | xəng <sup>3</sup>                     | khrang                                  |
| back (of body) | khnong <sup>1</sup>                       | lang <sup>1</sup>                     |                                       | kr <u>ə</u> ng                          |
| forehead       | tr'phong <sup>2</sup>                     |                                       |                                       | d <u>ට</u> ng                           |
|                | ong                                       | ong                                   | ong                                   | ona                                     |
| lake           | - <b>ong</b><br>nong <sup>1</sup>         | -on <b>g</b><br>nong <sup>1</sup>     | -on <b>g</b><br>long <sup>1</sup>     | - <u>o</u> n <b>g</b><br>nh <u>o</u> ng |
|                | tsn'long <sup>2</sup>                     | hong <sup>6</sup>                     | hong <sup>6</sup>                     | kh <u>o</u> ng                          |
| stream         | long <sup>2</sup>                         | long <sup>1</sup> ; hong <sup>2</sup> | long <sup>1</sup> ; hong <sup>2</sup> |   |
| mat            |   | _                                     | hong <sup>3</sup>                     | lh <u>o</u> ng                          |
| room           | hong <sup>3</sup>                         | hong <sup>3</sup>                     |                                       | h <u>o</u> ng                           |
| shine          | song <sup>5</sup>                         | song <sup>5</sup>                     | song <sup>5</sup>                     | song                                    |
| gaze           | tr'ngəng <sup>5</sup>                     | tong <sup>2</sup>                     | tong <sup>5</sup>                     | tong                                    |
|                | -a  | -a                                    | - <b>a</b>                            | - <u>a</u>                              |
| rice shoot     | kla <sup>3</sup>                          | kla <sup>3</sup>                      | $kla^3$                               | kl <u>a</u>                             |
| fish           | pla <sup>1</sup>                          | pa <sup>1</sup>                       | pa <sup>6</sup>                       | k <u>a</u> ?; p <u>a</u>                |
| quilt          | pha <sup>3</sup>                          | pha <sup>3</sup>                      | pha <sup>3</sup>                      | ph <u>a</u>                             |
| split          | pha <sup>5</sup>                          | pha <sup>5</sup>                      | pha <sup>5</sup>                      | ph <u>a</u>                             |
| mix            | pha <sup>5</sup>                          | pha <sup>5</sup>                      | pha <sup>5</sup>                      | ph <u>a</u>                             |
| soak           | ma <sup>5</sup>                           | ma <sup>5</sup>                       |                                       | s'm <u>a</u>                            |
| five           | ha <sup>3</sup>                           | ha <sup>3</sup>                       | ha <sup>3</sup>                       | h <u>a</u>                              |
| snow           |   |                                       | ha <sup>1</sup>                       | rh <u>a</u>                             |
| late           | la <sup>4</sup>                           | $la^3$                                | $la^3$                                | lh <u>a</u>                             |
|                |   |                                       |                                       |   |

Table 1 shows only two sets of consistent correspondences; many more such sets could have been adduced if time and space had permitted. How should we interpret this consistency?

# 3. Criteria for establishing genetic relationship

Historical linguists have generally relied on systematic sound correspondences to establish genetic relationships. Similarities or consistent changes in grammatical structure, usually taken to mean affix structure, is also taken as good evidence.

Having observed the living contact between Dai Dehong and Southwestern Chinese for several years, I found that loans from Southwestern Chinese into Dai Dehong which were borrowed in the same place at about the same time also show systematic sound correspondences between the two languages, as shown in Table 2, which shows some SWC tch: DD c and SWC tch: DD s correspondences.

TABLE 2. SOUND CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN BORROWED WORDS IN DAI DEHONG AND ORIGINAL WORDS IN SWC

| Meaning      | SWC                             | DD                     |
|--------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| district     | /t¢hi <sup>55</sup> /           | /çi <sup>55</sup> /    |
| flag         | /t <b>c</b> hi <sup>31</sup> /  | /çi <sup>42</sup> /    |
| draw (money) | /tchi <sup>53</sup> /           | /çi <sup>53</sup> /    |
| sledge       | /t¢hiau <sup>55</sup> /         | /çiau <sup>55</sup> /  |
| to prize     | /tchiau <sup>213</sup> /        | /ciau <sup>213</sup> / |
| to warp      | /tchiau <sup>213</sup> /        | /ciau <sup>213</sup> / |
| buckwheat    | /tchiau <sup>31</sup> /         | /çiau <sup>42</sup> /  |
| to invite    | /t <b>c</b> hin <sup>53</sup> / | /cin <sup>53</sup> /   |
| skirt        | /tchin <sup>31</sup> /          | /cin <sup>42</sup> /   |
| to advise    | /tchian <sup>213</sup> /        | /cian <sup>213</sup> / |
| fist         | /tchian <sup>31</sup> /         | /çian <sup>42</sup> /  |
| melody       | /tchio <sup>31</sup> /          | /so <sup>31</sup> /    |
| poor         | /tchiong <sup>31</sup> /        | /song <sup>31</sup> /  |

The /tch/ of Southwestern Chinese words corresponds to the /c/ in Dehong Dai loans except for the last two items. The exception can be explained as a regular conditioned variant in that in Dehong there are no /io/ or /iong/ sequences after /c/, so the initial consonant was reinterpreted as the permitted /s/.

A different problem appears when borrowing /uəi/ /iəu/ and /ən/ words from Southwestern Chinese. These appear in more than one form in Dai:

| SWC   | DD        |
|-------|-----------|
| /uəi/ | /ui, oi/  |
| /iəu/ | /iu, eu/  |
| /an/  | /iiim vn/ |

The reason for these variants is that Dai, in some areas, is going through a merger of /oi/ and /ui/, /eu/ and /iu/, and /um/ and /vn/, these forms currently alternating freely. So the words being borrowed from Southwestern Chinese are showing this same alternation. As soon as this Dai sound change runs its course and settles down to one form, the loans from Chinese can be expected to do likewise, indistinguishable from native Dai words.

This situation, which is clearly a contact situation between SWC and DD, shows the fallibility of relying mainly on regular sound change to prove genetic relationship.

A different approach to discerning language relationships is that of comparing semantic shift. This approach assumes that borrowing between languages will tend to involve cultural vocabulary more than basic human vocabulary, so that basic vocabulary is more likely to reflect the genetic affiliation of a language. Swadesh (1952, 1955) drew up 100-word and 200-word lists of some presumably basic vocabulary. Attempts at refining the method for greater precision have not met with general acceptance, but the basic assumption seems to be true. The following discussion will build on this assumption.

## 4. More basic vs. less basic vocabulary

It follows from the above that the elements in a vocabulary list which are more basic should show a higher rate of resemblance (whether inherited or borrowed) if reflecting a genetic relation between the two languages, and the less basic elements should show a higher rate if reflecting a contact relation. †Swadesh's 100 and 200 lists give a good starting point for testing this.

## 4.1 In genetic relationships

I took Swadesh's 100 list as most basic, and call it here the 1st 100; the remainder of his 200 list I call the 2nd 100. I then took five Dai dialects, comparing them on the 1st 100 list and then on the 2nd 100 list. The results are shown in Table 3, where the first figure in each pair is the number of resemblances in the 1st 100, and the second figure is the number of resemblances in the 2nd 100. In every case the figure for the 1st 100 is considerably higher than that for the 2nd 100.

TABLE 3. DAI DIALECT RESEMBLANCE PERCENTAGES IN THE FIRST 100 / SECOND 100 LISTS

| DX      |         |         |         |    |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|----|
| 88 / 71 | DD      |         |         |    |
| 91/68   | 92 / 72 | DY      |         |    |
| 85 / 71 | 94 / 85 | 91/68   | DL      |    |
| 84 / 66 | 91/69   | 88 / 68 | 88 / 68 | DL |

Then I looked at Swadesh's figures from his 100 list and his 200 list for some historically attested European languages. These are given in Table 4.

TABLE 4. SWADESH'S COGNATE PERCENTAGES

| Languages compared         | 100 list | 200 list |
|----------------------------|----------|----------|
| Old English/Modern English | 86%      | 77%      |
| Old German/Modern German   | 89       | 84       |
| Old Swedish/Modern Swedish | 94       | 85       |
| Latin/Modern Romanian      | 71       | 56       |
| Latin/Modern French        | 74       | 62       |
| Old Greek/Modern Greek     | 71       | 69       |

Taking Swadesh's figures, and applying the formula x=2y-z, I deduced the number of resemblances in the 2nd 100 words, as shown in Table 5.

TABLE 5. SWADESH'S COMPARISONS, SHOWING 1ST 100 WORDS VS. 2ND 100 WORDS

| Languages compared         | 1st 100 words | 2nd 100 words |
|----------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Old English/Modern English | 86%           | 68%           |
| Old German/Modern German   | 89            | 79            |
| Old Swedish/Modern Swedish | 94            | 76            |
| Latin/Modern Romanian      | 71            | 41            |
| Latin/Modern French        | 74            | 50            |
| Old Greek/Modern Greek     | 71            | 67            |

In each case Table 5 shows a higher percentage or resemblance for the 1st 100 words than for the 2nd 100 words, which is to be expected by my theory since these are in each case clearly genetically related languages.

Narrowing the scope down to languages within the clearly proven Germanic group, comparing each of them with Modern English,<sup>3</sup> we see again from Table 6 that the 1st 100 in every case has a higher percentage than the 2nd 100, as we would expect from genetically related languages.

TABLE 6. GERMANIC COGNATE PERCENTAGES WITH MODERN ENGLISH

| Languages compared           | 1st 100 words | 2nd 100 list |
|------------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Old English/Modern English   | 87%           | 71%          |
| Modern German/Modern English | 64            | 46           |
| Old Frisian/Modern English   | 72            | 51           |
| Modern Dutch/Modern English  | 71            | 54           |
| Old Icelandic/Modern English | 76            | 57           |
| Gothic/Modern English        | 58            | 39           |

Turning our attention now to Asia, we look at the resemblance (presumed cognates) figures between some dialects of Chinese as shown in Table 7. Here, again, in these genetic relationships in every case the 1st 100 has a higher percentage than the 2nd 100.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> x=2nd 100 figure, y=Swadesh 200 list figure, z=Swadesh 100 list figure (=1st 100).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Barnhart 1988 was taken as the standard for cognacy decisions.

TABLE 7. COGNATE PERCENTAGES BETWEEN CHINESE DIALECTS

| Mandarin |         |           |         |         |       |     |
|----------|---------|-----------|---------|---------|-------|-----|
| 75 / 56  | Hakka   |           |         |         |       |     |
| 61 / 56  | 69 / 51 | South Min |         |         |       |     |
| 82/71    | 72 / 52 | 65 / 51   | Hsiang  |         |       |     |
| 82 / 71  | 71/59   | 62 / 52   | 87 / 64 | Wu      |       |     |
| 76/73    | 66 / 56 | 62 / 49   | 81 / 67 | 78 / 72 | Kan   |     |
| 83 / 71  | 70 / 55 | 60 / 49   | 78 / 68 | 76/72   | 71/69 | Yue |
| · · · ·  | ,       |           | ,       |         | ,     |     |

#### 4.2 In contact relationships

We now look at the differential between the 1st 100 and the 2nd. 100 in the contact relationships between Southwestern Chinese and Dai Dehong, Dai Jinsha, and Dai Yun. Table 8 summarizes the borrowings in the 1st 100 and 2nd 100 words for each of these Dai languages (see Appendix A for the data). In this contact relationship the percentages are the reverse of those in the genetic relationships shown in Sec.4.1; the 2nd 100 figure is in each case considerably higher than the 1st 100 figure, as predicted by my theory.

TABLE 8. RESEMBLANCE PERCENTAGES BETWEEN SOUTHWESTERN CHINESE AND SOME DAI LANGUAGES.

|             | Dehong | Jinsha | Yun |
|-------------|--------|--------|-----|
| SW. Chinese | 2/10   | 0/9    | 3/8 |

#### 5. Kam-Thai and Mon-Khmer

In the data presented so far we have seen that in each case of a genetic relationship the resemblance or cognate percentage is higher in the 1st 100 words, and in each case of a contact relationship the percentage is higher in the 2nd 100 words. Can this be taken as a universal or near-universal theory?

### 5.1 Within Kam-Thai languages

Most linguists today accept the existence of a Kam-Thai family including a Thai (Zhuang-Dai) branch, a Kam-Sui (Dong-Sui) branch, and a Li branch. I compared the 1st 100 and 2nd 100 basic vocabulary in eleven languages from the Kam-Thai family, with the results shown in Table 9.

TABLE 9. COGNATE PERCENTGES BETWEEN KAM-THAI LANGUAGES

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ZW

86 / 69 ZL

90 / 81 78 / 61 BY

78 / 53 80 / 55 72 / 53 DX

76 / 54 72 / 58 72 / 51 88 / 71 DD

61 / 46 54 / 38 56 / 46 52 / 36 48 / 34 DR

56 / 48 52 / 40 52 / 47 51 / 34 48 / 33 74 / 56 MLL

57 / 54 56 / 41 56 / 52 53 / 44 50 / 40 80 / 59 76 / 50 SS

56 / 55 46 / 44 54 / 52 48 / 37 47 / 37 79 / 57 73 / 59 79 / 62 MLH

49 / 27 48 / 25 52 / 25 48 / 26 51 / 31 40 / 18 38 / 18 37 / 21 37 / 19 LB

46 / 32 46 / 24 50 / 27 49 / 29 48 / 30 39 / 21 37 / 18 38 / 24 38 / 22 90 / 90 LT
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Between these genetically related languages, as expected, the percentages for the 1st 100 are significantly higher than for the 2nd 100, except one case in which they are equal (LB:LT).

#### 5.2 Kam-Thai and Austronesian

Applying this method to a more debated area I compared two Austronesian languages, Indonesian and Malay, with nine Kam-Thai languages, with the results as shown in Table 10.

TABLE 10. AUSTRONESIAN AND KAM-THAI RESEMBLANCES

|            | ZW   | ZL   | $\mathbf{B}\mathbf{Y}$ | $\mathbf{D}\mathbf{X}$ | $\mathbf{D}\mathbf{D}$ | DR   | MLL  | SS   | MLB  |
|------------|------|------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| Indonesian | 14/6 | 14/6 | 13/6                   | 15/5                   | 15/5                   | 14/6 | 14/4 | 11/6 | 13/6 |
| Malay      | 12/6 | 11/6 | 10/5                   | 12/5                   | 12/5                   | 11/6 | 12/4 | 10/6 | 11/5 |

Here the figures from the 1st 100 words are significantly higher (double or more) than the 2nd 100, which would indicate a genetic relationship between Kam-Thai and Austronesian. The figures are very low but are consistent.

#### 6. Kam-Thai and Mon-Khmer

We come back now to our opening question, that of the resemblances between Kam-Thai and the Mon-Khmer languages in Yunnan. Are the resemblances a result of contact or of genetic relationship? We applied our test, using the Mon-Khmer languages Va, Plang, and Alva, comparing them with nine of the previously mentioned Kam-Thai languages, with results as shown in Table 11. The data from which these figures were obtained is given in Appendixes B and C.

TABLE 11. MON-KHMER AND KAM-THAI RESEMBLANCES

|     | $\mathbf{Z}\mathbf{W}$ | ZL   | ΒY   | DΧ    | $\mathbf{D}\mathbf{D}$ | DR   | MLL | SS   | MLH  | LB   | LT  |
|-----|------------------------|------|------|-------|------------------------|------|-----|------|------|------|-----|
| V A | 8/15                   | 9/11 | 7/13 | 10/16 | 9/17                   | 2/11 | 2/7 | 2/11 | 3/9  | 6/8  | 7/7 |
| PL  | 7/14                   | 8/12 | 5/12 | 8/16  | 8/15                   | 3/11 | 3/9 | 3/10 | 3/10 | 4/10 | 6/8 |
| AL  | 7/12                   | 8/9  | 6/10 | 9/14  | 8/16                   | 2/11 | 2/8 | 2/9  | 3/7  | 2/8  | 4/6 |

Table 11 shows the 2nd 100 words significantly higher than the 1st 100 words, except one case in which they are equal. This is the opposite of the Austronesian figures and points to a contact rather than a genetic relationship between Kam-Thai and Mon-Khmer. The figures are very low, as with Austronesian but consistent.

The differential between the 1st and 2nd 100 may occasionally be as low as 0 (i.e. equality), but in no case in our data is the 1st 100 lower in a genetic relationship, and in no case in our data is the 2nd 100 lower in a contact relationship. Even though a rare case may show up contrary to our thesis, yet the general pattern seems unmistakable.

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# Appendix A. Basic words in Dai languages borrowed from Southwestern Chinese

Dai Dehong: 1st 100 words

| Meaníng<br>hair | SWC。<br>毛     | orígínals<br>/mau <sup>31</sup> /       | foans in Dai<br>/mau <sup>42</sup> /<br>(knitting wool)<br>/mau <sup>42</sup> pi <sup>31</sup> /<br>(writing brush) | distribute condition<br>/mau <sup>42</sup> cian <sup>213</sup> / |
|-----------------|---------------|---|---|--|
| liver           | 肝             | /kan <sup>55</sup> /                    | /kan <sup>55</sup> / (hepatitis)  | /kan <sup>55</sup> ian <sup>55</sup> /                           |
| Dai Deh         | ong: 2nd 100  | O words:                                |   |  |
| Meaning         |               | originals                               | loansin DD  | distribute condition   |
| father          | <b>爹</b>      | /tie <sup>55</sup> /                    | $/\text{te}^{55}/$  |  |
| float           | 漂             | /phiau <sup>55</sup> /                  | /phiau <sup>55</sup> /  |  |
| dull            | 戀             | /xan <sup>55</sup> /                    | /xan <sup>55</sup> /  |  |
| turn            | 轉             | /tsuan <sup>213</sup> /                 | /tsuan <sup>213</sup> /   |  |
| ice             | 冰             | /pin <sup>55</sup> /                    | /pin <sup>55</sup> /  |  |
| sea             | 海             | /xai <sup>53</sup> /                    | /xai <sup>213</sup> /   |  |
| tie             | 捆             | /khun <sup>53</sup> /                   | /xun <sup>53</sup> /  |  |
| squeeze         |               | /jia <sup>31</sup> /                    | /jia <sup>31</sup> /  |  |
| if              | 如果            | /zu <sup>31</sup> ko <sup>53</sup> /    | /zu <sup>31</sup> ko <sup>53</sup> /  |  |
| because         | 因 為           | /jin <sup>55</sup> uei <sup>213</sup> / | /jin <sup>55</sup> vui <sup>213</sup> /   |  |
| Dai Jins        | ha: 1st 100 w | ords                                    |   |  |
| Meaning         | SWC           | originals                               | loans in DJ none  |  |
|                 | ha: 2nd 100 v |   |   |  |
| Meaning         |               | original                                | loans in DJ   |  |
|                 | 察             | /tsha <sup>31</sup> /                   | /tsha <sup>11</sup> /   |  |
|                 | 例             | /lan <sup>213</sup> /                   | /lan <sup>33</sup> /  |  |
|                 |               | /cia <sup>53</sup> /                    | /cia <sup>55</sup> /  |  |
|                 | <b>英</b>      | /xai <sup>53</sup> /                    | /xai <sup>55</sup> /  |  |
|                 | ik            | /tshə <sup>53</sup> /                   | /tshc <sup>55</sup> /   |  |
|                 | 少<br><b>*</b> | /sau <sup>53</sup> /                    | (sau <sup>55</sup> /  |  |
|                 |               | /phau <sup>55</sup> /                   | /phau <sup>55</sup> /<br>/tshuan <sup>33</sup> /  |  |
| turn I          | 導             | /tshuan <sup>213</sup> /                | /tsnuan <sup>55</sup> /   |  |

/kan<sup>55</sup>/

 $/kan^{53}/$ 

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cut

| Dai Yun 1st | t 100 word | s:                     |  |   |
|-------------|------------|------------------------|--|---|
| Meaning     |            | SWC originals          | loans in DY                            | Distribution Condition                                    |
| oil, grease | 油          | /jəu <sup>31</sup> /   | /jəu <sup>33</sup> /                   | /pan <sup>53</sup> jəu <sup>31</sup> /                    |
|             |            |                        | (pork fat)                             |   |
| kill        | 殺          | ⁄sa <sup>31</sup> /    | (sa <sup>31</sup> /                    |   |
| water       | 水          | /sw <sup>53</sup> /    | (swəi <sup>53</sup> / (water in ditch) | /pən <sup>53</sup> ˌswəi <sup>53</sup> /                  |
| Dai Yun 2n  | d 100 word | ds                     |  |   |
| Meaning     |            | SWC originals          | loan in DY                             | Distribution Condition                                    |
| grass       | 草          | /tshau <sup>53</sup> / | /tsha:u <sup>53</sup> /                | $tsha: u^{53}xa:i^{31}$                                   |
|             |            | <b>50</b>              | (straw sandals)                        |   |
| think       | 想          | /ciang <sup>53</sup> / | /ca:ng <sup>53</sup> /                 | <b>70 70</b>  |
| sea         | 海          | /xai <sup>53</sup> /   | /xaii <sup>53</sup> /                  | $/xa:i^{53}tsl^{53}/(lake)$                               |
| and         | 和          | $/xo^{31}/$            | $/xo^{31}/$                            |   |
| old         | 老          | /lau <sup>53</sup> /   | /la:u <sup>53</sup> /                  | /la:u <sup>53</sup> pu <sup>24</sup> thau <sup>11</sup> / |
|             |            |                        | (old man)                              |   |
|             |            |                        | /la:u <sup>53</sup> ja <sup>53</sup> / |   |
|             | <b></b>    | . 21.                  | (old woman)                            |   |
| squeeze     | 壓          | /ja <sup>31</sup> /    | /ja <sup>31</sup> /                    |   |
| father      | 参          | /tie <sup>55</sup> /   | $/2a^{33}$ tje <sup>33</sup> /         |   |
| dull        | 笨          | /pən <sup>213</sup> /  | /pən <sup>24</sup> /                   |   |
|             |            |                        |  |   |

Appendix B. Mon-Khmer and Kham-Thai similar words in 1st 100 words

|     |                  |                  |                   | Y                    | <del>,                                    </del> | r                 | _                                 |  | ,                          | ·  | _                 | _                 | <del></del>        |                  | <del>,                                    </del> |
|-----|------------------|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|--|-------------------|-----------------------------------|--|----------------------------|--|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|------------------|--|
| LT  | nom <sup>3</sup> | mem <sup>1</sup> | khi:u1            | tshem <sup>3</sup> ; |  |                   |                                   | tsm <sup>2</sup> -<br>tau <sup>3</sup> | zemg <sup>1</sup>          | demg <sup>3</sup>                        | toni <sup>1</sup> |                   |                    |                  |  |
| LB  | nam <sup>3</sup> | mem <sup>1</sup> | khim <sup>1</sup> |                      |  |                   |                                   |  | te:ng4                     | gemg <sup>4</sup> ;<br>demg <sup>3</sup> | tari <sup>1</sup> |                   |                    |                  |  |
| KHL | nam <sup>3</sup> |                  | iu <sup>1</sup>   |                      | kong <sup>5</sup> -<br>pja                       |                   |                                   |  |                            |  |                   | oit8              |                    |                  |  |
| SS  | nam <sup>4</sup> |                  | cn <sub>1</sub>   |                      |  |                   |                                   |  |                            |  |                   | fit8              |                    |                  |  |
| MIL | nəm <sup>4</sup> |                  | hou1              |                      |  |                   |                                   |  |                            |  |                   | 81eo              |                    |                  |  |
| DR  | nam <sup>4</sup> |                  | su <sup>1</sup>   |                      |  |                   |                                   |  |                            |  |                   | kit 10            |                    |                  |  |
| 00  | lam <sup>4</sup> | mam <sup>2</sup> |                   |                      |  | sari <sup>2</sup> | kat <sup>7</sup>                  | tau <sup>6</sup>                       | lang <sup>1</sup>          | <sub>9</sub> buap                        | la:I <sup>1</sup> |                   | la4                | lan6             | ka:k <sup>8</sup>                                |
| DX  | nam <sup>4</sup> | $mumg^2$         | xeu1              |                      | kong <sup>2</sup>                                | sari <sup>2</sup> |                                   | tau <sup>6</sup>                       | l <sub>gnel</sub>          | deng                                     | lari <sup>1</sup> |                   | na <sup>4</sup>    | nan <sup>4</sup> | ha:k <sup>8</sup>                                |
| BL  | zam <sup>4</sup> | $mumg^2$         |                   | diau <sup>1</sup>    |  |                   |                                   | tau <sup>6</sup>                       |                            | $ding^{l}$                               | lan'l             |                   | noe                |                  | za:78  |
| Z   | nam <sup>4</sup> | mam <sup>2</sup> | kheu <sup>1</sup> |                      | domg <sup>2</sup>                                | tari <sup>2</sup> |                                   | pjau <sup>6</sup>                      | lamg <sup>1</sup>          | deng <sup>1</sup>                        | lari <sup>1</sup> |                   | nur <sup>4</sup>   |                  | lark   |
| MZ  | ram <sup>4</sup> | $mumg^2$         | heu <sup>1</sup>  | deu <sup>1</sup>     |  |                   |                                   | tau <sup>6</sup>                       |                            | $ding^1$                                 | lari <sup>1</sup> |                   | ou <sub>9</sub> ou | han <sup>4</sup> | ya:k <sup>8</sup>                                |
| AL  | $rom^1$          | me?l             |                   | te7 <sup>2</sup>     | 2 <sup>8</sup> Bucb                              | sai <sup>1</sup>  | si <sup>2</sup> kiat <sup>2</sup> | $n \sim l^2$                           | ngel <sup>1</sup>          |  |                   | kiat <sup>2</sup> | ni?                | $an^1$           | rial   |
| PL  | $um^1$           | $mi7^2$          |                   | ka74174              | g <sup>3</sup>                                   | sai <sup>3</sup>  | kuat <sup>1</sup>                 | ka?zu²                                 | l <b>v</b> ng <sup>1</sup> |  |                   | ket <sup>2</sup>  |                    | $2n^2$           | xelh <sup>2</sup>                                |
| VA  | шсі              | mai              |                   | ij                   | bucb   |                   | kuat                              | n,au?                                  | lhvng                      | raung                                    | ne                | kiat              | ne?                |                  | riah   |
|     | water            | yon              | green             | one                  | moutain  | sand              | cold                              | ash                                    | yellow                     | red                                      | many              | bite              | flesh              | that             | root   |

opendix C. Mon-Khmer and Kham-Thai similar words in 2nd 100 words.

|  | VA   |   | PL                                | AL                 | MZ                                  | Z                  | BL                                  | DX       | OO                | DR                | MIL                                  | SS  | MLH                   | E.B.              | LT                |
|--|------|---|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|---|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| singai         ka4         nghai²         kjai¹         kvai¹         tçai¹         kai¹         jai²  | ည    | - | man <sup>4</sup> ni? <sup>1</sup> |                    | ki <sup>2</sup><br>nei <sup>4</sup> |                    | tçi <sup>2</sup><br>ni <sup>4</sup> | j3       |                   |                   | nin <sup>5</sup><br>nai <sup>6</sup> | ndjo <mark>ng<sup>3</sup></mark><br>naii <sup>6</sup> | ci <sup>1</sup> nazi6 | ni <sup>5</sup>   | nei <sup>2</sup>  |
| ba   kon   ka   ka   ka   ka   ka   ka   ba   ka   k   | sin  |   |                                   | nghai <sup>2</sup> | kjai <sup>1</sup>                   |                    | tçai <sup>1</sup>                   |          |                   |                   | cel                                  | qi <sup>1</sup>                                       | ci <sup>1</sup>       | lai <sup>1</sup>  | lai <sup>1</sup>  |
| ba         ka1         kha1         ka1         xa1         xa1         pa1           riah         tehek2         tejah1         sik7         cik7         sik9         sik7         jak9           r         ka74         vut7         vit7         kit8         vut8         sik7         jak9           r         vat2         ma72         me6         me6         me6         mai4           la         lhai1         lhai1         lai1         lai1         lai1         lai1         mi1           h         la         pui2         fou2         fu2         vu2         fu2         mai4           h         cot         pui2         ping2         phing2         peng2         peng2         peng2           tot         quuk1         kry2         vu2         fu2         fu2         mai4           khruing         xai3-         kap8         kap8         jiap8         jip7         mag3           kih         kilh2         kiu1         ku1         tu2         kab         kab         kab           kih         kilh2         kiu1         ku1         ku1         kab         kab         kab   |      |   |                                   | kon1               |                                     |                    |                                     |          |                   | on <sup>1</sup>   |                                      |   |                       |                   |                   |
| riah         tchek²         tcjah¹         sik²         cik²         sip²         sik²         jaxk³           r         kar²⁴         vut²         vut²         vit²         fet8         vut³         jaxk³           r         vat²         mar²²         me6         me6         me6         me7         ma;⁴           r         mar²         mar²         me6         me6         me6         me7         ma;⁴           la         lhai¹         lai¹         lai¹         lai¹         lai¹         lai¹         mi³           h         pur²         fou²         fu²         vu²         fu²         mi³         mi³           h         pur²         ping²         phimg¹         ping²         pcm²         ping²           t         tcot         qhurk¹         kry²         tuk²         tok²         tok²         tok²           khruing         xai³         kap8         kap8         kap8         jip²         pcm²         tok²         tok²           khruing         xai³         kih²         kul²         kul²         kul²         tok²         tok²         tok²           kih         kih²         kih² <t< td=""><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>ka<sup>1</sup></td><td></td><td>kal</td><td></td><td></td><td>pa<sup>1</sup></td><td></td><td>pal</td><td>pja<sup>1</sup></td><td>ha<sup>1</sup></td><td>hal</td></t<>  |      |   |                                   |                    | ka <sup>1</sup>                     |                    | kal                                 |          |                   | pa <sup>1</sup>   |                                      | pal   | pja <sup>1</sup>      | ha <sup>1</sup>   | hal               |
| kar4   |      |   |                                   |                    | sik <sup>7</sup>                    |                    | si77                                |          |                   | ja:k <sup>9</sup> |                                      | pja:k <sup>7</sup>                                    |                       |                   |                   |
| r         me?         ma?         me6         me6         me6         me7         moi4         moi4 <td>MO.</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>vut7</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Liea</td> <td>fet<sup>7</sup></td> <td></td>  | MO.  |   |                                   |                    | vut7                                |                    |                                     |          |                   |                   |                                      |   | Liea                  | fet <sup>7</sup>  |                   |
| Ia   Ihai¹   Ihai¹   Iai¹   Iai²   Ia²   Ia²   Ia²   Ia²   Iaa²   Iaa²   Iaa²   Iaa²   Iaa²   Iaa²   Iaa²   Iaa³   Iaaa³   Iaaaa³    |      |   |                                   | ma72               | mee                                 |                    | me <sub>6</sub>                     | 9        |                   |                   | ni <sup>4</sup>                      | ni <sup>4</sup>                                       | ni <sup>4</sup>       | pi6               | pai <sup>3</sup>  |
| h         puf²         fou²         fu²         vu²         fu²         fu²           t         teot         peng²         ping²         phimg¹         ping²         peng²         peng²         ping²           v         teot         qhuuk¹         krvik¹         tok²         tuk²         tok³         tok³         tok³         tok³           khruing         xai³-         xai³-         xai³-         hanβ³         hanβ³         hanβ³         hanβ³         hanβ³           kih         kih         kih²         kiu¹         kiu¹         kiu¹         kal²         ko¹         hanβ³         hanβ³           peh         pheik²         bek²         pi⁵         pi¹         ha¹         ha¹         toi²         toi²         toi²         toi²           tuik         ziat²;lot²         mat³         lauk²         lauk²         lauk²         mat²         mat²         mat²         hatβ         ha  |      |   |                                   | lhai <sup>1</sup>  | lai <sup>1</sup>                    |                    | lail                                |          |                   |                   | thoi 1                               | -lui5   | loi1                  |                   |                   |
| h         peng2         ping2         phimg1         ping2         peng2         pieng2           v         kɔp         opl         veh2         kap8         kap8         jiap8         ip7         tok7         tok1         tok2         tok1         tok1         tok1         tok2         tok2         tok1         tok2  | at   |   |                                   |                    | fou <sup>2</sup>                    | fu <sup>2</sup>    | vu <sup>2</sup>                     |          |                   |                   | fu <sup>2</sup>                      | mu1   |                       | bau <sup>1</sup>  | boul              |
| kort         qhuuk¹         kryik¹         tok²         tuk²         tok³         tok³         tok²  | ooth |   |                                   |                    | ping <sup>2</sup>                   | phimg <sup>1</sup> | ping <sup>2</sup>                   | $q^2$    |                   |                   | peng <sup>2</sup>                    | pjeng <sup>2</sup>                                    | peng <sup>2</sup>     | bing <sup>4</sup> |                   |
| khrwing         xai3-         kap8         kap8         jiap8         jip7         hang3           kih         nqheing1         kilh2         kilh2         kiul         kw1         kgu1         ka1         ka1           rha         rha         mat         bi5         pi1         mat         phiu1           peh         pheik2         pi5         pi3         phiu1         phiu1           twi         twi         taw2         tw2         tw2         tai2           tuk         ziat2;lot2         wat8         latk8         tatk8         tutk8         mat8         mat8         mat8         mat8           mat         mak2         mulk2         bark7         bark7         park2         bark7         park2         bark7  |      |   |                                   |                    | tok <sup>7</sup>                    | tuk7               | to?                                 |          |                   |                   |                                      | tok <sup>7</sup>                                      | pok <sup>7</sup>      | thok7             | thok <sup>7</sup> |
| khrwing         xai3-         kilh²         kju¹         kw¹         tçu¹         ka¹         ko¹           kih         kilh²         kilh²         kju¹         kw¹         tçu¹         ka²         ko¹           rha         peh         pheik²         pek²         pi⁵         pi³         phiu¹           twi         zjat²;lot²         yaik³         laik³         twt²         twt³         twt³           mat         mat²         mat³         baik²         mat³         mat³         mat³   |      |   |                                   | veh <sup>2</sup>   | kap <sup>8</sup>                    | kap <sup>8</sup>   | jiap <sup>8</sup>                   |          |                   |                   | iha:p7                               | miap <sup>7</sup>                                     | ja:p <sup>7</sup>     |                   |                   |
| kih         kilh²         kju¹         kw¹         tçu¹         kɔ¹         kɔ²         ko¹           rha         peh         pheik²         pi⁵         pi³         phiu¹           twi         pheik²         pi⁵         pi³         phiu¹           twi         twi         taw²         tw²         twi²         tri²           mat         nmat²         mat³         paːk²         mat²         mat²  |      |   | J.<br>Pinal                       |                    |                                     |                    |                                     |          | hang <sup>3</sup> |                   |                                      |   |                       |                   |                   |
| thapheik2bek2pi5pi1phiu1twi $tux^2$ $tux^2$ $tux^2$ $tux^2$ $tux^2$ tuk $zjat^2;lot^2$ $yaxk^8$ $laxk^8$ $laxk^8$ $laxk^8$ $tuxk^8$ $tuxk^8$ mat $mat^2$ $mat^3$ $mat^3$ $mat^3$ $mat^8$ $mat^8$ $mat^8$   |      |   | 3                                 | kilh <sup>2</sup>  | kju <sup>1</sup>                    | $km^{l}$           | tcul                                |          |                   |                   | cwa1                                 | dwa1  | kwo1                  |                   |                   |
| $ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$   |      |   |                                   |                    |                                     |                    |                                     |          |                   |                   |                                      |   |                       |                   |                   |
| tuit $tauu^2$ $tuu^2$ $tuu^2$ $toi^2$ tuk $ziat^2;lot^2$ $yark^8$ $lark^8$ $zarl^8$ $lark^8$ $turt^8$ mat $mat^2$ $mat^2$ $mat^2$ $mat^2$ $mat^2$  |      |   |                                   |                    | pi5                                 |                    | pi1                                 |          |                   |                   | phy1                                 |   |                       | phi5              | phi <sup>2</sup>  |
| tuk         zjat²;lot²         yaik8         laik8         zai/8         laik8         tunt8           mat         mat²         mat³         mat8         mat8   |      |   |                                   |                    | tam <sup>2</sup>                    |                    | tur <sup>2</sup>                    |          |                   |                   |                                      | tai <sup>2</sup>                                      |                       |                   |                   |
| mat nmat <sup>2</sup> mat <sup>3</sup> mat <sup>8</sup> mat <sup>8</sup>   |      |   |                                   |                    | ya:k8                               |                    | za:78                               | 8        |                   |                   |                                      | da <b>:</b> k <sup>7</sup>                            |                       |                   |                   |
| mok <sup>2</sup> muk <sup>2</sup>  |      |   |                                   | mat <sup>3</sup>   |                                     |                    |                                     | <b>∞</b> | mat8              |                   |                                      |   |                       |                   |                   |
| THE THE PARTY OF T |      | - |                                   | muk <sup>2</sup>   |                                     | bark <sup>7</sup>  |                                     |          |                   |                   |                                      |   |                       |                   |                   |

ppendix C. Continued

|       | VA               | PL                         | AL                                | ZW                               | Z                 | BL                | DX               | QQ                | DR                 | MLL               | SS               | MLH                | LB               | LT                |
|-------|------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| sharp | mcl              |                            |                                   | $\lim_{t\to 0} 1$ ;              | tim <sup>3</sup>  | som1              | lem <sup>1</sup> | lem <sup>1</sup>  |                    |                   |                  | sam <sup>1</sup>   |                  |                   |
|       |                  |                            |                                   | som                              |                   |                   |                  |                   |                    |                   |                  |                    |                  |                   |
| and   |                  | tam <sup>2</sup>           |                                   | nem <sup>1</sup>                 |                   | tiam <sup>1</sup> |                  |                   | $n_{jim}^1$        |                   |                  | ndjam <sup>5</sup> |                  |                   |
| wing  | pruik            | phvik <sup>1</sup>         | pruik <sup>1</sup>                |                                  | pik <sup>7</sup>  |                   | pik <sup>9</sup> | pik <sup>7</sup>  |                    |                   |                  |                    | phia?7           | phisk7            |
| lake  | Bunpm <b>∑</b> i | nhong <sup>1</sup>         |                                   |                                  |                   |                   | l bucu           | long <sup>1</sup> |                    |                   |                  |                    |                  |                   |
| heavy | kian             | ka?4-<br>kian <sup>3</sup> | tçian <sup>3</sup>                |                                  |                   |                   |                  |                   | tjhan <sup>1</sup> | jhan <sup>1</sup> | zan <sup>1</sup> | zan <sup>1</sup>   |                  | khum <sup>1</sup> |
| think | kvi              | $ka74kvt^1$                | kv1 <sup>3</sup>                  |                                  |                   |                   | kmt <sup>8</sup> |                   |                    |                   |                  |                    |                  |                   |
| play  | kl <u>e</u> h    |                            | 127 <sup>1</sup> 1ε7 <sup>1</sup> |                                  |                   |                   |                  | le <sup>5</sup>   |                    |                   |                  |                    |                  |                   |
| there | tan              |                            | ka <sup>2</sup> tin <sup>1</sup>  | ki <sup>2</sup> han <sup>4</sup> |                   |                   | $\sim$           | than <sup>3</sup> |                    |                   |                  |                    |                  |                   |
| fruit | m <u>a</u> k     |                            |                                   | ma:k <sup>7</sup>                | ma±k <sup>7</sup> |                   | <i>-</i>         | ma:k<br>7         |                    |                   |                  |                    |                  |                   |
| dust  |                  |                            | $bin^2$                           | pon <sup>5</sup>                 |                   |                   | fun <sup>5</sup> |                   | phən <sup>1</sup>  |                   | $von^1$          |                    | fan <sup>2</sup> |                   |
| rub   | 1 <u>c</u> 2     | ot <sup>1</sup>            | oat <sup>1</sup>                  | un <sup>7</sup>                  |                   | urt7              |                  |                   |                    |                   |                  |                    |                  |                   |