

16 *The impact of English loanwords on the Cantonese syllabary*

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1 Introduction

No Chinese variety has had more intimate and longer contact with English than Cantonese. Their contact began just over 300 years ago when the early English-speaking traders arrived in Guangzhou to exchange silver for Chinese tea, porcelain, silk, and other goods. Today the effect of English influence on the Cantonese language shows up most clearly in the Hong Kong Cantonese lexicon in which hundreds of English loanwords occur (cf. Bauer and Benedict 1997:361–405). Some of these loanwords have been in use in Hong Kong Cantonese for such a long time that they have an official status and are written with Chinese characters, for example, *ba*¹-*si*^{6/3} ‘bus’ and *tek*^{7A}-*si*^{6/3} ‘taxi’;¹ further, many Cantonese speakers who do not speak English assume such words as these and others are ordinary Cantonese words.

In studying English loanwords in Hong Kong Cantonese we have several advantages over trying to identify the source languages of other kinds of loanwords (cf. Bauer 1996): first, the borrowing was not so long ago as to render the identity of the source words in English irrecoverable; second, the contact and borrowing are still ongoing with the objects

¹ The Cantonese lexical tone categories are indicated by raised numbers following the syllables as follows (the two-digit number following the tone contour name represents the start point and end point of the tone contour on the five-point scale): ¹ High Level (55); ² Mid-low Falling (21); ³ High Rising (25); ⁴ Mid-low Rising (23); ⁵ Mid Level (33); ⁶ Mid-low Level (22); ^{7A} High Stopped (55); ^{7B} Mid Stopped (33); ⁸ Mid-low Stopped (22). The morphological changed tone (known as *pinjam*) is marked by separating the basic tone from the changed tone which is usually tone 3 High Rising with the slash ‘/’; for example, *si*^{6/3} indicates the basic tone is tone 6 Mid-low Level and the changed tone is tone 3 High Rising.

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of our study in use right before our eyes (and ears) and so easily accessible; and third, the phonological systems of English and Cantonese are so markedly different and the loanwords so abundant that the phonetic adaptation of English loanwords into Cantonese can be described as a series of distinctive and principled correspondences.

One aspect of the borrowing of English words into Cantonese that has particularly interested me for some time has been the impact that the phonetic adaptation of English loanwords has had on the structure and development of the Cantonese syllabary. Structure refers to the phonetic shapes of syllables and the total number of them that occur in Cantonese; development recognises that the syllabary has been continuously evolving as new syllables are created and then added to it. The phrase 'new syllables' means just that: syllables that did not exist prior to the borrowing of the loanword have been constructed through the combination of existing initial consonants and rimes to form new syllables with which to represent the loanwords. Although there are constraints on the structure of syllables imposed by the phonotactics of the language, the Cantonese phonological system is still flexible and expansive enough to accommodate loanwords; it has no need to borrow any sounds from English it does not already have but has been able to handle loanwords through the recombination of its existing phonetic resources.

The value of studying the impact of English loanwords on the Cantonese syllabary is that it provides us with concrete evidence of language change that has resulted from language contact.

2 Cantonese syllabary

The first step in the identification of uniquely loanword syllables is to map out the Cantonese syllabary. The syllabary can be constructed by first listing the 20 initial consonants across the top of the page and the 56 rimes down the far left side. The resulting intersections of columns of initial consonants with rows of rimes form a matrix of syllables and yields a potential of 1,120 syllables (recognising the occurrence of the two nasal syllabics $_$ and η raises the possible number of syllables to 1,122). One can then check through the individual syllables to identify them as either occurring or non-occurring. Appendix 3 of Bauer and Benedict (1997:486–487) has been updated and reproduced in this paper as Appendix 2. The syllables in the syllabary are classified into four categories as follows:

- 1) Cantonese syllables that are associated with the standard Chinese characters (which are used to write the modern standard Chinese language) as their standard reading pronunciations. These syllables are unmarked in the syllabary.
- 2) Cantonese syllables that occur in the colloquial stratum of the lexicon and are not cognate with their semantic and functional equivalents in standard Chinese. These colloquial morphosyllables may not have standard Chinese characters associated

with them as their written forms; but if they do, the characters have been borrowed for their homophonous pronunciations. Many colloquial morphosyllables are represented by dialectal characters which have been especially created for this purpose. The colloquial syllables are marked with the superscript 'c'.

- 3) Syllables that only occur in the representation of English loanwords. These loanword syllables are marked with the superscript '+'.
4) The non-occurring syllables are marked with the superscript 'n'.

As far as I am aware, this syllabary is the only one that explicitly marks the non-occurring syllables.² The purpose in doing this is to try to determine if there is an underlying pattern of avoiding certain types of syllables. This idea is further considered in §4 below. Because syllables occurring in loanwords can be homophonous with syllables belonging to categories 1 and 2, the syllabary described here makes it possible to identify those syllables that uniquely occur in the representation of English loanwords.

3 English loanword syllables

In my first attempt (Bauer 1985) to produce a comprehensive Cantonese syllabary in which the loanword syllables were explicitly marked, a total of 30 loanword syllables were

² A number of Cantonese syllabaries have been published over the years, and the forms these syllabaries have taken have varied. One type of syllabary has simply listed the series of morphosyllables in phonetic transcription followed by standard Chinese characters which are pronounced with the morphosyllables, as in Yu 1982. A second type of syllabary has been based on the matrix of phonetically transcribed initial consonants either down or across one side of the page and the rimes in the corresponding direction; Chinese characters are written at the intersections of initials and rimes to mark the occurrence of morphosyllables, as in Kao (1971:177–184) and Yue-Hashimoto (1972:205–398). Rao et al (1981:296–302), however, indicated the occurrence of morphosyllables with a single or double slanted line. This second type of syllabary has typically recognised the standard and many colloquial morphosyllables but excluded those morphosyllables that occur only in English loanwords. In terms of its recognition of the first three kinds of occurring morphosyllables referred to above, Yue-Hashimoto's syllabary is by far the most comprehensive by listing all the standard and almost all the colloquial Chinese characters with which Cantonese morphosyllables are written; her syllabary also recognises some English loanwords. However, marking the occurrence of Cantonese morphosyllables in a syllabary with Chinese characters has necessarily limited the morphosyllables that can be recognised to those which are associated with Chinese characters: even if the morphosyllables do exist in the spoken language, they have no written forms and so are overlooked. The syllabary on the inside front cover of the index of standard Chinese characters in Cantonese romanisation compiled by the Linguistic Society of Hong Kong (Linguistic Society of Hong Kong 1997) has this limitation. In order to recognise the characterless morphosyllables, Kao (1971) marked them with the check mark. Yue-Hashimoto recorded English glosses enclosed within parentheses to indicate these syllables. In addition, the phrase 'taboo syllable' recognised morphosyllables regarded as vulgar and obscene (even though dialectal characters exist for writing these).

recognised. However, a recheck of these reduced the number to 26 because it was found that four syllables were actually homophonous with colloquial syllables. Twelve years later Bauer and Benedict (1997:410) identified 40 English loanword syllables. My most recent tally has now noted 49 such syllables and these have been listed and exemplified in Appendix 1. It is possible that my earlier research for identifying the loanword syllables may have undercounted some of them, and that the number of new syllables that entered Cantonese over the past two decades may be less than 23; nonetheless, I do believe the pattern of increase from 26 loanword syllables in 1985 to 40 in 1997 and to 49 in 2002 does point to a gradual expansion of the Cantonese syllabary as a result of the contact between Cantonese and English.

Represented among the set of 49 loanword syllables listed in Appendix 1 are 23 different rimes. When we look at these rimes within the framework of the Cantonese syllabary's four categories of syllables as described above, the most remarkable thing we discover is that there is nothing unusual about them. First, all these rimes belong to the set of 56 Cantonese rimes, so none are non-occurring. Second, they can be categorised into two sets: (1) rimes that occur in syllables that are associated with the standard Chinese characters: *-i, -æ, -u, -ɔ, -iw, -ow, -ej, -ɔj, -im, -in, -im, -it, -eŋ, -eŋ, -ɛk, -at, -ɔn, -ɔt*; and (2) rimes that occur in colloquial morphosyllables: *-ɛw, -ɛm, -ɛn, -ɛp, -ɛt*. Admittedly, this is the only syllabary that has recognised all five of these colloquial rimes (the syllabary in Rao et al (1981:298) listed *-ɛm, -ɛp, and -ɛt*, but only syllable *kɛm* is marked as occurring). Appendix 4.1 in Bauer and Benedict (1997:488–496) listed lexical items from the colloquial lexicon (including both words and phrases) in which the five rimes occur.

4 Conclusion

The phonetic structure of loanword syllables seems to be an extension of phonetic patterns observed in the occurrence of colloquial syllables. In looking at all four types of syllables, can we identify accidental and systematic gaps in the Cantonese syllabary? Do the non-occurring syllables establish a pattern that underlies Cantonese phonotactics in which certain types of syllables are disallowed? In examining the non-occurring syllables that are marked in Appendix 2, we observe that four labially articulated initial consonants have the following number of non-occurring syllables out of the 56 that are possible: *khw*-41, *kw*-35, *w*-27, *f*-23. These numbers may indicate a tendency to avoid syllables with labial initial consonants. Other non-occurring syllables seem to suggest a tendency to avoid syllables that have both labially-articulated initial and final consonants, yet we must also note the occurrence of *piw, phiw, miw, pɛw, phɛw, mɛw, paw, phaw, maw* among others as readings of standard Chinese characters, and *pɛm, pɛp, phɛp, mɛm,* and *wiw* in the colloquial lexicon. There may also be a tendency to avoid syllables in which all three elements, including the nuclear vowel, are labially-articulated; but again we find that *pow*,

phow and *mow* are readings of standard Chinese characters, while *wow* occurs in the colloquial lexicon and *fow* in an English loanword. For any of these patterns that appear to underlie the labial dissimilation constraint that has been posited for Cantonese (Yue-Hashimoto 1972:139; Light 1977:79), counterexamples occur among the syllables associated with standard Chinese characters, syllables from the colloquial lexicon, and those that occur in loanwords. In view of the complex distribution of syllables within the syllabary and the trend for the number of loanword syllables to increase, the matters of identifying the accidental and systematic gaps in the Cantonese syllabary and mapping out Cantonese phonotactics still await a satisfying resolution.

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Appendix 1: 49 “new” Cantonese syllables created by borrowing English words.

<i>pɔːjʹ</i> ‘boy’	(Bauer 1985: 101)
<i>pɛːnʹ</i> ‘band’	(Zhang 1972: 221)
<i>phæː</i> in <i>phæːl-sɛːnʹ</i> ‘percent’	(Rao et al. 1981: 179)
<i>phaːt</i> in <i>phaːt^{7A}-naː²</i> ‘partner’	(Zhang 1972: 221)
<i>phɔːt</i> in <i>phaːl-siː-phɔːt^{7A}</i> ‘passport’	(Zhang 1972: 225)
<i>tɛːn</i> in <i>khɔːn-tɛːnʹ-saː²</i> ‘condenser’	(Zhang 1972: 223)
<i>tɔːn</i> in <i>aː⁵-tɔːnʹ</i> ‘Don’	(Bauer 1994)
<i>thiː</i> in <i>thiː-sət^{7A}</i> ‘T-shirt’	(Zhang 1972: 220)
<i>thej</i> in <i>thejʹ-siː²</i> ‘taste’	(Bauer 2001)
<i>thɛːn</i> in <i>thɛːnʹ-niː⁶-siː²</i> ‘tennis’	(Zhang 1986: 48)
<i>kɛːmʹ</i> ‘game’	(Zhang 1972: 222)
<i>khɔːlʹ</i> ‘call’	(Bauer 1985: 101)
<i>khɔːnʹ</i> ‘coin’	(Bauer 1985: 101)
<i>khiːp</i> in <i>khiːp^{7A}-fiːt^{7A}</i> ‘keep fit’	(Bauer 1985: 101)
<i>kheːp</i> in <i>kheːp^{7A}-thən²</i> ‘captain’	(Zhang 1972: 221)
<i>khaːt^{7A}</i> ‘card’	(Yue-Hashimoto 1972: 329)
<i>khɔːt^{7A}</i> ‘court’	(Bauer 1994)
<i>khwiːmʹ</i> ‘cream’	(Cathy Wong pc 4/12/97)
<i>khwiːnʹ</i> ‘queen’	(Chan & Kwok 1982: 114)
<i>khwiːt^{7A}</i> ‘quit’	(Bauer 1997)
<i>muː</i> in <i>muːl-fiː²</i> ‘movie’	(Zhang 1972: 224)
<i>mɛːnʹ</i> MAN ‘manly’	<dung1 jing1 zai2> March 1997, #45:22 (adultcomic book)
<i>mɔːnʹ</i> ‘monitor (for computer)’	(Cheung Kwan-hin pc 1997)
<i>mɛːk</i> in <i>mɛːk⁸-kheːnʹ</i> ‘mechanical’	(Kiu 1977: 19)
<i>fiːw</i> in <i>fiːwʹ-siː²</i> ‘fuse’	(Zhang 1972: 217)
<i>fow</i> in <i>siːl-fow²</i> ‘civil’	(Bauer & Benedict 1997: 365)
<i>fɛːnʹ</i> ‘friend’	(Zhang 1986: 44)
<i>fɔːt^{7A}</i> ‘volt’	(Zhang 1972: 227)
<i>fɛːk</i> in <i>fɛːk^{7A}-siː²</i> ‘fax’	(Zhang & Ni 1999: 393)
<i>sɛːw</i> in <i>sɛːwʹ-siː²</i> ‘sales’	(Bauer 1997)
<i>sɛːm⁴</i> ‘semester’	(Bauer 1997)
<i>sɛːn</i> in <i>phæːl-sɛːnʹ</i> ‘percent’	(Rao et al 1981: 179)
<i>hɛːp</i> in <i>hɛːp^{7A}-phiː²</i> ‘happy’	(Zhang & Ni 1999: 393)
<i>tsej</i> in <i>tiːl-tsejʹ</i> ‘DJ (disk jockey)’	(Zhang 1986: 45)
<i>tɛːmʹ</i> ‘jam’	(Zhang 1972: 217)
<i>tsɔːn</i> in <i>aː⁵-tsɔːnʹ</i> ‘John’	(Bauer 1994)
<i>wiːn</i> in <i>wiːnʹ-naː²</i> ‘winner’	(Zhang 1972: 222)
<i>wɛːn</i> in <i>wɛːnʹ-tɕj²</i> ‘van’	(Cheung 1986: 33)
<i>wɔːn</i> in <i>wɔːnʹ-lɛːl-laː²</i> ‘vanilla’	(Zhang 1986: 49)
<i>lɛːp</i> in <i>lɛːp^{7A}-pɔːlʹ</i> ‘net-ball (in table tennis)’	(Cheung Kwan-hin pc 1997)
<i>jɛːwʹ</i> ‘yell at’	(Cheung Pak-man pc 6/3/00)
<i>jɛːnʹ</i> ‘(Japanese) Yen’	(Cheung 1986: 33)
<i>juːlʹ</i> ‘U’ (short form for <i>university</i>)	(Zhang & Ni 1999: 396)
<i>iːn</i> in <i>iːnʹ-tɕiː²</i> ‘inch’	(Zhang 1986: 46)
<i>eŋ</i> in <i>eŋʹ-liːt^{7A}</i> ‘Eng. Lit.’	(Zhang 1986: 48)
<i>ɛːm</i> in <i>ɛːmʹ-siːlʹ</i> ‘MC’	(Zhang 1986: 45)
<i>ɛːn</i> in <i>ɛːnʹ-tɕiːn²</i> ‘engine’	(Zhang 1972: 224);
<i>ɛːnʹ-khɔːlʹ</i> ‘encore’	(Zhang & Ni 1999: 392);
<i>ɛːn²-tɕiːlʹ</i> N.G. ‘no good’	(Bauer & Benedict 1997: 405)
<i>ɛːŋ</i> in <i>waːjʹ-ɛːŋʹ-kow²</i> ‘wide-angle’	(Zhang 1972: 225)
<i>ɛːk</i> in <i>ɛːk^{7A}-siːl-kwɔːŋʹ</i> ‘X-ray’	(Zhang 1972: 213)

Appendix 2: Cantonese syllabary.

No mark = syllable associated with standard character; ^c = colloquial; ⁺ = in English loanword; ⁿ = non-occurring.

	p-	ph-	t-	th-	k-	kh	kw-	khw-	m-	n-	ŋ-	f-	s-/ç-	h-	ts-/tç-	tsh-/tç	w-	l-	j-	-
-i	^c pi	^c phi	^c ti	⁺ thi	^c ki	^c khi	ⁿ kwi	ⁿ khwi	^c mi	^c ni	^c ŋi	^c fi	si	^c hi	tci	tchi	^c wi	^c li	ji	ⁿ i
-iw	piw	phiw	tiw	thiw	kiw	khiw	ⁿ kwiw	ⁿ khwiw	miw	niw	ⁿ ŋiw	⁺ fiw	siw	hiw	tciw	tchiw	^c wiw	liw	jiw	ⁿ iw
-im	ⁿ pim	ⁿ phim	tim	thim	kim	khim	kwim	⁺ khwim	ⁿ mim	nim	ⁿ ŋim	ⁿ fim	sim	him	tçim	tchim	ⁿ wim	lim	jim	ⁿ im
-in	pn	phin	tin	thin	kin	khin	ⁿ kwin	⁺ khwin	min	nin	ⁿ ŋin	ⁿ fin	sin	hin	tçin	tchin	⁺ win	lin	jin	⁺ in
-ip	ⁿ pip	ⁿ phip	tip	thip	kip	⁺ khip	ⁿ kwip	ⁿ khwip	ⁿ mip	nip	ⁿ ŋip	ⁿ fip	sip	hip	tçip	tchip	ⁿ wip	lip	jip	ⁿ ip
-it	pit	phit	tit	thit	kit	khit	kwit	⁺ khwit	mit	ⁿ nit	^c ŋit	^c fit	sit	hit	tçit	tçhit	^c wit	lit	jit	ⁿ it
-y	ⁿ py	ⁿ phy	ⁿ ty	ⁿ thy	ⁿ ky	ⁿ khy	ⁿ kwy	ⁿ khwy	ⁿ my	ⁿ ny	ⁿ ŋy	ⁿ fy	çy	ⁿ hy	tçy	tçhy	ⁿ wy	ⁿ ly	jy	ⁿ y
-yn	ⁿ pyn	ⁿ phyn	ty	thy	kyn	khy	ⁿ kwyn	ⁿ khwyn	ⁿ myn	nyn	ⁿ ŋyn	ⁿ fyn	çyn	hyn	tçyn	tçhyn	ⁿ wyn	lyn	jyn	ⁿ yn
-yt	ⁿ pyt	ⁿ phyt	tyt	⁺ thyt	^c kyt	khyt	ⁿ kwyt	ⁿ khwyt	ⁿ myt	ⁿ nyt	ⁿ ŋyt	ⁿ fyt	çyt	hyt	tçyt	tçhyt	ⁿ wyt	lyt	jyt	ⁿ yt
-ej	pej	phej	tej	⁺ thej	kej	khey	ⁿ kwej	ⁿ khwej	mej	nej	ⁿ ŋej	fej	sej	hej	⁺ tsej	ⁿ tshej	ⁿ wěj	lej	ⁿ jej	ej
-eŋ	peŋ	pheŋ	teŋ	theŋ	keŋ	kheŋ	kwēŋ	^c khweŋ	meŋ	neŋ	ŋeŋ	^c feŋ	seŋ	heŋ	tseŋ	tshēŋ	wēŋ	leŋ	jeŋ	⁺ eŋ
-ek	pek	phek	tek	thek	kek	^c khek	kwēk	^c khwek	mek	nek	ⁿ ŋek	^c fek	sek	ⁿ hek	tsek	tshēk	wēk	lek	jek	ⁿ ek
-ε	^c pε	^c phe	tε	ⁿ the	^c kε	khe	^c kwε	ⁿ khwε	^c mε	^c nε	^c ŋε	^c fε	sε	^c hε	tse	tshε	^c wε	^c lε	jε	^c ε
-εw	^c pεw	ⁿ phεw	^c tεw	ⁿ thεw	^c kεw	^c khεw	ⁿ kwεw	ⁿ khwεw	^c mεw	ⁿ nεw	ⁿ ŋεw	ⁿ fεw	⁺ sεw	ⁿ hεw	^c tsew	ⁿ tshεw	ⁿ wεw	^c lεw	⁺ jεw	ⁿ εw
-εm	ⁿ pεm	ⁿ phεm	^c tεm	ⁿ thεm	⁺ kεm	^c khεm	ⁿ kwεm	ⁿ khwεm	ⁿ mεm	ⁿ nεm	ⁿ ŋεm	ⁿ fεm	⁺ sεm	ⁿ hεm	⁺ tse	ⁿ tshεm	ⁿ wεm	^c lεm	ⁿ jεm	⁺ εm
-εn	⁺ pεn	ⁿ phεn	⁺ tεn	⁺ thεn	ⁿ kεn	^c khεn	ⁿ kwεn	ⁿ khwεn	⁺ mεn	ⁿ nεn	ⁿ ŋεn	⁺ fεn	⁺ sεn	ⁿ hεn	ⁿ tse	ⁿ tshεn	⁺ wεn	ⁿ lεn	⁺ jεn	⁺ εn
-εŋ	peŋ	pheŋ	teŋ	theŋ	keŋ	^c khεŋ	kwēŋ	ⁿ khwēŋ	mεŋ	nεŋ	ŋεŋ	ⁿ fεŋ	seŋ	heŋ	tseŋ	tshēŋ	wēŋ	leŋ	jεŋ	⁺ eŋ
-εp	ⁿ pεp	ⁿ phεp	^c tεp	ⁿ thεp	^c kεp	⁺ khep	ⁿ kwεp	ⁿ khwεp	ⁿ mεp	^c nεp	ⁿ ŋεp	ⁿ fεp	ⁿ sεp	⁺ hεp	^c tse	ⁿ tshεp	ⁿ wεp	⁺ lεp	ⁿ jεp	^c εp
-εt	^c pεt	^c phεt	^c tεt	^c thεt	ⁿ kεt	^c khεt	^c kwεt	ⁿ khwεt	ⁿ mεt	ⁿ nεt	^c ŋεt	^c fεt	ⁿ sεt	ⁿ hεt	ⁿ tse	^c tshεt	^c wεt	^c lεt	ⁿ jεt	^c εt
-εk	pek	phek	tek	thek	ⁿ kek	khek	^c kwεk	ⁿ khwεk	⁺ mεk	ⁿ nek	^c ŋεk	⁺ fεk	sek	hek	tsek	tshēk	wēk	lek	ⁿ jek	⁺ ek
-æ	ⁿ pæ	⁺ phæ	tæ	^c thæ	^c kæ	^c khæ	ⁿ kwæ	ⁿ khwæ	ⁿ mæ	^c næ	ⁿ ŋæ	ⁿ fæ	^c sæ	hæ	^c tçæ	^c tchæ	ⁿ wæ	^c læ	ⁿ jæ	^c æ
-æŋ	ⁿ pæŋ	ⁿ phæŋ	^c tæŋ	ⁿ thæŋ	kæŋ	khæŋ	ⁿ kwæŋ	ⁿ khwæŋ	ⁿ mæŋ	næŋ	ŋæŋ	ⁿ fæŋ	sæŋ	hæŋ	tçæŋ	tchæŋ	ⁿ wæŋ	læŋ	jæŋ	ⁿ æŋ
-æk	ⁿ pæk	ⁿ phæk	tæk	ⁿ thæk	kæk	khæk	ⁿ kwæk	ⁿ khwæk	ⁿ mæk	ⁿ næk	ⁿ ŋæk	ⁿ fæk	sæk	ⁿ hæk	tçæk	tchæk	ⁿ wæk	læk	jæk	ⁿ æk
-œy	ⁿ pœy	ⁿ phœy	tœy	thœy	kœy	khœy	ⁿ kwœy	ⁿ khwœy	ⁿ mœy	nœy	ŋœy	ⁿ fœy	sœy	hœy	tçœy	tchœy	ⁿ wœy	lœy	jœy	ⁿ œy
-œn	ⁿ pœn	ⁿ phœn	tœn	thœn	kœn	khœn	ⁿ kwœn	ⁿ khwœn	ⁿ mœn	nœn	ŋœn	ⁿ fœn	sœn	ⁿ hœn	tçœn	tchœn	ⁿ wœn	lœn	jœn	ⁿ œn
-œt	ⁿ pœt	ⁿ phœt	tœt	thœt	kœt	khœt	ⁿ kwœt	ⁿ khwœt	ⁿ mœt	nœt	ŋœt	ⁿ fœt	sœt	ⁿ hœt	tçœt	tchœt	ⁿ wœt	lœt	^c jœt	^c œt
-ej	pěj	phej	tej	thej	kej	khej	kwěj	khwěj	měj	nej	ŋěj	fěj	sěj	hej	tsej	tshěj	wěj	lej	jej	ej
-ew	^c pew	phew	tew	thew	kew	khew	ⁿ kwew	ⁿ khwew	mew	new	ŋew	few	sew	hew	tsew	tshew	ⁿ wew	lew	jew	ew

Appendix 2: Cantonese syllabary (continued).

	p-	ph-	t-	th-	k-	kh-	kw-	khw-	m-	n-	ŋ	f-	s-	h-	ts-	tsh-	w-	l-	j-	Ø-
-em	^c pem	ⁿ phem	^c tem	^c them	kem	khem	ⁿ kwem	ⁿ khwem	^c mem	^c nem	^c ŋem	ⁿ fem	sem	hem	tsem	tshem	ⁿ wem	lem	jem	em
-en	pen	phen	ten	then	ken	khen	kwen	khwen	men	nen	ŋen	fen	sen	hen	tsen	tshen	wen	^c len	jen	^c en
-ej	pej	phøj	tej	thej	kej	khej	kwøj	khwej	møj	nej	^c ŋej	^c føj	søj	hej	tsøj	tshøj	wøj	^c lej	ⁿ jej	ej
-ep	^c pep	^c phøj	^c tep	^c thøj	køj	khej	ⁿ kwep	ⁿ khwep	ⁿ mep	nep	^c ŋep	ⁿ fep	søj	hep	tsøj	tshøj	ⁿ wep	lep	jep	^c ep
-et	pet	phøj	tet	ⁿ thet	ket	khøj	kwet	ⁿ khwet	met	net	ŋet	fet	søj	het	tsøj	tshøj	wet	^c let	jet	^c et
-ek	pek	^c phøj	tøk	ⁿ thøk	ⁿ kek	^c khøk	^c kwøk	^c khwøk	møk	^c nøk	ŋøk	^c føk	søk	høk	tsøk	tshøk	ⁿ wøk	løk	ⁿ jek	øk
-a	pa	pha	ta	tha	ka	kha	kwa	khwa	ma	na	ŋa	fa	sa	ha	tsa	tsha	wa	^c la	ja	a
-aj	paj	phaj	taj	thaj	kaj	khaj	kwaj	^c khwaj	maj	naj	ŋaj	faj	saj	haj	tsaj	tshaj	waj	laj	^c jaj	aj
-aw	paw	phaw	ⁿ taw	ⁿ thaw	kaw	khaw	ⁿ kwaw	ⁿ khwaw	maw	naw	ŋaw	ⁿ faw	saw	haw	tsaw	tshaw	ⁿ waw	law	^c jaw	aw
-am	ⁿ pam	ⁿ pham	tam	tham	kam	ⁿ kham	ⁿ kwam	ⁿ khwam	ⁿ mam	nam	ŋam	ⁿ fam	sam	ham	tsam	tsham	ⁿ wam	lam	^c jam	am
-an	pan	phan	tan	than	kan	ⁿ khan	kwam	ⁿ khwan	man	nan	ŋan	fan	san	han	tsan	tshan	wan	lan	ⁿ jan	an
-aŋ	paŋ	phaŋ	taŋ	thaŋ	kaŋ	^c khaj	^c kwaj	khwaŋ	maŋ	naŋ	ŋaŋ	faj	saj	haj	tsaj	tshaj	waj	laŋ	^c jaŋ	aŋ
-ap	ⁿ pap	ⁿ phap	tap	thap	kap	ⁿ khap	ⁿ kwap	ⁿ khwap	ⁿ map	nap	^c ŋap	ⁿ fap	sap	hap	tsap	tshap	ⁿ wap	lap	^c jap	ap
-at	pat	ⁿ phat	tat	that	^c kat	ⁿ khaj	kwat	ⁿ khwat	^c mat	nat	^c ŋat	fat	sat	ⁿ hat	tsat	tshat	wat	lat	ⁿ jat	at
-ak	pak	phak	^c tak	ⁿ thak	kak	ⁿ khak	kwak	^c khwak	mak	ⁿ nak	ŋak	^c fak	^c sak	hak	tsak	tshak	wak	^c lak	^c jak	ak
-u	^c pu	^c phu	tu	^c thu	ku	khu	ⁿ kwu	ⁿ khwu	ⁿ mu	ⁿ nu	ⁿ ŋu	fu	ⁿ su	ⁿ hu	ⁿ tsu	ⁿ tshu	wu	^c lu	ⁿ ju	ⁿ u
-uj	puj	phuj	ⁿ tuj	ⁿ thuj	^c kuj	khuj	ⁿ kwuj	ⁿ khwuj	muj	ⁿ nuj	ⁿ ŋuj	fuj	ⁿ suj	ⁿ huj	ⁿ tsuj	ⁿ tshuj	wuj	ⁿ luj	ⁿ juj	ⁿ uj
-un	pun	phun	ⁿ tun	ⁿ thun	kun	ⁿ khun	ⁿ kwun	ⁿ khwun	mun	ⁿ nun	ⁿ ŋun	fun	ⁿ sun	ⁿ hun	ⁿ tsun	ⁿ tshun	wun	ⁿ lun	ⁿ jun	ⁿ un
-ut	put	phut	ⁿ tut	ⁿ thut	^c kut	khut	ⁿ kwut	ⁿ khwut	mut	ⁿ nut	ⁿ ŋut	fut	ⁿ sut	ⁿ hut	ⁿ tsut	ⁿ tshut	wut	ⁿ lut	ⁿ jut	ⁿ ut
-øk	pek	^c phøj	tøk	ⁿ thøk	ⁿ kek	^c khøk	^c kwøk	^c khwøk	møk	^c nøk	ŋøk	^c føk	søk	høk	tsøk	tshøk	ⁿ wøk	løk	ⁿ jek	øk
-ow	pow	phow	tow	thow	kow	ⁿ khow	ⁿ kwow	ⁿ khwow	mow	now	ŋow	ⁿ fow	sow	how	tsow	tshow	^c wow	low	ⁿ jow	ow
-oŋ	poŋ	phoŋ	toŋ	thoŋ	koŋ	khøŋ	ⁿ kwøŋ	ⁿ khwoŋ	moŋ	noŋ	^c ŋoŋ	foŋ	soŋ	hoŋ	tsøŋ	tshøŋ	^c woŋ	loŋ	joŋ	oŋ
-ok	pok	phok	tok	thok	køk	khøk	ⁿ kwøk	ⁿ khwøk	møk	^c nøk	ŋøk	føk	søk	høk	tsøk	tshøk	ⁿ wøk	løk	jøk	øk
-ɔ	pɔ	phɔ	tɔ	thɔ	kɔ	ⁿ khɔ	kwɔ	ⁿ khwɔ	mɔ	nɔ	ŋɔ	fɔ	sɔ	hɔ	tsɔ	tshɔ	wɔ	lɔ	^c jɔ	ɔ
-ɔj	ⁿ pɔj	ⁿ phɔj	tɔj	thɔj	kɔj	khɔj	ⁿ kwɔj	ⁿ khwɔj	ⁿ mɔj	nɔj	ŋɔj	ⁿ fɔj	sɔj	hɔj	tsɔj	tshɔj	ⁿ wɔj	lɔj	ⁿ jɔj	ɔj
-ɔn	ⁿ pɔn	ⁿ phɔn	ⁿ tɔn	ⁿ thɔn	kɔn	ⁿ khɔn	ⁿ kwɔn	ⁿ khwɔn	ⁿ mɔn	ⁿ nɔn	ŋɔn	ⁿ fɔn	ⁿ sɔn	hɔn	ⁿ tsɔn	ⁿ tshɔn	ⁿ wɔn	ⁿ lɔn	ⁿ jɔn	ɔn
-ɔŋ	pɔŋ	phøŋ	tɔŋ	thøŋ	køŋ	khøŋ	kwøŋ	khwøŋ	møŋ	nøŋ	ŋøŋ	føŋ	søŋ	høŋ	tsøŋ	tshøŋ	wøŋ	løŋ	ⁿ jøŋ	øŋ
-ɔt	ⁿ pɔt	ⁿ phøt	ⁿ tɔt	ⁿ thøt	køt	ⁿ khøt	ⁿ kwøt	ⁿ khwøt	ⁿ møt	ⁿ nøt	ŋøt	ⁿ føt	^c søt	høt	ⁿ tsøt	ⁿ tshøt	ⁿ wøt	ⁿ løt	ⁿ jøt	øt
-ɔk	pɔk	phøk	tøk	thøk	køk	khøk	kwøk	khwøk	møk	nøk	ŋøk	føk	søk	høk	tsøk	tshøk	wøk	løk	ⁿ jøk	øk

