

# Against all expectations: The meaning of St'át'imcets *séna7*\*

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**Abstract:** This paper provides a formal pragmatic analysis of the St'át'imcets discourse adverb *séna7*. We propose that when applied to a proposition, *séna7* invokes a second, contextually available true proposition, and conveys that the speaker does not expect both propositions to be true. We show how this allows us to use *séna7* as a diagnostic for distinguishing between entailments and implicatures in three different semantic domains: telicity, expressions of futurity, and motion verbs employed as prospective aspect markers.

**Keywords:** St'át'imcets, semantics, pragmatics, contrast, discourse

## 1 Introduction

The semantics and pragmatics of discourse-sensitive sentential adverbs constitutes one of the least well-understood (and least-studied) areas of Salish grammar. This is not surprising: though they are often common in both narrative and conversational contexts, the meaning of discourse adverbs is usually elusive and by definition context-dependent, so neither traditional text-based methodologies nor conventional sentence-based elicitation procedures are very effective at elucidating their semantic contribution.

However, recent theoretical and methodological advances in the investigation of meaning beyond the level of single sentences, coupled with the urgent need for documentation of lesser-studied areas of Salish grammar, makes it both feasible and timely to begin to investigate the meaning of sentential adverbs in more detail. In this paper, we embark on this project, by analyzing a particularly ubiquitous yet semantically difficult member of the class, the St'át'imcets adverb *séna7*.<sup>1</sup>

Previously, *séna7* has been glossed as 'though' (Van Eijk 1997), 'counter-to-expectation' (Davis 2012), 'often untranslatable; expresses an unfulfilled condition, a change of mind or some other contradiction or contrast' (Van Eijk 2013), and as 'against expectations (either the speaker's, the hearer's, or

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<sup>1</sup> St'át'imcets (ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ), also known as Lillooet, is a Northern Interior Salish language spoken in the southwest interior of British Columbia, Canada. It is highly endangered, with fewer than 100 first-language speakers at the time of writing.

somebody else's); often difficult to translate into English' (Alexander et al. in prep.). These informal characterizations give something of the flavour of *séna7*, as well as the difficulties it causes for dictionary-type definitions; however, none of them offer full insight into its precise semantic and/or pragmatic contribution: this is the task we undertake in this paper.

Note that in contrast to the semantic difficulties it causes, *séna7* is syntactically unremarkable. It is one of a small closed class of invariant adverbs which generally occur after the first predicative element of a clause, like enclitics. Unlike enclitics, however, *séna7* is prosodically independent and may also occur clause-finally or – less frequently – in other post-predicative positions.

Initial examples are provided below. As is typical, in these cases *séna7* conveys such notions as the unexpected outcome of an event (1), the failure of an event to continue (2), or the failure of an event to take place in an optimal fashion (3).

- (1) ka-mág-a=ku7                    **séna7**, t'u7 áy=t'u7 kw=s=7áts'x-n-as  
 CIRC=bright-CIRC=REP   **CNTR** but NEG=EXCL DET=NMLZ=see-DIR-3ERG  
 'It got brighter, but he still couldn't see it.' (Charlie Mack, in Davis 2012)<sup>2</sup>
- (2) sáy'sez'=lhkán=tu7 **séna7**, t'u7 cw7aoz aylh kwenswá  
 play=1SG.SBJ=DIST   **CNTR** but NEG      now DET+1SG.POSS+NMLZ+IPFV  
  
 sáy'sez'  
 play  
 'I was playing, but I'm not playing now.'
- (3) wa7 aylih ka-7áts'x-m-a            **séna7**, t'u7 cw7áoy=t'u7 kw=s=7áma  
 IPFVthen CIRC-see-MID-CIRC   **CNTR** but NEG=EXCL      DET=NMLZ=good  
 'Then he could indeed see, but not very well.'  
 (Beverley Frank, in Davis 2012)

Our first challenge, obviously, is to provide a unified account for these apparently disparate semantic effects.

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<sup>2</sup> St'át'imcets examples are given in the Van Eijk orthography employed throughout St'át'imc territory: see e.g., Van Eijk (1997) for a conversion chart to the APA. All unattributed examples come from original fieldwork by the authors. Morpheme glosses follow the Leipzig Glossing Rules, with the following additions: ABS.DET = absent determiner, ACT = active intransitive, AUT = autonomous intransitive, CIRC = circumstantial modal, CNTR = contra expectation, CRE = consonant reduplication, DEIC = deictic, DES = desiderative, DIR = directive transitivizer, EPIS = epistemic modal, EXCL = exclusive focus particle, EXIS = existential enclitic, FRE = final reduplication, INCH = inchoative, NTS = non-topical subject, OOC = out-of-control, PROSP = prospective aspect, REP = reportative, RLT = relational transitivizer, SJV = subjunctive, STAT = stative. Clitic boundaries are indicated by an equals sign (=) and reduplicants are separated by bullets (•). Phonologically merged sets of clitics are indicated by a plus sign (+). Material which is underlyingly present but not pronounced is given inside square brackets [ ].

A second puzzle concerns the cross-clausal distribution of *séna7*. Though in (1)–(3), it consistently appears in the first clause of a bi-clausal structure, this is not always the case: it can also appear in mono-clausal environments, as shown in (4):

- (4) *ílhén=kéíh=ti7 séna7.*  
eat=PROSP=DEM CNTR  
'He'll eat anyway.'

*Consultant's volunteered context: "When there's a big line up, and they are running low on food, but they'll serve him anyway."*

We will argue that in fact *séna7* does always relate two propositions, but one of them can be implicit, and contextually provided.

We will further show that *séna7* does not affect truth conditions, but instead merely imposes a felicity condition on the discourse context. More specifically, we will argue that *séna7* (*p*) is felicitous in a context *c* if *c* contains a true proposition *q* and the speaker does not expect *p* and *q* to both be true. We will henceforth gloss *séna7* as CNTR, for 'contra expectation'.

In the remainder of the introduction we provide some background on our data-collection methodologies. In Section 2 we illustrate the behaviour of *séna7* with predicates of all aspectual classes (Aktionsarten). Section 3 presents our analysis, and Section 4 discusses extensions to the empirical realms of markers of future time reference and motion verbs. Section 5 briefly compares *séna7* to the Bella Coola discourse adverbial *su* (Saunders and Davis 1977). Section 6 concludes.

## 1.1 Methodology

Several data collection methodologies were employed in this study. We began by examining the large number of instances of *séna7* which have arisen in our elicited data over the years, many of them spontaneously offered. We also conducted (both in the past and more recently) targeted elicitation on *séna7*, using standard semantic fieldwork methods involving controlled discourse contexts (see Matthewson 2004b, the papers in Bochnak and Matthewson 2005, Tonhauser and Matthewson 2015). In addition to the usual methods of eliciting acceptability judgments and translations in context, we utilized two less common techniques as a response to the radical context-dependence of *séna7*. First, we sometimes provided the consultants with a sentence containing *séna7* and asked them to provide a suitable discourse context in which the sentence could be uttered. Second, we conducted a variant of the cloze test familiar from language acquisition studies: we provided the speakers with a clause containing *séna7*, and asked them to provide a felicitous completion (i.e., a follow-up clause). Instances of this elicitation method are marked with '...' between the first and second clauses. (Thus, wherever the data includes a '...', the material after the dots was volunteered by the consultant.)

Finally, we checked our generalizations against all instances of *séna7* to be found in four separate text collections (Van Eijk and Williams 1981, Matthewson 2005, Callahan et al. in press, and Davis et al. in prep.), as well as all the example sentences in a forthcoming comprehensive English–Upper St’át’imcets dictionary (Alexander et al. in prep).

## 2 Data Set 1: *Séna7* and Aktionsarten

In this section, we present a systematic overview of the effect of *séna7* on Aktionsarten (lexical aspectual classes). We show that the interpretation of *séna7* is partially predictable based on Aktionsart; however, there is still some freedom in the range of attested meanings, with the very same predicate sometimes allowing different interpretations. In Section 3 below we will derive the attested range of meanings from a unified, context-dependent analysis.

### 2.1 States

With states, *séna7* is most frequently used when some expected outcome of the state fails to hold. Examples are provided in (5)–(11).

- (5) k’ínk’net=tí7 **séna7**, t’u7 cw7aoz kw=s=wá7=wit xan’  
 dangerous=DEM CNTR but NEG DET=NMLZ=IPFV=3PL get.hurt  
 ‘It was dangerous, but they didn’t seem to get hurt.’  
 (Beverley Frank, in Matthewson 2005:92)
- (6) zwát-en=lhkan **séna7** kw=s=cuz’ kwis ... mes=kán=t’u7  
 know-DIR=1SG.SBJ CNTR DET=NMLZ=PROSP rain but=1SG.SBJ=EXCL  
 tsicw mám’teq  
 get.there go.for.walk  
 ‘I knew it was going to rain ... but I went for a walk anyway.’
- (7) á7ma=t’u7 **séna7** k=Helen, t’u7 áy=s=t’u7 ku=melyíh-s-tal’i  
 pretty=EXCLCNTR DET=H. but NEG=3POSS=EXCL DET=marry-CAUS-NTS  
 ‘Although Helen is very beautiful, nobody has married her yet.’
- (8) *Context: A has to write a paper. The sun is shining, the birds are singing.*  
 A: o, xát’-min’=lhkan **séna7** kw=n=nas ex’éxts áku7  
 oh want-rlt=1sg.sbj cntr det=1sg.poss=go lie•cre deic  
 [=ti=]kwél’=a  
 [in=DET=]sun=EXIS  
 ‘I really want to go and lay out in the sun for a while.’

- (9) áma=t'u7 **séna7** ti=wá7 zayten-mín-as ti=cúz'a  
 good=EXCL CNTR DET=IPFV business-RLT-3ERG DET=PROSP=EXIS

meeting, t'u7 icwlh=t'u7 ka-t'ák=s-a  
 meeting but different=EXCL CIRC-go=3POSS-CIRC

'What she had done for the meeting was good, but it went quite differently.'

- (10) A: cúz'=lhkacw=ha saotatíh-am?  
 PROSP=2SG.SBJ=Q saturday-MID  
 'Are you going out partying this weekend?'

B: ícwa7=lhkan **séna7** es=qláw'  
 without=1SG.SBJ CNTR have=money  
 'I don't have any money.'

*Consultant's comment: "I guess you're going, even though you're broke."*

- (11) *Context: Someone is trying to sell you something but you don't want it (you have money but you don't want to spend it).*  
 wá7=lhkan **séna7** es=qláw'.  
 IPFV=1G.SBJ CNTR have-money  
 'I have money (but I won't spend it).'

Sometimes, the expected outcome of a state is simply that it continues. This is shown in (12)-(14), where *séna7* flags the fact that a state no longer holds.

- (12) wá7=lhkan=tu7 **séna7** ka-táns-a i=wán  
 IPFV=1G.SBJ=DIST CNTR CIRC-dance-CIRC when.PST=IPFV+1SG.SJV

twiw't, lán=t'u7 ao kwas áma  
 youth already=EXCL NEG DET+NMLZ+IPFV+3POSS good

i=n-sq'wáxt=a lhkúnsa  
 PL.DET=1SG.POSS-leg=EXIS now

'I used to be able to dance, but my legs don't work well any more.'

- (13) tayt=lhkán=tu7 **séna7**, t'u7 cw7aoz aylh  
 hungry=1SG.SBJ=DIST CNTR but NEG now

kwenswá tayt  
 DET+1SG.POSS+NMLZ+IPFV hungry

'I was hungry but I'm not hungry now.'

(14) qlil=lhkan=tu7 **séna7**, t'u7 cw7aoz aylh  
 angry=1SG.SBJ=DIST **CNTR** but NEG now

kwenswá qlil  
 DET+1SG.POSS+NMLZ+IPFV angry  
 'I was angry, but now I am not.'

Finally, sometimes *séna7* appears on states not to signal the failure of an outcome, but merely to signal an unexpected co-occurrence of a state with another eventuality:

(15) n-qwnúxw-alhts'a7 **séna7** s-7it'-em-s=a s=Mary,  
 LOC-sick-inside **CNTR** NMLZ-sing-MID-3POSS=EXIS NMLZ=Mary

t'u7 áma **séna7** ta=scwákwekw-s=a  
 but good **SÉNA7** DET=heart-3POSS=EXIS  
 'Mary's song/singing was sad, but she was happy.'

If *séna7* marks the failure of an expected outcome, we expect it to be infelicitous in cases where the expected outcome is entailed or strongly implicated. This prediction is borne out, as shown in (16)-(17):

(16) # q'7-al'men=lhkán=tu7 **séna7** i=keI7=át t'iq,  
 eat-DES=1SG.SBJ=DIST **CNTR** when.PST=first=1PL.SJV arrive

nilh n=s=q'a7  
 COP 1SG.POSS=NMLZ=eat  
 'I was hungry when we first arrived, so I ate.'

(17) # guy't-ál'men=lhkan **séna7**, nilh n=s=ka-gúy't-a  
 sleep-DES=1SG.SBJ **CNTR** COP 1SG.POSS=NMLZ=CIRC-sleep-CIRC  
 'I was tired, so I fell asleep.'

Summarizing the data on the co-occurrence of *séna7* with stative predicates, we see that *séna7* typically appears when there has been a failure of an expected outcome, including a failure of the state to continue. *Séna7* may also appear in cases of an unexpected co-occurrence with another eventuality.

## 2.2 Activities

The behaviour of activity predicates with *séna7* is very similar to that of statives. As shown in (18)–(20), *séna7* is licensed with activities when some expected outcome of the event fails to happen. These are typically not lexical entailments

of the activity predicate, but rather are pragmatic expectations about what normally happens when one performs an activity.<sup>3</sup>

- (18) *píxem*'=wit **séna7** áku7 sqwém=a, t'u7 áy=t'u7  
 hunt=3PL CNTR DEIC mountain=EXIS but NEG=EXCL

kw=s=7ats'x-en-ftas ku=ts'í7  
 DET=NMLZ=see-DIR-3PL.ERG DET=deer

'They went hunting in the mountains, but they didn't see any deer.'

- (19) lán=lhkan aylh **séna7** k'wzús-em ... t'u7 ay=s  
 already=1SG.SBJ now CNTR work-MID but NEG=3POSS

xaq'-en-tsa'lem  
 pay-DIR-1SG.PASS

'I'm already working ... but I'm not getting paid.'

- (20) it'-em=lhkán=t'u7 **séna7** l=ti=s-gáw'-p=a ...  
 sing-MID=1SG.SBJ=EXCL CNTR at=DET=NMLZ-meet-INCH=EXIS

t'u7 áoy=t'u7 swat ku=k'alán'-min'-ts-as  
 but NEG=EXCL who DET=listen-RLT-1SG.OBJ-3ERG

'I sang at the gathering ... but nobody listened.'

Just like with states, we see that sometimes, the expected outcome of an activity is simply that it continues:

- (21) say'sez'=lhkán=tu7 **séna7**, t'u7 cw7aoz aylh  
 play=1SG.SBJ=DIST CNTR but NEG now

kwenswá sáy'sez'  
 DET+1SG.POSS+NMLZ+IPFV play

'I was playing, but I'm not playing now.'

Just like with states, the contrastive relation between two clauses with activities cannot always be characterized as the outcome of a causal relation. In (22), for example, it is not that having a bath has as an expected consequence

<sup>3</sup> The effect of *séna7* on activities appears to be more variable than its effect on states, but this is because unlike states, activities can consist of heterogeneous stages. For example, hunting (*píxem* ' ) involves a trip to the hunting grounds, a search for game, and then a variably successful outcome (depending on one's aim, luck, and the abundance of game). *Séna7* appears to be felicitous with *píxem* ' as long as (i) the trip was undertaken and (ii) the hunt was not a total success (e.g., either no game was spotted, as in (18), game was spotted but the hunter failed to catch anything, or the hunter got a few animals but not as many as anticipated). In other words, it appears that *séna7* can felicitously apply to any stage of an activity with heterogeneous stages, as long as one of the stages goes counter to expectations.

that one washes one hair. It is simply that the speaker usually washes her hair when taking a bath, so *not* washing her hair under these circumstances is an unexpected outcome.

- (22) sácw-em=lhkan      **séna7** i=n'án'atcw=as,      t'u7 áy=t'u7  
 bathe-MID=1SG.SBJ    **CNTR** when.PST=morning=3SJV    but    NEG=EXCL

kw=ka-ts'áw'-s-an-a  
 DET+NMLZ=CIRC-wash-CAUS-1SG.ERG-CIRC

i=n-máqin=a  
 PL.DET=1SG.POSS-hair=EXIS

'I had a bath this morning, but I didn't wash my hair.'

A final set of cases with activities involves contexts where the activity denoted by the predicate is not performed successfully. These are illustrated in (23)–(26). (Note that these are cases where *séna7* does not correspond to English *but*.)

- (23) *Context: Lisa has been trying to make baskets but she is really bad at it.*  
 wa7 **séna7** lhk'wál'us    k=Lisa,    t'u7 áy=tu7  
 IPFV **CNTR** make.baskets    DET=Lisa    but    NEG=EXCL

kwás      ka-xílh-a  
 DET+NMLZ+IPFV+3POSS    CIRC-do-CIRC

'Lisa has been making baskets, but she didn't manage.'

- (24) A: wa7      kán-em      k=Marion?  
 IPFV      whether-MID    DET=Marion  
 'What is Marion doing?'

B: lhk'wál'us=t'u7      **séna7**  
 make.baskets=EXCL    **CNTR**

'I THINK she's making a basket / She's trying to make a basket.'

*Consultant's comments: "She's not really"; "Probably just learning."*

- (25) it'-em=t'u7      **séna7**    k=Henry  
 sing-MID=EXCL    **CNTR**    DET=Henry  
 'Henry tried to sing.'

- (26) it'-em=lhkan,      siq'úta=lhkan      t'it **séna7**  
 sing-MID=1SG.SBJ    dance=1SG.SBJ    also **CNTR**  
 'I sang, and I also danced.'

*Consultant's comment: "Okay, if you didn't really know how to siq'úta ['dance']."*

(27) t'ák=kan                    **séna7** k'ák'em-l'ec, nilh n=s=hul'qs,  
 go.along=1SG.SBJ    CNTR sneak-AUT    COP 1SG.POSS=NMLZ=sneeze

q'áy-lec=tu7                    aylh    na=ts'í7=a  
 run.away-AUT=DIST    now    ABS.DET=deer=EXIS

'I was sneaking along but then I sneezed, so the deer took off.'

(Alexander et al. in prep.)

Summarizing the data for activities, *séna7* appears when there is a failure of an expected outcome (including a failure of the activity to continue), or more generally when something unexpected happens during or after the activity, including cases where the activity is not performed successfully.<sup>4</sup>

### 2.3 Achievements vs. accomplishments

An interesting property of *séna7* is that it clearly distinguishes between achievements, which entail culmination in the perfective aspect, and accomplishments with control transitivizers, which do not.<sup>5</sup> The phenomenon of non-culminating accomplishments is relatively well documented in the Salish literature; see Matthewson (2004a), Bar-el et al. (2005) on St'át'imcets, J. Davis (1978), Watanabe (2003) on Comox-Sliammon, Bar-el (2005), Bar-el et al. (2005), Jacobs (2011) on Skwxwú7mesh, Gerdts (2008) on Halkomelem and Kiyota (2008), Turner (2011) on SENĆOŦEN. The basic St'át'imcets facts are illustrated in (28)–(29). The same root, *√mays* 'get fixed', has an entailment of culmination when it surfaces without (in-)transitivizing morphology (28), but only has a (cancellable) implicature of culmination when it appears with the directive ('control') transitivizer (29):

(28) # **mays**                    ti=q'láxan=a,                    t'u7 áoy=t'u7  
**get.fixed**    DET=fence=EXIS but    NEG=EXCL

kw=s=ka-máys=ts-a  
 DET=NMLZ=CIRC-get.fixed=3POSS-CIRC

'The fence got fixed, but it couldn't get fixed.'

*Consultant's comment: "Contradiction."*

<sup>4</sup> We predict that a parallel interpretation will arise with states, but at the time of writing we have not yet tested this.

<sup>5</sup> The perfective is phonologically null in St'át'imcets. It is signalled by the absence of the imperfective auxiliary *wa7*.

- (29) máys-en=lhkan ti=q'láxan=a, t'u7 cw7áy=t'u7  
 get.fixed-DIR=1SG.SBJ DET=fence=EXIS but NEG=EXCL

kw=s=tsúkw-s-an  
 DET=NMLZ-finish-CAUS-1SG.ERG  
 'I fixed a fence, but I didn't finish.'

When *séna7* is added to achievements and accomplishments, the former allow a subset of the interpretations allowed for the latter. With achievements, there are two main contexts where *séna7* appears. The first is when the expected result state of the event doesn't hold, as in (30)–(34).

- (30) t'íq=k'a séna7, t'u7 cw7aoz kwas wa7 lhkúnsa  
 arrive=EPIS CNTR but NEG DET+NMLZ+IPFV+3POSS be now  
 'He must have arrived, but he's not there now.'

- (31) ts'áqw=t'u7 séna7 ti=sts'úqwaz'=a ... t'u7 cw7ít=t'u7 i=wá7  
 get.eaten=EXCLCNTR DET=fish=EXIS but much=EXCL PL.DET=IPFV

s-k'wilh  
 STAT-left  
 'The fish got eaten ... but there were lots of leftovers.'

- (32) máys=t'u7 séna7 inatwas, ... t'u7 plan múta7 qv┘-wíł'c  
 get.fixed=EXCL CNTR yesterday but already again bad-become  
 'It got fixed yesterday ... but it's already broken again.'

- (33) tsícw=kan=t'u7 séna7 ... t'u7 xwem-7úł kw=s=tsem'p=s,  
 get.there=1SG.SBJ=EXCL CNTR but quick-too DET=NMLZ=finish=3POSS

níłh=t'u7 múta7 n=s=7úxwal'.  
 COP=EXCL again 1SG.POSS=NMLZ=go.home.  
 'I got there ... but it was over already, so I came home.'

- (34) *Context: I was invited to a meeting. I arrived there, and Lisa phoned.*

Lisa: tsícw=kacw=ha?  
 get.there=2SG.SBJ=Q  
 'Did you get there?'

Me: tsícw•ecw=kan séna7, t'u7 áy=t'u7  
 get.there•FRE=1SG.SBJ CNTR but NEG=EXCL

kwas wa7 k=Laura  
 DET+NMLZ+IPFV+3POSS be DET=Laura  
 'I got there, but Laura wasn't there.'

The second interpretation for *séna7* on achievements is that the event didn't turn out well, as in (35)–(36). Both (32) above and (35) are the consultant's volunteered completions of sentences containing the same predicate, but they illustrate different ways in which the outcome of the event counts as unexpected.

- (35) máys=t'u7      **séna7**      ti=q'láxan=a ... t'u7 áoz=t'u7  
 get.fixed=EXCL    CNTR    DET=fence=EXIS but NEG=EXCL

kwás                                      áma kw=s=xilh-ts-twítas  
 DET+NMLZ+IPFV+3POSS    good DET=NMLZ=do-CAUS-3PL.ERG  
 'The fence got fixed ... but what they didn't wasn't good.'

- (36) nq'ixts=t'u7      **séna7**      ti=nk'wanústen=a, t'u7 áy=t'u7  
 closed=EXCL CNTR    DET=window=EXIS but NEG=EXCL

kwás                                      stexw      ka-q'ixts-a  
 DET+NMLZ+IPFV+3POSS    really    CIRC-close-CIRC  
 'The window was closed, but something was not right with it. Something is wrong with the window, it can't be closed properly.'

Accomplishments with the control transitivity also have these two types of interpretation, plus an extra one. The failure of the result state to hold is shown in (37), and an 'unsuccessful' case is given in (38).

- (37) máys-en=lhkán=t'u7      **séna7**      inátwas, t'u7 plan      múta7 qv\_l-wíl'c  
 fix-DIR=1SG.SBJ=EXCL    CNTR    yesterday but already again bad-become  
 'I fixed it yesterday, but it already broke again.'

- (38) may-en-ítas=t'u7      **séna7**      ti=q'láxan=a      ...      t'u7 áoz=t'u7  
 fix-DIR-3PL.ERG=EXCL    CNTR    DET=fence=EXIS      but    NEG=EXCL

kwás                                      áma      kw=s=xilh-twítas  
 DET+NMLZ+IPFV+3POSS    good    DET=NMLZ=do(CAUS)-3PL.ERG  
 'They must have fixed the fence ... but they didn't fix it good enough.'

The additional interpretation available for accomplishments with *séna7* is that the culmination didn't take place. This is illustrated in (39)–(40).<sup>6</sup>

<sup>6</sup> In (40), we infer non-culmination from the English translation using 'tried'. Since this example is predicted to also be able to mean that I *did* eat the fish, but didn't enjoy it, this requires further testing.

(39) *mays-en=lhkán=t'u7 séna7 ti=q'láxan=a ... t'u7 áoy=t'u7*  
 fix-DIR=1SG.SBJ=EXCL CNTR DET=fence=EXIS but NEG=EXCL

*kw=s=tsúk-w-s-an*  
 DET=NMLZ=finish-CAUS-1SG.ERG  
 'I fixed the fence ... but I didn't finish.'

(40) *ts'aqw-an'=lhkán=t'u7 séna7 ti=sts'úqwaz'=a ... t'u7 áoy=t'u7*  
 eat-DIR=1SG.SBJ=EXCL CNTR DET=fish=EXIS but NEG=EXCL

*kw-as áma*  
 DET+NMLZ+IPFV+3POSS good  
 'I tried to eat the fish ... but it wasn't very good.'

Crucially, achievements cannot fail to culminate with *séna7*. (41) is rejected and the predicate is corrected to the accomplishment verb *máysen*.

(41) # *máys=t'u7 séna7 ti=q'láxan=a, t'u7 áoy=t'u7*  
 fix=1SG.SBJ=EXCL CNTR DET=fence=EXIS but NEG=EXCL

*kw=s=tsúk-w-s-an*  
 DET=NMLZ=finish-CAUS-1SG.ERG  
 'The fence got fixed, but I didn't finish it.'

We have seen that achievements with *séna7* give rise either to an interpretation where the result state fails to hold, or where there is something wrong with the way in which the event devolves. Accomplishments similarly allow both these interpretations, but in addition allow a 'failure to culminate' interpretation. Achievements can never fail to culminate in the perfective aspect with *séna7*.<sup>7</sup> This shows that while *séna7* encodes an unexpected outcome or occurrence, it cannot take away entailments. *Séna7* does not alter the truth conditions of the proposition to which it attaches.

## 2.4 Summary of interpretations

Table 1 summarizes the interpretations we have discovered with *séna7* for each Aktionsart. The result state and culmination tests are not applicable to states or activities, since these do not involve changes into result states and are fully atelic.

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<sup>7</sup> Transitive achievements, marked with the causative/non-control transitivizer *-s*, do entail culmination, and are therefore predicted to behave like intransitive achievements when *séna7* is added. This prediction remains to be tested.

**Table 1:** Interpretations with *séna7*

	unexpected outcome/ co-occurring event	unsuccessful event	failure of result state	failure of culmination
States	√	not tested	N/A	N/A
Activities	√	√	N/A	N/A
Achievements	√	√	√	*
Accomplishments	√	√	√	√

We have already accounted for the absence of the ‘failure of culmination’ interpretation with achievements: this interpretation is unavailable because *séna7* does not have the power to defeat entailments of the proposition to which it applies. We argue that all the attested semantic effects can be unified as sub-cases of a single interpretation: *séna7* marks the unexpected co-occurrence of two true propositions. To put it slightly more precisely, the unified meaning of *séna7* ( $p$ ) is that the speaker did not expect  $p$  to be true as well as another contextually salient proposition  $q$ . We expand further in the next section.

### 3 Analysis

Our proposed analysis is given informally in (42). The parameter  $c$  represents the context of utterance.

- (42)  $\llbracket \textit{séna7}(p) \rrbracket^c$  is felicitous if  $c$  contains a salient true proposition  $q$  and the speaker does not expect  $p$  and  $q$  to both be true.  
If felicitous,  $\llbracket \textit{séna7}(p) \rrbracket^c = \llbracket p \rrbracket^c$ .

As noted earlier, *séna7* does not affect truth conditions; instead, it imposes a felicity condition on the relation of a proposition to another salient proposition (explicit or implicit) within a discourse context.

Although our analysis is presented informally at this stage, we can nevertheless more or less see how it captures the data presented so far. For each aspectual class,  $p$  is *séna7*’s prejacent clause, and  $q$  is some other true proposition which the speaker does not expect to be true at the same time as  $p$ . For example,  $q$  might be a proposition which entails that the result state of the event described in  $p$  fails to hold. With accomplishments,  $q$  could be a proposition which entails that the event described in  $p$  failed to culminate. And with any aspectual class,  $q$  could be a proposition that entails that the event described in  $p$  did not take place well, or successfully.

We can also identify various further predictions and consequences of our proposal. The first thing to note is that the denotation in (42) requires the second proposition,  $q$ , to be present in the context at the time of utterance. This predicts that if the addressee cannot recover  $q$ , *séna7* will be infelicitous. On the other hand, the unexpectedness requirement (of  $p$  and  $q$  both being true) is placed only

on the speaker. This predicts that the addressee need not share the speaker's assumptions about what counts as unexpected. These two predictions match our impression of the data collected so far, but they have not been explicitly tested and further research is required.

One thing we are fairly certain of is that the second proposition *q* is correctly characterized in (42): it must be contextually available, but it is not a syntactic argument of *séna7*. With respect to the first point, we observe that *séna7* strongly prefers to appear in a bi-clausal environment, overtly contrasting the two propositions *p* and *q*. Out of the blue, it is usually judged as infelicitous in a mono-clausal sentence, and consultants sometimes give revealing comments suggesting that some additional *q* must be invoked:

- (43) ama=ká=t'u7      **séna7**      lh=nu=hás      ku=7úts'qa7  
 good=IRR=EXCL **CNTR**      COMP=you=3SJV      DET=go.out  
 'It would be good if you went out.'

*Consultant's comment: "I guess that would work ... that séna7 just adds a sentence."*

On the other hand, it is clear that *séna7* does not require two syntactic arguments, since mono-clausal sentences containing *séna7* are possible, and in many of these cases it is implausible that ellipsis has taken place. Moreover, even when there are two clauses, the contrasting proposition *q* is not always represented overtly by either of them. In (44), for example, it is not unexpected that a place to stay would be both good and expensive. Therefore, the contrast is not between the two overt clauses 'it looks good' and 'it is very expensive'. Rather, the fact that the place looks good (*p*) contrasts with the *implicitly* conveyed proposition *q* 'we won't stay here'.

- (44) *Context: A asks B 'Shall we stay here?' B replies:*

áma=t'u7      lákw7a      **séna7**,      t'u7 k'éla7=t'u7      cw7it-usa7-[7]ú1  
 good=EXCL DEIC      **CNTR**      but very=EXCL      much-money-too  
 'It looks good, but it is very expensive.'

*p:* It looks good.

*q:* We won't stay here.

Another case showing that *q* does not have to correspond to an overtly expressed proposition is given in (45). Here, *séna7* encodes the unexpectedness of my not having another drink, even though I have money. Crucially, *q* is not 'I've already had enough to drink', the second overt clause. Instead, *q* is 'I'm not having another drink', an unexpressed implicature of the second overt clause.

- (45) A: cúz'=lhkacw=ha      úqwa7      ku=pála7      múta7?  
 PROSP=2SG.SBJ=Q      drink      DET=one      more  
 'Are you going to have another drink?'

B: cw7ao  
 NEG  
 ‘No.’

A: icwa7=lhkácw=ha es=qláw’?  
 without=2SG.SBJ=Q have=money  
 ‘Don’t you have any money?’

B: wá7=lhkan **séna7** es=qláw’, t’u7 plan í7ez’  
 IPFV=1SG.SBJ **CNTR** have=money but already enough

n-s-7úqwa7  
 1SG.POSS-NMLZ-drink

‘I have money, but I’ve already had enough to drink.’

*p*: I have money. *q*: I’m not having another drink.

We have found that *q* can be provided in a number of different ways. The first is from generalized implicatures that derive from the lexical semantics of the predicate. These include – as shown above – the implicatures that accomplishments will culminate, that achievements have persistent result states, and that activities will be performed successfully. Second, *q* can be derived from prior discourse. Consider the example in (46).

(46) *Context: I’ll tell you guys what happened when my face got burned. I got burned when I was a child. My mother was working out there in the back. She was fixing some fish we must have been going to eat. My brother Dicky was around. He was helping my mother there. So my mother told him, “Go look at the baby, and see if she’s okay.” So he went inside.*

tsicw, s=7áts’x-en-as láti7 **séna7** s-law  
 get.there nmlz=see-dir-3erg deic **cntr** stat-hang

l=ti=tsepalín=a  
 in=DET=baby.basket=EXIS

‘He got there and saw that the baby basket was hanging there, sure enough.’ (Laura Thevarge, in Matthewson 2005:272–273)

*p*: The baby basket was hanging there. *q*: The baby wasn’t all right.

In this discourse context, the addressee knows that the unexpected *q* must relate to the speaker having been burnt. This is unexpected given that the baby basket was hanging there, apparently unharmed.

The proposition *q* can also be provided by unspoken discourse context, as illustrated in (47). Here, the physical context is such that the seven people cannot fit in; this does not need to be explicitly stated.

(47) *Context: Seven people are trying to get into a car. The driver says:*

xzum **séna7** ti=n-káoh=a  
 big CNTR DET=1SG.POSS-car=EXIS  
 ‘My car is big.’

*Consultant’s comment: “Means they can’t all fit in.”*

*p:* My car is big. *q:* They can’t all fit in.

Finally, as observed earlier, *q* can be provided by conversational implicature. A further example of this is given in (48). Here, *séna7* is not contrasting going out with not having money: it is contrasting going out with not having fun, which is conversationally implicated by not having any money.

(48) saotatih-am=lhkán=tu7 **séna7** inátcwas, t’u7 ícwa7=lhkan  
 Saturday-MID=1SG.SBJ=DIST CNTR yesterday but without=1SG.SBJ

es=qláw’  
 have=money

‘I went out yesterday, but I didn’t have any money.’

*Consultant’s comment: “He went, but he didn’t have any money so he didn’t have much fun.”*

*p:* I went out. *q:* I didn’t have much fun.

As we predict, a *séna7* sentence is rejected if no *q* can be recovered by any of these methods. This is supported by the frequent rejection of mono-clausal *séna7*-sentences out of the blue. In (49) and (50) and (repeated from (6) and (20) above), the first clause was originally offered to the consultant and rejected. It becomes fine when an appropriate *q* is added as follow-up.

(49) zwát-en=lhkan **séna7** kw=s=cuz’ kwis ... mes=kán=t’u7  
 know-dir=1sg.sbj cntr det=nmlz=prosp rain but=1sg.sbj=excl

tsicw mám’teq  
 get.there go.for.walk

‘I knew it was going to rain ... but I went for a walk anyway.’

(50) it’-em=lhkán=t’u7 **séna7** l=ti=s-gáw’-p=a ...  
 sing-MID=1SG.SBJ=EXCL CNTR at=DET=NMLZ-meet-INCH=EXIS

t’u7 áoy=t’u7 swat ku=k’alán’-min’-ts-as  
 but NEG=EXCL who DET=listen-RLT-1SG.OBJ-3ERG

‘I sang at the gathering ... but nobody listened.’

One thing which will require formalization in future work is the notion of ‘speaker expectation’. We note so far that this covers both failed intentions (thus relating to teleological, or more generally priority, modality) and predictions (relating to epistemic modality). In (51), for example, *séna7* accompanies a report of a failed plan (to kill deer), but in (52), there is no plan for them (riders in a

‘suicide race’) to get hurt. It is simply that the speaker did not expect them to escape unscathed from this dangerous situation.

- (51) píxém'=wit **séna7** áku7 sqwém=a, t'u7 áy=t'u7  
 hunt=3PL **CNTR** DEIC mountain=EXIS but NEG=EXCL

kw=s=7ats'x-en-ftas ku=ts'í7  
 DET=NMLZ=see-DIR-3PL.ERG DET=deer

‘They went hunting in the mountains, but they didn’t see any deer.’  
*p*: They went hunting. *q*: They didn’t see any deer.

- (52) k'ink'net=ti7 **séna7**, t'u7 cw7aoz kw=s=wá7=wit xan'  
 dangerous=DEM **CNTR** but NEG DET=NMLZ=IPFV=3PL get.hurt

‘It was dangerous, but they didn’t get hurt.’  
*p*: It was dangerous. *q*: They didn’t get hurt.

(Beverley Frank, in Matthewson 2005:92)

## 4 Extensions

In this section we show how *séna7* interacts with markers of future time reference, and with motion verbs. We show that the results are as predicted, and furthermore that *séna7* provides a useful diagnostic for prospective semantics and for telicity.

### 4.1 *Séna7* and future time reference

Here we discuss the interaction of *séna7* with the two grammatical means of inducing future time reference in St’át’imcets: the future-oriented modal clitic =*kelh*, and the future-oriented aspectual auxiliary *cuz'*. We will show that *séna7* gives rise to different readings with these two elements, and that the attested interpretations are as predicted by the analyses of these two elements proposed by Glougie (2008).

Examples of =*kelh* and *cuz'* are given in (53). As a rough approximation, =*kelh* corresponds to English *will/would* or future-oriented *might*, while *cuz'* corresponds to English *is/was going to*. See Van Eijk (1997), Matthewson (2006), Rullmann et al. (2008) and Davis (2012) for discussion.

- (53) **cúz'**=lhkalh ncwíl-cal ku=košoh-álhts'a7. ncwíl-in'-ém=**kelh**  
**prosp**=1sg.sbj roast-actdet=pig-meat roast-dir-1pl.erg=**fut**

ku=cín'  
 DET=long.time

‘We’re going to roast some pork. We will roast it for a long time.’

(Alexander et al. in prep)

Glougie (2008) argues that =*kelh* places the reference time after the evaluation time (which often equals the utterance time), while *cuz'* is a pure prospective aspect which places the event time after the reference time. In (53),

then, the *cuz'*-clause states that the reference time, which is the same as the utterance time, is earlier than an event of roasting.<sup>8</sup> The *kelh*-clause says that the roasting will take place inside some reference time which follows the utterance time. In simple cases like this, the results are very similar, but Glougie shows that the two elements diverge in cases where an event is already planned at the utterance time. In such cases only *cuz'* is acceptable, not *=kelh*, as shown in (54).<sup>9</sup>

(54) *Context: You are going to D'Arcy for the weekend. You have already purchased your bus ticket, and you leave tomorrow morning at 8:00am. I ask you what your plans are for the weekend. How do you respond?*

a. **cúz'**=lhkan      nas      áku7      nk'wwátqwa7      natcw  
**PROSP**=1SG.SBJ    go.to    DEIC    D'Arcy            tomorrow  
 'I am going to D'Arcy tomorrow.'

b. #nás=kan=**kelh**      áku7      nk'wwátqwa7      natcw  
 go.to=1SG.SBJ=**FUT**    DEIC    D'Arcy            tomorrow  
 'I might go to D'Arcy tomorrow.' (Glougie 2008)

Glougie notes that:

(b) is perfectly grammatical, and would be an appropriate answer to the question "What are you doing this weekend?" if the speaker was only considering going away for the weekend and had not yet purchased a bus ticket. However, once the bus ticket is purchased, only *cuz'* is permissible. (Glougie 2008)

With both *=kelh* and *cuz'*, the evaluation time need not be the utterance time, but can be a past time as well. This is parallel to the situation in English, where *will* has a past-shifted form *would*, and *is going to* has a past-shifted form *was going to*. Past-shifted examples of *=kelh* and *cuz'* are given in (55) and 0 respectively.

<sup>8</sup> Glougie argues that *cuz'* does not introduce modality; we do not necessarily subscribe to this proposal. The modality question is independent of what crucially distinguishes *=kelh* and *cuz'* in the context of *séna7*, which is the respective configurations of utterance time, reference time, and event time.

<sup>9</sup> Relatedly, they also diverge when it comes to offering contexts as discussed by Copley (2002, 2009): only *=kelh* can be used to make a felicitous offer, not *cuz'*.



- (59) lh=wá7=as lákwa7a ku=wá7 mám'teq láku7 álts'qa7=sw=a,  
 if=be=3SJV DEIC DET=IPFVwalk.around DEIC outside=2SG.POSS=EXIS

ama=**kélh**=t'u7 **séna7** kwásu ts7as e=ts7á  
 good=**FUT**=EXCL **CNTR** DET+NMLZ+IPFV+2SG.POSS come to=here

n-tsítcw=a.

1sg.poss-house=exis

'If it sounds like someone is walking around there, it would be good if you come to my place.'

*p*: It will be good if you come to my place. *q*: You don't live with me.

These data are as predicted given Glougie's analysis of =*kelh* and our analysis of *séna7*. The future modal =*kelh* places the reference time after the evaluation time, which in these examples is the utterance time. *Séna7*'s preajacent proposition, which contains =*kelh*, therefore asserts that an eventuality will take place at that future reference time. (Like any modal claim, =*kelh* (*p*) makes an assertion only about possible worlds, but nevertheless, a future modal proposition is truth-conditionally asserted.) Finally, *séna7* contributes that the speaker doesn't expect that =*kelh* (*p*) and some contextually available *q* are both true: in other words, the speaker asserts that an eventuality will happen in the future, and in addition conveys that something unexpected will also happen. This gives rise to an 'in spite of' or 'anyway' reading.

Data with *cuz'* are given in (60)–(62). Here we get a quite different interpretation.

- (60) **cúz'**=k'a zam' **séna7** tsut wa7 "qwa<7>ez'álhmec",  
**PROSP**=EPISwell **CNTR** say IPFV blue<INCH>belly

nilh s=ka-tsút=s-a "qwa<7>y-án'ak"=ku7.

COP NMLZ=CIRC-say=3POSS-CIRC blue<INCH>belly=REP

'So he was apparently going to say he was *qwa7ez'álhmec*, but he accidentally said *qwa7yán'ak* instead.'

(Carl Alexander, in Callahan et al. in press:149)

*p*: He was going to say *qwa7ez'álhmec*. *q*: He said *qwa7yán'ak*.

- (61) nilh **séna7** n=s=**cuz'** p'án't-s, t'u7  
 COP **CNTR** 1SG.POSS=NMLZ=**PROSP** return-CAUS but

ka-law-a=t'u7=a múta7

CIRC-hang-CIRC=EXCL=A again

'I tried to put it back, but it was just hanging there.'

(Carl Alexander, in Callahan et al. in press:244)

*p*: I was going to put it back. *q*: It hung there.

(62) nílh=tu7    **séna7**    ku=s=Father Paterson    ku=**cúz'**  
 COP=DIST    CNTR    DET=NMLZ=Father.Paterson    DET=**PROSP**

melyih-s-tumúlh-as,    t'u7 lání7=tu7    i=qwatsáts=as  
 marry-CAUS-1PL.OBJ-3ERG but DEIC=DIST when.PST=leave=3SJV

kn=ká7=as    s=Father Paterson  
 around=where=3SJV    NMLZ=Father.Paterson

'It was supposed to have been Father Paterson who was going to marry us,  
 but Father Paterson had left and gone somewhere.'

(Gertrude Ned, in Matthewson 2005:213)

*p*: Father Paterson was going to marry us.    *q*: He didn't marry us.

Again, the results fall out from the analysis. *Cuz'* places the event time after the reference time, which in these examples is a past time. *Séna7*'s preajcent proposition thus makes a claim about a pre-state of an event (for example, the state of having a plan to do something). The addition of *séna7* conveys that there is some other proposition *q* that is unexpected given *cuz'* (*p*) (the claim that there was a pre-state of an eventuality). The most natural case is that *q* entails that the expected plan was not fulfilled. The *cuz'* data are very similar to cases where *séna7*'s preajcent is a lexical stative, as discussed in Section 2.1. For example, just as *séna7* when applied to a proposition about wanting something frequently conveys that the expected outcome of that desire (getting the thing) remains unfulfilled, *séna7* on a *cuz'*-proposition conveys that the expected outcome of the pre-state of an eventuality happening (the eventuality actually happening) remains unfulfilled.<sup>10</sup>

Summarizing this section, we have shown that *séna7* gives rise to different interpretations with the two markers of futurity, =*kelh* vs. *cuz'*. With =*kelh*, the truth conditions assert that the preajcent event will happen, and *séna7* conveys that something else will happen which is not expected to simultaneously be true. With *cuz'*, the truth conditions assert that the preajcent event was planned to happen, and *séna7* conveys that counter to expectations, it didn't happen after all. We have argued that these are exactly the readings predicted by Glougie's (2008) analysis of =*kelh* and *cuz'* as a future-oriented modal and a prospective aspect, respectively.

<sup>10</sup> The reader may have noticed that the =*kelh* + *séna7* data involve present evaluation times ('will', not 'would'-readings), while the *cuz'* + *séna7* data involve past evaluation times ('was going to', not 'is going to' readings). Our analysis predicts in addition that =*kelh* cases could allow past evaluation times, with readings such as 'the event described in *p* was predicted to happen, in spite of *q*.' We hope to confirm this in future elicitation.

Our analysis also technically predicts the existence of *cuz'* + *séna7* cases with present evaluation times, but these would be pragmatically very odd. They would simultaneously assert that some event is going to happen, and that some other unexpected thing will prevent that event from happening.

## 4.2 *Séna7* and motion verbs

St'át'incets possesses four motion verbs which can be used as auxiliaries as well as main predicates, and which form a paradigm based on two dimensions, as shown in Table 2 (from Davis 2012, Chapter 16).

**Table 2:** Motion verbs

	Destination reached	Destination not reached
Motion towards speaker	<i>t'iq</i>	<i>ts7as</i>
Motion away from speaker	<i>Tsicw</i>	<i>nas</i>

Simple examples of each verb are given in (63)–(66), from Davis (2012, Chapter 16). As discussed by Davis, the different tenses used to translate *t'iq* and *tsicw* on the one hand (past) vs. *ts7as* and *nas* on the other (present) do not reflect a real tense effect. They are the result of combining telic vs. atelic predicates with the null non-future tense (Matthewson 2006).

(63) **t'iq**=wit e=ts7á Sát'=a lh-[l]áku7 Lh7ús=a  
**arrive**=3PL to=DEIC Lillooet=EXIS from=DEIC Lh7us=EXIS  
 'They came here to Sat' from over there at Lh7us.'

(64) **tsícw**=wit áku7 Lh7ús=a lhel-ts7á Sát'=a  
**get.there**=3PL DEIC Lh7us=EXIS from=DEIC Lillooet=EXIS  
 'They went over there to Lh7us from here at Sat'.'

(65) **ts7ás**=wit e=ts7á Sát'=a lh-[l]áku7 Lh7ús=a  
**come**=3PL to=here Lillooet=EXIS from=DEIC Lh7us=EXIS  
 'They are coming here to Sat' from over there at Lh7us.'

(66) **nás**=wit áku7 Lh7ús=a lhel-ts7á Sát'=a  
**go**=3PL DEIC Lh7us=EXIS from=DEIC Lillooet=EXIS  
 'They are going over there to Lh7us from here at Sat'.'

When we add *séna7* to sentences containing motion verbs, nothing unexpected happens with the telic ones. Like the other achievement verbs discussed in Section 2.3, *t'iq* and *tsicw* retain their culmination with *séna7*. *Séna7* indicates some unexpected outcome of the event, such as the failure of the result state to hold or the failure to meet the person one was intending to visit.

(67) **t'iq**=k'a **séna7**, t'u7 cw7aoz kwas wa7 lhkúnsa  
**arrive**=EPIS CNTR but NEG DET+NMLZ+IPFV+3POSS be now  
 'He must have arrived, but he's not there now.'  
 p: He must have arrived. q: He's not there now.

(68) **t'iq**=ti7      **séna7**, t'u7 cw7aoz kwa      wa7  
**arrive**=DEM CNTR but NEG DET+NMLZ+IPFV be  
 'He arrived but there was nobody home.'  
 p: He arrived.      q: Nobody was home.

(69) **tsicw**=kan=t'u7      **séna7**, t'u7 cw7it  
**get.there**=1SG.SBJ=EXCL CNTR but much  
 i=n-száyten=a  
 PL.DET=1SG.POSS-business=EXIS  
 'I went, but I had too many things to do.'  
*Consultant's comment: "He went, but didn't stay, because there was too much things to do."*  
 p: I got there.      q: I didn't stay.

(70) **tsicw**=kan=t'u7      **séna7** ... t'u7 xwem-7úl  
**get.there**=1SG.SBJ=EXCL CNTR but fast-too  
 kw=s=tsem'p=s,      nilh=t'u7      múta7  
 DET=NMLZ=finish=3POSS COP=EXCL again  
 n=s=7úxwal'  
 1SG.POSS=NMLZ=go.home  
 'I got there ... but it was over already, so I came home.'  
 p: I got there.      q: I came home.

(71) **tsicw**=kan=tu7      **séna7**, t'u7 kan páqu7-min  
**get.there**=1SG.SBJ=DIST CNTR but 1SG.SBJ afraid-RLT  
 kwenswá      s-lheqw  
 DET+1SG.POSS+NMLZ+IPFV STAT-ride  
 'I went, but I'm scared to ride horses.'  
 p: I got there.      q: I didn't ride.

The non-cancelability of the culmination with *t'iq/tsicw* and *séna7* is illustrated in (72)–(73).

(72) #**t'iq**=t'u7      **séna7**, t'u7 qacw•cw-áw'lh      nilh s=p'án't=s  
**arrive**=EXCL CNTR but break•FRE-vehicle COP NMLZ=return=3POSS  
 úxwal'  
 go.home  
 'She arrived, but her car broke down so she went home.'  
*Consultant's comment: "Change t'iq to ts7as: then okay."*

- (73) #**tsícw**=ti7      **séna7**    áta7    Lil'wat7úl=a,    t'u7 cw7áoy=t'u7  
**get.there**=DEM    **CNTR**    DEIC    Lil'wat7úl=EXIS    but    NEG=EXCL

kw=s=tsícw•ecw=s

DET=NMLZ=get.there•FRE=3POSS

'She got to Lil'wat7úl, but she didn't get there.'

*Consultant's comment: "These two [tsícw and séna7] are against each other."*

*Nas* and *ts7as* show a different pattern. As they are atelic, they allow an interpretation whereby the agent fails to reach her destination, as in (74). However, they also allow an interpretation which is not available for ordinary activity predicates: that no motion took place. This is illustrated in (75)–(77). Notice that the acceptable (74) forms a minimal pair with the unacceptable (73), and that (69) and (75) form a minimal pair with different interpretations.

- (74) **nás**=ti7      **séna7**    áta7    Lil'wat7úl=a,    t'u7 cw7áoy=t'u7  
**go**=DEM      **CNTR**    DEIC    Lil'wat7úl=EXIS    but    NEG=EXCL

kw=s=tsícw•ecw=s

DET=NMLZ=get.there•FRE=3POSS

'She went to Lil'wat7úl, but she didn't get there.'

p: She went.

q: She didn't get there.

- (75) **nás**=kan=t'u7      **séna7**,    t'u7 cw7it  
**go**=1SG.SBJ=EXCL      **CNTR**    but much

i=n-száyten=a

PL.DET=1SG.POSS-business=EXIS

'I was gonna go, but I had lots of things to do, so I didn't go.'

p: I was going to go.

q: I didn't go.

- (76) **ts7ás**=kan      **séna7**,    t'u7      cw7aoz-wíl'c  
**come**=1SG.SBJ    **CNTR**    but      NEG-become  
'I was going to come, but I decided not to.'

(Alexander et al. in prep.)

p: I was going to come.

q: I'm not coming.

- (77) **ts7ás**=ti7      **séna7**,    t'u7 cw7aoz    kwa      wa7  
**come**=DEM    **CNTR**    but    NEG    DET+NMLZ+IPFV    be

'He was coming, but there was nobody home.'

p: He was going to come.

q: He didn't come.

Two final, spontaneously offered examples illustrate *nas* being used as an auxiliary rather than a main predicate, with the same ability to have the preadjacent event canceled.



## 5 First steps towards a cross-Salishan perspective: *Séna7* versus Bella Coola *su*

In a remarkably prescient and original paper on the Bella Coola particle *su*, Saunders and Davis (1977) produce the first – and hitherto only published – pragmatic analysis of any Salish discourse adverbial.<sup>13</sup> Though the meaning of *su* is clearly distinct from that of *séna7*, we include it here in order to provide a first cross-Salishan comparison of discourse adverbs.

The particle *su* has two sets of apparently contradictory meanings. The first involves an element of ignorance or surprise – either on the behalf of the hearer, as in (80), or the speaker, as in (81):<sup>14</sup>

- (80) talaws-nu            **su**  
 marry-2SG.SBJ      *SU*  
 ‘You know what? You got married (last night).’<sup>15</sup>

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Furthermore, both these examples come from a speaker of the Lower (Lil’wat7úl) dialect, as does a similar textual example from Van Eijk and Williams (1981):

- (iii) cw7áoz=qa7 **séna7**      kwenswá                              guy’t,      meskán=t’u7  
 NEG=PRSUP    CNTR      DET+1SG.POSS+NMLZ+IPFV      sleep      but=1SG.SBJ=EXCL
- ka-gúy’t-a=t’u7  
 CIRC-sleep-CIRC=EXCL  
 ‘I didn’t mean to sleep, but I just fell asleep all the same.’  
 (Rosie Joseph, in Van Eijk and Williams 1981:12)

Interestingly, Davis (2012) re-elicited the example in (iii) from an Upper St’át’imcets speaker, who inserted prospective *cuz*:

- (iv) cw7áoz=wi7 **séna7**      kwenswá                              **cuz**      guy’t,  
 NEG=EMPH    CNTR      DET+1SG.POSS+NMLZ+IPFV      PROSP      sleep
- zamas=kán=t’u7      ka-gúy’t-a=t’u7  
 but=1SG.SBJ=EXCL      CIRC-sleep-CIRC=EXCL  
 ‘I didn’t mean to sleep, but I just fell asleep all the same.’ (Davis 2012, Chapter 38)

Thus, rather than being counter-examples to our claim that *séna7* does not affect truth-conditions, these data likely indicate that in Lower St’át’imcets, *wa7* allows prospective interpretations. Further research is required.

<sup>13</sup> Though Saunders and Davis refer to *su* as a ‘particle’, its morphosyntactic distribution suggests it should probably be treated as part of a second-position clitic string.

<sup>14</sup> Saunders and Davis’s transcriptions have been slightly adjusted to fit the transcription conventions used here.

<sup>15</sup> Morpheme glosses for the Bella Coola examples have been inserted by the authors.



(84)  $\llbracket \textit{séna7}(p) \rrbracket^c$  is felicitous if  $c$  contains a salient true proposition  $q$  and the speaker does not expect  $p$  and  $q$  to both be true.

We have also shown how *séna7* can be used as a diagnostic tool for teasing out subtle distinctions between entailments and implicatures, illustrating with test cases from three different semantic domains. In the first, *séna7* acts as a diagnostic for telicity, helping to distinguish achievements, which have a culmination entailment, from control accomplishments, which only have culmination implicatures. In the second, *séna7* helps to distinguish between two ways of expressing future time reference: with the prospective auxiliary *cuz'*, *séna7* cancels the expectation that a future event took place, but with the modal enclitic *=kelh*, there is a lexical entailment that the reference time follows the utterance time, which *séna7* cannot cancel. Finally, *séna7* distinguishes between two classes of motion verbs: with one class, which acts essentially like achievements, a destination is always reached, with or without *séna7*; but with the other, not only is the destination not necessarily reached, but *séna7* has the ability to completely cancel the motion event, demonstrating that the members of this second class have become reanalyzed as prospective aspect markers.

Obviously, much work remains to be done. To start with, we need a more precise characterization of which clause *séna7* can appear in; there appears to be speaker variation with respect to how freely it can occur in the second of two contrasting clauses (with some speakers even allowing it to optionally appear in both), but we have not yet investigated this issue in detail.

Secondly, we have noticed that for some speakers, *séna7* has a 'modal flavour' even without an accompanying overt modal enclitic: these speakers sometimes either translate *séna7* as 'supposed to' or indicate that its use implies a lack of knowledge on the part of the speaker, suggesting that it has deontic and/or epistemic readings. We have not yet explored this thoroughly.

Thirdly, we have not yet systematically investigated the relation of *séna7* to speech act participants and/or perspective holders; though our impression is that it is always speaker-oriented, this needs to be backed up with more thorough elicitation.

Fourthly, aside from *séna7*, St'át'imcets has at least four other elements with contrastive meanings: the conjunctions *t'u7*, *k'ámalh* and *zámas/mes=t'u7*, and the second position enclitic *=hem'*, all of which can co-occur with *séna7*, and indeed appear in many of the example sentences in this paper.<sup>16</sup> The three conjunctions are all translated as 'but' by van Eijk (2013) and Alexander et al. (in prep.), but as noted by these authors, they have partially different contexts of use. The enclitic *=hem'* is glossed as 'antithetical' by Van Eijk (1997), 'for sure' or 'the real thing' by Van Eijk (2013), and 'actually or really' by Alexander et al. (in prep.); as with *séna7*, these labels reveal more about the difficulty of finding an adequate translation for *=hem'* than about the meaning of the element itself. The

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<sup>16</sup> The *t'u7* in *zámas/mes=t'u7* is not the conjunction *t'u7* 'but', but the 'exclusive' enclitic *=t'u7* 'still, just, yet'.

relation of *séna7* to these other markers of contrast is obviously another important topic for future research.

Finally, aside from a brief excursus on Bella Coola *su*, we have not yet attempted any cross-linguistic comparison between *séna7* and semantically similar elements in other languages, including the well-studied contrastive English conjunctions *even though*, *but*, and *in spite of*, as well as elements in less well known languages such as the Tohono O’odham ‘frustrative’ particle *cem* (Hale 1969, Copley 2005, Copley and Harley 2014). The relation between *séna7* and these elements is another important matter for future research.

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