

# Question Particles in Tocharian A

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The present paper is a syntactic study of four Tocharian A particles that are primarily associated with various kinds of interrogative clauses. In Koller (2013) I argued that the Tocharian A particle *ne* is best analyzed as a complementizer located within the left periphery of the clause, using the syntactic topography of Rizzi (1997). In the current study I will use the syntactic evidence from three additional particles to further map out the left periphery of the Tocharian A clause. Sieg et al. (1931) have already observed that in certain contexts the particle *ne* is in complementary distribution with the disjunction *pat*. Based on this finding I will argue that *pat* has at least partially been grammaticalized as an interrogative particle, occupying the same position within the left periphery as the interrogative particles *ne* and *te*, i.e. the head of an interrogative phrase (within the model of Rizzi 2001). This analysis receives cross-linguistic support from the observation (e.g. in Jayaseelan 2008) that interrogative particles are homophonous with disjunctions in a variety of languages. Finally I will argue that the particle *aśśi* is located within the left periphery as well, although in a position distinct from the *te*, *ne* and *pat*, namely the head of a focus phrase.

## References

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