

Zeitschrift:	Asiatische Studien : Zeitschrift der Schweizerischen Asiengesellschaft = Études asiatiques : revue de la Société Suisse-Asie
Herausgeber:	Schweizerische Asiengesellschaft
Band:	46 (1992)
Heft:	1: Études bouddhiques offertes à Jacques May
Artikel:	Controversies in Tibetan Madhyamaka exegesis : sTag tshan Lotsba's critique of Tsong kha pa's assertion of validly established phenomena
Autor:	Tauscher, Helmut
DOI:	https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-146966

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

Download PDF: 09.01.2026

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>

CONTROVERSIES IN TIBETAN MADHYAMAKA EXEGESIS: STAG TSHĀN LOTSĀBA'S CRITIQUE OF TSON KHA PA'S ASSERTION OF VALIDLY ESTABLISHED PHENOMENA.

Helmut Tauscher, Vienna

Ever since the works of Candrakīrti were introduced into Tibet during the second transmission of Buddhism and propagated by Pa tshab Ni ma grags (*1055)¹, the Prāsaṅgika Madhyamaka has increasingly gained predominance and Candrakīrti has widely been accepted as an authority within Tibetan Madhyamaka traditions. Nevertheless, various Tibetan scholars have – equally basing themselves on Candrakīrti's teachings – arrived at diverging, even contradictory, interpretations, which has given rise to a number of controversies, in particular between Tsōn kha pa's dGe lugs pa and the Sa skya pa tradition.

sTag tshān Lotsāba Šes rab rin chen (*1405)² is considered to be Tsōn kha pa's main critic from among the Sa skya pas. In his *Grub mtha' kun śes nas mtha' bral grub pa žes bya ba'i bstan bcos* (+ -mam par bśad pa legs bśad kyi rgya mtsho) he points out 18 'contradictions' ('gal ba), which are based on the assertion that *saṃvṛti* objects are established by valid cognition.

The *Grub mtha' kun śes*, according to the colophon composed in 1463 (*chu mo lug gi lo*), is a verse text of 207 stanzas arranged in five chapters plus five concluding stanzas; its rNam bśad discusses in 145 (114 in text B)³ folios the doctrine of the two kinds of *nairātmya* according to the various Buddhist schools.

The first part of its Prāsaṅgika section is – under the heading "Negation of [mere] appearance" (*ltar snān dgag pa*) – devoted to the discussion of these 'contradictions'.

"Those who, in [postulated] succession of the venerable Candrakīrti, accept – after (analytical) investigation by many arguments – the impure, erroneous appearance as established by valid cognition, have [to bear] a big burden of contradictions in this way [as discussed below]."⁴

1 S. BA I, 341ff.

2 For short biographical notes s. *Cristal Mirror* VI, 436

3 Text A and B both represent a print from dGa' ldan phun tshogs glin; except for the different number of folios, they are largely identical. The only variant readings in the passage translated in this paper are: 219,5 *bskyed* : *skyed*, 221,5 *bstan pa* : *bsten pa* (s. n.55), 222,1 *srogs pa* : *srog pa*, 222,3 *grīs pas* : *grīs kas* (s. n.60), 224,1 *sogs na* : *sogs ni* (s. n.68), 227,2 *kho bo* : *kho bos* (s. n.74), 227,6 *lta la* : *lta ba* (s. n.77).

4 V,11 (23,2f.) / *gar dag dpal ldan zla ba'i rjes 'brais nas* // *ma dag 'khrul pa'i snān ba*

Commenting on this stanza, the first sub-section, “Presentation” (*bstan pa*), deals with these ‘contradictions’ in general; the second sub-section, “Explanation” (*bśad pa*), discusses the 18 contradictions in detail; the third, “Reasoning” (*rgyu bstan pa*), bases them on Tsōn kha pa’s undue application of logic to Madhyamaka doctrines:

“The reason for the big burden of contradictions of this kind is that, despite [Candrakīrti’s] saying again and again that [the phenomenal world exists only] for world[ly cognition] without (analytical) investigation, [Tsōn kha pa] analyzes [the objects of the phenomenal world] and proves [their conventional existence] after giving proofs (*utpatti* ?) due to the force of applying logical argumentation.”⁵

The outline of the text is, according to sTag tshañ’s own *sa bcad* (abbreviated, page references are to text A):

1	bdag lta'i 'dzin stañs spyir dgag pa (= chap.I of the root-text)	44,2- 56,5
2	(bdag lta'i 'dzin stañs) so sor dgag pa	56,5-325,3
21	gañ zag gi bdag dgag pa (= chap.II)	56,5-102,1
22	chos kyi bdag dgag pa	102,1-325,3
221	rags pa dgag pa (= chap.III+IV)	102,1-201,2
222	(chos kyi bdag [!]) ⁶ phra ba dgag pa (= chap.V)	201,2-325,3
222.1	dbye ba mdor bstan	201,4-206,4
222.2	rnam gžag rgyas par bśad	206,4-312,6
222.21	miñ can gyi dbu ma dgag	206,5-208,4
222.22	don ldan gyi dbu ma bśad	208,4-307,2
222.221	rañ rgyud (bśad pa)	208,4-213,5
222.222	thal 'gyur bśad pa	213,5-307,2
222.222.1	ltar snañ dgag pa	213,5-241,3
222.222.11	bstan (pa) (= V,11)	213,5-223,3
222.222.12	(don de rnam rgyas par) bśad (pa) (= V,12-18)	223,4-240,3
222.222.13	rgyu bstan pa (= V,19)	240,3-241,3
222.222.2	yañ dag bsgrub pa [dbu ma chen po yañ dag bśad pa]	241,3-307,2
222.23	sgrub byed kyi gžuñ khuñs bstan pa	307,2-312,6
222.3	rtag chad gžan spañ	312,6-318,4
222.4	legs bśad du ma spro ba	318,4-325,3
3	bśad pa mthar phyin pa	325,3-326,6

tshad grub tu // rig[s] pa du mas dpyad nas khas len pa // 'di la 'gal ba'i khur chen 'di ltar yod / (Transl. also Hopkins 1983, 540).

5 V,19 (24,3f.): / de ltar 'gal ba'i khur chen yod pa'i rgyu // mam dpyad med par 'jig rten řid las źes // yañ yañ smras kyañ rtog ger goms pa'i mthuñ // 'thad pa bcug nas dpyad ciñ bsgrubs pas so // (Transl. also Hopkins 1983, 539f.)

For a detailed refutation of sTag tshañ’s position s. ‘Jam dbyañs bžad pa, Grub chen 18,4-19,5 + 675,1-815,4. I wish to express my gratitude to Geshe Lobsang Dargyay, Calgary, for pointing out these passages.

6 In the root-text chapter V (21,4-36,4) is entitled *phra ba'i bdag gnis bkag nas mtha' bral sgrub pa* (36,4).

Although the name of Tsöñ kha pa is mentioned neither in the root text nor in the autocommentary, in general it is quite clear from sTag tshañ's point of departure that his polemics are — as understood by the dGe lugs pa tradition⁷ — directed against Tsöñ kha pa, who incorporates to some extent Dharmakīrti's logic into Madhyamaka doctrine,⁸ without, however, taking recourse to independent inference (*svatantra anumāna*). In connection with his particular definition of the basis of distinction (*dbye gzi*) of the two realities as the objects of cognition (*śes bya*), which is synonymous with 'existing' (*yod pa*), and, on the other hand, with his interpretation of *samvrtisatya* as that aspect (*no bo*) of existing 'things' which bears the qualities falsehood and delusion, rather than as the appearance of this aspect to an erroneous cognition, even *samvrtisatya* has to be interpreted as conventionally existent (*tha sñad du yod pa*). This, in turn, requires the state of being established by valid cognition (*tshad mas grub pa*).⁹

sTag tshañ, on the other hand, takes as the basis of distinction the objects of cognition only in their non-analyzed and non-investigated form (*ma brtags ma [: pa] dpyad pa*, Grub mtha' kun śes rnam bśad 263,2f., 269,2-272,5), and thus defines *samvrtisatya* as the object perceived by a non-investigating erroneous cognition (*ma dpyad 'khrul pa'i śes nor rñed pa'i rñed don*, 264,1). Only in this respect does he accept the distinction of valid and invalid cognition etc.; he does not accept valid cognition with regard to *samvṛti(satya)* in the case of [even] cursory investigation¹⁰

7 Cf. e.g. 'Jam dbyañ bžad pa's arguments in n.78; Thal rañ 9a5-9b8, quoting Grub mtha' kun śes (as "rTsod yig") V,11-19.

8 Cf. Seyfort Ruegg 1989.

9 S. e.g. LRChen kha 27b5-38b1 (Wayman 221-242), dGoñs gsal 101b2; cf. Tauscher 1991, n.69,71.

10 For sTag tshañ's position, a distinction of three phases (*gnas skabs*) of the path is important. In a modern treatise it is explained by the ex-abbot of 'Bras spuñs sGo man, bstan pa bstan 'dzin, on the basis of Grub mtha' kun śes rnam bśad 247,4-304,5: Without investigation, all phenomena (*chos*) exist, at the time of cursory investigation *paramārtha(satya)* does not exist, but *samvṛti(satya)* does, and at the time of thorough investigation all phenomena [and thus both realities] are non-existent (Drañ thig 213,10-14: *sTag tshañ lo tsā bas dpyad pa rim pa gsum byas te ma brtag ma dpyad pa'i tshe chos thams cad yod / cui zad brtag pa'i tshe don dam med cii kun rdzob yod / sin tu brtag pa'i tshe chos thams cad med kyāñ gžan nor yod par bśad pa dari / ...*). — This position of sTag tshañ is criticized by mDzes rgyan 300,15ff. (transl. Lopez 267) as being without Indian foundation. Cf. Hopkins 1987, 334.

Perceived by a non analyzing and non investigating erroneous cognition is *lokasamvṛti* which is — according to the world only, but not according to the Madhyamaka — distinguished as 'true' or 'false'. Conventional cognition of cursory investigation

(... *ma dpyad pa 'jig rten la grags pa'i tshad ma dan tshad min gyi mam gzag dan / ... khas len mod kyi / kun rdzob 'jal ba'i tshad ma zes bya ba rai lugs cui zad dpyad pa'i nor med pa kho na ste /*, 269, 2-4); 'established by valid cognition' (*tshad grub*) means the same as 'undeceiving' (*bslu med*) and 'able to exist independently' (*tshugs thub*) (215,5f.),¹¹ which of course cannot be applied to *samvritisatya* within Prāsaṅgika-Madhyamaka. The assumption of something 'undeceiving' within conventional transaction is, according to sTag tshañ, the distinguishing position of the Pramāṇa school, shared to a large extent with the Svātantrika.¹²

In detail, however, not all of sTag tshañ's arguments can clearly be connected with Tsōn kha pa's assumptions, some of the positions criticized are even rejected by Tsōn ka pa himself;¹³ occasionally the polemics might not be directed against Tsōn kha pa exclusively, and the possibility of (deliberate-ly ?) misunderstanding, or of minimal differences between the respective views of sTag tshañ and Tsōn kha pa¹⁴ should be taken into account.

This paper does not claim to discuss all these possibilities or to evaluate the sTag tshañ – Tsōn kha pa controversy thoroughly; it will give a translation of the general "presentation" (*bstan pa*) as well as of the "explanation" (*bśad pa*) of the first three of the 18 'contradictions', following 'Jam dbyaṇs bžad pa, who refutes these three (together with

perceives the subtle 'impermanent' (*anitya*) and the appearance to the succeedingly gained [gnosis] (*prsthālabdha[jñāna]*) of Srāvaka-Arhats, Pratyekabuddhas and Bodhisattvas below the 7th *bhūmi*, which is **yogisamvrti* or 'mere *samvrti*' (*samvrtimātra*), where the distinction between 'true' and 'false' is not possible, also called 'the Mādhyamika's *samvrti*'. — Cf. dGoṇs gsal 102b6-103a1 (Tauscher 1990, 251f.,n.56) — (Grub mtha' kun šes rnam bśad 266,2-6: *mtshan gzi ni ma britags ma dpyad pa'i 'khrul no'i chos can rags pa mams ni 'jig rten gyi kun rdzob dan / cui zad dpyad no'i tha sñad pa'i blo'i ried don phra ba'i mi rtag pa dari / řan rai mi slob pa nas byaṇi sems 'phags pa man chad kyi 'phags pa'i rjes thob kyi snaṇi ba mams ni mal 'byor pa'i kun rdzob bo // ... / phyi ma la ... dbu ma pa'i zes sbyar řin / de gñis las kun rdzob dari po la sñon po dari zla gñis 'jig rten kho nas bden rdzun du 'dod pa'i phyir ma dpyad kun rdzob la yari [: gaṇ] log yod ces bya'i dbu ma rai lugs la min te /; 246,5f.: rai lugs mal 'byor kun rdzob la yari log med pas kun rdzob tsam por 'dod pa ...).*

11 Cf. Hopkins 1983, 172,n.122 and, including 'Jam dbyaṇs bžad pa's rejection, 676,n.727.

12 Grub mtha' kun šes rnam bśad 245,4f., quoting a Sa skyā abbot (? *chos rje pa*) in agreement with Grags pa rgyal mtshan's lJön řin: *rJe btsun chen po'i mNön rtogs ljon řin sogz na'aṇi gsal ba ltar / Chos rje pas / dbu tshad gñis kyi khyad par ni // tha sñad du yari mi slu ba // 'dod pa tshad ma'i lugs yin te // rai rgyud phal cher de dari mthun /.*

13 Cf. e.g. 'contradiction' <3>.

14 This is demonstrated — with regard to the innate concept of a self (*bdag 'dzin lhan skyes*) -in Hopkins 1987, 117f.

'contradiction' 14) in his *Grub chen* (cf. n.5) in one section (*mNon rjes gñis 'dod tshad ma mi 'dod 'gal*, 19,2 + 746ff.).¹⁵

* * * * *

The second (chapter) has (two sub-chapters): Negation of [mere] appearance (*ābhāsa*) and Proof of the real (*tattva*);

The first (among those) has (three sub-chapters): Presentation, Explanation and Reasoning.

<213,5>

1 (Presentation)

The later Tibetan Buddhist (*bstan 'dzin*) Mahāpañdita¹⁶ accepted Candrakīrti's system literally in (his) youth; later on (his) critical investigation did not improve, but statements such as: "Tibet is full of [scholars who propagate] convention supported by arguments in general and [by the argument of] part and compilation in particular, and also the Madhyamaka [deals with/knows] the power (? *byin rlabs=mthu/adhishthāna*) of *samvrti* which is dependent (and) undceiving, proclaimed by the Svātantrika and [...]"¹⁷ are perfectly all right (*dag byan*); and by the statement: "There will be no reliability (*anāśvāsikatā, anāśvāsa*) [within their relation], if action (*karma*) and (its) fruit (*phala*) are posited only to mistaken [consciousness]"¹⁸ (he) is refuted: The supposition (*'dod*

15 For 'Jam dbyans bžad pa's refutation of sTag tshañ's position regarding valid cognition (*tshad ma*) s. also Tshig gsal stoñ thun mun sel, presently studied by Ch. Yoshimizu at the University of Vienna.

16 ... *mkhas pa chen po dag*: Tsoñ kha pa and his followers (?)

17 Not identified

18 Not identified; no such statement by Tsoñ kha pa is known to me. He does, however, argue that causality would be impossible if the teaching of non-substantiality was taken literally as meaning total or [even] conventional non-existence (LŚN 120a6-8 [Thurman 250]: ... *de yar 'jig rten gyi tha sñad du yin gyi don dam par ni ma yin no // zes blñi dor dan rgyu 'bras sogs la yari yari gsuris pa ltar 'dod kyi spyir no bo ye med dam tha sñad du med par mi 'dod la ... don dam par med pa sgra ji bžin par 'dod na rgyu 'bras sogs mi rui zes pa'i don yin te /*). However, he also strictly rejects the argumentation that the objects' not being established by their own characteristic makes causality impossible, as this assumption would mean taking the proof of emptiness of own-being (*svabhāva-śūnyatā*) as its refutation. (LŚN 123b5-7 [Thurman 256]: *rañ gi mtshan ñid ky[i]s ma*

pa) according to the multitude of all [these] scholars, (i.e.) that all the many consequences, (viz.) that even without analysis by an absolute cognition (*rig pa*) a bull (seen) in dream and a bull (seen) while awake equally serve a purpose with regard to a conventional cognition; that a perception (*blo*) having the appearance of the hair [seen by a *taimirika*] and a perception having the appearance of “blue” are equally [to be distinguished as] mistaken (or) not mistaken;¹⁹ and, above all, that there is no reliability within [the relation of] action and (its) fruit; etc. are [in agreement with] the system of *Candrakīrti* and *Śāntideva*, bears a lot of contradictions ('*gal sog*s').

<214,4> Additionally, ‘empty’ and ‘originating dependently’ generally mean the same, as is said in detail in statements (such as):

grub na ... rgyu 'b[r]as sog med par 'gyur ro žes smra ba ni / rāñ gi mtshan ūid kyis grub pa'i rāñ bžin gyis ston pa'i sgrub byed mthar thug pa la gnod de mthar thug par 'dzin pa yin no ...). — Cf. LRChen kha 75b7-76a4 (Wayman 319f.), where a “Chinese teacher”, i.e. Hva ſāñ (Wayman n.303), is named as representative of this view.

rTsa tik XVII (karmaphalaparīksā, 302a3-311a6) argues, in accordance with *Pras*, against the view that the [fixed] relation of action and its fruit proves *samsāra* to be existent (as own-being). (*Pras* 302,3: *atrāha / vidyata eva samsārah karma-phala-sambandhāśrayatvāt //*; rTsa tik 302a4f.: ... 'khor ba ni rāñ bžin gyis yod de las 'bras kyi 'brel ba'i rten yin pa'i phyir ro /)

19 These two ‘consequences’ are seemingly directed against *Tsoñ kha pa*’s position that even incorrect (*mithyā*) *samvrti* is *samvrtisatya*: A reflection, e.g. — even though established as being empty as (substantial) form (*ākāra*) — is not different from something which is real for a *samvrti* cognition that takes the reflection [or anything else] as established by own-being. It is, however, not *samvrtisatya* insofar as it is taken as the (substantial) form, the reflected thing. (dGoñs gsal 103a5-8: *de'i phyir gzugs brñan byad bžin gyis ston par grub kyan / gzugs brñan rāñ gi mtshan ūid kyis grub par 'dzin pa'i kun rdzob kyi nor bden pa yin [: ma yin] pa la 'gal ba ci yāñ med pa'i dños po yin pas kun rdzob kyi bden pa yin no // des na gzugs brñan kun rdzob kyi bden pa min par gsuris pa ni / brda la byan pa'i 'jig rten gyi kun rdzob kyi nor byad bžingyi gzugs brñan lta bu de / byad bžin yin pa de brdzun pas de la ltos pa'i kun rdzob kyi bden pa min pa la dgoñs kyi / ...), cf. rTsa tik 356b6-8 (LRChuñ 303b2-5).*

Things like ‘blue’ etc. do not exist as established by their own characteristics, nevertheless they do exist as exterior things; in the same way a reflection, which does not exist as the -reflected — (substantial) form, does exist and is viewed as belonging to the (sense-)domain of form (*rūpāyatana*). It serves a purpose inasmuch as it produces the respective sense perception. (dGoñs gsal 101b4-7: *sio sog med rāñ gi mtshan ūid kyis grub pa dan / gzugs brñan byad bžin du yod pa mi srid kyan / byad bžin du med pa'i gzugs brñan yod pa bžin du / rāñ gi mtshan ūid kyis grub pa min kyan sio sog yod dgos la / de yāñ phyi rol gyi don du yod pa bžin du gzugs brñan yāñ gzugs kyi skye mched du bžed pa yin te / 'og nas gzugs brñan gyis de snāñ ba'i dbañ ſes skyed par yāñ gsuris so //*).

"Homage to the excellent, incomparable *munīndra*, who taught empti(ness) and dependent origination as the Middle Way [and] as equivalent" [VV v.72]²⁰

and:

"Dependent origination is explained as emptiness; this (in turn) is [the same as] metaphorical designation; this is the Middle Way" [MK XXIV,18]²¹.

Not only [the view that] the two, the appearing [as] object, subject etc., and empti(ness), i.e. non-substantiality – as something established as real does not depend on anything [and can] therefore not be admitted as [originating] dependent[ly], and something established as dependent and supported is not established as real – join in one substratum, also [the view that] for a person who understands dependent (origination) an induced ascertainment (*ries pa 'dren pa*)²² of mutual assistance is necessary with regard to empti(ness) due to appearance and to appearance due to empti(ness) is [admitted in the] Madhyamaka system. The Svātantrikas, however, add: 'as mere own-being or nature is conventionally established on top of the object, true own-being does not exist'; and as here (in the Svātantrika system) – not making even this (addition) – no own-being or nature at all is [possible] on top of the object, and (as) e.g. action and agent in the case of burning by fire are not merely designated by the mind, [an own-being] on top of the object does exist only conventionally as undesignating and able to exist independently (*tshugs thub*). Therefore the statement, which is written down not only once but again and again, (viz.) that there is no reliability [within the relation of cause and effect] if the two, action and agent for whom mutual assistance is necessary, are posited only to an erroneous mind, is the main point in the multitude of contradictions, because in the Great Madhyamaka there is absolutely no other own-being (as) reason for negation (*dgag rgyu*) beyond the action and agent which are able to exist independently from the side of the object.

If (someone objects that) 'able to exist independently' (*tshugs thub*) has not been mentioned [at all], [the following has to be taken into consideration:] If something is not able to exist independently, [its

20 VV v.72 acc. Vaidya; final sentence acc. Johnston/Kunst: *yah śūnyatām prātyasamutpādām madhyamām pratipadām ca / ekārthām nijagāda pranamāmi tam apratimabuddham //*

21 MK XXIV,18: *yah prātyasamutpādah śūnyatām tām pracakṣmahe / sā prajñaptir upādāya pratipat saiva madhyamā //*

22 *rai yul la yod med yin min gyi sgro 'dogs bcad nas ji bzin legs par šes pa'o* (Tshig mdzod)

determination as] being established by valid cognition (*pramāṇasiddha*) is contradictive, because the meaning of 'established by valid cognition' is 'undeceiving', and the meaning of 'undeceiving' does not exceed [the meaning of] 'able to exist independently'.

<215,6> Now a different (matter): To take – in [postulated] accordance with the system of the venerable Candra(*kīrti*)²³ – the agent (*byed pa*) [in the case of] the Buddha's gnosis which knows the phenomenal (aspect of existence) (*ji sñed pa mkhyen pa'i ye śes*) as the valid cognition which examines *samvrtisatya*,²⁴ this is the root of the whole complex of contradictions.²⁵ In the commentary to the *Madhyamakāvatāra* (verse):

"Delusion (*moha*), as it obscures the own-being (*svabhāva*), is *samvṛti*" [MAv VI,28a]²⁶

the presentator (*jog byed*) of the first of the two, *samvrtisatya* and false *samvṛtimātra*,²⁷ is explained as afflicted ignorance; in the same (text) it is said:

"Therefore, in the first place, *samvrtisatya* is determined by the totality of the limbs of existence (*bhāvāṅga*) due to the force of afflicted ignorance." [MAvBh 107,17f. (rearranged)]

23 Cf. V,11a; s. n.4

24 Cf. the chapter "Ji sñed pa gzigs pa mi 'thad pa'i rtsod pa spat ba", rTsa tik 360a5-361a8, for the greatest part identical with LRChuṇ 309a1-310a4 (cf. dGoṇs gsal 110b3-8). — According to Tsōṇ kha pa, *samvrtisatya* has to be object of the Buddha's omniscience, in particular of his *ji sñed pa mkhyen pa'i ye śes*, because *samvrtisatya* is also existent (*yod pa*), i.e. an object of cognition (*śes bya*). However, the appearing of phenomena defiled by the residues of nescience to the Buddha takes place exclusively via their appearance to persons defiled by nescience; only the appearing of all entities as non-substantial etc. is founded in the Buddha's gnosis itself but not as (absolutely) real. (rTsa tik 360b6f., 361a1f.: *saris rgyas kyi ji sñed pa mkhyen pa'i ye śes la ma rig pa'i bag chags kylis bslad pa'i don snari ba na / ma rig pa'i bslad pa yod pa'i gan zug la de dag snari ba kho na'i sgo nas saris rgyas la snari ba yin gyi / ... / de ltar na ji sñed pa mkhyen pa'i rai nos nas ni / dños po thams cad bdag med pa dan ... bzin du snari gi bden par mi snari la /).*

25 This passage (up to 220,2) is dealt with in detail in Grub chen 675,1-695,3.

26 Cit. BCAP 353,3: *mohah svabhāvāvaraṇād dhi samvṛtiḥ*

27 i.e. objects of the phenomenal world taken as (absolutely) real and not (absolutely) real respectively. For sTag tshaṇ's division of *samvṛti* cf. n.10.

The presentator (*'jog byed*) of the second is explained as being the mere ignorance of²⁸ the Āryas of the *śrāvaka* and *pratyeka(buddha)/yāna* who are no [longer] learning (*mi slob pa 'phags pa*) and the [still] learning ones of the *mahāyāna*, who have a gnosis endowed with appearance, as they are, after complete abolition of the former presentator (i.e. afflicted ignorance), endowed with non-afflicted ignorance [only]; as it is said from:

“For those (who consider the *samskāras* as existing in a similar way as reflections)²⁹ [the *samskāras*] are of (artificially) produced nature, but not (absolutely) real, because [these Āryas] are free from the (illusory) conception of reality” [MAvBh 108,2f.]

etc. [up to]:

“This (= *'du byed / kun rdzob tsam du 'gyur ba*), in turn, does appear to the Āryas who have (their) object(s) endowed with appearance, as [for those Āryas] only that (kind of) ignorance is effective, that has³⁰ the characteristics of the obstacles of the knowable (*jñeyāvaraṇa*) (but ...)” [MAvBh 108,6-8].

Concerning the Buddhas it is said that there is a presentator not even of mere *saṃvṛti*, let alone of *saṃvṛtisatya*; as (with) the statements:

“(... but it does) not (appear) to those who have object(s) without appearance. Concerning the Buddhas — as they are in every respect totally enlightened with regard to all phenomena — (it is maintained that)³¹ [every] activity of mind (*sems*) and mental factors (*sems las byuri ba*) is abolished for good (*gtan log pa*)” [MAvBh 108,8-11]

and also below:

“As³² the mind is annihilated, this (*chos sku*) is made manifest by the (*lors*)³³ *sku*” [MAvXII,8d]

28 216,3 *kyi* (corr.) : *kyis* (text A and B)

29 216,4: *de mams* represents MAvBh 108,1f.: *'du byed gzugs brñan la sogs pa'i yod pa ñid dari 'dra bar gzigs pa mams*.

30 216,4 *mtshan ñid can* (MAvBh) : *mtshan ñid*

31 Supplementation acc. MAvBh: *log par 'dod pa yin no* instead of *log pa yin no*

32 217,1 *sems 'gags pas* (MAv) : *sems 'gags pa*

33 Supplementation acc. dGors gsal and R.

and:

“As³⁴ (you) have correctly understood [reality] as being of homogeneous nature, you, o purely knowing one, understand [all] object[s] of cognition with [every single] moment [of your cognition]” [MAv XII,2cd]

it is explained that non-dual gnosis is without object.

<217,2> When with regard to (this explanation) the objection, that a cognition knowing the object is not possible if the object is without appearance, is formulated with (the words):

“If (being) calm (*zī ba*) is the reality (*de nīd*), one does not approach it by means of the intellect (*blo gros*)” [MAv XII,3a],

[as a reply] it is said with (the words):

“If³⁵ non-arising is the reality” [MAv XII,4a/]

etc., that [even in the case of a non-arising object ?] the agreement of the object’s mode of existence (*gnas tshul*) and (its) mode of appearing to the cognition (*blo*) is conventionally called ‘understanding of the object by cognition’, when – according to the generally known (fact) that this cognition understands this object, because it exists endowed with the modality of the object – for a non-arising object also the cognition is non-arising [and thus these two are] like water poured into water; but it is not said that an object without appearance is not established. And also in the (Bodhi)caryāvatāra (with the words):

“If neither being nor non-being offers itself to the mind (*blo*), it gains, for there is no other possibility, calmness, being without objective support” [BCA IX,35]³⁶

it is explained that gnosis (*ye śes*) has an object without appearance; and as reply to the objection, that in this case the undertakings of proclaiming the doctrine etc. would not be possible, it is said:

“Like here by a strong potter” [MAv XII,6a] etc.,

34 217,2 *gyur pas; gyur nas/- na* (MAv); *gyur pas na* (dGöns gsal)

35 217,3 *yin na; yin zīn* (MAv)

36 BCA IX,35: *yadā na bhāvo nābhāvo mateh samisthate purah / tadānyagatābhāvena nirālambā praśāmyati //*; translation acc. Steinkellner

and:

"Like the wish-fulfilling gem, like the wish-fulfilling tree, that satisfies the wishes [of the beings], in this way the body of the Victorious One appears by the force of [maturation of the beneficial deeds of the] devotees ('dul bya) [and] the vows [taken by the Buddha while he still was a bodhisattva]." [BCA IX,36]³⁷

And in reply to the objection:

"How could [any] fruit arise through libation towards a mindless [being]?"

[with the words:]

"[This is possible] because it is thought that [the fruit of libation] is the same with regard to the living or the extinguished [Buddha]" [BCA IX,39]³⁸

it is replied that a pervasion [of being alive and bringing fruit] is not established, but it is not said that a mindless [being] is not established.

<218,2> Because of these (misinterpretations) mislead, Kha rag Byañ gzon³⁹ and others even say that these two teachers (Candrakīrti and Śāntarakṣita) assume the Buddha to be without gnosis (ye śes), but the investigation(s) of the dispute as explained (above) show a perfectly complete under-standing of the absolute reality (*de bzin ŋid*) of all objects of cognition, which is multiple [but/and] of homogeneous nature [by] 'appearingless intuitive knowledge at the time of intense concentration' (*mñam gzag snañ med pa'i ye śes*)⁴⁰ to be existent.

<218,4> [Objection:] According to the explanation in 'Grel chuñ don gsal:

"How are those necessarily accepted non-dual mind and mental factors to be comprised (*bsdu*)?" [AAV 156,4-6]⁴¹

37 BCA IX,36: *cintāmanih kalpataruryathecchāparipūrṇah / vineyapranidhānābhyañ jinabimbam tatheksyate //*; transl. acc. Steinkellner (supplementations acc. BCAP)

38 BCA IX,39: *acittake kṛtā pūjā katham phalavañ bhavet / tulyaiva padyate yasmāt tiṣṭhato nirvṛtasya ca //*; translation acc. Steinkellner.

39 I could not identify any scholar of this name. — A later successor of Kha rag sGom chuñ (second half of 11.century), the founder of the system of *kha rag skor gsum* (= *byañ chub sbyori*). Cf. BA 266, 269, 999ff. (?)

40 For the translation of the term cf. Obermiller 21.

41 AAV 156,4-6 (on VIII [dharmaśāya],6); (Nāgarī)83,11: ... *avaśyam advayāś cittacaitāḥ katham abhyupagantavyāḥ* ?

this (i.e. the Buddha's) gnosis necessarily consists of mind and mental factors.

[Reply:] "As this is [merely] Svātantrika position, there is — with reference to [any] other system — no refutation whatsoever to be formulated",⁴²

and accordingly also [the statements expressing this idea]:

"Even by one (single) gnosis of one who knows the whole circle of objects of cogniton is encompassed" [SDVV 188, v.(2)ab]⁴³

etc. are the words of the commentary of the Satyadvaya(vibhaṅga).

<219,1> [Objection:] Why (then) are in the (Madhyamaka-)Avatāra itself [the following statements given]:

"There is [only] one (means of) valid cognition, viz. the gnosis of the omniscient"⁴⁴

and:

"The gnosis [consisting in] the knowledge about all modes (of existence) (*sarvākāraṇatājñāna*) is characterized as direct perception" [MAv VI,214ab]⁴⁵,

and [in addition] the extensive explanation of a differentiation into the 10 forces (of the Tathāgata)⁴⁶, (viz.) the knowledge of the basic condition and of the non-basic condition (*sthānāsthānajñānabala*) etc.⁴⁷

[Reply:] The first two (statements) are suitable as explanations of 'appearingless intuitive knowledge at the time of intense concentration'; the last one and [the statement] in the (Bodhi)caryāvatāra:

"Buddhas and Bodhisattvas see everything unimpededly" [BCA V,31ab]⁴⁸

42 Not identified

43 SDVV 188, interpolated verse (2ab), with variant readings in pāda a: *mkhyen pa'i ye śes gcig gis kyan*; SDVV: *mkhyen pa'i skad cig gcig gis ni* "In a moment of insight it encompasses every object of knowledge" (Eckel 102). Cf. MAv(Bh) XII,2

44 Not identified; not in MAv

45 Variant readings in pāda b: *mrion sum mtshan ūid can du 'dod*; MAv: *mrion sum ūes bya'i mtshan ūid do*; cf. SDV 37d: *thams cad mkhyen pas mrion sum gzigs //*.

46 MAv(Bh) XII,19-31

47 Cf. Waldschmidt 385,n.18

48 BCA V,31ab: *buddhāś ca bodhisattvāś ca sarvatrāvyāhateksanāḥ /*

are statements about the *nisyandakāya*'s ('body of natural outflow', *rgyu mthun pa'i sku*)⁴⁹ way of knowing the object of cognition [as it is] manifested in the appearance to the adepts, and about [this] *kāya*'s way of being born, etc.; and if the *nisyanda-nirmānakāya* is merely the Buddha's magic transformation or resembling of a body, and one determines [somebody] as knowing, because [he] shows how knowledge [is gained], by showing anew how awakening is caused, [the Nirmānakāya-Buddha] even becomes awakened anew.

<219,5> Now a different (argument): [If it were not as explained above] for a person endowed with *karma* and *kleśa*, these appearing vessel and juice (*snod bcud* = insentient world and sentient beings) would consequently not be produced by *karma* and *kleśa* [as their] own causes, and would consequently not appear by force of *karma* and *kleśa* [as] the causes of error; and for the fully awakened Buddha obscurations would appear as obscuring other forms, red flaming hot irons (*lcag bsregs dmar 'bar ba rnams*) as burning the bodi(es), and rain-showers of weapons (*mtshon cha'i char ba rnams*) as cutting the bodi(es) to pieces, etc., because, apart from the mere non-appearing of these (things) as (absolutely) real, (they) are established by [some, i.e. conventional] valid cognition in the way they appear to ordinary people (*so skye*), (i.e.) as physically existent (*rdos bcas*) etc., and in addition they are mainly established by the Buddha's valid cognition.

49 In the *Laṅkāvatāra Sūtra* *nisyandabuddha* is, acc. Suzuki 1930, 142ff., 208f., an early form of the later *sambhogakāya* (s. BHSD); cf. KTA 7a2: *saris rgyas sku ni mam gsum 'dod // chos dañ rgyu mthun sprul pa ste /* and, commenting on it, KTV 35a1: *rgyu mthun pa ni loris spyod rdzogs pa yin par lta bar ste / chos kyi dbyiñis kyi rgyu mthun pas* Acc. Suzuki 1928, 235 *nisyanda* and *nirmāna-buddha* can hardly be distinguished. — RGV I,145 *nisyanda* is, together with *dharmadhātu*, an aspect of *dharmakāya* (cf. Seyfort Ruegg 1969, 275). — Candrakīrti, however, explains *nisyandakāya* as originated from either *dharmakāya* or *rūpakāya* (interpreted as *sambhogakāya* by Jayānanda 404a4) but different from them (MAvBh 363,11-13: *chos kyi sku las byuri ba 'am gzugs kyi sku'i mthu las byuri ba yin yan runi ste / ji skad bśad pa'i sku las gžan du gyur pa rgyu mthun pa'i sku ...*) Tsoñ kha pa's commentary on this passage presents *nisyandakāya* as "result-body" (**phalakāya*), as the nature of the *nirmānakāya* is being the natural outflow of the *dharma* [and/or] *sambhogakāya*" (dGoñs gsal 258b8f.: ... *sprul pa'i sku'i no bo riid chos loris kyi rgyu mthun pa ste 'bras bu'i sku ...*). It cannot, however, simply be identified with *nirmānakāya*, as the separate discussion of the latter at a considerably later point (MAv[Bh] 398,14-399,9) indicates.

<220,2> Now a different (argument): In order to prove that the Buddha's body is the *jñānakāya*, which is free from elements and the physical phenomena of a body (*lus bem chos*), it will be senseless to contemplate the path of the apparitional body (*māyākāya*) etc., as [this contemplation] is the virtue of measuring all physical phenomena with the mind. [The path of the apparitional body] does not correspond to the path which bears fruit, because, while (*śin*) it is absolutely necessary to do away with appearing already prior to [the attainment of] the 'intuitive knowledge at the time of intense concentration' of a [still] learning [Ārya] and each sphere (*dkyil 'khor re re*) of the path of mantra, at the time of [gaining] the fruit (i.e. buddhahood) all (phenomena) appear. Necessarily the object (*chos can*) is becoming increasingly clear while [the contemplator] is — [starting] from the 'intuitive knowledge at the time of intense concentration'⁵⁰ of the path of seeing (*mthoni lam mñam gžag ye śes*) — becoming more and more concentrated, because all objects appear to the 'intuitive knowledge at the time of intense concentration' of the fruit.

<220,5> Therefore it is the main mistake of those who adhere to this system [of Tsōn kha pa's interpretation of the two realities ?], to have taken the Buddha's gnosis for the main (valid) cognition examining *samvrtisatya*, because [if the Buddha's gnosis were the main valid cognition for *samvrtisatya*] consequently the applying of *samvrti/satya* to the world [as it is done in the verse]:

"Worldly conventional reality and reality in the absolute sense" [MK XXIV,8cd]⁵¹

would be impossible, and because it is said again and again that *samvrtisatya* is constituted by the innate worldly concept of 'I' (*nar 'dzin*) that bears the name 'delusion' (*moha*), but not seen by pure gnosis; (this is said) in numerous [statements such as:]

"While being renowned as non-imagined, (the self) [results] from delusion" [MAv VI,164d]⁵²

and:

"Because (*samvrti* objects) are result, we say — in consideration of the world's view] — '(they) exist', although they do not exist" [MAv VI,81cd]

50 The translation of the terms is of Obermiller 21.

51 MK XXIV,8cd: *lokasamvrtisatyam ca satyam ca paramārthatah //*

52 MAv VI,164d; MAvL (Le Muséon 12, 326,n.5): *akalpyaprasiddho mohād asti*

and:

"For whom should [the Bodhisattva] practise compassion? — It is [the being] that is imagined by the delusion which is accepted for the sake of the result [of buddhahood]" [BCA IX,76b-d]⁵³

and:

"[If] there is no sentient being, whose is the result? — Correct! But [we] assume that [efforts (*īhā*)] [result] from delusion". [BCA IX,77ab]⁵⁴

<221,3> Objection: In this case there will be no need for acceptance and rejection.

[Reply:] [This is not correct; on the contrary] due to the understanding in this way [that *samvrtisatya* is constituted by the innate worldly concept of 'I' (*nar 'dzin*) that bears the name 'delusion' (*moha*), but not seen by pure gnosis (above, 221,2f.)], one will undertake great efforts with regard to acceptance and rejection. If one knows that the tuft of hair appearing to a *taimirika* does not appear to a pure eye, as it does not exist on top of a [real] object, one realizes the own eye as having the defect of being stained; thereafter one searches for a medicinian, pays great respect to his words, and drinks the very strong (*mi zad pa, tīvra*) medicine; and those who, after postulating that [*samvrtisatya*] is established by conventional valid cognition, hold the most ridiculous view that (-'i *gad rgyāns sgrogs pa mams*) [the relation of] action and result [should be] ascertained by valid cognition do not have such a completely pure conduct of the three doors (of body, speech and mind) — like applying oneself to the adherence to⁵⁵ the conduct [of seeing one's own defects, consulting the medicinian, and taking the medicine] — which (conduct is represented) by the exponents of this (= Prāsaṅgika ?) system, the *jo bo chen po* Atīśa, his (transformed) manifestation (*mam 'phrul, vikurvana/vikurvita*) Pa tshab Ni ma grags, the great *lotsāba* sKyabs mchog dPal bzañ po,⁵⁶ and those who are nowadays counted among the expo-

53 BCA IX,76b-d: *kasyopari krpeti cet / kāryārtham abhyupetena yo mohena prakalpitah //*; translation acc. Steinkellner

54 BCA IX,77ab: *kāryam kasya na cet sattvah satyam īhā tu mohatah /*; transl. acc. Steinkellner

55 221,5 *bsten pa* (text B) : *bstan pa*

56 cf. BA II, 632f.: Dharmasvāmin dPal bzañ po, 1257-1310, sTag luñ monastery, Marpa-line (???)

nents of an opinion (*chad pa, anta/amśa*)⁵⁷ in accordance with these (teachers). — [This] detailed (explanation) [should] suffice.

<222,1> Objection: Various (things) might have been said, but as the clear explanation of the four means of valid cognition, viz. perception, inference, scriptural testimony and analogy, at the end of the 'Joint (general meaning) of a thousand (passages) of the Prasannapadā' (? *tshig gsal stoṇ thun gyi mjug tu*)⁵⁸ is [merely] a Prāsaṅgika position, the former Tibetans also distinguished Prāsaṅgikas and Svātantrikas [as those who accept] many and few means of valid cognition, because the statement:

"[...] because the Prāsaṅgikas assume four [means of valid cognition] to be ascertained, and the Svātantrikas, according to the *Pramāṇavārttika*, [only] two, perception and inference"⁵⁹

is also acceptable.

[Reply:] Neither,⁶⁰ the former [and] later Tibetans, are of this opinion, because [the mentioning of] the four means of valid cognition is [merely] a report of worldly assumption, but not an establishment of (their) own position, as in the conclusion [of the respective passage in the *Prasannapadā*] it is said:

"Therefore the world establishes the cognition of a thing (*don*) in this way through the four means of valid cognition." [Pras 75,9]⁶¹

57 Cf. KPv 28: *gcig tu chad par smra ba, ekāntavādin* + n.9 of Weller's translation.

58 *stoṇ thun*: (1) *gnad don stoṇ phrag du ma thun thun du bsdus pa ste spyi don* / (2) *graris gnas ūig* (Tshig mdzod).

The name "Tshig gsal stoṇ thun" seemingly refers to *Prasannapadā* on MK I,1, towards the end of which (Pras 75,2-9) the four means of valid cognition are discussed. — One section of *sTon thun chen mo* (473-506), entitled "dBu ma rtsa ba'i 'grel pa tshig gsal gyi mtha' bži'i skye ba 'gog pa'i stoṇ thun", gives a very detailed analysis of *Prasannapadā* on I,1. 'Jam dbyangs bžad pa in his Tshig gsal stoṇ thun mun sel discusses the Prāsaṅgikas' view on valid cognition on the basis of Pras; whether he intended to refer to mKhas grub rje's text or directly to the respective passage of Pras I cannot decide. The expression "*bod sria ma tshig gsal gyi stoṇ thun byed mkhan*" (Tshig gsal stoṇ thun mun sel 554,1), however, might indicate that he uses "stoṇ thun" also as a technical term and not only as part of the name of a text or text-passage.

59 Not identified; Tshig gsal stoṇ thun mun sel (579,5f.) ascribes this position to "many old Tibetans" (*bod sria ma mari po*) and qualifies it as "mere talk" (*gtam kho na*). — In general the "reply" rather than the "objection" would reflect *Tson kha pa*'s position.

60 222,3 *gñis kas* (text B) : *gñis pas*

61 Pras 75,9: *tad evam pramāṇacatustayāl lokasyārthādhigamo vyavasthāpyate//*

If this (statement) does not prove it in this way, it is also not correct to say that because of the statement:

“(...) is real according to the world, the rest is, according to the world, established as false” [MAv VI,25cd]

[the differentiation of] correct (*tathya*) and incorrect (*mithyā*) *samvṛti* is the system of the world, but not [Candrakīrti's] own system.⁶²

<222,6> Objection: How is this? This (second statement) looks very much the same [as the first], therefore also [the differentiation of] correct and incorrect [*samvṛti*] is, in turn, to be stated as [Candrakīrti's] own system.

[Reply:] (This) is not correct. It is said:

“Here exists, just as for somebody awake, the (same, above mentioned) triad⁶³ for him, as long as he is not awake.” [MAv VI,53ab]

As frequently the answer has been given that a horse [or] ox [seen in a] dream and [seen while] awake exist in the same way, as long as the cause for the error is not abolished, and in the same way do not exist after (this cause) is abolished, the statement that in the Madhyamaka's own system, too, there exists no correct [and] incorrect [*samvṛti*] abides in the meaning. Therefore, not giving up this acceptable [position], in the Madhyamaka's own system valid cognition and invalid cognition are to be assumed as non existent with regard to *samvṛti* taken as the basis.⁶⁴

<223,2> Therefore, by these (assumptions), [viz. on the one hand] the necessary cognition of *dharmanairātmya* for Śrāvakas and Pratyekabuddhas [represented by the Prāsāngikas], which is not accepted by the Svātantrikas, and [on the other hand] also the [combination of] Madhyamaka [and] Pramāṇa(vāda) [bearing] the proud name ‘[two] lions with their necks crossed’⁶⁵, willingly accepted [by the Svātantrikas], which the Prāsāngikas do not assume, beneficial factors are compiled; thereby [also] a summary of the many contradictions is given.

62 For Tsōn kha pa's explanation of this view s. dGöns gsal 100a5-b1 (rTsa ṭik 356a2-5), cf. Tauscher 1991, n.122.

63 s. MAv VI,51cd/: *mig dan mig gi yul dan des bskyed sems / gsum po*

64 223,2 *gzir* (corr.) : *bzir* (text A and B)

65 Acc. the Chinese translation of Tshig mdzod (s.v. *mjiñ ba*): *sen ge mjiñ* 狮子交颈 *bsnol* Grags pa stobs rgyas from 'Bras spuñs Blo gsal gliñ interprets the expression as “fearless lions”.

<223,4> 2 Detailed explanation of these matters (*don*)

<1> Object etc.:⁶⁶ As the explanation that one does not understand the meaning of *samvṛti* if one does not take it as false, is quite correct, and in the Prāsaṅgikas' own system *samvṛti* is [in fact] understood as false, there is a contradiction between the assumption of the *samvṛti* object as totally false and deceiving, and the assumption of the cognition which is its subject as undeceiving valid cognition, because the cognition cannot be a valid cognition if the respective object is deceiving (*slu chos yin*). E.g., a cognition to which tufts of hair appear. The statement: “also the appearing of tufts of hair, two moons, etc. is valid cognition” is a stronger realistic concept than [held by] even the realists.

[The fact] that *samvṛti* is delusive (*slu chos yin pa*) is [stated in] many [passages like]:

“The Exalted one has said that anything of delusive character (*mosadharman*) is to be called false. All conditioned (*samskṛta*) (elements of existence) are of delusive character, therefore they are false” [MK XIII,1]⁶⁷ etc.

<224,1> <2> Accordingly, For this [particular] object etc.:⁶⁸ The object

66 V,12a (23,3): *yul kun rdzob dari yul can bslu med 'gal* / “The contradiction that the object is *samvṛti* and the subject undeceiving”.

67 MK XIII,1: *ian mṛṣā mosadharma yad bhagavān ity abhāsata / sarve ca mosadharmañāḥ samskārāḥ tena te mṛṣā //*

68 V,12b (23,3): *yul der 'khrul dari de la tshad ma 'gal* / — “The contradiction that [a cognition] is an error for this [particular] object and valid cognition for the [same object].”; 224,1 *sogs ni* (text B) : *sogs na*.

Cf. LRChen kha 27b5ff. (Wayman 221ff.), where — refuting the logicians' assumption — it is denied that sense perceptions are valid cognition with regard to the particular/own-characteristic (*svalaksana*), but conventional cognitions are not in general denied to be valid cognition (cf. Tauscher 1991, n.73,74,96). This, in turn, means that validity and invalidity of conventional cognition do not, in fact, refer to the same object. Conventional cognition is valid cognition with regard to the thing as such, not with regard to its own-being or absolute reality. Or it is valid cognition with regard to the conceptual object (*zen yul*), the object of a correct conceptual cognition like inferential valid cognition (cf. Tshig mtshod) [and also with regard to the object of engagement (*jug yul*)], but erroneous with regard to the appearing object (*snari yul*). Tson kha pa does not, to my knowledge, formulate it directly in this way. Commenting on MAv VI,26, however, he argues that not everything perceived by an erroneous cognition is conventionally existent; being established by valid cognition is the basic requirement. In particular, conceptual objects perceived by erroneous cognition are not even conventionally existent, whereas with regard to the appearing objects sense perceptions perceiving form, sound, etc. as established by their own-characteristics, as they are corrupted by nescience, and sense perceptions perceiving reflections, echo, etc.

under discussion (*chos can*), the eye-perception of ordinary men (*tshur mthori*), which is renowned as non-erroneous, should not be valid cognition for the form[-aspect] (*rūpa*), because it is erroneous cognition for the form[-aspect]. Also the logic reason (*rtags, linga*; in this case erroneous cognition [*'khrul śes*]), even more so the predicate (*bsal ba, apoha*; in this case invalid cognition [*tshad ma ma yin pa*]), is called erroneous for the form[-aspect], and also clearly (*dños su*) accepted [in this way], because it is defiled by the concept of (establishment as) true (*bden 'dzin*). In the *Catuhśatakatikā* it is said:

“Whatever is, after imposing (*samāropa*) these sense cognitions as direct perceptions, imagined thereby as valid cognition for the object of cognition⁶⁹, is something highly incoherent (*ma 'brel ba, apratibaddha*). While non-delusive cognition is seen in the world as valid cognition, the Venerable One said that even (sense) perception, as it is constructed, has the qualities of falsehood (and) delusion, and [is] like an illusion. Something which has the qualities of falsehood (and) delusion and is like an illusion, is not non-delusive⁷⁰, because (this cognition) appears in another way with regard to a thing that exists in one way. It is not correct to imagine [any cognition as being] a valid cognition of this kind (as explained above), because it would follow that even all cognitions are valid cognition.” [CŚT 197b5-7 (ad XIII,1)]

<224,6> When the need occurs to rephrase (*skyogs bśad*) the clear statement (made) in this (quotation), viz. that a perception (*blo*) which is constructed by *karma* and *kleśa* and defiled by the concept of (establishment as) true (*bden 'dzin*) is not valid cognition, and that a valid cognition which cognizes (*'jal ba*) the [per se] false *samvṛti* is not possible, [then the position that] (the property of) being erroneous with regard to a certain object is pervaded by ‘not being valid cognition with regard to the (same object)’ is [accepted in] the system of the realists, but the Mādhyamikas

are both erroneous cognition, to be distinguished only as subtle and gross. (dGoṇs gsal 101a8-b4: *'dis ni lugs 'dis blo 'khrul pa cig gi nor yod pa la / kun rdzob tu yod par 'jog zer ba legs par bkag go / ... / de ltar na tha sñad du yod pa la ni tshad mas grub pa cig dgos so // de 'dra ba'i žen yul mams tha sñad du yan med kyan snai yul la ni de ltar mi bžed do // da lta gzugs sgra sogs lha rani gi mtshan řid kyis grub par dbai śes la snai ba ni / ma rig pas bslad pa yin pas śes pa de dan / gzugs brñan dan brag cha sogs snai ba'i dbai śes mams la / phra rags tsam ma giogs pa snai yul la 'khrul ma 'khrul la khyad par med ciñ / ...).*

For the distinction of the various types of objects s. Napper 28f., 99ff.; cf. also Kuijp 65,n.234,235.

69 224,3 *gžal bya la*; CŚT: *gžan* “... with regard to something else” (i.e. something different from the *tshad ma*, i.e. the *gžal bya*).

70 224,5 *mi (b)slu ba ma yin te* (CŚT) : *mi slu ba yin te*

[should] actually have written: “(We) do not assume that, although eye-perception is erroneous with regard to *rūpa*, (this being erroneous with regard to a certain object) is pervaded by ‘not being valid cognition with regard to the (same object)’.” This is a great violation of *Candrakīrti*, because the [necessary consequence]: ‘It would follow that all cognitions are valid cognition, because it is correct to consider as valid cognition even [a cognition] of the kind that shows in a different way a thing which exists in one way’ is directly contradictory (*driś 'gal*) to *Candrakīrti* in [all] three areas (*'khor gsum*).⁷¹ Immediately following this gross complex (*'du*) of contradictions of this kind (is) also the extremely boastful pride of calling that correct which is not correct⁷²; (this) is nothing but the fault of corrupting the teaching.

<225,5> Accordingly: In reply to the opinion that origination from another is established by worldly valid cognition (*tshad ma*) [stated in the verse]:

“Origination of one (thing) from another, however, is perceived by ordinary people (*jig rten pa*)” [MAv VI,22c],

it is said:

“Fools are not fit as authority (*tshad ma*)” [MAv VI,30d];

not explaining [this verse] as meaning that in general those (cognitions) are – in the *Mādhyamikas*' own system – not valid cognitions with regard to either of the two truths, and in particular do no harm at the occasion of investigating reality (*de kho na ūnid*), it is said again and again that [sense perceptions] are [indeed] not valid cognitions with regard to reality (*de kho na ūnid*), but [nevertheless] conventionally valid cognitions; [this] too, is in immediate contradiction [to the verse of *Candrakīrti* quoted above]: In this case origination from another would be conventionally established, and this cannot be accepted, because according to the statement:

“because by this argumentation [origination from another] is [proved to be] incorrect even conventionally” [MAv VI,36c],

71 Cf. *mtshan ūnid rtsod skabs kyi 'khor gsum ste rtags bsal khyab gsum* (Tshig mdzod) – *hetu, apoha* (= *sādhyadharma*), *vyāpti*.

72 225,4 *mi rigs pa ... rigs* (corr.) : *mi rig pa ... rig* (text A and B)

it has to be taken as a speciality (*khyad chos*) of this (Prāsaṅgika) system, not to assume origination from another even merely conventionally and (because) it has been said many times.

<226,2> Objection: Origination from another is not established even by worldly valid cognition, as by (the statement):

“Even according to the world origination from another does not exist” [MAv VI,32d]

[and not by the verse you mentioned above ?] a direct answer is given to: ‘Origination of one (thing) from another’ [MAv VI,22c/].

[Reply:] It might be like this, if one applies [the above] to worldly spontaneous (*rañ dga’ ba*) (cognition) which has not analyzed and not investigated; you, however, have related it to the Madhyamaka’s own system and, further-more, to (a cognition) which has analyzed a little.⁷³ In this case the two, seed and sprout, that are established as real things, have to be the same substance if they are not established as different substances; therefore do not accept worldly valid cognition for the Madhyamaka’s own system!

<226,5> In this case, here (the expression) ‘world’ should not refer to somebody who does not adhere to a doctrinal system (*grub mtha’*), who has not obtained the noble path, who is not ordained, etc., whereas the cognition that is called ‘world’ in this context, is that which considers the former and later [phases (*skad cig*) of the ‘I’ or any other phenomenon] (to be) one [continuous phenomenon], without analyzing (and) investigating the world called ‘innate concept of a (real) I’ (*ñar ’dzin lhan skyes*), which has been persistent since beginningless (times), (which happens) in cases when the Madhyamaka view has not arisen or, although it has arisen, one is without memory-perception (*dran ’dzin*) due to a defect of the directly perceiving agent (*byed pa mñon gyur ba*). And, by this (world[ly] cognition) directly seeing smoke on the mountain-pass, and cognizing that there is fire behind the mountain-pass because of the indicator of this (perceived smoke); the ascertainment that something is meaningful (in accordance with) the word of an authority (*yid ches pa’i tshig don ldan*); taking, on grounds of the resemblance to a gayal, also a bull as having hoofs; etc. (such kinds of knowledge) we⁷⁴ call ‘established by valid cognition’, and as (expressions such as): ‘I am seeing [these facts]

73 Cf. n.10

74 227,2 *kho bos* (text B) : *kho bo*

according to (the absolute) reality' etc. are conventional usage, these (kinds of knowledge) are determined as worldly valid cognition; and as these (kinds of worldly valid cognition) distinguish between true and false with regard to a horse (seen) in a dream and a horse (seen) while awake, also the distinction between correct and incorrect (cognitions) is very well made [with regard to worldly cognition]; there is, however, not the slightest possibility of taking – on grounds of [the assumption that] the ascertainment that the two (correct and incorrect objects according to worldly cognition) are equal with regard to (their) efficiency for an erroneous (cognition) and equal with regard to (their) inexistence for a right cognition is *Candrakīrti*'s own system – (correct and incorrect objects) for one.⁷⁵

<227,4> <3> *rjes* etc.⁷⁶ Also (the statement): 'Furthermore, while the *Svātantrikas*' proof-formulation does not exist, inference does exist' is not correct, because: As in this case (whatever) is an inference would only be an inference [as described] in the chapter of '(inference for) one's own sake' [where it is treated] without proof-formulation, here inference is accepted in the way it is usually explained, (i.e.) as inference acknowledged by others; and, if there is an inference acknowledged by others, there also has to be a proof-formulation acknowledged by others, and the Jina has also said many times: "Whatever is impermanent, is sorrowful" etc., and there are many proof-formulations [also within *Madhyamaka* texts], by the teacher (*Nāgārjuna*) himself (in statements such as):

"Something that does not see itself, how can it see other (things)?" [MK III,2cd]⁷⁷

75 Cf. n.19

76 V,12c (23,3f.): *rjes dpag yod dañ bsgrub niag med pa 'gal* / – "The contradiction [to assume] that inference does exist and the proof-formulation does not exist."

77 MK III,2cd: *na paśyati yad ātmānam katham drakṣyati tat parān* //; 227,6 (pāda c) ... *mi lta ba* / (MK, text B) : ... *mi lta la* /

etc., and the detailed description of five-membered proof-formulations given by Buddhapālita and Candrakīrti in the commentary of this (verse).⁷⁸

78 BMV 55f.; Pras, commenting on MK III,2 (114,1-5), does not mention any five-membered proof-formulation. However, this verse is, without being directly quoted, referred to in Pras 34,6-10 (on MK I,1) in form of a syllogistic argument.

It is not clear to me which of Tsōn kha pa's statement(s) this third 'contradiction' is based upon in particular, or against which of Tsōn kha pa's assumptions the argument is directed. It seems not to criticize the acceptance of inference (as means of valid cognition), but — given the fact of accepting inference — the denial of proof-formulation in general; the specification "the Svātantrika's" mentioned in the initial statement is not taken account of in the argumentation. But in LRChen kha 79b1-84a5 Tsōn kha pa clearly accepts, even basing his explanations on the sources mentioned by sTag tshañ, proof-formulation in general and rejects only the independent (*svatantra*) type of inference. His statements: "... (MK III,2). Syllogistic arguments (*sbyor ba, prayoga*)^{*} of that kind are called 'inference acknowledged by others'. ... (Pras 34,4f.) does not (mean that) no syllogistic argument is formulated because (of the fact that) the formulated syllogistic arguments are maintained not to be independent and to have only the aim of refuting the proposition of others" (79b7-80a2: ... ūes ... *sbyor ba* 'di dra mams la gžan la grags pa'i rjes dpag ces zer ba yin no // ... ūes *sbyor ba* bkod ba mams rani rgyud min pa dan gžan gyi dam bca' ba 'gog pa tsam gyi dgos pa can du bžed pas *sbyor ba* mi 'god pa min no /) could even serve as a direct answer to sTag tshañ's accusations. — For a detailed discussion of Tsōn kha pa's position regarding this topic cf. Seyfort Ruegg 1989, in particular §§ XI, XII.

'Jam dbyans bžad pa expresses this very drastically: There is no reason for this accusation; as in the writings of Tsōn kha pa and his pupils there is not a single word stating that proof-formulation does not exist, (the formulation of sTag tshañ's third 'contradiction') is (mere) raving (?) due to being severely drugged with sleep or to severe *timira*-disease (Grub chen 758,2f.: *sgrub riag med dari rjes dpag yod pa* 'gal / ūes pa tsam las 'grel bar yari smra rgyu mi snan la rje yab sras gar gi gžuri na'an *sgrub riag med pa'i tshig zur tsam yari gtan med pas na* gñid kyis myos pa'am rab rib kyi nad tshab[s] che bas brlab brdol yin no /).

* *sbyor ba* in this context stands for *sbyor [ba'i] riag* (80a7), *prayogavākyā*; cf. also Wayman, n.315.

Bibliography

AAV *Abhisamayālañkāravṛttih Sphuṭārthā* (Haribhadra). Ed. Rama Śaṅkara Tripāṭhī, Sārnāth, Vārāṇasī 1977 [Bibliotheca Indo-Tibetica 2]

BA *The Blue Annals*. Transl. by G.N.Roerich, 2 vols, Calcutta 1949, 1953

BCA s. BCAP

BCAP *Bodhicaryāvatārapañjika*. – Prajñākaramati's Commentary to the Bodhicaryāvatāra of Śāntideva. Ed. by L.de La Vallée Poussin, Calcutta 1901-1914

BHSD *Buddhist Hybrid Sanskrit Grammar and Dictionary*, by F.Edgerton. Vol.II: Dictionary, New Haven 1953

BMV *Buddhapālita. Mūlamadhyamakavṛtti*. Tibetische Übersetzung. Hrsg. Max Walleser, S.-Petersburg 1913 [Bibliotheca Buddhica XVI]

Cristal Mirror, Journal of the Tibetan Nyingma Meditation Center. Berkeley

CST *Catuhśatakaṭikā* [Bodhisattvayogācāra]. – D 3865

D Edition von Derge = Sde dge Tibetan Tripitaka, Bstan ḥgyur – preserved at the Faculty of Letters, University of Tokyo. Ed. by J.Takasaki, Z.Yamaguchi, Y.Ejima. Tokyo 1977-

Drañ thig *lTa ba'i ñams mgur thun moñ ma yin pa A ma ño śes kyi bsdus don gnad kyi drañ thig dañ / de'i rnam bśad grub bži'i sñiñ nor (bsTan pa bstan 'dzin)*. Mundgod 1977(?)

mDzes rgyan *Grub pa'i mtha'i rnam par bžag pa gsal bar bśad pa thub bstan lhun po'i mdzes rgyan* (lCāñ skyā Rol pa'i rdo rje). Sarnath 1970

Eckel *M.D.Eckel: Jñānagarbha's Commentary on the Distinction Between the Two Truths*. New York 1987

dGoñs gsal *dBu ma la 'jug pa'i rgya cher bśad pa, dGoñs pa rab gsal* (Tsoñ kha pa). – P 6143

Grub chen *Grub mtha' chen mo* ('Jam dbyañs bžad pa'i rdo rje). – Grub mtha' rnam par bžag pa 'khrul spoñ dgoñ lña'i sgra dbyañs kun mkhyen lam bzañ gsal ba'i rin chen sgron me, und Grub mtha' rnam bśad rañ gžan grub mtha' kun dañ zab don mchog tu gsal ba kun bzañ ūñ gi ñi ma luñ rigs rgya mtsho skye dgu'i re ba kun skyon. The collected Works of 'Jam-dbyañs-bžad-pa'i-rdo-rje. Ed. by Ngawang Gelek Demo, vol.14, New Delhi 1973

Grub mtha' kun śes *Grub mtha'kun śes nas mtha' bral + Grub mtha' kun śes nas mtha' bral sgrub pa ūes bya ba'i bstan bcos rnam par bśad pa legs pa bśad kyi rgya mtsho* (sTag tshañ Lotsāba Śes rab rin chen). Thimpu 1976 [acc. Hopkins 1983]. 1-37

Grub mtha' kun śes rnam bśad text A: s. Grub mtha' kun śes, 39-327
text B: Toyo Bunko 2249

Hopkins 1983 *J.Hopkins: Meditation on Emptiness*. London

Hopkins 1987 *J.Hopkins: Emptiness Yoga*. Ithaca, New York

J *Jayānanda: Madhyamakāvatāraṭikā*. – P 5271

lJon śiñ *rGyud kyi mñon par rtogs pa rin po che'i ljon śiñ* (Grags pa rgyal mtshan). – Sa skyā pa'i bka' 'bum. Compiled by Bsod nams rgya mtsho, vol.3, Tokyo 1968. 1-70

Kuijp	L.W.J.van der Kuijp: Contributions to the Development of Tibetan Buddhist Epistemology. Wiesbaden 1983
KPv	The Kācyapaparivarta. A Mahāyānasūtra of the Ratnakūṭa Class. Ed. A.von Staël-Holstein. Shanghai 1926 Translation: F.Weller: Zum Kāsyapaparivarta. Heft 2, Verdeutschung des sanskrit-tibetischen Textes. Berlin 1965
KTA	Kāyatrayāvatāramukha. - D 3890
KTV	Kāyatrayavṛtti. - D 3891
Lopez	D.S.Lopez: A Study of Svātantrika. Ithaca, New York 1987
LRChen	Lam rim chen mo [sKyes bu gsum gyi ñams su blañ ba'i rim pa thams cad tshañ bar ston pa'i byañ chub lam gyi rim pa] (Tsoñ kha pa). - P 6001
LRChuñ	Lam rim chuñ ba [sKyes bu gsum gyi ñams su blañ ba'i byañ chub lam gyi rim pa] (Tsoñ kha pa). - P 6002
LŚÑ	Drañ ba dañ ñes pa'i don rnam par phye ba'i bstan bcos, Legs bśad sñiñ po (Tsoñ kha pa). - P 6142
MAv	Madhyamakāvatāra par Candrakīrti, Traduction Tibétaine. Publ. par L.de La Vallée Poussin, St.-Pétersbourg 1907-1912
MAvBh	Madhyamakāvatārabhāṣya (Candrakīrti) s. MAv
MAvL	Madhyamakāvatāra. Introduction au Traité du Milieu de l'Ācārya Candrakīrti avec le Commentaire de l'Auteur, traduit d'après la version tibétaine par L.de La Vallée Poussin. Le Muséon N.S. 8 (1907), 249-317; 11 (1910), 271-358; 12 (1911), 236-328
MK	Madhyamakakārikā. - Nāgārjuna, Mūlamadhyamakakārikā. Ed. by J.W.de Jong, Madras 1977
Napper	Lati Rinpoche / E.Napper: Mind in Tibetan Buddhism. Ithaca, New York 1980, ³ 1986
Obermiller	E.Obermiller: The Doctrine of Prajñā-pāramitā as exposed in the Abhisamayālañkāra of Maitreya. Leningrad 1912
P	Edition von Peking = The Tibetan Tripitaka. Peking Edition. Reprinted under the supervision of the Otani University, Kyoto. Ed. by D.T.Suzuki, 168 vols., Tokyo and Kyoto 1955-1961
Pras	Prasannapadā. - Mūlamadhyamakakārikās de Nāgārjuna avec la Prasannapadā Commentaire de Candrakīrti. Publ. par L.de La Vallée Poussin, St.-Pétersbourg 1903-1913
R	Red mda' ba gŽon nu blo gros: dBu ma la 'jug pa'i rnam bśad De kho na ñid gsal ba'i sgron me. Sarnath 1983
RGV	Ratnagotravibhāga. - The Ratnagotravibhāga Mahāyānottaraśāstra. Ed. by E.H.Johnston. Patna 1950
SDV	Satyadvayavibhaṅga (Jñānagarbha) s. Eckel
SDVV	Satyadvayavibhaṅgavṛtti (Jñānagarbha) s. Eckel
Seyfort Ruegg 1969	D.Seyfort Ruegg: La Théorie du Tathāgatagarbha et du Gotra. Études sur la Sotériologie et la Gnoséologie du Bouddhisme. Paris
Seyfort Ruegg 1989	D.Seyfort Ruegg: On Pramāṇa theory in Tsoñ kha pa's Madhyamaka philosophy. Proceedings of the Second International Dharmakīrti Conference, Vienna, June 11-16, 1989. Ed. E.Steinkellner, Wien 1991, 281-310

Steinkellner
 Šāntideva, Eintritt in das Leben zur Erleuchtung (Bodhicaryāvatāra). Lehrgedicht des Mahāyāna aus dem Sanskrit übersetzt von E. Steinkellner. Düsseldorf-Köln 1981

Suzuki 1928
 D.T.Suzuki: The Lankavatara Sutra, As a Mahayana Text in Especial Relation to the Teaching of Zen Buddhism. Eastern Buddhist IV/3,4 (1927-28), 199-298

Suzuki 1930
 D.T.Suzuki: Studies in the Lankavatara Sutra. London [acc. BHSD]

Tauscher 1990
 H.Tauscher: Samvṛti bei Tsōn kha pa [I]. WZKS 34, 227-254

Tauscher 1991
 H.Tauscher: Samvṛti bei Tsōn kha pa [II]. WZKS 35 (in press)

Thal rāñ
 Nag dbāñ dpal ldāñ: Grub mtha' chen mo'i mchan 'grel dka' gnad mdud grol blo gsal gcis nor žes bya ba las dBu ma thal rāñ gi skabs bžugs. Ed. Bhikshu Guru Deva Lama, Sarnath, Varanasi 1964

Thurman
 R.A.F.Thurman: Tsong Khapa's Speech of Gold in the *Essence of True Eloquence*. Princeton 1984

sTsōn thun chen mo
 Zab mo stoñ pa ūid kyi de kho na ūid rab tu gsal bar byed pa'i bstan bcos sKal bzañ mig 'byed (mKhas grub rje). - sTsōn thun chen mo of mKhas-grub Dge-legs-dpal-bzañ and other Texts on Madhyamika Philosophy. Ed. lHa-mkhar Yoñs-dzin bsTanpa rGyal mTshan, New Delhi 1972, 1-523

rTsa ūik
 rTsa ūik chen [dBu ma rtsa ba'i tshig le'ur byas pa ces by ba'i rnam bśad Rigs pa'i rgya mtsho] (Tsōn kha pa). - P 6153

Tshig gsal stoñ thun
 mun sel Tshig gsal stoñ thun gyi tshad ma'i rnam bśad zab rgyas kun gsal tshad ma'i 'od brgya 'bar ba skal bzañ sñiñ gi mun sel ('Jam dbyans bžad pa'i rdo rje). - Collected Works of 'Jam-dbyans-bžad-pa'i-rdo-rje. Ed. by Ngawang Gelek Demo, vol. 11, New Delhi 1973, 483-619

Tshig mdzod
 Bod rgya tshig mdzod chen mo. 3 vols, Beijing 1985

VV
 Vigrahavyāvartanī (Nāgārjuna). - E.H.Johnston and A.Kunst: The Vigrahavyāvartanī of Nāgārjuna, with the Author's Commentary. Bruges (Belgium) 1951;

Waldschmidt
 Madhyamakaśāstra of Nāgārjuna. Ed. P.L.Vaidya, Darbhanga 1960. Appendix 5, 277-295

Wayman
 E.Waldschmidt: Ein zweites Daśabalaśūtra. Mitteilungen des Institutes für Orientforschung [Deutsche Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Berlin] VI/3, 1958, 382-405

WZKS
 A.Wayman: Calming the Mind and Discerning the Real. Reprint, Delhi 1979

Wiener Zeitschrift für die Kunde des Südasiens